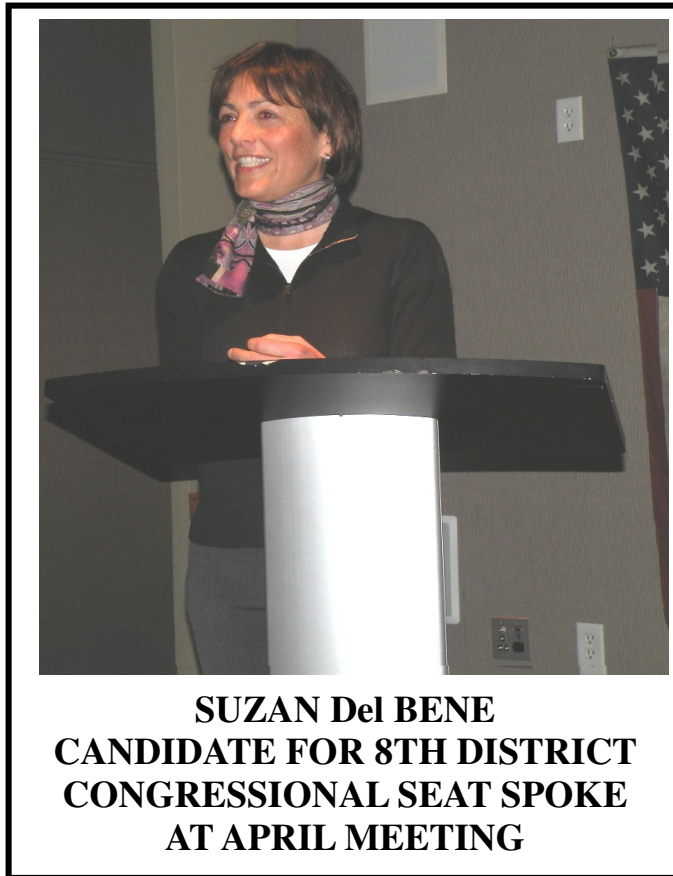




# 25th Legislative District



## Democratic Focus



**SUZAN Del BENE  
CANDIDATE FOR 8TH DISTRICT  
CONGRESSIONAL SEAT SPOKE  
AT APRIL MEETING**

**READ ALL ABOUT WHAT IS HAPPENING , WHAT DID HAPPEN, MINUTES  
AND UPCOMINGS**

**AND - - - - - PAY YOUR 2009 DUES TODAY!**



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

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Email: AdlerLN@comcast.net

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Treasurer: Luanne Green  
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Email: raygre@msn.com

Secretary: Vacant

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

Sergeant-At-Arm: Eric Renz  
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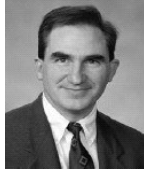
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Pierce County E-Board Reps:  
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Pos. 2: Carolyn Merrival  
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DEMOCRATIC  
ELECTED  
OFFICIALS**



Senator  
Jim Kastama  
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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**

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

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(253) 845-5389

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



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

**7 May Thu** 6 PM 25 LDD Leg  
Action Committee meets.

**7 May Thu** 25 LDD meets at  
7PM at Puyallup Library. David  
Johnson, Exec Sec WA State  
Build & Const Trades Council  
will be speaker.

**16 May Sat DEADLINE** for FOCUS arti-  
cles, pictures, etc.



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

**4 Jun Thu** 25 LDD meets at  
7PM at Puyallup Library

**13 Jun Sat DEADLINE** for  
FOCUS articles, pictures, etc.

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





**MEET CLIFF ALLO**  
25<sup>th</sup> LDD Parliamentarian

Here are some things I bet you didn't know about Cliff: He is an expert bridge player and in 2003 his team of four local players won a 24 team tournament in which the second place team comprised Warren Buffet, Bill Gates and their world class professional partners. Not bad for a kid who was born and grew up in Newark, New Jersey. Also, Cliff worked at the Alpine Hut near the U of W and climbed Mt. St. Helens, doing the Ptarmigan Traverse from Cascade Pass to Glacier Park, and climbed Mt. Rainier. He was elected twice to the local school board in Massachusetts. Cliff and family, wife, Nancy and children Carolyn and Bob, moved to Puyallup in 1994 where Cliff joined the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department as its first in-house attorney. While at the Health Department, Cliff helped eliminate tobacco billboards, took up bicycling and became a Life

Master in duplicate bridge.

He attended college in Connecticut and taught high school in Massachusetts. He graduated from the University of Michigan law school. When Jim Blanchard was elected Governor of Michigan he tagged Cliff to work first in workers' compensation, then employment and training and finally in public health. Blanchard's loss in a 1990 race was our gain as Cliff and family moved to Washington State.

Now retired, Cliff has toured extensively on his recumbent bicycle. The 25<sup>th</sup> LDD is darn lucky to have such a competent and dedicated Parliamentarian!

