



25th Legislative District



Democratic Focus



**25th LDD REPRESENTATIVES AT DEMOCRATIC ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY
LEFT TO RIGHT: KEN PEACH, ERIC RENTZ, JOAN CRONK, ELLEN ZULAUF, MARK
LINDQUIST, MELISSA THOMPSON, LOUIS TIBBS, KEN BLAIR, JERRY BECKENDORF**

**READ ABOUT WHAT IS HAPPENING , AND OTHER NOTES
PLUS UPCOMINGS (PAGE 2)
AND - - - - PAY YOUR DUES FOR 2011 - - - - - AND
A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!**

25TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT DEMOCRATIC (LDD) OFFICERS

President/Chair: Louis Tibbs
Tel: (253) 848-5496
Email: LTibbs3@comcast.net

Vice Chair: Luanne Green
Tel: (253) 848-0289
Email: raygre@msn.com

Treasurer: Harold (Al) Gray
Tel: (253) 539-2720
Email: halgray@RAINIERconnect.com

Ass't Treas: Luanne Green
Tel: (253) 848-0289
Email: raygre@msn.com

Secretary: Melissa Thompson
Tel: (253) 970-7339
email: melissathompson26@yahoo.com

Parliamentarian: Cliff Allo
Tel: (253) 208-8167
Email: cliffallo@blarg.com

Sergeant-At-Arm: Eric Renz
Tel: (253) 302-1698
Email: ijcrenz@comcast.net

Membership Chair:
Ray Green
Tel: (253) 848-0289
Email: raygre@msn.com

State Committeeman:
Cliff Allo
Tel: (253) 208-8167
Email: cliffallo@blarg.com

State Committeewoman:
Ellen Zulauf
Tel: (253) 845-9370
email: eazul@msn.com

25TH DISTRICT DEMOCRATIC ELECTED OFFICIALS



Senator
Jim Kastama
(253) 840-4701

email:
kastama.jim@leg.wa.gov

For all other elected officials:
Legislative Hotline:
1-800-562-6000

DEMOCRATS CONTACT INFO

DNC:
www.democrats.org
WA State Dem Party
www.wa-democrats.org
Pierce Co. Dem Party
www.piercecounty-dems.org

PIERCE COUNTY 25th LDD E-BOARD REPS:

Pos 1: Eric Herde
Tel: (253) 441-5760
Email: epwh@earthlink.net

Pos 2: Melissa Thompson
Tel: (253) 970-7339
Email: melissathompson26@yahoo.com

Pos 3: Marvin Swanson
Tel: (253) 845-0194
Email: mswa658080@aol.com

FOR THE LATEST INFO AND/OR COPIES OF THE FOCUS CHECK OUT THE 25TH LDD WEBSITE AT:::www.25dems.org

Upcoming Events

3 Jan Mon E-Board meets at 7PM at Fire Station 66. 9813 28th St E., Puyallup.

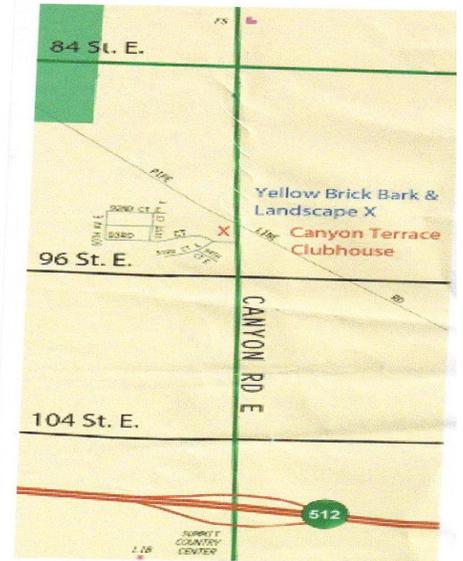
6 Jan Thu No general 25 LDD Meeting this month.

7 Jan Fri Annual Send-Off Dinner for Legislators at Elks Club (See page 3 for details)

DEADLINE 15 Jan Sat DEADLINE for FOCUS articles, pictures, etc.

