



## THE NEW YORK STATE DEMOCRATIC RURAL CONFERENCE



### DRC Board Meeting - July 23, 2011

The DRC Executive Committee met in Oswego, NY on Saturday July 23.

#### HIGHLIGHTS OF JULY 23RD BOARD MEETING IN OSWEGO

We were honored to have **DARRELL AUBERTINE**, New York State Comm. Of Agriculture as our guest. He gave an informative and substantive presentation. He stressed the importance of the Federal Farm Bill to be debated in the coming months. He pointed out that an enormous amount of money is at stake for entitlements such as Food Stamps, WIC program and other programs. He also indicated that he was working to revitalize the Northeast Commissioners of Agriculture Association in order to more clearly speak as one voice for the ten states in the Northeast. He covered a wide range of topics and addressed a host of questions from the audience. He also indicated his willingness to meet with the agricultural community in our counties and provided his scheduler's number (518-457-8876).

#### DRC CONFERENCE April 27, 28 2012.

The Board selected the dates of April 27, 28. We reviewed proposals for location and will be making a final decision shortly. We are planning a heavy focus on the 2012 upcoming Congressional elections, possibly with a panel of our DRC Congressional candidates. We also hope to have candidates meet with folks from their districts in small groups. Of course, we are planning for our galaxy of stars for the Friday night banquet and receptions. We have already invited our U.S. Senators, our amazing Governor as well as our outstanding Comptroller Tom DiNapoli and our fighting Attorney General Eric Schneiderman. We also hope to have our state legislative leaders as well as representation from our State Committee. Because we are focusing so heavily on Congress, we hope Congressman Steve Israel, who heads up the House Democratic Campaign Committee, can take time to share his political assessments with us.

We will also be holding an election for five Board seats at that meeting. An official notice calling for candidates will be sent out closer to the date.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS – DRC CONFERENCE 2012**  
**WILL BE HELD ON APRIL 27, 28, 2012 –**  
**VENUE TO BE ANNOUNCED SHORTLY**



# THE NEW YORK STATE DEMOCRATIC RURAL CONFERENCE



## HIGHLIGHTS OF JULY 23RD BOARD MEETING IN OSWEGO

### HELP FOR DRC COUNTIES

The Board passed a motion allocating \$400 to each member County's Democratic Committee if all voting members of the DRC within each county has paid their dues to the DRC by 9/15/2011. Voting members are defined as the County Chairs and State Committee members. **Dues are \$10 per year, payable to the DRC, c/o Cindy Emmer, 858 Davis St., Elmira, New York 14901.**

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**ISSUES COMMITTEE** – Dawn Rivers reported that a meeting is being set up with Lt. Governor's Policy representative to discuss the Regional Councils.

**POLITICAL COMMITTEE** – Tom Poelker congratulated Jane Dodds and others from the District for the great victory of Kathy Hochul. The DRC sent at least 12 volunteers from outside the in-District DRC members to canvas and telephone – a continuation of our “Boots on the Ground” program.

**AUDIT COMMITTEE** – Ted Young reported that the Audit Committee met prior to this meeting and found the books to be in order.

**COMMITTEE ON ENDORSEMENTS-** Chair McCandless reported for this ad hoc committee. The Board passed the following resolution which will be presented to the Membership at the Fall meeting: **The DRC will not endorse candidates EXCEPT THAT IN A SPECIAL ELECTION TO FILL AN UNEXPIRED TERM FOR CONGRESS, STATE SENATE OR STATE ASSEMBLY, THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MAY ENDORSE AND/OR MAKE A FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE DEMOCRATIC ENDORSED CANDIDATE.**

This resolution places the By-Laws in conformity with current practice.

**LABOR LIAISON** – A meeting of the ad hoc comm. to explore having a liaison from Labor on the DRC Executive Committee was held in Syracuse. Chaired by Mark Bellardini, it received encouragement from those labor representatives who attended. They will report to their constituencies and explore whether and how such a representative would be chosen.





