

Grosse Pointe Democratic Club

.....serving the Grosse Pointes, Harper Woods and Detroit's East Side
 17888 Mack Ave., Grosse Pointe, MI 48230
 P.O. Box 36881, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236
 313-288-6140
 October 2010

Message from the President

The general election is just weeks away, and our Club has the office up and running. The office is located at 17888 Mack Ave, between Washington and Rivard in Grosse Pointe. At our recent grand opening, we had in attendance our state-wide candidates: David Leyton for Attorney General, Jocelyn Benson for Secretary of State, and our Supreme Court nominees, recently appointed Supreme Court Justice Alton Davis, and Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Denise Langford-Morris. We had a great showing, and we are off to a tremendous start.

Carol Romano and Betty Ruud will once again be running the office. Please stop by, check out our great space, and see what we need to have done. Our candidates need your help with a variety of tasks so we can be successful this year. We hope to continue the Friday night entertainment with candidates like we did in 2008. Our office will coordinate with the Detroit and state-wide coordinated campaigns, and we have offered space to be a satellite office for their campaign efforts.

I want to express our appreciation to Dr. Richard Golden for hosting our great fundraiser at his home back in August, which featured U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, and our local elected officials and nominees. We had a great turn-out, the weather was wonderful, and we raised enough money to fund our office.

I want to also thank Jim Saros, of Saros Realty in Grosse Pointe, for providing the office space for us this year. He has been a life-long contributor to our state party, and he has been a tremendous help to our Club. Thanks to Jim Saros, we have a great office this year.

Our big local contest is the re-election of our State Representative Tim Bledsoe. He will be one of the primary occupants of the office, and much of his campaign work will be done there. Tim needs your help. Please contribute to his campaign and sign-up to volunteer. Tim has done a tremendous job representing us, particularly with Lake St. Clair issues, getting fair representation for Grosse Pointe Shores residents for their Municipal Court, and maintaining tenure and collective bargaining rights for our public educators.

~Cont'd on Page 3 ~

Mark Your Calendar Now!



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:
 Monday, October 25th, 7 pm, 17888 Mack,
 Grosse Pointe

GP Dems Fundraiser

Featuring State Sen. Martha Scott

Monday November 8th, 2010

5:30pm – 8:30pm

The Blue Pointe Restaurant

(East Warren near Cadieux)

Tickets \$35

*Includes Meat and Non-meat pasta, salad, bread and
 butter
 coffee or tea or soft drink and one glass of beer or wine*

Tickets available by mail or at the door
 Check only please (including tickets purchased at the door)
 Please make check to Grosse Pointe Democrats

Join us Fridays in October!!

Our new office will also host a "Meet the
 Candidate Evening" starting at 7p.m. every
 Friday in October.

Please see more upcoming events on page 4 of
 this newsletter.

FROM THE OFFICE
~YOUR HOME AWAY FROM HOME~

The Grosse Pointe Dems campaign office is up and running at 17888 Mack, Suite 1 in Grosse Pointe City. As a member of the Grosse Pointe Dems, it is your center where information on the issues and candidates can be found. It is the hub of all of our activities for the upcoming election. Lawn signs and campaign flyers for distribution are readily available here.



As members of the Grosse Pointe Democratic Club, we need to be informed about the issues that will be on the November 2nd. Ballot, as well as a knowledge of where our endorsed candidates stand. We have this information. If we know the facts, it will be so much easier to talk to our friends and neighbors about them. It is so important to elect our candidates! So much is riding on this election. Not only must we elect our congressional and state officials, but the judicial and county offices are equally as important. You can certainly help by being an informed voter in this grass roots campaign.

Another way you can help our campaign is by volunteering. Help us be successful! We must cover the office during office hours, make phone calls, distribute materials and information within our community, do clerical work and do whatever else is called for. So please call our office at your convenience and let us know when you are available to volunteer for this election. Our office phone no. is 313-288-6140.



Our office will also host a "Meet the Candidate Evening" starting Friday, October 8th at 7p.m. and every Friday in October. Tim Bledsoe, Hanson Clarke, Bert Johnson, and Tim Killeen will be our featured guests, and some of our judicial circuit

court candidates followed by some wonderful entertainment for your enjoyment. Watch for e-mails, news briefs on our web site: gpdems.org or printed information in The Grosse Pointe News, The Grosse Pointe Times, and The Advertiser for details on these events.

