

# Democratic Voice



*A publication of the Democratic Party of Sauk County, Wisconsin*

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June 2010

## A Word from the Chair

*Fellow Democrats,* I want to take this opportunity to ask for your participation in upcoming summer activities. On June 19 the "Flipping for Fred" pancake breakfast will be held at the Sauk County Faigrounds. If you are contacted to volunteer for a few hours, please do so if you can. If you can't work it, please stop by, eat some pancakes, and visit with Fred Clark.

Also on June 19 is the Butterfest Parade in Reedsburg. We really, really need walkers to show support for President Obama and our state and local candidates. Western Sauk County needs to see that Democrats are active there. Instructions on how to join us for the Butterfest Parade are included in this newsletter.

On July 4 we will walk in the Witwen Parade. This is another great opportunity to show support for our candidates.

Finally, the Sauk County Fair will be held July 6 to July 11. We will need volunteers to staff our booth days and evenings. If you can help us out with 1 or 2 shifts it would be much appreciated. We also will hold a "social" for local Democrats at 6:00 PM on Thursday, July 8 in the Litscher Pavilion (Beer Garden), so watch for more details on this fun event.

Please plan to donate a little time to these activities and help ensure the election, re-election, and continued support of our candidates.

Democratically yours,

*Barb Bair*



### DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF SAUK PARTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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**Our Mission: Providing 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.**

## Calendar

### June

**Saturday, June 19**

**Second Biennial Flipping For Fred Pancake Breakfast,**  
8:30 AM to 11:30 AM. Sauk County Fairgrounds, along Hwy 33, Baraboo, WI



**Saturday, June 19**

**Butterfest Parade,**  
Meet no later than 10AM at the Reedsburg Middle School parking lot (old Webb High), Reedsburg. Walk in the parade and show western Sauk County that Dems live and vote here too!

### July

**Sunday, July 4**

**Witwen Parade,**  
Witwen. The little town with the big, fun parade. Contact Barb Bair (356-6194) if you can join us and show your support for our candidates!

**Tuesday, July 6 –**

**Sunday, July 11**  
**Sauk County Fair,**  
Sauk County Fairgrounds, along Hwy 33, Baraboo, WI

**Thursday, July 8**

**DPSC General Membership Meeting/Summer Social at the Fair,**  
6:00 PM, Litscher Pavilion (Beer Garden), Sauk County Fairgrounds, along Hwy 33, Baraboo, WI.

### August

**Early August**  
**August Social,**  
(date TBA).

### September

**Thursday, September 2**  
**DPSC General Membership Meeting,**  
Prairie du Sac Town Hall, S9903 U.S. 12, Prairie Du Sac, WI.

**6:30 PM - Business Meeting**

**7:00 PM - Program (TBA)**

**Thursday, June 24**

**Deadline for submissions for the July *Democratic Voice*.**

## *A Message from Steve Hilgenberg*

Dear Friends and Supporters,

It is with deep regret and a heavy heart that I inform you of my decision to not seek re-election. Recent and continuing health issues have convinced me that I will be unable to commit to the physical demands of running the kind of campaign I believe is necessary. I ask your understanding in my very difficult decision.

Now the time has come to re-focus our incredible grass roots energies. When we came together in 2006 and did the impossible, we proved a number of things with our win. First, we proved that the 51<sup>st</sup> Assembly District does not belong to one party. Second, we demonstrated that a strong, well organized, grass roots effort can make a real difference. We now need that same degree of dedication.

I have some very good news to report. At a recent meeting of close campaign supporters, we sought and received a commitment from my good friend and political mentor, John Simonson to step up and fill the void. In 2006 John and I campaigned together and participated in many forums and events. Through that experience, I learned a lot from John about issues and how to articulate those issues. John lost a close race to Dale Schultz in the 17<sup>th</sup> Senate District race, but his vote totals in the 51<sup>st</sup> Assembly District were very impressive.

John worked closely with our campaign in 2008 to create and update issue papers and has been a valuable resource to our office in Madison. To say we have similar political philosophies is an understatement. I will be dedicating as much time and energy to his campaign as I can and I urge you

all to join me in working to help John retain our seat in the state assembly.

What is at stake and why is this election so important? Due to the economic crisis and the election of Barack Obama, a loud, aggressive, angry minority has gotten a great deal of attention. Their strategy of “no to everything,” slash taxes, cut government while increasing services is hardly feasible. Their common practice of playing to people’s worst fears and prejudices is a path to chaos. We are now challenged to convince the majority of voters that we need to reestablish the proper balance between public and private.

The economic crisis that brought the world to its knees and to the brink of a great depression was not the result of too much government but too little. Failure of government to monitor and regulate the shameless, risky behavior of financial and housing markets clearly proved that political pendulum had swung too far to the right and needs adjustment. The angry opposition has offered no solutions to the difficult issues we face.

It has been a great honor and pleasure to serve as your representative. I am grateful for the network we have created and will be fighting alongside you to ensure we maintain our seat in the assembly.

