



25th Legislative District



Democratic Focus



**CHAIR
LAUREN ADLER
WEARING THE
BARACK "N" ROLL
SHIRT**



SEPTEMBER 9th THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS HELD A FORUM FOR CANDIDATES FOR PIERCE COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICTS 2 AND 3.

CANDIDATES WERE JOYCE MCDONALD, CAROLYN MERRIVAL, AL ROSE AND BRUCE LACHNEY



YOU CAN NOW PAY YOUR 2009 DUES!



READ ALL ABOUT WHAT IS HAPPENING THURSDAY NIGHTS AT THE 25TH LDD CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS AND WHAT HAPPENED AT THE STATE DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING, MINUTES OF SEP 4 MEETING (PAGE 6/7), AND UPCOMING EVENTS



**For newsletter send all articles, pictures, committee report to Editor Joan Cronk
845-5389 or email: JoanCronk@comcast.net**

25TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT DEMOCRATIC (LDD) OFFICERS

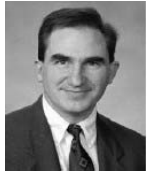
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FOR THE LATEST INFO AND/OR COPIES OF THE FOCUS CHECK OUT THE NEW 25TH LDD WEBSITE AT:

www.25dems.org

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29 Sep Mon E-Board meets at 7 PM at Fire Station 66, 9813 28th St, E., Puyallup.

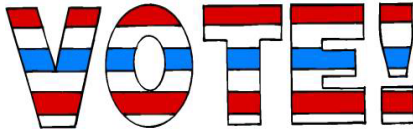
2 Oct Thu 25 LDD meets at Puyallup Library, 324 Meridian at 7 PM.



18 Oct Sat DEADLINE for FOCUS articles, pictures, etc.

3 Nov Mon E-Board meets at 7PM at Fire Station 66.

4 Nov Tue



6 Nov Thu 25 LDD meets at Puyallup Library.



15 Nov Sat DEADLINE for FOCUS articles, pictures, etc.

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

**CONGRATULATIONS TO
NEW AND RE-ELECTED
PCOs!**

By Lauren Adler

Every four years, our Precinct Committee Officers are up for election. This year, the Precinct Committee Officer elections took place in the 2008 Primary. The 25th Legislative District had a strong showing of Democratic Precinct Committee Officers, and we now have a total of 34 Democratic PCOs! That's huge!

Remember, these individuals are Precinct Committee Officers, and need all the help they can get to reach out to voters in their respected precincts. Whether you help fold letters, make phone calls, or go out with your PCO to knock on doors, please consider helping your respective PCO before November. Time is short, and now is the time to act!

Congratulations to the following re-elected or new Precinct Committee Officers –

- Merv Swanson
- Eric Renz
- Matt Hanbey
- Lauren Adler
- Charley Stokes
- New Witting
- Ellen Zulauf
- James Call

- Sandy Blankenship
- Cheryl Reid-Simons
- Leonard Sanderson
- Louis Tibbs
- Jim Kenschuh
- Kathryn Looker
- Michael Steele
- Andrew Stinson
- Frank Blair
- Carolyn Merrival
- William Havens
- Linda Frank
- John Frausto
- Dick Avelsdson
- Al Rose
- Bronwen Daehnke
- Debbie Hartmann
- Ken Blair
- Lindy Armand
- Melissa Thompson
- Michelle Donaldson
- Bob Leverenz
- Ruby King-Carswell
- Kathleen Flynn
- Clifford Allo
- Mike Odell
- Christine Wilson
- Jerry Beckendorf
- Juris Verzemnieks



**PIERCE COUNTY PARKS
AND RECREATION
BOARD**

By Diane Kerlin

Kathy Kravit-Smith, Director of Pierce County Parks and Recreation is anxiously looking for applicants for the Pierce County Parks and Recreation Citizen's Advisory Board.

