



# KENOSHA COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY

May-June 2012

kenoshacountydems.org

## Board of Directors

### Chair--Mary Jonker

[mjonker1@wi.rr.com](mailto:mjonker1@wi.rr.com)

262-658-1224

### Vice Chair--Edna Highland

[ehighland@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ehighland@sbcglobal.net)

(262) 552-8544

### Treasurer--Ann Wilson

(262) 654-1445

[anncurtwilson@aol.com](mailto:anncurtwilson@aol.com)

### Secretary--Judy Reynolds

[jreyno42@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jreyno42@sbcglobal.net)

262-694-9773

### Srgt-At-Arms--Mike Underhill

[munderhill1@wi.rr.com](mailto:munderhill1@wi.rr.com)

(262) 843-4332

## Board Members At Large

### Karen Erb

[kaerb@email.com](mailto:kaerb@email.com)

262-889-4815

### Sally Simpson

[sis-jr@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sis-jr@sbcglobal.net)

262-694-8254

### Bill Cobb

262-925-9654

### Rollin Pizzala

(262) 658-9122

[rpizzala11th@yahoo.com](mailto:rpizzala11th@yahoo.com)

### Karen Kempinen

(262) 551-0292

[ilovebaseball14@hotmail.com](mailto:ilovebaseball14@hotmail.com)

## College Dems

### Carl Bryan

(262) 945-7647

[carlbryan1989@gmail.com](mailto:carlbryan1989@gmail.com)

### Newsletter Editor:

Karen Erb

### Webmasters:

Karen Erb

Larry Zamba

Bryan Miller



## DEMOCRATIC CORE VALUES

Fair trade policies, collective bargaining, embryonic stem cell research, living wage, affordable healthcare for all, jobs from new energies, fairness and equality, separation of church and state, environmental preservation, women's rights, balance of power, equal opportunity, fiscally sound budgets, quality education, balancing the tax base, right to privacy, pro hunting & fishing, and keeping guns out of schools, bars, churches, e



## Message from the County Chair

By: Mary Jonker

A vital role was played by everyone in the successful recall effort, however our work is not finished. Now the last step to **VICTORY** begins, a primary on May 8th and a general election on June 5th. It is a very short period of time to succeed in what we began last February. If you're NOT already involved in the effort at recalling the Governor, Lt Governor, and Racine State Senator, **please please** get into the Kenosha office and help out. Even an hour or two of your time can make a difference.

### I'm appealing for your help.

We've all struggled this past year and we're all tired..... and we need more and more people to get involved and help.

You can go door to door or you can make phone calls... We have a job for you.

Come down to the office, 5535 6th Avenue in Kenosha. Bring a friend or two, be part of history. Call Scott at 652-3700 and sign up for at least one shift to make calls or knock on doors. We can't allow this opportunity to take back the state to slip by.

If you're already doing all this, **THANK YOU**. Find a friend who can help out.

After the election, we can celebrate at the: *2012 State Convention June 8-9, 2012 Radisson Paper Valley Hotel 333 W College Avenue Appleton.* Make your hotel reservations by calling: 920-733-8000

It will be a time to celebrate the Party, see old friends and make new .

## Calendar

DPW Founders Day, Saturday, April 28,  
Milwaukee Athletic Club

Fundraiser for Mary Schuch-Krebs, County Clerk,  
Sunday, April 29, 2012  
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM Italian American Club, 2217-  
52nd St, Kenosha WI 53140

Regular Meeting Kenosha County Democratic  
Party, Thursday, May 3, 7:00 Kenosha  
Union Club, 3030 39th Ave, Kenosha

1st CD Presidential Caucus, Sunday, May 6,  
Walworth County Democratic HQ, 10 S.  
Washington, Elkhorn, WI 12:00 noon  
registration, 2:00 pm Caucus begins  
promptly!

Gubernatorial Primary, Tuesday, May 8 YOUR  
LOCAL POLLING PLACE. PLEASE  
VOTE AND SAVE THIS STATE!

