

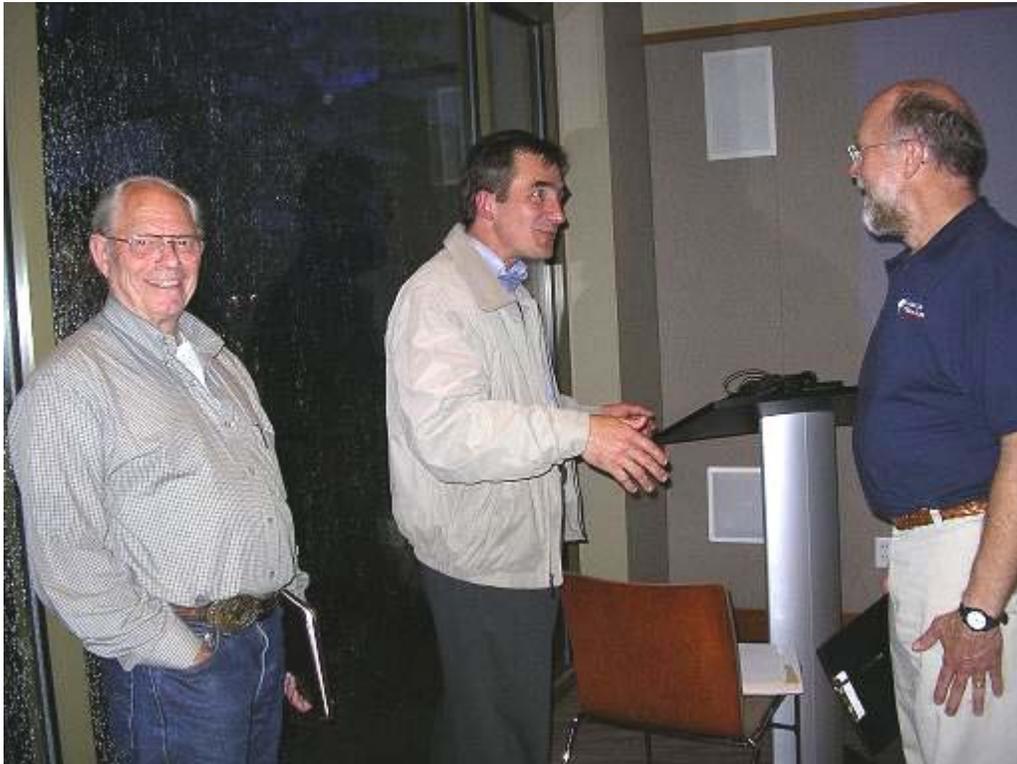


25th Legislative District



July

Democratic Focus



SEN KASTAMA ANSWERS QUESTIONS AFTER TALK ABOUT HIS TRIP WITH WASHINGTON DELEGATION TO JAPAN AND CHINA

MEETINGS

NOTICE: SEE PAGE 2 FOR ALL THE UPCOMING MEETINGS.



Check out our web site, <http://25thdemocrats.org> built and hosted by Lauren Adler. You will find news and meetings and pictures. For newsletter send all articles, pictures, committee report to Editor Joan Cronk 845-5389 or email: cjejoan30@msn.com

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22 Jun Thu Dawn Morrell
campaign kickoff ice cream
social and fundraiser, Bradley
Lake Park, Puyallup.

**3 Jul Mon NO E-BOARD
meeting in JUL!.**

6 Jul Thu 7 PM 25th LDD
meets in (**NOTE CHANGE**)
Summit Library, 112th St.
E., Puyallup. Program: Can-
didates seeking endorsement.
Issues.

9 Jul Sun 2 - 6 PM 25th Dist
Democrats Picnic at Bradley
Lake Park, Puyallup.

15 Jul Sat **DEADLINE** for
FOCUS items, articles and
pictures.

3 Aug NOTE Change of
meeting place for 25th LDD
will meet in the Korum
YMCA, 302 43rd Ave., S.E.,
Puyallup. Program: Endorse-
ments for candidates. Issues.

28 Sep Thu, Chili Contest.
Let Ken Peach know if you
are interested in competing.

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

SEN KASTAMA'S PRESENTATION AT THE 25 LDD MEETING 1 JUN

By Joan Cronk

At the June meeting those in attendance were wowed by a presentation by Senator Jim Kastama of the Governor's trade mission trip to Japan and China. Senator Kastama showed 125 slides. On his plane trip to Japan the Senator was lucky enough to sit next to a guy who knew a whole lot about protocol, customs and courtesies so Jim learned just what to do and how to do it.

