



25th Legislative District



Democratic Focus



THE 25TH LDD MEMBERSHIP PRESENT AT THE MONTHLY MEETING IN FEB SANG HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO LONG-TIME MEMBER AND VOLUNTEER RAY GREEN ON HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY! AND SEATED ON RAY'S RIGHT ARE ANNE AND PAUL JACOBSON

**READ THE SCOUP ABOUT WHAT IS HAPPENING , WHAT DID HAPPEN (ON PAGE 3), STATE COMMITTEE REPORTS (ON PAGE 4 & 5)
PLUS UPCOMINGS (PAGE 2)
AND - - - - PAY YOUR 2010 DUES TODAY! SEE PAGE 8.**

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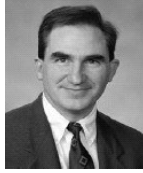
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FOR THE LATEST INFO
AND/OR COPIES OF THE
FOCUS CHECK OUT THE 25TH
LDD WEBSITE AT:
www.25dems.org

MEETINGS



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

4 Mar Thu 25th LDD LAC meets at Puyallup Library 6PM. General Membership 25th LDD Meets at Puyallup Library at 7 PM. Speaker will be WA State Auditor **Brian Sonntag**

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

29 Mar Mon E-Board meets at 7PM at Fire Station 66.

1 Apr Thu 25 LDD Meets at Puyallup Library at 7 PM.

17 Apr 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?



By Joan Cronk

Here are some notes from the last 25th LDD meeting.

Ray Green has reached the age of 80 years old and his lovely wife, Luanne, brought a cake to celebrate. Everyone sang Happy Birthday to Ray, as he beamed and enjoyed his cake. The 25th LDD is very lucky to have both Ray and Luanne on board with our group. We appreciate them both every day! Here's to another good year with the Greens!

Jerry Beckendorf gave a report on the County and State Conventions. All information regarding this is on our website at www.25dems.org.

At next month's regular 25th LDD meeting, scheduled for Thursday, March 4 at 7 p.m. at the Puyallup Library, we will have Washington State Auditor Brian Sonntag as our guest speaker.

Chair Louis Tibbs announced that the 25th LDD Caucus will be held Sunday March 14 at 1:00 at the Puyallup Elks. Information regarding the caucus is available on our website. The primary order of business will be the election of delegates and alternates. This is a great opportunity for PCOs to get involved. Folks will sign in by their precinct and Chair Tibbs said, "Our hope is that everyone will attend and invite friends and neighbors to attend as well. "

At the caucus there will be an election for 22 delegates and 11 alternates to attend both the Pierce County Democratic Convention and the State Democratic Convention in Vancouver, WA. The Pierce County Convention will be where many resolutions and the party platform will be discussed. 25th LDD Chair Louis Tibbs said, "This would be a great opportunity for people to be elected as delegates to both the county and the state."

Chair Tibbs also reported that the State Party has requested that each Legislative District select a Credentials Committee with a chair.

The 25th LDD Executive Board recommended to our membership at the February 4 meeting that this motion be passed, with the amendment that the Credentials Committee Chair be our Vice-Chair, Michelle Donaldson. This was moved, seconded and passed.

The 25th LDD is also looking for representation from our membership to serve on an Affirmative Action Committee. In that fashion, the 25th LDD would have involvement at both the county and the state level. Any member of the 25th LDD that is interested in getting involved with the Affirmative Action Committee should contact Louis Tibbs via e mail at ltibbs3@comcast.net.

The Endorsement Committee has been formed and will begin work on the questionnaire that will go to the candidates, said Carolyn Merrival, head of the Endorsement Committee.

The Young Democrats Convention is in Seattle on March 5-7 and the 25th LDD voted to pay registration for up to three Young Democrats to attend.

The 25th LDD involvement in Meeker Days was discussed and Eric Renz will head it up. Meeker Days will be held on June 18, 19 and 20.

The 25th LDD will pay for a booth at the Puyallup Fair and will ask other LDDs and the County and local candidates to participate as well and pay a portion of the fee. Each LD and County can display information in support of their candidates, if they contribute. 25th LDD will pay for the booth at a sum of \$3,000 and we hope other LDs will share the cost and help man the booth.

STATE COMMITTEE ARTICLES

By Jerry Beckendorf

Washington State Democratic Central Committee meeting in Seattle on January 30, 2010:

Coordinated Campaign In 2010 there will be 10 coordinated campaign offices with 20 workers as compared to 2009 20 coordinated campaign offices with 10 workers.

Endorsement of Democratic Congressional Incumbents: The following were endorsed by WSDCC members from their CD: Jay Inslee 1st CD; Rick Larsen 2nd CD, table 3rd CD, table 5th CD, Norm Dicks 6th CD, Jim McDermott 7th CD and Adam Smith 9th CD. Democratic Challengers Jay Clough 4th CD and Suzan DelBene 8th CD were also endorsed.

DNC Reports: Ed Cote reported that the DNC is out fundraising the RNC. Had good results in two open Congressional seats but lost the Governor in N.J. and Virginia plus the Senate in MA. Dan McDonald reported best practices from WA State on Precinct Caucuses. Sharon Mast and Lona Wilbur deferred their reports until next time.

