

Marion County Democratic Central Committee

Newsletter

October 2008



DEMOCRATIC VALUES

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

November Reorganization Meeting Will Elect New Officers

The reorganization meeting of the Marion County Democratic Central Committee will be held November 17, at 7:00 P.M., at the Marion County Democratic Headquarters at 250 Liberty St. in Salem.

At the meeting elections will be held to elect the following positions: Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary. Five delegates and alternates to the 5th Congressional District and five delegates and alternates to the State Central Committee will also be elected.

In addition to officers, the membership will adopt the bylaws, and conveners for all standing committees will be appointed by the newly elected chair. The chairs of the standing committees will be determined by vote of the respective committee membership following the first meeting of those committees within three months of the re-organization meeting.

Only publicly elected precinct committee persons (PCPs) are eligible to vote in the reorganization meeting but elected officers and delegates do not have to be PCPs.

As of this writing, those currently serving in the positions of Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary are not seeking reelection, so we will be looking for new leaders to carry on their impressive record.

Anyone wishing to have their name placed in nomination for any of the positions noted above, please

contact John and Carolyn Estelle, Membership Co-chairs, within 30 days of the meeting to insure that your name will be printed on the ballot. Nominations from the floor will also be permitted. The Estelles can be contacted at: jwestelle@comcast.net or 503-364-5228.

If you are in any way curious about assuming a leadership or delegate position please contact the Estelles and they can provide you the contact information for the current office holders and delegates.

Phone Banks Make a Difference in Battleground Counties Like Marion

You are needed! We encourage you to use your lunch time or another time of day (one or two hours)—once a week until November 4—to call swing voters at our phone banks for Forward Oregon (Merkley & Schrader) and many Oregon House campaigns. Our phone bank operation is located at Marion Democratic Headquarters, 250 Liberty St SE (Across from Phoenix Grand Hotel). Phone banks are open daily from noon to 8 P.M.

Why phone bank? Nationally, we have battleground states holding the swing voters who decide this election. In Oregon, we have battleground counties with swing voters who will decide elections. Marion County is ground zero in the race to reach swing voters who will determine key Democratic races in Oregon, including Kurt Schrader's effort to keep the 5th Congressional District in Democratic hands

and Jeff Merkley's effort to replace Gordon Smith in the US Senate. There are also several Oregon House races that may be determined by votes from Marion County. Sign up today!

To sign up for phonebanking, contact Jayme at Forward Oregon (Merkley and Schrader campaign, 503-566-8377) or call the Marion Dems office at 503-763-3012.

Get Involved at October Meeting

Our monthly meeting on October 20 will be another great chance to get involved with this historic election. It's not too late! There are still opportunities to sign up for GOTV (Get Out the Vote) activities.

The meeting will begin at 7:00 P.M. at our campaign office, 250 Liberty Street SE, in downtown Salem, across from the Phoenix Grand Hotel.

Important Dates

- Oct. 14** Voter Registration Deadline
- Oct. 17** Ballots Mailed Out
- Oct. 18** GOTV (Get Out the Vote) efforts begin
- Nov. 4** Take Back America!

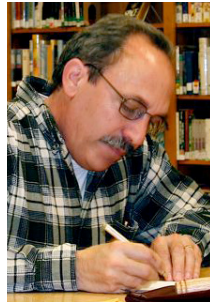
Change happens because the American people demand it.

Barack Obama, August 28, 2008

DPO Positions on Ballot Measures

The Democratic Party of Oregon (DPO) has taken positions on most of the measures on the November ballot. Measures 54 and 55 are legislative referrals generally considered to be “housekeeping” measures, and the DPO has taken no stand on them. Of the remaining measures (56–65), the DPO recommends a Yes vote on Measures 56 and 57 and No votes on all the others.

- **YES on Measure 56:** Legislative Referral. Amends constitution. Provides that May and November property tax elections are decided by a majority of voters voting.
- **YES on Measure 57:** Legislative Referral. Increases sentences for drug trafficking, theft against elderly and specified repeat property and identity theft crimes; requires addiction treatment for certain offenders.
- **NO on Measure 58:** Prohibits teaching public school student in language other than English for more than two years.
- **NO on Measure 59:** Created an unlimited deduction for Federal income taxes on individual taxpayers’ Oregon income-tax returns.
- **NO on Measure 60:** Teacher “classroom performance,” not seniority, determines pay raises; “most qualified” teachers retained, regardless of seniority.
- **NO on Measure 61:** Creates mandatory minimum prison sentences for certain theft, identity theft, forgery, drug, and burglary crimes.
- **NO on Measure 62:** Amends constitution. Allocates 15% of lottery proceeds to public safety fund for crime prevention, investigation, prosecution.
- **NO on Measure 63:** Exempts specified property owners from building permit requirements for improvements valued at/under \$35,000.
- **NO on Measure 64:** Penalizes person, entity for using funds collected with “public resource” for “political purpose.”
- **NO on Measure 65:** Changes general, election nomination processes for major/minor party, independent candidates for most partisan offices.



