



25th Legislative District  
Democratic Focus



**Our October 3rd meeting will be at 7 pm at the Puyallup Library. Tony Ventrella, Democratic Candidate for the 8th Congressional District, will speak. We will also have a discussion about the mission of the 25th LD Democrats.**

**Our November meeting will be on Tuesday November 1 at 7 pm at the Puyallup Library. Prior to the meeting, starting at 4 pm we will be phone banking to get out the vote for our local candidates.**



**The Summit-Waller  
Community Association  
Presents**

**25<sup>th</sup> Legislative District  
Candidate Forum**

**Join us Tuesday, October 4, 2016**

**Program starts at 6:30pm  
Social 6pm-6:30pm**

**Mid-County Community Center  
10205 – 44<sup>th</sup> Ave E.  
Tacoma, WA 98446  
Off 104<sup>th</sup> Street just behind  
Central Avenue Elementary**

**Q and A: Moderated by  
The League of Women Voters**

**Light refreshments provided**

**Questions: please contact Lisa Ikeda-Tanaka  
lisaikedatanaka@gmail.com**

# Why is delivering “Mail by the Pail” important?

Hightower Lowdown

September 13, 2016

Although most of us take it for granted, America’s postal service is an amazing bargain.

Buy one 48-cent stamp, and postal workers will deliver your envelope to any address in the country by plane, train, bus, boat, truck, car, bike, push-cart, mule, on-foot, – or, all of the above. But to really get your money’s worth, mail something to someone in this zip code: 48222.

That’s the only *floating* zip code in the US. It’s a 45-foot mail boat that has been a registered US Post Office since 1948. Named the J.W. Westcott II, this postal boat is the mail box for crew members working aboard the giant freighters hauling grain, iron ore, and other commodities across the five great lakes. Except for loading at one port, then unloading hundreds of miles away, these long-haul merchant ships never stop, with crews stuck on board for weeks.

So the Westcott, based near Detroit, chugs out to deliver letters and packages as each of the freighters passes by. The skilled pilots of the mail boat maneuver it right up against a steep steel side of the moving freight vessels, keeping perfect pace with the big ships’ speed.

Then, in a very low-tech (but highly-efficient) delivery technique, someone on the freighter lowers a bucket tied to a rope down to the Westcott. The mail boat pilot puts a bag of letters and packages addressed to people on that ship into the bucket, which is pulled back up, and then the little boat peels away from the freighter. Now that’s service!

The official motto of the 48222 zip code is “mail by the pail.” It’s all part of our public Post Office’s amazing commitment to deliver service to all – not just to the rich and the easy-to-reach. To learn more – and to fight schemes by corporate profiteers to privatize and downsize this public service – go to [www.AGrandAlliance.org](http://www.AGrandAlliance.org).

“[A Mail Boat Stays Afloat](#),” *The New York Times*, August 21, 2016.

“[The Post Office is not broke—and it hasn’t taken any of our tax money since 1971](#),” The Hightower Lowdown. <https://www.hightowerlowdown.org/node/2927>

## **Minutes of the 25th Legislative District Democratic Organization Member Meeting, September 6th, 2016 Held at Puyallup Public Library**

Meeting called to order by Chairman Ed Herde at 7:05 who led the flag salute.

Temporary Secretary assigned to keep minutes – Denise Babineaux

Roll was called - Officers present: Ed Herde, Chairman; Bill Havens, Treasurer; Blaine Pearman, Membership Chair; Eric Herde, PCO Chair; Joan Cronk, Focus Editor; Ellen Zulauf, State Committeewoman; Karl Mecklenburg, PC Rep. Pos. 1; Merv Swanson, PC Rep. Pos. 3

Total Attendees – 35

Candidates for upcoming elections were introduced and gave a short update, as follows:

- Michelle Chatterton – WA State House, Seat 2
  - \$58,000 monies raised
  - News Tribune Endorsement
- Jamie Smith – WA State House, Seat 1
  - Volunteer opportunity request for sign waiving at Sparks Stadium this Friday 9/9 and next Friday 9/16 5:30-8pm, and again at Fife HS on 9/30
- Karl Mecklenburg – WA State Senate
  - Advised campaign sign thief was caught, but no update has been provided by the City Prosecutor, attendees encouraged to call City Prosecutor to get update on what action is being taken
- Carolyn Edmonds – Pierce County Council, Dist. 2
  - Democrats received 55% of combined vote in the primary election
  - Received endorsement from Pat Jenkins (previous Democratic opponent) and he will be helping to get her elected

Dallas Roberts with the Congressman Denny Heck campaign provided brief update, including that their campaign has completed 4,000 calls within the 25<sup>th</sup>

Evan Smith with the Proposition 1 campaign, Sound Transit 3 – Gave brief explanation of what the proposition is, including that the Prop. will extend Sounder south and increase its hours, extension of the Link Light Rail from the Tacoma Community College to Tukwilla. Short Q and A followed.

Nathan McCurtain with the Initiative 1491 – Extreme Risk Protection Orders – Gave brief explanation on what the initiative is about, including that the initiative would allow families and law enforcement to petition a court to temporarily suspend a person's access to fire arms if there is documented evidence of previous threats to self-harm or harm others. Clarification provided that the diagnosis of a 'dangerous mental health condition' alone would not be grounds to remove fire arm.