Vice Chair Sharon Smith: Ed Fearing new 4th CD Chair and have a good pro labor/pro environment candidate in 5th CD?

2012 State Democratic Convention: Site will be the WA State Trade and Convention Center in Seattle was approved.

STATE COMMITTEE ARTICLES

By Ellen Zulauf

More than one hundred fifty state committee members gathered at the convention center in Seattle Saturday afternoon. Our task was to nominate the Democratic candidates for the 2010 Washington Congressional elections. The state rules adopted earlier require that state Committee members gather by district during the meeting and choose their standard bearer in each congressional district. After much discussion on whether all nine districts had to have an endorsed candidate today, a compromise was reached. Two districts were not ready. District 3 has a number of people interested because Brian Baird recently declined to run again. District 5 has not settled on a candidate yet, Both districts tabled action at this time. Incumbents endorsed were: Jay Inslee, 1st District; Rick Larsen, 2nd District; Norm Dicks, 6th District; Jim McDermott, 7th District; Adam Smith, 9th District. Democratic challenger Jay Clough was chosen in the 4th District and Susan DelBene was chosen in the 8th District.

In other actions the State Committee passed the Delegate Selection Plan and the Affirmative

Action Plan. Our customary four meetings per year were reduced to three. The Judicial Review Board was removed from the Charter.

Democratic National Committee member David McDonald reported that the DNC is out-fundraising the RNC. Nationally there were good results in two open Congressional seats but the governorships were lost in New Jersey and Virginia, plus the Senate seat in Massachusetts. DNC member David McDonald said that the best practices for precinct caucuses were those we used in Washington State in 2008. Sharon Mast and Lona Wilber deferred their reports until next time.

Labor Caucus - Jerry Beckendorf

Congressman Brian Baird is not seeking reelection in the 3rd Congressional District. The Caucus had the opportunity to hear a number of 3rd District candidates including former State Representative and TVW Executive Denny Heck, and Deb Wallace, a state Representative in the 17th Legislative District. She is a Regional Planning Manager for DOT. There are several other Democratic candidates including Senator Craig Pridemore, an experienced legislator from Clark County. Several LD Representative candidates also spoke.

Resolutions Committee, Ellen Zulauf

Ten noncontroversial resolutions were passed by the committee to be considered by the full State Committee. Twelve more passed with amendments. Several which garnered much interest were a resolution allowing humane slaughter of surplus horses, and another reestablishing the Glass-Steagall Act which prevented the merging of investment and commercial banking in the same bank. Another resolution urged the Washington State Legislature to repeal non-performing tax exemptions and implement an income tax.

A GOOD LAW/PRINCIPLE/ICODE/OLD TIME SAYING TO FOLLOW:

Rhode's Law

When any principle, law, tenet, probability, happening, circumstance, or result can in no way be directly, indirectly, empirically, or circuitously proven, derived, implied, inferred, induced, deducted, estimated, or scientifically guessed, it will always for the purpose of convenience, expediency, political advantage, material gain, or personal comfort, or any combination of the above, or none of the above, be unilaterally and unequivocally assumed, proclaimed, and adhered to as absolute truth to be undeniably, universally, immutably, and infinitely so, until such time as it becomes advantageous to assume otherwise, maybe.

But we can't be sure about this right now so we will put it off until tomorrow.



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.

REVIEW OF RALPH NADER'S BOOK, "ONLY THE SUPER RICH CAN SAVE US"

By Betty Ogden

Nader calls his book "a fictional vision that could become a new reality [involving] ...some well-known people who appear in fictional roles". In the book, Warren Buffet, Bill Cosby, Phil Donahue, William Gates Sr., Paul Newman, Yoko Ono, Ross Perot and others gather together in a beautiful Hawaiian setting to partake of gourmet food and plan the rebirth of democracy and the demise of corruption in government. Yes, this would take a lot of bucks, but these fellows have got it.

The group begins fomenting a progressive reformist movement along dozens of tracks:

- a) creating an alternative to the reactionary Chamber of Commerce;
- b) putting pressure on Wal-Mart to allow its workers to unionize
- c) founding a Clean Elections Party to challenge congressional incumbents;
- d) running Warren Beatty to replace the present governor of California.
- e) galvanizing public opinion with publicity stunts like running corporations for public office (in their glorious "personhood") and proposing to amend the pledge of alliance so that it ends, "With liberty and justice for some."

Their ultimate aim is to pass a slate of transformational reform legislation through congress, ("The Agenda"), that will clean up politics, humanize the economy and usher in a new, more democratic progressive era. Could they actually bring it off? I won't spoil the ending by telling you if they succeed.

The book is full of imaginative ideas for achieving way out political dreams. It is hard to tell whether it is a spoof of the human power struggle or a satire on bushy-tailed political idealists, but I must wonder how many readers will make it to the end of its 832 pages. Maybe you'll be one who does.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR 2010 MEMBERSHIP DUES ?

IF SO, THANK YOU - IF NOT SEE PAGE 8!

**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.**

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