# THE NEW YORK STATE DEMOCRATIC RURAL CONFERENCE



## Musings of the Chair

I share with all of you the worry about the direction of our country. It is clear that most of the Republicans in Congress have chosen politics over the welfare of the nation, and it is hard to see any way to break the deadlock and change economic and other policy other than sending Democrats to Congress in great numbers in the 2012 election. The economic and financial situation makes this extremely difficult but it must be done, and the DRC will do its share of the work to be done. Let's remember that we share with most Americans support for Medicare and Social Security, fairness in taxation, and that we understand that in our current situation, government must be able to stimulate the economy. The Republicans will have to face the electorate and it is our job to get the message out. We are greatly benefited here in New York by an overwhelmingly popular Governor and, as candidates run this year and next, their slogans well might be: JOIN THE CUOMO TEAM! VOTE ROW A IN NOVEMBER.

THANKS

Irene Stein, Chair

Contributors to the Bulletin: Irene Stein, Phil Jones, Don Ackerman

# THE DRC CONTACT INFO, ETC....

Web page: [www.nysdrc.org](http://www.nysdrc.org)

To subscribe to our list serve go to: [NYSDemocraticRuralConference-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:NYSDemocraticRuralConference-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

To Post a Message on the List serve go to : [NYSDemocraticRuralConference@yahoogroups.com](mailto:NYSDemocraticRuralConference@yahoogroups.com)

Meet on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/pages/Democratic-Rural-Conference-of-New-York-State/162050418621](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Democratic-Rural-Conference-of-New-York-State/162050418621)

Or e-mail us at:

Irene Stein, Chair ---

Dan McCandless, Vice Chair ---

Cindy Emmer, Treasurer ---

Phil Jones, Secretary ---

Don Ackerman, Parliamentarian ---

Doris Kirsch, Asst. Secretary ---

Cindy Lockrow, Issues Committee Chair ---

Dan McCandless, By-Laws Committee Chair ---

Tom Poelker, Political Committee Chair ---

Jane Dodds, Conference Chair ---

Ted Young, Board Member---

Bob Reynolds, Board Member ---

Dawn Rivers, Board Member ---

Mark Bellardini, Board Member ----

Joe Pickreign, Board Member ----

Joyce Melfi, Board Member -----

Ian Brody, Web Master ---

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## *DRC Board Services...*

### **SPEAKERS Bureau:**

The following DRC Executive Committee Members are available as speakers at DRC County events:

Irene Stein, Cindy Emmer, Tom Poelker or Phil Jones.

**Mentoring Services:** The DRC Executive Committee has many experienced County Chairs. As such, we are available to mentor and provide support to new County Chairs.

## *DUES*

Dues are \$10 for 2011, checks are payable to the DRC and should be sent to Cindy Emmer, 858 Davis St., Elmira, NY 14901.

## **COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

Chair Stein announced 2011/2012 Committee appointments. Please see a listing of the appointments on the last page of this Bulletin.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**DRC MAILING LIST** – It was decided that eligible voting members should not be removed from the e-mail distribution whether or not they paid their dues. Potential Associate Members who do not pay their dues will be removed the distribution list.

**DRC BROCHURE** – Chair Stein appointed a committee to develop a DRC brochure: Chair, Tom Poelker, joined by Dawn Rivers and Don Ackerman.

## 2011 DRC COMMITTEES

**Speakers' Bureau – Stein, Jones, Emmer, Wood**

**Communications/Outreach – Ackerman, Ian Brody, Jones**

**Issues – Lockrow, Corey, Reynolds, Lewis, Aulino, Baker, Hurley, MacKay**

**Newsletter – Ackerman, Jones, Stein**

**Political – Poelker, McCandless, Melfi**

**Audit/Finance – Emmer, Young, Reynolds**

**Events/Arrangements – Same, Dodds, Kirsch**

**Convention Chair – Dodds**

**Program Committee – Stein, Dodds, Pickreign, Ackerman, Emmer**

**By-Laws – McCandless, Emmer, Jones, Wood**

**Ad hoc Committee on Labor – Bellardino, Lockrow, Reynolds**

**Stein – ex officio member on all committees**

**Chair – Stein**

**Vice-Chair – McCandless**

**Sec'y – Jones; Ass't Secretary, Kirsch**

**Treasurer – Emmer+**

**Parliamentarian - Ackerman**