



25th Legislative District



Democratic Focus



HAPPY NEW YEAR!



THE 2009 E-BOARD (MISSING IS VICE CHAIR LOUIS TIBBS) : LEFT TO RIGHT; BACK ROW: CHARLEY STOKES, ERIC RENZ, JERRY BECKENDORF; MIDDLE ROW: LIZ COLLIER; MELISSA THOMPSON; CAROLYN MERRIVAL; LUANNE GREEN; ELLEN ZULAUF; FRONT ROW: CLIFF ALLO; MICHELLE DONALDSON; LAUREN ADLER

READ ALL ABOUT WHAT IS HAPPENING , MINUTES AND UPCOMINGS AND - - - - HAVE YOUR PAID YOUR 2009 DUES?



25TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT DEMOCRATIC (LDD) OFFICERS

President/Chair: Lauren Adler
Tel: (253) 820-8843
 Email: AdlerLN@comcast.net

Vice Chair: Louis Tibbs
 Tel: (253) 848-5496
 Email: ltibbs3@comcast.net

Treasurer: Luanne Green
Tel: (253) 848-0289
 Email: raygre@msn.com

Secretary: Liz Collier
 Tel: (253) 848-2594
 Email: realtimecaptioning@comcast.net

Parliamentarian: Cliff Allo
 Tel: (253) 208-8167
 Email: cliffallo@blarg.com

Sergeant-At-Arm: Eric Renz
Tel: (253) 302-1698
 Email: ijcrenz@aol.com

Membership Chair: Michelle Donaldson
 Tel: (253) 341-8345
 Email: chellewriter@yahoo.com

State Committeeman: Jerry Beckendorf
Tel: (253) 845-7702
 email: JerryB62@comcast.net

State Committeewoman: Ellen Zulauf
Tel: (253) 845-9370
 email: eazul@msn.com

Pierce County E-Board Reps:
Pos. 1: Charley Stokes
 Tel: (253) 848-8431
 Email: cwstokes@earthlink.net
Pos. 2: Carolyn Merrival
 Tel: (253) 845-3195
 Email: lakotal legends@comcast.net
Pos. 3: Melissa Thompson
 Tel: (253) 970-7339
 Email: MelissaThompson26@yahoo.com

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
 WA State Dem Party
www.wa-democrats.org
 Pierce Co. Dem Party
www.piercecounty-dems.org

25th District FOCUS Committee
 Jim Morrell, Chairperson
 Joan Cronk, Editor
JoanCronk@comcast.net
 (253) 845-5389

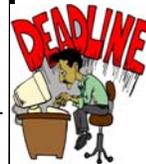
FOR THE LATEST INFO AND/OR COPIES OF THE FOCUS CHECK OUT THE 25TH LDD WEBSITE AT:
www.25dems.org



5 Jan Mon E-Board meets at 7PM at Fire Station 66. 9813 28th St, E., Puyallup

8 Jan Thu 25 LDD meeting **CANCELLED** for January

9 Jan Fri 25th LDD 2009 Session Sendoff Dinner and Fund-raiser at 7:30 PM, Puyallup Elks Club. (see flyer on page 5)



17 Jan Sat DEADLINE for FOCUS articles, pictures, etc.

2 Feb Mon E-Board meets at 7PM at Fire Station 66.

5 Feb Thu 25 LDD meets at 7PM at Puyallup Library



14 Feb Sat DEADLINE for FOCUS articles, pictures, etc.

You are invited to submit your meetings/events to be included in the Upcoming Events.

**25th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT DEMOCRATS ELECT LIZ COLLIER
AS THEIR SECRETARY**

By Joan Cronk



Here are some things you probably don't know about the 25th LDD new Secretary, Liz Collier.

She works as a Licensed Court Reporter, which means she is really fast and smart, and she and her husband Gary have three children and six grandchildren, which means she is really busy.

