

The 2010 Caucus



Why Should I Attend my Caucus?

[Watch this video to find out!](#)

The 2010 Iowa Precinct Caucuses will be held Saturday, January 23rd at 1:00pm. For the first time, the meetings will be held Saturday afternoon to allow greater access and participation.

The precinct level is the best place for Iowans to get involved in the political process and key decisions will be made during this year's meetings.

The caucuses bring the community together to discuss relevant issues facing our neighborhoods, county and state as a whole. The meetings also formally advance the issues which will become part of the Iowa Democratic Party platform.

Local precinct representatives are also elected at the caucus.

For Polk County, the Democratic Precinct Caucuses will be held at 27 locations.

Polk County residents, college students and youth are encouraged to attend and participate. Same-day voter registration is available at the door. Young adults may not be counted for voting purposes unless they turn 18 years old before the date of the General Election, November 2, 2010.

2010 Precinct Caucuses
Saturday, January 23—1:00pm

[Caucus Locations](#)

[Des Moines Precincts 1-52](#)

[Des Moines Precincts 53-102](#)

[Urbandale, West Des Moines and Windsor Heights](#)

[All other Polk County Locations](#)

[Don't know your precinct? Use the Caucus Finder!](#)

The 2009 Jefferson Jackson Dinner

By Kathleen O'Leary

The Jefferson Jackson Dinner was on November 21, 2009 at HyVee Hall, in Des Moines with nearly 1,500 people attending. The Party was honored to have the Vice President of the United States, Joe Biden, as the speaker at the event.

Vice President Biden was delayed due to last minute phone calls to Senate Democrats ensuring a victorious vote on the Senate Health Care Reform Bill in memory of Senator Edward Kennedy.

Mr. Biden, as always, gave an eloquent speech. The Vice President pointed out the economic challenges the Obama Biden Administration inherited upon their inauguration. Biden spoke about the "radical change" that he says is needed in a variety of fronts if the US is to "lead the world" in the new century.

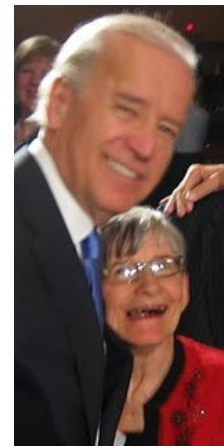
Emphasis was on President Obama's never wavering resolution to do what is right for the United States and the World, so ours should be the same and "stick with him".

Governor Chester Culver named some accomplishments made over the last three years including the recovery from the 2008 flood; raising the minimum wage and renovation of the Veterans Home --- all without raising taxes. Culver said people are still struggling. Culver states he is ready for the campaign. Lieutenant Governor Patty Judge added laughter to the evening and talked about the book that she, as opposed to Sarah Palin, is going to write with a "really catchy" title, like "Going to Des Moines". Some chapters' titles were jabs at Republican Gubernatorial candidates.

This year's event had some different and exciting features. The venue was a perfect setting for candidates for the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate to announce their candidacies and messages. Bill Maske of Truro had a booth to promote his running for the U.S. Congress from the 4th District against U.S. Representative Tom Latham.

Des Moines attorney Roxanne Conlin, who had recently announced her candidacy for the U.S. Senate, hosted a well attended pre-event reception where she gave an inspirational speech and introduced her family.

Another new feature was post-event Party, a wonderful relaxing venue of talking with friends. At this Party, there was a mini forum of those running for Chuck Grassley's seat, Tom Fiegen of Clarence, Bob Krause of Fairfield and Roxanne Conlin of Des Moines --- quite interesting as was the whole evening.



Questions? Comments? Submissions? E-mail polkdems@gmail.com or call 515-285-1800

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U.S. Senate Candidates



Roxanne Conlin has spent her life standing up to special interests and fighting for Iowans. Roxanne has experienced many of the hardships families face, as her family lived paycheck to paycheck, moving from town to town in search of work. Roxanne went to work at the age of 14 to help her family pay the bills.