Again, we are located at 17888 Mack, Suite 1. Our candidates campaign signs can be seen outside of our building. Parking can be found on the street and in the parking lot behind the building. Our office hours are Monday-Saturday from noon-7p.m. and on Sunday from noon- 5p.m. Phone no. 313-288-6140.

REMEMBER WITH YOUR HELP VICTORY CAN BE IN OUR GRASP!

Grosse Pointe Democratic Club
Endorsed Candidates

Governor: Virg Bernero: www.virgbernero.com
Secretary of State: Jocelyn Benson: www.votebenson.com
Attorney General: David Leyton: www.davidleyton.org
Wayne County Sheriff: Benny Napoleon
U.S. House of Representatives, 13th District: Sen. Hansen Clarke
State Senate, District 2: State Representative Bert Johnson
State Representative, District 1: Tim Bledsoe: <http://001.housedems.com/>
Wayne County Commissioner: Tim Killeen
County Executive: Robert Ficano
Supreme Court: Justice Alton Davis, Judge Denise Langford-Morris
Wayne County Circuit Court: Kathleen Macdonald, Eric Cholack, Mark Slavens, Patricia Fresard, Sheila Gibson, David Groner, Gershwin Drain, Muriel Hughes, Margie Braxton

REMEMBER TO VOTE!!
NOVEMBER 2ND

RENEW NOW !!!

Time to renew your membership in the Grosse Pointe Democratic Club. All memberships coincide with the calendar year. If you have not renewed for 2010, membership from now until the end of the year is only \$5.00 with the regular membership fee for 2011. Your mailing label will indicate if your dues are current by the year listed to the right of the label. By renewing your membership now, you receive the following benefits:

~ the Grosse Pointe Democratic Club newsletter, which keeps you abreast of club events and activities ~ An invitation to attend our general membership meetings where we host informative and engaging speakers ~ Admittance to the club's annual picnic ~ Enjoy fellowship with other members ~ Volunteer opportunities ~ The satisfaction of supporting Democratic candidates and the Democratic community.

Check out our website:
www.gpdems.com
for up to date information on events of the Club and how you can get involved!

Message from the President (cont'd from page 1)

Tim is continuing his pledge not to accept PAC contributions, and is running a clean campaign. Tim's Republican opponent, on the other hand, is avoiding debates and forums. She will not debate Tim in a meaningful way, within a sufficient time-frame before the election so the public is informed about the issues. Unfortunately, the Republicans are showing they are desperate again this year by resorting to deceptive negative campaign tactics that only harm our political system, rather than encouraging solutions for our pressing needs.

As a Club and as Democrats, we need to let the public know that these tactics don't work and what the truth is. We also need to encourage our friends, family and neighbors to support Tim because he has the experience and qualifications to better represent us in Lansing. Most importantly, we need to encourage everyone to VOTE because turn-out will make the difference.

Lastly, congratulations to Hansen Clarke who is our nominee for Congress, Bert Johnson who is our nominee for State Senate, and our county nominees, Bob Ficano, Benny Napoleon, and Tim Killeen. All of them are endorsed by the Club. I want to also congratulate Kush Shaqiri for running a very strong campaign for state senate which earned him a second place finish. Kush has a very promising future ahead him in whatever he decides to do.

We have a lot of work to do. Please volunteer at the office and contribute what you can. If you have any questions, please contact me at garybres@msn.com -- or better yet, I'll see you at the office.

~ Gary Bresnehan ~



Please join us on October 24 at the GP Dems Headquarters for a Fundraiser for Jocelyn Benson, Candidate for Michigan Secretary of State

Sponsored by the GP Democratic Club, and hosted by:

Kym Worthy, Wayne County Prosecutor
Laurie Arora, Grosse Pointe Park City Council Member
Cecelia Walker, Chair, 13th District Congressional Organization
Emma Bell
(Host Committee in formation)



Location: GP Dems Headquarters, 17888 Mack Ave., Grosse Pointe
Date: Sunday, October 24, 2010
Time: 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Cost: Host - \$250
Guest: \$50

RSVP to Melanie at 517-610-2576 or email melanie@VoteBenson.com

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO ELECT DEMOCRATS THIS YEAR!

If each Grosse Pointe Dem were to volunteer for just two hours we will have **Victory in November!!**

Please call our office to sign up to help with our voter outreach efforts.

17888 Mack Avenue, City of Grosse Pointe

Office Hours: Mon. - Sat. noon - 7p.m.: Sun. noon - 5 p.m.