Liz worked very hard during the 2008 campaign, pounding the streets for our local candidates, as well as for our new President elect, Barack Obama. During her sign waving stints, she picked up interesting bits of information about local folks, like the fact that Rob Cerqui "does spot-on impersonations and hilarious stand-up comedy." Liz immersed herself in the entire process from start to finish.

She hopes that the Democrats, "will continue to elect progressive, thoughtful, intelligent leaders such as Barack Obama, for a long time to come; that we will strive to effect real change in our country, including universal health care, superior educational opportunities for all, and good jobs with living wages. That we will promote peace and equality in the US and abroad; that we will care for those less fortunate individuals in our local communities, our country, and throughout the world. And maybe we can put the brakes on the greedy, insensitive, self-serving, and even criminal people who have run our country into a ditch."

In addition, Liz loves her time with family and friends, laughing, living, flowers and Christmas lights. She enjoys gardening, walking and playing board games. She taught piano for 17 years, and has had a great time "tagging along with Jerry Beckendorf," crusading against the current administration, listening to progressives on talk radio and tv.

Well put, Liz. Welcome aboard. The 25th LDD is lucky to have you on our Executive Board and we all look forward to a busy and productive 2009!

DEFINITIONS NOT FOUND IN THE DICTIONARY

ADULT: *A person who has stopped growing at both ends and is now growing in the middle.*

BEAUTY PARLOR: *A place where women curl up and dye.*

COMMITTEE: *A body that keeps minutes and wastes hours.*

EGOTIST: *Someone who is usually me-deep in conversation.*

INFLATION: *Cutting money in half without damaging the paper.*

TOMORROW: *One of the greatest labor saving devices of today.*

WRINKLES: *Something other people have, because mine are "character lines"!*

YAWN: *An honest opinion, openly expressed.*

**WASHINGTON PUBLIC
CAMPAIGNS AND OUR
SUPREME COURT
JUSTICES**

By Betty Ogden

Washington Public Campaigns and our Supreme Court Justices need your help. If you believe in getting big money out of politics, will you call or email your legislators NOW asking them to support Rep. Marco Liias's bill? This bill supports public campaign funding for Supreme Court races in Washington State? **(We believe justice must not be for sale.)**

25th LD Democrats!
Please call/email: Sen. Jim Kastama, (253) 840-4701; kastama.jim@leg.wa.gov <mailto:kastama.jim@leg.wa.gov>.

Rep. Dawn Morrell, (253) 840-4604; morrell.dawn@leg.wa.gov. <mailto:morrell.dawn@leg.wa.g>

Rep.-elect Bruce Dammeier, (253) 370-7198; bfdammeier@comcast.net <mailto:bfdammeier@comcast.net>.

Why is passing the Judicial Bill important to Pierce County residents?

Remember the down-and-dirty judicial races in 2006? A total of \$2.7 million was spent by both sides in a fight to seat judges who would rule favorably towards their big-moneyed campaign contribu-

tors. The 2010 judicial race is likely to be more costly. Public Campaign Funding for Supreme Court races will help keep this from happening again. Grass-roots pressure on our legislators is the way to do it and NOW is the time to start preparing for it. **(Supreme Court justices must be free to judge. They should not have to dial for dollars and risk being influenced by big-moneyed contributors.)**

The Supreme Court has the final say on issues we care about – such as education, health care, public safety, transportation, and environmental stewardship. We need justices who will rule for the good of the people. **(Justice should not be for sale to the highest corporate bidder.)**

Why Public Campaign Funding? (25th LD Democrats have formally endorsed it.)

- It shifts where the money comes from in political campaigns. (Campaigns are paid for by the people instead of big-moneyed interests.)
- It allows incumbents to spend time legislating on voter issues. (They no longer must spend half their time dialing for dollars.)
- It levels the playing field. (It provides matching funds for publicly funded candidates running against big-bucks

candidates.)

- It encourages diversity. (Any viable candidate who successfully qualifies has a fair chance of winning.)

It promotes voter trust. (Publicly funded elected officials are indebted only to their constituents. Even public officials who are squeaky clean need to avoid looking as if they might be beholden to big money.)