At the age of 16, Roxanne entered Drake University – taking on extra classes while holding down several jobs at the same time. Roxanne finished her undergraduate studies at age 19 and graduated from Drake Law School at just 21 years old. As an Assistant Attorney General for Iowa, Roxanne fought public corruption and wrote the first law of its kind protecting rape victims. Then, as the United States Attorney for the Southern District of Iowa, she worked hand in hand with law enforcement – leading major drug busts and cracking down on violent crime.

For more than 25 years, Roxanne has owned and managed a small law firm in Iowa. Her firm is dedicated to representing everyday people who do not have a voice. She has never worked for a single corporate interest. Instead, Roxanne has chosen to fight for family farmers squeezed by big banks, police officers wronged by the system, and workers hurt by large companies.

Liberally Seasoned

A special thank you to Nick Manna who submitted the name

We want your recipes!

1. All submissions need to be in word document format. 2003 or compatible.
2. Please include if possible a picture of the dish or yourself.
3. Include your full name and precinct if you know it
4. A paragraph about the dish, why you like it or why it is special to you
5. All recipes must be original recipes.
6. Categories: salads, appetizers, main dishes, vegetarian, desserts and drinks
7. Entries must be received by January 31, 2010.

We plan to have final copies available at the 2010 Polk County Convention

With each new milestone – serving as United States Attorney in Iowa, earning the Democratic nomination for Governor of Iowa, being elected as the first woman President of the American Association of Justice, and selected as one of the first women in the Inner Circle of Advocates – Roxanne leaves behind a trail of shattered glass. Through it all, she still sees the world through the eyes of the courageous, everyday Iowan who refuses to give up in the face of overwhelming odds.

Roxanne lives in Des Moines with her husband of 45 years, James. They are most proud of their four adult children and five grandchildren.

Tom Feigen is the oldest of eleven children raised on a family farm in near the Iowa border in South Dakota. The farm taught him valuable lessons on life including the value of job well done and persistence.



Every year Tom returns to his family home to help with the annual harvest.

Tom tried farming while attending college while also forming a grain bin construction company. From there he went on to an ethanol fuels company and then to the Minneapolis Board of Trade.

Returning to school in the 1980's, Tom earned his law and master's degrees from the University of Iowa. He taught Economics classes in order to support himself through school. During that time he also volunteered with the first FarmAid clinic, helping fellow family farmers.

In 2000, Tom began his political career, winning an Iowa Senate seat held for over 17 years. After losing the seat in a redistricting election, Tom returned to his law practice. Tom lives in Clarence, Iowa and has four grown children.



Bob Krause is one of the youngest Iowans to serve in the Iowa General Assembly, and has spent his entire career to date serving his community, his state and his country.

Currently the Chair of the Iowa Democratic Veterans Caucus (IDVC), Bob has worked hard in recent years to bring important veterans' issues to the forefront.

Bob worked his way through college at the University of Iowa graduating in 1972 with a B.A. degree in political science.

Bob was elected to the Iowa General Assembly right before his 22nd birthday. He was also commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Army Reserve and served six years in the Iowa House of Representatives.

The Des Moines Register in 1978 honored him as one of the "Top 10 Most Effective Iowa Legislators."

After leaving the House, Bob became Regional Representative for the Secretary of Transportation under the Carter Administration.

After the Carter administration, Bob taught in the business school at Iowa State University then joined the staff of the Council of State Governments, the national association for state government officials.

Bob serves in the Iowa Department of Transportation. In 2008, he completed 20 years of state government service.

Currently a Lieutenant Colonel in the inactive component of the U.S. Army Reserve, he completed 28 years of commissioned service in 2001 and is a recipient of the Meritorious Service Medal.

He is a past member of the Waterloo School Board. Bob is also a member of Fellowship of the Holy Spirit in Fairfield, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the American Legion. Bob and his wife, Vicky, make their home in Fairfield.