



25th LD Democrats Newsletter

Photo One shows 25th LDD member Rebecca Gallogly as she was sworn in as a member of the Franklin Pierce School Board in December by Superintendent Frank Hewins.

At the 25th LDD Annual Dinner in January Kara Lanning was presented with the Mary Bryan-Anne Jacobson Volunteer of the year award by Membership Chair Joe Columbo. Longtime 25th LDD Member Calvin Goings was our main speaker and Brian Duthie talked about his upcoming run against Joyce McDonald for Position 2 in the State House in November. Pierce County Prosecutor Mark Lindquist shared how the Prosecutor's Office is dealing with the opioid problem.

The annual dinner and auction, held at the Puyallup Elks, was the most successful in several years.



1 February 2018

Our February 5th meeting will be at 7:00 pm at the Pierce County Libraries Administration Building at 3005 112th St E, Tacoma, WA . Our guest speaker will be Kali Lasher-Sommers, Western Field Organizer for the Washington State Democrats. Kali will be giving a presentation on organizing to flip the 25th Blue.

PREAMBLE TO THE PLATFORM OF THE WASHINGTON STATE DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Washington State Democrats, as citizens of the planet, place the well-being of the people as our highest priority. We believe in the values of community, empathy, equality, acceptance, diversity, 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 us in advocating for legislation that ensures democracy, peace, prosperity, liberty, and justice for all. In order to restore progressive democracy, *we expect elected Democrats to be accountable and implement the principles of this platform, using all available legal and parliamentary procedures.*

“..... we expect elected Democrats to be accountable and implement the principles of this platform, using all available legal and parliamentary procedures.” --- Too often we see our elected Democratic leaders not living up to the principles in the platform of their party, the party whose grassroots members often are the ones who first got them elected to public office. Should we as Democrats use every available legal and parliamentary procedure to get our Democratic officials back to the values of the party? Think about this next time you have the chance to give input to our elected Democratic leaders, especially those who are in the highest of offices. Remind them to listen to the voters, not the money.

To read more of the Washington State Democrats Platform that was revised by a platform committee of grassroots Democrats in 2016 copy and paste this address to your web browser:

<https://www.wa-democrats.org/sites/wadems/files/documents/Washington%20State%20Democrats%20-%20Platform%20-%2020160618.pdf>

Minutes of the 25th Legislative District Democratic Organization Member Meeting
December 4, 2017 - Puyallup Public Library

Call to Order – 7:07pm

Total Attendees 19

Roll Call of Officers – Officers Present:

State Committeeman-Bob Klavano; State Committeewoman-Gina Bua; Pierce County Democrats Central Committee Executive Board Position 1-Turan Kayaoglu, Position 2-Karl Mecklenburg; Membership Officer-Joe Colombo; Parliamentarian and Webster-Cliff Allo; Assist.-Treasurer-Bob Koreis; Newsletter Editor-Joan Cronk

Actions

- Vote on new Endorsement Procedures
 - Mover - Cliff Allo, Second - Joan Cronk
 - Passed unanimously, 15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions
- Announcement of amendment to bylaws regarding online voting to be voted on at the March 5th meeting
- Election of New Officers
 - Treasurer – Candidate-Bob Koreis Cliff Allo moved casting a unanimous ballot. Bob Koreis was elected unanimously.
 - Sergeant at Arms – Candidate Blaine Pearman Cliff Allo moved casting a unanimous ballot. Blaine Pearman was elected unanimously.
 - PCO Chair – Candidate Eric Herde Bob Klavano moved casting of a unanimous ballot. Eric Herde was elected unanimously.

