



The next meeting of the Winnebago County Democratic Party is:

August 12, 2009

@

The Delta

515 N Sawyer Street
Oshkosh, Wisconsin

7:00 – 9:00 PM

Topics for Discussion:

Healthcare Discussion

Fall 2009 Events

2010 Candidate Recruiting

Membership Recruiting

2009 Budget & Activities

2009 Committees Meetings

Legislative Updates

Local Issue Updates

***Visit The Winnebago County
Democratic Party On Line:***

winnebagodems.com

August '09 WCDP News

Winnebago County Democratic Party 920-203-6883

www.winnebagodems.com

Volunteers Needed! Fair & Corn Roast!

We have 2 big events coming up in August we need help with:

1. The Winnebago County Fair

The WCDP will again have a booth at the Fair from Aug 4th-9th. We need to fill shifts talking to people about the party and why it is important to support our issues and candidates.

We need people for most shifts 11AM to 8PM daily from Aug 5th-8th. If you can put in a couple hours, we would appreciate it.

Friday night or Saturday are usually the most difficult to fill. Please give special consideration to these times.

We will have free passes at Jef Hall's house – 112 E Irving Ave, Oshkosh.

Please call 920.203.6883 or email jef@jefhall.com if you are able to help, and to schedule a time.

2. The WCDP Annual Corn Roast

The Corn Roast will be August 29th, from 1-4PM. Once again, it will be held at Winnebago County Park in Shelterhouse 1.

\$5 will once again get you a couple of hot dogs and all the corn on the cob you can eat.

Please pass this invitation on to anyone you know may be interested.

We will feature local elected officials and great fellowship with Democrats across the area.

We need a few volunteers to help with set up and clean up, please let me know if you will be able to help.

If you are willing to sponsor the purchase of a supply for the corn roast, please contact me as well.

Please join or renew your membership! See the form on back.

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](mailto:jef@jefhall.com), Chair

WCDP Events!

Fri Jul 31st – Fox Valley Dems Unity Breakfast

7:00AM – BJ Clancy's - 3341 S Oneida St, Appleton

Aug 4-9th – Winnebago County Fair Volunteers needed to staff the booth!

Wed Aug 12th – WCDP Monthly Meeting

7:00PM – Delta Restaurant - 515 N Sawyer St, Oshkosh

Fri Aug 28th – Fox Valley Dems Unity Breakfast

7:00AM – BJ Clancy's - 3341 S Oneida St, Appleton

Sat Aug 29th – WCDP Annual Corn Roast

1:00PM – Winnebago Community Park - Oshkosh

Mon Sep 7th – Neenah/Menasha Labor Day Parade & Celebration

Mon Sep 7th – Oshkosh Labor Day Celebration & Car Show

Wed Sep 9th – WCDP Monthly Meeting

7:00PM – Delta Restaurant - 515 N Sawyer St, Oshkosh

Fri Sep 25th – Fox Valley Dems Unity Breakfast

7:00AM – BJ Clancy's - 3341 S Oneida St, Appleton

Wed Oct 14th – WCDP Monthly Meeting

7:00PM – Delta Restaurant - 515 N Sawyer St, Oshkosh

Fri Oct 30th – Fox Valley Dems Unity Breakfast

7:00AM – BJ Clancy's - 3341 S Oneida St, Appleton

Wed Nov 11th – WCDP Monthly Meeting

7:00PM – Delta Restaurant - 515 N Sawyer St, Oshkosh

Join the Winnebago County Democratic Party Online:

www.winnebagodems.com

Have an event the WCDP should feature?

Contact Jef to get it on the schedule!

920.203.6883 – jef@jefhall.com

UWO College Dems Take DC!

By Amy Gearhart

Chair of the U W Oshkosh College Democrats

This past week, 5 students from UW Oshkosh had the amazing opportunity to visit our nation's capital along with hundreds of other students from around the country and I was honored to be one of them. At the College Democrats of America convention, we not only networked and learned more about the US constituency but most importantly we were renewed in our commitment to the Democratic Party. It's easy to get passionate for a candidate or for an issue when it's at hand, but it's harder to feel that need for change on an everyday basis.

With no major elections occurring this fall, students have the ability to make issue focus and education a priority this year. This fall, as Chapter Chair of UWO Democrats, I have submitted the issues of Health Care (including a woman's right to choose), College education and tuition, and learning how to lobby as key focuses for our organization. Other topics for this fall include phone banking and otherwise helping to reelect Governor Jon Corzine of New Jersey and looking forward to the reelection campaigns for Wisconsin incumbents and new comers of the Democratic Party.

