

March 2006

Volume 2, Issue 2

# GETTYSBURG AREA DEMOCRACY FOR AMERICA

## Iraq Task Force

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Last Wednesdays  
Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> and Mar. 29<sup>th</sup>  
7 - 8:30 PM, Ragged Edge

## Environmental Task Force

...

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 7 PM,  
Ragged Edge

...

1<sup>st</sup> Friday, 6 PM,  
Appalachian Brewing Co.

## PA Watchdog Task Force

...

Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup>  
7 - 8:30 PM, Ragged Edge

## Marching toward

The Republicans are having a bad week: the Katrina Failures report, the publication of photos of George Bush and Jack Abramoff, Dick Cheney's shooting accident, to mention a few. And things don't look so good for Republicans locally either. Steve Maitland has five announced candidates vying for his seat in the PA Legislature, and three of them have been associated with Gettysburg Area DFA in some way.

At least 35 people from our own DFA have decided to run for Democratic Committee, and they are helping to gather signatures for legislative and congressional candidates. We are on the verge of changing the political landscape in Adams County, and YOU are helping us make history. Don't forget to come to the candidate forum at our Meetup on March 1 and see many of these candidates in person, including Phil Avillo, Patrick Naugle, Patrick Quinn, Alan Henry, Bill Panebaker, and Roger Lund (biographies appear on page 3).

Not only are we gathering momentum locally, we are also getting organized at the statewide level (see below). If all the other PA for Democracy groups get as active as we are, the Republicans in Pennsylvania will have more than a bad week – they will have a bad year – and we will make real strides in our goal of taking back our country!

Elaine Jones, Chair

## To Charter or Not to Charter, This is the Question

On Saturday, February 11, ten Pennsylvania groups associated with Democracy for America met by conference call and agreed upon a state charter for PA for Democracy. Gettysburg Area DFA was represented by Elaine Jones and Roger Lund. The purposes of the state organization are (1) mutual assistance and support through the sharing of information, skills, and other resources, (2) coordinating action and providing a collective voice in addressing statewide issues, projects and strategies, and (3) providing a vehicle for working together in alliance with other PA organizations in matters of mutual concern.

So should we formally join as a charter member of the new PA for Democracy, whose mission is very close to our own? Specifically the state group seeks to promote the progressive values of social and economic justice, sound fiscal policy, environmental stewardship and international good will, by encouraging and enabling Pennsylvania's progressives

- To run for political office at all levels of government,
- To support and volunteer in the similar candidacies of other progressives, and
- To promote progressive values and policies through community grassroots action.

There are no plans for PA for Democracy to become a formal PAC or to require dues for membership. As soon as ten groups opt in as members of PA for Democracy, it will be possible to adopt official positions on political issues, enter into alliances with other political groups, and endorse political candidates as a state-wide organization. The Gettysburg Area DFA Steering Committee will consider this matter at its meeting on March 15.

# Expanded Guidelines for Effective Task Forces

--approved, Steering Committee, 2/15/2006

Task Forces are the workhorses of the Gettysburg DFA. Since we cannot work on all important issues, we seek motivated members to recruit and lead a group of interested people to develop campaigns to address current concerns. We rely on proposals to the overall group to take clear positions on issues, magnify our voice to the public, and lobby for effective policies on progressive issues at the local, state, and national level. Chairs of task forces sit on our Steering Committee.

Another important function of task forces is to provide solid information on particular topics for use by progressive local candidates as well as DFA campaigns. Backgrounders on relevant issues could be put on [www.GettysburgAreaDFA.org](http://www.GettysburgAreaDFA.org) for progressives to use in campaigns, letters to the editor, and lobbying.

Task Forces are not separate organizations, but are the action arms of our DFA. While they operate independently in many respects, they should seek the support of the overall group or the Steering Committee before taking public stands, issuing press releases, or signing on to national campaigns. If such support is not forthcoming, then actions of the group should be seen as that of concerned individuals, not as the task force. The impetus for the start of a new Task Force may come from the Steering Committee, or from individuals who make their interest known to the larger group.

