



# 25th Legislative District



## Democratic Focus



**REPRESENTATIVE DENNY HECK  
SPEAKER FOR JULY GENERAL MEETING**

**AT THE 25TH LDD GENERAL MEETING  
WE WILL BE BACK AT THE PUYALLUP LIBRARY  
AT 7 PM JULY 7, 2014**

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

**Chair: Ed Herde**  
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**Vice Chair:**  
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**Kathryn Wright**  
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**Secretary: Eric Renz**  
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**Parliamentarian and Web-  
ster: Cliff Allo**  
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**Sergeant-At-Arms:**  
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**State Committeeman:**  
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**State Committeewoman:**  
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Email: eazul@comcast.net

**25TH DISTRICT  
DEMOCRATIC  
ELECTED  
OFFICIALS**

**REPRESENTATIVE**  
**DAWN MORRELL**



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

DNC: [www.democrats.org](http://www.democrats.org)

WA State Dem Party  
[www.wa-democrats.org](http://www.wa-democrats.org)

**25TH LDD E-BOARD  
PIERCE COUNTY  
REPRESENTATIVES**

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**Website.** For latest info or cop-  
ies of FOCUS check out 25th  
LDD Website at: [25dems.org](http://25dems.org)  
[www.25dems.org](http://www.25dems.org)

**MEETINGS**

**30 Jun Mon** E-Board meets at  
7 PM at Fire Station 66

**7 Jul Mon** 25 LDD General  
Meeting will be at the Puyallup  
Library at 7 PM.



**12 Jul Sat DEAD-  
LINE** for FOCUS  
articles, pictures, etc.

**28 Jul Mon** E-Board meets at 7  
PM at Fire Station 66.

**4 Aug Mon** 25 LDD General  
Meeting will be at the **Canyon  
Terrace Estates, 9312 Canyon  
Road E, Puyallup at 7 PM.**



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

**25 Aug Mon** E-Board meets at  
7 PM at Fire Station 66.

**8 Sep Mon** 25 LDD General  
Meeting will be at the Puyallup  
Library at 7 PM.



**20 Sep Sat DEAD-  
LINE** for FOCUS  
articles, pictures, etc.

**29 Sep Mon** E-Board meets at 7  
PM at Fire Station 66.

# Chair's Message

Ed Herde

On June 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> in Spokane the Washington State Democrats held their biannual convention. The party platform was discussed and passed as well as several resolutions that lay out what the Washington State Democrats stand for. Anyone can read the party platform on the Washington State Democrats website: <http://www.wa-democrats.org>. I want to thank three members of the 25<sup>th</sup> LD Democrats for taking on extra responsibilities and representing the 25<sup>th</sup> LD on three convention committees. David Henry this year served on the credentials committee, Eric Herde worked on revision of convention rules on the rules committee prior to and at the convention, and Eric Renz was on the platform committee.

The committee that requires the most preparation is the platform and resolutions committee. This year Eric Renz was our representative to the platform and resolutions committee which is charged with thoroughly reviewing and revising the State Party Platform; and reviewing and/or revising, then recommending whether to pass or not pass over a hundred resolutions submitted by Democratic LD and County organizations across Washington State. Eric Renz attended multiple meetings prior to the convention and spent several hours reviewing platform planks and resolutions, as well as the committee meeting at the convention. I thank David Henry and Eric Herde, and give extra thanks to Eric Renz because after taking part in the convention as a delegate I can see how much work is involved in the platform and resolutions committee. The 25<sup>th</sup> LD was allowed seven elected delegates plus our two state committee representatives, the LD chair, and our Democratic State Representative for a total of 11 delegates to the state convention. Our seven elected delegates were elected by 25<sup>th</sup> LD voters at our Legislative District Caucus in March. At the convention the delegates heard from Governor Jay Inslee, U.S. Representatives Suzan DelBene, Denny Heck, and Derick Kilmer, and several other elected Democratic officials and Democratic candidates. Our delegates took part in an often lively discussion on the convention floor and successfully passed the platform and many resolutions. This was not easy because it was a beautiful day in Spokane, the Blue Oasis in the desert of red Eastern Washington.

The 25<sup>th</sup> LD delegates to the convention were: Laura Groves, Karen Herde, Bryan Yambe, Eric Renz, Jerry Beckendorf, Merv Swanson, Eric Herde, Ellen Zulauf, David Henry, and Ed Herde. Thank you all for attending and representing us.

**25<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Democratic Organization**  
**Member Meeting, June 2, 2014**  
Held at Puyallup Library

Meeting called to order at 7:07 p.m. by Chair Ed Herde. Ed Herde led the flag salute. Roll was called.