There are openings in County Council Districts 1, 2, and 3. The rules require at least three applicants for each position, even if only one is the serious candidate. As long as they know that information ahead of time, it is highly likely that one is the candidate that would be appointed. More information and the application form can be found at

www.co.pierce.wa.us/pc/abtus/ourorg/parks/CAB-ad.htm.

An atheist complained to a friend, "Christians have their special holidays, such as Christmas and Easter; and Jews celebrate their holidays, such as Passover and Yom Kippur; Muslims have their holidays. EVERY religion has its holidays. But we atheists," he said, "have no recognized national holidays. It's an unfair discrimination."

His friend replied, "Well... you got April first!"

**THURSDAY NIGHTS
25th LEG. DIST.
DEMOCRATS
Phone Banking Night**

Please join us in campaigning hard for our local candidates during the final months! We have a lot of work to do to ensure that our local candidates like State Senator Kastama and State Representative Morrell are re-elected, Rob Cerqui is elected to the State House, and helping our Democratic candidates running for the County Council and County Executive positions. I am confident that we can send our veteran legislators back to Olympia, send along Rob, and keep some seats on the County Council blue if we continue to campaign together.

Here is a re-occurring phone banking event that will take place every **Thursday** night through the General Election at our own **25th Leg. Dist. Democratic Campaign Headquarters!** Can you start to fill up the Thursday nights on your calendar for phone banking for our local candidates?

25th Leg. Dist. Democrats
Weekly Phone Banking
Night!
When: **Thursday Nights**
(excluding the first Thurs-

day of the month when
the 25th LD Dems meet)
Times: **5:00pm –
8:00pm**

Where: **25th Leg. Dist.
Democratic Campaign
Headquarters** (436 2nd
Street NE | Puyallup,
98372)

All you need to do is come ready to dial, and we'll have the script, list, etc. ready! *If you own a cell phone, you may want to bring it along — if we reach max capacity with our phone lines, you may stay and phone bank using your personal cell phone. Most cell phone service providers and plans have free minutes starting at 7:00pm.*

Please join us in making Thursday nights through the General Election a **HUGE** success. If you have thirty minutes or three hours, you are encouraged to come down and make a few calls — **every little bit helps!**

The many months and have now turned into **critical** days until the Election -- Let's make sure we get it done for our local Democrats!

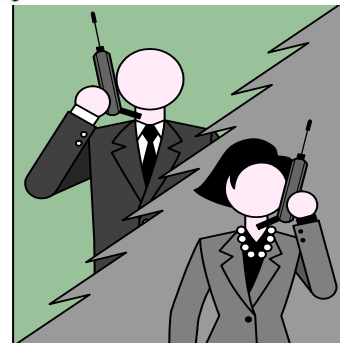
**Sign
Up!**

VOLUNTEER

.Our 25th LDD office offers a golden opportunity for us to bring our cell phones, or use the one that are there, and spend one hour a week making calls or one hour a week doorbelling - just think what we could do! Fifty folks a week...that is 50 extra hours of volunteers each and every week between now and November 5th. One hour! That is like watching "Oprah", or going out for a Big Mac. Come on guys...we can do it. One hour... one little hour could make such a difference. And when our candidates are taking a victory lap, we can sit back, do a private little fist pump in the air and say, WE had a big part in it!



Go For It!



**STATE DEMOCRATIC
CENTRAL COMMITTEE
MEETING**

September 12 and 13
By Ellen Zulauf

The fall meeting of the Washington State Central Committee at the Tulalip Resort Hotel and Casino began Friday evening with the Resolutions Committee. We had expected many resolutions to discuss, but with spirited campaigns going on all over the state there were only two. State Committee members could attend several receptions and hospitality suites Friday evening. Saturday morning was filled with special interest caucuses and workshops concerning Campaign 2008.

The State Committee meeting itself, always held Saturday afternoon, dealt first with an endorsement issue. The State Executive committee had some time earlier endorsed Randy Dorn for Superintendent of Public Instruction over Terry Bergeson, the incumbent. Some members thought that the entire State Committee should make that decision. A motion was made to have a dual endorsement. After speakers for and against, the roll call vote was 54 for and 75 against, giving a single endorsement to Randy Dorn.