While in DC we stayed at the George Washington University dorms located near both the Smithsonian Museums and the White House. Our days were full of field work seminars, 8 caucuses ranging from Veterans to LGBT issues, and guest speakers including DC Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton and a Leadership Bootcamp with Christine Pelosi.

It was indeed enlightening seeing how our government actually works from the inside looking out. I learned a lot of hands on education about the politics involved in passing legislations and how important it is to make friends on the inside from some people who on the hill. In every caucus we had, there was a specialized representative from the White House to keep us informed about the latest struggles and victories for each group. This was a chance for individuals to gain access to insider information for the issues that matter the most to them. I spent time at the Faith, Woman's and Hispanic caucuses learning invaluable information from each.

I have always known I am a democrat – but seeing how motivated our fellow students are and hearing Rep. Arlen Specter in person praise the youth for their voter turnout efforts renewed that love I have for our values.

Finally I would like to say what a pleasure it was to represent the great people of Oshkosh and Winnebago County as the future of the democratic voice.



Congress must meet health care goals

By RUSS FEINGOLD

Each year, I travel to all of Wisconsin's 72 counties and hold an open, town hall-style meeting. In the 17 years I've held these listening sessions, health care has consistently been one of the top issues raised, particularly the skyrocketing cost and difficulty accessing health care. I have worked for years to get the U.S. Congress to address the need for health reform, and I am very pleased that it is finally doing so. Having listened to the concerns of families, businesses, health care professionals and others about why health care reform is so urgently needed, I have the following goals as Congress undertakes this vital and long-overdue debate:

Guaranteeing every American receives coverage

Every American deserves guaranteed, affordable, high-quality health care — just like every member of Congress has. For too long, Congress has delayed action on reforming our health care system, and now that system is in crisis. It is unacceptable that more than 46 million Americans are uninsured. It is unacceptable that millions more pay for insurance that does not begin to cover their medical needs, that exempts pre-existing conditions, or that drops sick individuals from coverage. It is unacceptable that medical bills are the number one cause of bankruptcy in the United States. We must work to create a health care system where the excellent health care that is now only available to some Americans will be available to all.

Supporting a strong public option

The best way to ensure every American is guaranteed good, affordable health care coverage is not to rely only on private insurers. While Americans should be able to retain their current coverage if they choose, providing a strong public option will keep health care costs down for all Americans, even those who retain their private care.

Taking a fiscally responsible approach

Reforming our health care system also is an economic imperative. Americans spend an unsustainable \$2.2 trillion on health care each year. From ensuring the solvency of our entitlement programs to helping households across the country balance their checkbooks, reforming health care is necessary to getting health spending under control. Health reform likely will require significant initial investments, but, if done right, it can also yield significant savings in the near future. These initial investments can be at least partially offset by addressing current overpayments, waste and fraud in the system, and ensuring that taxpayer dollars are spent in the most effective and efficient manner. For example, by adopting the Wisconsin model for health care delivery, taxpayers will save billions of dollars.

Strengthening long-term community care

I am committed to making long-term care a key part of any reform. Since my time as chairman of the Wisconsin State Senate's Aging Committee, I have worked to give seniors and others needing long-term care the choice to remain in their own homes and communities instead of entering institutional care. Wisconsin's nursing homes provide an invaluable service to our communities, but nursing homes should not be the only option for receiving care. Long-term care must be part of health care reform because helping more people live in their homes is the smart choice to meet both the preferences of families and the need to spend government funds efficiently.

Restoring fairness to Medicare reimbursement

The Medicare reimbursement formula has shortchanged Wisconsin for far too long. It is unacceptable that Medicare provides a more generous reimbursement rate for a procedure done in other states than it does when the same procedure is done in Wisconsin, simply because of an outdated and flawed Medicare reimbursement formula. Seniors, employers, employees and health care providers all are hurt by this problem. I've been fighting to fix this problem for years, and was part of a successful effort in 2003 to improve the payment structure. I've also introduced bipartisan legislation called the Rural Medicare Equity Act to address Medicare's discrimination against seniors and health care providers in rural America. But more work needs to be done. Reducing the inequities in Medicare reimbursement payments is a priority of mine as Congress tackles health care reform.