From Where I Sit

By Wayne Baum, MCDCC Chair

We are nearing the end of this campaign and the answer to whether we will finally take back our country is at hand. Sadly, the country the next president, Congress, and Oregon legislature will face is in far worse shape than the one George Bush and Company started with eight years ago. They will be challenged with the worse economic crisis since

the Great Depression with record unemployment, mortgage foreclosures and business losses. Because of the previous administration’s laissez faire policies, eight years have been squandered in which we could have been making gains on reducing greenhouse gases and reducing global warming. We could have been well on our way to alternative energy independence and universal, affordable health care. Because of the Bush administration’s arrogant use of military might to replace diplomacy, we will be facing great challenges in stabilizing and bringing peace to the Middle East and the Far East, and we will be spending huge amounts of diplomatic energy to restore our credibility and place among the family of nations.

Gloomy as all that sounds, I’m feeling pretty optimistic about our country’s future. Why? Because bad as things will be for some time, this collective eight year nightmare will finally be over. With the election of a stronger Democratic Congress and Barack Obama at the helm, we can begin again to restore our nation’s integrity and institutions. The national polls indicate that the American people finally are beginning to get it and Obama, when elected, will have a clear national mandate to carry out his agenda.

We haven’t made it to the finish line yet, but with your continued hard work getting out the vote in the next weeks, we will prevail. We will make sure that Oregon goes strong for Obama, elects Jeff Merkley, Kurt Schrader, and all of our other great candidates.

It will be because so many of you, young and old alike, went far beyond just voting to make this happen, that we will indeed have taken back our country.

“Consuming Kids” and “Food Matters” in Film Series November and December

The next film of the Progressive Film Series will be *Consuming Kids* at Salem’s Grand Theater (191 N High St.), Thursday, November 13 at 7:00 P.M. Admission is \$3 (\$2 for students).

Consuming Kids shows how, with virtually no government or public outcry, the multi-billion dollar youth marketing industry has been able to use the latest advances in psychology, anthropology, and neuroscience to transform American children into one of the most powerful and profitable consumer demographics in the world.

The evening will also include a short film about consumerism called *The Story of Stuff*. The speaker for the discussion following the films will be author and educator Ginger Carlson.

The film series will finish off the year on December 11 with *Food*

Matters. In a journey to uncover the truth about nutrition and disease it makes sense that interviewing some of the best in the world is a good place to start. *Food Matters* features many leaders in nutrition and natural healing.

For more info, call Cindy Kimball at 503-588-8713 or visit www.salemprogressivefilms.net.

The next newsletter will be a combined November/December issue and will come out toward the end of November. It will feature election coverage and the results of the November 17 reorganization meeting. The deadline for submitting items for the newsletter is Tuesday, November 18.

OCTOBER DEMOFORUMS

Brown, Westlund, Merkley

There are three DemoForums in October as we get to the end of the election campaign. Please try to come to as many as possible and hear these fine candidates.

■ **Secretary of State Candidate**

Kate Brown

Wednesday,
October 15,
noon to 1 P.M.



■ **State Treasurer Candidate**

Ben Westlund

Wednesday,
October 22,
noon to 1 P.M.



■ **U.S. Senate Candidate**

Jeff Merkley

Wednesday,
October 29,
noon to 1 P.M.



DemoForum luncheons are held at Kwan's Cuisine, 835 Commercial SE, Salem. The cost, \$11, includes a buffet luncheon, tea, and gratuity. Reservations are required. Email mariondemoforum@yahoo.com or call 503-363-8392.

**Keep up with MCDCC events:
mariondemocrats.org**

Marion County Dems Contribute to Successful Run at Oregon State Fair

by *Wayne Baum*

The 2008 Oregon State Fair has come and gone, but the success of one "vendor," the Democratic Party of Oregon, will continue well beyond the good times most attendees experienced this summer. County party volunteers from Lane, Benton, Linn, Marion, Polk, Yamhill, Clackamas, Columbia, Clatsop, Washington, and Multnomah Counties signed up 720 new or re-registered voters during the eleven-day fair. They also sold thousands of dollars of political paraphernalia to help fill DPO's coffers.

There was a stir of excitement around the booth as fairgoers took their pictures with the life-size Obama cutout and eagerly snatched up buttons and bumper stickers—clearly Obamamania had grabbed hold of Oregonians.

