

MAINE CITIZENS FOR CLEAN ELECTIONS COMES TO HANCOCK COUNTY

20/10 Tour Celebrates 10 Years of Clean Elections

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(September 8, 2010) --- Hancock County will be the first stop in a statewide tour to celebrate ten years of Clean Election by reconnecting with the people who made Clean Elections possible – Maine voters. The Tour will stop at Rotary Clubs and other community groups as well as local newspapers, radio stations and public access TV shows.

MCCE will be unveiling a presentation at the Bar Harbor Rotary which looks at the commitment made by Maine people in passing the act and its successes to date. The Maine Clean Election Act took effect in 2000. Recently, publicly funded elections across the country have been under attack by well funded special interests.

Rotarian Dean Read said: "We are interested in clean elections because voters get a chance to be heard and money doesn't have more influence than the will of the people. Clean elections allows for fair representation but with unlimited amounts of money, money wins every time."

MCCE Co-Chairs Ann Luther and Alison Smith will spearhead the tour along with a host of supporters, volunteers and those who have used clean elections in the past. Representative Robert Stanwood (R)- Hancock County and MCCE communications committee member Phil Bailey will also be available to answer questions following the presentation.

Ann Luther said: "Ten years ago the Maine Clean Election Act put voters in the driver's seat, and today the system is used by about 80% of Maine candidates across the state and in all parties. Candidates like it because it allows them to run better campaigns – campaigns that are focused on voters, not donors. And voters like it because they know their representatives will serve without ties to special interests."

A poll commissioned by MCCE in the Spring of 2010 shows overwhelming support for Clean Elections. Information about the poll can be found at:

<http://www.mainelection.org/>

A formal press conference on September 9th in Portland will kick off the tour at 11:00 on the Eastern Promenade at Fort Allen.

EVENT INFORMATION:

Bar Harbor Rotary

Location: Birch Bay Village, 25 Village Inn Road, Bar Harbor

Time: 12:00

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