



25th Legislative District



Democratic Focus

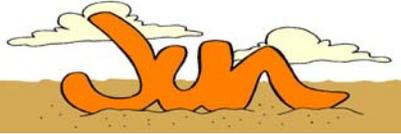


Photo Courtesy of John Thompson

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT ARE THE HONOREES GIVEN AWARDS AT THE VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER APRIL 21ST: CHARLEY STOKES, JERRY BECKENDORF, JON BRISTOL, PUBLIC LIAISON OFFICER FOR THE GOVERNOR - CHUCK HUNTER, AUDREY CHASE, CAROLYN MERRIVAL, LAUREN ADLER, JOAN CRONK AND JOHN KOSCHE. SEE STORY ON PAGE 3.

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

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

President/Chair: Audrey Chase
Tel: (253) 531-2239
email: achase1952@earthlink.net
Vice Chair: Jim Morrell
Tel: (253) 841-9385
email: jamesm9164@earthlink.net
Treasurer: Jon Bristol
Tel: (253) 770-1246
email: bristol.j@comcast.net
Membership: Carolyn Merrival
Tel: (253) 845-3195
email: lakotal legends@comcast.net
State Committee:
John Thompson
Tel: (253) 841-2030
email:
John.Thompson6@comcast.net
State Committee: Ellen Zulauf
Tel: (253) 845-9370
email: eazul@msn.com
Parliamentarian: Luanne Green
Tel: (253) 848-0289
Secretary: Charley Stokes
Tel: (253) 848-8431
Sgt-At-Arms: Ryan Agnew
Tel: (253) 9222-5232
PCO: John Kosche
Tel: (253) 906-2225
email: John@Kosche.org
County Executive
Board Members:
Frank Blair, Dr. Ron Morris,
Kevin Wimsett
Club Contact:
email: LDOC25th@earthlink.net

Immediate past chair:
Matt Hanbey, 845-8020,
Email: mhanbey@hotmail.com

Club Contact:
email:
LDOC25th@earthlink.net

**25TH DISTRICT
DEMOCRATIC
ELECTED
OFFICIALS**



Senator
Jim Kastama
(253) 840-4701

email:
kastama_ja@leg.wa.gov



Representative
Dawn Morrell
(253) 840-4604

email:
morrell_da@leg.wa.gov

For all other elected officials:
Legislative Hotline:
1-800-562-6000

**DEMOCRATS
CONTACT INFO**

DNC:
www.democrats.org
WA State Dem Party
www.wa-democrats.org
Pierce Co. Dem Party
www.piercecountyde-
mocrats.org

25th District Focus
Committee
Jim Morrell, Chairperson
Joan Cronk, Editor
cjejoan30@msn.com
(253) 845-5389
Ken Peach, Publisher
kmpeach@aol.com
(253) 537-4591
Ray Green, Coordinator
Sara Waddell, Coordinator
Frank Blair, Columnist



29 May Mon E-Board meets at
6:30 PM at Firestation 66, 9813
128th St E., Puyallup

1 Jun Thu 7 PM 25th LDD
meets in Puyallup Library with
Senator Kastama talking about
his trip with the Governor to Ja-
pan and China.

5 Jun Mon Senator's Club will
be held at **7 AM** in Mrs. Turner's
Restaurant, Puyallup. The Jul
meeting is cancelled. We will
resume on Mon, 7 Aug at **7AM**.

10 Jun Sat DEADLINE for FO-
CUS Items, articles and pictures.
3 Jul Mon E-Board meets at 6:30
PM at Fire Station 66, 9813
128th St. E., Puyallup.

6 Jul Thu 7 PM 25th LDD
meets in Summit Library, 5107
112th St. E., Puyallup.

9 Jul Sun 2 - 6 PM 25th Dist De-
mocrats Picnic at Bradley Park.,
2 - 6 PM.

15 Jul Sat DEADLINE for FO-
CUS items, articles and pictures.

3 Aug meeting of 25th LDD will
meet in Korum YMCA, 302 43rd
Ave., S.E., Puyallup
28 Sep Chili Contest

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

**VOLUNTEER
APPRECIATION DINNER**

By Joan Cronk

The volunteer appreciation dinner was held Friday, April 21st at the Midland Senior Center and was well attended by approximately 40 enthusiastic members, friends and volunteers in the 25th District.

