

Campbell County Democratic Party

Real Values for Real People

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Newsletter

May 2010

Executive Committee Board

Chair Sue Orth, Vice Chair Jim Cole, Secretary Carol Rich, Treasurer Jack Fischer, Elissa May Plattner, Ken Rankle, Pam Mader, Tom Guidugli, Jr., Diana Darnell, John Hayden, Linda Klembara, Michael Klembara, Ada Schwartz, Al Pinelo, Kathy Pinelo, Mike Dutle, Sue Teegarden, Paul Whalen, Linda Nesbitt and Tom Wiethorn.
Ex-officio Members: Laurie Dowell and Greg Meyers.

Hello Campbell County Democrats.

This newsletter will be electronically sent to all Democrats.
To publish news, fundraiser information or to suggest something of interest with fellow Democrats please forward to dianadarnell@zoomtown.com by the 25th of the month.

News

This is a letter from American Rights at Work on the terrible mining accident in West Virginia that we thought you may find very interesting.

In a horrific tragedy, 29 miners were killed this month in a mining accident in West Virginia.

Without missing a beat, Rush Limbaugh hit the airwaves, spewing bald-faced lies. Get this: **Rush is claiming that the mine was operated by union workers and that "the union" bears responsibility for what happened!**¹ Here's what he said:

"Was there no union responsibility for improving mine safety? Where was the union here? Where was the union? The union is generally holding these companies up demanding all kinds of safety. Why were these miners continuing to work in what apparently was an unsafe atmosphere?"

The tragic truth? **There wasn't a union at the Upper Big Branch Mine where the tragedy occurred...**²

Why not? Because the CEO of Massey Energy, Don Blankenship, exploited our broken labor laws and repeatedly sabotaged his employees' efforts to form a union.

If Blankenship had allowed his employees to form a union, this tragedy might have been prevented. Unions provide safer working environments. And there's a way you can help make sure more workers have unions looking out for them: **Tell your Senators to pass the Employee Free Choice Act!**

So why are unions critical to making mines safer? Union miners can refuse unsafe work and fight for better conditions. Non-union miners, including the miners at Upper Big Branch, can't do those things without fear of being fired.

These miners deserved a union. And they tried to join one *three times*. SEVENTY percent of Massey's miners signed cards saying they wanted to vote for a union. But the workers never succeeded in getting their union. Thanks to our broken labor laws, Don Blankenship was able to get away with threatening his workers. He told them he would close down the mine if they voted for a union.³

We can't let CEO's like Blankenship continue to get away with this kind of dangerous intimidation and continue to risk lives. And that's why we won't stop fighting to fix our broken labor laws, no matter how long it takes.

[Tell your Senators: Pass the Employee Free Choice Act and help prevent tragedies like the one at the Upper Big Branch Mine.](#)

Earlier this year, corporate interests knew how close we were to passing the Employee Free Choice Act. They poured millions of lobbying dollars into trying to defeat the bill. And because of that, momentum has slowed. But our fight isn't over. Not by a long shot!

If we want worker safety in mining and other industries, we need to give people the right to join a union without interference! As long as CEOs like Don Blankenship prevent workers from standing up for themselves through a union, companies can get away with ignoring their safety and well-being.

Together, we can change that.

Sincerely,

American Rights at Work team

Campaign Updates and Fundraisers

The Julie Smith-Morrow campaign for the Kentucky Senate District 24 (Campbell and Pendleton Counties) needs volunteers for summer campaign activities. Join us on the campaign trail for parades and festivals. Sign up today at www.electjulie.com.

Join our Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100000760146226&ref=ts>

Julie Smith-Morrow fundraiser hosted by Al and Kathy Pinelo is May 7th from 5:00 to 7:00 at 5 Major Ct. in Wilder.

A Daniel Mongiardo fundraiser will be Monday, May 10th from 5:00 to 6:30 at 213 Prather Ct. in Ft. Mitchell.

Events

The Executive Committee will be organizing Memorial Day parades. If you would like to walk or ride for our party contact Sue at 781-3881 or email her at orth@insightbb.com.

The Executive Committee along with Change for Campbell County will have their annual Memorial Day service at Evergreen Cemetery on Thursday, May 27th at 7:00

p.m. at the Soldiers Field area. There will be a service, bagpipes and speakers. If you have not attended this service before please try to attend. It is very moving.

The Kenton County Democratic Woman's Club Jackson Day Dinner is May 12th at Twin Oaks Golf Course. Rep. Robin Webb is the speaker. For reservations email Virginia at vjohnson14769@yahoo.com

Grant Count Democratic Party will host a performance of "Mark Twain an Impersonation" performed by Lewis Hankins, at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, May 7th and May 14th at the Grant County Park in Crittenden. Cost is \$10.00. For tickets call Bill Adkins at 394-4312. This is a fundraiser for the Grant County Democratic Party. Mr. Hankins has performed across the United States and I am told this will be a very enjoyable evening.

Congratulations

There has been a leadership change in the NKU College Democrats. The new president is Devon Skeens. The Campbell County Democratic Party welcomes you!

Meetings

Campbell County Democratic Executive Committee meets the 4th Wednesday of the month at the Southgate Community Building at 7:00 p.m. The public is invited to attend and encouraged to ask questions. For information call 859-781-3771 or orth@insightbb.com.

Campbell County Democratic Woman's Club meets the first Thursday of the month at different locations in the county. Location for Thursday, May 6th will be Donatos Pizza on 6th Street, Newport at 6:00 p.m. Guest speaker will be Campbell County Jailer Greg Buckler. For information call 859-322-1333 or dianadarnell@zoomtown.com.

Campbell County Men's Club meets the 3rd Monday of the month at different locations in the county. Their May 17th meeting will be at Duck Creek County Club at Rt. 1998 and Rt. 8 starting at 7:30 p.m. For information email to gchinn2@yahoo.com.

Change for Campbell County meets the 1st Tuesday of the month at Perkins, Highland Heights at 7:00 p.m. For information call 859-750-4439 or lnesbitt@insightbb.com.

Women's Network of Northern Kentucky meets the second Saturday of the month, alternating between the Syndicate in Newport and Chez Nora in Covington. Meetings start at 11:30 a.m. Next meeting is June 12th at Chez Nora. For information call 859-441-0825 or lklembara@fuse.net