



## Democratic Party Resource Center

405 S. Barstow Eau Claire, WI 54701 Phone: 715.852.0330 Fax: 715.852.0450  
E-mail: [ecdems@eauclairedemocrats.com](mailto:ecdems@eauclairedemocrats.com) Website: <http://www.eauclairedemocrats.org/>  
Office Hours: Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

### Democratic Party General Meeting

Thursday, May 19, 7:00 p.m.  
Democratic Resource Center



General party meetings open to the public.  
Only members may vote.

### Calendar of Events

Sat., 5/21/11	FightingBobFest North
Mon., 5/30/11	Memorial Day Parade (see pg. 2)
Fri./Sat. 6/3-4	Democratic State Convention Hyatt Regency, Milwaukee

### First Annual FightingBobFest North

Saturday, May 21, 2011  
Northern Wisconsin State Fair Grounds  
Chippewa Falls

Suggested Donation Registration \$20.00  
All Donations Accepted

#### Special Speakers

**John Nichols**—writes about politics for *The Nation* magazine as its Washington correspondent

**Ruth Conniff**—covers national politics for *The Progressive* and is a voice of *The Progressive* on many TV and radio programs

**Stan Gruszynski**—directs the Rural Leadership and Community Development Program within the Global Environmental Management Education Center at the Stevens Point College of Natural Resources

**Mike McCabe**—executive director of the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign, a watchdog group that fights government corruption

**Ed Garvey**—editor and publisher of the political website *FightingBob.com*

**John Bonifaz**—co-founder and Director of *Free Speech for People*

**Tony Schultz**—farmer whose speech in Madison went viral on U-Tube

**Kathleen Vinehout**—will speak on the topic *Inside the Heroic 14*

### Vote on Constitutional Change and Special Election

At the May 19<sup>th</sup> General Party Meeting a vote will be taken on the following change to our constitution, which was presented at the April meeting:

*The Chair and/or Vice-chair positions of the Eau Claire County Democratic Party may be filled with two members who function as Co-chairs with the same duties and responsibilities as previously outlined in this constitution. For executive committee actions, there will be one vote per office, whether occupied by one or two persons.*

Following the vote on the constitutional change there will be a special election for Vice Chair. The Vice Chair position is currently vacant due to the elevation of former Vice Chair Rollie Hicks to the position of Chair upon the resignation of Tom Kemp. Any member wishing to run for this position should let Carolyn Dunning know by Noon on Tuesday, May 17. Nominations from the floor will also be accepted.

### Volunteers Needed for BobFest North

Many volunteers are needed to help with set-up, take-down, registration table, pass the hat, etc.

To volunteer, contact Carolyn Dunning at 715-839-0039 or [cdunning@hotmail.com](mailto:cdunning@hotmail.com)

The Mission of the Eau Claire Democratic Party is to promote democratic and progressive principles and to elect Democratic and progressive candidates—from town halls to the White House

## Memorial Day Parade

Join Congressman Ron Kind and fellow Dems as we walk in the 2011 Memorial Day Parade. The parade route is Wilson Park to Owen Park. Dems will line up at 9:00 a.m. on the Barstow side of Wilson Park. The Parade begins at 9:30 a.m. Wear your blue EC Dems T-Shirt (call the Dems office to buy or borrow one) or any blue T-Shirt if you have one. Bikes, kids and dogs are welcome. This will be the seventh consecutive Memorial Day Parade for EC Dems. The crowds always greet us with enthusiasm. Come join the fun!

## West Wisconsin Sustainability Fair in Menomonie July 16

Sustainable Dunn announces the West Wisconsin Sustainability Fair, Sat. July 16, 8 AM - 2 PM at the Dunn County Fairgrounds, 620 17<sup>th</sup> St., Menomonie. Coinciding with the Farmers Market, the Fair will host exhibitors from business, government, and non-profit groups, and will offer speakers, workshops, music, energy efficient vehicles, a photo contest, and a tour of the Cedar Falls Dam. Come and shop at the Farmers Market, talk with friends and neighbors, and learn more about sustainability in Western Wisconsin. For more information see the Sustainable Dunn website ([sustainabledunn.org](http://sustainabledunn.org)) or contact Margy Hagaman ([mrhagaman@gmail.com](mailto:mrhagaman@gmail.com)).

## About the Chairman of the College Democrats of Wisconsin

Paydon Miller, 22, recently elected chair of the statewide College Dems, is a senior at UWEC working on a double major in Political Science and Print Journalism. He is originally from Green Bay, but now lives in Eau Claire full time. Before his election to Chairman of the College Democrats of Wisconsin (CDW) in his freshman year, Paydon spent two years on the CDW Executive Board, first as Communications Director, then Development Director. He also writes political columns for The Flip Side, the free press newspaper of UWEC. This last fall, he was employed as a field organizer for Jeff Smith.

The College Democrats of Wisconsin is the official college arm of the Democratic Party and has 22 chapters across the state. Lately the CDW focus has been on creating a voice of opposition to Scott Walker through direct student contact as well as revamping their media presence to steer the debate back to the real world effect of Walker's agenda on Wisconsinites, especially students.

## Why Do We Stand With the Unions? –Thomas Kemp

Certainly we are all aware of the Governor's ongoing attack on public sector workers. Certainly we have also all been aware of the significant efforts put forward by the Democratic party to fight these efforts. No doubt many have questioned whether it is worth it to spend so much to support a group of individuals, some of whom may not even be Democrats. As Democrats we believe that things work best when we all work together, when we respect each other's humanity at home and in the workplace, and when fear and oppression are driven from society.

These are not only our values; they have long been the values of the labor movement. Workplace safety, child labor laws, minimum wages, the eight hour day, and civil rights are but a few of the battles fought by the American left and the unions. Throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century Democrats and Progressives have worked with the unions to build a fairer, more civil, and more humane society. Certainly there have been abuses of the power of organized labor. But then the same could be said of the Democratic party. We must not let others exploit these abuses and difference to drive us apart.

In recent years the unions and the workers they represent have come under attack from many fronts. The diminished power of labor has forced Democrats to seek additional alliances from those further to the right than some have been comfortable with. The recent attacks against the public sector are an attempt to kill off the labor movement. If the Governor succeeds it will be the end of a powerful ally in the fight for our mutual values. We cannot afford to let this happen.

“The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little.”

- Franklin D. Roosevelt