The booth was visited by Kurt Schrader, Governor Kulongoski, Sen. Kate Brown, Sen. Ben Westlund, and Labor Commissioner Brad Avakian. State house candidates Dan Thackaberry, Hanten Day, Jason Brown, Rich Riggs, and state senate candidate Kevin Nortness also spent time at the booth.

Many of the DPO staff were attending the Democratic National Convention in Denver, and so it fell upon Alan Holland, Polk County Dems Chair and myself to insure the booth came together, was fully staffed, and ran smoothly. Without Alan's almost daily presence and supervision and

the heroic efforts of Marion County's Kathleen O'Daniels to fill the schedule roster, success would not have been guaranteed. Volunteers from Marion County not only filled our county slots but contributed to completing the rosters of other counties as well.

Twenty-four Marion County Democrats participated at the fair with several doing multiple shifts. Thanks to Patrick New and Daniel Tawfik of the Obama For Oregon campaign for providing additional help and volunteers.

To all of the Marion County Democratic volunteers that helped to bring about a successful Democratic Party presence at the State Fair, a huge THANK YOU! Chuck Ayers, Lynn Bath, Wayne and Claudia Baum, Richelle Corbo, Matthew Cunningham, Bill and Jeanne Dalton, Suzanne Devlin, John and Carolyn Estelle, Matt Haines, Rich Harisay, Rick Hartwig, Mark Knecht, Alice Morton, Hinrich Muller, Kathleen O'Daniels, Frank Pauly, Rosalie Pedroza, Robert Plympton, Janet Spinosa, Jerry Smith, and Sean Stewart.

Special thanks to Fred Brown of Polk County for all of his help and providing a satellite dish that enabled booth workers and fair goers to watch television coverage of the convention. Finally, thanks to Steve Carlson and his crew at Carpenter's Local 1065 for help in assembling and taking down the booth.



Marion County Democrats **Election Night Celebration**

Tuesday, November 4, 5:30 pm to ???

Grand Ballroom, 187 High St NE (corner Center & High)

Admission Free — Donations Welcome

**COME & CELEBRATE OUR
ELECTION VICTORIES TOGETHER!**

☆ Music ☆ Food ☆ No-host bar

To help, or for more info, call
Claudia at 503-364-9741.



Help Make Election Night Party a Success

Volunteers are needed for the Marion County Dems Election Night Party. We all want to celebrate the victories on November 4 and what better way to do it than together at the Grand Ballroom, starting at 5:30 P.M. We need volunteers to help make it fun for all. We need people like you to set up (call Claudia Kyle at 503-551-5845); tend the bar (2-3 people, 1 hour shift); and clean up. If you can help, please call Claudia Baum at 503-364-9741.

MCDCC CALENDAR

OCTOBER 2008

October 13 ★ Monday ★ 7 P.M. ★ Executive Committee. MCDCC Office, 250 Liberty St SE, Salem. Ph. Wayne Baum, 503-364-9741.

October 15 ★ Wednesday ★ 12 noon ★ DemoForum ★ Kate Brown. Kwan's Cuisine on Commercial at Mission. \$11 includes buffet, tea, gratuity. RSVP 503-363-8392.

October 20 ★ Monday ★ 7 P.M. ★ Central Committee. Work and volunteer signup. MCDCC Office, 250 Liberty St SE, Salem.

October 22 ★ Wednesday ★ 12 noon ★ DemoForum ★ Ben Westlund. Kwan's Cuisine on Commercial at Mission. \$11 includes buffet, tea, gratuity. RSVP 503-363-8392.

Next MCDCC Meeting
October 20, 7:00 P.M.
MCDCC Office, 250 Liberty St SE, Salem
Program: Work Party and Volunteer Signup

October 23 ★ Thursday ★ 4-6 P.M. ★ Happy Dems Happy Hour. Bentley's Grill. Across the street from the Dems office.

October 29 ★ Wednesday ★ 12 noon ★ DemoForum ★ Jeff Merkley. Kwan's Cuisine on Commercial at Mission. \$11 includes buffet, tea, gratuity. RSVP 503-363-8392.

NOVEMBER 2008

November 4 ★ Tuesday ★ 5:30 P.M. ★ Election Night Party. TV coverage of election returns. Grand Ballroom, Court & High Sts., Salem. Free admission. No-host bar. Ph. 503-364-9741.

November 13 ★ Thursday ★ 7 P.M. ★ Salem Progressive Film Series. *Consuming Kids.* Grand Theater, Court & High Sts., Salem. Admission \$3 (students \$2). Ph. 503-588-8713.

November 17 ★ Monday ★ 7 P.M. ★ Central Committee. Reorganization Meeting. MCDCC Office, 250 Liberty St SE, Salem.

For more calendar events and information, visit mariondemocrats.org

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Newsletter labor and printing donated.

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