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Paid for by the Republican Party of Washington County, Jennie Frederick, Treasurer

Washington County Republican Women

Every 2nd Saturday – Breakfast and political talk. Round Robin at our members' homes from 9 – 10:30 A.M. See Republican Women Now News (newsletter) for schedule of hostess locations.

Monthly business meetings – Every 4th Thursday of the month followed by a program (if scheduled). Meetings at GOP office – 519 Hickory St., West Bend.

For updated information and events please go to the Wisconsin Federation of Republican Women's website – www.wifrw.org. Click on counties, then click on Washington to see our site information.

The GOP Report is a quarterly publication of the Republican Party of Washington County. Its purpose is to publicize the actions of the executive committee and upcoming events and activities of the party as well as to provide a forum for elected officials to report business and inform members of pertinent issues.

Please forward any comments, articles or upcoming events to Jim Geldreich jgeld@charter.net with a subject line GOP Newsletter or leave a message at our office phone 262-334-4150.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb. 21, 2010

Lincoln Day Brunch & Caucus, Quilted Bear, Germantown

March 7, 2010

5th Congressional District Caucus, Bavarian Inn, Milwaukee

May 21-23, 2010

State GOP Convention, Hyatt Convention Center, Milwaukee

June 27, 2010

Summer Campaign Event, Columbian Banquet Hall, West Bend

Sept. 12, 2010

Reagan Day Picnic, Jackson Village Park

Chairman's Corner



I want to start off by thanking everyone for a very successful 2009. The Washington County Republican Party strengthened its membership, expanded our volunteer base, added some fresh faces to our executive committee, increased our presence within the county, and all of our events were heavily attended by our members who are engaged more than ever before. All this activity in a non-election year! The good news is that we roll into 2010 with a great deal of momentum and are poised to take our state and country back from liberal control.

I believe this will be an historic campaign year for us. Washington County is generally looked upon to lead the way for our statewide candidates, and 2010 will be no exception. We will be heavily involved in the Governor's campaign, as we aim to be sure Tom Barrett is defeated. Wisconsin needs to embark down a new path, rather than perpetuating the climate of tax burdens, joblessness, anti-business environment and excessive government control. Furthermore, the U.S. Senate race has suddenly become rather interesting; with the recent backlash against Sen. Feingold at his listening sessions. Washington County voiced our displeasure at Feingold's first listening session in Hartford, and many counties have followed our lead.

As we head into 2010, I want to recognize a very special individual within our organization. Kathy Kiernan has been our vice-chairman the past few years, and before that was the Washington County Republican Women's President for several years. She is undoubtedly one of the hardest working Republican Party volunteers in Wisconsin, and we're very fortunate that she lives in our county. My job as chairman has been easier as a result of her efforts. With that said, Kathy will be organizing our campaigns in 2010 as well as our June fundraiser.

Finally, I would like to solicit your help as WCRP members and volunteers. Please support the organization in whatever manner suits you best. We will need volunteers to staff the office, make phone calls, attend WCRP and campaign events, and write letters to the editor. Your financial assistance would be appreciated as well. Running a successful campaign is costly, and it's difficult to survive merely on our membership dues. We are thankful for your support!

I look forward to seeing all of you during our action-packed 2010 campaign year.

*Jim Geldreich, Chairman
Washington County GOP*

Calling all Republican Women!



I was recently installed as President of the Washington County Republican Women. I want to thank Diane Ambroziak, our immediate past president and congratulate her on her four years leading the WCRW. Our membership remains strong. We ended 2009 with 143 members and 2010 renewals are coming in every day.

A little about me: I've been actively involved in the Washington County Republican Party and the Republican Women organization for 10 years. Past WCRP Chairman Roger Kist invited me to join the WCRP Board as Fundraising Chairman. I also served as Campaign Chairman and most recently as Treasurer. I've chaired the Resolutions Committee for several years as well. In addition, I've served as 5th District Resolutions Committee Chairman and have served on the Republican Party of Wisconsin (RPW) Resolutions Committee. Last year, I chaired the RPW Resolutions Committee and was honored to serve as a member of the Republican National Committee's Platform Committee. For WCRW, I've served as Treasurer and as Vice President. I continue to serve on the Wisconsin Federation of Republican Women's Executive Board.