NOTE CHANGE OF DATE AND ADDRESS FOR FEB

1 Feb Tuesday 7 PM at Canyon Terrace Mobile Home Clubhouse 9314 Canyon Rd E. (See map)



Canyon Terrace MHP Clubhouse
9314 Canyon Road East
Puyallup, WA 98371-6375

FROM THE CHAIR

The New Year 2011 has brought with it many new changes. Nationally our party is faced with a Republican-controlled House. Locally we have lost a great Democrat Representative in Olympia, Dawn Morrell. In Pierce County we have a new Democrat Chair, Rose Ehart. In the 25th LD we have a new Executive Board (see our website for the list of names & contact info). The New Year will bring redistricting upon us, which will impact our 25th LD. Our state will gain a tenth Congressional District. I hope all of you will renew your commitment to attend our monthly meetings and stay informed! Friday, January 7th will be our annual Legislative Dinner at the Puyallup Elks. Our guest speaker will be Congressman Adam Smith. In February we will have Julie Anderson, Pierce County Auditor. I look forward to seeing each of you during 2011.

Louis

TRIBUTE TO DAWN

By Senator Jim Kastama

Dawn Morrell distinguished herself in the legislature, much like she has distinguished herself in the Puyallup community. In 2001, when the 25th District needed someone to step forward and run for the House of Representatives, Dawn volunteered. When I first met her, she was a serious candidate, as you might expect from someone who knew her way around a hospital emergency room. But she didn't take herself too seriously, and showed that by her occasional humor and unusually frank discussions. She knew it would be tough to get elected, but to her, it was doable and important.

After she was elected, Dawn approached her work in the Legislature in the same manner. She was well versed in her issues, especially her passion: health care. In fact, the new Good Samaritan Hospital cardiac unit would not be built but for specific legislation she spearheaded. I still remember receiving a phone call from her one evening after she had finished one of her shifts. She told me of residents in our community who were denied necessary cardiac services due to obsolete state regulations. "We have to do something" she said convincingly. I was sold.

It also didn't take long for Dawn's colleagues to come to trust her judgment and leadership. When the Caucus Chair from Walla Walla, Representative Bill Grant, died unexpectedly in 2009, it was hard to find a replacement. "Who could be trusted by the different factions within the House democratic caucus?" legislators asked. Dawn was approached, or "drafted," by a number of her colleagues to run for the position, including Speaker Frank Chopp. I vaguely remember Dawn being hesitant about running for the position -- "why would I want to do that?" she questioned. "I want to stay focused on healthcare." But it didn't take long for her to realize that the House, and the state, would be better off with her in that position.

Through some of the most difficult budget times in our state's history, Dawn served as the House Caucus Chair for the 2009 and 2010 sessions. Her accomplishments are many --from transportation projects for this area, to civil rights for its citizens, to well-deserved benefits for our veterans, Dawn was steadfast and driven.

For eight years we were all lucky and blessed to call Dawn our Representative. We are still lucky and blessed to have her as part of our community.

25th LD DECEMBER 2nd REORGANIZATION MINUTES

By Melissa Thompson

The following elections for the Chair, Vice-Chair, State Committee Woman, State Committee Man, 1st County Committee Member, 2nd County Committee Member and 3rd County Committee Member are all voted on by the Elected PCO's for the 25th District. Also 2 out of the 3 County Committee Members must be PCO's. There were 12 PCO's who attended the meeting.

Louis Tibbs was elected Chair by a unanimous vote of 12-0.

Luanne Green was elected Vice-Chair by a unanimous vote of 12-0.

Ellen Zuluaf was elected State Committee Woman by a unanimous vote of 12-0.

Cliff Allo was elected State Committee Man by a unanimous vote of 12-0.

Eric Herde was elected 1st County Committee Member by a unanimous vote of 12-0.

There was a contested race for 2nd County Committee Member Melissa Thompson won with 9 votes against Challenger Merv Swanson with 3 votes.

Merv Swanson was elected 3rd County Committee Member by a unanimous vote of 12-0.

We called the 25th Legislative District Meeting to order, we then had the Flag Salute. Then Chair Louis Tibbs appointed Cliff Allo as Parliamentarian. Then we had elections for Treasurer, Secretary, Membership Officer, and Sergeant at Arms which were voted on by PCOs and Dues paying members of the organization.

