



# 25th Legislative District



## Democratic Focus



**MEET CHARLEY STOKES  
MEMBER OF 25TH LDD  
PIERCE COUNTY E-BD REP  
(STORY ON PAGE 3)**



**MEET ANNORA LAWVER  
(2 1/2 ) FIGUREING WHEN  
SHE WILL GET TO BE PC  
CHAIR LIKE HER  
FATHER, NATHE AND  
TALK TO THE  
25TH LDD MONTHLY  
MEETING ABOUT ISSUES**

**READ ALL ABOUT WHAT IS HAPPENING , WHAT DID HAPPEN, MINUTES  
AND UPCOMINGS**

**AND - - - - - PAY YOUR 2009 DUES TODAY!**



**25TH LEGISLATIVE  
DISTRICT DEMOCRATIC  
(LDD) OFFICERS**

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DEMOCRATIC  
ELECTED  
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For all other elected officials:  
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**DEMOCRATS  
CONTACT INFO**

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Pierce Co. Dem Party  
www.piercecounty-  
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FOR THE LATEST INFO  
AND/OR COPIES OF THE  
FOCUS CHECK OUT THE 25TH  
LDD WEBSITE AT:  
**www.25dems.org**



**30 Mar Mon** E-Board meets at  
7PM at Fire Station 66. 9813  
28th St, E., Puyallup

**2 Apr Thu** 6 PM 25 LDD Leg  
Action Committee meets. Con-  
tact Jerry Beckendorf for details

**2 Apr Thu** 25 LDD meets at  
7PM at Puyallup Library. David  
Johnson, Exec Sec WA State  
Build & Const Trades Council  
will be speaker.

**18 Apr Sat DEAD-**  
**LINE** for FOCUS arti-  
cles, pictures, etc.



**Special**  
**EVENTS** **24/25 Apr**  
PC Dems

host Wash State Dem Cen  
Comm meet at Hotel Murano,  
Tacoma. **24 Apr** Al Rosellini  
dinner at Hotel Murano, Ta-  
coma. (See page 3)

**4 May Mon** E-Board meets at  
7PM at Fire Station 66.

**7 May Thu** 25 LDD meets at  
7PM at Puyallup Library

**16 May Sat DEAD-**  
**LINE** for FOCUS arti-  
cles, pictures, etc.



You are invited to submit your  
meetings/events to be included  
in the Upcoming Events.

**MEET CHARLEY STOKES**  
**ONE OF THREE 25<sup>th</sup> LDD PIERCE COUNTY E-BOARD REPRESENTATIVES**

Charley says what that means is that he and Melissa Thompson and Carolyn Merrival attend the executive board meetings and make recommendations to them, and then report back to the 25<sup>th</sup> LDD on happenings at the county level. The PCDEE E-Board meets at least four times a year and a meeting was held February 12. One will be held May 14, July 9, September 10 and Nov. 12. Our representatives serve as a liaison between the Pierce County Democratic organization and the 25<sup>th</sup> LDD. The group also attends Central Committee meetings (which are general membership meetings). They meet six times a year and met on March 12, and will meet April 16, June 11, August 13, October 8 and Dec. 10. All meetings are held at 3049 S. 36<sup>th</sup> in Tacoma at the IBEW Hall.

Charley retired in 2005 from Boeing after 28 years, and then did contract work for an engineering firm that was at Boeing for a time. Now he is working for the Census Bureau. "If an opportunity comes up," said Charley, "that fits in with my current lifestyle, I'll step up to it!" Charley said that our members should know that the census is the basis of all redistricting efforts that change the CD and LD organization every ten years since the census population totals determine which states gain or lose representation in Congress. It also determines the amount of state and federal funding communities receive over the course of the next decade. 2010 Census data will directly affect how more than \$3 trillion is allocated to local, state and tribal governments over the next 10 years. For more information see [www.census.gov/2010](http://www.census.gov/2010).

Charley and his wife Kay were married 28 years ago and have two children, a daughter and a son who is a senior at Western. Kay is a para educator with the Puyallup School District, working with special needs kids.

Charley said he enjoys being active in politics, but is "passionate about good food and good wine."

He is a very involved member in the 25<sup>th</sup> LDD and said he would urge more members to become involved. "We have a great deal of silent members and we need those silent members to step up and get involved," said Stokes. "Our current motto could be 'step up and get involved and make a difference.'"

