



**For Immediate Release**

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## **Bush-Cheney '04 Campaign Announces Wisconsin County Leadership**

**Arlington, VA** – Today, Bush-Cheney '04 officially announced its Wisconsin County Leadership Team. For nearly a year now, Wisconsin county chairpersons have been helping build support for the President's re-election campaign across the state by recruiting over 35,000 Wisconsinites who have signed up to volunteer for the campaign. These volunteers have already made nearly 500,000 phone calls and knocked on thousands of doors in an effort to reach out to their friends and neighbors, asking them to support President Bush in November. This is the largest and best organized grassroots effort in Wisconsin history.

"These grassroots efforts are essential to the success of our campaign. We are privileged to have so many skilled leaders in Wisconsin, echoing the President's message throughout the state," said Bush-Cheney '04 Campaign Chairman Marc Racicot.

Each of Wisconsin's 72 counties has a Bush-Cheney '04 chair or co-chair:

### **Adams County – Jodi Helgeson**

Jodi Helgeson has served as Adams County Register of Deeds since her appointment to that position by Governor Thompson in 1995. Jodi has been an active member of the Republican Party of Adams County for the past decade and currently holds a position on the Executive Committee.

### **Ashland County - Ryan Long**

Ryan is a senior in high school and this is his first time volunteering for a political campaign. His father owns a home repair business and his mother works at a local college. He plays tennis throughout the year as well as the violin. He attends a local Evangelical Free Church and serves as a board member at a local teen center. He would like to go to Drake or DePaul University to major in both international business and pre-law.

### **Barron County Co-Chair– Cindy Lawrie**

Cindy lives in Cameron and is an On-Site Staffing Specialist for Manpower. She was formerly active in the Eau Claire County Republican Party and was the 3rd Congressional District Republican Party Secretary. She is the former Chairman of the Barron County Republican Party and served as the Barron County Bush Co-Chair in 2000.

### **Barron County Co-Chair - Jim Babbitt**

Jim lives in Chetek where he is married and has two children. He is the Assistant District Attorney in Barron County and is active in the local Lion's Club. He is a former Chairman of the Barron County Republican Party and served as the Barron County Bush Co-Chair in 2000.

### **Bayfield County – Frank Kostka**

Frank Kostka owns and operates a local pawn shop and is active in the Bayfield County Republican Party. He is involved in his local church as well as the Ashland City -Business Alliance. Frank is active in his local VFW post after having retired from the Air Force after a 20-year career.

**Brown County – Candie Stockinger**

Candie and her husband, Lance, who have successfully raised (or are raising) six children, live in Green Bay. She is the District Office Manager for US Rep Mark Green and is the Second Vice-Chairwoman of the Brown County Republican Party. She also volunteers at Southwest High School for her son's plays.

**Buffalo County – Art Quarberg**

Art Quarberg is a retired farmer from Nelson and a past town chairman for the town of Modena. He and his wife, Louise, have 4 children and 8 grandchildren. Art has been an active member of the Buffalo County Republican Party for over four decades.

**Burnett County – Laurie Reimer**

Laurie and her husband, Paul, live in Siren where Laurie is a homemaker. Both she and Paul are active in their local church, with Laurie serving on the church council. They are both active in the Burnett County Republican Party, where Paul is the County Party Chairman.

**Calumet County - Ralph Rice**

Ralph has a mechanical engineering, sales management and business ownership background. His business focuses on providing valuations of businesses and facilitating acquisitions, mergers, buy outs and capital investments.

**Chippewa County – Michelle Farrow**

Michelle Farrow worked in the State Capitol for a number of years – including serving as State Senator Margaret Farrow's Chief of Staff. Michelle is currently a homemaker raising her two sons in Chippewa Falls where she lives with her husband Peter.

