



Manistee County Democratic Party

www.manisteecountydemocrats.us

Monthly Meetings

4th Thursday

7 pm - 9 pm

Dial-a Ride, Manistee

includes

Guest Speakers

Officers

Chair- Peggy Raddatz
peg.raddatz@gmail.com

V. Chair- David Berns
dberns46@gmail.com

Secretary- Laurel Mason
laurele52@charter.net

Treasurer- Joanna Collins
collij1946@yahoo.com

Supporting Staff

Membership Chair
Ellen Somsel

Newsletter Editor
Judy Cunningham

Webmaster and
Social Media Chair

Lee Trucks

INEQUALITY FOR ALL

PRESENTED BY THE MANISTEE DEMS

SATURDAY, JULY 19TH

10:30 AM

OLSEN FAMILY THEATRE-VOGUE THEATRE

\$10:00 PER PERSON

"A MUST SEE MOVIE!" - *The Huffington Post*
"DOES FOR INCOME DISPARITY WHAT AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH DID FOR CLIMATE CHANGE" - *Variety*



For tickets call: Peggy Raddatz - 510-3726

David Berns - 510-5895

Joanna Collins - 723-4844

*Proceeds go to fund vetted GED Scholarships
and transportation to GED testing.*

Tom Stobie, Candidate for the 101st House District will be marching in the Arcadia Daze Parade on Sunday July 27 at 1:30. Following the Parade there will be a Picnic at 3545 Glover's Lake Road to meet with Tom Stobie and fellow Democrats. The grill will be turned on at 2:30 and brats will be provided. Bring a dish to pass and your own beverage. Join in the fun and comradery and support our candidate for the 101st House District. RSVP at 231-889-4718.

A Letter FROM THE CHAIR



Dear Fellow Democrats,

Exciting things are happening for the Manistee DEMS, all because of volunteers. First and foremost, David Berns has volunteered to be Vice Chair of the Party. (Look for his bio elsewhere in the newsletter.) We are honored and privileged to have him donate his time and talent in a leadership role for the County Party. Also kudos to Jo Hall and Les Edikauskas for their outstanding work with the Blue Tigers. We look forward to many more events where we are seen in the Community doing good work.

Thank you also to Karen Goodman, for taking the lead on the outstandingly successful fundraiser for Jerry Cannon. If you missed the Lawn Party and tour of the Dempsey Manor, you missed a great event. A very warm thank you goes to Dempsey Manor owners Jim Colburn and Rick Butler for opening their home to us. I would also like to thank all those volunteers who participated in the 4th of July Independence Day Parades. We looked absolutely marvelous!

Now volunteers will be needed as we begin staffing the office September 1 - through November 8. We will also need volunteers to staff the Fair Booth August 19 - through August 23.

We will need volunteers for GOTV 2014 as we go Door to Door every Thursday afternoon. We will need you. We will need you to talk to your friends, family, and neighbors about voting this year. About voting absentee or getting to the polls.

Working together, we can bring back Michigan values to the Great Lake State we all love, by supporting and promoting candidates that also hold these time-tested Michigan values. You can help by volunteering to work with the local party and the GOTV activities. Lastly, and most importantly, VOTE! Then get your family, friends and neighbors to VOTE! That is how we will win.

Forward to Victory in November,

Peggy Raddatz,
Chair
Manistee County Democrats

***Paid for by the Manistee County Democratic Party with regulated funds.
Manistee County Democratic Party PO Box 65, Manistee, MI 49660***



THE 11TH ANNUAL DON JENNINGS AWARD NOMINATIONS

PLEASE PRINT:

I nominate: _____

Because: _____

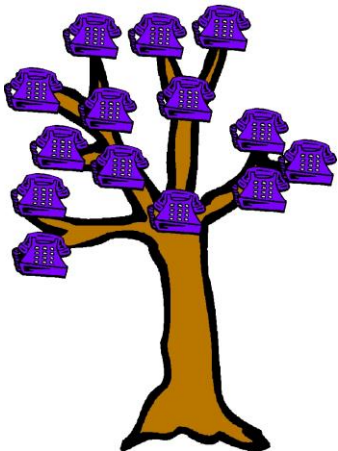
(if you need more space, please continue on the back)

My Name: _____

Phone or Email: _____

Please mail completed nomination to: Manistee DEMS/DJN -- P.O. Box 65 – Manistee, MI 49660

The Manistee Dems phone tree provides opportunity for closer personal communication with party members. The membership list has been divided into fifths and we make calls prior to monthly meetings and when the need arises for special situations and events.



The phone tree **is in need of two additional volunteers** to join the communication team. Please contact Laurie Mason at laurele52@charter.net or 231-889-4718.



