



MMN – Monday, March 29, 2010

Mission: The purpose of the Democratic Women's Caucus is to fund, inspire, recruit, support, and train progressive, pro-choice women to increase the numbers of women in the electoral process and in elected and appointed positions

Dear Nancy,

Thursday, March 29th

THE PO BOX:

DWPAC
P.O. Box 2373,
Bloomington, IN
47402

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Come to the breakfast this week! **Young Women & Boards, too!**
 - Reminder: Announcements due by no later than noon Thursday!!
 - It was a week to remember...beginning with Rise UP Women!
 - The week closed with the Indiana Federation of Democratic Women...
 - Can you help protect women's reproductive rights?
 - MCDP Candidate Forums on Tuesday and Wednesday this week!!!
 - Middle Way House Spring Luncheon is April 8 at 11:30am...
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ANOTHER GREAT BREAKFAST PROGRAM THIS FRIDAY, APRIL 2!

After an exciting DWCAucus week, last week (see below), it's already time for our next breakfast! This month we will focus on young women, including presentations from AnnElyse Gibbons, an active IU student whose political work and studies are already known, and Whitney Pierle, who is a constituent caseworker in Congressman Baron Hill's Bloomington office. Come listen to youthful wisdom!

We are also delighted to have Cathi Crabtree, the Chair of the Commission on the Status of Women, to brief us on the importance of the appointment of women to boards and commissions.

Get your monthly dose of enthusiasm from our DWCAucus women! See you at **7:30am** at the Village Deli!

PLEASE SEND BREAKFAST ANNOUNCEMENTS BY NOON THURSDAY!!

Do send any breakfast announcements to dwcannouncements@gmail.com by noon Thursday (absolute deadline!) so they can be printed and distributed at breakfast on Friday. Thank you!!

IT WAS AN EVENTFUL DWCAUCUS WEEK – FIRST...

We had a wonderful event on Tuesday last with our annual Women's History Month celebration, a dinner entitled **Rise UP Women**, with a speaker so dynamic, we are still talking about her! Kate Coyne-McCoy, who trained many of us in the EMILY's List Political Opportunity Program, electrified us with her down-to-earth but straight-up presentation about women running for office. We asked her to come back and do another POP training – and she said "yes"! The question of the night: Will YOU run for office?

Our chair, Regina Moore, also presented our endorsed candidates with checks – after all, Early Money Is Like Yeast – it makes the dough rise!

So many thanks are in order – the planning committee (Lu Cregar, Chair; Jane Bradley, Pam Davidson, Kimberly Glassman, Dorothy Granger, Pamela J.

Hensler, Jill Jolliff, Jillian Kinzie, Merridee LaMantia, Regina Moore, Lois Sabo-Skelton, and Janet C. Stavropoulos); in-kind donations from Jane Bradley, Julie Thomas, and Charlotte Zietlow; and our incredible list of sponsors: Regina Moore, Linda Robbins, Kristina and Jason Simmonds, Sam Allison, Lu Cregar, Shirley Fitzgibbons, Chris Gaal, Craig Harvey, Pamela Hensler, Indian Creek Team of Vicky Sorensen, Meri Reinhold, Amy Swain, and Andy Alexander, Iris Kiesling, Jill Lesh, Frank Motley, Cheryl Munson, Lois Sabo-Skelton, Susan Sandberg, Vi Simpson, Cathy Smith, Janet Stavropoulos, and Mike Szakaly. Whew! Thank you, one and all!!!!

THEN THERE WAS THE INDIANA FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S MEETING ON SATURDAY IN FISHERS, INDIANA...

Where our own Regina Moore spoke to the state gathering of women about our Caucus, and how we have donated almost \$30,000 to our women candidates since our inception! Dee Owens and Lu Cregar also attended the meeting, serving as a panel for the presentation. There were inspirational talks by a young woman who ran for office and didn't win (but she has heart – and should be at our Friday breakfast!), by a woman who helped turn her entire county from Republican to Democrat office holders, by a woman who broke her femur during her primary (against the County Chair!) but who won anyway, and by Marge Carmichael, a near-legend in our state, having served in about every capacity known in our Party, and who, having turned a mere 86 last week, is still involved in political leadership! (She said “When I'm cut, I bleed blue!”) We also heard some other candidates for office and from Cordelia Lewis, our state Party Vice Chair. (Here's a secret: Cordelia would like us to share our successes in the future with others in the state!).

Thanks to Vi Simpson, who recommended that we go in her place, to speak and interact at this inspiring event. Being introduced as “the largest women's caucus in the state” was rather heady – and we were proud to represent our membership! Thanks

PROTECTING REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS, RIGHT HERE IN B-TOWN...

Every Thursday, protesters flock to the Planned Parenthood clinic on South College to oppose women's abortion rights. When patients enter the clinic, protesters pray, hurl insults, and display (sometimes graphic) their signs. But patients also see friendly faces as they exit their vehicles: men and women in yellow vests - the clinic safety escorts. These volunteers are vital to the exercise of women's reproductive rights - but we need more volunteers! If you can spare 2-4 hours on Thursday mornings - even if you can only volunteer once every 1 - 2 months, we need your help! Please contact Deb Meador, the escort volunteer coordinator, at deborahmmeader@gmail.com for more information or to sign up to help! These women are counting on us to ensure their safety as they take this step in their lives – and we are counting on YOU to be there!

MCDP CANDIDATE FORUMS THIS WEEK!

This may be your last chance to see candidates, all in one place, before the Primary elections on May 2 (and early voting starts on April 5!!). The Monroe County Democratic Party is having 2 forums this week, both at **7pm in the Nat Hill 3rd** floor courtroom in the courthouse, and you won't want to miss them! Tuesday's forum includes candidates for state office, including Secretary of State, Auditor, and Treasurer, as well as local candidates for Assessor, Recorder, and Clerk. On Wednesday you will hear local candidates for Sheriff, Prosecutor, Council, and Commissioner. Come out and support our Democratic candidates, including endorsed women Cheryl Munson for County Council, District 2, and

Linda Robbins for Clerk!

**MIDDLE WAY HOUSE LUNCHEON AND SILENT AUCTION
COMING!**

Come to the Middle Way House event that is always so much fun – it will be held this year on April 8, with the silent auction starting at 11:30am and the lunch beginning at 12:15. It will be held at the First United Methodist Church, 219 E. 4th Street, in the Great Hall on the third floor. The cost is \$20; for reservations and more information, please contact Michelle Egidio at 333-7404 or write her at megidio@middlewayhouse.org. The featured speaker will be Dr. Linda Malkas, Professor of Medicine, Vera Bradley Chair of Oncology, and co-leader of IU's Cancer Center's Breast Cancer Program at the IU School of Medicine. See you all there!