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**Speaker for May is David Johnson, Executive Secretary of the Washington State Construction and Building**

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Congratulations to 25<sup>th</sup> LDD Representative Dawn Morrell, who at the end of March was named by the Democrats as the party's caucus chair. Dawn is now the third highest ranking Democrat in the State.



25<sup>th</sup> LDD State Senator Jim Kastama spoke eloquently at the Valley Arts United annual auction. Kastama is a supporter of local arts and the wonderful contributions that Valley Arts United makes to the City.

**25TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT  
FINANCIAL REPORT  
April 2, 2009**

Period Reported: March 1 - March 31, 2009

Bank Balance Club Account: (Closed April 1, 2008)		0.00
Beginning Balance February 28, 2009	\$	9,426.82
Check Re-order & Deposit Books	\$ 116.46	
Correction after Bank Statement - Correct #1321 as written, compared to back-up	\$ 63.00	( 179.46)
 <u>EXPENSES:</u>		
Puyallup Library - AV Deposit	75.00	
Ken Peach - Newsletter Mailings - Lost Check 1321 Replaced Ck 1326	181.96	
Joan Cronk - Refreshments	8.15	
Michael Steele - PCO Training, Crab Feed	60.00	
 TOTAL EXPENSES:		 ( 325.11)
 <u>INCOME:</u>		
<i>Dues &amp; Donations</i>	<i>\$451.80</i>	<i>451.80</i>
 <i>Balance as of March 31, 2009</i>		 <i>\$9,374.05</i>

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

**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
April 2, 2009  
*By Joan Cronk, Acting Secretary*

Acting Chair Charley Stokes opened the meeting at 7 p.m. with the flag salute.

Roll call of officers: Present: Treasurer – Luanne Green; State Committeeman – Jerry Beckendorf; State Committee Woman – Ellen Zulauf; PCDCC Executive Board Representatives – Melissa Thompson, Carolyn Merrival and Charley Stokes; Parliamentarian – Cliff Allo and Sergeant-at-Arms Eric Renz. Excused: Membership – Michelle Donaldson; Chair – Lauren Adler; Vice Chair – Louis Tibbs.

Moved, seconded and passed to accept the minutes of the last meeting.

Elected Officials - Ken Blair, Bethel School Board Member, reported that their budget is in bad shape. Eight million dollars has been cut already and the District will lay off 270 teachers – 25% of the work force. Everyone should work together, said Blair, to keep as many folks working, but not everyone agrees. Skill Center progress has been stopped and there is no money in the budget for it in the near future. Blair traveled to WA DC recently to see if he could talk to some folks and get extra money for the school district, but no progress was made.

Guest Speaker - Suzan DelBene, Democrat running for 8<sup>th</sup> District Congressional seat against Dave Reichhert. Suzan was born in Alabama. She has lived in the Puget Sound area for 23 years following her graduation from Reed College in Oregon. Suzan grew up as one of six kids, in a “feast or famine” home. Her parents moved in with her, so she understands the present economic state for many families. She wants to make sure people have a job and help each other out. She feels she has a great deal of experience to help solve issues of today. She is a former Microsoft employee and was the CEO of her own company for 4 ½ years. At Microsoft, she was a Corporate Vice President running the mobile business.

DelBene spoke about her experiences in global finance and how that experience will help her in the campaign. She strongly believes in sustainable solutions. Said it is important to run a different type of campaign than was run in the last election. She will listen and be present and knows she must be a presence in Pierce County in order to win.

Eric Renz asked DelBene if she had looked at the Burner campaign to see where the campaign went wrong. DelBene felt the Harvard education issue didn’t help and folks who had uncertainty about Burner decided to go with Reichhert. DelBene thinks it will take \$4 Million to run her campaign. Visit the Suzan DelBene website at [www.delbeneforcongress.com](http://www.delbeneforcongress.com).

New Business: Retirement of Post-Election Campaign Debt.

Acting Chair Stokes announced there has been request from candidates who ran in the 2008 election cycle for funding to retire post-election debt. Stokes then placed the meeting into a Committee of the Whole and asked the question, “Should the 25<sup>th</sup> LDDO consider using organization funds to retire post-election debt.” A discussion ensued regarding using some of the Victory Fund to help pay off campaign debt for Al Rose, Carolyn Merrival and Rob Cerqui.

Eric Renz said the membership had no control as to how campaign funds were spent during the campaigns and felt it was not appropriate for the 25<sup>th</sup> LDD to pay campaign debt, and does not feel we should use the Victory Fund for this purpose.

Al Rose said he spoke with Senator Jim Kastama who said he was going to donate money to the 25<sup>th</sup> LDD for the purpose of paying off campaign debt. Rose asked the 25<sup>th</sup> LDD to help him with his campaign debt. Al Rose said this question has come up before, when Dawn Morrell and Audrey Chase were running for the House.