**Clark County – Connie Mullins**

Connie Mullins and her family live in Colby where Connie serves as a member of the school board and her husband is an alderman. Together they operate a mail order cheese Company, Colby Cheese Co. Connie has been active in the Clark County Republican Party and is an active women Republican leader.

**Columbia County – Brian & Marsha Dake**

Brian and Marsha Dake live in Columbus. Both have been active personally and professionally in Republican politics for over 15years. Marsha currently works in the State Capitol for a Republican Assemblyman while Brian works at a Madison law firm.

**Crawford County – Donald Hansen**

Donald Hansen is a process control engineer with Advanced Service Providers. He and his wife, Linda, are the heart and soul of the Crawford County Republican Party. He and Linda have raised six children and live in Prairie du Chien.

**Dane County – Chris Green**

Chris lives in Madison with his wife, Heidi, and their two children, Peter and Emma. He is the brother of US Rep Mark Green. Chris was a Judge Advocate on active duty in the US Army during the Gulf War and was legal counsel to Governor Tommy Thompson. His family's dog, a yellow lab, is named George Cheney Rumsfeld.

**Dodge County – Aaron Armstrong**

Aaron Armstrong has been actively supporting the Republican Party in almost every election since 1976 when he first went door to door distributing literature for Republican candidates with his mother when he was just five years old. He is active in many conservative causes and is an NRA certified firearms safety instructor. Aaron lives near Fox Lake and works for John Deere in Horicon.

**Door County – Mike Taylor**

Mike Taylor is the principal at St. Peter and Paul Elementary School in Sturgeon Bay. He is also a high school football coach, and has been active in Republican politics for many years. Mike and his wife, Kate, live with their four children

**Douglas County – Katie Swanson**

Katie Swanson and her husband Brad reside in Superior with their two young children. She is a stay-at-home mom and her husband is a private practice attorney.

**Dunn County – Maripat Krueger**

Maripat Krueger began her active political involvement only in 2000 when she was inspired by the message of then-Governor George W. Bush. She went on to be elected to chairwoman of the Dunn County Republicans until stepping down from that post to devote more time to President Bush's reelection campaign. Maripat and her husband, Charles, live in Menomonie and have 3 children and 3 grandchildren.

**Eau Claire County – Laurie Forcier**

Laurie Forcier has been active in Republican politics for nearly 25 years – including serving as the Eau Claire County Republican Party Chair. Laurie works as substitute teacher for area public schools and is a teacher at Beaver Creek Reserve. She is also active with Young Life Teen Ministry.

**Florence County – Lucille Anderson**

Lucille and her husband, Vernon, are both retired. Lucille used to be a bookkeeper and Vernon was a farmer and owned a trucking company. They have since passed their small business to their adult son. Lucille is active in the Florence County Republican Party and her local church.

**Fond du Lac – Holly Schwefel**

After graduating from Marion College in 2000, Holly Schwefel taught preschool and kindergarten before becoming a stay at home mom where she also helps out with the family's framing business. Holly Schwefel, her husband Tom, and their daughter Kylie reside in Fond du Lac.

**Forest County – Butch Verich**

Butch Verich and his wife, Mary, live in Laona where Butch was born and raised. Butch served for twenty years as a navy pilot doing two tours in Vietnam before being elected as the Forest County District Attorney. He is now retired. They have seven children, all in the military and most serving at some point overseas in Kosovo, Bosnia, and Afghanistan. Butch is active in the Forest County Republican Party and is the commander of his local VFW.

**Grant County Co-Chair - Troy Brechler**

Troy Brechler is Soil Conservationist for Iowa County and is also employed at Lands End. Troy is serving in his twelfth term on the Boscobel School Board. A long time party member, Troy has worked diligently on many local campaign efforts. He lives with his three children in Boscobel.

**Grant County Co-Chair - Bonnie Gift**

Bonnie Gift is life long Republican activist in Grant County. She is retired from the local Drugstore in Fennimore where she lives today. Bonnie has worked on numerous campaigns both local and national since she was 18.