I look forward to continuing the strong traditions of the WCRW which includes our Saturday breakfasts and our annual Gala. I also look forward to continuing the WCRW's partnership with the WCRP to inform both our members and the public in our Washington County communities about political candidates, elections and events. I ask you to check out our website, <http://www.wifrw.org/Washington.aspx>. We are a diverse, informative and fun organization, Please contact me if you are interested in joining the WCRW or if you want more information.

*Jennie Frederick, President
Washington County Republican Women*

WCRP Executive Committee

Chairman:	Jim Geldreich
Vice-Chairman:	Kathy Kiernan
Secretary:	Carolyn Turner
Treasurer:	Diane Ambroziak

Meetings are held monthly on every third Tuesday at 7 pm at county party headquarters, 519 Hickory St., West Bend. Any party member is welcome to attend.



Legislative Report

As we begin 2010, nationally the economy is showing small gains and brings hope that we are turning a corner into a brighter economic future. However, there are several indicators here in Wisconsin that tough fiscal times for the state are still ahead.

In November, the Pew Center released a study listing Wisconsin as having one of the most perilous financial conditions in the country. In December, it was reported that the State of Wisconsin collected \$2.6 billion in revenue in the third quarter of 2009, compared to \$2.9 billion in 2008.

The most troubling news from the state controller's report (CAFR) shows Wisconsin's GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principals) deficit is still increasing by leaps and bounds. Last year the state ended the fiscal year with a \$2.5 billion GAAP deficit that has now grown to \$2.71 billion. Most shocking is the fact that it has increased by over a billion dollars since 2002 and since 1999 the shortfall has grown in every year except one. Last year, Wisconsin was one of only four states with a GAAP deficit and, relative to population, had the largest GAAP deficit in the nation at \$445 per person.

Ultimately, the long term solution to Wisconsin's ongoing budgeting problems is to incrementally move Wisconsin to a GAAP based budgeting system. This ensures that government lives within the taxpayers' ability to pay and gives us an honest assessment of what we can afford.

At the beginning of this session, I put forward legislation to create a constitutional amendment (the only way to truly hold the governor and legislature accountable) that would require the state to budget and account for all funds it receives or expends in accordance with GAAP. Most other government and business entities use GAAP accounting. The amendment also restricts spending money that exceeds incoming revenue and requires that any existing budget deficit be lowered by at least 10% each year of the budget.

This proposal would give taxpayers the transparency they deserve, and hold the governor and legislature accountable, while systematically chipping away at the existing deficit. Unfortunately, it has languished in committee without even a public hearing.

Rep. Pat Strachota, 58th Assembly district

Candidate Websites

Governor

Scott Walker www.scottwalker.org
Mark Neumann www.markforgov.com

Lieutenant Governor

Brett Davis www.votebrettdavis.com
Dave Ross www.friendsofdaveross.com
Ben Collins www.votebencollins.com
Rebecca Kleefisch www.rebeccaforreal.com

U.S. Senate

Terrence Wall www.terrencewall.com
Dave Westlake www.davewestlake.org

Secretary of State

Pastor David King www.kingforsecretaryofstate.com

5th District Caucus

Calling all delegates! The 2010 5th District Caucus will be held Sunday, March 7 at 11:45 AM at the Bavarian Inn in Milwaukee. This event is the forerunner to the GOP State Convention. All counties from within Congressman Sensenbrenner's district meet to conduct business and vote on resolutions. Washington County has always had a commanding presence at this event. All delegates will be receiving an invitation to this event in the next couple weeks, and as a delegate you are strongly encouraged to attend this event and the state convention as well. Please contact our office at (262) 334-4150 for more information.

