

# *The New York State Democratic Rural Conference*

Bulletin # 4

January 2010

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## *Thoughts from our Chair...*

There were a number of successes as well as some disappointing results in our counties from last November's elections. It is very important to carefully analyze your returns;

- Breakdown the turnout, what was the turnout in terms of party affiliation in percentage terms vs. the Republicans?
- Look back at the campaigns, was there a plan, was it implemented – for example, to what extent did the planned door-to-door take place particularly in your priority districts? Was a good GOTV effort carried out and was the plan in place early enough to effectively carry it out?

The important thing is to find out what went wrong and improve wherever you can.

Remember, the DRC Board has members who can provide advice if you feel you need it.

Keep up the good work!

Irene

### 2010 CONVENTION

April 30 and May 1 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Niagara Falls, NY.

Information concerning room reservations, meals, etc. will be provided in the near future. It will be a very well-attended convention so make your arrangements early so that you don't get left out.

“If you snooze you lose!”

In addition to the Straw Poll we will continue to provide training at the Spring Meeting as these have proven to be extremely useful to many of our members in the past.

### NOVEMBER 2009 RESULTS

As Irene indicates in her message many of our counties did very well which is a good indicator that our over-all efforts are paying off.

Of special note, our own Executive Committee member, Sue Montgomery Corey, was elected Town Supervisor for Minerva in Essex County.

Do share your successes so we can spread the word.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

On Saturday, December 5, 2009 the Executive Committee met at the Onondaga County Democratic Headquarters in Syracuse. The bulk of the meeting involved planning for the upcoming 2010 Spring Meeting in Niagara Falls and in particular the Straw Poll that has been such an important event in New York State Democratic politics over the last several years.

Both U.S. Senate seats are up this year as are Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General and Comptroller. It appears increasingly likely that there may be primaries for some of these positions. Our by-laws prohibit us from making endorsements but the outcome of our Straw Poll has been very instructive in the past and an event that no prominent political figure is going to want to miss. So hang onto your hats, it may be a wild ride.

Any potential Democratic state-wide candidate may ask to be included in our proceedings. When things become a little clearer a letter will be sent out to announced candidates detailing our process and we will make available to them our questionnaire, the Convention Rules and the Straw Poll Rules. These will also be made available on our web site.

We will offer at least two dates for in person screenings conducted by the Executive Committee as close to the convention as possible with at least one of the session held as close to Albany as possible. Any member of the DRC may attend these. A small committee consisting of Irene Stein, Phil Jones, Ted Young and Bill Wood will work out the details of the screening process and the Straw Poll.

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## DRC Contact Info...

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

To subscribe to our list serve go to:

[NYSDemocraticRuralConference-subscribe@vahoogroups.com](mailto:NYSDemocraticRuralConference-subscribe@vahoogroups.com)

To Post a Message on List serve go to :

[NYSDemocraticRuralConference@vahoogroups.com](mailto:NYSDemocraticRuralConference@vahoogroups.com)

Meet us 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 ---- [iws2iws2@gmail.com](mailto:iws2iws2@gmail.com)

Don Ackerman, Bulletin Publisher --- [Bdonack@aol.com](mailto:Bdonack@aol.com)

Ian Brody, Web Master --- [ian.brody@ianbrody.com](mailto:ian.brody@ianbrody.com)

Bill Wood, Vice Chair ---- [Woodyspub2@yahoo.com](mailto:Woodyspub2@yahoo.com)

Cindy Emmer, Treasurer --- [cindy.emmer@yahoo.com](mailto:cindy.emmer@yahoo.com)

Phil Jones, Secretary --- [phildem@rochester.rr.com](mailto:phildem@rochester.rr.com)

## DRC Board Services...

### SPEAKERS Bureau:

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

Irene Stein, Bill Wood, Cindy Emmer 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

The \$10 dues for 2010 are due in January, checks need to be sent to Cindy Emmer, 858 Davis St., Elmira, NY 14901.

“Good politics make good government” Al Smith – (or perhaps it was Harry Truman or perhaps I said it, I’m not certain)

B. Donald Ackerman  
Public Communications and Media Liaison

## YDRC REJUVENATED

We are very pleased to announce that the New York State Young Democrats Rural Caucus has partnered with the Democratic Rural Conference to reestablish the Young Democratic Rural Conference. The YDRC will further the values and mission of the New York State Young Democrats by creating a forum for progressing an economically strong, environmentally clean, and socially progressive rural upstate New York. In November 2010 we have the opportunity to have a real majority in the New York State Senate. With the strength of the rural districts of New York we can make that opportunity a reality. We look forward to working with all of the rural counties to fulfill that goal!

For more information or to get involved with the YDRC please contact us at [President@greeneyoungdems.org](mailto:President@greeneyoungdems.org).

Democratically yours,  
John Cavanaugh and Amanda Boomhower  
Co-Chairs of the NYSYD Rural Caucus

## FACEBOOK

As many of you know, in our on-going efforts to make the general population more aware of the DRC we are now up on Facebook with over 300 Friends and counting. If you are not there, get there, and tell your friends.

Cindy Lockrow-Schimmerling has already been posting her Issues Committee information. Any of you who would like a special posting send it to me or to Chair Irene who has final say on any postings on our site.

A special thanks to Dave Fronk of Schenectady who set this up for us and is maintaining it.

## 2010 CONVENTION HOTEL

The 2010 DRC Conference will be held on April 30 and May 1 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 300 Third Street, Niagara Falls, NY 14303.