



Portage County DEMOCRAT

GETTING TOGETHER, MOVING FORWARD

DECEMBER 2010

PORTAGE COUNTY, WI DEMOCRATIC PARTY

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Events

Chair: Jan Way

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Chair: Wes Halverson

Leadership Development

Membership

Chair: Liz McDonald

Statutory

Chair: Michele Bjella

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www.PortageCountyDems.org

HOLIDAY PARTY at Dem HQ—December 14th



The front window of the Democratic Party Headquarters is decked out for the Holidays. ALL are invited to the Holiday Party to be held at the HQ on Tuesday, December 14th starting with a brief business meeting at 7:00 pm.



PCDP 3rd Vice-Chair Jan Way with her granddaughter, Aileen Winn, helped serve hot chocolate outside the Dem Headquarters to about a hundred Holiday parade watchers in downtown Stevens Point on November 19th.

Also helping to serve the parade watchers were Executive Board members Karyn Tank, Greg Ubbelohde, and Gary Hawley.

"It was a really nice event," said Jan Way. "People were very appreciative to have a chance to warm their fingers and tummies."

In This Issue:

Calendar of Dem Events.....	2
Message from Co-Chairs.....	2
County Clerk Update.....	3
Notes from College Dems.....	3
Membership Form 2011.....	4
Sponsors, Announcements	5
Dec Meeting: Holiday Party	6

2010 CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

Tues Nov 30 "Women in Political Leadership Roles—A Local Perspective" 4:30-6:30 pm at the Laird Room at UWSP, sponsored by the League of Women Voters.

DECEMBER

Thurs Dec 2 Post-Election Listening Session hosted by Mike Tate, Chair of the Wisconsin State Democratic Party, 5:30-6:30 pm at Dem HQ

Tues Dec 7 Executive Board Meeting, Dem HQ, 6:30 pm

Wed Dec 8 League of Women Voters' Holiday Social 5-7 pm at Café 27.

Tues Dec 14 **Holiday Party** and General Meeting at Dem HQ, 7:00 pm; Election of members of the 2011 Executive Board

From Co-Chairs

Dear Friends,

In this, our last letter of 2010, following on the heels of Thanksgiving, we thank each and every one of you for all that

you have done on behalf of the Democratic Party and the values that we share.



Gary Hawley

Lois Lawler

It has been an eventful year, with a disappointing conclusion. That, however, does not diminish the joy of the journey and the camaraderie along the way.

When we look back on 2010, we recall our good fortune at being able to rent such a wonderful headquarters where so many of us gathered for meetings and events, sign-paintings, phone calling, and campaign training.

When we look back on 2010, we recall the wonderful volunteers... so many of you... who gave your all to help elect excellent Democrats to office in 2011. We're grateful for the candidates who *were* re-elected to local and state office and regret, with you, the loss of so many good candidates who were not elected.

When we look back on 2010, we recall the energy and dedication of friends who do so much for the Portage County Democratic Party: people who spent so much time and energy working together; people who brought food to volunteers; people who gathered to watch our film series together; people who cleaned our HQ and decorated the windows, who brought the Democratic presence to local events in Stevens Point and Portage County.

Thank you... We're grateful for YOU! And, with you, we'll go into the new year of 2011, working together, volunteering, sharing thoughts and ideas, and bringing renewed energy into our efforts to bring back our majority in the 2012 elections.

We can do this... and we will...together!

Gary Hawley Lois Lawler

Gary Hawley

Lois Lawler

Co-Chairs, Portage County Democratic Party



Holiday Party December 14th at the Democratic Party Headquarters

Refreshments will be provided.
Sweets and baked goods welcomed.



Visit our Web Site:
www.PortageCountyDems.org

Then... see President Obama's
Web Site at www.whitehouse.gov



From the Editor —

This is my final issue as editor of the newsletter. It's my 57th issue, as I began editing the newsletter in January 2006 (and a few months were combined issues).

I've certainly enjoyed serving in this position of editor, and connecting with all of you.

After five years, however, it's time I move on and "pass the torch" to someone else. The new editor may even give the publication a fresh new look.

Happy Holidays!

— Charlene Figge



Portage County Clerk Update

The County Clerk's office has been busy wrapping up the November election and we have already begun publications and processes for the Spring Election.

There are no county offices up for election in Spring 2011

but there may be school district and local elections along with Justice of the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals Judge—District IV, and Circuit Court Judge—Branch I.

If you are interested in running for your local municipality, you would file your paperwork with the municipal clerk. And school district candidates file with each respective school district.

Have a happy and health holiday season!

SHIRLEY M. SIMONIS
PORTAGE COUNTY CLERK



Volunteer Leigh Allgaier decorates the tree at the Dem HQ in time for the Holiday Parade downtown.

— Photo: Jan Way

NOTES FROM THE COLLEGE DEMS



As the year comes to a close, I am happy to report an active group of College Dems ready for the next good fight. We have had a great group form as this school year began.

Many people were ready to pitch in and help with the election cycle. They interned and volunteered for many of the candidates, did the hard work with pride and campaigned well within the rules of campus. It all makes me proud to be in such good company. It looks as if the new people coming up will carry on the group with enthusiasm. We will be holding elections for the 2011-2012 officers in December.