Senator Kastama showed us maps with all of the locations of the stops, which gave the group a real feel for what was involved in the travel. In Japan they saw the Emperor's home, Sensayi Temple and then boarded a bullet like train, which Governor Gregoire was allowed to "run" for a time. The trains are so precise that they run on time within ten seconds.

The group then moved to Osaka and Kobe, where they learned how the citizens are still reeling from the earthquake fifteen years ago. Kobe suffered 100 billion dollars in damages and is struggling to make a comeback. They also visited Beijing, which is the Political Center. There were many photos of "presentations" made to dignitaries, i.e., Washington

wine, and other gifts as well. The photos of the Great Wall were stunning.

The group was fortunate to have former Governor Gary Locke in attendance and that allowed them access to just about anything. Because of Locke's presence, the group was able to meet with the Mayor of Shanghai who normally never allows an audience with anyone. Shanghai is considered the business center.

The hour was too short but Senator Kastama did a fine job of filling us in. He put a lot of time and effort into the presentation and those in attendance were treated to a fine tour of Japan and China, complete with the Senator's remarks about the trip.

Senator Kastama has been invited to lead a trade mission to China in the fall.

WHAT KIND OF STATE/ NATION DO YOU WANT?

Please let Jon know what the top five most important issues/priorities are for you. And if you feel strongly enough about them then come to the meetings and discuss them with the other members who will be there.

ISSUES MOTION

By Jon Bristol

At the next meeting a motion shall be made "To set aside the 1st thirty (30) minutes of each meeting to discuss issues that the 25th LDD have identified as of primary interest to them".

One method of selecting these issues is as follows; break up the attendance into groups of 3. Each of these groups of 3 shall choose 3 issues that are the most important to them, finalizing their choices of 3 issues in a span of not more than 15 minutes. These issues shall contain 5 words or less. Then the whole group comes together and spends not more than 3 minutes advocating for each issue. Then a vote shall be taken choosing the three top issues facing the 25th. These top 3 issues are what we will ask candidates about. We can and should go through this exercise for both national and state issues as they may differ.

This in no way reflects on the voting record of any of our elected officials. The sole purpose of this exercise is to define for our legislators our priorities as the 25th LDD.

Here are some examples of ideas for a national agenda, affordable healthcare for all, sustainable energy independence, restored constitutional rights, global leadership through diplomacy, high quality education for all, solutions for global warming, a guaranteed living wage, publicly funded elections, a balanced federal budget. These are another organizations ideas, and ours may differ which would be good. These ideas are just an example of what we could put out there for national priorities.

Life is what's coming --not what was!
When things go wrong--don't go with them!



25TH LDD BOOTH AT THE MEEKER DAYS FESTIVAL IN PUYALLUP WITH VOLUNTEERS JERRY BECKENDORF, ERIC RENZ AND JOAN CRONK TAKING THEIR TURN.

MEEKER DAYS

By Joan Cronk

Those were the days. We scrambled for volunteers but the ones who did show up enjoyed the company of all the people there. We registered voters, passed out material and talked to so many people we can't count them all. On Friday night Dawn Morrell was there speaking to the people also. The weather was just fine on Friday and Saturday and fab on Sunday. So if you missed volunteering you missed a fun time with a great bunch of people and you missed a great opportunity to spread the word for the Democratic Party and the 25th LDD.

THE EDUCATION OF SHELBY KNOX

By Alissa Haslam

We have scheduled the South meeting room at the Puyallup Library for a screening of "The Education of Shelby Knox". It is an award-winning documentary about a young Baptist girl from Texas who advocates for comprehensive sex education in her school district. The viewing will be on Monday July 17th at 6:30PM. Light refreshments will be furnished.

(Ed Note: Alissa Haslam is the Field Coordinator for NARAL Pro-Choice Washington and can be reached at (206) 624-1990 or alissa-haslam@prochoicewashington.org.

Disclaimer: The 25th LDD is not a sponsor for this screening.)

you're invited



To the Annual 25th LDD PICNIC on 9 Jul at the Bradley Lake Park. Puyallup. The 25th will have hot dogs, hamburgers, chips and drinks. The cost to you is only \$5 per person (Free for children under 6) or \$20 per family plus bring a dish to pass around. A thru H Salad of any kind. I thru Q Beans, vegetable. R thru Z Dessert

Come join in the fun and meet your neighbors, friends, and maybe even some strangers.



