



# Portage County DEMOCRAT

Getting Together, Moving Forward

February 2020

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Thank you to Rick Christofferson for editing and putting out the January newsletter. Trudy



## Together, WE WIN

We think we could make a safe bet that any Democrat reading this newsletter would not want to see another four years of Donald Trump as President of the United States. So the question for us is "will we work as a unit and get behind the one person that we eventually choose to be our candidate or will we choose not to recognize the harm we are doing when we fall in to the trap we had set for ourselves in 2016, of fighting among ourselves over who the best candidate is." Because of that, we eventually let others choose Donald Trump so we could pridefully hold on to our personal, selfish convictions.

Any one of our candidates will move us in the direction we would choose to be taken. They all want better health care for every American. They all want affordable prescription drugs. They all want to move us back to protecting our environment and fighting climate change. They want more support for public schools and the end of vouchers. They would all appoint judges that we would see as fair and progressive. They would want economic opportunities for everyone and not promote tax breaks for the rich so that they can get richer. They want clean drinking water and clean air. They would promote justice for the poor children, the homeless and disadvantaged and the sick. They want better universities and lower tuition debt. They all would bring back civility, honesty and integrity to the office of the President of the United States, that has been attacked and nearly destroyed during the past three years.

As Co-Chairs of our Party, we cannot pick a preferred candidate until a final selection is made. We can tell you without doubt, that when we have our candidate, we will support that person 100% because it's just that important for all Dems to unite and work toward not seeing Trump elected again. So swallow your pride and don't let them win again, because four more years is a price none of us should be willing to pay.

Jan Way and Gary Hawley  
Co-Chairs



# 2019 Annual Treasurer's Report

GROSS INCOME: 18,288.84

CATEGORIES	MONEY	DESCRIPTION	Per Cent
Enrollment	4,742.98	Dues	26%
Donations	2,801.75	Mainly extra money which members include with their dues	15%
Fund Raising	8,867.75	Picnic, the Ray Cal food sales @Trig's, rummage sales, and hosting DPW events here	48%
Rent	1,800.00	DPW & Congressman Kind contribute money to run our headquarters	10%
Sales	76.36	Buttons & yard-signs; no elections in 2019 so very low	0.4%
Total	18,288.84		

EXPENSES: 14,188.24

NET INCOME (profit) in 2019: 4,100.60 **This is truly a fact to celebrate!**

Expenses related to headquarters: 7,343.47

Average cost for HQ per month: 612.00



As you can see, it was a very good financial year for our county party caused by a couple of key factors;

- 1) we have a solid base of members who renew each year;
- 2) many of those members toss in an extra donation to help us meet our financial goals
- 3) many of our members help out at our fundraising events by volunteering to help, donating items and just as important, spending money at those events.

One final thought on this year's budget deals with in-kind donations. In-kind donations include, but are not limited to, Karen Tank's amazing silent auction, Carol Gawlik's bake sale and some of the food at The Friendly Cafe at the picnic as well as the awesome food that shows up at our monthly meetings and the other events hosted by PCDP. By state law, we are required to report all those donations, which totaled over \$3,300 this year. This is another example of money coming from members' pockets to help us function as a party.

By the way, next year's report may not show such a profit. We have contracted for the remodeling of the lower half of the front wall of the headquarters building this spring. The result will be a attractive building that will be more energy efficient (in keeping with our energy conservation resolve) with the addition of insulation and quality windows. Some of our "profits" will be used for this necessary upgrade.

Richard Wyman takes over as treasurer for 2020. He will do an outstanding job. I appreciate having the opportunity to have handled your books over the years. If you have a question about this report or any financial activity, contact Rick or myself. We certainly want you to know what is happening with your money.

We do so well because of your generosity. Thank you. Jack Allgaier/2019 Treasurer

**PCDP members owe Jack a "huge" thank you for his continued dedication and unselfish devotion to our local party and it's success. Thank you, Jack**

<p><b>NEW - Office Hours</b></p> <p>PCDP Headquarters  <u>Monday &amp; Tuesday</u>  <b>noon – 4 pm</b>  <u>Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday</u>  <b>6 – 10 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Visit us</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to discuss the campaigns</li> <li>• to help with data entry</li> <li>• to volunteer</li> <li>• to pay your dues</li> <li>• to say hi!</li> </ul>
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We are interested in expanding our office hours. Might you be interested in volunteering a couple of hours the same day every week? We could use your help. If you can help out your party please contact Gary Hawley at 715-321-0111.