The Pierce County Democrats will host the Washington State Democrats Central Committee Meeting April 24 and 25 at the Hotel Murano, 1320 Broadway, Tacoma. Al Rosellini dinner is Friday the 24th April at the Hotel Murano from 6:30 to 9:00. Tickets are available through the Pierce County Democrats.



[www.piercecountydems.org](http://www.piercecountydems.org)

**25th LD Democrats Legislative Action Committee**  
**Status of bills as of March 12, 2009**  
**Taken from the King Co. Democrats LAC targeted list**

		Status of Bill
<b><u>Education:</u></b>	no King Co. Democrats LAC targeted bills still alive	
<b><u>Elections:</u></b>	<u>HB 1517 Restore Voting Rights</u>	S Gov Ops/Elections
	SB 5534 Restore Voting Rights	Dead
	SB 5292 Remove Robbery 2	Dead
<b><u>Environment:</u></b>	2SHB 1819 Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Dead
	2SSB 5735 Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Dead
	<u>2SHB 1747 Built Environment Pollution</u>	S Env/Water/Energy
	2SSB 5854 Built Environment Pollution	Dead
	2SHB 1490 Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Dead
	SSB 5687 Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Dead
	SHB 1614 Petroleum in Storm Water	Dead
<b><u>Health Care:</u></b>	<u>2SSB 5945 WA Health Partnership Plan</u>	H HC/Wellness
	SHB 1165 Unwanted Drug Disposal	Dead
<b><u>Human Services:</u></b>	Oppose Cuts to Human Services	
	SSB 5672 Lawful Source of Income	Dead
	SB 5150 & 5750 Effectively Dead for Session	Dead
	<u>SHB 1709 Small Loan Default Risk</u>	S Lab/Comm CP
	Maintain State Housing Trust Fund at \$200 million	
<b><u>Labor:</u></b>	SHB 1528 Employer Communications (Worker Privacy Act)	Both Dead
	SSB 5446 same	
	<u>2SSB 5319 Unemployment Compensation</u>	signed by Guv
	<u>SHB 1555 Underground Economy Construction</u>	H Lab/Comm CP
	SSB 5614 same	Dead
	<u>SHB 1554 L &amp; I Stop Work Orders Underground Economy</u>	S Comm/Labor
	<u>SSB 5613 same</u>	H Lab/Comm CP

**REPORT TO THE 25TH LDD MEMBERSHIP ON THE PIERCE COUNTY  
DEMOCRATIC PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING**

*By Charley Stokes*

There was heavy attendance for the small office space. If you plan to attend one of these board meetings, dress for very warm conditions! ☺

The 25<sup>th</sup> LDD was fully represented at the meeting by all three E-Board Reps (Melissa Thompson, Carolyn Merrival and yours truly). V-chair Kim King called the meeting to order, as Chair Lawver was out of town. The minutes of the regular Jan 8<sup>th</sup> meeting and the emergency Jan 17<sup>th</sup> eboard meetings and the Treasurers report were approved.

Although Nathe was out of town, he joined the meeting via speaker phone and gave the attendees a quick update on the legal action against the County Council and a review of the current level of donations to the legal defense fund and plans for fund raising.

Nathe also recommended that the board take action to support the Tacoma School Levy Issue and the Worker Privacy Act before the phone call ended.

The PCDC committee assignments: Finance Chair- John Laakso; By-Laws Chair- George Robinson; Technology Chair- Levi Wilhelmson; Elections Chair- Rose Ehart; Membership- Clare Bungay; Service, Events & Fundraising- Jeannie Mitchell; Affirmative Action- Anita Latch, Legislative- Walt Corneille. Moved, seconded and carried.

New PCO's were also appointed (none from the 25<sup>th</sup>) and candidate endorsements for Lakewood City Council and University Place were approved.

Karen Willard, State Committee Woman reported on the State re-org; Dwight Pelz re-elected to Chair, Luis Moscoso to Secretary and Habib Habib to Treasurer. Two-term incumbent Eileen MacColl was defeated by Sharon Smith for State V-Chair. PCDC reps are Rose Ehart (6<sup>th</sup>), Di Irons (8<sup>th</sup>) and Zach Smith (9<sup>th</sup>).

