



# Portage County DEMOCRAT

GETTING TOGETHER, MOVING FORWARD

DECEMBER 2008

## PORTAGE COUNTY, WI DEMOCRATIC PARTY

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

Gary Hawley, Co-Chair  
Lois Lawler, Co-Chair  
Corey Ladick, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair  
Wes Halverson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair  
Tom Mallison, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-Chair  
Liz McDonald, 4<sup>th</sup> Vice-Chair  
Roberta Bie, Statutory Chair  
Jerry Ugland, Treasurer  
Carol Gawlik, Secretary  
Julie Brazeau, 7<sup>th</sup> CD Representative  
Charlene Figge, Newsletter Editor  
Zach Vruwink, College Dems Pres  
Jack Allgaier  
Mary Arnold  
Michael O'Meara  
Jan Way  
Chad Haanen

### COMMITTEES

#### **Communications:**

Charlene Figge, Chair  
Collene Ottum  
Mary Arnold

#### **Events:**

Corey Ladick, Chair  
Carol Gawlik

#### **Fundraising:**

Tom Mallison, Chair  
Sam Glenzer

#### **Membership:**

Lois Lawler, Chair  
Roberta Bie  
Robyn Van Laanen

Portage County Democratic Party  
PO Box 515  
Stevens Point, WI 54481-0515

Gary Hawley: 345-9586  
gary.hawley@softhome.net

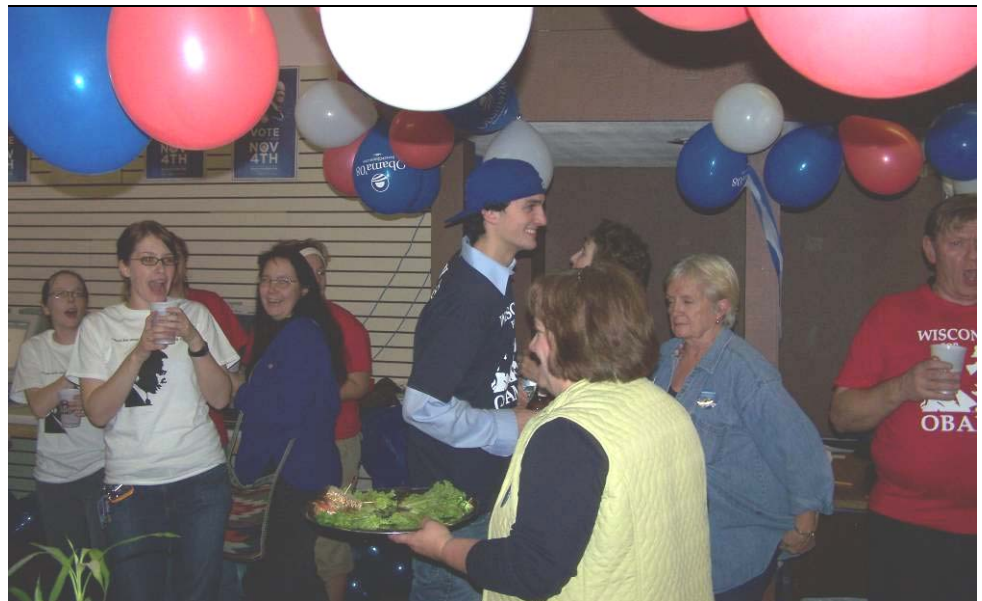
Lois Lawler: 345-1371  
loislawler@charter.net

[www.PortageCountyDems.org](http://www.PortageCountyDems.org)



## We WON...!

## Congratulations to all!



*Photo: John Seidl*

**On Tuesday, Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008** Portage County Democrats gathered at the Dem HQ to watch election results come in and (hopefully) celebrate the victory.

We weren't disappointed!

Thank you to ALL who worked so hard and so tirelessly to help elect Barack Obama as our next President! Congratulations to all Volunteers!

*Other winners in the election were State Sen. Julie Lassa, State Rep. Louis J. Molepske, Jr. and (not shown) Rep. Amy Sue Vruwink..*



## CALENDAR

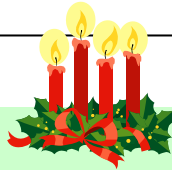
### DECEMBER 2008

- Tues Dec 2 Executive Board Meeting  
Tues Dec 9 General Meeting/Christmas Party at Kristin's Riverwalk, 1140 Clark St. in Stevens Point, 6:30 p.m. socializing, 7:00 p.m. meeting  
Election of Executive Board members for 2009

### JANUARY 2009

- Tues Jan 6 Executive Board Meeting  
Tues Jan 13 General Meeting at Kristin's Riverwalk, 6:30 socializing, 7:00 p.m. meeting  
Tues Jan 20 INAUGURATION of Barack Obama as the 44<sup>th</sup> President of the U.S.

Visit our Web Site:  
[www.PortageCountyDems.org](http://www.PortageCountyDems.org)



Please Come...

## PCDP Christmas Party Tuesday, December 9, 2008

### BRING NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS

Everyone is invited to bring NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS to the December General Meeting. Collected items will be donated to OPERATION BOOTSTRAP. They can especially use ALL KINDS OF COFFEE AND/OR NEW WINTER GLOVES FOR MEN OR WOMEN

Enjoy gathering with fellow Dems, meeting with elected officials, electing our 2009 Executive Board members, and GIFTING THOSE LESS FORTUNATE IN OUR COMMUNITY with desperately needed items, especially now, when the country is experiencing such difficulty with our economy.



### From the Editor —

We want to hear from YOU. If you have something to include in a future newsletter, please contact me at [cfgge@charter.net](mailto:cfgge@charter.net) or call me at 345-1371.

