

NEWSLETTER

**Ed Fallone for Wisconsin State Supreme Court
 Tony Evers for State Superintendent of Public Instruction
 How Will You Help?**



www.falloneforjustice.com



<http://www.tonyevers.com>

Jeff Smith New Regional Political Director

The DPW is not waiting around for 2014 to begin its campaign to take back Wisconsin. It is committed to start now and do the work needed to win the Governorship, our local 23rd Senate District and the 67th and 68th Assembly Districts. To that end the DPW is establishing three Regional Political Director positions. One in the Chippewa Valley, one in the La Crosse region and one in the Green Bay area. Al Holle, Chair, was part of the hiring committee for the Chippewa Valley Regional Political Director position. There were several excellent candidates and Jeff Smith emerged with flying colors. He brings a wealth of campaign knowledge, a history of innovative solutions, and an ability to connect with ordinary folks. His expertise will get us on the right track quickly. He begins work on March 18th!

2014 Political Campaign Plans

The Senate Democratic Campaign Committee (SDCC), the Assembly Democratic Campaign Committee (ADCC), Wisconsin Progress, and other organizations are gearing up early to be prepared for 2014. A group of Chippewa Valley Dems, union leaders, and others met with State Senate Leader Chris Larson in February, expanded the group in March, and will continue to do so over the coming months. The purpose of the group is to focus on what needs to be done to win in the 23rd Senate District and in the 67th and 68th Assembly Districts. And, then, who might our candidates be? From these talks, activities, and directions, we hope to develop a winning plan for 2014. If you are interested in becoming part of this group, please let me know. We can use all the help we can get!



Ralph O'Connor

1929 - 2013

Ralph was one of the kindest people I have ever known. He was generous, compassionate, dedicated to his causes, and a man with a gentle soul.

Among the many generous things Ralph did, was being a frequent volunteer for the Democratic Party of Chippewa County and that's where I first met him a few years ago. When I heard of Ralph's passing I knew I needed to make some phone calls and send some messages to others who would want to know, and I received immediate responses.

One person said, "Ralph and Edie have always shown us what grace, style, and class look and act like in their everyday actions. Rest in peace Ralph."

Another said, It was "So very sad to note the passing of Ralph O'Connor. He and his equally tireless partner, Edie, provided more encouragement and energy to weary candidates and younger volunteers than could ever be measured. Their devotion to the progressive values of compassion, service, education, and equality are legendary. My heart goes out to Edie and my endless gratitude goes to you, Ralph. Rest in peace."

And still another simply said "Ralph was an inspiration for all of us. He will be sadly missed!"

I think these comments truly indicate the deep respect so many people had for Ralph because of his compassion and his dedication to do what is right for others.

It is no wonder, then, that many of us fondly referred to Ralph as the patriarch of our county party.

In addition to his volunteering, Ralph was also an avid reader, knowledgeable about history and politics and so many other subjects as well. I always got a kick out of driving out to Ralph's house because you couldn't ever miss his mailbox. There was the typical mailbox at the end of the driveway, of course, but next to Ralph's there were six or seven cylinders for newspapers and magazines. One was for The Wall Street Journal, another for the St. Paul Pioneer Press, another for the Eau Claire Leader, and it went on and on, all the way down the line. And when you spoke with Ralph you knew instantly he had read all those papers and all those magazines. Ralph truly was a scholar in every sense of the word!

And then, too, I will always cherish the time I spent with Ralph and Edie standing on the corner of Bridge and River Streets on most Saturday mornings, many in freezing cold temperatures or stifling summer heat, standing in a silent vigil waiting for an end to a decade of war. That dedication and compassion for all mankind is what Ralph, and Edie too, are about.

Now you probably noticed that in most of these comments Ralph's true love, Edie, was also included. Ralph adored Edie and their love for each other was not difficult to spot. Nor was his pride and love for his daughter Catherine. You only needed to mention Edie's name or Catherine's name and Ralph would perk up, and his eyes would begin to sparkle, and the love for his family would shine.

I think artist and writer Favia Weedn said it best: "Some people come into our lives and quickly go. Some stay for a while, leave footprints on our hearts, and we are never, ever the same."

Thank you Ralph for sharing your kindness, your compassion, and your gentle soul with all of us. God bless.

Al Holle

Office Assistance

Our office hours are currently 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

We need substitute office assistants to help out in the office. If you can work on the following days that would be fantastic!

- March 21
- March 25

Anyone interested in meeting with Chair Al Holle on Thursdays about 11:30 a.m. to talk smart about progressive ideas - maybe bring a lunch along?

Contact Al Holle at 715-450-7912 or at holle@charter.net

Calendar of Events

March 14, 2013

Monthly Dem Meeting

April 2, 2013

Spring Election

April 11, 2013

Monthly Dem meeting

April 13, 2013

Jefferson Jackson Day Dinner
7th CD Convention

April 20, 2013

Eau Claire Gala

April 27, 2013

3rd CD Convention

May 9, 2013

Monthly Dem Meeting

May 18, 2012

FightingBobFest North

Never argue with stupid people, they will drag you down to their level and then beat you with experience.
Mark Twain

Monthly Meeting

March 14, 2013
6:30 p.m.

Agenda:

1. Call to Order
2. Attendees/Guests
3. Secretary's Report - February

Minutes

4. Treasurer's Report
5. Chair's Report
 - a. Membership
 - b. Office Update
 - c. 2013 Elections - Local/State
 - d. Constitution Update
 - e. 3rd and 7th CD Conventions
 - f. Resolutions

7. Other

**Executive Committee
of the
Democratic Party of Chippewa County**

- Al Holle - Chair
- Carol Gehl - 1st Vice Chair
- Sherri Jasper - 2nd Vice Chair
- Teresa Anderson - Secretary
- Kathy Meade Hebert - Treasurer

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or
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