

### REPUBLICAN PARTY OF PIERCE COUNTY MEMBERSHIP

Most Wisconsinites don't realize that county party work is strictly volunteer. None of us is reimbursed for the hundreds of hours donated to education, promotion, administration, and election efforts. Our popular Pierce County Fair booth and fall picnic are just two of those efforts.

Your 2022-2023 membership dues and contributions helped to pay for our storage unit, promotional materials, headquarters and Victory Center in River Falls, special events, and contributions to Republican Candidates.

To spread RPPC's support across local, county, state, and national candidates who 1) oppose government funding of abortion and more reliance on government subsidies in all areas of life, and 2) who support individual freedoms and public education transparency, we need your continuing support.

A membership renewal keeps you eligible to receive our party newsletter, receive notices of special events including candidate meet and greets, get political swag and materials, and attend our county, district, and state party caucuses.

\* If you want to be a delegate voting to endorse the extremely important candidates at those caucuses, you must renew by January 1, 2023, 30-days prior to the county caucus, and be a member in good standing as defined in the Constitution of the Republican Party of Pierce County (which includes volunteer hours with the county party or a republican endorsed candidate).

We look forward to your renewal and support for 2023, to help return our state, county, and school boards, to the land of constitutional freedoms, rights, opportunities, justice, and rule of law.

Please include an accurate email address with your membership form so you can receive timely information. We currently use Nationbuilder for our communications. Please include <a href="mailto:info@pierce.emailnb.com">info@pierce.emailnb.com</a> in your safe contacts.

Membership application included in this mailing.

#### HIGHLIGHTS:

#### RPPC VICTORY CENTER

For the first time in our history the Republican Party of Pierce County acquired shared funding from the Republican Party of Wisconsin (RPW) to open a Victory Center. Its size and location on Main Street in River Falls allowed us to hold campaign events, easily and successfully distribute campaign signs and literature, and promote our party's purpose. Volunteers kept the center open so that other volunteers could focus on voter contacts. However, that public presence ended after the midterms.

Keeping an inviting Victory Center open all year will take a massive fundraising effort. Rent on Main Street in River Falls is anywhere from \$1,500 - \$2,700 per month. RPW negotiated an agreement with a landlord allowing RPPC to pay \$200/month with RPW paying the balance + utilities and internet. This arrangement is unusual, but RPPC's Executive Committee





received assistance from Senator Ron Johnson's team, through RPW, to provide a prominent Victory Center for the 2022 election cycle.

Our presence on Main Street also brought in voters unfamiliar with how RPPC operates as an all-volunteer organization and to talk politics. We think that this helped push some RED votes as residents dealt with the year's redistricting.

## That Red Wave That Wasn't

It's hard to get past the disappointment of Democrat wins across the country when predictions of overwhelming success for Republican candidates should have materialized. But Wisconsin outcomes could have been far worse. We didn't turn totally blue like our neighbor to the west.

## **ELECTION ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- Wisconsin Republicans increased their margins in the House and State Senate. Three state Assembly seats will move into the Republican column.
- Though state Senate District 31's seat is still filled by Jeff Smith, Republican challenger **Dave Estenson** ran an amazing race for a political newcomer. To take out an incumbent is TOUGH and Dave came so close! He won Pierce County by 1,938 votes. We hope to see him run again in 4 years.
- Attorney **Jon Leiber** won state Treasurer, defying all the other Constitutional State races and defeating the Democrat on the ballot! This was an open seat.
- Assemblymen Warren Petryk and Shannon Zimmerman crushed their Democrat opponents, Zimmerman with 58% of the vote and Petryk with 59.8%
- U.S Senator **Ron Johnson** heads back to DC! His was one of the biggest Democrat target races in the country! If he had lost, Dems would have a 51-49 senate majority.
- U.S. Congressional District 3 is finally back in Republican hands.! **Derrick Van Orden is going to DC**! Few people campaigned with the heart and fortitude of this man, a true fighter for conservative values!
- Other Assembly wins from Western Wisconsin: **Gae Magnifici** won with 62.5%; **Clint Moses** won with 65.2%; **Tony Kurtz** 65.8%; **Treig Proschinski** 63.4%.
- To our north, in the 7<sup>th</sup> U.S. Senate District, incumbent Tom Tiffany was re-elected. State senator-elect Romaine Quinn and state Assembly newcomers Chanz Green and Angie Sapik will head to Madison in January. John Righeimer, Northern WI Grassroots Activist, writes "Three legislature seats in Northwest Wisconsin flipped to Republican. These seats were held by Democrats for almost 40 years." RPPC will be picking his brain about their best practices.

#### **COMMENTARY**

Our friend, Annette Olson summed up our regional wins nicely: "Congratulations to Gae Magnafici, Clint P. Moses, Warren Petryk, and Shannon Zimmerman for winning your re-elections very handily ....You earned the confidence of the people you serve since your margins of victory ranged from 17% to 30.4% in your re-election bids. You don't just serve in a photo op. You work to improve the lives of us in western Wisconsin."

Pierce County went Republican in all the races. The only municipality wards won by Democrats were our City of River Falls, wards 6-18. BUT they were all in the acceptable margins and we will continue to work to make bigger dents each cycle.

Well done Pierce County volunteers, voters, and candidates!





**Statewide**, all Republican incumbents won their races as did Republican candidates for all open seats.

**Nationally**, Republicans are expected to take the House when all ballots are recorded. The importance of this is monumental, allowing us to control spending, legislation content, committee leadership, and who becomes House Speaker.

Republicans WON the national popular vote by 5-6 million! Republicans drove up the votes in Florida and other solidly red states.

The Alaska U.S. Senate Race is still being tabulated between two Republicans, Lisa Murkowski and the more conservative Kelly Tshibaka. Another example of why ranked voting is a VERY bad idea and we need to fight it from being implemented in Wisconsin and elsewhere.

# **Examining Election Losses**

There will be time to fully dissect the issues affecting the **Tim Michels/Roger Roth gubernatorial race.** Michels underperformed Sen. Ron Johnson by 69,000 votes statewide and 535 votes in Pierce County.

**Abortion** issue mattered voters in WI and across the country more than expected. Exit polls showed abortion and the economy were the greatest of voter concerns. Those with abortion "rights" in their top two issues voted Democrat.

**Money** was big for Democrat groups. The Governor's race was the most expensive in Wisconsin history. Democrat MILLIONS poured into the U.S. Senate race before Ron Johnson announced he was running!

### **OUR CONCLUSIONS**

It's clear that 45% (or more) of the population is entrenched in their parties of choice in certain areas. Republicans have to appeal to the unaffiliated 10% that cares about candidate histories, policies and personalities. Good candidates have better opportunities to win but a first-time campaign ending in loss could be the necessary "getting to know you" time for a second run. We all wonder how bad it must get before Democrat voters stop voting for Democrats. The Biden and Fetterman wins, as well as loosening, rather than tightening voting regulations, illustrate that nothing is more important to them than power. Ron Johnson reminds us of, "Venezuela voting themselves into poverty." The US could head that direction if we can't figure out how to sell our message to the undecideds and get them to the polls.

We must focus on defeating Democrats pushing destructive policies, and support conservatives even when we don't agree with them 100%. Internal party division is a prescription for failure.

Stephanie Brown, Chair Ruth Gredvig, Vice Chair/Social Media Committee Chair

Crystal Mooney, Secretary Carrie Falkofske, Treasurer

**Ken Peterson**, Parliamentarian/Social Media Committee Chair

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