

The Kenosha Democrat



Jan.-Feb. 2017

kenoshacountydems.org

Board of Directors

DEMOCRATIC CORE VALUES

Chair—Rollin Pizzala

rpizzala11th@yahoo.com

262-705-6463

Vice-Chair—Tyson Froh

tysonfroh@gmail.com

262-654-1246

Treasurer—Sally Simpson

sjs-jr@sbcglobal.net

262-694-8254

Secretary—Karen Kempinen

kkempinen@gmail.com

262-945-2091

Srgt-At-Arms--Mike Goebel

mikeyg12@aol.com

For more than 200 years, Democrats have represented the interests of working families, fighting for equal opportunities and justice for all Americans.

Our party was founded on the conviction that wealth and privilege shouldn't be an entitlement to rule and the belief that the values of hardworking families are the values that should guide us.

We didn't become the most prosperous country in the world by rewarding greed and recklessness or by letting those with the most influence write their own rules. We got here by rewarding hard work and responsibility, by investing in people, and by growing our country from the bottom up.

Today Democrats are fighting to repair decades of damage and grow an economy based on the values of Main Street, not greed and reckless speculation. Democrats are focused on rescuing our economy not just in the short run but also rebuilding our economy for the long run—an economy that lifts up not just some Americans, but all Americans.



Message from your KCDP Chair

Board Members At Large

Ken Simpson

sjs-jr@sbcglobal.net

262-694-8254

Alex Maskevich

alex.maskevich@gmail.com

518 872-9806

Mike Peltier

262-551-8704

m.peltier@att.net

Evelyn Pizzala

wieve1@yahoo.com

262 658 9122

Joe Cardinali

joemcardinali@gmail.com

262 945-7960

A new year is upon us, and we are still in a state of shock and disbelief over the November 8th election. We ask ourselves what happened, how did we lose with such craziness coming from the other side? We cannot put this loss on one thing in particular. Many things came into play in this election; voter suppression, third party voters, 46% of eligible voters who just plain stayed home and did not vote, negative ads, and, of course, the media. I did have hope that we would win in a landslide from the polls and the feedback I received going to different events where a lot of Republicans told me they were changing their vote this year. Now, it is time to move forward. We have to pull together, stay strong, hold our heads high and start on the 2018 election.

I would like to give a big thanks to all the volunteers who worked tirelessly throughout the campaign. You gave so much time and effort canvassing, phone banking, entering data, assembling literature, greeting people in the office, attending various events, providing food for the events and GOTV weekend, and donating needed supplies. We could not do it without all your help. Thank you again for all your efforts and your belief in the Democratic Party.

Despite our loss, our Kenosha County Democratic Party has started moving on with a positive outlook towards the future. To start with, we had an 80% vote to keep our office open. The overwhelming majority of members voting in favor have deepened **our** resolve to use it to help broaden our base and build our membership. Since the election we have already seen our membership grow by 15% through people who joined because of the office, or at our first

Continued on page 2, See "Message"

Publicity

Newsletter Editor:

Karen•Erb

kaerb@email.com

262-889-4815

Webmaster:

Karen•Erb

Karen Kempinen



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post election event held there. We are planning a number of events for getting more people involved, energized, and educated before the next election. Please check the article about the office in this newsletter.

The board met for our annual proposed budget and planning meeting. We had in depth discussions about the future of our party and changes we can make to improve and strengthen it. One exciting change is providing money to help train candidates. We are also planning more issue oriented membership meetings. Look for more information about the board meeting in this newsletter.

Several board members also attended a three hour debriefing session in Milwaukee put on by the Democratic Party of Wisconsin. At that meeting we talked about what worked and what did not in the election, candidate recruitment and training, message development, and more. It is very clear that we need to move in a new direction and think outside the box. The state party is starting now to work on the next election.