Speaker

- Joe Colombo spoke on the Importance of Constituent Involvement

Group Work Session

- 25th LDDO 2018 Priorities

January 12th Dinner/Desert Auction

- Volunteers signed up for auction desserts

Good of the Order

- Gina Bua spoke on the Poor Peoples Campaign
- Bud Metzger announced time and place of NAACP meeting

Meeting Adjourned – 8:32pm

3 February 2018

Chairs Comment

Ed Herde

25th LDD Officer Election

At our Monday February 5th General Membership meeting we will hold an election for a new secretary. Any paid member of the 25th LD Democrats is eligible to run for this position. PCO's and anyone who has been a paid member of the 25th LD Democrats for at least 30 days is eligible to vote in elections. Remember February's meeting is at the Pierce County Library Administration Building at 112th St. S. and Waller Rd. at 7:00 pm.

January Dinner/Desert Auction

Thank you to those of you who came to the 25th LD Democrats annual Dinner and Dessert Auction. This was the most successful fundraiser we have had for several years. It was a great evening visiting with fellow Democrats, enjoying dinner, and bidding on and consuming the wonderful desserts that a dozen of our members donated to the auction. We have some amazing bakers in the group. Our guest speaker Calvin Goings topped off the evening with an entertaining presentation on some local political history, a little advice, and some inspiration.

The Washington State Democrats 2018 Crab Feed is Sunday February 25th at 4:00pm at the McGavick Conference Center at Clover Park Technical College in Lakewood. Join Democrats from around the state for a great seafood meal and listen to Democratic members of Congress and state-wide elected officials. To purchase tickets for this fundraiser follow this link: <https://www.wa-democrats.org/form/3895194123322263296>

Our 2018 Legislative District Caucus is Saturday March 24th. The LD caucus is for electing delegates and alternates to the Washington State Democrats Convention to be held in Wenatchee on Saturday June 16, 2018. These delegates will meet in Wenatchee to craft the State Party Platform. In addition to electing delegates and alternates at our 25th LD Caucus we will meet with local candidates and take part in other activities to grow the party and the Democratic vote. More details will be coming in the next couple weeks as the time and location are confirmed.

Why millennials are facing the scariest financial future of any generation since the Great Depression. This is a great article that our Vice-Chair Raechelle Baghirov sent to me. It explains a lot about the current and future economic situation of young adults in this country, and it does it with some entertaining graphics.
<http://highline.huffingtonpost.com/articles/en/poor-millennials/>

Take a look at the **Washington State Democrats website** at: <https://www.wa-democrats.org/> 1-18

4 February 2018

If Martin Luther King Jr were alive today, politicians would denounce him

[Steven W Thrasher](#)

The Guardian 1-15-18

Modern day Republicans and Democrats often speak as if they love King, even as they excoriate the real heirs to his legacy

@thrasherxy

Today is the day when many American politicians pretend to care about the life and legacy of [Martin Luther King](#) Jr, one of the wisest souls who attempted to save this sorry nation. Don't fall for their scams.

While King did care about black and/or poor people in the United States and around the world, he was no American exceptionalist. "Don't let anybody make you think God chose America as His divine messianic force to be a sort of policeman of the whole world," King once [said](#).

He also criticized how Americans "have deluded ourselves into believing the myth that capitalism grew and prospered out of the Protestant ethic of hard work and sacrifice" when "the fact is that capitalism was built on the exploitation and suffering of black slaves and continues to thrive on the exploitation of the poor – both black and white, here and abroad".

And yet, modern-day Republicans and Democrats often speak as if they love King, even as they excoriate the real heirs to his legacy: the Black Lives Matter activists and other social justice warriors who fight for racial and economic liberation. But the truth is, many of these American politicians would have hated King when he was alive as much as they hypocritically dishonor his radical legacy today.

Take President Trump, who [signed](#) a bill a week ago turning King's birthplace into a national park, only to viciously [refer](#) to immigrants from El Salvador, Haiti and all countries in Africa as "[shithole countries](#)" a few days later – stirring up the kind of racist hatred King died trying to defeat over the weekend the nation remembers him.

Take Democrat senators (who love to talk about loving King) and who recently [voted](#) for a \$700 Billion war funding package this fall, the kind of bill King would have excoriated as [part of](#) "the three evils of society" – "the giant triplets of racism, economic exploitation and militarism".