Information: washclean.org
Pierce County Chapter
contact: betty@washclean.org <mailto:betty@washclean.org>, or 253-539-2720

CONFLICTING PROVERBS

*Actions speak louder than words.
The pen is mightier than the sword.*

*Look before you leap.
He who hesitates is lost.*

*A silent man is a wise one.
A man without words is a man without thoughts.*

*Clothes make the man.
Don't judge a book by its cover.*

*Many hands make light work.
Too many cooks spoil the broth.*

*Nothing ventured, nothing gained.
Better safe than sorry!*

**25th Legislative District Democrats
2009 Session Send-Off Dinner
& Fund Raiser
Honoring**

State Senator Jim Kastama



State Representative Dawn Morrell



Please join us as we send our fantastic 25th District legislators off to Olympia for the 2009 Legislative Session that convenes on January 12.

WHEN: Friday, January 9th, 2009

Doors open at 6:30pm, Dinner at 7:00pm

WHERE: Puyallup Elks Club #1450
(314 27th St. NE, Puyallup)

WHAT: Buffet Style Spaghetti Dinner

\$25 general admission pre-pay, \$30 general admission at the door

\$10 students pre-pay, \$15 students at the door

Remit your payment to:

25th Leg. Dist. Democrats

P.O. Box 73594

Puyallup, WA 98373

(Please be sure to note how many people your payment is for.

Also, please list the names your payment includes.)

Questions?

See our website at <http://www.25dems.org>

Or contact:

Charley Stokes, Send-Off Dinner Chairperson at (253) 848.8431

MINUTES OF MEETING

4 Dec 2008

By Charley Stokes

Meeting location. Puyallup Public Library

- 1) Call To Order. 7:08 PM by Dan Grimm
- 2) Roll Call of Officers & Attendees. (Deferred)
- 3) Flag Salute. Led by Dan Grimm
- 4) Adoption of Agenda. (Deferred)
- 5) Old Business. (Deferred)
- 6) New Business. Election of 2009-2011 organization officers. Chair Pro-Tem Dan Grimm conducted the election of first tier (PCO only vote) officers as follows:
 - a) Mr. Grimm called on Parliamentarian Cliff Allo to give an overview of the election process and an explanation of the pre-printed ballots.
 - b) Election of Chair. Mr. Grimm called for nomination for Chair. Eric Renz nominated Lauren Adler. Mr. Grimm called twice more for nominations; none were forthcoming. A motion was made and seconded from the floor to accept Lauren Adler by unanimous ballot. Mr. Grimm called for all in favor to say Aye; there were no Nays or Abstentions.
 - c) Election of Vice-Chair. Mr. Grimm called for nominations for Vice-Chair. Charley Stokes nominated Louis Tibbs. Mr. Grimm called twice more for nominations; none were forthcoming. A motion was made and seconded from the floor to accept Louis Tibbs by unanimous ballot. Mr. Grimm called for all in favor to say Aye; there were no Nays or Abstentions.
 - d) Election of State Committeeman. Mr. Grimm called for nominations for State Committeeman. Charley Stokes nominated Jerry Beckendorf. Mr. Grimm called twice more for nominations; none were forthcoming. A motion was made and seconded from the floor to accept Jerry Beckendorf by unanimous ballot. Mr. Grimm called for all in favor to say Aye; there were no Nays or Abstentions.
 - e) Election of State Committeewoman. Mr. Grimm called for nominations for State Committeewoman. Jerry Beckendorf nominated Ellen Zulauf. Mr. Grimm called twice more for nominations; none were forthcoming. A motion was made and seconded from the floor to accept Ellen Zulauf by unanimous ballot. Mr. Grimm called for all in favor to say Aye; there were no Nays or Abstentions.
 - f) Election of Representative to Pierce County Central Committee Executive Board (1 of 3). Mr. Grimm called for nominations for county Ex-Board Rep #1. Michelle Donaldson nominated Carolyn Merrival. Mr. Grimm called twice more for nominations; none were forthcoming. A motion was made and seconded from the floor to accept Carolyn Merrival by unanimous ballot. Mr. Grimm called for all in favor to say Aye; there were no Nays or Abstentions.
 - g) Election of Representative to Pierce County Central Committee Executive Board (2 of 3). Mr. Grimm called for nominations for county Ex-Board Rep #2. Melissa Thompson nominated Charley Stokes. Mr. Grimm called again for nominations. Audrey Chase nominated Frank Blair. A third call for nominations went unanswered. Mr. Grimm directed that a vote by secret ballot be made. Ken Blair and Ken Peach were appointed as the tally committee. Following a count of the ballots, it was announced that Charley Stokes had been elected as Ex-Board Rep #2.
 - h) Election of Representative to Pierce County Central Committee Executive Board (3 of 3). Mr. Grimm called for nominations for county Ex-Board Rep #3. Ken Blair nominated Audrey Chase. Mr. Grimm called again for nominations. Charley Stokes nominated Melissa Thompson. A third call for nominations

