

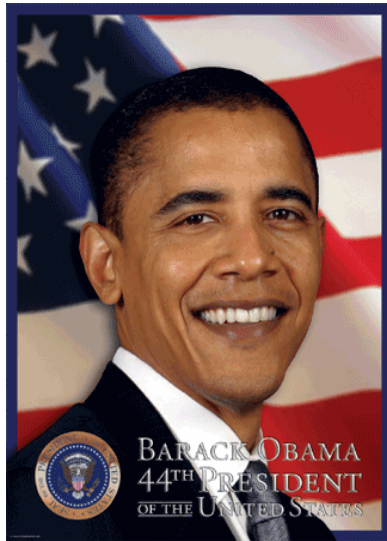


# 25th Legislative District



## Democratic Focus

# THE WINNERS!



When you come to our December meeting on Thursday, December 4 please bring a dessert to share with the group, and a new, unwrapped toy for the USMC Toys for Tots toy drive. We will deliver those toys to the Central Pierce Fire Station on 128<sup>th</sup> in Puyallup. The mission of the U. S. Marine Corps program is to collect and deliver a shiny new toys to deliver to needy youngsters during the Holiday Season.



READ ALL ABOUT WHAT IS HAPPENING , MINUTES OF 6 NOV MEETING (PAGE 7), AND UPCOMING EVENTS (PAGE 2).



For newsletter send all articles, pictures, committee report to Editor Joan Cronk 845-5389 or email: [JoanCronk@comcast.net](mailto:JoanCronk@comcast.net)

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

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**Tel: (253) 848-5496**  
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 Frank Blair, Audrey Chase,  
 Matt Hanbey

Immediate past chair:  
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 John.Thompson6@comcast.net

FOR THE LATEST INFO  
 AND/OR COPIES OF THE  
 FOCUS CHECK OUT THE NEW  
 25TH LDD WEBSITE AT:

www.25dems.org

**25TH DISTRICT  
DEMOCRATIC  
ELECTED  
OFFICIALS**



Senator  
 Jim Kastama  
 (253) 840-4701

email:  
 kastama.jim@leg.wa.gov



Representative  
 Dawn Morrell  
 (253) 840-4604

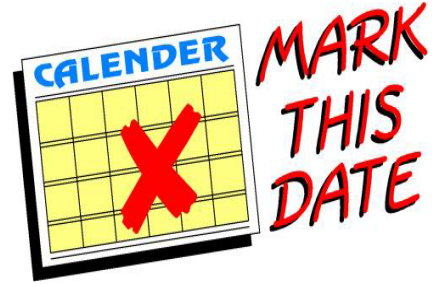
email:  
 morrell.dawn@leg.wa.gov

For all other elected officials:  
 Legislative Hotline:

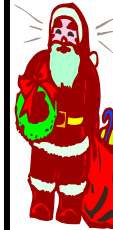
**DEMOCRATS  
CONTACT INFO**

DNC:  
[www.democrats.org](http://www.democrats.org)  
 WA State Dem Party  
[www.wa-democrats.org](http://www.wa-democrats.org)  
 Pierce Co. Dem Party  
[www.piercecounty-dems.org](http://www.piercecounty-dems.org)

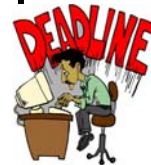
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**1 Dec Mon** E-Board meets at  
 7PM at Fire Station 66, 9813  
 28th St, E., Puyallup



**4 Dec Thu** 25 LDD  
 meets at Puyallup Li-  
 brary, 324 Meridian at  
 7PM. **Don't forget  
 dessert and TOYS!**



**13 Dec Sat** DEAD-  
 LINE for FOCUS ar-  
 ticles, pictures, etc.



**5 Jan Mon** E-Board meets at  
 7PM at Fire Station 66.

**8 Jan Thu** 25 LDD meets at a  
**location to be determined** at 7  
 PM. (Library booked on that  
 date.)



**17 Jan Sat** DEAD-  
 LINE for FOCUS  
 articles, pictures,

## Notes from the Chair

### *December 2008*

YES, WE DID! Friends, we were successful in electing Barack Obama as the 44<sup>th</sup> President of the United States, and Re-Electing Christine Gregoire as Governor of Washington State! Victory had been a long time coming, and now, with a few weeks gone by since Election Day, I hope you have been able to take some time to reflect on the history that was made during this crazy long election season. The road to victory wasn't always easy, and it definitely wasn't short – but because of your dedication, support, time, and efforts we were able to elect and re-elect some really hardworking and terrific Democrats!

