

Marion County Democratic Central Committee

Newsletter

June 2008



DEMOCRATIC VALUES

- Affordable Health Care
- Quality Education
- Fair & Equitable Taxation
- Healthy Air, Water, Land
- Family Wage Jobs
- Accountable & Fiscally Responsible Government

Welcome to MCDCC's Campaign Office!

By Aileen Kaye

The grand opening May 15 of our Marion County Democratic Campaign Office was a huge success. The office is located at 250 Liberty St. SE, across from the Phoenix Grand Hotel. It will serve as a meeting place for the county party, a recruiting center for volunteers for all Democratic campaigns, and a resource and operation center for our local candidates. The office has Internet-connected computers, a high-speed printer, and space for phone banking, conferences, general meetings, and training.

We were honored to have many Democratic elected officials and candidates in attendance. The ribbon was cut by Senate President Peter Courtney and House Majority Leader Dave Hunt. Also in the ribbon cutting line were Rep. Betty Komp HD 22; Rep. Brian Clem HD 21; Dan Thackaberry HD 17, Jim Gilbert HD 18; Hanten Day HD19; Richard Riggs HD 20; Jason Brown HD 23; 5th District congressional candidate Sen. Kurt Schrader; Secretary of State candidate Kate Brown; Amanda Mansfield representing Secretary of State candidate Sen. Vicki Walker; and Attorney General candidate Rep. Greg Macpherson.

We were very pleased to also have Meredith Wood Smith, chairwoman of the Democratic Party of Oregon and DNC Committeewoman Jenny Greenleaf participate in the ribbon cutting ceremony.

Senator Courtney joyfully and enthusiastically announced that the number of Democrats registered in Marion County now exceeds the number of Republicans for the first time in 20 years. Rep. Hunt stated that the number of Democrats now exceeds the number of Republicans in Clackamas County as well. Remarks were also made by Marion County Dems Chair Wayne Baum.



State Senate President Peter Courtney wields the giant ribbon-cutting scissors while State House Majority Leader Dave Hunt assists. Also pictured (from left) are HD 20 Candidate Richard Riggs, HD 22 Rep. Betty Komp, HD 21 Rep. Brian Clem, CD 5 Candidate Kurt Schrader, HD 23 Candidate Jason Brown, Linn County DCC Chair Loyd Henion, OR AG Candidate Greg MacPherson, HD 19 Candidate Hanten Day, and MCDCC Chair Wayne Baum.

Many thanks to Representatives Brian Clem and Betty Komp, who have been generous with their support for the office. They will have their campaign headquarters there. Thanks also to Congresswoman Darlene Hooley who generously donated office equipment and furniture. Senator Courtney also pledged financial support.

Thanks also go to the following people who made this special day possible: Cindy Kimball, Aileen Kaye, Claudia Baum, Wayne Baum, Suzanne Devlin, Sarah White, Laurel Muller, Tina Calos, Ed Taylor, Carolyn Estelle, John Estelle, Roger Kaye, and Jackie Main.

Susan Watkins merits special thanks for filming the event for CCTV. Peter Wong of the Statesman Journal also covered the ribbon cutting. His excellent article is on our web page at <http://www.mariondemocrats.org>.

Office hours, which will change as the campaign season progresses, are currently from 11 A.M. to 7 P.M. Monday

through Friday and 10 A.M. to 6 P.M. on Saturday. Volunteers are needed to help in two-hour shifts. Call Carolyn Estelle (503-364-5228) to sign up for a shift.

Financial contributions are needed. A program allowing for a monthly direct deposit to fund the office has been established. There is also a need for various material donations (see page 3 for details). For more information, please call the office at 503-763-3012.

The campaign office will serve as: (1) a visibility and credibility center for the party in the community; (2) a general information center for Democratic Party campaigns and issues; (3) the campaign center for HD 19, 20, 21, and 22; (4) recruitment and organizational center for volunteer activities; (5) training center for MCDCC and campaign volunteers; (6) a phone bank center; (7) the meeting place for monthly MCDCC meetings and committees, and (8) a voter registration center.

Become A Detective

By Rich Harisay, Legislative Committee

Have you ever daydreamed about being a Sam Spade, Magnum P. I., V. I. Warshawski, Miss Marple, Kinsey Millhone, or other hard bitten truth seeker? Well now is your chance. We have many more unsolved cases than there are sharp-witted sleuths to track down the clues.

For example, take the case of the missing personality of John McCain. Surely, somewhere in the swirling reversals and inconsistencies there lies a knowable person who *can* be found. Or how about the missing six trillion dollars which have disappeared since the Bush administration took over the White House? Or where in the world is Donald Rumsfeld? Where does Gordon Smith get his campaign money? He talks a good game, but does he really deliver? Is it true that Canadian troops are amassed on our northern border to quell civil uprisings when Bush declares martial law? I could go on and on, but ours is a relatively small newsletter.

You can be trained as a detective and begin to make significant inroads into these and other nefarious cases if you join the Legislative Committee. We are at the beginning of a massive effort to track down as much information as possible about political issues, legislation, legislators, and candidates and make it easily available to all of our Democratic family and others. Call Rich Harisay at 503-769-3339. After training you will be issued a badge, a gun (pen), and a secret password.



