

# Green Star

A quarterly publication of the  
Green Party of Pennsylvania

Vol. No. 6, Issue No. 1 • March 2008

## Who are the candidates?

Candidates seeking GPUS Presidential nomination:

**Jesse Johnson**  
<http://www.jesse08.org>

**Cynthia McKinney**  
<http://www.runcynthiarun.org>

**Kent Mesplay**  
<http://www.mesplay.org>

**Kat Swift**  
<http://www.bexargreens.org/katforprez>

Other options:  
**Ralph Nader**  
<http://www.votenader.org>

**'No Candidate'**

**Uncommitted**

**Write-In candidates**

## SPECIAL CAUCUS ISSUE

### Green Party Presidential Caucus

The Green Party of Pennsylvania (GPPA) sends you this newsletter because you are an active Registered Green Party Voter. As a minor party, the state does not allow us to have a Primary. Thus, in order to determine who are candidates will be, we will be holding caucuses across the state.

We invite you to participate in our upcoming caucus to help determine who, if anyone, will be our 2008 Green Party Presidential Candidate. Please see the schedule in this newsletter that shows when your local Green Party caucus will occur, sometime in late April and early May.

*Please turn to page 3 to find the time, date, and location of your county's caucus*

### What if my county doesn't have a caucus or the date is inconvenient for me?

If you live in a county that does not have a caucus, or if the scheduled date is inconvenient, you may opt to participate in a caucus of a nearby county.

### Will there be absentee ballots?

There are no provisions for absentee voting.

### What is a caucus? How does it work?

A caucus is a meeting at which registered Green voters discuss the options for Presidential nominee and then vote on who the nominee should be. These votes are used by GPPA to determine how (and whether) GPPA delegates to the Green Party of the United States (GPUS) nominating convention in July, in Chicago, should vote.

The caucuses will consist of some discussion, after which each caucus attendee will indicate their Green Party Presidential nominee preferences in rank order. The principal options are listed below. The caucus is not limited to these options.

Each attendee will also be asked whether the GPPA should support the GPUS candidate, as we usually do, in which case the preferences will determine how our GPPA delegation votes at the GPUS nominating convention in Chicago, July 10-13, or conversely, whether GPPA should forego the GPUS nomination process and instead support the winner of the GPPA caucus.

### Do I have to have backup choices and rank order my preferences?

No. You must vote for at least one preference (e.g. a candidate, 'No Candidate', Uncommitted, etc.). You may list as many or few additional choices (2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, etc) as you desire.

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## In This Issue

- Caucus overview
- Candidate Biographies
- County by county caucus schedule

**Open the newsletter to read about the candidates!**

# Green Party of Pennsylvania

## Contact Information

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Harrisburg, PA 17108-1962  
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www.greenpartypa.org

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## GPPA Calendar

*Please refer to the GPPA Website for complete event details*

**Now through July 31 – Petitioning to get our candidates on the ballot.** To volunteer, contact Blyden Potts at blyden4@comcast.net.

**May 18 11:00 AM**

State Business Meeting in Carlisle, PA at the Hotel Carlisle.

**August 17 11:00 AM**

State Business Meeting in State College, PA, exact location TBA

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# 2008 Green Party Presidential Candidates

**Jesse Johnson** – <http://www.jesse08.org>



Born 1959, in West Virginia. Attended North Carolina School for the Arts, and Marshall University. Worked on a seismographic ship, as an actor, stage producer, stand-up comic and country line dance instructor. Ran for Governor of WV in 2002, and US Senate in 2006.

"Our world is filled with exploiters illegally preying upon our most valuable resources. Coalmining companies value short-term gain, limiting profits. Lending institutions don't care who loses their homes... They care about usurious interest rates. Health Insurance companies care that their bottom line is healthy... Every citizen must become a steward of our democratic ideal. We must put ourselves forward to become leaders in the fight to save our nation, environment and each other... let's build a movement."

**Cynthia McKinney** – <http://www.runcynthiarun.org>



Born 1955, in Atlanta, GA. B.A. in International Relations from the U. of Southern California, M.A. in Law and Diplomacy from Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy. Former six-term Democratic Member of Congress from GA, 1993-2003; 2005-2007.

A courageous voice for the voiceless, unafraid to speak truth to power:

\* Consistently opposed funding for bloated military and secret intelligence budgets;

\* Introduced Articles of Impeachment for George Bush, Dick Cheney, and Condoleezza Rice;

\* Authored a living wage bill in Congress

\* Cosponsor of every bill to create a national, single-payer system for universal access to health care.

\* Sponsored legislation for ranked choice voting and to restore auditability to Federal elections.

