



# PORTAGE COUNTY DEMOCRAT

## JULY 2023 Newsletter

**4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY PARADE** is on Tuesday this year! **We need creative people with new ideas!** Decorating begins at 10am on Main Street near the Post Office. Come help us deck out our vehicles with signs, flags and banners. Stay to walk with us and hand out goodies. It's an easy walk (the shortest parade route in Portage County!) and a fun time! **Collin McNamara, our candidate for District 24 Senator, will be walking with us. Let's show him our support, folks!** Afterwards, head on down to Headquarters right after the parade for a pot-luck party 😊



[If you would like to help decorate the parade vehicles and have ideas or decorations to share, please contact Jan Way at 715-572-5802.](#)

**RAFFLE TICKETS** are available for pick-up at Headquarters at a meeting, or whenever the **OPEN** sign is on. This is our biggest fund-raiser so we need your help to sell as many tickets as possible. **Please make sure to include a name, address, and phone number on the stub because buyers do not need to be present to win.** Many people use address labels to make it easier to fill out, just add a phone number! You can return them to the locked mailbox when HQ is closed. **NOTE: You may purchase and return stubs at the picnic but stubs must be turned in by 2pm to be eligible for the 3pm drawing!**

## PCDP ANNUAL PICNIC Sunday, Aug. 27<sup>th</sup>, 11:30am - 4:00pm

**HERE ARE SOME OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED WITH THE PICNIC:**

**To volunteer to help with FOOD AND BEVERAGES** contact Kathy Celer at 708-212-0435 or [kcelcer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kcelcer@sbcglobal.net), or Jan Way at 715-572-5802 or [janmway@gmail.com](mailto:janmway@gmail.com)

**To donate bakery, jams, jellies, and maple syrup for the BAKE SALE** call Linda Pozorski at 715-6544-4736. She will have information on how to prepare them for sale.

**To donate new, or quality, hardly used items for our SILENT AUCTION BASKETS** contact Karyn Tank at 715-344-8009, or [karyntank@hotmail.com](mailto:karyntank@hotmail.com) (or consider putting a basket together yourself!)

**To nominate someone for the DAVE OBEY AWARD** contact Joan Garski using the form found later in this newsletter

**To volunteer to help with YOUTH OUTDOOR GAMES** contact Joan Garski at 715-341-5873 or [fredjoan@charter.net](mailto:fredjoan@charter.net)

We are looking forward to seeing many of you at the picnic. This will be a good opportunity to hear our candidates speak and to get updates from our elected officials. It's always nice to gather with a friendly crowd of fellow Democrats and Progressives. Friends and relatives are always welcome. 😊 **See you at Piffner Park Shelter in Stevens Point, rain or shine!**

And here's an update from Collin McNamara:

**Hi everyone, Collin here!** I wanted to provide a few quick updates from the campaign trail. We announced about a month ago and in one month we attended several events, shook hands, and met people where they are at. When I announced this campaign, I said I would not take a single vote for granted, that is why in just one month we have traveled over 400 miles. I have heard from folks worried about their paycheck getting smaller and smaller, and, just a few days ago, watching as their childcare disappeared.

I am running because I want you to believe in your leaders again. I want you to believe in government again, and I want you to believe



in Wisconsin again. The votes that my opponent is taking on the Joint Committee on Finance are not helping the people of this district. It is a no brainer that during a labor shortage we should be investing in childcare. At a time when we are struggling to find skilled workers, we should be investing in our technical colleges and university system. As your senator I will always support public education and do what is best for our young people.

On a personal note, I have been overwhelmed by all of the well wishes I have received, and I appreciate the trust you all have placed in this campaign with your donations and signing up to volunteer. We have several opportunities in the coming weeks to help the campaign! **Please fill out the volunteer form on our website located here: [collinforenate.com](http://collinforenate.com) and in order to keep getting our message out there, I need your support!**



**Please consider donating what you are able by visiting our ActBlue here: <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/collin-mcnamara-web>.** I appreciate your support, and I look forward to seeing you all around as I make my way around the district. If there is ever anything my campaign can do or if you have questions, please do not hesitate to reach out!

