

# **LAPEER COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY**

P.O. Box 693 Lapeer, MI 48446 (810) 667-1790 [www.LapeerGOP.org](http://www.LapeerGOP.org)

LCRP Newsletter

Leading the Charge

February 2010

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## **LCRP Memberships and Lincoln Day Dinner!**

Memberships come in all shapes and sizes. If you are an executive committee member or officer, a precinct delegate, elected Republican official or an individual who paid for any level of membership, you are a member. This year, you will be able to purchase your membership (of any size) well before Lincoln Dinner on-line at [LapeerGOP.org](http://LapeerGOP.org)

A Presidential Membership \$125.00 per person and includes your Membership, VIP Reception and Dinner. A Lincoln Membership costs \$60.00 and includes Membership and Dinner. Sustaining memberships are \$35.00. Newsletter mailings are a part of the membership. There is also a \$5.00 party building membership available to those looking to become involved. Information on the \$5.00 membership is available on line.

Save the date: **April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010!**

Jan Peabody is our GOLD Committee Chair. (Good Old Lincoln Doers.)

Dinner price is \$50.00, and VIP reception is \$60.00. Student dinner \$25.00.....

a night of Republican Camaraderie...  
**PRICELESS!!!**

## **Dinner Continued...**

We are honored to announce that **political pundit Bill Ballenger**, of "Inside Michigan Politics" will be our Keynote Speaker. Our **Congresswoman Candice S. Miller** will be our Mistress of Ceremonies!

A change that has occurred is in the venue this year; Lincoln Dinner will be held at **Lapeer Country Club** and will take place on April 24, 2010. Register and pay on-line at [LapeerGOP.org](http://LapeerGOP.org) or mail your remittance, (form included).

## **New Officers**

We were sad to lose our past treasurer, Dan Frisch who resigned as he and his family relocated to another state. Jan Peabody threw her hat in and is our new LCRP Treasurer. We're glad to have Jan onboard!

Stephanie Tschirhart is our new LCRP Youth Chair. She has headed up events such as our Adopt-a-Highway program and LCRP's scholarship program committee. (LCRP Awards a \$500.00 scholarship to a graduating senior each year at Lincoln Dinner.) We're also happy to have Stephanie on our team.

## **2010 Republican Nominating Convention.**

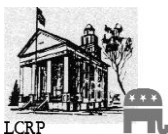
As I am sure many of you know, both the Republican and Democratic parties will be NOMINATING many state wide candidates after the August 3<sup>rd</sup> primary. Among these important nominations will be the offices of Secretary of State and Attorney General. These two seats are currently held by Republicans Terri Lynn Land and Mike Cox respectively.

## **Nominating Convention Continued...**

State Convention Delegates elected at county conventions will cast the deciding votes for these Republican Candidates, placing their names on the November General Election ballot. As usual, Republicans have more than one qualified candidate for each of these offices making OUR Republican Convention necessary. Just as usual the Democrats who exercise massive control over who will run, and who will not, have their hand-picked well funded candidates ready and waiting for the chance to start campaigning. For Republican Candidates the State nominating convention is a necessity, for Democrat Candidates, the convention is merely a formality. So much of a formality that the Democrats are considering an early "Endorsing" convention to be held in April of May prior to the nominating convention that must by law occur after the August Primary. If the Democrats manage to pull this off, their candidates will have seven months to campaign for the general election, while our candidates will have 60 days. We can't let that happen.

Please contact the Michigan State Republican Party or any of the seven Republican State Committee members (I am one) from your congressional district and insist that they vote to take whatever necessary steps are needed to assure Republican Candidates are not put at a disadvantage by Democrats side-stepping the Michigan State Election laws.

Randy St. Laurent, 10<sup>th</sup> Republican District Chairman.



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## **Web Site**

William Gavette is our Webmaster and he gives pretty selflessly to our cause.

When you want to know about your local party, the state of Michigan Republican party, important elections, pending bills, updates and contact information for your state elected officials, check on

[Lapeergop.org](http://Lapeergop.org). Bill does a fantastic job.

Our newsletter is now placed on the web site as well. If there is information you would like to submit, contact us at

[lapeergop@gmail.com](mailto:lapeergop@gmail.com). One important

page added to the website is the **NEW Community Information Page!**

“In these troubled times there are many helping hands available to anyone in need in Lapeer County. Please check out our community information page to see what good things are going on in Lapeer County.” If you have a helping hand to offer citizens in our county and would like us to post it, contact us through the web page or at [lapeergop@gmail.com](mailto:lapeergop@gmail.com).