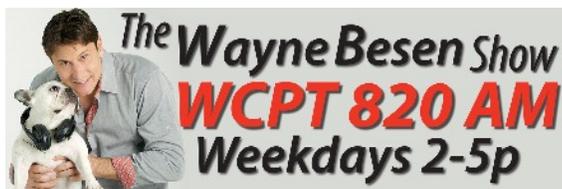
Within a month of the election so much has already been started on all levels within the party. I am looking for a positive change in 2017.

From the Chair and the rest of the board we wish each and every one of you a personal Happy and Wonderful Holiday Season. Together we will win again!



www.1stcd.org

<https://www.facebook.com/KenoshaCountyDems/>



Office Pledges

On November 30th the membership voted to keep our office open as long as we have the financial support to do so. I have opened the segregated account for the office.

I used the pledged money I already received in order to do so. If you gave me a pledge, a notice has been sent to remind you and let you set up your payment as desired.

There are 3 payment plans:

- 1. A lump sum in January*
- 2. Monthly payments through Act Blue*
- 3. Monthly payments by check/cash*

*Payments are made to the
Kenosha County Democratic Party
Sent to: Sally Simpson
8429 43rd Ave
Kenosha, Wi 53142*

If you have not made a pledge yet you may still do so.

*Contact Sally Simpson at 694-8254 or
sjs-jr@sbcglobal.net*

*Thank you all for your support,
Sally*

BUDGET MEETING/YEAR PLANS

By: Sally Simpson



On Thursday, December 1st, the Kenosha County Democratic Board met for our annual board meeting to work on a proposed budget for the coming year. We spent four hours carefully making decisions on possible income sources, keeping expenditures to a minimum, and overall goals for the year.

We were pleased that we had additional funds to use in this year's budget due to two things. First, we brought in more income this year because of a very successful annual dinner, the selling of a large amount of merchandise, and increased donations. Secondly, we were able to remove the line item for office rent from our budget, as we will now have it as a segregated account. Altogether, that allowed us more money to allocate in 2017. We were able to keep most of our expenditures similar to previous years, except advertising where costs have increased. This enabled us to include a new line item in the budget.

After the election, one of the most important areas that many people felt needed improvement was candidate recruiting and training. We believe that this should be a priority for our party, as we move forward towards the 2018 campaign and election. Therefore, in the proposed budget, we have added a line item for candidate training. This would include not only training offered by the state party, but the ability for candidates to apply for funds to use for training through Wellstone or Emerge. A new committee was formed to work on the process for this if the proposed budget passes. This was made possible because of the additional funds. We were very excited to be able to add it as a line item.

We discussed plans for the coming year that will meet our party's goals of electing Democrats up and down the ballot, expanding our membership, making it more diverse, becoming more involved in the community, educating voters, and working on issues that are important to the Democratic Party. One way we plan to achieve these goals is to make each membership meeting be issue oriented, rather than just business. Issues such as climate change, immigration, education, worker's rights, etc. will be addressed. As we see on a daily basis the choices Trump is making for his Cabinet, we will have to be fighting for all of these. Having our office open for training, meetings,

classes, forums, events, movies, etc. is another part of our plan.

The members of the party and their involvement are the most important ingredient in our plans for the year. We need all of you to help the party achieve our goals. Please consider joining one of our committees; sharing your ideas for outreach, speakers, events, classes, meetings, etc; sharing your knowledge about issues, and volunteering. It is up to all of us to fight against the new administration.

At the start of our budget meeting all of us were feeling very discouraged about the election and what would happen to all the progress Democrats had made. After talking about plans for the year and working on the budget, we all starting having hope and a more positive attitude. Let's all work together, stay strong, and make a difference.

CALENDAR

Jan. 5 7:00 P.M.

Regular monthly meeting of the Kenosha County Democratic Party

Union Club, 3030 39th Ave., Kenosha.

Join us for our first general membership meeting of 2017 as we welcome Kevin Kane from Citizens Action, who will update us on his organization's initiatives.

An overview of some KCDP plans for the new year will also be presented.



Valuable Volunteers Open House!"

January 20th, 2017, 6:30 pm - ?