**Kat Swift** – <http://www.bexargreens.org/katforprez>



Born 1973 in Shreveport, LA. Attended Mount Holyoke College; Studies in: anatomy, biology, computer science, aromatherapy, herbalism, spirituality, comparative religion, peer counseling, energy & body therapy techniques. Worked in food service, business administration; as substitute teacher; security dispatcher & guard; and technology support person.

Active Green since 1999. Co-Chair GP of TX SEC 2005-7; Co-Spokesperson for National GP

Women's Caucus. Ran for San Antonio city council 2007 and received 30% of the vote. Key issues include Education, Capital Punishment, Global Warming, Legalization of Marijuana, proportional representation; affordable single-payer healthcare.

**Kent Mesplay** – <http://www.mesplay.org>



Born 1962, in Papua New Guinea. Undergraduate engineering degree from Harvey Mudd College and Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering from Northwestern University. Informally studied energy methods of healing. Worked at VA Medical Center, Long Beach, CA; taught High School math; currently works as Air Quality Inspector in San Diego.

Registered Green since 1995. California delegate to the Green National Committee; On County Council of the Green Party, San Diego County; Green Party Presidential candidate, 2004; member of Environment California and a strong advocate of alternative energy legislation. His campaign focus on environmental and health care issues, political reform, and US-Mexico relations.

## Other Presidential Options

**Ralph Nader** – <http://www.votenader.org>



Born 1934, in Connecticut. Consumer advocate, lawyer, author. Named by Time Magazine as one of the 100 Most Influential Americans in the Twentieth Century, his efforts have helped to create a framework of laws, regulatory agencies, and federal standards that have improved the quality of life for two generations of Americans. AB magna cum laude from Woodrow Wilson School of International Affairs, Princeton University; LLB from Harvard Law School. Presidential candidate of the Green Party in 2000 and independent Presidential candidate in 2004.

Nader is not seeking the Green Party nomination in 2008. He has chosen to seek ballot access in Pennsylvania with the "Populist Party" slogan. Included as a candidate here because many Greens support his candidacy despite his not running as a Green. (continued on page 3)

# Caucus Schedule by County

## Schedule of County Caucuses:

ADAMS	Sunday, April 20, 12 N	Gettysburg	Wege Residence, 315 N. Stratton St
ALLEGHENY	Thursday, May 08, 7 PM	Pittsburgh	Citizen Power, 2121 Murray Ave., 2nd Flr
ARMSTRONG	Saturday, May 10, 2 PM	Indiana	Pavilion, Memorial Park, 300 block of South 6th Street (Rt. 954)
BERKS	Tuesday, May 06, 7 PM	Reading	First Unitarian Universalist Church, 416 Franklin St. (use side entrance at rear)
BUTLER	Saturday, May 3, 12 N	Grove City	Joseph Jenkins Inc, 143 Forest Lane (814-786-7102)
CLARION	Saturday, May 10, 2 PM	Shippenville	Fortis Residence, 417 Ridgewood Rd
CUMBERLAND	Thursday, May 01, 7 PM	Camp Hill	Prosser Hall, 2145 Walnut St
DAUPHIN	Thursday, May 01, 7 PM	Camp Hill	Prosser Hall, 2145 Walnut St
DELAWARE	Saturday, May 10, 1:30 PM	Swarthmore	Comm. Room, Swarthmore Borough Hall, 121 Park Ave, (wheelchair accessible)
ERIE	Tuesday, May 06, 6:30 PM	Erie	Admiral Room, Blasco Library, 160 East Front St
FAYETTE	Saturday, May 10, 4 PM	Greensburg	Perry's Pub & Grille, 9 East Pittsburg St.
FRANKLIN	Tuesday, April 29, 7 PM	Chambersburg	Coyle Free Library, 102 N. Main St, Chambersburg
HUNTINGDON	Wednesday, May 7, 7 PM	Mount Union	Mount Union Library, 11 West Market St (back of Municipal Bldg, Upstairs)
INDIANA	Saturday, May 10, 2 PM	Indiana	Pavilion, Memorial Park, 300 block of South 6th Street (Rt. 954)
JEFFERSON	Saturday, May 10, 2 PM	Shippenville	Fortis Residence, 417 Ridgewood Rd
LACKAWANNA	Thursday, April 24, 7 PM	La Plume	Keystone College, Gardner Hall, Room 101
LANCASTER	Wednesday, April 23, 7 PM	Lancaster	Windolph Room, Duke Street Library, 125 N. Duke St.
LANCASTER (NW)	Wednesday, April 23, 7 PM	Elizabethtown	Cleveland residence, 71 Westminster Dr
LAWRENCE	Saturday, May 3, 12 N	Grove City	Joseph Jenkins Inc, 143 Forest Lane (814-786-7102)
LEHIGH	Tuesday, April 29, 7 PM	Bethlehem	Unitarian Universalist Church of the Lehigh Valley, 424 Center St
LUZERNE	Thursday, May 08, Time TBD	Wilkes Barre	Wilkes University, Room TBD
LYCOMING	Saturday, April 26, 4 PM	Williamsport	Coffee and Tea Room, 217 W. 4th St.
MERCER	Saturday, May 3, 12 N	Grove City	Joseph Jenkins Inc, 143 Forest Lane (814-786-7102)
MONTOUR	Saturday, April 26, 1 PM	Lewisburg	Union County Library, 255 Reitz Boulevard
NORTHAMPTON	Tuesday, April 29, 7 PM	Bethlehem	Unitarian Universalist Church of the Lehigh Valley, 424 Center St.
NORTHUMBERLAND	Saturday, April 26, 1 PM	Lewisburg	Union County Library, 255 Reitz Boulevard
PERRY	Thursday, May 01, 7 PM	Camp Hill	Prosser Hall, 2145 Walnut St
PHILADELPHIA	Tuesday, April 29, 6:30 PM	Philadelphia	Ethical Society, 1906 Rittenhouse Square
SNYDER	Saturday, April 26, 1 PM	Lewisburg	Union County Library, 255 Reitz Boulevard
SUSQUEHANNA	Thursday, April 24, 7 PM	La Plume	Keystone College, Gardner Hall, Room 101
UNION	Saturday, April 26, 1 PM	Lewisburg	Union County Library, 255 Reitz Boulevard
VENANGO	Saturday, May 3, 12 N	Grove City	Joseph Jenkins Inc, 143 Forest Lane (814-786-7102)
WAYNE	Sunday, May 4, Time TBD	Honesdale	Location TBD
WESTMORELAND	Saturday, May 10, 4 PM	Greensburg	Perry's Pub & Grille, 9 East Pittsburg St.
WYOMING	Thursday, April 24, 7 PM	La Plume	Keystone College, Gardner Hall, Room 101
YORK	Thursday, May 01, 5 PM	York	Greenline Paper, 631 South Pine Street