Reports from the four National Committee members reviewed the infrastructure changes nationally which will help our national and state campaigns. The Votebuilder voter base and the Fifty State Strategy are improvements generated nationally through the leadership of Chairman Howard Dean. A surprise guest speaker was Howard Dean himself who gave an enthusiastic report about the Obama and Gregoire campaigns. Both are ahead in the polls in this state. Dean said of McCain, "His campaign doesn't really want to talk about their candidate because he is the candidate of the past. His running mate is really George Bush. McCain is the candidate of tax breaks for the rich and big oil." Dean said the election of Obama would give the US back its moral authority. He urged us to continue doorbelling and all our activities in voter contact.

JUST THOUGHTS!

There is no right way to do a wrong thing!

If bankers can count, how come the average bank has 10 windows and only 4 tellers?

Plan to be spontaneous tomorrow

**FORUM BY LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS**

By Joan Cronk

On September 9th at the Meridian Habitat Center, the League of Women Voters held a forum for candidates running for Pierce County Council Districts 2 and 3. In attendance were Bruce Lachney, candidate for District 3, Carolyn Merrival, Al Rose and Joyce McDonald, candidates for District 2. Republican candidate for District 3 Roger Bush did not attend. Pat Drake, 25th LDD member and member of the South Hill Community Council, said it was her job to contact the candidates and invite them to attend the forum. Bush was contacted several times by Pat, and did not respond. A formal letter was sent, two more follow up phone calls were made, and he did not respond until the day of the forum when he sent an e-mail and his regrets, stating he had another commitment.

The forum was run efficiently, beginning with an explanation of rank choice voting.

After opening statements by each candidate, written questions were answered by them. Questions ranged from folks facing relocation from mobile home parks to impact fees.

Candidates were asked how they stood on public financing of campaigns. Al Rose and Joyce McDonald said they were not in favor of it, and Carolyn Merrival and Bruce Lachney were in favor of public financing.

MINUTES OF MEETING
4 September 2008
By Joan Cronk

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Lauren Adler.

(The only E-Board members in attendance were: Chair Adler, Vice-Chair Tibbs, State Committee Man Beckendorf, State Committee Woman Zulauf, Membership Chair Merrival, Sergeant-at-Arms Berry. Secretary Stokes, Parliamentarian Allo, Treasurer Luanne Green, PCO Chair Green, were all excused. Others absent.)

Flag salute was skipped seeing we did not have a flag.

Roll call of officers and adoption of the agenda followed.

There were no elected officials in attendance.

Rob Cerqui, candidate for 25th District State Representative addressed the group and said his campaign is going well and asked for more volunteers.

Carolyn Merrival, candidate for Pierce County Council, thanked the membership for their endorsement and said her campaign is going well.

The Fair Booth this year is a double sized booth – allowing us to have more space for merchandise and to invite people into our booth. Charley Stokes has taken on the responsibility of managing the booth, and has done an excellent job. The Pierce County Democrats Office has filled all volunteer slots for manning the Fair booth.

Joan Cronk spoke for Calvin Goings, candidate for P. C. Executive and reported Calvin has door belled 20,000 homes and his campaign is going well.

Phone banking will take place every Thursday at our 25th LDD office, except for the first Thursday of the month, and we will be phone banking for all our 25th LDD candidates.

Karl Albert was introduced to the membership. He is representing Transit Now – Proposition One.

Chair Adler went over specifics about endorsing ballot measures and propositions – she explained that our current endorsements procedure does not deal with endorsements of ballot measures, initiatives, or propositions. Therefore, the endorsement of Transit One was sent to the Resolutions Committee. The Resolutions Committee reported back to the body recommending ‘no action’ on Transit Now. After this explanation, Karl Albert went on with his presentation of Transit Now.