[There is something on TV that night, but we wouldn't want to boost the ratings for that.]

Kenosha County Democratic Party office
5712 7th Avenue, Kenosha

All volunteers, past, present, and future, are welcome to join us as we express our appreciation for your sharing of your time and talents and lift each other up for the challenges to come.

Snacks, sweets, games, and a few surprises will be provided!
Check our Kenosha County Democratic Party Facebook page for updates.

Questions? Call/text Karen K. 262-945-2091 or
Sally 262-945-8252.

Feb 2 7:00 P.M.

Regular monthly meeting of the Kenosha County Democratic Party

Union Club, 3030 39th Ave., Kenosha.

"An Evening of Post-Election Reflection" December 8th, 2016

By: Karen Kempinen

In the weeks after the election, people reached out to the Kenosha County Democratic Party, both to ask for help and to offer help. In response, the Education/Outreach Committee of the Kenosha County Democratic Party hosted "An Evening of Post-Election Reflection." More than 50 people attended this event on a cold winter evening. The program began with special music performed by Bill Robbins, Jennie Tunkiewicz, and Dayvin Hallmon. The guests, young and not so young, joined in with the singing of "Lean on Me" and "I Won't Back Down."

Helping agency representatives then shared the services that they offer to the community. Speakers included Yolanda Santos Adams, CEO Racine Kenosha Urban League; Randy Bryce, President Wisconsin Veterans Chamber of Commerce; Gari Green, Vice President LGBT Center S.E. Wisconsin; Kristin Hansen, Development Director American Civil Liberties Union; and Gregory Bennet, Jr., Founder Peace in the Streets. All the speakers were informative and engaging, and the guests shared open and personal questions and comments that greatly enhanced our learning.

Guests wrote messages of concern or hope on ornaments for our Tree of Hope and then shared refreshments and conversation after the formal program. Persons who were unable to attend this event may stop at the Kenosha County Democratic Party office, 5712 7th Avenue, during the Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday 1-4 pm office hours.

A handout of the resources shared by all the agencies will soon be available in the office. In addition, an open ended series of presentations in our office, "Our Stories: Sisters and Brothers Together" will continue the building and strengthening of our community. Topics will include correct language in relation to LGBT persons, the effect of the threat of deportation on local families, the new Jim Crow, and food insecurity among senior citizens. These presentations will help us listen to and learn about each other, and we welcome ideas for other Topics.

Here is the link to the Kenosha News coverage of this event:

http://www.kenoshanews.com/news/kenosha_county_democrats_deconstruct_election_results_490969670.php

Future Events

Watch for these events to be hosted in the KCDP office:

Forum: "the Dangers of Fake News and Media Spin and the Search for the Truth"

Films about issues important to our community

Liberal Learners Book Club

KCDP Scarf Project for persons in need

Collection of new socks for persons who are homeless

Karen Kempinen Co-Chair KCDP
Education/Outreach Committee
kkempinen@gmail.com

Evelyn Pizzala Co-Chair KCDP
Education/Outreach Committee
wievel@yahoo.com



Annual Dinner

April 1, 2017

**Bristol Oaks Golf Club
& Banquet Center,**

**16801 75th Street,
Kenosha 53104**

Social hour 5:00

Dinner 6:00.

New twist this year. to lighten the mood, have some laughter we are having a comedy group doing political humor instead of a speaker. Save the date for the main fundraiser that drives our regular budget. We will again have our spectacular silent auction as well as some exciting new surprises! Stay tuned!

Further details in next issue of this newsletter

This information is here provided to you as a member of the DPW. Although you have no vote in this election, please understand it is our obligation to keep you informed of local Wisconsin issues and events. Since Jason has appeared at many of our local meetings and events, we thought you might like to know he is running for DNC Secretary.

This is in not an endorsement.



Dear Wisconsin Democrats,

I wanted you to be among the first to know that this morning I sent an email to fellow members of the DNC from around the country announcing that I am running for Secretary.