Once you decide on a Task Force focus ....

## 1. Get Organized

- Recruit new members
- Schedule first meeting and invite members (cc Elaine [elainelynchjones@gmail.com](mailto:elainelynchjones@gmail.com) )
- Select chair, recorder
- Discuss possibilities for long-term goal or campaign
- Assign research tasks to help you decide on your goal

## 2. Get Started!

- Ask members to present ideas and research on topic, activities
- Decide primary campaign goals and secondary activities
- Test feasibility of campaign options
- Write description of what you want to accomplish, and how you will do it

## 3. Work with Steering Committee

- Present campaign plans
- Ask Steering Committee to endorse campaigns, and promote to membership
- Try to come to consensus on position papers, campaign goals

## 4. Implement Campaign

- Develop strategies for accomplishing your goal
- Choose primary actions, such as letters to editor, letters to Congress, lobby visits to Congress, educational forum or speaker at the monthly meet-up, local actions
- Plan meeting schedule, benchmarks for achieving goals

## 5. Report to Membership

- Provide information for web site, newsletter
- Recruit volunteers to carry out strategies
- Use association with Gettysburg DFA to promote actions, educate the community

## \* National Groups Laud Environmental \* \* Task Force Achievements \*



**Dear Gettysburg Area Environmental Task Force,**

On behalf of the Alaska Coalition and the Alaska Wilderness League, we want to thank all of you for your incredible work over the past several months. You did an amazing job of educating your community through various demonstrations and house parties. Your persistent phone calls, emails and meetings with your members of Congress, sent the clear message that the residents of Gettysburg care deeply about the Arctic Refuge. Your organization's steadfast dedication and commitment to protecting the Arctic Refuge is an inspiration to all of us! Your support has played a critical role in the success of our campaign.

Thank you for everything you have done ...

Erik DuMont

National Field Director

Alaska Wilderness League

Shoren Brown

National Outreach Director

Alaska Coalition



**Phil Avillo** (candidate for US Congress, 19<sup>th</sup> District, seat held by T. Platts) is a member of the history faculty at York College, where he teaches American history and Civil War courses. He is married to Linda, a former Navy nurse. They have three grown children, Andrew, Stephen, and Susan. And twin grandsons! Phil enlisted in the US Marines at age 17, and served as a Marine officer from 1964–66. During a tour in Vietnam, he was awarded the Purple Heart after sustaining serious wounds. Following the Marines, he obtained a doctorate in history from the Univ. of Arizona, and has been active in the York community since his arrival in 1975. He was elected for three terms to the York Suburban School Board, serving seven of

them as President. For over a dozen years, he coached youth baseball, basketball, and soccer, demonstrating ability and perseverance to young people despite the loss of a leg in Vietnam. He has served on the Boards of the York Symphony and the York Suburban Dollars for Scholars program. At York College, he has been President of the Academic Senate, was twice selected by students to deliver the Winter Commencement address, and has been Teacher of the Year.

**Patrick L. Naugle** (candidate for State Representative, 91<sup>st</sup> District, seat held by S. Maitland) grew up in neighboring Cumberland County. After graduating from Big Spring High School, he received an Electrical Engineering degree from Lafayette College in 1970 and an MBA from Widener University in 1982. He retired in 1998 from Philadelphia Electric Company after a 28-year career where he advanced to Plant Manager of the Conowingo and Muddy Run Hydroelectric Stations. He currently teaches economics and finance as an adjunct faculty member at Eastern University. Since retirement, Patrick has focused his efforts on water resources and conservation and land use issues. He is past president of the Watershed Alliance of Adams County, Secretary of the Capital Resource Conservation and Development Council, Associate Director for the Adams County Conservation District, and a volunteer for the Environmental Alliance for Senior Involvement. He was appointed by Governor Rendell to serve on the Potomac River Basin Water Resources Committee. His interests include hunting, fishing and bicycling. In 2004, Patrick and his wife Susan bicycled 4,000 miles across the US.