Transit Now representative, Karl Albert, addressed the group and encouraged them to support and endorse Prop. One. Albert is a volunteer for Prop One, which is transit only. The park and rides are full, the trains and buses are full and we need more options, said Albert. We need expansion. 15 year plan includes more buses in 2009. 17% overall increase in bus service. Rail service would be increased with four more round trips per day. Park and rides will be expanded as will platforms and bike lanes. It will be funded by: five tenths of 1% on every purchase made in Pierce County. Money raised in Pierce County stays in Pierce County. Project will cost 17.8 billion.

Motion made and seconded to endorse Mass Transit Now. Jerry Beckendorf spoke on behalf of the motion. Motion passed.

Chair Adler announced that the South Hill Community Council candidate forum is to be held Tuesday, 9/9 at Meridian Habitat Community Center. Pat Drake said the League of Women Voters will monitor the meeting and take questions from the crowd.

Discussion ensued about monetary donations to candidates who directly impact the 25th Legislative District.

Chair Adler gave a brief overview of the treasury, since Treasurer Green is out of town, and said we have approximately \$10,018 in the treasury.

(Minutes continued on page 7)

(September Minutes continued from page 6)

Vice-Chair Louis Tibbs spoke and shared the Executive Board's recommendations of monetary contributions -

\$2,000 to Calvin Goings, \$750 to Carolyn Merrival, Al Rose and Bruce Lachey and \$500 to Dawn Morrell, Jim Kastama, Darcy Burner and Rob Cerqui's campaigns.

Discussion ensued about the organization's expenses for the rest of the year.

The campaign office cost \$1200 per month and ½ of that is paid by the House Democratic Committee. We pay \$600 plus utilities - About \$2250 until November. \$60 per monthly for newsletter and toner about \$500.

Chair Adler said that the Executive Board had brought forth these recommendations with the organization's expenses in mind, and with all of these contributions, the organization will still have quite a 'pillow' to operate on. Chair Adler said that Treasurer Luanne Green will answer any in-depth questions about our finances when Luanne returns from vacation.

Jerry Beckendorf moved that we adjust Bruce Lachney's donation to zero and distribute that amount Calvin, Carolyn and Al. Motion seconded.

Beckendorf talked to Lachney, who is funding his own campaign and doesn't need the money and Lachey suggested this distribution.

Voted on amendment to take Bruce's \$750 and distribute \$250 to Carolyn Merrival, \$250 to Al Rose and \$250 to Calvin Goings.

After some discussion as to whether or not we should donate anything to Al Rose's campaign since the 25th LDD did not endorse his campaign, Beckendorf withdrew his amendment and a new amendment was proposed by Eric Renz to use the \$750 from Bruce and Al be distributed to Calvin Goings and Carolyn Merrival's campaigns (\$750 to each campaign) giving Calvin Goings \$2750 and Carolyn Merrival \$1500 and Jim Kastama \$500 and Dawn Morrell \$500 and \$500 for Rob Cerqui and \$500 to Darcy Burner. No discussion followed. Motion voted on and passed.

Good of the Order; Carolyn Merrival thanked the membership for their donation to her campaign.

Jerry Beckendorf was late due to attending a Darcy Burner event. Ray Green is on vacation for three weeks and asked Jerry to help with the vote builder accounts.

Beckendorf said Gov Gregoire will appear at the Puyallup Chamber of Commerce/Sumner lunch at Dennys on 9/12 at Noon. \$20 each. He encouraged folks to attend and support the Gov.

State Committee meeting is 9/13 at Tulalip Casino.

Jerry Beckendorf spoke on behalf of his bowling tournament to be held 9/28 that helps union families fund scholarships for their children.

Motion to adjourn at 8:20 p.m.

Minutes taken by Joan Cronk for Charley Stokes (who was setting up our booth for the Puyallup Fair)

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2009?

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.)



IS ANYONE
OUT THERE
LISTENING?

**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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