**Green County Co-Chair – Rollie Karlen**

Rolland Karlen has a long history in working on campaigns. He's chaired the Green County presidential campaigns for Goldwater, Nixon, Ford, George H.W. Bush, and George W. Bush. He held both the office of chairman and treasurer for the Green County GOP during his 8 years of service to the county party and headed each of Tommy Thompson's gubernatorial races. Rollie and his wife Elaine live in Monroe and have two daughters and four grandchildren.

**Green County Co-Chair - Bob Slocum**

Bob Slocum's true interest in politics began during the Goldwater era and has grown and flourished since that time. He served as County Party Chair for the Republican Party of Green County in 2003 and stepped down to serve as Co-Chair in 2004. Still remaining active and spearheading the new Republican Party of Green County office, Bob was also recently married in March of 2004. He and his new wife, Lillian, reside in the city of Monroe.

**Green Lake County – Nancy Trotter**

Nancy lives in Princeton with her husband and four children. She is involved in her community as Vice President of American House, Treasurer at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, and Assistant Track and Cross Country Coach at Princeton High School. Nancy gained much of her political experience when she was the Treasurer for former US Rep Bill Steiger's congressional campaign.

**Iowa County - State Representative Steve Freese**

Rep. Freese has served in the Wisconsin State Legislature since he was first elected in 1990, and is the Chairman of the Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections. He lives in Dodgeville with his wife and two children.

**Iron County – Lois Samardich**

Lois Samardich resides in Gile where she is retired from the funeral home business. She has been active in the Iron County Republican Party where she has served as the chairman, vice- chairman.

**Jackson County – Bob Galster**

Bob Galster is employed at the AMPI Cheese Plant in Blair where he is also a union steward. He has served as Chairman of the Jackson County Republican Party. Bob lives in Hixton.

**Jefferson County – Greg Horstman**

In addition to 20 years as a business executive and a prior member of Governor McCallum's cabinet (as Deputy Secretary of Wisconsin's Department of Regulation and Licensing), Greg Horstman brings years of political activism that includes being the past Chairman of the Jefferson County Republican Party.

**Juneau County – Terry Whipple**

Terry Whipple is the Director of Economic Development for Juneau County. Prior to taking this position, Terry worked as a business consultant specializing in corporate turnarounds. He and his wife, Jennifer, live with their three daughters in Camp Douglas.

**Kenosha County– Matt Augustine**

Matt Augustine has been active in Kenosha County GOP politics for a number of years and played key roles on the campaigns of Congressman Paul Ryan and Governor Scott McCallum. He is lifetime union member and lives in Kenosha.

**Kewaunee County Co-Chairs – Richard “Smitty” and Bunny Burris**

Smitty and Bunny Burris have been active in Kewaunee County Republican Party for well over a decade – including heading up the Bush Campaign in 2000. Bunny is an officer in the Eighth Congressional District Republican Party and the Wisconsin Federation of Republican Women. Smitty, who is retired from the paper industry, was active duty in the U.S. Army from 1954-56 and was in the reserves as well.

**La Crosse County - Dave Twite**

Dave Twite is the President of Mac Donald & Owen Lumber in Sparta. In addition, Dave is the Executive Director of the Crossfire Youth Center in La Crosse. Crossfire works with “at-risk” youths in the community. Dave and his wife Tracy have four children and live in West Salem.

**Lafayette County – Mark Russell**

Mark Russell and his brother own and operate their family farm – which has been in business for the over 26 years. He has been active member of the Republican Party of Lafayette County since he was eighteen years old. He and his wife Deborah have four children.

**Langlade County Co-Chair – Michael Monson**

In addition to being the Mayor of Antigo, Michael Monson is a financial planner. He and his wife, Laurel, have two children. Michael has been the longtime vice-chair of the Langlade County Republican Party as is active in conservative causes. He is also local small business leader.