I graduate in May but hope to continue my service to the Party as Board Co-chair. Greg is running for 4th vice chair and we have some great College Dems that have stepped up and would like to take their commitment to the Party further and be on the Board. I will have their bios at headquarters to familiarize those who have not met them during the recent campaign season. The amount of talent, commitment, and enthusiasm these people exhibit is immeasurable.

I put the picture of our College Democrats' banner in this newsletter because of our commitment to the county Party, the headquarters, and to Democratic ideals. The board candidates are a strong group. Dustin Klein has run for assembly office, Logan Carlson has served our country, and Chris Yarie has coordinated campaigns—they are the people who will help take us into the future.

Please take some time and consider where the Party is going, what kind of experiences we want shaping the future of the Party and how these candidates will broaden the depth of the board. Having a variety of ages, talents, and experiences can only make us stronger for the challenges we have coming up.

Looks like we have some great times coming up in the near future. I can't wait!

Laura Hauser-Menting
UWSP College Democrats President



Dear Friends,

It's time to renew membership in the Portage County Democratic Party. If you have not yet renewed your membership (or joined the Party) for 2011, we invite you to do so at this time.

We need everyone who believes in Democratic principles and who believes in what our Party advocates, to join together. We need YOU to become a member or to renew your membership in the Democratic Party of Portage County.

Please, join the Party, or RENEW your membership... NOW!

THANK You... and Happy Holidays!

Democratically yours,

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



Yes, I'll join/re-join the Democratic Party for 2011!

Office Use Only--Date Rec'd:

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Send newsletter by e-mail only (saving printing & postage)

*Occupation _____

*Employer _____

*Federal law requires us to use our best efforts to collect and report the name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer of individuals whose contributions exceed \$200 in a calendar year.

County: **PORTAGE** CD: 7th

Sign me up for:

- \$10 Senior/ Student/ Limited Income
- \$25 Individual general membership
- \$35 Pairs (includes 2 memberships)
- \$45 Activist (includes up to 3 memberships)
- \$75 Family (includes all family members)

Check one: Membership Renewal
 New Membership

Make check payable to **PCDP** [Portage County Democratic Party]
[Payment includes membership in both County and State Parties.]

Membership dues are campaign contributions, and are not deductible for federal or state income tax purposes. Your contribution may be used in connection with federal elections, and is subject to the limitations and prohibitions of the Federal Election Campaign Act.

Mail to: PCDP
PO Box 515
Stevens Point, WI 54481-0515

*Let's Work Together to Keep Portage County **Blue**...!*

QUOTE of the Month:

“One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors.”

—Plato



Printing of our newsletter has been paid for with donations.

Thank you to our 2010 Newsletter Sponsors:

- Jan & Dave Way
- Robyn & Jerry Van Laanen
- Karyn Tank
- Memory of Norm Myhra
(donated by Mary Ann & Joseph Korbal)
- Diana & PJ McGinley, Jr.
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- Peter & Betty Mallek
- Roger Trzebiatowski
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- Jean Morris
- Anonymous
- Helen Van Prooyen
- Rep Louis Molepske, Jr
- Lois Lawler
- Charlene Figge

We are grateful for their generosity.

To add *your* name to our growing list of sponsors, send your donation (payable to PCDP)

to PCDP Newsletter Editor
PO Box 515
Stevens Point, WI 54481-0515
Any amount is appreciated.

Announcements

Save the Date —

The League of Women Voters of the Stevens Point Area invites you to attend "Women in Political Leadership Roles—A Local Perspective"

November 30

4:30 pm— Meet and Greet

**5:00-6:30pm—Program in south Laird room at
UWSP Dreyfus University Center (DUC)**

The goal of the program is to raise awareness around local political leadership opportunities for women and encourage more women to participate either as elected candidates or in appointed/ volunteer roles. Not to exclude men, the program will encourage anyone interested in more involvement in their local government.

League members **Chandra Lay** (from the Portage County Clerk of Courts Office) and **Patty Dreier** (Portage County Executive) will share their experiences as women involved in government, campaigns and the election process including:

- how they prepared
- challenges and/or advantages they have faced as women in their political/governmental roles
- where they see need for more women to be involved at the local level of political leadership.

Andrea Kaminski, Executive Director of the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin, will present how the League of Women Voters is addressing the role of women in political processes and perspectives on how public policy changes or is influenced by certain blocks of voters specifically women voters, business owners, young adults.

No registration for this free event.

For more information, contact Becky Dougherty at (715) 341-8422 or (715) 340-3423.



Portage Co Dems Liz McDonald (left), Geri Furr (center) and Jan Way (right) greeted Halloween Trick or Treaters with candy at the Dem Headquarters this fall.

Portage County Democratic Party

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www.PortageCountyDems.org

GENERAL MEETING

and Holiday Party

**Tuesday, December 14th at 7:00 pm
at Dem Headquarters**

929 Main St, downtown Stevens Point



Democratic Party
DECEMBER
GENERAL MEETING

- Date:** Tuesday, December 14, 2010
Time: 7:00 p.m. (socializing begins at 6:30)
Location: Portage County Dem Headquarters,
929 Main St., downtown Stevens Point
- Agenda:**
- Brief general business meeting
 - Updates from Elected Officials
 - Election of 2010 Executive Board
 - Enjoy the companionship of Democrats
- Program:** **Annual Holiday Party...!**

Refreshments will be provided. Sweets and baked goods welcomed.



**The Meeting (and Party) are
Open to the Public.**

All are welcome... Join us!