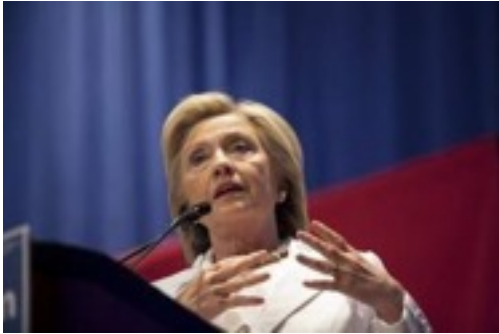




**25th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT
DEMOCRATIC FOCUS**



Our June 7 meeting will be a candidate forum and endorsement meeting. We will be hearing from candidates and their representatives for the offices of State House, State Senate, County Council, County Executive, Lt. Governor, Governor, U.S. House and U. S. Senate. The meeting will be held at the Puyallup Library at 7 pm.

July meeting will be on Tuesday July 5th at the Puyallup Library at 7:00 pm. This is because the first Monday of the month is the July 4th Holiday.

Minutes of the 25th Legislative District Democratic Organization
Member Meeting, May 2, 2016
Held at Puyallup Public Library

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Ed Herde at 7:05pm

Roll was called: Officers present: Ed Herde, Chairman; Bill Havens, Treasurer; Kareen Shanks, Secretary; Cliff Allo, Parliamentarian & Webster; Blaine Pearman, Membership Chair; Eric Herde, PCO Chair; Joan Cronk, Focus Editor; Ellen Zulauf, State Committeewoman; Merv Swanson, PC Representative Position 3

Candidates for upcoming elections were introduced and gave a short statement:

Philip Sorensen, Judge for PC Superior Court, Position 19

Gretchen Leanderson, Judge for PC Superior Court, Position 15

Commissioner Karena Kirkendoll, Position 17

David Ladenburg, PC Superior Court Position 17

Jamie Smith, WA State House of Representatives, 25th LD, Position 1

Carolyn Edmonds, PC Council District 2

Jeff Sprung, Washington State Auditor

Cyrus Habib, Lt. Governor

Jennifer Gigi Ferguson, U.S. Representative, 10th CD

Action Items: Nomination of Precinct Committee Officers:

25-207	Ashley Witzens
25-263	Kari Welch (agenda incorrectly stated precinct 25-215)
25-238	Shannon Brown
25-241	Shaun Williams
25-268	Nora Campbell
25-282	Dylan Kessler

Speaker: Tina Podlodowski, Democratic Candidate for Secretary of State

Discussion and vote on the 25th LD Bumper Sticker Platform. Some items were struck. Platform will be further developed then posted on the 25th web page.

Good of the Order: 1) Jerry Beckendorf reminded us of the Peanut butter drive by the unions. Donations were collected. 2) Announcement of Karl Mecklenburg's 5-26-16 Campaign Kickoff. 3) Announcement of 5-10-16 meeting on Shaw Road Warehouse Proposal 4) Announcement of Pat Jenkins 5-18-16 Campaign Kickoff.

Meeting was adjourned at approx. 9:00pm

Chair's Message

Ed Herde

Our Monday June 6th Meeting will be our first of two candidate forum and endorsement meetings. We will be hearing from candidates and their representatives for the offices of State House, State Senate, County Council, County Executive, Lieutenant Governor, Governor, U.S. House, and U.S. Senate. Please come listen to the candidates, ask questions, and vote on endorsements. Precinct Committee Officers and anyone who has been a dues paying member for at least one month is eligible to vote on endorsements.

Our July 5th meeting will be our second candidate forum and endorsement meeting. Our July meeting is being held on Tuesday July 5th since our regular meeting day, the first Monday of the month, is the July 4th holiday. To our July 5th endorsement meeting we will invite candidates for the offices of Secretary of State, State Treasurer, State Auditor, Attorney General, Commissioner of Public Lands, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Insurance Commissioner, State Supreme Court, and Pierce County Superior Court.

Because of the large number of races and candidates this year we need to limit the time for each candidate or candidate representative speaker to 2 minutes for a presentation and two minutes for questions. Because of this members will be asked to make their questions concise and candidates/ candidate representatives are asked to answer with brevity.