Al Gray was elected Treasurer with a 21-0 vote with 1 member not voting.

Melissa Thompson was elected Secretary with a 20-0 vote with 2 members not voting.

Ray Green was elected Membership Officer with a 21-0 vote with 1 member not voting.

Eric Renz was elected Sergeant at Arms with a 22-0 vote.

We adopted the Agenda, the minutes, and the Treasurer's Report which were online. We had several Elected Officials which were Senator Jim Kastama and District Court Judge Claire Sussman.

Senator Kastama spoke about the State Budget and we will have to make more cuts and efficiency of some programs. He wasn't sure if there will be a special session. He chairs the Economic Committee and is seeking appointment to the Ways & Means Appropriations committee. He said that Washington State is ranked 2nd in the nation for Innovative Economy. He will try to make it back from session for every LD meeting to give us a legislative update.

Newly elected District Court Judge Claire Sussman thanked the LD for helping her win her election. She talked a little about what kind of cases the District Court handles. She announced that the traffic court will now be held at the City Courthouse.

Cliff Allo talked about the Resolution Process. It must be drafted with stating its cause and using the whereas and therefore be it finally resolved wording. It is then reported to the resolutions committee which will look at it and fixed if any corrections are needed, then it's reported to the LD which then can be adopted by the LD if we believe in the resolution.

Eric Herde wrote a resolution to reduce Unemployment by lowering the retirement age. He wrote this resolution based on facts he got from research and listening to radio show talk host Thom Hartman. He thinks that by lowering the retirement age by 5 years that it will help with the lowering the unemployment nation-wide. We had discussion about the resolution then Charley Stokes came up with a motion to table the resolution and do more research. The motion to table was seconded and passed.

Legislative Send-off Dinner with Congressman Adam Smith as Guest Speaker will be at the Puyallup Elks club on Friday January 7th. Social Hour starts at 6 p.m. with Dinner at 7p.m. This will take place of our January General Membership Meeting.

The night of the monthly meetings will change. February's meeting will be at Al Gray's at the Canyon Terrace Clubhouse 9314 Canyon Rd E, Puyallup, WA 98371 on Tuesday February 1st. Starting in March the meeting will be at the Puyallup Library either the 1st Monday or 1st Tuesday of the Month.

Jerry Beckendorf thanked the people who donated toys or gift cards for the Toy Drive.

The meeting was adjourned at 0845 PM.

THANKS FOR ALLOWING ME TO SERVE AS YOUR STATE COMMITTEEMAN

A lot has happened in the 4 years since I was elected to serve as the 25th LD Democrats State Committeeman. I have been on the Labor Caucus, served on a short-lived Communications committee, and gotten to know many state-wide Democratic leaders. I also want to thank Ellen Zulauf, who was a huge help to me in learning how to represent you at the WSDCC. Together we experienced outstanding elections for Democrats in 2006 and 2008 including a record setting Precinct and Legislative Caucus in 2008. In 2010, in Washington we re-elected all Democratic members of Congress, maintained majorities in the State House and State Senate.

Although the bubble burst on us locally when we let a young Republican who could campaign full-time slip by our friend and outstanding State Rep and Democratic Caucus Chair, Dawn Morrell. I know many of us worked hard on Dawn's campaign and she won my precinct by 99 votes. Some of our members need to examine their schedules and make sure that in future elections they find more time to devote to our Democratic candidates because we just can't lose elections by 30 votes! The 2nd and 25th District used to be solidly Democratic House and Senate members. Now only one Democrat, Sen. Jim Kastama, remains and that should give us pause. David Plouffee in his book "The Audacity to Win" has it right when he is aggressive in recruiting donors and volunteers for the Obama campaign and I paraphrase: It's not just please donate and volunteer your time to help our candidate....It's if you don't donate and volunteer your time, our candidate will lose!

Again, thanks for the opportunity to serve you and please reflect on what everyone can do to help build our 25th LD Democrats organization over the next 2 years.