Jim Kreuser's Birthday Party, Wednesday, May 23,  
5-7pm at V.F.W. Post 1865, 6618 39th  
Ave., Kenosha, WI 53142

Memorial Day Parades in Silver Lake and Twin  
Lakes, Monday, May 28. Line up in Silver  
Lake 8:15 am.

### ***Election for Governor June 5***

Regular Meeting Kenosha County Democratic  
Party, Thursday, June 7, 7:00 Kenosha  
Union Club, 3030 39th Ave, Kenosha

DPW Convention, Appleton, Paper Valley Hotel  
June 8-9.

**WATCH YOUR EMAIL AND OUR  
WEBSITE FOR INFORMATION  
ABOUT RALLIES AND ELECTION  
ACTIVITIES.**

## Caucus for President

On Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 35 of our county residents met at the Union Club to elect delegates to the Presidential Caucus at the Congressional-District level. All of the attendees were elected to go on to that next level. The 1<sup>st</sup> CD is allowed 4 women delegates to the national convention and 3 men. We also are allowed one female alternate delegate.

In Kenosha County, three of these delegates have filed paperwork to go on to be delegates to the national convention. Those wishing to be elected to that honored position are: Leah Blough, Mike Goebel, and Rob Zerban. These 35 district level delegates will, hopefully, vote to send our three Kenoshan on to Charlotte. To those listed here: please don't forget to be in Elkhorn on May 5<sup>th</sup> before 2:00! The address is 10 S. Washington, Elkhorn, WI. And thank you!

Evelyn Pizzala  
Rollin Pizzala  
Sally Simpson  
Kenneth Simpson  
Ed Kubicki  
Rob Zerban  
Leah Blough  
Mike Goebel  
Jackie Goebel  
Cornelia Zerban  
William Cobb  
Tom Johnson  
Anita Johnson  
Angie Aker  
Zach Stoner  
Dayvin Hallmon  
Teri Jacobson  
Norman Siler

Tod Ohnstad  
JoAnn Prybylski  
Jerome Prybylski  
Curt Wilson  
Lisa Tanner  
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Hudson Diehl  
Tracy Rohrbach  
Mary Krebs  
JoEllyn Storz  
Karen Erb  
Judith Reynolds  
Edna Highland  
Ann Wilson  
Marge Krupp  
Karen Kempimen  
Mary Jonker

All of these delegates have pledged to support President Barack Obama for reelection.



# When the Fab 14 Left the State

When the Fab 14 left Wisconsin last year, they went to the home of Kathleen Veinhout's sister in Woodstock, IL. They stayed there for the 1st week of their forced exile. Kelly Veinhout and her husband wrote an open letter to the people of Wisconsin to tell us what really happened that week. Here is that letter.

To the People of Wisconsin:

There are times when life happens so powerfully and unexpectedly that all you can do is embrace it fully and play the role you are given to the best of your ability. Sometimes that role is to lead, sometimes to support or protect, and sometimes that role is as a witness.

Way past bedtime on a Thursday night, February 17, 2011, we found ourselves unexpectedly sitting at a table in a fast-food restaurant with a group of people who had sacrificed their own comfort so that the people of Wisconsin would have a chance to learn the contents of the Governor's "Budget Repair" bill. They had no extra clothes, no food, only the small amount of cash they typically carried with them, and no place to go. Some did not even have essential medication with them. Despite this, their conversation focused on remaining in contact with their constituents and being able to negotiate with their Republican colleagues.

The comment "Why don't you come to my house?" was spontaneous, genuine, and one we would repeat. That night and the next day, we escorted Wisconsin Democratic Senators to our home where they slept, ate, and constantly worked for the next week, before moving on to another "undisclosed location."

