



## Eaton County Dems & Friends

*A great place to Be...and Be informed!*

Hello all,

Many thanks to Carol and John for hosting our March 30 meeting, Jason Ellenburg led us through a campaign outline, and shared some insights on how the MDP can be helpful to our commissioner candidates. We had a great turnout, and we learned a lot. Thanks so much, Jason!

Eaton County candidates are getting great support from both the EC Dem Party and the Michigan Dem Party, and I urge all of you who haven't already joined, to show your support of the party by doing so! You can get an **application online from the MDP**, or come to a county meeting and get an application there. Be sure to note which county on the application, so that the local party will receive credit for your enrollment. And you can become a **precinct delegate** just by filling out an affidavit (online from the Secretary of State) and filing it by 4:00 p.m., May 16.

We will be holding a **candidate training at the ECDP hall on April 15, starting at 10:00 a.m.** In addition to candidates and the campaign workers they have already lined up, I urge anyone who has ever entertained running for office, or who would like to know more about how a typical campaign operates, to join us.

On non-election issues, the executive committee presented a new dues structure to the membership. This year, because we'd like to encourage folks to contribute to candidates, we've lowered our 2006 dues to \$25 for individuals and \$40 for couples. We urge you do make up the difference (and more, of course!) by contributing to the candidate(s) of your choice. We'll have at least 10 county commission candidates, House District 65 (Mike Simpson) the Governor, Senator Stabenow, and congressional races; possibly Michigan House 71st and a Michigan Senate candidate. Plenty of places for your hard-earned contributions! Please send your check for \$25 or \$40, made out to Eaton County Dems & Friends, to Sherry Freeman, 435 S. Stoll, Lansing, 48917, or bring it to our next meeting, April 27.

Also, keeping your \$\$ in mind, our **picnic** this year, on **Saturday July 23**, will have **no admission charge**. The committee is working out remaining details, and we'll let you know.

The **ECDP meets April 18 at 7:30 p.m.** Thanks to all of you who have started attending those meetings -- there's always room for more.

The next meeting of **Dems & Friends will be April 27, 7:00 p.m. at the ECDP Hall**. We will hear from Captain Hummel of the Charlotte Fire Department about the Eaton County's Community Emergency Response Team, a citizen network working with emergency responders. Come and learn more about this effort.

At our meeting last Thursday I forgot to announce the following:

**April 8 and 9, Camp Millie.** This is a 2-day intensive training program for progressive political action in your community. The \$35 for the two days includes training materials and box lunches on Saturday and Sunday. It is in Monroe, at the Meadow Montessori School, 1670 S. Raisinville Road. To check on openings (sorry about the late notice!), call Fran Brennan at 734-330-5225.

**April 12, 10:00 - noon. Public Policy Forum, Michigan League for Human Services.** "Softening the Blow of Economic Dislocation: How Unemployment and Trade Adjustment Assistance Can Help Michigan's Unemployed Workers" This will be held at the LCC West Campus Center, 5708 Cornerstone Drive, Lansing. Registration fee is \$25 for League members, \$40 non-members. Call 517-487-5436 for enrollment information.

**April 29, MDP Spring Training.** Similar to the candidate training we'll have on the 15th, this **free** session goes into it in more depth. It is in Grand Rapids, at the Teamsters Local 406, 3315 Eastern Ave SE, from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. If you are interested in attending, call Rosemary or me and we can possibly set up a carpool.

**April 29, "Citizens Marching for the American Dream"** A rally at 2:00 p.m. on the Capitol Lawn to support the UAW and other workers whose jobs are being eliminated or outsourced.

We "old-timers" in D&F are really pleased to see our attendance growing. We urge all of you who have yet to come to join us for good fellowship and opportunities to get things done!

Jacky Tennis,

for the Executive Committee