



25th Legislative District



Democratic Focus



**SPEAKER AT DECEMBER
MEETING
STATE DEMOCRATIC
CHAIR
DWIGHT PELZ**

**READ ALL ABOUT WHAT IS HAPPENING , WHAT DID HAPPEN, MINUTES
PLUS UPCOMINGS ON PAGE 2
AND - - - - PAY YOUR 2010 DUES TODAY! SEE PAGE 6.**

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

President/Chair: Louis Tibbs
Tel: (253) 848-5496
Email: LTibbs3@comcast.net

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

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

Secretary: Melissa Thompson
Tel: (253) 970-7339
email:
MelissaThompson@yahoo.com

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

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

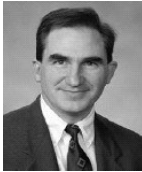
Membership Chair:
Michelle Donaldson
Tel: (253) 341-8345
Email: chellewriter@yahoo.com

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: lakotalegends@comcast.net
Pos. 3: Melissa Thompson
Tel: (253) 970-7339
Email: MelissaThompson@

**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**

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

MEETINGS



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

NOTICE! There will NOT be a regular monthly meeting on Thursday in January!

8 Jan FRI 25 LDD will meet at Elks Club, in Puyallup for Annual Send-off Dinner (See page 3 for Details.)



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

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

4 Feb Thu 25 LDD Meets at Puyallup Library at 7 PM.



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

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

WHAT'S UP?



Congratulations to new Vice-Chair of the 25th LDD, Michelle Donaldson who was unanimously elected at the December meeting. Michelle will continue in a dual role as Vice Chair and Membership Chair of the 25th LDD. We are lucky to have her!

Speaker for our February meeting will be Julie Anderson, newly elected Pierce County Auditor.

The 25th LDD would like to extend their condolences to the family of Jean Brooks. Jean has served local Democrats loyally throughout the years as a grass roots volunteer. Jean was the first Mayor of University Place and was Party Chair for two years. She will be missed.

Speaker at the December 25th LDD meeting was State Democratic Chair Dwight Pelz.

Pelz began by asking every person attending to say their name and tell who they most admired in the White House, and then he wrote down a number of questions the audience wanted answered.

Questions ranged from the State budget to how can we keep a majority in Olympia. Pelz, who has been involved in politics for 34 years and has served as Party Chair for the last four years, organized the initiative that removed sales tax on food in 1977.

He said that the LDDs are the “heart and soul of the party.” He said the difference between Democrats and Republicans is that the Democrats think the government should solve problems and the Republicans do not.

His visit to the 25th LDD was very interesting and informative. Thanks to Dwight Pelz for taking the time to visit our meeting.



NOTICE!

The 25th LDD will not have a regular meeting in January, 2010. Instead, we will meet at the Puyallup Elks on Friday, January 8, 2010 for our annual send off dinner for our Legislators. The cost for the dinner is \$20 per person and \$35 per couple if paid in advance, or \$25 per person and \$40 per couple if paid at the door the evening of the event. Happy hour will commence at 6 p.m. with buffet dinner following at 7:00. Speakers will begin at 7:30.

25th LDD MEETING MINUTES
December 3, 2009
Melissa Thompson

Started meeting at 7:04 p.m.

We had a Moment of Silence for Jean Brooks and 4 Lakewood Police Officers, who were killed November 29th...

Roll Call of Officers: Everybody was here except Carolyn Merrival who was excused and Jerry Beckendorf who was unexcused. We adopted the Agenda and the Minutes of our last meeting.

Fife City Council member Don Alveshere attended the meeting.

Chair of the Washington State Democratic Central Committee Dwight Pelz spoke. He had us all introduce ourselves and say who we admire in D.C. Then he asked the audience for any questions. He then gave his life story in how he got involved in politics. Next he went over the different layers of the party. Finally he talked about the Health Care Bill & Debate that is happening in Congress.

We had the Election of Vice-Chair. Charley Stokes nominated Michelle Donaldson and Joan Cronk seconded. There were no more nominations. Then Charley made a motion to vote by acclimation which Calvin Goings seconded. So we voted by acclimation to have Michelle Donaldson be our Vice-Chair in addition to her duties as Membership Chair.

Our next meeting will be our annual Legislative Send-off Dinner on Friday January 8th at the Elks Club. It will be a Spaghetti Dinner and our speaker will be Prosecuting Attorney Mark Lindquist.

There was a Toy Drive at the December meeting.

We are still looking for an Assistant Treasurer.

We adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

STATE COMMITTEE ARTICLES

By Jerry Beckendorf

Toys Given to Labor Agency

Several large boxes of toys were collected at the December meetings of the 25th LD Democrats and the Retired Public Employees Council. The toys will be donated to the Pierce County Labor Community Services Agency, a 501 (c):3 non-profit that assists low income and laid-off union workers, their families and others. The Labor Agency also gives families, targeted by various labor unions as being in critical need, Fred Meyer gift certificates and sometimes are help with utility assistance if close to a shut-off notice. Those gifts of toys are greatly appreciated by the staff of the Labor Council and the Labor Agency.

