

# Sauk County Democratic

# Voice

Vol. 5 No. 10 October 2008  
a publication of The Democratic Party of Sauk County  
Editor: Bob Johnson

Opinion Editor Emeritus: Jack Ferver

**Mission:** to provide leadership and support for Democrats and like-minded citizens to translate our ideals into a government that is truly of the people, by the people, and for the people.

In this issue: Get Out the Vote!

## Calendar

**October 30, 5PM – 7PM**, Fund Raiser for 47th Assembly Candidate Trish O'Neil at the Brocach Irish Pub, [7 W. Main St.](#) Madison. More details below.

**November 4 General Election  
polls open at 7AM and close at 8PM**

**November 4, 7PM  
Democratic Election Watch Party**  
Baraboo Arts Center Banquet Hall  
[323 Water St.](#), Baraboo.

It's a results watching party in honor of Barack Obama, Joe Biden, Fred Clark, Tammy Baldwin, Trish O'Neil, Steve Hilgenberg, Tom Crofton, Ron Kind and all the other courageous people who ran for office. See below for more details

The General Membership Meeting that was scheduled for Spring Green on Thursday, November 6 will be canceled in lieu of the celebration party in Baraboo on November 4.

**December 4 7PM**, General Membership Meeting, Reedsburg. Reedsburg Public Library, [370 Vine St.](#) Nominations are being taken for Chair, First Vice Chair, Second Vice Chair, Third Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and Membership Secretary for the Democratic Party of Sauk County. To nominate yourself or someone else, or to serve on the Nominating Committee, contact Judy Spring, 356-7325. Elections will be held at the December 4 General Membership meeting in Reedsburg.

## Chair's Corner

Dear Sauk Democrats,

Let's bring it home.

We Sauk Democrats have never been as singular in our vision, as organized to accomplish the task at hand, and as close to realizing our goal, as we are now. Yet, all of the effort from election day in 2004 until now will be for naught, if we fail to press our advantage. Let's bring it home.

For us, it is not enough merely to register and vote. We encourage others as well by public declaration, by private support, and by joining the effort at our glorious campaign office in Baraboo and helping to GOTV (get out the vote). In the end, this alone will assure the victory.

Yes, there will be celebration Election Day evening. Yes, we will tell the stories of how the victory was won. Yes, we will feel the nostalgia of a time, when cause, commitment and candidates joined to make a sea change in America. All this at its proper time.

But for now, let's bring it home. I look forward to seeing you at campaign office.

Democratically yours,

Greg Sacra

## Local News

### Please Join

Assembly Candidate, TRISH O'NEIL  
with very special guest  
Dane County Executive, KATHLEEN FALK

THURSDAY, OCT. 30TH ♦ 5 PM to 7 PM

BROCACH IRISH PUB  
7 W. Main Street Madison, WI 53703

Host / Sponsor / Supporter  
\$250 / \$100 / \$50  
Suggested minimum contribution \$25.  
All contributions gratefully accepted.

Please RSVP at 920-350-2092 or  
[m.abbylynch@gmail.com](mailto:m.abbylynch@gmail.com)

Please make checks payable to  
Friends of Trish O'Neil  
W1087 Fox Road Columbus, WI 53925

[www.trishforassembly.com](http://www.trishforassembly.com)

Authorized and Paid for by Trish for Assembly,  
Mary Lou Sharpee, Treasurer.

### Come Celebrate!

What: **Democratic Election Watch Party**

When: **Tuesday, November 4, 7PM** until who  
knows when.

Where: **Baraboo Arts Center Banquet Hall**, 323  
Water Street, near Circus World Museum

Cost? **It's free!**

Who is Invited? **YOU** and everyone else you know!

People of all ages welcome!

Live band - "annaRanaway" and pianist Nick Kelly  
Cash bar.

Bring a dish or snack to share if you feel so inclined.

It's a results watching party in honor of  
Barak Obama, Joe Biden, Fred Clark,  
Tammy Baldwin, Trish O'Neil, Steve  
Hilgenberg, Tom Crofton, Ron Kind and all  
the other courageous people who ran for  
office. Help get the word out! See you  
there!

## State News

### Obama leads in 2 state polls

By CRAIG GILBERT, [cgilbert@journal sentinel.com](mailto:cgilbert@journal sentinel.com), Posted: Oct. 19, 2008

Two new Wisconsin polls give Democratic presidential nominee Barack Obama a comfortable lead over Republican John McCain.