I can still remember the end of 2007 – thinking to myself – how are we ever going to get through 2008?! January thru April was extremely busy with caucuses, delegates, and Presidential Primaries (which many of the Presidential Primaries carried on into late June). I am still blown away by the participation that we had at our precinct caucuses back in February – we had 2496 neighbors come out to make their voices heard regarding who they supported for President at the time. Then we rolled into our Legislative District Caucus in April and had 900 neighbors running to become delegates to the Pierce County Democrats' Convention, and ultimately the Washington State Democrats Convention, which was held in Spokane. These numbers shattered all previous records – and we were still SO early in the season. Little did we know how many records we would shatter on November 4<sup>th</sup>, and the history we would make. . .

While we were very successful in sending Barack Obama to the White House, and re-electing Governor Chris Gregoire, as well as re-electing our two 25<sup>th</sup> district legislators, State Senator Kastama and State Representative Morrell, we did not succeed in sending Fife Mayor Pro-Tem Rob Cerqui to the State House. At the time of writing this report, Cerqui trails Bruce Dammeier by 4522 votes. While he is trailing, it's still a strong showing by Rob and his campaign. Rob and his campaign manager, Samantha, worked so incredibly hard – doorbelling and phone calling every day and night to spread Rob's message and help Rob become a household name. I know that many of you worked extremely hard on Rob's campaign, and while it appears he will not be our next State Representative, I know that both Rob and Samantha are extremely grateful and thankful for all of your time, money, and dedication. Remember, State Representative positions are up for re-election every two years – so let's all encourage Rob to come back and run in 2010!

We've accomplished so much this year. The 25<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Democrats were very active in the community this year thanks to our biggest resource – our district campaign office. Our spot at Lee LaBrash Real Estate Office was great! It had a great location, easy access, and while it was a little small, we were still able to dispatch doorbellers and have volunteers come down to phonebank out of the office. I want to thank all of you for taking part in our campaign office – whether it was sharing your coffee pot, dropping off reams of paper, taking out campaign signs, or dropping off some homemade pie, it was definitely worth it! Our campaign office even attracted Governor Gregoire and First Mike back in August – I think it's safe to say that our office was extremely successful in getting the word of change out in our communities.

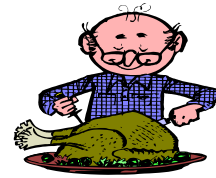
I could go on forever about my experience working through my first Presidential campaign. I am so, so, so overwhelmed by the help, time, energy, dedication, money, and drive you all gave to make sure we were victorious on November 4<sup>th</sup>. The 25<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Democrats could have not been as successful as we had been this year without all of you constantly being there to answer the endless calls to volunteer. I know those never-ending emails asking you for your time and money flooded your inbox, but answering those calls to volunteer **helped make the difference!**

As we head into Thanksgiving and the Holidays, I am so extremely thankful for all of the help from the General Membership and our Executive Board. Many of you know that my term as Chair will end on December 4<sup>th</sup> – I have been honored to serve as Chair, especially through this historic election season. I so appreciate everyone who has believed in me since day one, and those of you who have always extended a hand to help myself and the other members of our current Executive Board. The Executive Board always worked as a team, and believe me when I say that our organization could not have been this successful without the hard work of everyone on the Executive Board.

***2009 is upon us, and the hard work doesn't stop now.*** It's the interim, and we can once again focus on party building. Don't give up now – there is still a lot of work to be done. As evident over the past year, this organization is nothing without our great volunteers and supporters – so don't be afraid to step up in the year ahead and become involved!