Thank you,

*Steve Hilgenberg*



## Campaign Updates

### John Simonson

51st Assembly

District Candidate



It has been almost a month since the official announcement that John Simonson would be running for the 51st Assembly District seat in place of incumbent Steve Hilgenberg. The news was released on April 23. Hilgenberg wanted to run for one more term but due to health problems, a nagging back, he was forced to reconsider.

Simonson and Hilgenberg have spent quite a bit of time together since 2006. In that year, Hilgenberg first ran for the Assembly and Simonson ran for the 17th Senate. The two are close in their political philosophy and learned from each on the campaign trail.

In a meeting with his campaign staff prior to the announcement, Hilgenberg urged his close supporters to embrace Simonson and help him all they can. The participants were unanimous in their consent.

### Fred Clark

42nd Assembly

District



The field to unseat Rep. Fred Clark continues to grow, as there are now three Republicans vying for that party's nomination in the 42nd Assembly District. Despite this competition, the Clark for Wisconsin campaign continues to gather momentum. With June 1 just around the corner, our most demanding campaign season is nearly upon us, and the campaign is actively seeking additional volunteers to walk in parades, hand out literature at community events, and raise the profile of the campaign throughout the district. You can also show your support by making a public endorsement of Fred's re-election, writing a letter to the editor, and adding a snazzy Clark for Wisconsin bumper sticker to

Hilgenberg and Simonson visited newspaper offices in the 51st to spread the word.

Since that time Simonson has been gathering volunteers and support throughout the district. Nearly all of the volunteers who in the past worked hard for Hilgenberg are enthusiastically working for their new candidate. The campaign is currently working on sending out donor letters seeking contributions.

Many events are planned and door to door campaigning is anticipated. Please visit his web site, <http://www.simonsonforassembly.com/> for more information. You may mail in your contribution to Friends of John Simonson, P.O. Box 44, Darlington, WI 53530.

Remember, as we all learned during President Obama's campaign, it's not how much you give but that you give what you can. The \$5, \$10 or \$20 donation is just as important as giving the maximum because it adds up fast. ~ *Bob Johnson, Simonson Campaign Correspondent for the SC Democratic Voice*

your vehicle of choice. Contact Rob Nelson at 356-7662 or [campaign@clarkforwisconsin.org](mailto:campaign@clarkforwisconsin.org) to pitch in with these important (and fun!) efforts.

On Saturday, June 19, the Sauk County Fairgrounds will host the **Second Biennial Flipping for Fred Pancake Breakfast!** Please join us between 8:30 and 11:30 a.m. for food, music, fun, and an opportunity to get energized for the upcoming campaign. Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett and retiring legislator Steve Hilgenberg are tentatively scheduled to join us for the morning, and we'd love to have a big crowd to welcome them! Tickets are only \$12 for adults, and you may reserve tickets at [www.clarkforwisconsin.org](http://www.clarkforwisconsin.org), or by mailing a check to CfW, PO Box 383, Baraboo, 53913. Even if you're not able to attend on the 19th, you can really make the morning a success by serving as a sponsor. Visit [www.clarkforwisconsin.org](http://www.clarkforwisconsin.org) or call Rob for details. ~ *Rob Nelson, Clark Campaign Correspondent for the SC Democratic Voice*

Opinions expressed here are the sole responsibility of the writer, and do not necessarily reflect the positions of the Democratic Party of Sauk County.

Email [jwheel956@hotmail.com](mailto:jwheel956@hotmail.com) to comment or to submit possible articles for future issues.

## *Our Sauk County 2010 Candidates*

### **U.S. Senate**

Russ Feingold

<http://www.russfeingold.org/home.html>

### **U.S. House**

**2nd Congressional District**

Tammy Baldwin

<http://www.tammybaldwin.com/>

**3rd Congressional District**

Ron Kind

<http://www.ronkind.org/>

### **Wisconsin Governor**

Tom Barrett

<http://www.barrettforwisconsin.com/>

### **Wisconsin Legislature**

**42nd Assembly District**

Fred Clark

<http://www.clarkforwisconsin.org/>

**50th Assembly District**

Sarah Shanahan

<http://www.friendsofsarahann.org/>

**51st Assembly District**

John Simonson

<http://www.simonsonforassembly.com/>

### **We Need You at the Butterfest Parade!**

Let's show Sauk County that Democrats and Obama supporters can be "loud and proud". We will meet at the Reedsburg Middle School parking lot (old Webb High) **no later than 10AM on June 19**. From there we will walk to our staging area for the parade's 10:30AM start. Wear a blue shirt or your favorite candidate's t-shirt. You may also want a hat and/or water bottle. We will have candy to hand out along the route. Family members and children are welcome too!

## March in The Witwen Parade on July 4

Join other Sauk County Democrats in being part of what some call the best 4th of July parade in South Central Wisconsin. This huge parade goes through the tiny town of Witwen, west of Prairie du Sac. Witwen is located at the intersections of County roads O and E. Park as close as you can to that intersection by 10AM. Walk along the line-up for the parade and you will find your Democrat parade contingent. The parade starts at 10:30AM. Arrive early to find parking along Co Hwy E. Wear a blue shirt or your favorite candidate's t-shirt. You may also want a hat and/or water bottle.



Scenes from the Witwen Parade, July 4, 2008