The Secretary of the DNC is one of the national officer positions and has a very important role in the operation of our party. The position will be elected at our winter meeting in Atlanta on February 23-26, 2017.

I cannot win this election without your help. Here are three simple ways to help support my campaign:

1. Sign up here as a public endorser of my campaign
2. Make a contribution of any amount to support our efforts to reach members nationally
3. "Like" our Facebook Page and share it with your networks

Any help you can give will go a long way in helping my message get out to DNC and party members across the country, allow me to travel to all four Regional Candidate Forums, and to ultimately be successful in February.

Thank you for your continued support and friendship. Have a great rest of your holiday season.

Yours,, Jason

You can learn more about me and my vision on my website at www.jasonrae.com. Feel welcome at any time to reach out to share your thoughts, ideas, or concerns with me. You can reach me here on email at jasonrobertrae@gmail.com or on my cell phone at 715.790.4334.

For more information about Jason, please see:

<http://www.wispolitics.com/index.ihtml?Article=383692>

DNC ELECTION

There are 447 DNC members, who are the sole voting members of the DNC, a quarter of the members are state level chairmen and vice chairmen, the remainder are elected at the state level. To be elected as chairman, a simple majority of 224 votes is required.

Declared candidates

Raymond Buckley, chairman of the New Hampshire Democratic Party since 2007

Keith Ellison, U.S. Representative from Minnesota since 2007

Thomas Perez, United States Secretary of Labor since 2013

Sally Boynton Brown, Executive Director of the Idaho Democratic Party since 2012

Jaime Harrison, chairman of the South Carolina Democratic Party since 2013

Potential candidates

Ruben Gallego, U.S. Representative from Arizona since 2015

John Pérez, Speaker of the California Assembly from 2010 to 2014



Chair of the New Hampshire
Democratic Party
Raymond Buckley

U.S. Representative
Keith Ellison
from Minnesota

U.S. Secretary
Thomas Perez
from Maryland



U.S. Representative
Ruben Gallego
from Arizona

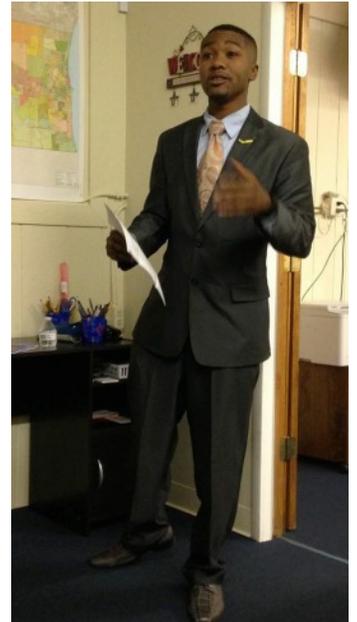
Former California
Assembly Speaker
John Pérez

Please feel free to do your research and support any candidate you feel is right to lead us into the 2018 election. They would appreciate your help.

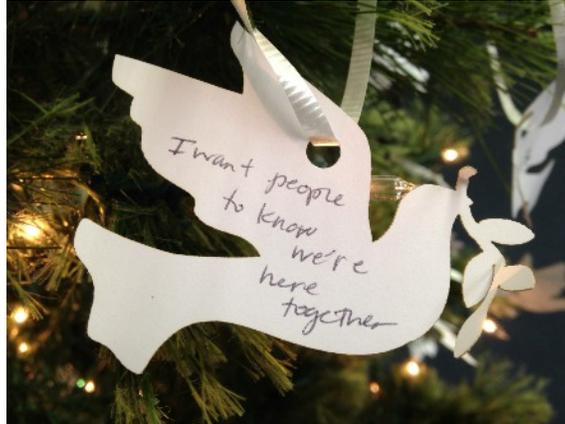
"An Evening of Post-Election Reflection"



Kristin Hansen, Development
Director American Civil
Liberties Union,



Gregory Bennet, Jr., Founder
Peace in the Streets.



Ornament for our Tree of Hope

53170-0400