All my best,  
-*Lauren*

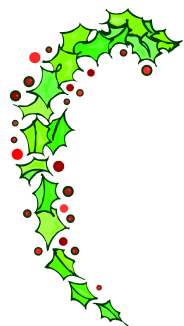
## LEFT OVER TURKEY?



### Turkey Chili

- 3 Tbs. Olive Oil
- 1 each Chopped bell pepper
- 1 each Chopped Anaheim Pepper
- 2 each Diced red onions
- 2 stalks Diced celery
- 1 Tbs. Chopped garlic
- 4 cups Cooked white beans
- 2 cups diced tomatoes with juice
- 1 lb. Diced cooked turkey meat
- 1 cup Fresh corn on the cob kernels
- 1 qt. Chicken stock
- 2 Tbs. Chili Powder
- 1 tsp. Cayenne pepper
- 1 tsp. Black pepper
- 2 Tbs. Ground cumin
- 1 cup Sliced green onions
- 1 cup Grated cheddar cheese

In a thick bottom soup pot add the oil and saute the peppers, onions, celery and garlic for about 3 minutes. Add the beans, tomatoes, turkey, corn kernels and chicken stock. Add the spices and let simmer for about twenty minutes on a medium heat. Remove and top with the green onions and the cheddar cheese.



Our December meeting will be held on December 4, 2008 at 7 p.m. at the Puyallup Library. This will be our Christmas meeting so please bring a dessert to share with the group.

Thank you and HAPPY HOLIDAY!





Olgy Diaz, Field Organizer for Campaign for Change and Samantha Casne, campaign manager for Rob Cerqui man the phones on Election Day at the 25<sup>th</sup> District office



Nancy Parsons, legislative aide for Dawn Morrell and assistant man phones on election day



The 25<sup>th</sup> District office was a bee hive of activity on election day, with volunteers at every desk making important get out the vote phone calls. Food and drink were provided .



**LAUREN ADLER, CHAIR, WITH VICE PRESIDENT GORE, MICHELLE DONALDSON, CO-WORKER AND GOVERNOR GREGOIRE ON 24 OCT AT FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON IN SEATTLE**

A man in Jacksonville calls his son in San Diego the day before Thanksgiving and says, 'I hate to ruin your day, but I have to tell you that your mother and I are divorcing; forty-five years of misery is enough. '

Pop, what are you talking about?' the son screams.

'We can't stand the sight of each other any longer,' the father says. 'We're sick of each other, and I'm sick of talking about this, so you call your sister in Denver and tell her.'

Frantic, the son calls his sister, who explodes on the phone. 'Like heck they're getting divorced,' she shouts, 'I'll take care of this,' She calls Jacksonville immediately, and screams at her father, 'You are NOT getting divorced. Do not do a single thing until I get there. I am calling my brother back, and we will both be there tomorrow. Until then, don't do a thing, DO YOU HEAR ME?' and hangs up.

The old man hangs up his phone and turns to his wife. 'Okay,' he says, 'they're coming for Thanksgiving and paying their own way.'

## **IRV/RANK CHOICE VOTING - HELP OR HINDRANCE?**

Pierce County had a Democratic Assessor/Treasurer, Ken Madsen, who was term limited, and now this position will go to the perennial gadfly, Dale Washam, which in some ways is a scary thought. Does the word recall sound appropriate if Washam fails to perform?

Even more important is that we had a Democratic County Executive and three of the seven County Council were Democrats. Now with Joyce McDonald's election and the re-election of Roger Bush, there will be five Republicans and two Democrats. **ARE YOU HAPPY WITH IRV/RANK CHOICE VOTING?** I didn't think so. I don't know anyone who is.

I think the Pierce County Democrats should do an Initiative to the People and deep six this horrible method of voting.

Are you with me?