Officers present: Chair Ed Herde, Vice Chair Laura Groves, Treasurer Luanne Green, Asst Treasurer Kathryn Wright, Secretary Eric Renz, Parliamentarian Cliff Allo, Membership Chair Blaine Pearman, PCO Chair Eric Herde, State Committeeman David Henry, PC Dem Rep #1 Eric Herde, PC Dem Rep #3 Mervin Swanson, Focus Editor Joan Cronk

Approximate total attendance: 16 plus judicial nominees.

**The consent agenda** was approved as presented.

**Judicial Endorsements**

Presentations followed by Q & A were given by Charles Johnson, Carl Williams, Jeanette Lineberry, Sandy Allen.

The membership voted to endorse Charles Johnson, State Supreme Court Position 4, Mary Fairhurst, State Supreme Court Position 3, Mary Yu, State Supreme Court, Position 1, Debra Stephens, State Supreme Court, Position 7 and Karl Williams, Pierce County District Court 8.

**Action Items**

The LDO voted to endorse Eric Renz for State Legislature, 25<sup>th</sup> LD, Position 2.

The LDO voted to make LDO donations of \$500 each to the campaigns of Dawn Morrell and Eric Renz.

The LDO voted to endorse Senate Joint resolution 19 proposed by Sen. Tom Udall, D-N.Mex., regarding a Constitutional Amendment relating to campaign contributions and expenditures.

**Good of the Order**

Anne Jacobson's memorial service will be Sunday, June 15, 2pm at the Allmendinger Center at the WSU Puyallup campus. Paul Jacobson requests that those attending RSVP (preferably by e-mail to: [peejay27@q.com](mailto:peejay27@q.com) or by telephone (253)848-5585. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the League of Women Voters, Rails-to Trails or Master Gardener Program of Washington State University.

Denny Heck campaign kick-off Saturday, 6/14 at FPHS.

- respectfully submitted, Eric Renz, Secretary

## Campaigning Out of Nowhere

Campaigning out of nowhere has been a real adventure. It's been a steep learning curve and a humbling experience. I started to learn about the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) rules and process, but Karen Herde saved me from that by offering her veteran skills to be treasurer of my campaign committee.

I had to figure out where I actually stood on all the current state issues! I have been passionate about education and support for children conception to 21. I have long advocated for better care for people with mental illnesses. I want this beautiful place we've been given to be just as beautiful and life-filled for my great-grandchildren and beyond. There is SO much more in the conversation at our legislature. I worked on the Washington Democrats platform, from the county group to the final presented at Spokane. That really helped me get the big picture.

How do you create a winning campaign? Like most of us, I had doorbelled and phoned the list I was given. I put up a couple of signs. I got a lot of campaign mail. But what worked? How many how often? I'm still swimming in ideas as the primary draws near. I'm open to ideas from other Dems and certainly open to help. A computer-focused graphic artist would be a great help right now. Fundraising is still needed. We will need phone bank volunteers the last three weeks before the primary, July 15 to August 5, Primary day. All advice and help is welcome. It's OUR campaign. Together we're better.

- Eric Renz, Candidate, 25<sup>th</sup> District Representative, Pos. 2

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### POINTS TO KEEP IN MIND FOR A GOOD LIFE

By Regina Brett, 90 Years old

1. Life isn't fair, but it's still good.
2. When in doubt, just take the next small step.
3. Life is too short to waste time hating anyone.
4. You don't have to win every argument. Agree to disagree.
5. When it comes to chocolate, resistance is futile.
6. Make peace with your past so it won't screw up the present.
7. Don't compare your life to others. You have no idea what their journey is all about.
8. Take a deep breath. It really calms the mind.
9. Get rid of anything that isn't useful, beautiful or joyful.
10. If a relationship has to be a secret, you shouldn't be in it.
11. It's never too late to have a happy childhood. But the second one is up to you and no one else.
12. Burn the candles, use the nice sheets, wear the fancy lingerie. Don't save it for a special occasion. Today is special.
13. Over prepare, then go with the flow.
14. Be eccentric now. Don't wait for old age to wear purple.
15. No one is in charge of your happiness but you.
16. When it comes to going after what you love in life, don't take no for an answer.
17. However good or bad a situation is it will change.

## Renewing the State Platform

It was my joy and then my advantage to be on the Pierce County Dems platform committee for 2014. The research and conversations really fed my head. As things turned out, they also prepared me to create my personal platform for my election campaign. To briefly introduce and review the Platform work, I first offer the full text of the preamble. This is OUR preamble as we organize and campaign as Washington Democrats.

