

Dear Friends,

On Saturday we came together for our Dane County Caucus. There were more members in attendance than anybody can remember being at our Caucus for a long time. There were two contested elections: Brandon Maly and Scott Grabins were running for Chair, and Rolf Lindgren and Christine Illgen were running for Vice Chair.

The Caucus itself was beautifully arranged and presented at the Madison Marriott West. There were spirited and heartfelt speeches from the candidates, and also from those nominating them. I had the honor of giving a speech supporting Mr. Lindgren's candidacy. Then the members lined up to cast their votes.

When the votes were counted, Brandon Maly and Christine Illgen had won the most votes, and the Republican Party of Dane County had a new chair and a new vice chair.

Sometimes we have the habit of thinking of situations as being where some win and others not, however in this situation there is a way to view things, and to act, so that we will all be winners.

As a result of the elections, the membership of the Dane County party has grown to over eight hundred members. Over four hundred of those members cared enough about the future of the United States of America to spend most of their Saturday participating in the Caucus. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we can keep everybody together as part of the team and grow into a vibrant party of over eight hundred members? People like to be part of organizations where people get along and feel good.

Another reason we are winners is that those in charge of organizing the Caucus were able to put together an election that was well organized, transparent, and where everybody had full confidence in the results. I particularly want to recognize and thank John Fandrich, Scott Grabins, Kim Babler, Dave Glomp, Scott Poole, Kevin Schoen, Navin Jarugumilli, and Sandy Bakk for their efforts in organizing the Caucus although there were many others as well. Everyone can feel very good because the Caucus went so well. We were all civil. The event space was beautiful and superbly well organized. When the results came in, everybody accepted them because it was clear that the results were accurate. Wouldn't it be wonderful if all of our elections had these qualities?

At the Caucus we all realized one thing for certain: we all care very deeply about the outcome of the Wisconsin Supreme Court election which is only one month and eleven days away. So much is on the ballot in this Supreme Court Election; it is literally life and death.

So I am asking everybody to come together and give Brandon Maly and Christine Illgen the full respect, support, and courtesy that we would have liked their supporters to give Mr. Grabins and Mr. Lindgren if the election had gone as those of us supporting Mr. Grabins and Mr. Lindgren had hoped it would.

When the votes came in, I had the opportunity to be one of the first to congratulate Mr. Maly and Mrs. Illgen. I very much hope that they would have similarly congratulated Mr. Grabins and Mr. Lindgren if they had prevailed. I am sure that they would have.

Complete unity - at the very least for the next month and eleven days - is of the utmost importance for the future of our Supreme Court, our State, our Country, and our Liberty.

If we have any thoughts that are anything other than completely positive towards the mission of working together in harmony to save our Supreme Court, let's just imagine that we are packing them away in a suitcase that we store in our mental attic someplace until after April 5th. Let's be totally positive, totally unified, and work together - at least for the next month and eleven days! I promise to do this to the best of my ability, and I would ask that all of you consider doing the same.

So let's all take a deep breath, brush ourselves off, and then make a commitment: to work together as hard as we can for the next month and eleven days to save our Supreme Court, to save our Country, and to save our Liberty!

Sincerely,

Erik Olsen  
Candidate for U.S. Congress  
2nd Congressional District 2024