



THE NEW YORK STATE DEMOCRATIC RURAL CONFERENCE



DRC 2011 CONFERENCE AGENDA BUILDING THE FARM TEAM!

April 29 & 30, 2011

Proctors, 432 State Street, Schenectady NY 12305 (518) 382-3884

Friday, April 29

Board Working Lunch	Delack Guild Room	noon
Registration	Wright Family Atrium	2:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Credentials	Wright Family Atrium	3:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Press Room	Hearst Education Room	2:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Friday Training **FIELD LAYOUT & RULES OF THE GAME**

NYS Election Law, Petitions, Campaign Calendars, Campaign Planning Information for Candidates

Panel of NY Election Commissioners ,

Ruth Same, Coordinator (Seneca), Mary Salotti (Ontario),

Sean Hennessey (Jefferson) and Bill Fruci (Saratoga)

GE Theatre 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Opening Reception with Governor Andrew Cuomo

Wright Family Atrium 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Dinner: CHOOSING SIDES: WHY WE ARE DEMOCRATS

Pledge of Allegiance Dan McCandless

Welcome: Acting Schenectady Mayor Gary McCarthy, Leg. Chair Judy D'Agostino

Video messages from - Senator Charles Schumer AND Senator Kirsten Gillibrand

Lt. Governor Robert Duffy Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli

Attorney General Eric Schneiderman Congressman Paul Tonko

Senator John Sampson State Committee Exec. Charlie King

Key Hall 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Dessert Reception with Attorney General Eric Schneiderman

Wright Family Atrium 9:00 - 10:00 pm

Convention underwritten by the generous support of:

Senator Charles Schumer, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, Governor Andrew Cuomo,

Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli, Attorney General Eric Schneiderman

Congressman Paul Tonko, S.E.I.U. Local 1199, and Sotheby's International Realty



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DRC 2011 CONFERENCE AGENDA BUILDING THE FARM TEAM! Saturday, April 30, 2011

Credentials	Wright Family Atrium	6:30 - 7:30 a.m.
Registration	Wright Family Atrium	7:00 - 9:30 a.m.
Press Room	Hearst Education Room	7:00 - 10:00 a.m.

Breakfast sponsored by SEIU Local 1199 and Sotheby's International Realty
Key Hall 7:00 a.m.

DRC Board Elections Key Hall 7:30 a.m.

BUILDING THE FARM TEAM: ROSTER FOR THE RURAL CAMPAIGN

Trainers: Matt Blizek and Dan Mulligan, Democracy for America

Organization, Structure, Responsibilities and Calendar for the Campaign

Identifying Critical Roles for Successful Team Development

G.E. Theatre 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Break Wright Family Atrium 11:00 - 11:30 a.m.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE TRAINING: BUY ME SOME PEANUTS AND CRACKERJACK:

Trainer: Selene Hofer-Shall, Democracy for America

Campaign Budgets, Financial Plan, Fundraising Schedule of Events

Allocating Resources, Building the Fan Base, Seventh Inning Stretching of Dollars

G.E. Theatre 11:30 a.m - 1:30 p.m.

Lunch: **PUT ME IN, COACH! I'M READY TO PLAY!**

DRC Board & Executive Committee Election Results

Key Hall 1:30 p.m.

Adjourn & Safe Travels! 2:30 p.m.

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DRC Board Meeting-April 9, 2011

The DRC Executive Committee met in Syracuse, NY on Saturday April 9, 2011 in preparation for the Spring Conference on April 29 and 30, 2011 in Schenectady.

Highlights of April 9th Board Meeting

We were privileged to be visited by **Senator David Valesky**. He explained the motivation and orientation of the Independent Democratic Caucus in some depth. This was followed by a lively Q&A session on a range of issues from the positions of that caucus to statewide issues such as the independent redistricting proposal, the tax cap, ethics reform all the way to proposed placement of the State Office for the Aging under the Health Department.

Cindy Lockrow, Chair of the DRC Issues Committee, reported on a meeting with Brian Quiara, Policy Director of Lt. Gov. Duffy. Discussion focused on economic development and, especially, on the regional counsels which are about to be created. Members raised a variety of economic concerns. Participants felt this meeting was a valuable one. We will be having these meetings periodically to make sure that concerns you express to us and that we have are brought to the attention of the Lt. Governor.

New Board Member! An election was held to fill a Board vacancy. There were four candidates two of whom presented themselves at the meeting. **Joe Pickreign**, Chair of Franklin County, was elected to a term ending in the Spring 2012.

Much time was devoted to the planning for the **15th Anniversary April 29,30 Annual Conference**. If you have not yet registered, you need to do so asap. Registration, hotel and agenda information are available on the website, NYSDRC.org.

A Committee was appointed to explore strengthening our relationship with Unions (Chair, Mark Bellardini, Lockrow, Reynolds).

SPECIAL ELECTION IN THE 26TH C.D. We will be sending "Boots on the Ground" to help out in this campaign. Kathy Hochel is a strong candidate and there is a Tea Party opponent. Kathy would send an important message across the state and even the nation if she were even to do well in this Republican District. We are determined to make that happen. Contact Dan McCandless, (DanMcc44@earthlink.net) to sign up to help with canvassing and/or telephoning.

THE DRC CONTACT INFO, ETC....

