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More calendar dates

Thursday, Jan. 12: Monthly meeting
at Gloucester House at 7 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 9, Monthly meeting at
the Gloucester House.

Sunday April 30, annual brunch at the
Elks in East Gloucester

New state chair to speak at our monthly meeting on January 12

Our monthly meeting will be held on Thursday Jan. 12, at the Gloucester House, 65 Rogers St., Gloucester.



The featured speaker will be the newly elected chair of the Massachusetts Democratic Party, Gus Bickford.

Bickford, who worked for John Kerry and Elizabeth Warren, is an expert in survey research and campaigns that reach specific groups of voters, was elected to lead the party for the next four years. "We begin now for 2018," Bickford said after his election. Bickford, 53, was also involved in the "No on 2" campaign, which successfully defeated Question 2, a ballot initiative that sought to expand access to charter schools.

Bickford has said that his highest priority is to prepare the party to take on Gov. Baker in 2018.

The meeting begins with a social hour at 7 and the program begins promptly at 7:30.

Off-year priorities: A local focus

It's time to put 2016 in the rear-view mirror. The past is past and we must think of the future. Chairman Bickford's focus on the gubernatorial race in 2018 is a good beginning, but we need to think and act locally.

We are a local group. Our friends and neighbors know us and our example and actions are the best way to build Democracy (with a capital D).

At our meeting in January, let's set aside some time to strategize what we can do locally in 2017 to build a broad-based effort aimed at taking back the corner office in the state house and the White House in 2020.

Martin Luther King Day of Service

On Saturday, Jan. 14, GDCC volunteers will be collecting tuna and other forms of protein for The Open Door food pantry. We'll gather at Market Basket Gloucester Crossing from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Volunteers will be loading donations into Open Door trucks and are asked to sign up for



two-hour shifts, with a maximum of seven volunteers per shift. Call or email Public Service Chair Bernadette Merenda (contact info at left) to sign up.



More than 40 GDCC members gathered for our monthly meeting on . The meeting was held just after the election. We took stock of our efforts, and were pleased and inspired as we voted in five new members of our committee. They are Jane Militello, Ward 1; Patrick Thomas, Ward 2; Chad Interrante and Liane Giunta, Ward 4, and Lacey Cominsky, Ward 5.

Democratic Dialogue

The Gloucester Democratic City Committee's public access television show, Democratic Dialogue, is airing on Cape Ann TV, Ch. 12, throughout January on Fridays at 4 p.m., Sundays at 7 p.m., and Thursdays at 9:30 p.m..



Videos at: www.capeanntv.org/video.

Caucuses to be held in spring

In the spring we will select delegates and alternates to our June 3 platform convention in Lowell. The caucus window for 2017 is Feb. 4 to April 2. We will let you know the exact date once it has been set.

In a platform committee year, the caucus is usually fairly quick. You must be registered as a Democrat prior to the caucus in order to participate.

Did you know you can pay your GDCC dues online?

<https://secure.actblue.com/contribute/page/annual>

The Democratic Party works for the Common Good

**GDCC
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