

## **Introduction to the First Edition**

As a member of the Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee (MCDCC), you have taken on a major responsibility to your constituents, your party, your county, and your state. You are a member of the governing body of the Montgomery County Democratic Party. As a member of MCDCC, you are also automatically a voting member of the Maryland State Democratic Central Committee – the governing body of the State Democratic Party.

This handbook has been compiled to help you deal with these twin responsibilities. The handbook contains the major documents of the State and County Democratic Parties, provisions of state and county law that grant authority and responsibilities to the Central Committee, and a compilation (arranged by subject) of the internal procedures adopted over the years by the County Central Committee. The handbook also contains rosters of elected officials and precinct officials from throughout Montgomery County.

It is hoped that, as time goes on, you will add budgetary documents, updates to the rosters, material on the Maryland presidential delegate selection process, and other useful information to this handbook.

The responsibility for any errors in this compilation is mine. Any suggestions for corrections or improvements to this handbook would be greatly appreciated. A special thanks go to Linda Ross, who suggested the physical layout of the handbook; Joseph Hooper, who oversaw the printing and assembly of the handbook; Don Spence and George Leventhal who both (during their respective terms as Chair of the MCDCC) urged me to compile this work; and to all of the MCDCC secretaries and office managers since November 1966 who recorded and preserved the minutes and records of the Central Committee. An extra special thanks goes to Chris Swan Chabot (my bride of two-and-a-half months) who suggested the Chronological Table of Standing Rules as well as other features throughout the handbook.

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Secretary, MCDCC  
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