From Where I Sit

By Wayne Baum, MCDCC Chair

At the grand opening of our new campaign headquarters, Senator Peter Courtney proclaimed, “Pinch me!” because he couldn’t quite believe the numbers that have been coming out of the Secretary of State’s and County Clerk’s offices in the past few months. The numbers are indeed phenomenal: For the first time in twenty years Marion County has a Democratic edge over the Republicans. More than 10,000 new Democrats were added to the rolls in the past several months alone. Over 1,700 Republicans and 1,800 nonaffiliated voters have switched to the Democratic Party in the past year—more than 3,500 total. At the beginning of the year, Republican registration in Congressional District 5 led the Democrats by 1 percent; now Democrats exceed Republicans by almost 20,000 voters. The ballot return rate in the just completed primary had Democrats exceeding the Republicans 73 percent versus 59 percent. Statewide, voter registration has set an all time record. Since the beginning of the year there have been over 115,000 new registrants, with the vast majority being Democratic.

No one factor can account for this historical shift, but it’s safe to say that the excitement generated by the Democratic presidential campaign combined with the disgust and anger of citizens across the political spectrum with the present administration has a lot to do with it. At the state level, more and more Oregonians, having witnessed the highly successful Democratically controlled 2007 legislature, are becoming aware that the Oregon Republican Party, when it had control, did not serve them nearly as well. We can be guardedly optimistic that the shifts we are observing will translate into more Democratic victories at the local, state, and federal levels.

This is all good news, but I’m especially happy that for the first time in Marion County’s history, the Party is in an ideal position to truly capitalize on these newly energized voters. Two things make this possible: One is a sophisticated internet based database—the statewide DPO/DNC VoteBuilder File—and our own MyCampaign Marion County database. These databases enable us to identify, communicate with, and target specific voters and groups. They enable us to identify volunteers; to know who will work an event, who will work on a campaign, who has a particular skill or talent. They make canvassing and phone banking easy and efficient. It would be hard to overstate how important the interactive database has become in the modern world of politics.

The second “tool” is our new office. If you haven’t seen it yet, be prepared to get excited. The office is divided into three parts: The MCDCC front office, the meeting/phonebanking room, and the campaign/data entry room. With the help of Carolyn Estelle as office manager, Rocky Evans managing phone banking, and Tina Calos coordinating data entry, we are preparing to assist the house and senate district campaigns in Marion County with recruiting volunteers and processing information. Betty Komp (HD22), Brian Clem (HD21), Richard Riggs (HD20), and Hanten Day (HD19) will use the Campaign room regularly, but the high speed printer, internet connected computers, and data entry and phone banking facilities will be available to all of the campaigns. Everyone coming through the front door seeking to volunteer for a campaign will be assisted by a volunteer staff person who will conduct an interview while completing an intake form. The resulting information will become part of MCDCC’s database and will then be forwarded to the respective campaign. Thus, long after the Election night helium balloons have deflated, the campaigns have left town, and the volunteers have disappeared, we will know who those people are and what they did. And they won’t have to wait four years to be asked again for their help. We’ll make sure of that!

Everything is in place and we have a start-up crew, but more are needed. Please contact Carolyn or Tina and be a part of this incredible adventure. Together, we can insure that Marion County and Oregon continue to go Democratic and Peter won’t have to be pinched to believe it.

**Volunteer to
help at our
new campaign
office!
We will
train you!
Call Carolyn at
503-364-5228.**

Art Fair Volunteers Needed in July

Here's your chance to talk about the latest issues with the public. Salem Art Fair is coming July 18, 19 and 20. Each year we set up in the Free Speech area and promote MCDCC, local candidates and sell bumper stickers and pins. Your help is needed to staff the booth by working a two-hour shift. For more information please contact Claudia at 364-9741 or claudiabaum@msn.com or stop by the MCD office (250 Liberty St. SE) and sign up today!

Stuff Needed for Campaign Office

Marion County Democrats' new campaign office needs furniture, equipment and supplies.

If you can donate or lend any of the items listed below, call Claudia Kyle on her cell phone 503-551-5845.

- **Office Equipment in good working condition:** Computers capable of connecting to the Internet with keyboards and monitors (these can be PC or Apple); printers; fax machine; wi-fi cards
- **Office Supplies:** Paper for the computers; paper tablets
- **Furniture:** shelf units; small sales display case; portable, acoustic partitions; folding tables
- **Kitchen:** refrigerator; microwave; coffee makers or coffee pots; carafes; coffee supplies

All items need to be in good working condition. We have no budget for repairs.

Please label your items in an unobtrusive spot with your name and phone number. Plan to pick up loaned items shortly after the November election.

Do not deliver any items to the office unless you have talked with Claudia Kyle first!

June 16 Meeting Will Elect Officers

MCDCC's June 16 meeting will be our organization meeting. Officers and delegates will be elected and bylaws will be adopted.

