

Winnebago County



Democratic Party

November 05 WCDP News

Winnebago County Democratic Party 920-203-6883

“Sc-alito”: Why Democrats Must Say No to Bush’s Right-Wing Supreme Court Nominee

Someone has finally forced George W. Bush to back down. Unfortunately, that someone is the radical right-wing politicians who want the Supreme Court Justices consulting the New Testament before handing down a decision. After sacking his first choice Harriet Miers due to whining from the far right, Bush has handed the Christian right exactly what they want: a white, Ivy League educated male jurist with a long track record of conservative opinions. Here are just a handful of reasons why you and everyone you know needs to contact Senators Kohl and Feingold to have them stop the Samuel Alito and the ultra-right from taking over every branch of our Federal government:

- *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*: Alito’s dissent argued that a woman should be required to tell her husband before obtaining an abortion and favors strict regulations on a woman’s right to choose.
- *ACLU v. Schundler*: Alito allowed taxpayer dollars to support a city’s religious Christmas display
- *Bray v. Marriot Hotels*: The majority criticized Alito’s dissenting position that would have made it extremely difficult for victims of sex and race discrimination to seek redress
- *Doe v. Groody*: Alito supports unauthorized strip searches
- Disregard of settled law: In one opinion, the majority criticized Alito’s dissent as contradicting “well recognized rules of statutory construction.”
- The Supreme Court reversed an Alito decision that favored abandoning the Family and Medical Leave Act

Notice how often Alito is the dissenting opinion? It shows how out of touch he is with the most Americans, to whom he would not be accountable as a Supreme Court Justice. And as a replacement moderate Sandra Day O’Connor, Alito and fellow right wingers Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas would have a majority on many vital cases. Said law professor Jonathan Turley on NBC: “He’s the top choice for particularly pro-life people. Sam Alito is viewed as someone who is likely to join the hard right in likely narrowing Roe and possibly voting to overturn Roe. **There will be no one to the right of Sam Alito on this Court.** This is a pretty hardcore fellow on abortion issues.”

Senator Russ Feingold
202.224.5323

Senator Herb Kohl
202.224.5653

russ_feingold@feingold.senate.gov

herb_kohl@kohl.senate.gov

article by Bree Madison

The next meeting of the Winnebago County Democratic Party is:

November 9th

@

The Delta

**515 N Sawyer Street
Oshkosh, Wisconsin**

7:00 – 9:00 PM

Topics to be discussed this month:

2006 Officer Elections

2006 Winnebago County Candidates

- *City Offices*
- *County Board*
- *School Boards*
- *County Partisan Offices*
- *State and Federal Offices*

Fundraising and Event Planning

- *Indigo Ball*
- *T-Shirts/Bumper Stickers/Etc*
- *Parades & Tabling*

2006 Election Planning

- *Ward Captains*
- *What Works*

Please join or renew your membership!

Join the Party

**Send Check for \$25 to: Paula Rouse, Treasurer
839 West 17th Street, Oshkosh, WI 54902**

Want to get more involved?

We will be nominating officers for 2006 at the November meeting.

- *Voting will take place at the November meeting.*
- *You must be a paid member to participate.*

These are the offices we will be electing (and who is currently nominated):

- *Chair (Jef Hall)*
- *First Vice-Chair (Sara Stichert)*
- *Second Vice-Chair (Don Winter)*
- *Secretary (Liz Swank)*
- *Treasurer (open)*
- *52nd Assembly District Vice-Chair (Hugh Sloan)*
- *53rd Assembly District Vice Chair (Steve Dedow)*
- *54th Assembly District Vice-Chair (Gordon Hintz)*
- *55th Assembly District Vice-Chair*
- *56th Assembly District Vice-Chair*

Please contact Jef Hall with any questions: 920.203.6883 or jef@jefhall.com.

Upcoming Events:

Wednesday, November 9th – General Meeting
Delta Restaurant, Oshkosh – 7:00PM

Tuesday, November 15th - Action Wisconsin Training to Stop the Amendment
First Congregational Church, 137 Algoma Blvd., Oshkosh – 6:00PM

Learn how to frame the debate and explain how families need the rights and responsibilities of civil marriage

Info: toll free 866.441.0413 or speaker@actionwisconsin.org

Friday, November 25th – Democratic Unity
Breakfast

BJ Clancy's, Menasha, WI – 7:00AM

Wednesday, December 14th – General Meeting
Delta Restaurant, Oshkosh – 7:00PM

Friday, December 30th – Democratic Unity
Breakfast

BJ Clancy's, Menasha, WI – 7:00AM

Every Wednesday when UW-O is in Session

UW-Oshkosh Democrats Meeting

Reeve Union, UWO – 8:00PM

See boards near the entrances for room number

Message From the Chair

Why Is It Important to Run Democrats in Non-Partisan Races?

As I write this, we are in the middle of budget season for our county, cities and towns. These final decisions are made by non-partisan officials elected in April – which mean signature gathering starts next month..

But, what exactly does non-partisan mean? Does it mean that if you are elected you cannot be a member of a political party? No, it just means that you do not have a party listing or primary ballot. There are many people in these positions that are active members of both.

The decisions made by these local officials directly affect the quality of life offered to the citizens of our area. I would like to see people in these positions that reflect our Democratic values: responsible government that saves where it can without balancing budgets on the backs of the poor, elderly, handicapped or our dedicated public employees and that preserves our great services.