Our war-loving politicians would not have liked when King got all up at Riverside church a year to the day before he was assassinated to deliver his [most powerful speech](#): "Beyond Vietnam". They'd have cringed when he criticized American imperialism, warning "if we continue, there will be no doubt in my mind and in the mind of the world that we have no honorable intentions in Vietnam" and that "the world now demands a maturity of America that we may not be able to achieve".

If he'd lived past age 39, King would have been offended by Trump calling Haiti a "shithole" country and saying Haitians "all have Aids". But King would have been equally angry about the exploitation of Haiti for centuries – by enslavement, by colonial plunder, and even by "respectable" US Republicans like George HW Bush.

It was under Bush senior in the early 1990s, after all, when the US intercepted hundreds of fleeing Haitian refugees, sent them to [a makeshift prison](#) at Guantánamo Bay (this, not 9/11, is how Gitmo became an indefinite detention center), tested them for HIV, and [sterilized](#) the HIV positive women without their knowledge or consent.

If King were alive today, American politicians would probably be enraged that he was unhappy about the tax scam bill or the Dow [hitting](#) 25,000, and they'd be aggrieved when he got angry about Walmart [laying off](#) thousands of Sam's Club workers with no notice and states wanting to [add](#) cruel work requirements to Medicaid for people who can't work.

As often as American politicians are always saying they wish Ferguson or NFL protesters did things "more like King", white Americans have [never really liked any kind of racial protest](#), and didn't especially like King when he was alive. They didn't like him marching at Selma or helping run a bus boycott in Montgomery. They didn't like him organizing a Poor People's Campaign to try to bring together economically exploited people of all races. And they certainly didn't like him [showing](#) up in Memphis to help sanitation workers strike for better working conditions after two of their own, Echol Cole and Robert Walker, were killed on the job.

As beautifully depicted on the cover of this week's New Yorker cover art, "[In Creative Battle](#)" by Mark Ulriksen, if he were here today, King would be down on his knees with NFL protesters questioning the premise of the national anthem and protesting militaristic jingoism. He'd have been with Eric Garner, as he told the police to stop harassing him.

And he would have been with "[unbought and unbossed](#)" Erica Garner, as she fought police until her sadly premature [final breath at just 27](#).

As you listen to American politicians from both parties invoke MLK this weekend, think about if their actions live up to King's vision of justice – and push them as hard as he would have when they fall short.

Link to this article in the Guardian: https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/jan/15/martin-luther-king-jr-legacy-politicians-hypocrisy?CMP=soc_3156

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(LDD)**

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**Website for latest
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www.democrats.org

WA. STATE DEM PARTY
www.wa-democrats.org

**PIERCE COUNTY
DEMS:**
piercecountydems.org

**25th LEG. DISTRICT
DEMOCRATS:**
25dems.org

***PCDCC Ex. Board =
Pierce County
Democratic Central
Committee Executive
Board**



Well you should be if you want the truth about politics by Frank Blair and Traci Kelly . Fridays at 12 noon to 1 pm on KLAY 1180AM

And if for some reason or other you miss it then go to equaltimeradio.net

Tune in or be tuned out!

The new year is arriving soon and your 2017 membership will expire on 12/31/17. To be a voting member of the 25th Legislative District Democrats you need to be up to date on your dues. When you are a member you have a vote on who will be the officers of your local Democratic organization, on endorsements, policy issues and other club business. Please renew your dues so the 25th LD Democrats can keep working to spread the message of democratic values and support good local candidates.

The Annual Dues period runs from January 1st to December 31st. Use this form to pay by check, or go to <http://25dems.org/Anedot/Dues.php> to pay by credit card.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL _____

Dues: Evergreen (Includes Senior, Outside of district, Student) \$10 per member. Rainier \$25. Chair's Voice \$50. Senator's Club \$100 - Can be paid in installments. Mail this form and your dues check to: 25th LDD, P. O. Box 73594, Puyallup, WA 98374

Please encourage friends to become a member of the 25th LD Democrats.

8 February 2018