



Join Us for August Business!

Our Central Committee will meet **Thursday, August 21**. While MCDCC traditionally does not conduct business in August, we have scheduled our annual Pie Auction to be held on October 16 in lieu of our business meeting. This means that for 2025, we will conduct business in August but not in October, due to our pie auction event.

Next Thursday, Speak Out begins at 6 PM and our business agenda is called to order at 6:30 PM.

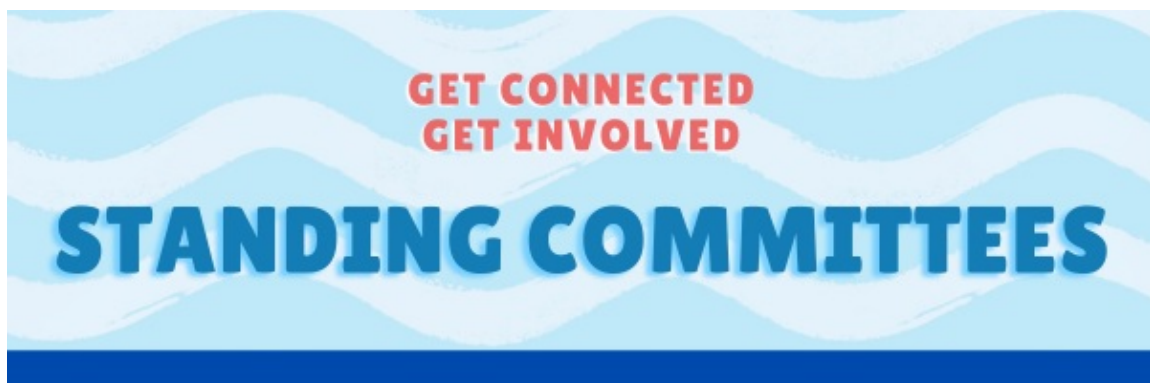
We'll hear from special guests from the Cherriots Board of Directors about the proposed transit tax for Salem-area businesses. Read more:

- ["In tense meeting with Cherriots, business leaders express frustration, concern over proposed payroll tax,"](#) Salem Reporter, July 31, 2025
- ["Salem Chamber once backed letting Cherriots impose taxes, but says agency broke promises of business involvement,"](#) Salem Reporter, August 14, 2025

Also join us for updates from the Democratic Party of Oregon's 2025 Platform Convention, scheduled to take place this weekend at Western Oregon University. [More information here.](#)

In-person attendance at our Central Committee meetings is open to all **registered Democrats** at 245 High St NE, Salem.

To attend our meeting virtually via Zoom, [please pre-register here.](#)



- **Candidate Support Committee, Chaired by Angelo Arredondo Baca**
 - Next Meeting: Thursday, September 11, 6 PM, Zoom
 - [Register for this Zoom meeting here](#)
 - Questions? Email Angelo at candidates@mariondemocrats.org
- **Communications Committee, Chaired by Dan Sissen**
 - Next Meeting: Thursday, August 21, 3 PM, at MCDCC Office
 - Currently looking for volunteers to help with social media and this newsletter - *new evening meeting time coming in September!*
- **Program Committee, Convened by Linda Garland**
 - Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 19, 7 PM (next week!)
 - [Register for this Zoom meeting here](#)
- **Legislative Committee, Chaired by Marcia Kelley**
 - Special Legislative Session - Friday, August 29
 - State Revenue Forecast Out Wednesday, August 27
 - Questions? Email Marcia at legislative@mariondemocrats.org
- **Fundraising Committee, Chaired by Mary Nikas**
 - Next Meeting: Monday, August 25, 6:30 PM
 - [Register for this Zoom meeting here](#)
 - Questions? Email Mary at fundraising@mariondemocrats.org
- **Membership Committee, Chaired by Larry Ramsay**
- **Rules Committee, Chaired by Victor Dodier**
 - Next Meeting: Monday, September 8, at 7 PM
 - [Register for this Zoom meeting here](#)
 - Questions? Email Victor at rules@mariondemocrats.org
- **Neighborhood Leader Committee, Chaired by Michael Johnson**
 - Currently recruiting new Neighborhood Leaders for the 2026 Election Cycles.
 - Questions? Email Michael at nlp@mariondemocrats.org

Progressive Salem & Marion County Democrats Present

Autocracy & Oligarchy **IN AMERICAN HISTORY**

Featuring Guest Lecturer Larry Scruggs, Ph.D.



[To RSVP for this event, please visit this link.](#)

Join Progressive Salem and Marion County Democrats to explore the complex relationship between concentrated power and democratic ideals throughout

American history. This thought-provoking presentation will trace key historical moments when power became concentrated in the hands of few, including the rise of industrial monopolies in the Gilded Age, the influence of wealthy interests on policy-making, and the ongoing tensions between democratic participation and elite control.

Local Keizer resident Larry Scruggs, who has a doctorate in urban studies, will examine how autocratic tendencies and oligarchic structures have influenced our nation's political and economic development from the founding era to the present day. Drawing on his expertise in social change, Mr. Scruggs will help attendees understand the historical context behind current debates about wealth inequality, corporate influence, and democratic governance. The presentation will examine both the mechanisms that have allowed power concentration, and the grassroots movements like ours that have challenged these tendencies throughout our history.

When: Two Opportunities!

- Tuesday, August 26, 2025 at 1:30 PM
- Saturday, August 30, 2025 at 1:30 PM

Location: This is an in-person event located in downtown Salem.

Next Steps: After registering via this form, you will receive a confirmation email with the location within three days.

[RSVP Today](#)



BACKYARD BENEFIT CONCERT



featuring
**LIVE MUSIC FROM
ED DESMARTEAU**



Friday, August 22, 2025



6:00 pm - 8:30 pm



Keizer, OR



\$50
includes beverages and hors d'oeuvres



<https://tinyurl.com/demsconcert>

A PRIVATE FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR THE MARION COUNTY DEMOCRATS, PAC ID 332

Backyard Benefit Concert is Coming Up!

Join us for an exclusive, intimate house concert featuring veteran musician Ed Desmarteau, who'll take you on a nostalgic journey through beloved classic hits that'll have you singing along all night.

This special gathering at a beautiful private residence in Keizer offers the perfect blend of live entertainment, delicious hors d'oeuvres, refreshing drinks, and great conversation with your neighbors in a cozy, welcoming atmosphere.

For just \$50, you'll enjoy premium entertainment that feels more like an evening at a friend's home than a typical event. With limited seating available in this intimate backyard venue, tickets are going fast – don't miss your chance to be part of this unique musical experience that you'll remember for months to come!

Ticket purchase includes beverages & hors d'oeuvres. **We have an amazing silent auction with wonderful prizes - you don't want to miss this!**

Don't Miss Out - Get Your Tickets Today

Marion County Democrats Central Committee | PO Box 13835 | Salem, OR 97309 US

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