Do you believe that we should provide proper care for the elderly in Park View? Do you believe that tax policy should be fair to the poor as well as cover the cost of government? Do you believe that schools should focus first and foremost on how to provide the best education possible? Do you believe in social justice and that we should help those who are not able to help themselves? Do you believe Winnebago County can provide a great future and standard of living for all residents? Do you believe the criminal justice system needs to be fair and provide safety to all who come in contact with it?

If so, you belong on the county or school board, you belong on your local city or town council. If qualified, you should be judge. And we want to help you do it.

Contact me (jef@jefhall.com or 920.203.6883) or come to our next meeting for more information.

Rep. Underheim Sticks it to Oshkosh Again

Gregg Underheim showed disdain for his Oshkosh constituents almost immediately after he was (barely) re-elected to the state assembly last fall by ignoring his legislative duties to run for State Superintendent of Public Instruction instead. After losing all but one of his hometown districts in that race, Rep. Underheim finally showed up in Oshkosh on Oct. 11th to talk with members of the Oshkosh Common Council.

But rather than offering any real explanations as to why Underheim and his Madison counterparts have left the city high and dry when it comes to state funding, Gregg blew off questioning from city councilors with arrogant disparagement. Asked what suggestions he had for his city, struggling to deal with a tight budget crunch, Underheim responded with "You asked for the job. It's your job to make those cuts."

The League of Women Voters gave Gregg Underheim another chance for accountability a week later—and, unsurprisingly, he failed to even show up. This time, the issue was much more sensitive than budget cuts: Rep. Underheim, who chairs the Assembly's Health Committee, refuses to hold a hearing on a bill that would provide additional care to victims of rape or incest. Acting on behalf of right-wing, anti-choice extremists, Gregg has continually blocked the Compassionate Care for Rape Victims legislation from getting a hearing—so advocates of the bill held one in Oshkosh instead. Despite testimony of local medical professionals and religious leaders in support of the bill, Underheim dismissed the hearing's legitimacy: "it's sort of the left wing of the Democrat party that showed up in Oshkosh."

Luckily, Gregg Underheim's days representing Oshkosh appear to be numbered. While progressives nationwide gear up to throw out the Republican corruption in Washington and state legislatures with the 2006 elections only a year away, local Democrats are poised to take back the 54th Assembly District — and it's never too early to start campaigning. For those of you who, when the leaves start to fall, find yourself looking for campaign work to do, get involved in the end of Underheim's too-long tenure in Madison. Last year's near-upset candidate Gordon Hintz needs your help gearing up for the '06 battle. Help by making a campaign contribution, signing up to volunteer, or helping plan a fundraiser.

Not every district is as lucky as the 54th, other Winnebago County assembly districts still need a candidate with a (D) after their name for next year's ballot. If you've ever wanted to run for office, or know someone who does, now is the time: 2006 is going to be a resurrection year for Democrats as we take back the power in Madison and D.C.

Contact:

Gordon Hintz

hintzforassembly@yahoo.com

920.279.1870

We would love to promote your candidacy as well for any fall partisan races.

There will be contests for U.S. Congress, State Senate in Neenah/Menasha, State Rep in Neenah/Menasha and rural Winnebago as well as DA, Coroner and Sheriff.

**WINNEBAGO COUNTY
DEMOCRATIC PARTY**
PO Box 1112
Oshkosh, WI 54903

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It's Time to Renew Your Membership!



Join the Wisconsin Democratic Party

Jef Hall, Chair
224A Scott Ave
Oshkosh, WI 54901
920.203.6883
jef@jefhall.com

Sara Stichert, 1st Vice Chair
416 W 5th Ave
Oshkosh, WI 54901
920.426.3533
saraleestichert@aol.com

Don Winter, 2nd Vice Chair
451 Hawthorne Street
Neenah, WI 54956
920.725.1520

Liz Swank, Secretary
800 Algoma Blvd #63
Oshkosh, WI 54901
920.424.1164
lizswank@hotmail.com

Paula Rouse, Treasurer
839 West 17th Avenue
Oshkosh, WI 54902
920.426.4210
wtr3111@yahoo.com

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR
Vacant

Joanne Roush, Fundraising
Chair
jroush@earthline.net

Bree Madison, Communications
Chair
bree_615@yahoo.com

Membership form

- New Member
 - Renewal
 - General** (\$25) add just \$10 each for up to three additional members in your household
 - Family** (\$60) includes all family members + bumper sticker
 - Special** (\$10) Senior Citizen, Student, Unemployed
 - Cash in the amount of \$_____
 - Check or money order in the amount of \$ _____ for _____ members enclosed.
- Make check payable to Democratic Party of Wisconsin
- Please charge/deduct \$ _____ from the account below (one time charge)
 - Please charge/deduct \$ _____ monthly/quarterly – circle one (A total of \$ _____)
 - Visa
 - Master Card

Exp Date _____

Signature _____

Name (s)

Address

City

Zip

Phone (day)

Phone (eve)

E-mail

Fax No.

Date _____ County _____

No. of members joining: _____

Congressional district: _____

Please send form to:
Democratic Party of Winnebago County
PO Box 1112
Oshkosh, WI 54901

About Our Organization...

The Democratic Party of Winnebago County is committed to seeking out and helping to elect Democrats to office at all levels of government, working to have Democrats appointed to boards and commissions at all levels of government, developing and working for the adoption of progressive positions on political and public policy issues, and working to keep our organization vibrant and in touch with its members and the community as a whole. At a minimum, we need every Democratic-minded person's membership.