## **Executive Committee Meetings**

Remember, all are welcome to attend our monthly meeting. Our Executive Committee meeting takes place every third Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm at Lapeer City Hall. We look forward to seeing you there! (Check the web site in case we change locations.)

## **Fairs and Booths**

Extra special thanks to the many volunteers who helped at the booths last summer. Some days were unusually cold, hot, windy or rainy and still volunteers and candidates came out to show their support for the Republican Party of Lapeer. We are also thankful to all of you who stopped by to show your support. Fairs and booths are an important part of what we do to build our party, and every volunteer is valuable.

## **Fairs and Booths Continued...**

This effort is critical to our election efforts. We need everyone's help for the 2010 season. It is fun and you do not have to be a political expert to enjoy a few hours talking to your friends and neighbors in Lapeer County on behalf of the Republican Party. We sure would be glad to see you this summer!

**Michelle O'Neal LCRP Chair.**

## **State and Local Candidates Candidates for State Senate 25<sup>th</sup> District**

### **Todd Courser: On the Campaign Trail!**

I have had a very exciting and enlightening campaign year and have enjoyed meeting so many wonderful people in both Lapeer and St Clair. This has been a week of reflection, a time to re-examine my resolve. My experiences have validated the heavy weight I have felt for our state. I keep hearing the same question, “If we don't have men who will stand for the people, what are we left with?”

My family and I have been blessed with many of the same troubles as so many in Michigan. We have also been blessed with an occupation that can at times, be more in demand than some other occupations, and for that I thank the Lord and His provision. I have witnessed firsthand those who have lost everything and I have had one conference after another over the last several years with those whose life savings and businesses have been swallowed up in the vortex of the current of the Michigan economy. I can honestly say these conferences, sometimes 10 or 15 a week, have changed my life. Many of these families I have known personally and some I have had as clients for a decade or more.

## **Courser Continued...**

This has been, at times, heartbreaking and humbling, to see prosperity turned to need in an instant. I have and continue to have a sense of urgency in my heart for those who have been swept away.

Our party has a big job ahead of it in recapturing the hearts and minds of those men and women who now need real hope and change to occur for them. I make the joke that I am a Constitutionalist dropped into the Republican Party. It's only partly true, I was a Democrat in early elementary school (I voted for Carter ☺), but then I was on to seeking everything that stands for freedom and liberty. The truth is that I am more at ease with the idea that we need our party founded on the bedrock of our country, not simply saying “back to the Constitution” to win an election but really working toward restoring the Heritage of our Fathers. There can be no compromise to our freedom and liberty. There can be no compromise to physical safety, economic liberty and educational freedom.

I have been energized by the desperation I have seen. I have been fueled by the weight that I feel for restoration and I will stand and continue to fight for a state that welcomes those who seek prosperity as well as provide opportunities for those who want to excel and grow to whatever their individual potential allows!

May God bless you and your family this New Year!

Todd A Courser  
Candidate for State Senate  
[todd@toddcourser.com](mailto:todd@toddcourser.com)

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## **Lauren Hager:**

One of the special privileges of being a State Senate candidate is meeting people at their homes and at various public events. Although people voice their concerns in different ways, a common thread always comes through: **WE DO NOT WANT OUR TAXES RAISED!** With a statewide unemployment rate hovering around the 15% mark and much higher in some areas of the 25th Senate District, people are hurting. What do you say to Dads and Moms who are out of work with little hope for finding employment on the horizon? They are saying that Lansing politicians must get along with what they have; cut the fat in government. Michigan families pay enough. We can't afford more. Fortunately, Michigan Senate Republicans have heard that message and have acted on it. I applaud their strong leadership in holding firm on no new taxes. In spite of strong pressure from various interest groups, they understand that Michigan's families cannot afford more.

In order for our economy to turn around, Michigan must become a business-friendly state. We must reduce our high taxes and eliminate burdensome regulations that discourage businesses from locating here. At the same time we must be sensitive to the financial needs of local units of government and public education.

We must address the concerns of our vulnerable citizens such as victims of child abuse and neglect and the elderly who lack the basic necessities of life.

Priorities must be set. It is a tough balancing act and requires strong leadership in Lansing. My Senate campaign is going well with numerous encouraging experiences.

## **Hager Continued...**

The Hager for Senate committee has hosted three highly successful events both in terms of attendance and contributions. It is gratifying to have many energetic volunteers coming aboard to be a part of this effort. To learn more about my candidacy and my views, I invite citizens to check out my blog at [www.laurenhager.com](http://www.laurenhager.com).