It was a pleasure to host this group of dedicated and loyal people. We were repeatedly amazed at how hard they worked. They were awake by 4:30 or 5:00 AM and kept working until well past midnight. Each of them made many personal sacrifices and agonized that they were missing events at home, such as birthdays of their children and spouses, children's school events, funerals, family reunions planned long ago, wedding anniversaries, and many other days that we cherish as families. Their spouses scrambled to take out loans to pay bills at home when their paychecks were withheld. They risked debt and sacrificed time with their own families so that they could represent those they were elected to serve. They spent endless hours returning telephone calls to the people in their districts. Contrary to the contents of some of the newspaper articles we have since read, they attempted daily to negotiate with their Republican colleagues and their Governor, and spent endless hours attempting to contact these legislators. We watched them write these letters at our kitchen table. We watched their disappointment as their pleas for negotiation were steadfastly refused. We, common citizens who previously knew very little about politics, were then amazed to read news releases stating it was the Democratic Senators who were refusing to negotiate.

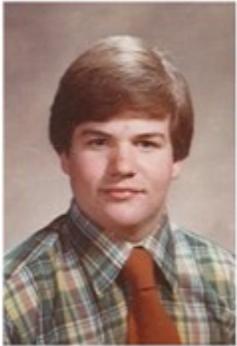
Although we are very private people, we decided to write this letter because, just as you had a right to learn the contents of your Governor's proposed bill, you have a right to know the truth of what happened during the three weeks your Senators worked in Illinois. We witnessed first-hand how these Senators never stopped working from the moment they made the heart-breaking decision to leave the state they love. They made many personal sacrifices because every week they received tens of thousands of messages from their constituents pleading with them to not return.

We thank the great state of Wisconsin for the honor of participating in your effort to ensure a government "of the people, by the people, for the people." We are proud to be your neighbors as you move forward in the long days ahead, using the democratic process to ensure justice for all.

– Kelly Vinehout and Douglas Smith Woodstock, Illinois

**PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD AND RETELL THIS STORY.**

# Worlds Collide. but No Shots Fired. No Film at Eleven By Guest Blogger-- Kevin Mulvenna



When I was a sophomore in high school I lifted a 6-pack of beer from my father's grocery store and went to a party. Yes, I stole from my own father, but having inherited a gene for guilt, I punished myself by choosing Old Style, which, in my circle of friends, was referred to as "dog pile." In any case (no pun intended) the party was at a

friend's house and, of course, his parents were away. We'll never know if it was the presence of too many cars in the driveway, or the volume of "Frampton Comes Alive" that prompted a neighbor to call the police. The knock on the front door sent most of us flying out the sliding glass doors before one of the responding officers made it around back. I ran a few houses down, stopped between a house and garage, and hid behind a propped-up wheelbarrow. It was warm and windows were open. Perhaps he heard my panting – the man who came to the side door, walked out and called, "Who's there?" My fore mentioned Irish-Catholic, guilt-prone heritage, caused me to stand up and reveal myself in the semi-darkness. Very long seconds passed as we squinted at one another not saying a word. Then I turned and ran like hell. At fifteen I felt lucky to be alive – at fifty I am realizing that isn't an exaggeration.

For part of my 30's I rented an upper flat, across from a public school. It was a rainy evening and I was stepping out to let our terrier do his business when I was almost run over by an African-American man running down the sidewalk. It would have been somewhat unusual to see a black man in the neighborhood at any time, but running in the dark and rain? I admit I was afraid on several different levels as he quickly sidestepped me to avoid our colliding. In that split second I blurted out, "Are you O.K.?" Perhaps sensing he should explain, he slowed to a backwards jog and said he'd been cleaning at the school late and was afraid he'd miss the last bus at the stop three blocks away. I said, "Get in," motioning to the baby blue Dodge Omni sitting in the driveway.

My dog rode on his lap as we made small talk. He'd been working at the school for 6 months, had two little girls, and a wife in nursing school where I taught. He waited in the shelter only moments before I saw his bus arrive in my rear view mirror.

No one was hurt in either instance. Just people's worlds crashing together in unexpected ways. No one meant to do harm, and no harm was done. But what if the older gentlemen had decided to bring a gun into his gangway and misread who I was, or what I was up to – at age 15 all red-faced from embarrassment, pimples and a can of bad beer in my belly? What if I carried a gun when walking my dog? Would I have chosen something other than "Are you OK," to look tougher, to be tougher? Nobody knows. Sometimes there isn't time to decide, and then again, maybe some people make up their minds long before about what they would do, or what they are going to do? Maybe they almost hope for, even pursue, the opportunity to inflict harm, and make themselves feel tougher, or more important while teaching others lessons?