**Langlade County Co-Chair – Debralee Mifflin**

Debralee and her husband, Tom, live in Antigo where she is a stay-at-home mom for their daughter, Dorothy. Debralee formerly worked in the field of marketing. She served as the Langlade County Republican Party Secretary for eight years and is the Chair for the 4th of July parade each year. Debralee is extremely proud of her nephew, Jason, who returned in February from serving in the military in Mosul, Iraq in the 101st Airborne division.

**Lincoln County – Ted Nickel**

Ted Nickel is the Director of Governmental and Regulatory affairs at Church Mutual Insurance Company. He has an extensive background in state government work, and was a candidate for State Assembly in 1999. Ted and his wife, Kim, live in Merrill.

**Manitowoc County – Alan Evanoff**

Alan Evanoff has owned and operated a junior department store in Two Rivers since 1961. Alan and his wife, Heidi, live in the town of Manitowoc where they raised their seven children.

**Marathon County – Sandy Ermeling**

Sandy Ermeling is a Republican women activist and leader. She lives in Wausau and spends much of her time with three daughters and six grandchildren.

**Marinette County – Shirley Nord**

Shirley and her husband of nearly 50 years, Charles, live in Marinette. Both have been retired for ten years. They have two adult children and two grandchildren. Shirley has been active in the Marinette County Republican Party, the Marinette Women's Club, and their local church.

**Marquette County – Bernice Wegner**

Bernice Wegner has been the Register of Deeds for Marquette County since 1977, and before that served as deputy since 1972. She has been a Republican all her life, living in Montello with her husband of thirty three years and her three daughters.

**Menominee County – Al Wallender**

Al Wallender lives in Keshena where he is a retired commercial general contractor. He spends his time volunteering for a number of civic projects and visiting with his 10 grandchildren. Al is a current member and former President of his lake association.

**Milwaukee County Chairman - County Executive Scott Walker**

A dynamic reformer and crusader for lower taxes, Scott Walker has served as Milwaukee County Executive since his election in April of 2003. Prior to that, he served in the Wisconsin State Assembly for nearly nine years. Scott and his family live in Wauwatosa.

**Monroe County – Jerry Nauman**

Jerry Nauman has been a lifelong resident of Monroe County where he owned and operated a dairy farm. In addition, Jerry served for eight years on the county board of supervisors. As an active Republican, Jerry has served in numerous positions in the party, such as county vice-chairman and Treasurer for the 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. He and his wife, Margie, have three children and live in Norwalk.

**Oconto County – Pete Gabrielson**

Pete Gabrielson and his wife, Patty, live in Oconto where Pete has been a teacher and coach for the past 34 years. Pete, who will retire later this year, is well known for being an outstanding football and wrestling coach.

**Oneida County – Kevin Jenkins**

In addition to serving as the Mayor of Rhinelander, Kevin Jenkins works for the Oneida County Sheriff's Department as a dispatcher. He and his wife, Stacy, have two young children.

**Outagamie County – Tim Higgins**

Tim Higgins and his wife, Jonna, live in Appleton, where Tim owns his own small business. Tim has been active in Outagamie County politics since his father served as County Executive.

**Ozaukee County Co-Chairman – Judy Frohboese**

Judy Frohboese is currently the Treasurer of the Republican Party of Ozaukee County and is leader among women Republicans. Judy is also a former Chairman of the Republican Party of Ozaukee County and former Treasurer of the National Federation of Republican Women.

**Ozaukee County Co-Chairman – State Rep. Mark Gottlieb**

State Representative Mark Gottlieb was elected to the Wisconsin State Assembly in November of 2002. He also served as mayor of Port Washington from 1997-2003. Representative Gottlieb is a Navy veteran and lives in Port Washington.

**Pepin County – L.D. Coulson**

L.D. Coulson has spent the last fifteen years working as a Wisconsin State Trooper in the western part of the state. L.D. serves on the Pepin County Board of Supervisors and makes his home in Durand with his wife and three children.