Thank you to everyone who attended and helped organize the fundraiser for Jerry Cannon's campaign for the 1st Congressional District last week! We had an excellent turnout and the weather cooperated with us for a great afternoon on the lawn of the Dempsey Manor. Everyone enjoyed touring the historical home as well as hearing from 6th district Manistee County Commission Candidate Karen Wrzesinski Goodman, 101st district State House Candidate Tom Stobie and Jerry Cannon. We had a very lively discussion about the important issues of the day following speeches. Jerry enjoyed seeing everyone and looks forward to coming back to Manistee soon.

The event was a great success and raised over \$3,500 for the campaign. Thanks to your help, we have built a grassroots network of over 2,700 supporters. We just completed our best fundraising quarter to date and hope to outraise the Congressman for the 3rd quarter in a row. Jerry is on track to victory in the fall, but there is still lots to do. In the coming weeks, we will be rapidly expanding our field staff to include a full time staffer who will be able to focus on organizing in Manistee County. Please consider volunteering your time for Jerry's campaign to help us get our message out to voters and take back this seat.

Erik Polyak, Campaign Manager, Cannon Campaign



*Karen Wrzesinski-Goodman
County Commission
District 6, Candidate*

My name is Karen Wrzesinski-Goodman, and I am running for County Commissioner representing the Sixth district. I am born and raised in Manistee, one of eight children of the late Jerome (Chummy) Wrzesinski and Dorothy Wrzesinski. I am a 1977 graduate of Manistee Catholic Central, and a 1981 graduate of Ferris State University. I left Ferris with a Bachelor of Science in Social Services and an Associate's Degree in Public Administration. In 1997 I graduated from Grand Valley State University with a Master of Social Work. Then approximately ten years later I enrolled at North Central University in a PhD program in Psychology with emphasis in Industry and Organizations. I completed the coursework for the degree then decided to take a leave of absence while I was switching jobs. I hope to return and finish my Doctoral degree.

Beside an education in organizations and social systems I have had over 20 years' experience working in the private and public sectors. I have (and still do) co-own small businesses. Additionally I have decades of experience working in county government and state systems. I have learned how to negotiate between systems, organizations and with groups. I feel confident my education and my experiences make me a solid candidate for this position.

Introducing David Berns, Manistee DEMS Vice Chair

Our new Vice Chairperson, David Berns is good at many things but retirement is not one of them. Dave was elected to serve as the vice chair at our meeting on June 26 less than a week following his retirement as the Director of the Department of Human Services for the District of Columbia. Dave and his wife Colleen (Tabaczka) Berns have owned their primary home in Manistee since 2006 but their ties to Manistee go much further back. Colleen was raised in Manistee and graduated from Manistee Catholic Central High School. They met at Michigan State University and have been married for nearly 47 years. Dave was born and raised in Flint Michigan but has considered Manistee to be his second home since he and Colleen were married.

Dave is no stranger to politics or to public service. He began his career in Human Services as a Social Worker for the Michigan Department of Social Services providing assistance and employment services to families. Due to his success in community organization, Dave rose quickly becoming the Director of Human Services in Marquette County for 11 years. Their time in Northern Michigan was a wonderful opportunity to raise their two children and to learn about the strengths of small towns and communities. The innovative approaches to human services in Marquette became a state and national model.

Dave was promoted by Governor Jim Blanchard to be the Chief Deputy Director of the Office of Children and Youth Services for the State of Michigan in 1989 and later to the Director of the Office of Children's Services. He led all of the child welfare programs in Michigan including Children's Protective Services, Foster Care and Adoption. He also coordinated Indian Child Welfare and Domestic Violence Programs.

In 1997, Dave took an early retirement but was recruited to run the Department of Human Services in Colorado Springs. In 2003, Governor Janet Napolitano asked him to join her cabinet in Arizona as the Director of the Department of Economic Security. It was a big job with over 10,000 employees and a 5 billion dollar budget. The position included operation of both Human Services and the Department of Labor programs. Dave retired from that position and accepted a job as Executive Vice President of the nation's largest foundation dedicated exclusively to issues of child welfare. His duties included operation of child welfare offices in several states as well as a national network of services to Native American tribal child welfare systems.

Dave's retirement from the foundation in 2011 was short lived when the Mayor of Washington DC asked him to redesign their welfare and homeless services in the nation's capital. It was a wonderful opportunity to work on the community level but to be connected in the hub of public policy and political leadership. David retired from the position last month to be closer to his family but his commitment to public policy remains.

