

Name: Jerome Pohlen	District: 3
Phone: (708) 698-7256	Email: JerryIL03@yahoo.com
Party (Circle One): Republican Democratic Green Libertarian Other:	
Opponent(s): Dan Lipinski (D), Michael Hawkins (R)	
Web Address: www.PeopleforPohlen.com	
Campaign Manager: James Frost	
Phone: (708) 698-7241	Email: JerryIL03@yahoo.com
Field Manager: James Frost	
Phone: (708) 698-7241	Email: JerryIL03@yahoo.com
Prior/current elective or appointive offices (include dates):	
Trustee, Berwyn Library Board, Spring 2007–Present (appointed)	



2008 General Election

Principal business/educational/professional/civic activities of the past ten years:

I have a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering and a master's degree in elementary education. I have taught 4th and 7th grade in the Chicago Public Schools, have developed math curricula for a National Science Foundation grant at the University of Illinois at Chicago, and worked for seven years as the Editorial Director for an educational toy company. And from 1986 to 1988 I was a Peace Corps volunteer in Benin, West Africa, working to combat global warming through a wood conservation program. I currently work as Senior Editor for Chicago Review Press and have written 10 books, most recently *Progressive Nation*, a guide to progressive movements in American history.

I currently serve as an appointed Trustee on the Berwyn Public Library board. I have worked with a coalition of peace and Green Party activists to place five different advisory referenda on the Berwyn Township ballot over the last two years; the initiatives have dealt with Iraq War policy and environmental initiatives. I am an active member of the Near West Citizens for Peace and Justice, Chicago Code Pink, and the Berwyn United Neighborhood Gay and Lesbian Association (BUNGALO). In 2004 I traveled often to Davenport, Iowa, to canvas and register voters with America Coming Together. And in the 1990s I volunteered with Horizons Community Services as a youth group facilitator.

Activities for other candidates. Be specific:

During the 2006 election I volunteered with the John Laesch campaign to unseat Dennis Hastert in the 14th District, canvassing primarily in Elgin before the election as well as working GOTV efforts on election day. During the 2006 primary I volunteered with the John Sullivan campaign in the 3rd District, both canvassing and phone banking. I volunteered help with promotions in the spring 2005 municipal election in Berwyn where the Independent Voters of Berwyn successfully swept the mayor and all but one alderman from office. And in 2004, in addition to registering voters in Iowa with ACT, I did phone banking to swing states for John Kerry.

All endorsements received thus far:

IVI-IPO, West Side Greens, South Metro Greens

Primary reason for running for this office:

The Iraq War must come to an end. In addition to the incalculable human cost, the war has cost voters in the 3rd District \$1.3 billion, money that could be spent for schools, health care, infrastructure, environmental projects, and more. The current congressman has voted for every war appropriation George Bush has asked for. I plan to stop him, and when in office I will not vote for any defense department appropriation that is not specifically aimed at bringing the troops home.

The Bush Administration, and its Democratic enablers, have done tremendous damage to America's image abroad, as well as innumerable domestic programs and the U.S. economy. I would push a resolution to rededicate the United States to the guidelines of the Geneva Conventions, join the World Court, and hold those responsible for this illegal war accountable. Domestically, I would vigorously support measures to develop renewable energy sources, extend public transportation block grants to municipalities, and work to establish single-payer, not-for-profit universal health care. I would also work to repair the damage done to the U.S. Constitution by the Patriot Act, the FISA bill, and the Military Commissions Act.

The 3rd District of Illinois has been poorly served by the Democratic machine for some time. Its current congressman was installed through a backroom deal, handing off the office from father to son as if it was a monarchy. If I can stop this with my candidacy, I will.

Campaign budget: \$10,000	Amount raised to date: \$5,000
Number of paid staff: 0	Number of Volunteers: 30



2008 General Election

Name: Jerome Pohlen
II-03 Green Candidate

Domestic Policy

		Yes or No
1	Would you vote for increased tax rates for the highest income brackets to offset tax relief for the middle class?	Y
2	Would you vote for a balanced budget requirement for the federal government?	N*
3	Do you support comprehensive, universal, single-payer health care?	Y
4	Would you vote for comprehensive immigration reform to include a path for citizenship for undocumented workers?	Y
5	Would you vote for a living wage requirement?	Y
6	Should the government take action to ensure pay equity across race and gender?	Y
7	Would you vote to increase state and national public education funding?	Y
8	Would you vote to move education funding from property taxes to the state income tax?	Y
9	Would you vote for increased fuel standards to curb global warming?	Y
10	Would you vote to close Guantanamo immediately and immediately try all inmates in US Federal Courts?	Y

* I support a balanced budget, but it might not always be feasible.

Civil and Human Rights

		Yes or No
11	Would you support legislation to eliminate racial profiling by law enforcement officials?	Y
12	Would you vote to increase the number of offenses before triggering mandatory sentencing?	Y
13	Would you vote to increase options for alternative sentencing rather than prison for non-violent crimes?	Y
14	Would you vote to abolish the use of secret evidence and illegally obtained evidence to be use in court?	Y
15	Would you vote to allow warrantless wire-taps or electronic monitoring of U.S. Citizens here or abroad?	N
16	Would you vote to allow detention of suspects and material witnesses without charges or probable cause?	N
17	Would you vote to use secret military tribunals instead of the U.S. judicial system for enemy combatants?	N
18	Would you vote to renew the Patriot Act?	N

Foreign Policy

		Yes or No
19	Would you vote for a "Fair" trade policy?	Y*
20	Would you vote to allow the president to preemptively attack other nations?	N
21	Should the U.S. participate in the International court of justice?	Y
22	Would you vote for a "Marshal Plan" in support of the UN millennial goal to eliminate poverty?	Y
23	Would you support increased funding to enhance the diplomatic capabilities of the U.S. State Department?	Y?***
24	Did you publicly oppose the Iraq war before it began?	Y
25	Should the U.S. maintain bases in Iraq after the war ends?	N
26	Should the Geneva Conventions be adhered to by both Israel and Palestine and supported by the US?	Y
27	Would you vote to attack Iran if it retaliates after being attacked by a U.S. ally?	N?***

* If by "Fair" you mean agreements that protect worker rights and environmental standards.

** This question is extremely vague. I support diplomacy over military action, and if that is what you are asking, I would say "Yes".

*** This question is too broadly worded to give a "Yes" or "No" answer. It would depend on the circumstances of the attack and the retaliation. However, I *strongly* disagree with the Bush Doctrine of pre-emptive attacks. Diplomacy should always be a first option.

Signature: _____ Date: _____