In a Mason-Dixon/NBC survey of 625 likely voters taken Thursday and Friday, Obama leads McCain by 51% to 39%. In a University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee survey taken Oct. 8 through Wednesday, Obama leads McCain by 51% to 36%.

In the eight public polls in Wisconsin done in October, Obama leads McCain by an average of roughly 11 points.

Commenting on the Mason-Dixon poll on "Meet the Press" on Sunday, NBC political director Chuck Todd said of Wisconsin, "We're wondering why the McCain campaign in some ways is still actively campaigning there," and he noted that in NBC's polls, Obama is closer to McCain in West Virginia (down 6 points) than

McCain is to Obama in Wisconsin. That's notable because in 2004, Democrats carried Wisconsin by less than half a percentage point, and Republicans carried West Virginia by 7 points.

The margin of error for the Mason-Dixon poll is plus or minus 4 points. The margin of error for the UWM poll, which was based on 434 interviews, is plus or minus 5 points.

In the Mason-Dixon poll, Obama was rated as the better candidate on the economy by 51% to 38%. In the UWM survey, Obama was rated better on the economy by 52% to 33%. President Bush's approval rating in that poll was 19%. <http://www.jsonline.com/story/index.aspx?id=807745>

### **Parties share stance on yard sign theft**

By SCOTT WILLIAMS, [swilliams@journalsentinel.com](mailto:swilliams@journalsentinel.com),  
Posted: Oct. 13, 2008

Republicans and Democrats in Waukesha County have found something they can agree on: Yard sign shenanigans must stop.

In a rare show of bipartisanship, the county's Republican and Democratic Party leaders issued a joint plea Monday for people to stop stealing John McCain and Barack Obama yard signs. GOP Chairman Don Taylor and Democratic Chairman Rick Congdon said they wanted to remind people that yard sign theft is a crime.

"Although we disagree with each other on who would be the better choice for president, we can agree that the election process should be done in a clean and ethical manner," the two party leaders said in a written statement. "When this election is over we must be able to come together, not as Democrats or Republicans, but as Americans to solve the significant challenges facing our country."

Thieves struck Patricia Seeley's yard for the fifth time over the weekend, snatching her newest Obama sign only a half-hour after she put it up. The Wales resident said she will not allow such political poor sportsmanship to silence her on this presidential race.

"If I have to print my own, I'll print my own," she said.

<http://www.jsonline.com/story/index.aspx?id=805462>

### **Feingold chastizes McCain campaign**

By Craig Gilbert, Monday, Oct 13 2008

Washington -- In a brief statement released Monday evening by his political committee, Senate Democrat Russ Feingold took his longtime friend and colleague John McCain to task for the "tactics and rhetoric" of his recent campaign, an apparent reference to ads and statements from the McCain camp aimed at Obama's character and personal associations.

Here is the Feingold statement in its entirety. An aide said it was issued after Feingold received requests from reporters to comment on the tenor of the campaign in recent days:

"In a closely fought campaign like the Presidential race, elements of either side can get caught up in the emotions of the contest. This is especially true during stressful economic times. I heard Senator McCain help tamp down the rhetoric at a recent town hall meeting. Regrettably, he needs to do more of that. An energetically waged campaign can all too easily slip over into something hateful and dangerous, and everyone from the candidate on down needs to do whatever it takes to stop that. It won't seem credible for the John McCain I know to say his campaign should be respectful, while seeming to look the other way as his campaign employs certain tactics and rhetoric which apparently are intended to appeal to the fears of some Americans."

<http://blogs.jsonline.com/allpoliticswatch/archive/2008/10/13/feingold-chastizes-mccain-campaign.aspx>

## Opinion

Opinions expressed here are the sole responsibility of the writer, and do not necessarily reflect the positions of the Democratic Party of Sauk County. For comment or to submit possible articles for future issues, write or e-mail Bob Johnson, 1506 Lori Ct., Sauk City, WI 53583, [robertjl@charter.net](mailto:robertjl@charter.net)

### Guest Commentary by Patricia Nash, Baraboo **Obama's programs would help solve problems here**

I always voted Republican because I thought they'd be more careful about spending. When this race started, I admit I was concerned that Obama's programs would cost too much. And then it hit me. Obama voted against going into Iraq and wants us to get out. McCain voted for it, and says we need to stay there until we win. The war has cost us more lives than we lost on 9/11, and we pay \$10 billion a month to keep it going. *Ten billion*. A month! And what will we, American citizens, get from it, even if we do "win?" (As if anyone can win a guerilla war didn't we learn anything from Vietnam?) Do any of you profit from that war, and if not, don't you wonder who does? Is that how you want our government to spend your hard-earned money?