**RURAL POWER LAB Update:** July is the month for establishing a Young Democrats group. We are looking for young people not affiliated with College Dems who would like to belong to a younger group of Dems. If you are interested in forming a group, or know someone who might be, contact Joan Garski at 715-341-5873, or [fredjoan@charter.net](mailto:fredjoan@charter.net) .

**Have you ever considered running for office????** Are you ready to make your voice heard? Are you tired of watching the Portage County Board do everything EXCEPT what the majority of residents want them to do? **Run for a Portage County Board seat! Eric Olson is currently looking for potential candidates for 2024 open seats. Contact him at 715-630-4192 to answer your questions and for more information.**

# 2022 Financial Books Audited

On Monday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023, The Audit Committee convened to review the financial books for the Portage County Democratic Party. The committee included Pam Przybelski, Janet Langton, Jacqui Guthrie, and Lynn Dominick. The review was completed with the 2022 Treasurer Richard Wyman in attendance. After the review of the documentation, the committee finds the financial books to be in good condition. The committee noted that the balance recorded at the end of 2022 matched the bank balance at the end of 2022. The committee commends Richard Wyman, Treasurer, for his diligence in keeping clear and neat documentation. Thank you for your service!

Find your summer reads here at the annual Stevens Point Retired Teachers Association book sale! 😊

## SPARTA BOOK SALE July 12 – 15, 2023



Stevens Point Holiday Inn, 1001 Amber Drive

Hours: Wed, July 12: Noon – 7pm

Thurs, July 13: 9am – 7pm

Fri, July 14: 9am – 7pm

Sat, July 15: 9am – 1pm

Profits from the sale support scholarships and local charities.

## Our June General Meeting was very entertaining and educational.

Jim Buchholz, the Director of Schmeckle Reserve, put together a very entertaining power point presentation giving us a brief history of the Reserve, its geology, and the people who shaped and expanded it over the years. Its mission continues to be to serve as a nature refuge (no dogs allowed!), and as an outdoor classroom for research and



education. Outdoor recreation is also important when it doesn't interfere with the first two principles. Jerry Lineberger, President of Friends of Schmeckle Reserve,

explained the origin and purpose of the Friends group and showed pictures of some of the projects the Friends have completed. Melissa Reuther, Outreach Coordinator, talked about the programs and projects at Schmeckle that benefit students and the public as well. This dynamic trio really keeps Schmeckle busy year-round!



# Portage County Democratic Party Dave Obey Award

This Award was initiated in 2004 to honor Congressman Dave Obey's thirty-fifth year as a US Representative. It is given annually at the PCDP Picnic.

**Excluded from consideration** are publicly-elected officials and the current co-chairs of the PCDP. The selection committee – as appointed by the co-chair annually – shall contain no nominees for the award for that year. The selection committee has sole right to select the award recipient (selection is not confirmed by the Executive Board nor the general membership).

**PCDP Democrats can submit applications (copy below) for fellow Democrats.**

**Requirements are that the nominee live in Portage County, be a current member of the PCDP and support the philosophies of the Democratic Party.**

In addition, a nominee should exhibit *some* of those traits that Dave Obey has demonstrated during his career in politics: hard-working, respected, caring about poor or disadvantaged, steadfast and conscientious. The nominee should make us proud that he/she is a Democrat. The award is based on activity in the Democratic Party over the last year.

## DAVID OBEY AWARD

### PAST RECIPIANTS

2012 – Cindy Chelcun  
2013 – Leigh Allgaier,  
Trudy Pederson  
Darlene Todd  
2014 – Carol Gawlik  
2015 – Jerry Ugland  
2016 – Glen Fink  
2017 – Ray Cal  
2018 – Karyn Tank  
2019 – Michele Bjella  
2020 – David Pederson  
2021 – Meleesa Johnson  
2022 – Joan Garski  
2023 – ?