MESSAGE FROM OUR SECRETARY:

First of all, allow me to thank each and every member of the Grosse Pointe Democratic Club. Without you, our membership, we cease to exist. Financially, the Grosse Pointe Democratic Club is sound. Thank you again to our paying members. You are indeed the life blood of our organization. The Grosse Pointe Democratic Club once again finds itself in a position to maintain an office this year. All members are welcome to visit the Campaign Headquarters and, if so inclined, volunteer to do some campaigning this election season. As I write this article, the election is only 5 weeks away.

At this point, I would like to address two very important issues this year. First, there tends to less involvement in election activities in a non presidential election. As Democrats, however, we cannot afford to be apathetic. If nothing else, I urge you to exercise your right to vote this November. With all the press about the Republican Party sweeping back into offices at all levels in our government in Michigan, we need a commitment on the part of our members to vote Democratic.

Campaigns are run by people interested in getting involved in the political process. If you would like to volunteer at the office, put up a lawn sign, walk door to door, make calls in an effort to engage voters, please contact either Betty or Carol at 313-288-6140.

Secondly, I would like to address the issue of factionalism. For those of you who remember James Madison's Federalist No.10, the factionalization of a political entity is destined to fail. For last summer's primary, the board made some endorsements that many of you found to be very controversial. Many of you contacted the Club to express your disagreement, and your views have been taken very seriously by the Board. Now that the primary is over, the Grosse Pointe Democratic Club needs to unite as we did in 2008! Please be assured that we will be implementing a more open door policy concerning the endorsement process. This should lead to a greater accountability of our Executive Board, and allow the membership more input into the decisions of our Club. The membership of the Grosse Pointe Democratic Club is the foundation of everything we do.

Again, let me thank our members for their past, present, and future support. There is a lot happening this Fall including a General Membership Meeting in late October (see the section in the Newsletter), an Election on November 2, a fundraiser at the Blue Pointe Restaurant (again see section in Newsletter).

The last 4 years as Secretary has been a privilege and I look forward to serving you, our members, to the best of my ability.
~ Lawrence T. Macdonald

Upcoming events in 2010: For further information and updates, please check the website at www.gpdems.com

Friday, October 8th, 7:00 pm, Meet the Judges, entertainment to be announced, GP Dems office, 17888 Mack, GP.

Friday, October 15th, State Senate nominee Bert Johnson with comic Amy Ruud, GP Dems office

Friday, October 22nd, 7:00 pm, Congressional nominee Hansen Clarke, entertainment to be announced, GP Dems office

Saturday, October 23rd, at 2:00 pm, GP Dems office will have a presentation on the planning for long term care for the autistic and special needs. We will feature speakers on this topic to assist in the planning process for families. Light refreshments will be served.

Sunday, October 24th, 2-4:00 pm, Fundraiser for Jocelyn Benson, nominee for Secretary of State, GP Dems office, 17888 Mack, GP (see information in this newsletter).

Monday, October 25th, 7:00 pm, General membership meeting, Grosse Pointe Dems office, 17888 Mack, Grosse Pointe. (This will be a campaign work meeting with reps from the candidates to appear.)

Friday, October, October 29th, 7:00 pm, State Representative Tim Bledsoe and County Commissioner Tim Killeen, featuring a Halloween theme with catered light food, entertainment by "Donald" from Tim Bledsoe's office. GP Dems office.

Tuesday, November 2nd, Election night party, 8:00 pm. Location TBD.

Monday, November 8th, 5:30-8:00 pm, Annual fundraiser, Blue Pointe Restaurant, E Warren by Cadieux, Detroit, featuring State Senator Martha Scott.



L to R: Wayne County Commissioner Tim Killeen, State Rep. Hansen Clarke, Sen. Debbie Stabenow, State Rep. Tim Bledsoe and G. P. Democratic Club Pres. Gary Bresnehan at the August 28 office fundraiser.

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Grosse Pointe Democratic Club Membership Application/Renewal

Return this form with a check made out to the Grosse Pointe Democratic Club to:

Grosse Pointe Democratic Club
P.O. Box 36881
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236

Date	_____
Amt.	_____
Mem	_____
Merc	_____

Please circle a membership category:

Renewal of 2010 membership: \$5

2011:

Member: \$15 25 Club: \$25 Sponsor: \$50 Century Club: \$100 Life: \$500

Note: Membership term runs from January 1 through December 31.

Name(s) _____ Phone (____) _____ - _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

E-Mail _____ *Occupation _____

*Employer _____ *Address _____ *Zip _____

____ Do not include my name in published membership lists.

* Required by Michigan Campaign Finance Law