Jerry Beckendorf,  
25<sup>th</sup> LD Democrats State  
Committeeman

## **THE ELECTION IS OVER ARE WE THROUGH?**

If you think now that the election is over, we can go take an extended vacation, I have some oceanfront property in Arizona for you to buy. We are obviously elated about the election of President Obama and the re-election of Governor Gregoire. We are also greatly disappointed about Darcy Burner not being successful against Rep. Reichert and the shortfall on the Cerqui and Lachney election campaigns. Most of us in the 25<sup>th</sup> District are also terribly disappointed about Calvin Goings not getting County Executive after he and many of us worked so hard and long.

The point is now we need to roll up our sleeves and lobby our newly elected officials even the ones we lost to about the platform items we most care about. We need to lobby our Senators and Members of Congress to pass the Employee Free Choice Act. We are also looking for an improvement in our Health Care for both working and retired individuals. Global Warming is a tremendous area of need highlighted by a great series "To the Ends of the Earth" on NBC's the Today Show the week of November 17. Campaign Finance Reform is both a National and local issue which many of us want to see pass.

Locally there are important issues involving the State Legislature as Sen. Jim Kastama and Rep. Dawn Morrell travel to Olympia and do

their great job of representing us. But new Representative Dammeier also needs to be lobbied and asked for his opinion as we get closer to the start of the Session, which begins on Jan. 12, 2009. We want to monitor his voting record as we look for an appropriate candidate to oppose him in 2010.

For all of you who would like to help me lobby their legislators, we will hold a short meeting the hour before the regular meeting in December and January. We will have a Legislative kickoff event at the meeting on January 8. Also I am meeting with the King County Legislative Action Committee (LAC) on Sunday, Dec. 14 at 2 pm at the Machinists 751 Hall in South Seattle. I will go to that and then on to the State Democrats Holiday Reception at the Washington State Convention and Trade Center in Seattle. If anyone wants to ride with me, let me know. We will also go to Olympia for the lobby day scheduled on Presidents Day and on to the State Democrats Crab Feed at St. Martin's College. If you want to help with LAC contact me at (253) 845-7702 or email me at [jerryb62@comcast.net](mailto:jerryb62@comcast.net).

Jerry Beckendorf,  
Chair  
Legislative Action Committee  
(LAC)  
25<sup>th</sup> LD Democrats

## **25th LDD REORGANIZATION**

*By Charley Stokes*

### **BACKGROUND**

Although custom in recent years has had the 25th LDD reorganization --that is election of the chair and certain other officers--at the Pierce County reorganization in January of odd numbered years, both RCW 29A.80.061 and our new by-laws provide for our reorganization to occur in December of the even numbered years. The difference is only one month.

Under previous practice, the officers elected by the PCOs were elected at the Pierce County meeting by the PCOs there in attendance. Other officers were elected by the entire club. Under our new by-laws, some officers are still chosen only by the PCOs but all will be chosen in the same meeting. We can expect more of the PCOs to be in attendance, and the entire 25th LDD can see the elections.

The quorum for our reorganization will be five PCOs, five other regular members, and two outgoing officers.

### **OUR REORGANIZATION DECEMBER 4, 2008**

1. The PCOs shall elect:
  - a. Our Chair,
  - b. Our Vice Chair (must be other sex other than Chair sex)
  - c. Our State Committee Man and Woman, and
  - d. Our three representatives to the Pierce County Democratic Central Committee Executive Board.
2. Our new Chair then convenes our general meeting and appoints the Parliamentarian.
3. The Chair next opens nominations and conduct elections for
  - a. Our Treasurer,
  - b. Our Secretary,
  - c. Our Membership Officer, and
  - d. Our Sergeant at Arms.

Voting for all officers shall be in writing and each ballot must be signed by the eligible voter. PCOs may vote in the election for both groups of officers. General members may vote for the second group if they have been members for at least thirty days and are currently paid up. One must also be registered to vote in the 25th LDD to be a general member.

In any election, if no nominee obtains a majority of those voting, the nominee with the lowest vote shall be dropped from the ballot and the eligible voters shall vote again. Officers shall take office upon election and shall serve for two years ending on the first Thursday in December in the next even-numbered year or until their successors are chosen.