Jerry Beckendorf
Out-going State Committeeman

THANKS FOR DONATING TOYS

I put out a request for toys for the Pierce County Labor Community Services Agency and was overwhelmed when I received over 8 boxes of toys and numerous gift cards from our 25th LD and from the Retired Public Employees Puyallup Chapter. The toys along with Fred Meyer gift cards for food and utility assistance will be distributed to union members who are unemployed and are in great need. Folks will also be referred to food banks and other agencies who can be of help.

The Pierce County Labor Agency is a 501(c)3 so your donations are tax deductible. As a founding member of this organization I want to thank all of you for helping these folks. The need is especially great this year and the need continues all year. Jerry

GOOD OF THE ORDER

By Wayne H. Keller

The day before the election, a Republican friend (yes, I have a couple of them) asked if I were ready to celebrate the next day. "Celebrate what?" I asked. "Change!" he responded. His response activated my writing juices.

So here I am – a life-time Democrat – acting as a Republican.
These are the changes we Republicans want and will achieve.

First and Second – we demand a one-term presidency and we will do whatever it takes, including a return to Bush policies.

We will...

3. never compromise.
4. Keep the Bush tax-cuts for the rich.
5. Destroy the middle class.
6. Defund or eliminate the public school system.
7. Cancel the present health care system
8. Not give a damn about the poor and powerless.
9. Eliminate the checks and balances provided by our Democratic –Republic.
10. Privatize Social Security.
11. Prosecute those who disagree with us.
12. Protect Republicans, Conservatives, Fundamentalist from their adulterous and criminal behaving ; because we are the "Family Values Party".
13. Reinterpret the Constitution and Bill of Rights to fit our decisions.
14. Accept conservative and republican lies as the truth.
15. Continue to send our jobs overseas, with the help of the National Chamber of Congress.
16. Drill oil whenever and wherever the old companies.
The environment is fine.
17. Keep our money-resources secret.
18. Support Wall Street, rather than Main Street.
19. Make the country safe for white men, protecting white women.
20. Establish a corporatist nation, with theocratic overtones.
21. Gerrymander all Congressional Districts to favor only us Republicans.

And, in order to make all of this happen, we will respond to the threat of the African-American who said, "If we don't get what we want, we will violently overthrow the US Government." Glen Beck responded "He's my kind of man." Sharon Engel added, "We will get our way through the barrel of a gun". And not to be outdone Sarah Palin topped it off: "Don't Retreat. Reload!"

And I add, as my last act as Republican: "Get going. We have two years!"

PS: Thank you Supreme Court, National Chamber of Congress, Rich CEO's, Secret money, China and other countries.

(NOTE: This is meant to be satire and was not written by any members of the 25th LDD Board.)

**25TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT
FINANCIAL REPORT**

December 19, 2010

By Luanne Green, Treasurer

Period reported: November 1 – 30, 2010

Beginning Balance: \$ 5,584.48

Expenses:

Cart-Doc – Underpaid on Invoice (Reimbursement)	\$ 4.00
Emerald Self Storage – Extend Lease thru 1/31/2012	462.00
US Postmaster – Stamps for Focus	44.00
Total Expenses:	(\$ 510.00)

Income:

Restore amt. lost check Elks Club #678	\$ 45.90
Retore amt. lost check Elks Club #679	56.46

Total Income: 102.36

Balance as of November 30, 2010 \$ 5,176.84

Checking A/C Balanced, C-3's Filed, C-4 filed 12/10/2010

Pre-Pay for the kick off dinner to be held Friday, January 7, 2011 has been extended to January 4, 2011. The charge for the dinner if pre-paid is \$20 per person and \$35 per couple. If paid at the door, the charge is \$25 per person and \$40 per couple. Checks should be made payable to 25thLDD and mailed to P.O. Box 73594, Puyallup, WA 98373.



**REMEMBER TO JOIN THE MONTHLY 25TH LDD MEETING AT
THE PUYALLUP LIBRARY (OR WHERE EVER IT MEETS) - AND
ALSO ENJOY COFFEE AND SWEETS!**

**HAVE YOU PAID YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2011 ?
IF SO, THANK YOU - IF NOT 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.**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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