**YOU can submit a  
nominee.**

## APPLICATION

Nominated Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: 0\_ / \_\_\_\_ /2023

You may print this form, write on the back of it, then mail it to the address below, or, if you prefer, write an email to Joan Garski. Please explain in less than 300 words why this person is deserving of this award. Include at least two specific examples of involvement of this person with the PCDP. If you receive this form in the mail, please fill it out and mail it back. The mailing address and email address are below.

**Please submit applications by the DEADLINE, Monday, July 31st.**

**MAIL:** PCDP  
Obey Award  
Attn: Joan Garski  
2220 Division St  
Stevens Point 54481

**Email:** Joan Garski at: [fredjoan@charter.net](mailto:fredjoan@charter.net)

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**2023 Co-Chair**

Jan Way

**2023 Co-Chair**

Gary Hawley

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair**

Ned Grossnickle

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair**

Karyn Tank

**3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Chair**

David Pederson

**4<sup>th</sup> Vice Chair**

Joan Garski

**Secretary**

Kathy Celer

**Treasurer**

Lynn Dominick

**Statutory Chair**

Marion Trzebiatowski

**3<sup>rd</sup> CD Rep**

Rick Christofferson

**At Large**

Collin McNamara

**At Large**

Trudy Pederson

**At Large**

Mary Vils

**At Large**

Mary Zinda

**At Large**

Barb Brewster

**At Large**

Bev Mancl

**Membership Chair**

TBD

**Newsletter Editor**

Lynn Wyman

**College Dems President**

Morgan Lock

**HQ Phone**

715-544-6323

**Website**

[portagecountydems.org](http://portagecountydems.org)

**FACEBOOK**

PortageCountyWiDems

**Instagram**

pocowidems

**Twitter**

PortageCoWiDems

@portagecountywidems

**Address**

2220 Division St

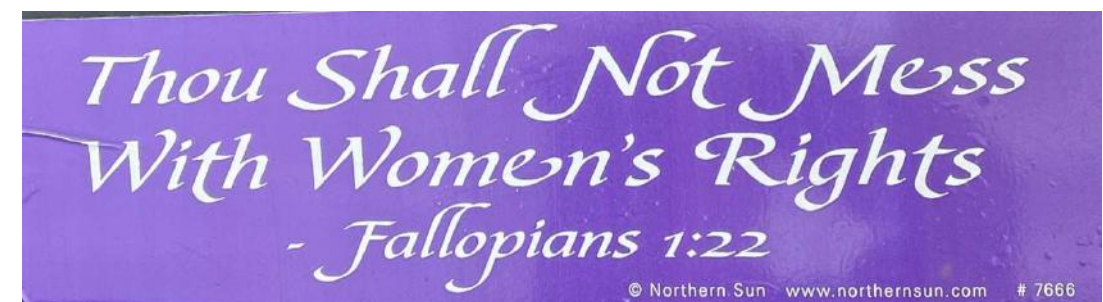
Stevens Point WI



June was a busy month!  
Here are a few pictures of  
your fellow Dems in action!



Quite sure the statement  
below isn't in the Bible but  
it should be! (no offense intended!)





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

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

Facebook: PortageCountyWIDems

Twitter: PortageCoWIDems@portagecountywidems

Instagram: pocowidems



## **PCDP July General Meeting Is the July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade!**

Meet near the Post Office to decorate  
at 10:00, and march with us at NOON!  
**Party at Headquarters after the parade**

### **Sell Raffle Tickets!!!**

Pick them up at HQ when the **OPEN** sign is on or  
at a meeting. Drop off in the locked mailbox when  
the office is closed.

### **SPARTA BOOK SALE July 12-15**

See inside for details

### **PCDP Picnic August 27 save the date!**

**COFFEE** on Wednesdays, 10am at Iverson Park

(weather permitting) bring your own chair and beverage

Authorized and paid for by Portage County Democratic Party