Web page: www.nysdrc.org

To subscribe to our list serve go to: NYSDemocraticRuralConference-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

To Post a Message on the List serve go to : NYSDemocraticRuralConference@yahoogroups.com

Meet on Facebook at www.facebook.com/pages/Democratic-Rural-Conference-of-New-York-State/162050418621

Or e-mail us at:

Irene Stein, Chair ---- iws2iws2@gmail.com

Don Ackerman, Bulletin Publisher --- Bdonack@aol.com;

Ian Brody, Web Master --- ian.brody@ianbrody.com;

Dan McCandless, Vice Chair ---- danmcc44@earthlink.net;

Cindy Emmer, Treasurer --- cindy.emmer@yahoo.com

Phil Jones, Secretary --- phildem@rochester.rr.com

Doris Kirsch, Asst. Secretary --- wdkirsch@gmail.com

Cindy Lockrow-Schimmerling, Issues Committee Chair --- lockrow@hotmail.com

Dan McCandless, By-Laws Committee Chair --- danmcc44@earthlink.net

Tom Poelker, Political Committee Chair --- tpoelker@aol.com

Ted Young, Board Member---- tyoung28@rochester.rr.com

Bob Reynolds, Board Member ---- bobnkaren@live.com

Dawn Rivers-Baker, Board Member ---- dawn.baker@delawarecountydems.org

Mark Bellardini, Board Member ---- bellar@earthlink.net

Joe Pickreign, Board Member ----- jpick11@roadrunner.com

DRC Board Services...

SPEAKERS Bureau:

The following DRC Executive Committee Members are available as speakers at DRC County events:

Irene Stein, Cindy Emmer, Tom Poelker or Phil Jones.

Mentoring Services: The DRC Executive Committee has many experienced County Chairs. As such, we are available to mentor and provide support to new County Chairs.

DUES

Dues are \$10 for 2011, checks are payable to the DRC and should be sent to Cindy Emmer, 858 Davis St., Elmira, NY 14901.

CREDENTIALING

We will be credentialing DRC voting members for Saturday morning's election from 3 to 6 PM on Friday, April 29, 2011 and on Saturday morning from 6:30 to 7:30 AM. In order to be credentialed, you will need to have paid your dues, be a member of the State Committee, a County chair or carrying a proxy for one of the individuals above. The Proxy form is attached.

BOARD ELECTION (7:30 AM Saturday morning)

Candidates for Officer positions:

Chair - Irene Stein
Vice Chair - Dan McCandless
Treasurer - Cindy Emmer
Secretary - Phil Jones
Parliamentarian - Don Ackerman

Board Member Candidates (5 seats available---6 candidates)

Mark Bellardini
Jane Dodds
Doris Kirsch

Joyce Melfi
Tom Poelker
Bob Reynolds



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LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

We have been busy and do not intend to stop!

STRENGTHENING LINKS WITH MEMBERS AND THEIR COUNTIES.

- **We have kept you up-to-date with Bulletins after each of our Board Meetings.**
- **We awarded \$700 to each member county during last year's state elections.**
- **We obtained a match of \$15,000 to our own contribution to the Senate Campaign Committee with the result that each Senate candidate from a DRC county was awarded \$2500.**
- **We initiated a list serve so that members could communicate with one another and raise rural issues arising in their counties.**
- **We increased DRC visibility by developing a Website and by creating a FACEBOOK Page.**
- **We offered a speakers' bureau, mentoring/technical assistance to county chairs.**
- **We offered an opportunity for all to mingle with our State electeds at our Straw Poll Convention.**

MAINTAINING AND STRENGTHENING OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE NEW YORK STATE DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE AND STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS

- **We have a voice on the dais at all NYSDC membership meetings so that we rural counties are an acknowledged part of the family of New York**
- **We have sent "BOOTS ON THE GROUND" canvassers and telephoners in three successful special elections.**
- **We have provided a forum for rural folks to hear from our candidates in the 2010 Straw Poll Conference.**
- **We held a conference call with Senator Gillibrand who updated us on her work to help agricultural economic development.**
- **We are engaged in continuing conversation with Lt. Governor Duffy's policy staff. We solicited your input and raised and/or discussed many of the issues you raised.**

We are definitely in energetic motion and there is no limit, not until we see a Democratic upstate. Persistence is the name of the game, and with your continuing commitment and hard work, we will have it!

Thanks

Irene Stein

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PROXY

April 30, 2011
Proxy for the
DEMOCRATIC RURAL CONFERENCE
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
BOARD ELECTIONS

I hereby appoint _____

(who is a registered Democrat from my home county) to act and vote as my proxy at the April 30th,

2011 meeting of the members of the Democratic Rural Conference of New York State and to have all the privileges and powers to which I would be entitled if I were personally present at that meeting.

Date Executed

Signature of DRC Voting Member

Time Executed

Printed Name & Address of DRC Voting Member

E-mail Address of Proxy carrier: _____

DRC By-Laws provide that “a member may vote by a written proxy held by a registered Democrat from the absent member’s county, so long as said signed proxy is registered with the DRC Secretary prior to the opening of the meeting.”

In order to vote, the 2011 dues of the DRC member must be paid. If the State Committee position is vacant, upon **written** proof from the County Chair that a person has been duly recommended by their county chair to fill that vacancy, they will become a voting member of the DRC for purposes of this meeting, upon payment of their dues, even if the State Committee has not yet acted on the appointment.

DRC voting members and proxy holders may be required to produce photo identification to pick-up their ballots.

There is no limit to the number of proxies that a member can carry at a General Membership Meeting so long as the rules enumerated above are followed.

Sincerely



Phil Jones, DRC Secretary

Contributors to the Bulletin: Irene Stein, Don Ackerman, Jane Dodds, Doris Kirsch and Phil Jones