25<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Democratic Organization

P.O. Box 73594 | Puyallup, WA 98373

November 10, 2008

**OFFICIAL CALL**

To: Democratic Precinct Committee Officers in the 25<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

From: Chairman Nathe Lawver, Pierce County Democrats

Re: 25<sup>th</sup> LD Re-Organization Meeting

As Chair of the Pierce County Democratic Party and pursuant to RCW 29A.80.061, it is my duty and honor to issue this call for your biannual reorganization at 7 p.m. December 4, 2008 at the Puyallup Public Library, 324 South Meridian, Puyallup, at which your Precinct Committee Officers will elect the Chair for the 25th Legislative District Democrats for a term of two years or until a successor is elected.

Thereafter, as provided by your by-laws, the Precinct Committee Officers will elect a Vice-Chair of the opposite sex from the Chair, a State Committee Man, a State Committee Woman, and three Representatives to the Pierce County Central Committee Executive Board.

After the Chair appoints a Parliamentarian, the Precinct Committee Officers and the Members that (a)joined before November 4, 2008 and (b)whose dues are paid for 2008 shall elect a Treasurer, a Secretary, a Membership Officer, and a Sergeant-At-Arms.

The meeting may also consider other matters as listed on the Agenda adopted following the elections of officers.

Thank you for all that you do!

Nathe Lawver  
Chair  
Pierce County Democratic Party  
(253) 973-3765  
nathe@lawver.us



## MINUTES OF MEETING

6 Nov 2008

By Charley Stokes

Call To Order at 7:00 PM. Flag Salute. Adoption of Agenda. Moved, Seconded, Carried (M/S/C) to adopt the agenda.

### Old Business.

a) Louis announced the closure of the Campaign Office. He asked anyone who had contributed supplies or furniture in July to please arrange to remove it before Nov 14 when the lease officially ends.

b) A review of the election results was presented, using a laptop to access the Internet and the library projector to view the results on the big video screen. Both the state ballot offices and the Pierce County IRV results were reviewed and discussed at length.

### New Business

a) Louis announced the need to reschedule the January meeting to the second Thursday, due to New Years day falling on the first Thursday. He also announced that the Library meeting rooms are not available for the January or February meetings, so we need to find an alternative location. Discussion followed. It was suggested inquiry be made about the availability of the Puyallup Elks for the Jan dinner meeting and asking if the Elks could provide the catering for the Send Off Dinner. It was also directed that inquiry be made about the Pierce County Library Center on 112<sup>th</sup> and Waller which has a large meeting room and kitchen facilities.

b) Louis announced the 25<sup>th</sup> LDD Reorganization will take place at the December 4<sup>th</sup> general membership meeting, as provided for in the By-Laws. Lou directed the membership to refer to the overview as provided on the back of the agenda. Cliff Allo reviewed the overview noting the various duties and responsibilities of the elected PCO's. Discussion followed. It was directed that all information be published in the December "Focus" an posted on the LDD web site.

c) Also on the December agenda is the Holiday Social (everyone bring a dessert to share) and Toy Drive (new, unused for ages youth through teen).



### Chair's Report: Deferred

Secretary's Report: It was requested that a motion be made to adopt the minutes as published in the Focus for July, Aug, Sept and October. M/S/C.

Treasurer's Report: Luanne Green presented the treasures report; the organization has \$5,657.79 on hand. It was M/S/C to adopt the report.

State Committee Persons Report: Nothing to report.

### Committee Reports

PCO Chair: Ray Green has submitted his resignation as PCO Chair citing health reasons.

### Good of the Order

a) It was requested that the Secretary prepare a Thank You Note for Lee LaBrash for being such a gracious landlord for the Campaign Office and that an invitation be extended to her for the Send Off Dinner.

b) It was noted that the current officers deserve congratulations on elevating the overall function of the 25<sup>th</sup> LDD, which drew a round of applause in support.

8:10 PM Adjournment

**HAVE YOU PAID YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2009?  
IF NOT, PLEASE DO!**

**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.)



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.**

PRESORTED STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT #569  
TACOMA, WA

25th Legislative District  
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