To speak at the 25th LD Candidate Forum and Endorsement Meeting a candidate must complete the 25th LD Democrats endorsement questionnaire. As these questionnaires are completed and returned to the 25th LD Democrats they will be posted on the 25dems.org website where they can be viewed prior to the Candidate Forum and Endorsement Meeting.

Veteran's Perspective On Memorial Day

"The threat to the Constitution does not come from some far-off land, says Vets for Peace board chair.

BY BARRY LADENDORF | MAY 30, 2016

from billmoyers.com

A Veteran's Perspective On [...]

As Americans mark Memorial Day, a holiday that invites us to reflect on the cost of war, we are reprinting these remarks that a leader of the [Veterans for Peace](#) made last week at Ralph Nader's [Breaking Through Power conference](#) in Washington.

For 31 years, Veterans For Peace has been the only veterans organization that has rejected war, violence, nuclear weapons, the destruction of the environment created by war, the steady erosion of our civil liberties, the corporate greed that drives our wars and the systemic injustice it produces, here at home and abroad, all in the name of advancing the American empire.

As veterans, we refuse to accept the notion that, in order to protect the United States against all enemies foreign and domestic, the Constitution that we swore to support and defend can be ignored, shredded and cast aside as an inconvenient nuisance standing in the way of American hegemony.

Our experience teaches that war and violence do not bring lasting peace.

It is abundantly clear that the threat to the Constitution does not come from some far-off land. It is not China or Russia or even ISIS that endangers the Constitution, but it is the enemy within the borders of our own country and right here in this city.

As members of Veterans For Peace, we bring to the peace movement our collective experience from our participation in every war from World War II up to and including the current wars in the Middle East. Our experience teaches that war and violence do not bring lasting peace. Therefore, our founders included in our Statement of Purpose a commitment that we would seek to end war, only by nonviolent means.

Many of our members come home from war broken down, physically, mentally, emotionally and morally. But we work to transform and heal ourselves from soldiers, sailors, marines, and airmen trained to wage war to men and women committed to becoming non violent peacemakers.

We pledge to not give in to war and violence and the injustice it brings to all living things but to continue to work for peace with all likeminded people.

Barry Ladendorf, president of the Veterans for Peace Board, served in the U.S. Navy from 1965-69, serving as an officer on the USS Valley Forge and as a staff officer for the Pacific Fleet's Commander Training program. Following his military service, he obtained a law degree from the University of San Diego and worked for the California attorney general's office.

This is a piece from last summer, but it is an interesting look at a large and rising bloc of voters.

How Millennials Are Changing the Political Debate

John Zogby 9-10-15

CONTRIBUTOR

Opinions expressed by Forbes Contributors are their own.

It has been said over and over that Millennials are looking for something different from American politics. They eschew yelling, ideological warfare, don't watch Fox or MSNBC – or really much of anything else – and yet they are highly engaged in politics. After all, record numbers have turned out in the past two presidential elections. They tend to favor the Democrats over the Republicans – or at the very least, they tend to reject the Republicans outright and the only choice becomes whether or not they vote Democrat or not vote at all. If they choose not to engage this has little or nothing to do with apathy. It has everything to do with what they are looking for in candidates and political discussions. Very simply they want the job done, they want problem solving, they want authenticity, and they want more consensus than time-wasting posturing and party politics.

They are ushering in a new political dialogue that transcends the old liberal/conservative paradigm. Rather, this is a group that has not been weaned on Democrats vs. Republicans because both parties have failed them. Instead, this is a group that deeply cherishes personal privacy (at least to the degree that they control their own and limits are not dictated to them by an outside agent like government or religion). And, at the same time, these 18-36 year olds were all raised with a passion for community service. For most, community activity was mandatory before leaving secondary school and they have been imbued with a spirit of social involvement by both their Boomer parents and their favorite artists. A huge 85% of Millennials want to leave this world a better place because of their own actions and 85% want to work for an entity that affords them the opportunity to do so. Both these percentages are up ten to fifteen points, respectively, from 2011.