Guest Column

Members of the Washington County Republican Party, I have the honor of giving you an update on the status of County Executive Scott Walker's impressive gubernatorial campaign. Since his announcement, Scott has received over 185 endorsements from Republican Party officials, and has earned the support of over 80% of our Republican state legislators. That is the definition of a united Republican Party.

We have put that great strength into action here in Washington County. We are actively phone banking and recruiting new volunteers. The response has been tremendous, but we need your help. I encourage you to join this exciting campaign because voting is not enough anymore. The stakes are too high.

There are many opportunities for involvement in the Walker Campaign including: attending phone banks, writing letters to the editor, hosting fundraisers, attending events, etc. If you would like to become involved in other ways, there is a place for you. If we as Republicans are committed to turning our state and our nation around, we must do the work necessary to elect Scott Walker.

You can also help Scott Walker by attending the WCRP Caucus on February 21st. There, you can be selected as a delegate for the Republican Party of Wisconsin State Convention, May 21st – May 23rd. This year, delegates to the State Convention will vote to endorse Scott Walker as the Republican Party of Wisconsin's nominee for governor. This vote will confer upon the winner the advantages of being the nominee a full 16 weeks before the primary election and will give Scott the ability to take on the Democrat nominee for governor directly – rather than quarrel with another Republican.

To join the movement and to help us build a better Wisconsin, please contact the Walker Campaign headquarters at (414) 453-2010. Here in Washington County, your Walker Campaign chairman is Kathy Kiernan (262) 628-3500.

Brad Courtney, Immediate Past Chairman, Republican Party of Wisconsin

New Website

We've experienced a few setbacks, but in the coming weeks the WCRP will be unveiling our brand new website. This website will be interactive and will allow our members to login and sign up for events, volunteer, view photo albums, and many other exciting new features. The site will also enable our members to pay online for our events with a credit card and make donations to the WCRP as well. We are very excited about the new website and urge everyone to make complete use of all the features it will provide. The more use we get out of our website, the more efficient we can become as an organization. Our website address is: www.washingtoncountygop.org. Please bookmark this site if you haven't already, and check in often. We hope to have the new site online in a few weeks. In the meantime, please continue to check our current site, which will keep you up to date. Many thanks to our technology committee, which is chaired by Carrie Zylka.

Summer Campaign Fundraiser

Soon we will begin planning our annual summer campaign fundraiser. Once again, this event will be held at the Columbian Banquet Center (formerly KC Hall) in West Bend on Saturday, June 26, 2010. As in years past, we will have a theme for this event (e.g. Washington County Tea Party in 2009) and will attempt to secure a big name special guest speaker to celebrate the evening with us. Again, we will be looking for silent and live auction donations for this event. Rep. Jim Ott has agreed to be our celebrity auctioneer for the live auction! If you would like to get involved with this event or donate a silent auction prize, please call our office at (262) 334-4150. This campaign year will be a large financial burden on our organization. Without this fundraiser, we would have a difficult time existing as an organization on just the membership dues we collect, so please help out if you can.

Office Hours

Our campaign office at 519 Hickory St. in West Bend is now open two days per week. We have office hours on Wednesdays 11:30 am – 1:30 PM and Saturdays from 10:00 – Noon. Please stop by to say hi, pick up some campaign literature, or if you are interested in working one shift per month, please call our office at (262) 334-4150.



Vice Chairman's Corner

Town Hall Meetings & Listening Sessions

We are very fortunate in the 5th Congressional District to have Jim Sensenbrenner as our congressman. He holds regular Town Hall Meetings with his constituents. Many of you receive his newsletters and the schedule is always included. Otherwise, you may go to <http://sensenbrenner.house.gov> to obtain the dates and locations, or call (800)242-1119.