Karen Willard, elected to Chair for the 8<sup>th</sup> CD invited everyone in the 8<sup>th</sup> to get involved (see web site at: [www.8thCDdems.org](http://www.8thCDdems.org) ) They meet on the second Tue of the month in the IAM Hall in Auburn.

George Robison passed out suggested revisions to the PCDC By-Laws.

Jeannie Mitchell announced details for the Rosellini Dinner Fundraiser to be held at the Murano Hotel on Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are needed! Tickets will be \$75/person or \$125/couple.

Meeting adjourned at 8:28 PM.



The monthly 25th LDD meeting on Thursday 2 April starting at 7 PM will have David Johnson, Executive Secretary, Washington State Building and Construction Trades Council. He will cover the state of construction work and labor industries in our State. He will also address issues as outlook, apprenticeship and upcoming projects. Vice Chair Louis Tibbs said he should have a good grasp of the 2009 economic outlook for our State.

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***Want to follow the money given to us or any state or city and see what the projects are:*** Check out the website at: [www.StimulusWatch.org/project/by\\_state](http://www.StimulusWatch.org/project/by_state)



**PARTICIPANTS AT THE DEMOCRATICS CRAB FEED IN OLYMPIA:  
LEFT TO RIGHT:  
MIKE STEELE, MICHELLE DONALDSON, BETTY OGDEN,  
LAUREN ADLER, AND JERRY BECKENDORF**

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*Go For It!*

Are you ready to step up and make a difference in this organization? Consider running for 25th Leg. Dist. Democrats' Secretary! We currently have an open position on our current Executive Board since Elizabeth Collier's resignation earlier this month. We are looking for someone who is able to attend **all** of our official meetings and take notes, edit them, and publish them as necessary....If you like to take notes, and are hoping to become involved on the Executive Board, please contact Chair Laurent Adler. The special election for the position of Secretary will be held at our **7May 2009** meeting at the Puyallup Public Library. Please make sure that if you interested in running, to attend our May meeting.!!

*Remember, get involved and make a difference!*

*The time is now!!!*

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*The things that come to those that wait - may be the things left by those who got there first.*

## WORK PARTY AT SOUTH PRAIRIE CREEK

*By Brian Gunn, PCO, 31st District*



The work party out at South Prairie Creek the weekend of 14/15 Mar went very well. Democrats Work had a total of nine sign-ins, including two from the 25th LDD. I think some folks were dismayed by the rain in the early morning and did not come....as it turned out, the rain abated and we were able to get plenty of holes dug for new plants in the softened earth.

There were a couple of other groups out there, in all maybe 25 volunteers. Hundreds of plants were put into the ground. We will go back the next weekend also.



**JOHN ERNEST BERRY WORKING WITH JERRY ARVISAIS OF THE 31ST LDD.**



**LEFT IS DOUGLAS R. SMITH OF THE 31ST LDD WORKING WITH MELISSA BUCKINGHAM OF STREAM TEAM AND CHARLEY STOKES OF THE 25TH LDD.**



## **An Introduction to the 2010 Census**

### *Counting Everyone Once — and Only Once — and In the Right Place*

The foundation of our American democracy is dependent on fair and equitable representation in Congress. In order to achieve an accurate assessment of the number and location of the people living within the nation's borders, the U.S. Constitution mandates a census of the population every 10 years. The census population totals determine which states gain or lose representation in Congress. It also determines the amount of state and federal funding communities receive over the course of the decade. 2010 Census data will directly affect how more than \$3 trillion is allocated to local, state and tribal governments over the next 10 years. In order for this funding allocation to be accomplished fairly and accurately, the goal of the decennial census is to count everybody, count them only once, and count them in the right place. The facts gathered in the census also help shape decisions for the rest of the decade about public health, neighborhood improvements, transportation, education, senior services and much more.

### **Reaching an Increasingly Diverse Population**

The goal of the 2010 Census is to count all residents living in the United States on April 1, 2010. The U.S. Census Bureau does not ask about the legal status of respondents in any of its surveys and census programs. To help ensure the nation's increasingly diverse population can answer the questionnaire accurately and completely, about 13 million bilingual Spanish/English forms will be mailed to housing units in neighborhoods identified as requiring high levels of Spanish assistance. Additionally, questionnaires in Spanish, Chinese (Simplified), Korean, Vietnamese and Russian □ as well as language guides in 59 languages □ will be available on request.