Shouldn't the law guard against our worst instincts, and not promote them, or plant ideas about vigilante bravado that might be tragically acted upon during flashing seconds of confusion and chaos?

I know, I know. Old Style and a baby-blue Dodge Omni? At least I'm alive and I haven't killed anybody.

Kevin Mulvenna

**AM 820 Available during Daylight Hours Only**



**FM Stations Available 5:00 AM to 9:00 PM**

## Annual Dinner Donors

The Annual Dinner held at Bristol Oaks Country Club on March 31<sup>st</sup> was a huge success. We had approximately 180 guests enjoying the delicious dinner. Our Silent Auction and Raffle brought in enough money to pay the rent on our office for several more months. We received raffle and auction items from many donors. Those listed here signed up to bring items prior to March 30<sup>th</sup>. There were other items dropped off at the last minute, but we do not have a complete list of those generous Dems.

We want to say a big, big Thank You to all the donors, and wish to mention those that we do know about listed here!

Bartley House  
Prell Family  
Karen Kempinen  
Christina Pizzala  
KEA  
Mary Modder  
Mike Goebel  
Bead Haven  
Peacetree  
Countryside Wildlife Art & Gallery  
Teri Jacobson  
Mary Schuch-Krebs  
Ed Kubicki  
Rebecca Matoska-Mentink  
Erin Gename Studio 75  
Joyce Erickson  
Roseann Shales  
Tenuta's Deli  
Judy Reynolds  
TG's  
Sally Simpson  
Karen Erb  
Ashling's on the Lough  
Leah Blough  
Sue Sommer/Pet Services  
Julie Schroeder  
Tim Mahone  
Bull & Bear  
Edna Highland  
La Fogata Mexican Restaurant

## 6 Months of Work in Two

These are unprecedented times that require unprecedented action. We are trying to do a six month field campaign in two months. That's less than 7 Saturdays of knocking doors left. We cannot wait until we have a candidate. The number of people that we have to reach in such a short period of time is daunting, but attainable.

The reason we started this election was not necessarily to elect LaFollette or Falk or Vinehout or Barrett; it was to get rid of Scott Walker. No matter who our governor elect is, it's imperative that we lay the groundwork for a successful campaign to throw Walker out of office and send a message to the rest of the nation. We will not sacrifice education so that the few can get preferential treatment. We will not sacrifice our right to organize just so that owners can skimp on their obligations to employees. We will not sacrifice our health and welfare. These are the reasons we need to continue fighting against the oppression we thought we had left in the past.

Please find a couple hours in your day to contact voters so that they know the issues and that they turn out to vote. We call every day from 12 pm to 8 pm. We also canvas weekdays at 5 and weekends at 10, 1 and 3. Voter turnout will be to the key to victory. We need all the help to make sure the polls are packed with people who want to stand against Scott Walker.

Solidarity,

Scott Neilitz

Field Organizer – Kenosha DPW

[scottn@wisdems.org](mailto:scottn@wisdems.org)

262-652-3700

DON'T FORGET TO BRING  
FOOD TO OUR OFFICE!





Annual Dinner Committee



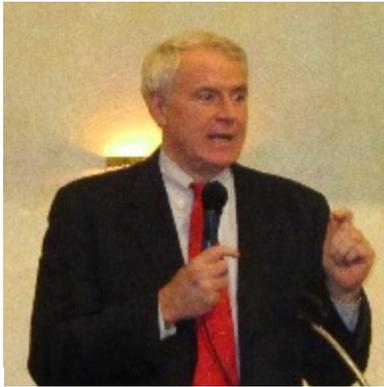
Democrat of the Year—Leah Blough



Candidates for Governor  
Kathleen Veinhout and  
Kathleen Falk



Candidate for Senate  
Tammy Baldwin



Candidate for Governor  
Tom Barrett



Democratic Family of the Year—The Prell Family with  
Bob Wirch and Peter Barca