Obama's programs are geared to help Americans. Here in this country. And for a whole lot less than \$10 billion a month. Think about it. If we had spent that \$10 billion a month to work on alternative energy, for one example, we wouldn't need Iraqi oil, or anyone else's.

We wouldn't have a health care problem if it had been used to assist Americans who have trouble paying their medical expenses, and we wouldn't have to worry about Social Security. And yet McCain insists that Obama's programs will cost too much. Hmm.

### From the Desk of the Editor **Get Out the Vote, it is not too Late to Help**

In the mail we received two pieces of nasty negative trash from Republicans, both of them were addressed to my son. One was from the Republican Party of Wisconsin and the other was from the Republican National Committee. The mailer from the RNC tries to make the case that Obama was too busy with a Hollywood fund raiser to actually have done anything to help when the economic crisis was breaking. The piece from the state party is despicable. It makes it look like Obama and Bill Ayers were neighbors and close friends. Even worse, Ayers in one picture is wearing a Chicago Cubs shirt!

The Republicans are going to pull every dirty trick in the book to take this one. John McCain knows this is it for him. He is desperate. He would rather go down in history as running the most negative campaign ever than to be remembered with honor.

My fellow Democrats, we can not be content at this moment in history. Like Barack says, "Remember New Hampshire". In that primary he believes his campaign could have done more, worked harder, if they had given their all, they would have won that one. Hillary Clinton did a remarkable job in coming back from behind to take that one. Can we at this time sit on our hands and just believe that Obama is going to win? Can we afford to not do everything we can to win? Can we be complacent because the news from the national polls sound good?

You can call anyone on the executive committee, listed at the end of this newsletter, and we can tell you how you can help.

## General Membership Meeting Minutes

October 2, 2008

### Prairie du Sac Town Hall

1. 13 people attended the meeting at the Prairie du Sac Town Hall, including Assembly candidates Tom Crofton and Steve Hilgenberg. Attendance was down because this was the same evening as the Vice Presidential debates.
2. There was a general discussion about the Obama campaign activities going on throughout Sauk County. For example, Tuesday nights are High School Night at the Obama headquarters in Baraboo. There is a Sportsmen for Obama group. Several people attended the Obama campaign training and plan to participate in Get Out the Vote. DPSC has collected more than \$800 for campaign signs. About 140 people showed up for the campaign office grand opening. There has been a constant stream of people stopping in.
3. Minutes of the September meeting were approved.
4. Treasurer's report. There is a healthy balance, including funds earned from Bob Fest clean up.
  - a. The Executive Committee asked for formal approval to pay for \$900 worth of Obama signs. Donna Stehling made the motion, Jack Ferver seconded, motion passed unanimously.
  - b. Executive Committee asked for formal approval to make campaign contributions as follows based on demographics and need: \$1,200 Clark, \$1,200 Crofton, \$500 Hilgenberg, \$300 O'Neil, plus \$500 to be used for other last minute campaign contributions at the discretion of the Executive Committee. Jack Ferver made the motion, Bill Stehling seconded, discussion followed. Motion passed.
5. Campaign Updates: Steve noted the importance of letters to the editor for refuting misleading information and keeping up the momentum. Tom Crofton will participate in 3 forums with his opponent. Fred Clark will also have 3 forums. Candidates are urged to post the forum dates on their own and DPSC websites. Contact Tom Scharbach to post.
6. Greg Sacra appointed Judy Spring chair of the Nominating Committee and tasked her to recruit 2 others for the committee. Nominations are open for all Executive Committee positions. Elections will be held at the December meeting.
7. Roundtable: Bill Stehling described his concerns about the financial bail out. Nate Timm asked that a post-election conversation be held about how to build on the current momentum, perhaps with a forum in February. A movie called "Body of War" will be shown at the Al. Ringling. Jack Ferver read a brief letter to the editor.

Judy Spring, Secretary

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The Voice is authorized and paid for by the Democratic Party of Sauk County, WI, David Zeller, Treasurer.