

DEMOGRAM

MONTHLY MEETING

Olympic View

Elementary School

7:30 pm, Jan. 20th



NOTES FROM THE CHAIR by Scott White



Dear Friends,

New Year's marks a time both for reflection and to look at the road ahead. As I consider events from the past year, I am equally inspired by how far we've come as a local grassroots organization as I am humbled by how far we have yet to go as a National Party. Looking forward to 2005, I see tremendous opportunities for grassroots activism to impact the national, state and local agendas.

This exercise is much more than making New Year's resolutions, this is about setting a new vision and applying what we have learned to help ensure success in the coming year. This is *still* our country, and it is our responsibility to take it back!

When I think of all the wonderful blessings that my family, friends and community bring to my life, and all the freedoms and privileges that I enjoy in our country, I am reminded that my personal commitment to the Democratic Party and to our progressive agenda is more important now than ever before. At the time of this writing, at least 1,353 U.S. military members have died since the Iraq war began in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count—and countless thousands of Iraqi civilians have been killed in the "War on Terror". There are currently no serious discussions about developing an exit strategy. Initiatives banning same sex



marriages have passed in several states and a woman's right to choose is under constant threat by the right wing, all in the name of "family values". The battle for the future of Social Security is about to begin in a Republican controlled Congress, where conservatives want to privatize our retirement benefits. The stakes are high, but the future is not predetermined and Democrats have an important story to tell.

The Democratic Party has always been the Party advocating for social and economic justice, environmental protections, funding PUBLIC education, investing in the PUBLIC infrastructure, protecting our religious freedoms and providing a social safety net for those in need. These are all highly moral positions that are clearly outlined in our platform. We must reframe the debate in America so that this true story of the Democratic Party—a story about building strong families, healthy communities and a peaceful nation—is heard loud and clear. The Republicans do NOT have a monopoly on moral values and we must stake our claim on this vision for our country.

We have much work to do in 2005. I look forward to working with you!

Peace and Thank You... Scott

Thursday, January 20th Double-Feature!

5:30 PM "Beans and Bread" Fundraiser Dinner at Olympic View Church to Benefit Charities helping the Tsunami Victims.

Then walk across the street for

7:30 PM General Membership Meeting at Olympic View Elementary

SPECIAL GUESTS: 46th Legislative Delegation with Olympica Preview!

2005 46th District Executive Board

Chair:

Scott White (363-9522) scott.white46@comcast.net

First Vice Chair:

Jan Ames (525-7387) janames@nwlinc.com

Vice Chair:

Betty Means (523-5702) bmeans56@attbi.com

Vice Chair:

Gerry Pollet (528-0078) gerry-pollet@msn.com

Secretary:

Stan Sorscher (919-4479) sorscher@comcast.net

Treasurer:

Gail Chiarello (523-0715) circe@drizzle.com

State Committee Man:

John Webber (365-0741) jpwebber@verizon.net

State Committee Woman:

Janet Miller (528-0078) gerry-pollet@msn.com

King County Male Delegate:

Dean Fournier (364-4539) marydeanf@cs.com

King County Male Delegate Alternate:

Jim Mullins (349-4455) jmullins1@mac.com

King County Female Delegate:

Sarajane Siegfried (440-5829)

sarajane3h@richpoor.net

King County Female Alternate:

Pat Emerson (527-1613) emerson872@aol.com

Sergeant at Arms:

Mark Saporito (729-0430) msaporit@earthlink.net

At Large Members:

Sylvia Haven (522-3943) sbhaven@qwest.net

Patrick Hogan (306-7049) patrickh@nwlinc.com

Chad Lupkes (440-1592) chadlupkes@earthlink.net

Bev Marcus (528-0500) bevmar3@comcast.net

Justin Simmons (736-9882) rehcana@yahoo.com

Demogram Editor: Scott White

Next Demogram Deadline: February 2, 2005

More information at: www.46Dems.org

All Labor Donated

SAVE THE DATE: Fundraiser to Help the Victims of the Tsunami Disaster

The 46th District Democrats will host a "Beans and Bread" fundraiser dinner before our General Membership meeting on **January 20th** to benefit the victims of the tsunami disaster. Please note that the dinner will begin at 5:30 p.m. at Olympic View Community Church *before* the regular membership meeting. People are then invited to *walk across the street* to attend the 46th District Democrats meeting at Olympic View Elem. School.