(For continuation see Page 7)

- h) went unanswered. Mr. Grimm directed that a vote by secret ballot be made. Ken Blair and Ken Peach continued as the tally committee. Following a count of the ballots, it was announced that Melissa Thompson had been elected as Ex-Board Rep #3.

(At this point, Mr. Grimm passed the gavel to Chair Lauren Adler to lead the elections of second tier officers that are elected by general members as well as PCO's).

- i) Election of Secretary. Chair Adler called for nominations for Secretary. Carolyn Merrival nominated Michelle Donaldson. C-Adler called again for nominations. Jerry Beckendorf nominated Elizabeth Collier. A third call went unanswered. C-Adler directed that a vote by secret ballot be made. The tally committee continued as before. Following a count of the ballots, it was announced that Liz Collier was elected.
- j) Election of Treasurer. Chair Adler called for nominations for Treasurer. Carolyn Merrival nominated Luanne Green. C-Adler called again for nominations. A second and third call went unanswered. It was moved and seconded from the floor to accept Luanne by unanimous ballot. C-Adler called for all in favor to say Aye; there were no Nays or Abstentions.
- k) Election of Membership Officer. Chair Adler called for nominations for Membership Officer. Jim Morrell nominated Michelle Donaldson. C-Adler called again for nominations. A second and third call went unanswered. It was moved and seconded from the floor to accept Michelle by unanimous ballot. C-Adler called for all in favor to say Aye; there were no Nays or Abstentions.
- l) Election of Sgt-At-Arms. Chair Adler called for nominations for Sgt-At-Arms. Charley Stokes nominated Eric Renz. C-Adler called again for nominations. A second and third call went unanswered. It was moved and seconded from the floor to accept Eric by unanimous ballot. C-Adler called for all in favor to say Aye; there were no Nays or Abstentions.

This ends the election of officers.

- Treasurers Report. Luanne Green submitted a written summary of organization finances showing a beginning balance for October of \$5,651.79. Monthly expenses were (\$429.93). Income of dues and donations was \$928.52. Balance as of November 30, 2008 is \$6,150.38. C3 and C4 reports are filed as of 11/30/2008; checking A/C balanced.

7) Good of the Order

- a) Jerry Beckendorf announced the State Democrats Christmas Party Dinner and Reception will be held on Dec 14 and that he has a ticket available at a discounted price. Interested parties can contact him for details.
- b) Jerry also passed a sign-up sheet for anyone interested in participating on the Legislative Committee.
- c) Ken Peach called for all new officers to gather for individual and group pictures.
- d) Ellen Zulauf announced the next State meeting would be the re-organization elections to be held Jan 23/24.

8) 7:50 PM Stand Adjourned

Toys for Tots



Thanks to all members who contributed to “Toys for Tots”, the USMC’s annual toy-drive, at the December meeting. A significant collection of new, unwrapped toys was delivered to Fire Station 66 following the meeting. Uhraa!



HAPPY NEW YEAR!



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
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25th Legislative District
Democratic
(LDD)
PO Box 73594
Puyallup, WA 98373