Preamble

As Democrats we place the well-being of the people as our highest priority. We believe in the values of community, empathy, equality, tolerance, opportunity, and the common good of the interdependent world we share. These values provide the basis for our ideals and are supported by our state and federal Constitutions.

Our actions define our society, our freedoms, and our responsibilities. To fulfill the potential of our values and ideals, we encourage every citizen to participate in civic activities, including continuously raising awareness of the issues contained within this Platform. The people have a right to expect their elected representatives to govern in a manner that will protect and promote their civil liberties, human rights, and quality of life.

We invite everyone to join with us in advocating for legislation that ensures peace, prosperity, liberty, and justice for all.

We expect elected Democrats to publicly and actively work to bring the principles of this platform to fruition using all available legal and parliamentary procedures.

The primary change here is the addition of the last line. The Platform has long called for every citizen to raise awareness of the Platform's values. The Convention added a call for elected Democrats specifically *to publicly and actively work to bring the principles of this platform to fruition.*

The Convention approved various revisions and additions to the platform:

The Agriculture plank got added emphasis on water quality and aquaculture.

The Corporate Power plank added a denial that corporations had the rights of persons regarding campaigns and elections.

A call for addressing student debt was added to the Economic Justice plank, as well as a call for a state bank.

More climate crisis material was added to the Energy Plank.

While calling for continued immigration reform and justice, the Immigration plank also opposed the use of immigrant visas to replace available US workers.

The Law and Justice plank was strengthened in its resistance to the Patriot Act and its support for stricter gun transfer and sale controls.

Both the Transportation and Environment planks addressed coal and oil train problems.

The Platform is intended to be a long-term statement of principles. Resolutions address issues that call for action now to make a change now. There were well over 100 resolutions submitted from Democratic organizations. Those that passed are accessible on the WA Dems website. Resolutions on coal and oil train issues and the death penalty that originated from the 25<sup>th</sup> LD were passed by the Convention.

It is a good education and awareness exercise to visit the WA Dems website and read the texts of our self-declared purposes.

<http://www.wa-emocrats.org/sites/wadems/files/documents/Washington%20State%20Democrats%20-%202014%20Platform.pdf>

## **Our Shameful Past and Our Present Shame**

On the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this past week of the deaths of four civil rights workers in Mississippi who were merely out to register African American voters, let's not forget that we have modern day American haters. This crime happened because hate and violence against black Americans was tolerated in Mississippi. Today the merchants of hate are allowed to practice their craft on our public airways, cable TV, and internet venues with very little push back to the hate speech. Undercutting of the dignity and the legitimacy of the roll of targeted minorities in our society does not receive the moral critique it deserves. The shame that should come from those in positions of leadership for these American haters is severely lacking. The missing rejection for hate speech allows more hate to be fertilized in the wild minds of the mentally isolated and intolerant.

Possibly worse than the hate spread by these hate merchants is that the hate is propagated by the power class as a distraction from what is really important to 99.99% of Americans, the things that impact their future and their children's future. The hate is just a tool to the super rich who need to rally voters to help them keep their pawns in elected office. This sociopathic portion of the power class of this country cares so little about Americans that they will use some to hurt others for nothing but to gain more wealth and power for themselves. Push your representatives to do the right thing and speak out.

Love thy Sisters and Brothers.

Ed Herde

**25<sup>th</sup> LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT  
FINANCIAL REPORT  
WILL NOW BE AVAILABLE EACH MONTH UPON REQUEST BY  
A MEMBER INSTEAD OF BEING ON THE WEBSITE.**

## HAVE YOU PAID YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES ?

### DUES SHOULD BE PAID NOW FOR 2014!

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/ \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ 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, PO Box 73594, Puyallup, WA 98373 or**

**Pay by credit card: click on <https://secureform.cloud.clickandpledge.com/20184/1/>**



**Well, you should be if you want the truth about politics  
by Frank Blair and Traci Kelly 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 [equaltimeradio.net](http://equaltimeradio.net).  
Tune in or be tuned out.**

## NOT A 25TH LD MEMBER? YOU ARE NEEDED

Dear Democrat,

I am writing to ask you as a past member of the 25th Legislative District Democrats organization to consider renewing your membership for 2014. In the present political climate with organized attacks on voting rights, a vibrant media, the environment, labor laws, worker safety, Social Security, Medicare and more it is important that we have funds available to help candidates and issues even at a local level. The right wing and corporate interests that are now trying to take away the advances that have kept many Americans out of poverty over the past six decades are attacking us on a state and local level because it is easier to sneak past the people with our weak local media, than it is to change national policy.

Please join or renew your membership with the 25th Legislative Democrats to help stem the tide of attacks on democratic principles. It is more important than ever to become more involved.

Sincerely,

Ed Herde, District Chair