### **Recruiting Census Workers**

By 2010, there will be an estimated 310 million people residing in the United States. Counting each person is one of the largest operations the federal government undertakes. For example, the Census Bureau will recruit nearly 3.8 million applicants for 2010 Census field operations. Of these applicants, the Census Bureau will hire about 1.4 million temporary employees. Some of these employees will be using GPS-equipped hand-held computers to update maps and ensure there is an accurate address list for the mailing of the census questionnaires.

### **10 Questions, 10 Minutes to Complete**

With one of the shortest questionnaires in history, the 2010 Census asks for name, gender, age, race, ethnicity, relationship, and whether you own or rent your home. It takes only about 10 minutes for the average household to complete. Questions about *how* we live as a nation □ our diversity, education, housing, jobs and more □ are now covered in the American Community Survey, which is conducted every year throughout the decade and replaces the

Census 2000 long-form questionnaire. Responses to the 2010 Census questionnaire are required by law.

All responses are used for statistical purposes only, and all are strictly confidential. For more information, visit the 2010 Census Web site at <<http://www.census.gov/2010>>. -X-



**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
March 3, 2009  
*By Joan Cronk, Acting Secretary*

.Chair Lauren Adler opened the meeting at 7:02 p.m. then led the flag salute.

Roll call of officers. Present: Chair-Lauren Adler; Vice Chair- Louis Tibbs; Treasurer- Luanne Green; State Committeeman-Jerry Beckendorf, State Committee Woman-Ellen Zulauf; PCDCC Executive Board Representatives- Melissa Thompson, Carolyn Merrival and Charley Stokes; Parliamentarian- Cliff Allo and Sergeant-at-Arms Eric Renz. Excused: Membership-Michelle Donaldson.

Chair Adler restated that Executive Board members will continue to present their monthly reports in writing for printing in the newsletter so that our business meetings can focus on our invited speakers and still leave time for conversation and fellowship following the meeting adjournment.

New Business: Chair Adler said there is a vacancy on the Executive Board for the office of Secretary following the resignation of Liz Collier. All interested parties should contact the Chair. We hope to elect a new person to that position in May. .

Eric Renz, seconded by Ken Peach, made a motion to authorize funds to create and print 1000 copies of membership 'remit' envelopes at a cost of \$350 to be used for periodic membership dues call. Anne Jacobson raised the question – "...would there be postage on the envelopes?" adding she thought members should pay for their own postage which elected general agreed from the membership. Charley Stokes added that using these envelopes helps the 25<sup>th</sup> LDD keep membership list and mailing and email addresses up to date. Chair Adler noted a healthy balance of \$9,426.82 in our accounts and offered we are well able to fund this expenditure. Motion passed.

Last month we discussed a resolution to support the March 10 ballot for the Puyallup School District Bond and Levy. The Executive Board has since received a draft from the Resolutions Committee, which it has reviewed and is forwarding same to the membership with a "do pass" recommendation. Cliff Allo moved to accept and adopt the Resolution; seconded by Carolyn Merrival. Discussion followed. Charley Stokes said on reflection he thinks the levy issue might be better served to be a "no" vote. He will vote for the bond, but not the levy noting the School Board has consistently failed to ask the City Council to raise impact fees. Eric Renz offered that he feels kids will suffer if the levy does not pass. Motion was called and carried. Chair Adler encouraged all members to get their ballots in and call friends to ask them to do the same. Chair Adler also added that we need to find progressive candidates to fill the two upcoming vacancies on the School Board.

A presentation by Brian Gunn of the 31<sup>st</sup> LDD followed. He represents the "Democrats Work" organization, which is dedicated to the idea that community service is a good way for Democrats to show what our values are. Brian supports ideas like helping out at a food bank or envi-

ronmental projects. He offers lots of ways to be involved and he asked the group to get involved. He passed out a flyer about a restoration project along South Prairie Creek project on March 14 and 21. Visit [www.democratswork.org](http://www.democratswork.org) for details.