MINUTES OF 25TH LDD JUNE MEETING

By Charley Stokes

Minutes of last meeting and Treasurer's Report approved.

Elected Officials & Committee Chairs It was noted that some members may be tardy to the meeting as Adam Smith's campaign kickoff in Tacoma was also this evening and overlapped the 25th LDD meeting.

Jerry Beckendorf spoke on the efforts to repeal the estate tax (referred to by opponents as the "Death Tax") noting there was significant protection in existing law for family farms (a key campaign scare word) and that the first two million dollars of an estate's value is currently exempt from liability. This campaign is an effort by the very wealthy to eliminate the estate tax.

Jim and Lauren spoke about Dawn's kickoff at 7:00 PM, June 22nd at Bradley Park.

Update on the Coordinated Campaign's office in Tacoma.

Bill Harrington from the 2nd issued invite to come to meeting at the Graham Library starting at 6:30 PM, June 19th.

Old Business Meeker Days. Need volunteers to man the booth. Sign up sheets are at the front table. The 25th Picnic will be July 9th at Bradley Lake Park.

Moved by Charley Stokes to lift from the table the resolution against increased at-large seats for the Puyallup City Council. Seconded by Luanne Green. Senator Kastama spoke to leave the resolution tabled, as he does not believe the 25th should be involved in municipal questions of policy. Counter argument by C. Stokes that the 25th should be involved at all levels of government that affect the membership anywhere in the district, municipalities included. Vote called. (Nay=leave tabled) Aye, 3; Nay, 8; Abst, 2. Resolution remained tabled.

New Business Charley Stokes submitted a resolution to the membership to support the adoption of Initiative and Resolution power for the voters of Puyallup, a right not currently enjoyed. Moved by CS to adopt, seconded by Luanne Green. Senator Kastama moved to table the resolution (see above). Vote called. (Aye=table) Aye, 6; Ney, 6; Abst, 2. Vice-chair Morrell cast tiebreaker: Aye. Resolution tabled.

Speaker Senator Jim Kastama spoke on his impressions during travels with Governor Gregoire and ex-Governor Locke on a trade mission to Japan and China and presented a slide show that was greatly enjoyed by all in attendance. The Senator answered questions from the membership following the presentation. Here are a very few of many memorable points made during the evening:

The Senator is very optimistic for future relationships between China and Washington. (He will be returning to China in July, leading his own trade mission to Liaoning province, northwest of Beijing.)

China uses very long range planning; not a 5-year plan, but a 200-year plan!

We need to realize that spending for education in Washington is not OVERHEAD, but an INVESTMENT in the future economic opportunity for our region.

Good of the Order

Remember to bring contributions for the food bank to all future meetings.

25th District Democratic (LDD) Membership Form -

Use this form to recruit friends and neighbors to join you in helping our Democratic party.

Name: _____ **Address:** _____

Phone: () _____ **City/Zip:** _____

Precinct: _____ **Email:** _____

New Dues now in effect: Evergreen (includes Senior, outside district, etc) \$10 per member; Rainier \$25; Chair's Voice \$50; Senators Club \$100 (can be paid in installments). If you already paid dues they are good for this year.

I've enclosed \$ _____ for Club Dues, \$ _____ for the Victory Fund. Please write checks dues to 25th LDD and Victory Fund Checks to 25th District Victory Fund (donations to both can be on same check).

Mail to 25th LDD, PO Box 372, Puyallup, WA 98371

SAVE NPR AND PBS (AGAIN)

Everyone expected House Republicans to give up efforts to kill NPR and PBS after a massive public outcry stopped them last year. But they've just voted to eliminate funding for NPR and PBS - unbelievably, starting with programs like "Sesame Street."

Public broadcasting would lose nearly a quarter of its federal funding this year. Even worse, all funding would be eliminated in two years - threatening one of the last remaining sources of watchdog journalism.

Sign the petition telling Congress to save NPR and PBS again this year.

<http://civic.moveon.org/publicbroadcasting>

Last year, millions of us took action to save NPR and PBS, and Congress listened. We can do it again if enough of us sign the petition in time. When there is silence we all lose. Audrey

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