

Are We Almost Ready to Remove the “U” from PSCU?

November 3, 2010

Before 2008, the only involvement I had in politics was voting every four years in the Presidential election. I had never supported a political candidate by donating money, let alone by putting up a yard sign. I couldn't name my three State legislators, and I needed crib notes to explain the Bill of Rights. But in 2008, I started sensing that too many Puget Sound citizens and too many media outlets were drinking the Kool-Aid while our country was in serious trouble. The majority of the country, and the vast majority of those in the greater-Seattle area, were not only idolizing a liberal, Chicago-politics Senator with limited experience, but were about to elect him to the highest office in the world. **Thus, it was during the 2008 election season that I awakened.**



But the problem was, even though I was awake, I didn't feel I had anyone to talk to who shared my conservative beliefs. It was two years ago this month that I noticed I was surrounded by “Obama '08” stickers on the bumpers of every third car that passed me on the street. Believe it or not, the gym I worked out at purposely blocked Fox News and only showed CNN and MSNBC on its TV sets in the cardio-workout section. My coworkers talked about the history-making moment of electing an African-American, but they had no idea who Reverend Wright or Bill Ayers were. So even though I had awakened, I felt like I was still in a nightmare. **I needed to find anyone that might be conservative like me.** But where to go? The internet, of course! Thus, the Puget Sound Conservative Underground was born.

The Puget Sound Conservative Underground (PSCU) began as a social group on Meetup.com at the start of 2009, just after the inauguration of President Obama. Within a few months, our membership was steadily growing, as more people joined up and wanted to share online in message boards their conservative stances on politics, and then soon thereafter they wanted to get together at coffee shops and attend political events together. We even hosted of the first Senate candidate forums in the state. When I think back, my only purpose for the PSCU started out as a selfish one – find others who felt like I did politically, so I could have someone to talk to instead of only screaming at the TV news alone in my living room. **Now, less than two years later, we have over 530 members on our Meetup site, and over 830 members on our Facebook page.**



Some PSCU members have thanked me for running this group and providing both a virtual and in-person instrument for conservatives in the liberal Puget Sound to vent, get educated, and get involved. But to be honest,

I need to thank you, fellow members, because your responding to my call for conservatives to come out from underground has helped me keep my sanity, has taught me a lot about politics and conservatism, and has lessened how often I yell at the TV news. (Well, maybe I'm still doing that last one.) It has been fantastic to be in contact with others who think like me. And you know what's interesting? As more Seattleites have awakened with me, I have been seeing less Obama bumper stickers on the roads around town. Perhaps the Puget Sound Conservative Underground can get rid of the last word in our group's title by 2012, and simply be known as the Puget Sound Conservatives.



In these final two months of 2010, I'll be asking this question of my fellow PSCU members:
"Where do we go from here?"

Think about that, as I'll want to hear your ideas and do some future planning with you soon. As "The Great One," Mark Levin, said weeks prior to the election: **"November 3 is either going to be the beginning of the end -or- the beginning of the beginning."** Obviously, it's the beginning of the beginning.

In the meantime, let's savor all of this from this election:

- **The huge nationwide tidal-wave of conservative victories which will now impede Obama's agenda;**
- **The local victories of no-tax initiatives, demonstrating that there still may be hope for our blue state;**
- **The pick up of a seat or two for our state in Congress;**
- **And the inspiration that came from passionate campaigns for state legislature positions by many first time conservative candidates...which includes a probable win in the 1st district by longtime PSCU member Heidi Munson!**

Please consider RSVPing for a meetup this Sunday in Redmond. Former Senate candidate Paul Akers (who some say would make a great Governor) is meeting with us to discuss his new organization, Lean America, and his suggestions for putting our state and country back in the black. **See Paul's personal message to PSCU members, inviting you to Sunday's meetup:** http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1L9q9_R6BV8

And please RSVP here before Sunday:

<http://www.meetup.com/PugetSoundConservativeUnderground/calendar/14853872/>



Thanks again for your participation in the Puget Sound Conservative Underground,
-Dan Michael