## **Phil Pavlov:**

Since announcing my candidacy for the Michigan State Senate at the Lapeer County Lincoln Day Dinner, I have worked very hard to get to know you and understand what issues are important to you and your family. It has been a great experience and I'm very thankful for the warm, inviting welcome I have received here in Lapeer County. My team and I, along with my two teenage children, have been very busy knocking on doors and marching in parades throughout all parts of the district. With the support from my family, especially that of my 19-year old daughter and my 16-year-old son, I am most humbled to continue on in this new adventure I am embarking on. The economic difficulties in our state and in our area are very serious. Those of us in Lansing need to make tough decisions and find creative solutions to our problems now if we are going to keep the jobs we have and bring in new jobs.

I mentioned in my dinner remarks that I will remain focused on my work in the Legislature and not put my desire to be a Senator ahead of my commitment to the people of Michigan, and that hasn't changed.

I want to continue to work in Lansing to make our area and this state a better place to live for you, for me, and our families.

## **Pavlov Continued...**

The future we all share will not be easy. If elected to the Michigan Senate, I will lead there just as I have led in the Michigan House of Representatives. I look forward to sharing my vision of Michigan with you very soon.

Phil Pavlov  
State Representative-District 81  
Candidate for State Senate-District 25  
Cell (810) 531-9735

## **Judge William Whitbeck Candidate for Michigan Court of Appeals**

Governor John Engler appointed Judge Whitbeck to the Michigan Court of Appeals in 1997. He has served with distinction on that Court for 12 years and has won re-election twice. For six years he was Chief Judge of the Court and helped to reduce delay in deciding cases at that Court by almost 40 percent. As an interesting sidelight, Judge Whitbeck's first novel, a work of legal fiction entitled *To Account for Murder*, will go on sale in November of 2010, so we will not only be able to vote for Judge Whitbeck, we can buy his book as well! You can contact Judge Whitbeck at [JudgeWhitbeck@AOL.com](mailto:JudgeWhitbeck@AOL.com) and you will be able to visit his website by mid-December.

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## **A Word From the Chair:**

It's not easy to get involved in politics, but it so important for us this year to meet the scope of our mission. The purpose of the Lapeer County Republican Party is to work for the election of nominees of the Republican Party, encourage increasing participation in the activities for he LCRP, its Congressional Districts, and the State of Michigan, and to educate and encourage Republicans to vote.

The elections taking place in 2010 will require that we continue to work and improve as a party.

In the last year we have rebuilt our website and have had a lot of success communicating in this manner. We also have the ability to send email blasts with updates from LCRP and the State Republican Party. If you are not on our e-blast list, please sign up at [LapeerGOP.org](http://LapeerGOP.org) or send us an email at [lapeergop@gmail.com](mailto:lapeergop@gmail.com). Because this communication is available, we are moving to reduce postage costs and communicate this newsletter via email and on the web site only. You might want to make sure we have your email contact information!

I hope you will all join us at this years Lincoln Dinner. However, if you are unable to attend, there are still so many opportunities to help maximize the effect of the LCRP. You could adopt a silent auction basket for Lincoln Dinner! Call for information on this unique idea by Greg Harper and Georgeann Courser for creating themed baskets for our silent auction. If you have an item you would like to donate, we will auction these items as always. Please remember no "corporate" donations.

Sponsorships for Lincoln Dinner come in several forms. Ads are available in our program, and this year we offer business card size ads.

## **Chair Continued...**

Desserts tables and other items are available for sponsorship, as well as the traditional GOLD and Silver cash sponsorships announced in the program. Again, call or email for details.

Another BIG thing you can do now is send in your application for Precinct Delegate in your precinct. If you do not have one you can get one from us or from our County Clerk's office, (Marlene Bruns) at the Lapeer County Courthouse. If you need more information about what a precinct delegate does, call or email and I'll be happy to help with information and literature. This is truly the grass-roots way to be involved. If you ever have questions, email or call at 810-667-1790.

I would like to thank everyone who attended our Christmas Party in December. Instead of a gift exchange, attendees donates cash to Operation Care Package who packs and send packages to our troops overseas. We raised \$210.00. Thank you for supporting our troops and thank you Operation Care Package for making it possible.

Finally, I would like to say that I truly hope you will join us for a wonderful and entertaining evening with fellow Republicans and great speakers. It has been an honor to serve as Chair of the LCRP for this past year, and I look forward to continuing in this capacity for some time.

Thank you for all you do!

**Best Regards, Michelle O'Neal  
LCRP Chair**

This newsletter is paid for with regulated funds by the Lapeer County Republican Party.

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