Several volunteers were honored and they are pictured on page one. From left to right are: Charley Stokes, 25th District Secretary, Jerry Beckendorf, who was awarded a special letter of recognition from Gov. Christine Gregoire, delivered in person by Chuck Hunter, Public Liaison Officer for the Governor, Jon Bristol, 25th District Treasurer, Chuck Hunter, Audrey Chase, 25th District President, Carolyn Merrival, 25th District Membership, Lauren Adler, who was honored for her work as a young Democrat, Joan Cronk, honored for her work as Editor of the newsletter and John Kosche, honored for his work as PCO Chair for the 25th District. Ken Peach, who was unable to attend, was also recognized for his wonderful and capable work on the newsletter. It wouldn't get out without Ken's diligence and hard work!

The meal was catered by Jim Anton and was delicious. A good time was had by all!

**SYNOPSIS OF
MINUTES OF MEETING
OF 25th DEMOCRATS
ON 5/4/06.**

Meeting called to order by President Chase. Roll call of officers and approval of minutes from April meeting and approval of Treasurer's Report followed.

Senator Jim Kastama and County Councilman Cal Goings spoke, as did Ken Blair of Bethel School District and Patrick Whidman of the Pierce County Coordinated Campaign. Loren Adler announced that Dawn Morrell's campaign kickoff will be held 6/22 at Bradley Park. Dan Nolte, field organizer for Darcy Burner, summed up her campaign so far and gave numbers for people to call if they would like to help.

Jerry Beckendorf, our Legislative Chair, made mention of a few items, the Letter Carrier's Food Drive on 5/13, the Democrats fund raising and Medicare Part D.

Ellen Zulauf and John Thompson spoke about the State Convention to be held May 13 in Seattle.

Our speaker for the evening,

County Council Member Kathy Turner, spoke in response to the proposed Resolution of Non Support of the Puyallup City Council's proposal to change three of six district council seats to at-large positions. Council Member Turner addressed the condominium issue and said the purchase of her condo had no bearing on the at-large issues. Charley Stokes responded. After her talk and a question and answer time from the audience, the members voted to table the resolution.

John Thompson rose to clarify that statements at the April meeting concerning blood collection at Puyallup High School were in error. Half the blood collected is not being discarded because of students having STDs. A more accurate statement is that students are eliminating themselves from the process of donating because they are or believe themselves to have STDs. Of blood collected, less than 1% is rejected.

Orting Soldier's Home Cemetery clean up will be 20 May prior to Memorial Day and volunteers are needed. The 25th LDD picnic will be held July 9 at Bradley Park, Puyallup.

Meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.



THE FOLLOWING LETTER WAS WRITTEN BY DARCY BURNER AFTER VICE PRESIDENT CHENEY VISITED WASHINGTON STATE TO RAISE MONEY FOR A REPUBLICAN. THE LETTER WAS IN RESPONSE TO SOMETHING HE SAID. THE FORMAL LETTER HAS BEEN CHANGED TO FIT ON THIS PAGE.

April 19, 2006 Office of the Vice President, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Vice President:

During your recent trip to Washington State to support White House endorsed candidates, you were quoted by both Seattle newspapers as telling 8th District Representative Dave Reichert that you would “campaign for your opponent if it’ll help.”

As Reichert’s Democratic opponent, I would like to take you up on your kind and thoughtful offer and I cordially invite you to come and spend a day campaigning with me in the 8th District. The district reaches from Microsoft’s Redmond Campus to Mount Rainier National Park and offers a microcosm of America. Here are some of the events I would like to plan for your visit to the 8th.

Let’s start at Mount Rainier where we can take in the beautiful and precious parklands and forests. Here you may be able to see clearly why our district so opposed the Republican plan – supported by Mr. Reichert – to make it easier for developers and private interests such as mining companies to take over and ruin these treasured public lands.

Moving north from Mount Rainier, I would like to have you meet with some of our brave Iraq veterans and their families to learn first hand of the inadequate body and vehicle armor your Administration provided them. Also, I am sure National Guard families and veterans will want to ask you why your Administration and Mr. Reichert opposed giving them the same health benefits as the regular military along whose side they have fought.