At first blush, the new Zogby Analytics Poll of Millennials (August 25) shows them favoring the Democratic nominee – using the best stand-in name of former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton – over a host of major Republicans candidates. Indeed, Mrs. Clinton leads them all by handsome margins – 48% to 24% over former Florida Governor Jeb Bush; 52% to 25% over real estate magnate Donald Trump; 50% to 17% over former Hewlett Packard CEO Carly Fiorina; 48% to 21% over Florida Senator Marco Rubio; and 50% to 21% over Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker. But in each instance those Millennials choosing either another candidate or aren't sure numbers anywhere from 23% (vs. Trump) to 29% (vs. Walker and Bush); 31% (vs. Rubio); and 33% (vs. Fiorina).

I think I know why. No candidate appears to be addressing the real debate that Millennials are having. The Zogby Analytics Poll posed again – as we have for years now– the following statements:

Which comes closer to describing your overall philosophy on governing?

Statement A – the primary emphasis is on securing the freedom of the individual by limiting the power of government. The preference is for civil liberties with a limited government under the rule of law and an attitude of laissez-faire of the government toward the conduct of private business. In the words of Thomas Jefferson, that government governs best which governs least.

Statement B – it strongly emphasizes the role of the community in defining and shaping individuals. Instead of individual uniqueness, the preference is to talk of where individuals share common values, moral culture, and commitments to each other. Government should protect positive rights like a guaranteed public education, a safe and secure environment, and the rule of law – but the real focus is less on passing laws and more on community members’ responsibilities to each other.

Statement A is a classic libertarian view of governance while Statement B can best be described as communitarian. The results? Almost a tie with 45% choosing the libertarian statement and 42% preferring the communitarian sentiment. In addition to the closeness of identification, it is really fascinating to me how much softer the ideologies are and the degree to which there is crossover appeal. Individuals and groups can actually be both or elements of each without any hard and fast hostility to the other side. Each view is essentially a worldview not a declaration of war. Young men tend to be more libertarian (53% to 38%) while young women lean communitarian (42% to 38%). Those who have no college degree tilt libertarian (44% to 37%), while those with a college degree or more are about evenly split (46% to 44%). Young whites are a major source of libertarian sentiment (50%-38%), though Hispanics also lean libertarian (46% to 39%). Young African Americans are more clearly in the communitarian camp – 54% to 32%. Young Weekly Wal-Mart Shoppers (55% to 37% libertarian), Catholics (51% to 37%), Born Again Christians (47% to 43%), Creative Class (56% to 37%), and NASCAR Fans (57% to 35%) are also more in line with libertarian tendencies than communitarian sentiments.

This is the debate of the future. Soon Millennials will be approximately 30% of the electorate and they have no patience for negativity and rigidity. To Republicans, Millennials will never get the invasiveness of pro-life, anti-contraception, anti-global warming, and anti-common sense on guns. To Democrats, Millennials will not choose piling on debt through funding wasteful bureaucracy and pouring money on problems.

The dominant debate of the future (which is now for Millennials) is how to spend wisely, cut where there is waste, implement clean energy, stay out of the bedroom, and enable individuals and collaborative prosumers to grow the economy. The debate of the past is “who has been the real conservative?” or “who best represents progressivism?” That just doesn’t cut it for 18-36 year olds.

You’re Invited!

Campaign Kick-Off

For Jamie Smith

25th LD Democrat

Come join us for desserts, good conversation, and support an incredible candidate.

Doors open at 6:30 and the program will begin at 7:00.

Bring your family, bring a friend, and come support Jamie.

**Thursday, June 16th 6:30-8:00 pm at Puyallup High School
105 7th Street SW, Puyallup, WA 98371**

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Tune in or be tuned out!

**HAVE YOU PAID YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES?
DUES SHOULD BE PAID NOW FOR 2016**
Use this form to recruit friends and neighbors to join you
In helping our Democratic party

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
PHONE: _____ E-MAIL _____

Dues: Evergreen (Includes Senior, outside district, etc.) \$10 per member
Rainier \$25. Chair's Voice \$50. Senator's Club \$100. (Can be paid
In installments.)

Please send dues to: 25th LDD, P. O. Box 73594, Puyallup, WA 98374 or pay by credit card on
<http://25dems.org/Anedot/Dues.php>