**Patrick Quinn** (candidate for State Representative, 91<sup>st</sup> District, seat held by S. Maitland), is an attorney with the firm Wolfe and Rice. He resides in Gettysburg.

**Alan Henry**, 47, (candidate for State Representative, 91<sup>st</sup> District, seat held by S. Maitland) lives in Arendtsville with his wife, Marie. They have five grown children. Alan was the youngest President at the I.U.E. local 140 at age 25, going on to serve four consecutive terms. At the I.U.E., he negotiated the benefits of hundreds of shop employees. In 1994, Alan joined the Cashtown Community Volunteer Fire Department, where he has served one term each as E.M.S. Lieutenant and E.M.S. Captain, two terms as Fire Captain, one term as Assistant Chief and three terms as Vice President. Alan was a top five responder 1999–2004, and won the Harold E. Miller Award in 2003 for outstanding service to the department and the community.

**Bill Panebaker**, 47, (candidate for State Representative, 193<sup>rd</sup> District, seat held by S. Nickol) resides in Penn Township, York County, with his wife Shelli. Their adult son, Will, lives in Dover. Bill is a forklift operator at ESAB Welding and Cutting, where he has been employed for 27 years. Bill is a member of UAW Local 1968 where he has been a shop steward for the last 12 years, and has also served as Local Union Vice President for two terms and Recording Secretary for a single term. He is the current Local Union CAP (Community Action Program) Chairperson. Regionally, he has served as Recording Secretary and is the current Recording/Financial Secretary of the South Central Pennsylvania UAW CAP Council. On the state level, he has served as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and is the current Recording Secretary of the Pennsylvania State CAP Council. Bill's accomplishments as a union leader include higher wages, safer working conditions, and good quality health care for his fellow workers and their families. Bill is also past President and current Trustee of the Hanover Area Democratic Club. He has served in various capacities on the Democratic Party of York County's Executive Committee and was appointed to serve on the Pennsylvania Democratic State Committee. Bill was the recipient of the 2005 S.A. Bentzel "Democrat of the Year" award.

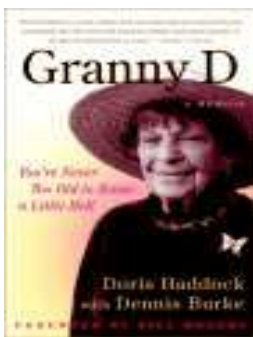
**Roger Lund** (candidate for State Democratic Representative) is the owner of The Christmas Haus in New Oxford. He holds a degree in sociology from the University of Maryland, and previously owned another retail store in Kensington, MD. In 2002, Roger and his partner Bill Patterson relocated to Adams County, where Roger is a member of the Board of Directors of the New Oxford Area Chamber of Commerce. A native of Tonawanda, NY, Roger's first political involvement was with the campaign of NY Senator Bella Abzug in 1974. More recently, as a member of the Adams County Democratic Committee, he has been instrumental in helping to revitalize the party in Adams County. He was Founder and Chair of Dean for America (Gettysburg), worked on the John Kerry campaign, and currently serves as Vice-chair of Gettysburg Area DFA. In addition to his own campaign for State Democratic Committee Representative, Roger is managing the Adams County effort for Congressional candidate Phil Avillo.

## My Journey through a Storm of Weather and Protest

--Lou Hammann

Just before we left for D.C. on Saturday, February 4, I checked a weather report: THUNDERSTORMS. The five of us (Sue Bumbaugh, Carol Brown, Sherrill Brown, my wife Patricia and myself) went anyhow.