Note: Some counties will caucus with a neighboring county, in which case the caucus may be held in the neighboring county.

Counties that MAY be having caucuses: Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Centre, Columbia, Crawford, Monroe, Montgomery, Schuylkill. Greens in these counties are advised to check the [www.gpofpa.org](http://www.gpofpa.org) website caucus schedule for updated caucus information.

Counties not currently planning a caucus: Beaver, Bradford, Bucks, Cameron, Carbon, Chester, Clearfield, Clinton, Elk, Forest, Fulton, Greene, Juniata, McKean, Lebanon, Mifflin, Pike, Potter, Somerset, Sullivan, Tioga, Warren, Washington. Greens in these counties can attend whatever caucus may be closest to them, and can check the [www.gpofpa.org](http://www.gpofpa.org) website caucus schedule in case plans change for their county or a nearby county.

## Other Presidential Options (cont'd)

### No Candidate

Caucus attendees may vote 'No Candidate' as one of their preferences, supporting the idea that GPUS (or GPPA) ought not to run any Presidential candidate.

### Uncommitted

Caucus attendees may vote 'Uncommitted' as one of their preferences, supporting the idea that the GPPA delegation to GPUS should be allowed flexibility to vote in whatever way they deem best at the nomination convention in Chicago in July.

# The Green Party Needs YOU!

Do you want to see an end to corporate domination? Do you want to see real election reform? Do you want a true alternative to politics as usual?

**Then, support the Green Party of Pennsylvania!**

We don't take money from corporations. In order to build a real progressive voice for Pennsylvania, we need support from average citizens like you. Please consider making a generous donation today!

- \$50 can pay for a registration fee to table at an important event.
- \$100 can pay for the meeting space for our Quarterly Business Meeting.
- \$500 can pay for one printing of the *Green Star*.

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## GPPA Donation Form

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☐ Please send me the *Green Star* electronically. (include email address above)

☐ Please send me more information about the Green Party of Pennsylvania

**Green Party of Pennsylvania**

P.O. Box 11962

Harrisburg, PA 17108-1962

## Donation Tips & Instructions

- Make checks or money orders payable to the Green Party of Pennsylvania
- Please include all contact information
- If your donation is over \$200, state law requires us to also have your employer's contact information
- Individuals may only donate \$2000 in a given years
- Donations are not tax-deductible
- Donations can be made on-line via PayPal through the GPPA website: [www.gpofpa.org](http://www.gpofpa.org)
- Mail form to:  
Green Party of Pennsylvania  
P.O. Box 11962  
Harrisburg, PA 17108-1962

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