Dave has a bachelor's degree in Psychology and a master's degree in Social Work from Michigan State University and an MA in Political Science/Public Administration from Northern Michigan University. He has numerous awards and honors including Social Worker of the Year in Colorado, the lifetime achievement award from the American Public Human Services Association and was recently granted the high distinction as a Social Work Pioneer by the National Association of Social Workers. Dave is a long term board member of the Center for Law and Social Policy in Washington DC. He and Colleen have two children and 5 grandchildren.

Letter to the Editor Printed July 8, 2014 in the Manistee News Advocate

Dear Editor,

Last week many of us received an anonymous robocall attacking Tom Stobie, candidate for the 101st State House District who is running against Rep. Ray Franz. The robocalls are trying to make a big issue out of nothing. Tom was the Superintendent of Frankfort Area Public Schools up until last year. A few times, outside of work hours, he used his school email account to correspond with a few people, me included, asking for advice if he decided to run for office. How many of us have used our work accounts to email family or friends or do a little Christmas shopping? Anyone ever hear of Cyber Monday? We all have done it. Tom did it too. Is it a scandal as Franz and his Lansing cronies claim? No, not even close.

It's a lame and silly attack, but, if Ray Franz believes voters are really very concerned about emails, then he should voluntarily disclose all of his work emails and stop hiding behind the sweetheart deal Lansing politicians gave themselves to shield their emails from public view and keep what they do secret. I hope he will be transparent with us and release his and his staff's emails. But if he doesn't, maybe it's because Ray Franz already has seven campaign finance irregularities noted by the Secretary of State. Just last year, he was caught hiding the origin of some of his PAC money.

As a former COOR school board member, I know kids always come first. I know for a fact Superintendent Tom Stobie has always put the needs of his students first. Of course, not a single penny was diverted from the education of our children because Tom sent out a few emails. As we all know, companies and organizations don't have to pay by the email. Franz's allegations are just ridiculous. Tom Stobie was a great superintendent and led Frankfort's award-winning schools well during his decade of service.

What Franz and his pals in Lansing are really trying to do is distract us from what Republicans have done over the past four years to our schools. Franz has consistently voted to cut funding for our schools, leading to higher class sizes and cuts in vital programs, such as reading support, counseling, art, music, athletics and special education. Franz has even pushed unproven schemes such as for-profit schools that enjoy little or no accountability.

So, don't be fooled by Franz's lies. Vote for what really matters: our children and our schools. In November, vote for Tom Stobie.

Peggy Raddatz



Join us on FACEBOOK
LOOK FOR:
Manistee County Democratic
Party

2014 Manistee DEMS Membership Year

January – December 2014

- Your membership will keep you informed of events through email, newsletters and phone.
- Your membership will help us build an organization of volunteers as we prepare to win our election cycle.
- The Manistee County Democratic Party will support our local county candidates, as well as the 101st State Representative and 1st Congressional District and other campaigns as deemed worthy with know how and funds to win.
- Your paid membership will help Democrats win. *Please join today, and send in a separate membership form for each member of your household.*

Last Name _____ First _____ MI _____

Other joining members in same household _____

Address _____

City _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ Alternate Phone _____

E-mail _____

2014 Membership Levels **Per Individual**

(2014 DEMS Dues will be split between Membership and Campaigns.)

(MEMBERSHIP/CAMPAIGN)

100 Club - \$100.00 (\$25/\$75) or specify the split
Gold Club - \$50.00 (\$25/\$25) or specify the split
Silver Club-\$25.00 (\$10/\$15)
Supporter -\$10.00 (\$10/\$0)

_____ Additional Donation to Elect Candidates

_____ Amount of Enclosed Check

Please make checks payable to
Manistee County Democratic Party

Send this completed form along
with your check to:

Manistee County Dems

P.O. Box 65

Manistee, MI 49660

See what we are doing:

Go to our WEBSITE at manistecountydemocrats.us

Join us on FACEBOOK : [facebook.com/groups/210484709015534](https://www.facebook.com/groups/210484709015534)

Or on Twitter <https://twitter.com/manisteedems>

Join our discussion group by signing up on our website.

What Democrats Value

- We are for capitalism, but against its abuse.
- We are for religion, but against its use as a political tool.
- We are for democracy, but against the manipulation of the democratic process by corporate forces.
- We are for the American Dream – the opportunity for every citizen to prosper.
- We believe democracy flourishes when we strengthen the middle class, not provide entitlements and tax havens for the top 1%.
- We believe government is best when it serves the public good—free public education, universal health care, good paying jobs and a well-maintained public infrastructure.
- We believe in a social safety net to help those who can't help themselves - It's humane and it strengthens democracy.
- We don't believe Corporations are People.