**Pierce County – Jim Ross**

Jim Ross and his wife, Lorna, own and operate a hobby farm and lawn care service out of their home in Elmwood. Jim has been an active member of the Republican Party for the last ten years both in Minnesota, where he served as a delegate to the state convention, and now in Wisconsin.

**Polk County – Rick Davis**

Rick and his wife, Ann, live in Amery where Rick is a CPA. Rick is also a City Councilor in Amery and serves as the President of the local Lion's Club - the second largest in Wisconsin. Rick has been active in the Polk County Republican Party, having served several years as chairman.

**Portage County – Ken Shibilski**

Ken Shibilski and his wife, Patrice, live in Plover where Ken is semi-retired. Previously, he had been the owner of the Stevens Point Brewery. Ken served for four years as the Village President in Plover, and was on Governor Thompson's Blue Ribbon Commission to Reorganize State Government. Ken and Patrice have four adult children and seven grandchildren.

**Price County – Mary Willet**

Mary Willet and her husband, Steve, reside in Phillips where Mary works for Lakewoods Resort, organizing conventions. Mary had previously directed the Northern Office for Governors Thompson and McCallum and had been a candidate for the State Assembly in 1996.

**Racine County Co-Chair – Lisa Bell**

Lisa is a lifelong resident of Racine County, living in Caledonia. She has served on the Racine GOP County Board for almost four years and worked on the Bush-Cheney campaign in 2000. She is a semi-retired musician and the co-owner of a small business.

**Racine County Co-Chair – Lou D'Abbraccio**

Lou is a veteran of the US Army and former intelligence officer. He is active in conservative causes, organizing "Support Our Troops" rallies, and served on the Bush 2000 campaign. He received his Bachelor of Science from Northeastern University and an MBA from University of Chicago

**Richland County – Carol Clausius**

Carol Clausius serves on the Richland County Board of Supervisors and has been an active member of the Richland County Republican Party for nearly three decades. She and her husband owned and operated their own dental practice until their retirement.

**Rock County – Susan Jacobson**

Susan Jacobson, a 28-year resident of Janesville has served on a number of non-profit and community boards and committees over the years, including 9 years on the Janesville Board of Education – 2 as board president. She and her husband, Rick, have three children.

**Rusk County – J.D. Kirkman**

J.D. Kirkman, his wife, Michelle, and their 10-month-old son live in Conrath. J.D. works as a financial advisor and Michelle is a nurse. J.D. has served as a county party secretary and is active in his local Knights of Columbus.

**Sauk County - Carri Dorr**

Carri Dorr is a graduate of UW-Whitewater, which is where she first got involved in politics by volunteering on the Dole for President Campaign. Carri now works for SBC and is working on her MBA. She lives in Sauk City.

**Sawyer County – Brian Ahlgren**

Brian and his wife, Mika, live in Hayward where Brian is the CFO at Johnson Timber and Mika owns two retail shops. They have three children, aged 11, 9, and 7. Brian is on the board of directors of the Hayward Sports Center, coaches youth hockey, and is active in his local church.

### **Shawano County Co-Chairs – Mike and Virginia Jesse**

Mike and Virginia Jesse live in Shawano where Mike has been the County Coroner for the last five years. Both are active in their community and church and founded a local suicide prevention group. Virginia is also a women Republican leader.

### **Sheboygan County – State Senator Joe Leibham**

Prior to being elected to the State Senate in November 2002, Joe Leibham served in State Assembly from 1998-2002 and on the Sheboygan City Council from 1993-2000. Joe, the oldest of 13 children, was born and raised in Sheboygan. He worked as an Account Executive for Sargento Foods and was the manager of membership development for the Sheboygan County Chamber of Commerce before being elected to the State Legislature.

