

# E-Democracy / Democracies Online Newswire - Media Giraffe Profile

## E-Democracy / Democracies Online Newswire

Steven L. Clift - Founder

"My goal is organize everyone who is interested in using the Internet to make their community, democracy and, what the heck, our world a better place. Using democratic intent to improve the outcomes of governance and citizen participation through the intelligent and effective use of information and communication technologies is my strategy . . . [w]e have to accept that the quaint, Norman Rockwell image of a town hall meeting is smashing up against the reality of our busy lives . . . if representative demoracy is not available anywhere at any time then it will not survive the information age . . . if you miss a meeting, you should be able to use online tools [to catch up]."

*Steven Clift, on his website in an Aug. 25, 2005 Media Giraffe Project interview, and in a speech (MP3 to right) "*

**Address:** 3211 East 44th Street

**Location:** Minneapolis, MN, 55406

**Email:** [clift@publicus.net](mailto:clift@publicus.net)

**Website:** <http://www.dowire.org/>

**Work:** (612) 822-8667

### About

UPDATE: -- Oct. 18, 2007:

Steve Clift explains his eDemocracy.org website -- citizen-to-citizen civic engagement -- in in Oct. 18, 2007, MGP interview conducted at the Online News Association convention in Toronto.

DOWNLOAD MP3 PODCAST (8 minutes)

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UPDATE -- Oct. 9, 2005

Clift has begun a comprehensive RSS feed page which provides constantly-updated links to blogs which deal with local news and democracy-enabling websites: <http://dowire.org/drupal/?q=aggregator/sources>

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Steven Clift is an online strategist and public speaker focused on the use of the Internet in democracy, governance, and community. He describes himself as having worked for the last decade to "fundamentally improve democracy and citizen participation through the use of the Internet." He says he seeks to "change the world one e-mail at a time."

About Democracies Online Newswire:

DoWire is a source for what's important and happening with the convergence of democracy and the Internet around the world. DoWire is a free, low volume, moderated e-mail announcement list. Launched in January 1998, DoWire claims to connect over 2,750 experts, practitioners, journalists, and citizens across 80 countries. Each week, e-democracy expert and speaker Steven Clift forwards, with occasional analysis, no more than

seven carefully selected messages. Posts include news, article, and report web links, event and conference announcements, calls for papers, and often uncover important "primary source" online resources, projects, and initiatives of significance. On July 26-27, 2005, Clift's DoWire held an International Symposium on Local E-Democracy. Click [HERE](#) to link to the symposium page.

#### ABOUT E-DEMOCRACY FORUMS:

(An excerpt from the E-Democracy Guide for Creating Online Issues Forums

(<http://e-democracy.org/uk/guide.pdf>):

"For more than a decade, we have explored the frontiers of online citizen participation. We have found the power of the Internet to inform and engage citizens to be exciting to some and quite challenging to others. Despite these conflicting viewpoints, most observers agree that the era of online citizen engagement remains in its infancy and its potential has yet to be achieved. In this new environment, we are explorers and innovators charting a new course. We are laying a foundation and creating approaches and tools that can transform the role of citizens in a democratic society."

#### Links

- [Read More](#)
- [Audio](#)

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Created: 2005-08-11 15:07:32

Last Modified: 2007-10-27 23:07:26