Primary: Tuesday, Feb 18 - **SUPREME COURT RACE -**

There is only one race in Portage County that has a primary. It is for Justice of the Supreme Court.

There are three people running: Daniel Kelly, the incumbent, who was appointed by Gov. Scott Walker in 2016; and two challengers – Edward Fallon and Jill Karofsky.

Both Ed and Jill have visited our headquarters to talk to voters. Our Party does not endorse in primary elections, but does strongly encourage you to check out both Fallon and Karofsky and vote for one of them. There will be a low turn-out so each vote cast has a huge impact. Our wish is that Ed and Jill draw more votes than the incumbent so that Kelly is eliminated that day. **Please vote!**

**Verify your voter registration - then vote!**

As you have no doubt heard, the conservative Wisconsin Institute for Law and Liberty (WILL) is continuing their assault on Wisconsin citizen’s voting rights by continuing a lawsuit to enforce the purge of 200,000 Wisconsin voters who MIGHT have moved in 2019. The highest concentration of voters this affects is mostly in **college towns** and Milwaukee and Madison; also the largest concentration of Democratic voters.

“If you took Madison and Milwaukee out of the state election formula, we would have a clear majority,” Robin Vos, Republican speaker of WI Assembly, speaking to the Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel last year.

Governor Evers won in 2019 by 33,000 votes. It is clear, the intention of the Republican Party and their backers is to prevent a fair and free election.

You can check your voter registration status at **myvote.wi.gov**

## February Program - Add your voice to the discussion - Rick Christofferson

Our February program will be a facilitated discussion of the issues we should be stressing as we communicate with voters during the 2020 campaign. We will work to identify target audiences and message to reach out and activate the voters we need to win in Wisconsin and the nation. The program will start after a few business items.

This is your chance to help shape the message of the PCDP 2020 campaign. See you at the HQ on Tuesday February 11.

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### Executive Board 2020 Elected December 10, 2019

| <b>POSITION</b>            | <b>MEMBER</b>       |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Co-Chair                   | Gary Hawley         |
| Co-Chair                   | Jan Way             |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Chair | Jerod Barkley       |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair | Ned Grossnickle     |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice Chair | Karyn Tank          |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Vice Chair | David Pederson      |
| Statutory Chair            | Michele Bjella      |
| Treasurer                  | Rick Wyman          |
| Secretary                  | Hilary Landowski    |
| Newsletter Editor          | Trudy Pederson      |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> CD Rep     | Rick Christofferson |
| At Large                   | Valerie Landowski   |
| At Large                   | Marlo Fields        |
| At Large                   | Joan Garski         |
| At Large                   | Chris McLaughlin    |
| At Large                   | Travis Slattery     |
| At Large                   | Lynn Wyman          |
| At Large                   | Jack Allgaier       |
| <b>UWSP College</b>        | <b>Dems</b>         |
| President                  | Haley Hartmann      |
| Vice-President             | Aubree Hagen        |
|                            |                     |

These Executive Board members were elected at the December 2019 meeting. These members will guide the PCDP through the 2020 election year. The Executive Board meets each month at 6:30 at the HQs on the first Tuesday of the month. All PCDP members are welcome to attend any Board meeting.

### DEBATE WATCH

There are three (3) Democratic Presidential Debates scheduled in February.

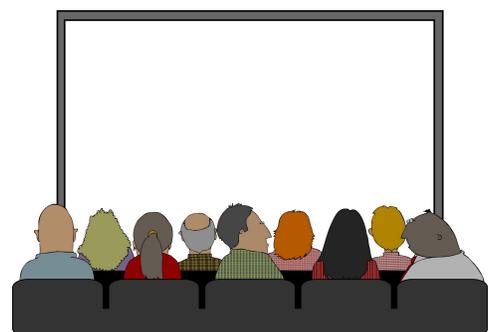
Friday, February 7 - ABC

Wednesday, February 19 - MSNBC

Tuesday, February 25 - CBS

Our HQs will be open these evenings should you decide you would like to watch with fellow Dems on the "big screen". It is fun to add comments (both positive and negative) during the debate.

We have had a small, but active vocal group present at all of the debates so far and invite you to join in. Drinks and snacks will be provided.



# Important Upcoming Dates/Events

## Sunday April 26, 2020 - County Caucus

It is time to start planning for the Democratic National Convention in Milwaukee, which begins with the delegate selection process. The County and CD parties play a big part in this selection process. Wisconsin will be sending 90 delegates and 6 alternates to Milwaukee in July to nominate our Party's candidate for President and Vice President.