The due date for sending items for our January 2009 issue is December 20<sup>th</sup>.

— Charlene Figge

# County News



## ELECT the PCDP 2009 Executive Board

**Elections** for the 2009 Portage County Democratic Party Executive Board will take place at the December 9, 2008 General Meeting.

- The nominating committee had prepared a slate which was presented at the November meeting. An additional nomination was made from the floor.
- The first meeting of the newly elected Executive Board will take place January 6, 2009.

Elections... Elections... Elections... Elections... Elections... Elections... Elections...

Printing of our newsletter has been paid for with donations.

## Thank you to our 2008 Newsletter Sponsors:

- Jo Ellen Seiser
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- Lois Lawler
- Carol & Louis Gawlik
- Karen Tank
- Cindy & Tom Eagon
- Joe & Mary Ann Korbal
- Roger Trzebiatowski
- Sally and Robert Freckmann

*We are grateful for your generosity.*

To add *your* name to our growing list of sponsors, send your donation (payable to PCDP) to Charlene Figge, Newsletter Editor, 5411 Woodland St., Stevens Point, WI, 54481

(Any amount is appreciated.)



## MESSAGE FROM PARTY CO-CHAIRS

Dear Friends,

What a month! *What an amazing election!*  
Thank you to ALL who volunteered in any way!

In mid-November we closed the doors to our Democratic Party HQ and turned over the keys. Imagine... How many great people passed through those doors! Although we didn't see Obama himself here in Portage County, we DID host some of his notable surrogates: Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., Valerie Biden Owens (sister of Joe Biden), Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano, former Missouri Senator Jean Carnahan, and our own Lt. Governor Barbara Lawton. And... so many of YOU!

Now, we hope to see you and ALL VOLUNTEERS at our General Meeting on December 9<sup>th</sup>. Our Christmas Party is one meeting you don't want to miss! Come celebrate together!

*Gary Hawley Lois Lawler*  
Gary Hawley Lois Lawler  
Co-Chairs, Portage County Democratic Party

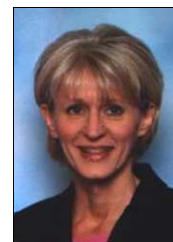
## County Clerk Update

Congratulations to all of our winning candidates from the November election! Portage County had an overwhelming turnout with 39,648 voters coming to the polls. That is 72% of the eligible voters in Portage County. Some of our municipalities had almost every single registered voter in their respective municipality coming out to vote. We can be very proud of how our municipal clerks and poll workers conducted the election.

Municipalities now have thirty days to enter all of the new voter registrations and record the votes into the Statewide Voter Registration System and before you know it, we will be working on the Spring 2009 elections. There will be no County offices on the spring ballot, but there will be Superintendent of Public Instruction, Justice of the Supreme Court, as well as municipal and school board positions. You may contact your local municipal clerk or school district for a list of positions for the 2009 election. The first day to circulate nomination papers is December 1, 2008 with a filing deadline at the respective clerk's office being 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 5, 2009.

Have a happy and healthy holiday season!

SHIRLEY M. SIMONIS  
PORTAGE COUNTY CLERK



## ANNOUNCEMENT

### Change to PCDP Constitution

A motion was made at the November General Meeting to amend the Portage County Democratic Party Constitution (Article 5, Section 1) to add the words "at least" before "five members-at-large." The reworded article would then read:

The Executive Board shall consist of the elected officers of the county Party; being the chairperson, four vice-chairpersons, the recording secretary, the treasurer and the newsletter editor; at least five members-at-large, the President of the College Dems, the Statutory Chair, and a Congressional District Chairperson. The Chairperson will assign an Executive Board member to chair each of such Standing Committees as are defined in the By-laws.

This motion will be voted upon at the December General Meeting.

## A Special Thanks to Cellcom

The Portage County Democratic Party obtained 20 phones from Cellcom prior to the election. According to Gary Hawley, Co-Chair of the Party, "The service was wonderful. The reception was great. We couldn't have been more pleased." And, adds Gary, "I would recommend a Cellcom cell phone to anyone any day. I have one myself."

## Personal Note:

So proud of the of the quotes in the Sunday Journal, Nov. 16, by Louis Molepske and Marlin Schneider concerning OWI penalties. In case you missed it, Louie said, "Prison doesn't get people the kind of care they need. They need access to the therapy to the reason why they are over-indulging and getting behind the wheel and putting other people's lives at risk." Schneider said, "Using the legal system to address drunken driving won't work." Sgt. Duane Northnagel of Marshfield said, "The solution to drunken driving needs to begin with controlling alcohol consumption." Thanks guys.

— Jan Way

**Portage County Democratic Party**

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GENERAL MEETING  
and Christmas Party  
Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm  
at Kristin's Riverwalk  
1140 Clark Street in Stevens Point



Democratic Party  
**DECEMBER**  
**GENERAL MEETING**

- Date:** Tuesday, December 9, 2008  
**Time:** 7:00 p.m. (socializing begins at 6:30)  
**Location:** Kristin's Riverwalk, 1140 Clark Street in Stevens Point
- Agenda:**
- Brief general business meeting
  - Updates from Elected Officials
  - Election of 2009 Executive Board
  - Recognition of Election Volunteers
  - AWARD Presentation to a distinguished Portage County Democrat
- Program:** **Annual Christmas Party...!**  
**Celebrate our Success in 2008**

*Refreshments will be provided. Sweets and baked goods welcomed.*



The Meeting (and Party) Are  
Open to the Public.

All are welcome... Join us!