January 4 gave many of us the opportunity to attend the Sen. Feingold listening session in Hartford. About 300 people attended, and to say the least, the Senator got an earful. The people are watching, and are very concerned about the recent proposed healthcare bill passed in the middle of the night. Not one Republican was in the room to write the bill. Discussions ended at 1:10 AM on December 24 with the vote being taken at 8 AM EST – Christmas Eve Morning. Things in this bill may not even be constitutional. People are also concerned about the Cap & Trade bill looming in the back room. What happened to the promise of transparency and C-SPAN being in the room with everyone at the table? Well, that never happened. Please call both Senators to voice your opinion about this bad legislation. Sen. Feingold's phone numbers: Washington DC 202-224-5323 or Milw. 414-276-7282. Sen. Kohl – Washington DC 202-224-5653 or Milw. 414-297-4451.

Kathy Kiernan, Vice Chairman

West Bend School Board Seat

Our membership chairman, Randy Marquardt, is running for a school board seat in the West Bend School District. The primary is Tuesday, Feb. 16, 2010. Randy has children in the West Bend schools and attended many of the meetings regarding the school referendums and the tax levy. He is knowledgeable on all the issues, and will provide the district with sorely needed common sense and conservative views. Please support Randy's candidacy and remember to vote on Feb. 16.

Lincoln Day Brunch

Our 2010 Lincoln Day Brunch and Caucus is fast approaching. It will be held Sunday, Feb. 21, 2010 at the Quilted Bear Restaurant in Germantown. We will have a brunch buffet at 11:45 AM, followed by candidate speeches and our official call to caucus. Our keynote speaker will be Scott Walker (scheduled to speak at 12:15 PM) and our special guest for the day is Congressman Jim Sensenbrenner. Just a reminder, you must have your membership renewed for 2010 in order to vote on the resolutions. Invitations for this event have already been mailed out and all members are welcome to attend. Cost for the brunch buffet is \$25.00/person, however there is no cost to attend the caucus only. Please RSVP at your earliest convenience or call our office at (262) 334-4150 for more information.

Pints & Politics

Our Pints & Politics evenings have grown into quite a popular event. We recently held our third P&P at Scenic View CC in Slinger, which was attended by 75 people. Many GOP candidates attended including our special guest U.S. Senate candidate Terrence Wall. These events are casual Friday evening gatherings with like minded people to discuss political issues of the day, ask questions and gather information. You can also order a dinner from the tavern menu if you choose. We will always try to have one special guest speaker at each P&P event. Our plan is to hold a Pints & Politics evening on a monthly basis throughout 2010. Our next P&P event will be in March and we will get the information on our website as soon as we have a date and location.

State Convention

A Word to our Delegates/Alternates for the RPW State Convention

May 21 – 23, 2010 at the Hyatt in Milwaukee

The lead up to the State Convention in Milwaukee this year is as follows: Washington County Lincoln Day Caucus will be held on February 21. The 5th Congressional District Caucus is scheduled for March 7. The State Convention will be held May 21 – 23 at the Hyatt Hotel in Milwaukee. We would like to review the delegate duties. We ask that you try to attend our Washington County Lincoln Day & Caucus as well as the 5th C.D. Caucus. You will receive personal invitations for these events. The invitation for the State Convention will be sent from the State Republican Party in Madison to our delegates/alternates. While at the convention, you will have the opportunity to vote on resolutions, rules and the platform of the party. We'll also be voting to endorse our state wide candidates. If you are a Washington County delegate/alternate, we encourage you to attend and be part of the process. If you have questions, please contact our office (262) 334-4150.



Washington County Republican Women Presidents. Left to right: Diane Ambroziak, immediate past President; Crystal Berg, founding President; Joan Lanser, past President; Kathy Kiernan, past President and Jennie Frederick, current President.



Representative Jim Ott was the keynote speaker at a Republican Women program about "Global Warming" and the proposed Wisconsin cap and trade bill. Rep. Ott presented both fact and fiction about this subject.

Left to right: Diane Ambroziak, WCRW President, Sen. Glenn Grothman, Rep. Jim Ott and WCRP Chairman, Jim Geldreich.