Any registered Democrat can be elected to an office of the MCDCC. If you would like to be nominated, contact John and Carolyn Estelle (503-364-5228) by June 11 so your name can be placed on the ballot. Nominations from the floor at the meeting can be accepted as write-in candidates.

The bylaws were recently changed so that the next organization meeting after this one will be in November following the 2008 general election. This change means that the officers elected at our June meeting will serve a shorter than normal term of about five months. The change was made so that future elections will not be held during the middle of an election season.

Officers to be elected are chair, vice chair, secretary, and treasurer. Delegates and alternates to the 5th Congressional District and State quarterly meetings will also be chosen.

Only elected precinct committee persons are eligible to vote at this meeting. The meeting begins at 7:00 P.M. at our new campaign office, 250 Liberty Street SE, in downtown Salem, across from the Phoenix Grand Hotel.

We Have Great Local Candidates!

KURT SCHRADER CD 5 With a strong record of fighting for education, reforming health care, protecting our natural landscape, and insisting on fiscal responsibility, Kurt's values are the 5th district's values. 503-723-6174. kurtschrader.com.



always looked forward to returning home to Oregon. Protecting Oregon's unique quality of life for future generations is important to him. RichardRiggs.com.

DAN THACKABERRY HD 17 Currently Director of Linn County Farm Bureau, Dan has always been an advocate for protecting our valuable farm lands from development. He worked tirelessly in support of Measure 49. 541-258-3600. farmerdan.org.



BRIAN CLEM HD 21 Brian did such a great job in his first term that he does not have a Republican opponent. He will be helping other candidates win in November. 503-999-1212. brianclm.com.



JIM GILBERT HD 18 A farmer, small business owner, and son of Oregon pioneers, Jim believes in our Oregon values of hard work, honesty, common sense, and opportunity for all. 503-703-3285. gilbertfororegon.com.



BETTY KOMP HD 22 In her four years representing HD 22, Betty has worked to improve the quality of life for all Oregonians by focusing on quality education, sustainable economic growth, and government accountability. 503-428-2657.



HANTEN DAY HD 19 Hanten is a member of the Salem Keizer School Board. A firm believer in fiscal conservatism and personal responsibility, he wishes to represent ordinary people and working families. 503-390-9799. votehd.com.



JASON BROWN HD 23 A small farmer and computer professional, Jason seeks to make a positive difference for the people of his district and all Oregonians. He believes that if we invest in people and solve problems rationally, our communities can thrive. 503-606-4323. brownforhouse.org



RICHARD RIGGS HD 20 Richard Riggs has dedicated his entire adult life to public service. During his 20 years in the Navy, Rich



BOB McDONALD SD 9 A practicing physician, Bob will work hard to improve health care and health insurance, which are among the most important issues facing Oregonians this election year. rbobfororegon.com



MCDCC CALENDAR

JUNE 2008

June 7 ★ Saturday ★ 5th CD Convention. Leslie Middle School, 3850 Pringle St SE. Doors open at 12 noon, must be there by 1 P.M. to vote. Preregistration (now closed) necessary.

June 9 ★ Monday ★ 7 P.M. ★ Executive Committee. Home of Wayne Baum, 3435 Fir Tree Dr. SE, Salem. Ph. 503-364-9741.

June 16 ★ Monday ★ 7:00 P.M. ★ Central Committee. Organization Meeting. MCDCC Office, 250 Liberty St SE, Salem.

June 21 ★ Saturday ★ Democratic State Convention. Western Oregon University, Monmouth.

JULY 2008

July 12 ★ Saturday ★ 3rd Quarter DPO State Central Committee Meeting. Location TBD.

July 14 ★ Monday ★ 7 P.M. ★ Executive Committee. Home of Wayne Baum, 3435 Fir Tree Dr. SE, Salem. Ph. 503-364-9741.

July 21 ★ Monday ★ 7:00 P.M. ★ Central Committee. Meet the candidates ice cream social. MCDCC Office, 250 Liberty St SE, Salem.

AUGUST 2008

August 25–28 ★ Monday–Thursday ★ Democratic National Convention. Denver, Colorado.

For more calendar events and information, visit mariondemocrats.org

Note: To get involved with Marion County Dems, contact the committee chairs listed at the right.



Cindy Kimball gets office ready for the grand opening party. Photo by Jackie Main.

MARION COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE

MCDCC Officers

Chair: Wayne Baum

Vice Chair: Sarah White

Secretary: Sean Stewart & Monica Moran

Treasurer: Kasia Quillinan

Newsletter

Editor-in-Chief: Laurel Muller

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www.mariondemocrats.org

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COMMITTEE CONTACTS

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Legislative: Rich Harisay, 503-769-3339

Programs: David Vancil, 503-981-8863

Candidate Support: Sarah White, 503-428-2657

Membership: John & Carolyn Estelle, 503-364-5228

Fundraising: Claudia Baum, 503-364-9741

Next MCDCC Meeting

June 16, 7:00 P.M.

MCDCC Office, 250 Liberty St SE, Salem

Program: Organization Meeting

*Newsletter labor and printing donated.
NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: JULY 5*

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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Democratic Central Committee**
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