The occasion was a demonstration staged by "World Can't Wait," a movement calling for the impeachment of the President. Their motto: "Bush Step Down." We joined the rally just west of the Washington Monument about 11:00 a.m. Within a half hour the rain came—with a vengeance, and it poured for the next four hours. But we stayed until most of the speeches were finished.



Book Cover: "Granny D: You're Never Too Old to Raise a Little Hell"

For us, our soggy persistence was rewarded by the speech from long-time activist, and campaign-finance reform advocate, Doris "Granny D" Haddock. At 96 years, she is still a formidable presence on the platform.

I quote from Granny D's address:

*"Soon we will all march to the White House to give physical witness to our concern that America's values lay in tatters as a result of Mr. Bush's sociopathic behavior. I am here this morning to tell the members of Congress that, although we march to the White House now, our hopes and*

*hearts and expectations look backward down this street to Congress..... Citizens, if you agree with the necessity of these words, shout, "Save the Republic!" three times, loud and clear so they might hear us on both ends of this street of ours."*

Before we slogged back to the Metro station, three of us had an opportunity to talk with Doris. Our hair and clothes were already thoroughly drenched. But it was a good day!



At the Washington rally, a father speaks about the loss of his son, Juan Torres, in Iraq

### Are you a Hands-On Techie?

We need someone to organize logistics and help set up the room at the Seminary for the monthly meeting. Facility with the sound system and operating audio-visual equipment is necessary. If you're a hands-on techie who's been itching for a role, give Elaine Jones a call (677-9442) [elainelynchjones@gmail.com](mailto:elainelynchjones@gmail.com).

## Record Profits at Exxon

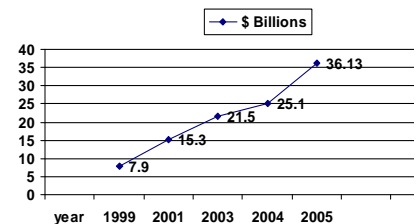
--Sue Bumbaugh

*"I think that basically the price is determined by the marketplace and that's the way it should be"*  
-George W. Bush

Bush's 2005 energy bill H.R.6 gave oil companies \$4 billion in taxpayer subsidies and \$1.7 billion in tax breaks. The resource section of the bill added to the giveaway by allowing drilling in public lands and exempting companies from environmental review.

Yet, Exxon, the world's largest publicly-traded oil company, posted a fourth-quarter profit of \$10.7 billion over the last three months of 2005, equal to more than \$116 million per day.

For the entire year, Exxon Mobil earned \$36.1 billion, more than the economies of 125 of the 184 countries ranked by the World Bank.



ExxonMobil (profit chart above)

- is the ONLY company pushing hard to drill in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.
- denies the urgency of global warming and discredits the Kyoto Protocol.
- has dismissed renewable energy as an "uneconomic niche."

For more information on Exxon visit [www.exxposeexxon.com](http://www.exxposeexxon.com).

Regarding corporations in general see,

[www.knowmore.org](http://www.knowmore.org), or [www.buyblue.org](http://www.buyblue.org).

## Gay Marriage: The Legal Aspects --Mark Berg

**In Pennsylvania.** State Rep. Steve Maitland (R-91<sup>st</sup>) and 88 other legislators have co-sponsored a bill (HB 2381) in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives to amend the state constitution to add a definition of marriage as "between one man and one woman." This action is unnecessary, because Pennsylvania law already defines marriage: "marriage shall be between one man and one woman. A marriage between persons of the same sex which was entered into in another state or foreign jurisdiction...shall be void in this Commonwealth"; Pa. Stat. 23 Pa. C.S.A. ' 1704

In fact, same-sex marriage is not legal anywhere in the United States (although it is in several countries, including majority-Catholic Spain). Clearly, this is an election-year strategy to bring out conservatives and religious extremists. Similar amendments, laws, and referendums were on the ballots in several states during the 2004 Presidential election, and we know the results all too well.