25<sup>th</sup> LDD new member, Jey Castleberry, passed out a flyer filled with his ideas for community activism. His primary objective is to ‘humanize’ Democrats to the community. Jey is willing to lead the committee and asked for volunteers to also get involved. Lou Tibbs asked if we could piggyback with the 31<sup>st</sup> District efforts and Jey replied, “absolutely.” Charley Stokes noted that we need to be sure to check with the PDC to see if the use of organization funds for these projects is legal, as we may have to do some other fundraising.



Our guest speaker was Nathe Lawver, Chair of the Pierce County Democrats. Lawver said that the weekend of April 24 and 25, Pierce County will host the State Democrat Committee and will hold the Rosellini Dinner, Friday night, April 24 at the Murano Hotel in Tacoma. Speaker to be announced; cost is \$75/person or \$125/couple.

...Regarding the County Council, Lawver said the Republicans have a super majority on the Council. He discussed the status of the lawsuit against the Council due to their violations of the Pierce County Charter regarding the appointment of a replacement to fill the

vacancy left by Pat McCarthy. A hearing will be held at 3:30 PM on March 18. He said this is a good case and thanked the 25<sup>th</sup> LDD for their donation to the cause.

...

Thursday March 12 is the date for the Pierce County Democratic Central Committee, 6:30 PM at the IBEW Hall in Tacoma. The PCDCC is working to expand membership (dues: \$40) in the Democratic Party.

...Jerry Beckendorf asked about Dale Washam’s performance to date. Nathe said Washam refused to give his SS # to Human Resources. Al Rose noted that Washam has hired and retained some very competent help and appears to be aware of his own short-comings.

...Lou Tibbs asked about goals for the County this year. Nathe said the booth at the Puyallup Fair will be cut back about half; the lawsuit is giving us visibility and the Rosellini Dinner will be good for the county. Nathe noted that on Martin Luther King Day 60 people showed up to leaflet in Tacoma.

Good of the Order

...Jerry Beckendorf said we need to contact our Legislators regarding House Bill 1528 and Senate bill 5446, the Worker Privacy Act. This bill needs to pass. Beckendorf said to please call Jim and Dawn and tell them we support these bills.

...Beckendorf has met a lady who is willing to run against Dave Reichert in the next election. She may want to address our group.

...Anne Jacobson encouraged all to visit the History Museum before September 27 to see the exhibit on Women's Suffrage.

...David Henry spoke on the importance of health care and encouraged all to call their legislators regarding this issue.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20

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**25TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT  
FINANCIAL REPORT  
FEBRUARY 28, 2009**

Period Reported: February 1 - February 28, 2009

Bank Balance Club Account: (Closed April 1, 2008)		0.00
Beginning Balance January 1, 2009	\$	8,231.82

**Expenses**

Ken Peach - Newsletter Mailings	\$ 1.96*
PCDCC MAILING PERMIT	180.00
Joan Cronk - Refreshments	11.48
Basket Inauguration Refreshments, PCO	50.97
Pierce County Democrats - Lawsuit Support	400.00
Total Expenses	( 659.41)

**INCOME**

Dues & Donations	\$ 919.41
Donation Campaign Bal. - Sen Kastama	1,854.41
	1,500.00
Balance as of February 29, 2009	\$ 9,426.82

Checking A/C Balanced, C-3's filed, C-4 due 3/10/2009

\*Actual FOCUS Expense \$64.96, but Treasurer transposed #'s and disbursed \$63.00 too much on check, that amount deducted from March reimbursement check.

**HAVE YOU PAID YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2009 ?  
IF SO, THANK YOU - IF NOT, PLEASE DO!**

**Use this form to recruit friends and neighbors to join you  
in helping our Democratic party.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ City/ \_\_\_\_\_

Precinct: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues: Evergreen (includes Senior, outside district, etc) \$10 per member; Rainier \$25; Chair's Voice \$50; Senators Club \$100 (can be paid in installments.)

**Please send dues to: 25th LDD, POBox 73594, Puyallup, WA 98373**



IS ANYONE  
OUT THERE  
LISTENING?

**Well, you should be if you want the truth about politics  
by Audrey and Frank on their radio show  
Fridays at 1200 to 1 PM on KLAY 1180 AM!**

**And if for some reason or other you miss it then go to  
<http://www.liberaltopia.org>. There is a link on the right hand side of  
the screen that says: Frank and Audrey. Tune in or be tuned out.**

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