Raffle baskets donated to Pierce County Democrats Holiday Party

The 25th Legislative District Democrats donated two baskets for the recent Pierce County Democrats Holiday party silent auction. Both baskets were put together with donations from South Hill Forza Coffee. The first basket was to help fund the Pierce County Democrats while the second basket went to assist the families of the fallen Lakewood Police Officers. The second basket together with other donations raised nearly \$150 which will be donated to the Lakewood Police Independent Guild. That organization can receive addition donations for the families by dropping them off at a branch of Columbia Bank or Bank of America. Numerous other organizations are holding fundraisers and they are listed in the Wednesday, December 09, 2009 edition of the News Tribune. Your support for the Lakewood Police Officer families will be greatly appreciated.

Four Officers attend WSDCC Holiday Party

The following officers of the 25th LD Democrats attended the Washington State Democrats Holiday Party at the Washington State Convention and Trade Center on Sunday, December 6th: Louis Tibbs, Michelle Donaldson, Jerry Beckendorf and Ellen Zulauf as guests of Mike Egan, Dir of Corp Affairs for Microsoft. Many Democratic party activists, Labor leaders and office holders including members of our delegation from Congress were in attendance. Our two US Senators, Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell, however, are hard at work in Washington D.C. on the health care bill. Governor Gregoire had a moment of silence for the Lakewood Police officers followed by her assessment of the 2010 Legislative Session. Dwight Pelz, Jim McDermott, among others also spoke.

Calendar:

Monday, January 4, 2010 7 am, Senator's Club and 25th Democrats LAC combined meeting at Mrs. Turner's Plantation.



Pay your dues for 2010 NOW –Gain Full Year Through December, 2010

The Executive Board of the 25th Legislative District Democrats have voted to encourage members to renew their dues for 2010 now (October 1, 2009)—those dues will be in effect through December 31, 2010.

Many members are never sure when they have paid their dues. Every year we always have a lot of questions about when dues are due, how much (for what category), and what the period is that the dues cover. The Board thought that this new policy would be helpful to everyone.

Our dues help us to maintain contact with membership through our newsletter and also to help notify members of important issues that are of interest. It's very important that we keep in contact with one another in this exciting time when health care issues are being decided, economic news is changing daily.

Changes to the Membership Dues Structure

At the November 2, 2009 Executive Board Meeting a motion was seconded and carried to make yearly membership dues cover each calendar year; beginning January 1 and continuing through December 31. This means that all current members' dues will pay them for one calendar year beginning January 1 through December 31. The 25th Legislative District would appreciate dues to be paid by the end of January to keep individuals in good standing; i.e. electronic newsletter receipt, voting privileges, etc. When new members join, if they join in months later than January, they will receive a prorated rate for the portion of the year that remains on the calendar. For example, if a new member joins the organization in June and chooses to pay Rainier level dues, they're prorated dues rate would be \$14.00, and their membership would be active through December 31 of that same calendar year. New members should consult with the Treasurer or Membership Chair to arrange a prorated dues receipt.

Changes to Distribution of Newsletter

It is the strong desire of the organization to continue to distribute and provide a monthly newsletter to our members. Rising costs of production, printing and postage have made it difficult to continue to produce a mailed copy to each member. Many of our members have requested that their newsletter be emailed to them each month and this has helped the organization greatly. Beginning with the January 2010 newsletter all copies of the 25th Legislative District Democrats newsletter will be sent via email. Please update your email address now with the Membership Chair to ensure that you don't miss a copy! Realizing that not everyone has an email address, or that some simply prefer to have the newsletter in hand to read, the organization is offering two opinions to serve you:

1. 25 hard copies of the previous month's newsletter will be provided for at each monthly meeting.
2. Supplemental newsletter membership dues will be offered. Again, due to the cost of production, printing and postage the organization must look to supplementation to produce the newsletter. If you would like to continue receiving your newsletter in the mail each month, you may opt to pay the additional newsletter dues. Newsletter dues will be \$10 per year. This amount is in addition to your membership dues.

**25TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT
FINANCIAL REPORT
December 7, 2009**

Period Reported: November 1 - 30, 2009

Bank Balance Club Account: (Closed April 1, 2008) 0.00

Beginning Balance November 1, 2009 \$ 7,124.87

Expenses:

Luanne Green – Seals for Mailing Focus	13.11
Joan Cronk	25.00
US Postmaster – Renew Postage Due Deposit	25.00
US Postmaster – Focus Mailing	56.00
Office Depot - #10 Envelopes Dues/Flyer/Remit Mailing	43.70
The Cart Doc – Refill LDD Printer Cartridge	49.19
The Cart Doc – Refill Blk. Ink Cartridges – Ltr/Flyer	42.46
US Postmaster – Mail Dues Ltr/Flyer/Remits	91.95
Jerry Beckendorf - Basket for PCO Fundraiser	40.00
Total Expenses:	(\$386.41)

Income

Dues & Donations 955.00

Balance as of November 30, 2009 \$ 7,693.46

Checking A/C Balanced, C-3's filed, C-4 next due 12/10/2009

25th LDD Still Searching for Assistant Treasurer

Chair Louis Tibbs announced that we are still looking for an Assistant Treasurer for our organization. The position has been open since our past Treasurer resigned and the then Assistant was elected to that position. This would be an appointive position.

The individual would need to have good computer skills, some background in checking and banking procedures, and own a computer. Duties would be: a back-up for monitoring our 25th LDD mail box at South Hill Post Office, banking funds, making PDC (Public Disclosure Reports) and other fiscal duties, if needed, in the absence of the Treasurer.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR 2010 MEMBERSHIP DUES ?
IF SO, THANK YOU - IF NOT SEE PAGE 6!
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.)
Please send dues to: 25th LDD, POBox 73594, Puyallup, WA 98373



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.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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