**Court Precedent in Maryland.** In January, Baltimore circuit court judge M. Brooke Murdock ruled that Maryland's 33-year-old definition of marriage – "a union between a man and a woman" – is unconstitutional. In her ruling, Judge Murdock wrote, "[Maryland law] specifically bars an individual from marrying a member of the same sex. The relative genders of the two individuals are facts that lie at the very center of the matter; those whose genders are the same as their intended spouses may not marry, but those whose genders are different from their intended spouses may. This Court, therefore, concludes that [the law] discriminates based on

gender...Defendants argue that promoting the traditional family unit, in which the heterosexual parents are married, and encouraging procreation and child-rearing within this traditional unit, are legitimate government interests served by [the law]...The Court concludes that the prohibition of same-sex marriages is not rationally related to the state interest in the rearing of biological children by married, opposite-sex parents...Indeed, the prevention of same-sex marriages is wholly unconnected to promoting the rearing of children by married, opposite sex-parents. This Court, like others, can find no rational connection between the prevention of same-sex marriages and an increase or decrease in the number of heterosexual marriages or of children born to those unions..."

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**Editor's Note:** In a letter from Senator Terry Punt, Carol Brown learned that amending the constitution in PA requires approval of the amendment in two consecutive legislative sessions, at which point it is submitted to statewide referendum. Potentially an anti-same-sex marriage amendment could appear on the ballot in 2008, the next presidential election year.

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Following discussion of the proposed legislation at the PA Watchdog Task Force meeting in February, Sue Bumbaugh, Katie Elliot, Emily Ricketts, Carol Brown and Sherrill Brown joined with the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg to protest HB 2381 in Harrisburg on February 14. The rally was part of the Freedom to Marry campaign which seeks to defeat a constitutional amendment which would affect gay and unmarried heterosexual couples.

## Gay Marriage: The Personal Side --Emily Ricketts

*Katie and I have been together for 11 years. We share dreams, goals, bank accounts, dogs and cats. Our love for one another is deep. But we can't get married. Because we're a lesbian couple, marriage has always been a magical word to us, hovering just out of reach. Until February 18, 2004. Earlier that week, San Francisco's mayor Gavin Newsom allowed gays and lesbians to obtain marriage licenses. So we headed to San Francisco, determined to get married "for real". We joined hundreds of other couples in a line that snaked around the outside of the building. The mood oozed excitement, comradeship, joy, and love. Inside the building, cheers erupted every time a couple emerged from the office with a license. Vast numbers of reporters and news cameras were everywhere. When it was our turn, I faced Katie on the stairs of City Hall's rotunda. She took my hands, and we were legally married. Or at least until the courts of California nullified all of the same-sex marriages that took place that historical week.*

*WHPA Does It Matter? Because marriage bestows 1,049 legal rights and privileges that domestic partnerships and civil unions do not. It is a civil institution in the eyes of the government, not a religious one. The U.S. is guilty of having a second class of citizens, with less rights and freedoms. This is why we will not accept anything less than full marriage.*

Gettysburg Area DFA Newsletter is published each month via mail, e-mail and website posting. To add your name to the mailing list, contact [EvelynASteen@aol.com](mailto:EvelynASteen@aol.com) or Elaine Jones at (717) 677-9442. Submissions should be sent to JoAnn Udovich, editor, [udovich@cvn.net](mailto:udovich@cvn.net), (717) 642-8311

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## **Gettysburg Area DFA General Meet-Up**

**Wednesday, March 1, 2006**



**Meet, greet, debate and question  
Democratic candidates for  
US Congress (Phil Avillo),  
Pennsylvania State Legislature  
(Patrick Naugle, Patrick Quinn, Alan Henry  
and Bill Panebaker)  
State Democratic Committee Representative  
(Roger Lund)**

**\* Sign nominating petitions \* Refreshments served \*  
Notary will certify petition-circulator signatures (bring picture ID)**

**Room 206, Valentine Hall  
Gettysburg Lutheran Theological Seminary, 7-9 p.m.**