### **St. Croix County Co-Chair – Lori Bernard**

Lori Bernard is a member of the St. Croix County Board and, until recently, was putting her PhD in chemistry to good use at a chemical company. She is now a fulltime homemaker and mom. She and her husband, Peter, live in Hudson.

### **St. Croix County Co-Chair – Bruce Leonard**

Bruce Leonard is a driver for United Parcel Service and a member of the Teamsters Union. He is active in politics in St. Croix County, serving as county coordinator for the Bush Campaign in 2000. In addition, Bruce was an alternate to the 2000 Republican National Convention. He and his wife, Cindy, have three children and live in Hudson.

### **Taylor County – Gary Schafer**

Gary lives in Medford and has worked as a dairy farmer in that area since 1970. He's been active in the Taylor County Republican Party, serving four years as chairman as well as serving as the Commander of his local VFW. In 2002, he was a candidate for the Wisconsin Assembly in the 87th district.

### **Trempealeau County – Kay Evenson**

For the last 18 years Kay Evenson has been the owner and operator of a child care center out of her home. She is the current Vice-Chairwomen of the Trempealeau County Republican Party, and has been active with Republican elections and politics for nearly two decades. Kay and her husband, David, live in Galesville and have 3 children.

### **Vernon County - Rikki Myran**

Rikki Myran has been a political enthusiast for decades but this is her first real active role in an election. Rikki owns a small business that manufactures crafts, which are sold to art and craft stores. She and her husband live in Viroqua.

### **Vilas County – Gary Fawcett**

Gary Fawcett and his wife, Michele, live in Eagle River where they are both retired - Gary from the Aid Association of Lutherans and Michele from being a school teacher. Gary serves on the Eagle River Water and Utility Commission and volunteers at the Northwest Children's Museum. Gary and Michele have two grown children and two grandchildren.

### **Walworth County – Jeffrey Knight**

Jeff Knight is a long-time GOP activist and has held leadership roles with countless campaigns over the past 30 years. He has also serves as a delegate to the Republican National Convention.

### **Washburn County – Bobbi Rydberg**

Bobbi Rydberg is a stay at home mom in Shell Lake and is a leader in local Republican Party activities – including having served as county party chair and Seventh Congressional District Chair.

### **Washington County – Kathy Kiernan**

Kathy Kiernan is retired from 33 years of service at a local telecommunications company. She now spends her free time working in grassroots Republican politics – including her role as a women Republican leader.

### **Waukesha County – Edythe “E.D.” Cooper**

E.D. Cooper is often considered the matriarch of Republican politics in Waukesha County since she first chaired President Regan's 1980 campaign. E.D. and her husband, Edward, live in Mukwonago.

### **Waupaca County – Linda Cross**

Linda Cross is an educator and former candidate for Wisconsin State Superintendent of Public Instruction. She was also the Republican nominee for Wisconsin Secretary of State in 1998. Linda has been active in the Republican Party at the county, district, state, and national levels for many years and is a former delegate to the National Republican Convention.

**Waushara County – Karen West**

Karen West is the Human Resources Director for Wild Rose Hospital. She and her husband, Jerry, a retired Waushara County employee, reside in Wild Rose. Karen is very active in her church, where she is the organist, and her community – including serving as the treasurer of the Wild Rose Kiwanis Club.

**Winnebago County – Tamara Mugarauer**

Tamara Mugarauer owns and operates her own small business – a bakery. She is very active with her church, the Labor of Love Pregnancy Crisis Center, and serves as a vice-chair of the Winnebago County Republican Party. Tamara and her husband, Larry, live in Oshkosh.

**Wood County – Dave Ecke**

Dave Ecke owned and operated a restaurant for 14 years and now is a route supervisor for a local dry cleaner. Dave also serves as the vice-chairman of the Wood County Republican Party. Dave and his family make their home in Vesper.

*(Corporate and organizational affiliations are listed for identification purposes only and are not intended to imply any endorsement by the corporation or organization)*

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**Bush-Cheney '04 Communications  
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