Voted on Resolution, Endorsing The Sound Transit 3 Ballot Measure – proposed by Eric Herde

- There was no discussion
- Passed unanimously

Voted on Resolution, Concerning Initiative 1491 – proposed by Ed Herde

- There was no discussion
- Passed with 1 abstention

Motion by Eric Herde to endorse: Patty Murray (US Senate), Tony Ventrella (8<sup>th</sup> CD Rep), Denny Heck (10<sup>th</sup> CD Rep), Jay Inslee (Gov.), Pat McCarthy (State Auditor), and Hilary Franz (Comm. Of PL), 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lauren Adler

- There was no discussion
- Passed Unanimously

Motion by Eric Herde to confirm endorsement of Bob Ferguson (Att.Gen), 2<sup>nd</sup> by Merv Swanson

- There was no discussion
- Passed unanimously

Discussion regarding what we do about the State Treasurer position – Democrat failed to secure ballot, as top 2 percentage of votes were for Republican candidates; thus, our choices are abstention, vote Rep. or secure write-in candidate (most likely would be unsuccessful this late in the race).

25<sup>th</sup> LD Get-Out-The-Vote efforts discussed

Pierce County Democrats Washington State Fair Booth Update – Ed Herde and Blaine Pearman have worked hard and long to get the booth set up, double booth has been set up and it is going well – located under the Grand Stand

Reminder by Chair that there are two open board positions, Secretary and Assistant Treasurer. In addition, in December all positions will be up for election.

Good of the order:

- Jerry Beckendorf
  - Up-coming dedication of SR509 to longshoreman Philip Martin Lelli who passed away in 2004.
  - Bowling tournament this weekend at Pacific Lanes, Congressman Denny Heck will be there, this tournament raises money for scholarships for union family dependents
- Rennie Marshall with the Governor Inslee campaign
  - Introducing herself
  - Will be launching local canvassing and could use volunteers

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:40pm

## Chair's Comment

Ed Herde

The old saying that you don't want to wake up the day after the election and regret you didn't do more applies now more than at any other election in the lifetime of probably everyone who is reading this. According to the polling an angry citizenry seems to be getting more and more deaf to rational discussion, and choosing to ignore all of Donald Trump's transgressions, has been taken over by emotional hate and racism. Polling has shown that this turn in the presidential race has carried some U.S. Senate races with it and has dimmed a previously optimistic outlook for Democrats taking the majority in the U.S. Senate. Hillary Clinton's campaign team is doing Secretary Clinton and the American people a disservice. The inability of the Clinton campaign to recognize the kind of campaign that inspires people and gets them to vote, even when her Democratic primary opponent gave a months' long master class on the subject, has further drove down Secretary Clinton's numbers. It is common knowledge that the higher voter turnout is, the better Democrats do. It is also well known that negative campaigning drives down voter turnout. Clinton's campaign team is blowing this.

There are still five weeks to go and a lot of voters out there who will vote against authoritarian rule, and the thought of a president spewing hate from the oval office may turn out a large number of them. As volunteers for the issues and candidates we feel are important we can influence the outcome mostly in the more local of the elections by getting these voters to vote down the ballot for our local races. Who occupies these local offices has a major impact on our daily lives. In the 25<sup>th</sup> LD Legislative races, the County Council 2<sup>nd</sup> district race, and in the County Executive's race we have five extremely forward thinking candidates. **Jamie Smith** and **Michelle Chatterton** for the State House, **Karl Mecklenburg** for the State Senate, **Carolyn Edmonds** for the County Council, and **Rick Talbert** for County Executive are candidates who all display people centered policies. Each of these candidates speak of issues and how they affect people. Their focus is on the citizenry's quality of life, not on the maximization of private sector economic activity with disregard to everything else. Money is not speech, corporations are not people, and these five candidates understand that, and each and every one of them would work for your and my wellbeing with respect to our children's public education, our health, our environment, equality among us all, our economic wellbeing, and our general quality of life. It is go time. Do not wake up on November 9<sup>th</sup> wishing you had done just a little bit more.

10-16

## **Information to Volunteer with Local Candidates**

**Jamie Smith** - WA State House, Seat 1    702-419-8537

[www.votejamiesmith.com](http://www.votejamiesmith.com)

[www.facebook.com/votejamiesmith/](https://www.facebook.com/votejamiesmith/)

**Michelle Chatterton** - WA State House, Seat 2    425-221-1921

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

<https://www.facebook.com/Friendsofmichellechatterton/>

**Karl Mecklenburg** – WA State Senate    253-720-7859

[www.electmeck.com](http://www.electmeck.com)

[www.facebook.com/electmeck](https://www.facebook.com/electmeck)

**Carolyn Edmonds** – Pierce County Council, Dist. 2    253-952-0301

[www.carolynedmonds.com](http://www.carolynedmonds.com)

[www.facebook.com/CarolynEdmondsCouncil/](https://www.facebook.com/CarolynEdmondsCouncil/)

**Rick Talbert** – Pierce County Executive    360-359-1963

[www.ricktalbert.com](http://www.ricktalbert.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/Citizens-for-Rick-Talbert-317591090784/>



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**Treas: Bill Havens**  
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**Ass't. Treas**  
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**Parliamentarian & Webmaster:**  
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[groveslm@gmail.com](mailto:groveslm@gmail.com)

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**Website for latest information or copies of Focus:**  
[www.25dems.org](http://www.25dems.org)

**DEMOCRAT'S CONTACT INFORMATION**

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

**WA. STATE DEM. PARTY:**  
[www.wa-democrats.org](http://www.wa-democrats.org)

**PIERCE COUNTY DEMS:**  
[piercecountydems.org](http://piercecountydems.org)

**25TH. LEG. DISTRICT DEMOCRATS:**  
[25dems.org](http://25dems.org)





**If you want the truth about politics by Frank Blair and Traci Kelly  
Fridays at 12:00 to 1:00 PM on KLAY 1180AM!**

**And if for some reason or other you miss it then go to [equaltimeradio.net](http://equaltimeradio.net).**

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