The first step in this process is the first tier county level caucuses. All county parties are required to hold a County Caucus on Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> with registration from 1:00 - 2:00 pm, at which time the caucus will begin. Portage County is allowed 36 delegates and 36 alternates. The delegates will be chosen in support of the Democratic candidates – based on the results of the Wis. Presidential Primary in April. It is very important that we find 36 delegates to be elected to go onto the 3<sup>rd</sup> CD caucus – not only to be delegates to the national convention, but to support those who wish to go.

The second tier Congressional District caucus will be held statewide on Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, with registration from 1:00 to 2:00 pm, at which time the caucus will begin. To attend, one must be elected at the county caucus. Those elected at the county level may run to be a delegate to the national convention (the 3<sup>rd</sup> CD will be allowed 3 female and 3 male delegates) or may attend to vote for the best possible delegates. It is likely that the 3<sup>rd</sup> CD caucus will be held in Portage County so it will be easy to attend. Please seriously consider being a delegate.



PLEASE JOIN  
**Judge Thomas Flugaur**  
**Judge Thomas & Cindy Eagon**  
**Judge John Finn**  
**Judge Frederic Fleishauer**  
**Attorney Trish Baker**

AT A MEET & GREET FOR

★  
**JILL KAROFSKY**  
WISCONSIN SUPREME COURT

**Wednesday**  
**February 5, 2020**  
5:00 to 6:30 PM

**Point Brewery**  
2617 Water St  
Stevens Point, WI 54481

RSVP  
JILLFORJUSTICE.COM  
/STEVENSPOINT

Paid for by Jill for Justice

Wednesday February 5, 2020 – Meet Jill Karofsky, Supreme Court Candidate

## Mark Your Calendar

- February 18, 2020 - Spring Primary
- April 7, 2020 - Spring Election and Presidential Preference Primary
- May 12, 2020 - Special Election - 7th Congressional District ( we can help contact voters in the 7th Congressional District even though we will not be able to vote for the Democratic Candidate - stay tuned for opportunities to help)
- August 11, 2020 - Partisan Primary
- November 3, 2020 - General Election

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### OPINION by Trudy Pederson, Editor

**The National Archives used to stand for independence. That mission has been compromised. (excerpts from an article in [The Washington Post](#), 1/18/2020)**

“Democracy Dies in Darkness”

That the National Archives foolishly compromised the public’s sense of its independence by blurring out details from protest signs in an image of the 2017 Women’s March, including the President’s name and references to the female anatomy, is unconscionable.

I find this an unacceptable affront to the hundreds of thousands of women across America and the world that spent that day, (the day after the newly elected President’s Inauguration) marching for equality, dignity, and fair treatment. That a National Institution would censor freedom of expression in order “to not engage in current political controversy” is a path down the dark road to censorship and governmental control of free speech on all levels.



I offer these images from the Women’s March in Wausau and Madison in their original form as a remedy to censorship



# UNITED STATES CENSUS 2020

*Your response matters.*

Health clinics. Fire departments. Schools. Even roads and highways. The census can shape many different aspects of your community.



Census results help determine how billions of dollars in federal funding flow into states and communities each year.



The results determine how many seats in Congress each state gets.



It's mandated by the U.S. Constitution in Article 1, Section 2: The U.S. has counted its population every 10 years since 1790.

We are working towards 100% participation in Portage County. For more information and the importance of your participation, go to [2020census.gov](https://2020census.gov) and get involved.

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## Good news from Portage County - Redistricting

The County Board on January 20, 2020, passed a resolution to hold an advisory referendum on the creation of a nonpartisan procedure for the preparation of legislative and Congressional redistricting plans and maps in April! It was unanimous for those in attendance. Three board members were absent (Raabe, Dodge and Jankowski).

EVERYONE that called their board member and/or attended the board meeting, MADE A DIFFERENCE!. Thank you for using your voice, your power! Continue to engage locally.



Portage County Democratic Party  
2220 Division St  
Stevens Point, WI 54481

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

Facebook-PortageCountyWisconsinDemocrats

Twitter-PortageCo@PortagecountydemsWIdems

## PCDP February Meeting

6 PM Doors open - socialization

6:30 Short Business Meeting

Program: Discussion of issues for 2020 Elections

Elected Officials - Announcements

Socialization - refreshments

Authorized and paid for by Portage County Democratic Party