Parliamentarian Allo quoted RCW statute that says no candidate may transfer surplus funds to another candidate. He does not believe Senator Kastama contemplated giving funds for that purpose.

Responding to a question from the floor, Stokes responded that Rob Cerqui has about \$5,900 in campaign debt, Al Rose has about \$4,000 in campaign debt and Carolyn Merrival has about \$1,400 in campaign debt. Luanne Green reported receiving about \$1,500 of surplus campaign funds from Sen. Kastama.

Larry Archer said whatever we do sets a precedent, but that we need to show support for candidates who step forward to run as Democrats. He feels we have to help the candidates.

Parliamentarian Allo said we had two candidates running for the same office and he feels we should support only one candidate.

Eric Renz maintained his position against using Victory Fund monies, but suggested the 25<sup>th</sup> could put together a group fund raiser to solicit donations for debt retirement of the three candidates. Jerry Beckendorf agreed with Renz about not setting a precedent for using Victory Fund monies and offered to assist any fund raising efforts for the three candidates. Luanne Green seconded that suggestion. She feels all the candidates worked hard and that we need to acknowledge their efforts by helping to retire their debt.

Acting Chair Stokes asked if someone would do research into the legality of the issue. He feels we need more information. Carolyn Merrival asked, if it is legal, do we want to set a precedent of using VF monies? Eric Renz said he would do research into this issue with the Public Disclosure Commission to insure we have an accurate understanding of the law and our options.

Acting Chair Stokes closed the Committee of the Whole and went back to the business meeting. He told the members he appreciated the discussion and would entertain motion from the floor on the question. No motions were forthcoming. Stokes made a second call for a motion. Ken Blair made a motion that each of the candidates receives \$600 from the Victory Fund. The motion was seconded by Betty Ogden but failed to pass.

#### Old Business:

Pierce County Central Committee Democrats lawsuit hearing has been moved to the end of April.

Acting Chair Stokes reviewed the remittance envelope and membership letter and sent an example around to members to look at. If member's contact information is not returned to 25<sup>th</sup> LDD by June 1, 2009 they will no longer receive the newsletter. It will cost \$240 for 1,000 of the remit envelopes.



Rosellini Dinner. The dinner is set for April 24 in Tacoma; cost is \$75 per person, or \$125 per couple. Ten tickets will be one full table. The Executive Board discussed ways to augment attendance by auctioning tickets with the 25<sup>th</sup> LDDO to subsidize the cost. Ellen Zulauf said the dinner is being put on by Pierce County and proceeds will help with the lawsuit. Jerry Beckendorf stated he thinks this is an important event for the 25<sup>th</sup> LDD to participate in. He feels we should honor Rossellini and support the Pierce County Democrats. Jerry Beckendorf moved that the 25<sup>th</sup> subsidize the tickets up to \$500. Melissa Thompson seconded the motion.

Auction followed: Eric Renz bid \$125 for two tickets; Luanne Green bid \$125 for two tickets; Ellen Zulauf bid \$125 for two tickets, Larry Archer bid \$75 for one ticket; Carolyn Merrival bid \$30 for one ticket, Jerry Beckendorf bid \$35 for one ticket and Betty Ogden bid \$50 for one ticket. Total cost to the 25<sup>th</sup> will be \$90. Luanne Green will receive the bids and cut one check for the table.

Proposed updates to 25<sup>th</sup> LDD By-Laws and Endorsement Procedure we discussed. Changes are posted on the website for folks to review. Questions or suggestions should be directed to Cliff Allo. The first reading will take place at the May meeting with a vote on acceptance to be scheduled for the July meeting. Note: due to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday, the E-Board is considering moving the July meeting to the last week of June. Your comments on this schedule change should be directed to Chair Adler.

Acting Chair Stokes gave the Treasurer's report which is attached hereto. Motion made and passed to accept the Treasurer's Report.

Jerry Beckendorf introduced a new member and welcomed her. Beckendorf had a list of all the Bills that the Legislative Action Committee has been following. Go to [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov) to see bills by topic. Ellen Zulauf has a copy of the bills that are still alive.

Eric Renz restated his offer to organize a fundraiser if Al Rose, Carolyn Merrival and Rob Cerqui agree to split the proceeds.

Wayne Keller read a letter he wrote to the Editor that appeared in the News Tribune.  
Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

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The monthly 25th LDD meeting on Thursday 7 May starting at 7 PM will have David Johnson, Executive Secretary, Washington State Building and Construction Trades Council. He will cover the state of construction work and labor industries in our State. He will also address issues as outlook, apprenticeship and upcoming projects. Vice Chair Louis Tibbs said he should have a good grasp of the 2009 economic outlook for our State.

**HAVE YOU PAID YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2009?**

**IF SO, THANK YOU - 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.)

**Please send dues to: 25th LDD, POBox 73594, Puyallup, WA 98373**



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**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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