



The next meeting of the Winnebago County Democratic Party is:

**April 11th**

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**The Delta**

515 N Sawyer Street  
Oshkosh, Wisconsin

**7:00 - 9:00 PM**

*Topics to be discussed  
this month:*

*Local Election Recap*

*Resolutions for the 6<sup>th</sup> CD &  
State Party Conventions*

*Local Issue Updates*

*Summer Planning*

*Indigo Dinner Report*

*Other Business*

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Democratic Party On Line:*

**winnebagodems.co  
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# April '07 WCDP News

Winnebago County Democratic Party 920-203-6883

[www.winnebagodems.org](http://www.winnebagodems.org)

## Upcoming Events

### 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Convention - Apr 21<sup>st</sup>, 2007 VFW Hall - 136 N Farmer St - Princeton, WI

9:00 AM: Registration Opens

10:00 AM to 11:00 AM: Invited Speakers

11:00 AM to 12:00 PM: 6th CD Officer Nominations

12:00 PM to 1:00 PM: Lunch

1:00PM to 4:00 PM: Elections & Resolutions

### DPW State Convention - June 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> Hilton City Center - 509 W Wisconsin Ave - Milwaukee

The 2007 Democratic State Convention will be held on Friday, June 29 and Saturday, June 30 at the Hilton Milwaukee City Center

Democratic activists with questions concerning the event should contact Mary Triick at 608-255-5172 or [maryt@wisdems.org](mailto:maryt@wisdems.org) for more information. Hotel reservations by calling 414-271-7250.

## Monthly Events:

**Winnebago County Dems:**  
April 11<sup>th</sup> - May 9<sup>th</sup> - June 13<sup>th</sup>  
*The Delta - 515 N Sawyer St  
Oshkosh - 7:00PM*

**Outagamie County Dems:**  
April 9<sup>th</sup> May 14<sup>th</sup> - June 11<sup>th</sup>  
*Columbus Club - 2531 N  
Richmond St Appleton - 7:00PM*

**Fox Valley Dems Breakfast**  
March 30<sup>th</sup> - April 27<sup>th</sup> - May 31<sup>st</sup>  
*BJ Clancey's - 331 S Oneida St  
Appleton - 7:00AM*

**Fox Valley Labor Council  
Labor/Management Dinner**  
May 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6:00PM  
Darboy Club  
Contact Mike Hack for info:  
920-727-1790

### **Winnebago County Labor Council 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Labor Solidarity Dinner**

April 28<sup>th</sup> - 6:00PM  
Delta Restaurant  
515 N Sawyer - Oshkosh

Speakers include:  
-State Sen Jon Erpenbach  
-State Rep Gordon Hintz

Contact Steve Dedow -  
[winnebagolabor@hotmail.com](mailto:winnebagolabor@hotmail.com)  
or 920-688-2355 for info

### **Outagamie County Democratic Party Truman Event**

April 29<sup>th</sup> - 6:00PM  
Michael's  
Kimball Ave, Appleton

Contact Kathy Groat for info:  
920-739-0464 or  
[kathy\\_groat@yahoo.com](mailto:kathy_groat@yahoo.com)

Please join or renew your membership!

**Join the Party**

Send Check for \$25 to: Evelyn Rieckmann Treasurer - 9680 N Oakwood Avenue, Neenah, WI 54956-9337  
Paid for by the Winnebago County Democratic Party - Jef Hall, Chair

## ***Winnebago Dems endorsed candidates April 2007***

### **Linda Clifford – Supreme Court**

We had a full profile of Linda in last month's issue.

### **Bryan Bain – Oshkosh Common Council**

Bryan was born to a middle-class working family in Logansport, IN. Bryan earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice and a Master of Arts degree in Student Affairs Administration from Ball State University. Bryan is the Assistant Director of Academic Advising in the Undergraduate Advising Resource Center at UW-O. Bryan and his wife Amanda are both members of First Congregational Church and Propel. They own a home on the south side of Oshkosh with their adopted cats, Zeus and Apollo.

Prior to his election to the Oshkosh Common Council in April 2005, Bryan was a member of the Oshkosh Plan Commission and Oshkosh Comprehensive Plan Update Committee. Bryan is currently the council representative on the Parks Advisory Board and Transit Advisory Board. Bryan also serves on the Oshkosh Area Humane Society Board of Directors and the UW Oshkosh Senate of Academic Staff. He is involved in the Oshkosh Area League of Women Voters, Winnebago County Democratic Party. Bryan is known for communicating with Oshkosh voters through his website, blog and '5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday forums'.

### **Jessica King – Oshkosh Common Council**

Jessica was born in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, graduated from St. Mary Springs and received her undergraduate degree from University of Wisconsin Oshkosh (UWO) with majors in International Studies, History and Political Science. She had the opportunity to study in Bangladesh and the University of Cambridge.

Jessica received her law degree from Thomas Jefferson School of Law in San Diego, CA where she interned with the Unified Port District of San Diego working on project management in the engineering design department.