In Kent, we could meet with some workers who have had their jobs exported overseas and you can explain why the Bush tax policy gives tax breaks to American companies who out source American jobs. They’d like to know why their own tax dollars are being used to help them become unemployed. Then, perhaps, we could visit a senior center and you could try to explain to our elderly why your prescription drug benefit – supported by Mr. Reichert – is creating such confusion and chaos.

Finally, we could stop at Bellevue Community College where I could easily assemble a group of students who can not understand why the Bush Administration and Mr. Reichert would propose and support making it harder for student to get college loans.

It will be a full day, but it will be a rewarding and interesting one. Again, I greatly appreciate your offer and look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Darcy".

Darcy Burner, Candidate for Congress

cc: Representative Dave Reichert
Media outlets

FRANKLY SPEAKING

By Frank Blair

Them gull dern Democrats ain't doin' nothin'! Them gull dern Democrats ain't sayin' nothin'! Them gull dern Democrats ain't got no plan! Over and over and over again they say it. The radio, TV, newspapers and people you talk to say it. Mostly fed-up, disillusioned Republicans are the ones saying it, but now I'm hearing "progressive" Democrats saying it too. I have to admit that I expect that kind of nonsense from the ill-informed masses of dumbered-down Republicans, but Democrats are usually smarter than that. Usually. Democrats don't blindly follow the masses, and don't just take things at face value; they look below the surface and find out for themselves. We are smarter than they are, period. That's why the beating "progressives" are giving Democratic candidates is so darn disconcerting to me.

Maybe a brief civics lesson and a reality check are in order. First, and most importantly; WE ARE IN THE MINORITY! We don't have subpoena power, we can't hold hearings, we can introduce legislation, but can't force a vote on it, we don't chair ANY committees, AND we don't have the votes in the house OR Senate to over-ride the GOP. Ya get it? We are powerless to DO anything. Impeachment takes place in the HOUSE, and the president is either convicted or acquitted (Like Bill Clinton was) in the Senate. Investigations are called for in either House or Senate committees. Even when those bodies CALL for investigation, the chair can gloss over anything they want, turn off microphones, the lights or even have members forcibly removed. (Remember Ted Stevens wetting his Depends when Senator Cantwell tried to have the oil execs sworn in?)

Second; "They ain't SAYIN' nothin'"?!! Granted, you have to LOOK for it, because the major networks, newspapers and cable and radio stations are owned by an increasingly shrinking number of huge and powerful multi-national corporations who ALL have business before, and heavily lobby the GOP in congress. THAT'S why on the rare occasion a Democrat DOES get any air time, they are outnumbered by at least two to one, including the HOST by Republicans. We talk, and nobody in the media lets you listen. What the hell do you think I have been doing for seven years on KLAY? We get little support from Democrats because we don't have multi-millionaire donors to prop us up.

Our plan? It's very simple really, to restore fiscal responsibility, corporate accountability, national credibility and political reality. Simple enough for even your idiotic fox news watching in-laws to understand.

So, what do we do now? If you are one of those "progressives" who are still fuming about a vote or two that was taken by a Democratic Congressman or Senator several years ago based on the lies and deliberate distortions put forth by the liars in the majority or the most corrupt administration in our nation's history, GET OVER IT!! NOW! Pull your thumb out of your mouth, wring out your diaper and get REAL! If fringe candidates who have no chance of winning pull two percent of the Democratic vote, the rats win! This is the most critical election in our country's history. Now is NOT the time to stomp our little feet and beat up on Democrats. Democrats are NOT the problem, we are the solution! Like it or not, we have a two party system, and the one in power now, is dragging the whole globe down the toilet. If (when?) we regain congress, we don't perform, THEN get out the clubs. I'll lead the charge.



FRIDAYS - 12 NOON TO 1 PM

LISTEN TO KLAY 1180 AM

(And if for some unknown reason you miss it you can go to <http://www.liberaltopia.org>
There is a link on the right hand side of the screen that says Frank and Audrey.)

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



As of January 1st, membership dues continue to trickle in to the treasury. The 25th District desperately needs these funds to continue to operate and to support Democratic candidates.

PLEASE get your dues in as soon as possible!

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

25th Legislative District
Democratic
(LDD)
PO Box 372
Puyallup, WA 98371