Returning to Oshkosh, Jessica became an Associate Attorney with Steinhilber, Swanson, Mares, Marone & McDermott. She also serves on the Board of Directors for the Grand Opera House, the Oshkosh Rotary Club, the UWO Alumni Association, Legal Action Wisconsin, Inc., and is a delegate to the American Bar Association. Jessica participates in the Rosanne Hoefel 5k Diversity Run/Walk/Roll, and the United Way. She is a member of the Winnebago County Bar Association, the Oshkosh Community Foundation's GEMS giving circle, Oshkosh Area League of Women Voters, and the Winnebago County Democratic Party

### **Tony Palmeri – Oshkosh Common Council**

Originally from New York City, Tony came to Oshkosh to teach Communication Studies UW Oshkosh. He has served as Chair of the Department of Communication, President of the Faculty Senate, and President of the UW Oshkosh chapter of The Association of University of Wisconsin Professionals.

Tony has been active in local politics as a candidate and media activist. He ran for the 54th State Assembly District in 1996 and 2004. As a media activist, Tony has produced and/or co-hosted a variety of projects including Commentary (with former Oshkosh Mayor Jim Mather), Radio Commentary, Eye on Oshkosh (with Cheryl Hentz) and the monthly column Media Rants. In 2005 his daily news website TonyPalmeri.Com earned recognition from the Oshkosh Public Library as "Best News and Commentary" site in their "Best Website in Oshkosh" contest.

### **Gary Radke – Neenah City Council Dist 1**

Gary is a retired Police officer and long time Neenah resident. He was nominated by Don Winter, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair of the WCDP and former Neenah City Council Member for endorsement.

WCDP Member Bree Madison spent Spring Break volunteering in New Orleans and submitted this report:

## NEW ORLEANS, 2007

It is St. Patrick's Day, and I begin the morning with 18 of my new best friends, preparing to leave our home of the last week. We've lived in a middle school in New Orleans' Ninth Ward that was flooded to its second story after the hurricane in 2005. The school hasn't been cleaned much; we've slept in fear of rats and black mold, traveled to the Garden District for a warm shower, brushed our teeth in water that allegedly caused some major intestinal problems to 40 some house-gutters not long ago.

We drive to the French Quarter for coffee and wander amongst the early-morning revelers, decked in plastic hats and shiny green beads, some still going strong from the night before, some gearing up for a heavy day of festivity. My group—19 students from Marquette Law School—is subdued. I take my first moment of solitude in a week, turn on my iPod and stare at the water, listening to a song with a line, “we all come down and drown in the Mississippi River.” Then we drive back to the Ninth.

The Lower Ninth Ward suffered some of worst damage after Katrina. A week ago, we drove across the canal and wandered the area. It is a ghost town, a bombed-out shell of what used to be a neighborhood, a broken plat of land strewn with the remains of a community. We would rubberneck in awe at someone's former home with a crumpled roof and walls, where you could still see a microwave and blender inside, and then come across another home that made our jaws drop even further, perhaps with a boat in a front yard or a house completely removed from its foundation. The aura of death, tragedy, sadness, and depression that would pervade the next week set in with hopeless profundity.

A million thoughts went through my head last week, and a lot were about government, politics, decisions. We've all discussed fault and finger pointing, global warming, FEMA, Bush, and blame. But in politics, we try to affect change systemically, and sometimes we forget the individual. In a week in New Orleans, my biggest “accomplishment” was preparing a small claims form for a woman who lost her things in a negligent storage facility. I grappled for answers—what should federal, state, and local governments do to help New Orleans, Louisiana, the United States? But I can't answer that question, and I doubt anyone else can either. Maybe it is enough to have just one conversation, complete one small act, that lets someone who feels forgotten, know that she is not. Maybe the butterfly effect can ultimately achieve the ends we seek as members of a political party. Maybe it can't. But the impact on the two people involved is enough to make it worthwhile. And you don't have to go to New Orleans to do that. Right here, people's lives will be impacted by knowing you care, whether you volunteer at Christine Anne, Habitat for Humanity....and whatever you do, have a conversation that lets someone know they are not forgotten.

And we also must not forget how good we have it. When a displaced man begged the New Orleans City Council to do something about skyrocketing rental costs so that he could afford a home for his family, the representative of the affluent Garden District cut him off and told him to look go at Craigslist. While we bicker about how much to spend on toilets at a concert facility or how much sick leave politicians should get, New Orleans is a third world country within our own borders. We should keep that perspective in mind as we heatedly debate issues that are more trivial in comparison.

On St. Patrick's Day, when we went back to the Lower Ninth, 19 Marquette students sat down in a street and watched students from Julliard sang 'Somewhere Over the Rainbow,' recited Shakespeare, danced and played. They performed in front of a gutted house, and in front of the infamous, useless levees. The wind blew, hollow. One girl, unscripted, improvised a song about what she saw before us, and each of us cried, both for what New Orleans has lost, and for what it had given to us.