5:30-7:00 pm Beans and Bread Fundraiser Dinner
@ Olympic View Community Church

7:30 pm 46th District Democrats Mtg
@ Olympic View Elementary School

(NOTE: Please plan to arrive at the School by 7:15 to register and pay 2005 dues if you haven't already.)

All proceeds from the Beans and Bread dinner will be donated to **Mercy Corps** and **World Vision**.

Special thanks to **Marilyn Griffin**, PCO, for her work to make this important fundraiser dinner a reality!

Resolutions Submitted for Consideration at next General Membership Meeting:

Whereas, the Democratic party has always given strong support to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the 46th District Democrats endorsed the concept of this resolution in 1999, and

Whereas, the Carkeek Park Advisory Council and the Carkeek Watershed Community Action Project both support an accessible trail at the Eddie McAbee Entrance to Carkeek Park for people with disabilities using METRO bus #28, and

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the 46th District Democrats endorse the new garden/accessible Eddie McAbee Entrance Trail at Carkeek Park to help this most western park in their District, directly linked to Puget Sound be enjoyed by all.

Submitted by Nancy Malmgren

Whereas, there are 180,000 people killed every year by medical negligence, and

Whereas, the actual cost of litigation is 0.4% of health care costs. If litigation's cost were reduced by 25%, the cost saving would only take 10 cents off a \$100 doctor's bill, and

Whereas, rapidly escalating drug prices and medical injuries are the biggest causes of rising health care costs, and

Whereas, some insurance companies don't care about bad doctors or deaths due to medical negligence. They want to continue business as usual and are using fear and confusion about litigation to distract us from the real problems

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the 46th District Democrats endorse Initiative 336 which is the peoples' answer for better safer healthcare by creating patient safety measure, creating insurance reform and curbing frivolous lawsuits in the courts.

Submitted by John Hoglund

46th LD Legislators Head to Olympia

Education, Revenues and Environmental Protection at top of the Agenda as Session Begins



The fifty-ninth Washington State Legislature entered into session on Monday, January 10th. The challenges heading into this year's 105 day session are great, but there is hope with a Democratic majority in both the Senate and the House, and a Democratic seated in the Governor's office. Given the projected budget deficit of around \$1.8 billion, and after already struggling through several years of huge shortfalls, the biennial budget is sure to take up much of the attention. Also, recent fallout from the close governor's election will undoubtedly bring about proposals for election reform.



Senator Ken Jacobsen played a key role in helping the Democrats win a majority in the Senate.

Senator Ken Jacobsen says "*Revenues (taxes) will be a big issue this session. We need to figure out how to balance the budget and ensure funding for critical programs.*" As Chair of the Senate Natural Resources, Ocean and Recreation Committee, Ken will also be working hard to maintain environmental protections for our state. It should be noted that Ken served as Chair of the Senate Democratic Campaign Committee this past year. Working closely with candidates and campaigns in legislative districts around the state, he lead the Democrats to a majority in the Senate. Great job, Ken!

responsible for reviewing legislation affecting all of our State's two- and four-year universities. This could be a challenging year for the governance of higher-ed, as the fact that colleges have not kept pace with population growth clashes head on with harsh budget realities. Representative Kenney is also known for her advocacy on housing and economic development issues.



Rep. Phyllis Kenney is a tireless advocate for education and housing issues.

Representative Phyllis Kenney returns for another year of strong advocacy for funding of K-12 and higher education. She currently serves as Chair of the House Higher Education Committee where she is responsible for reviewing legislation affecting all of our State's two- and four-year universities. This could be a challenging year for the governance of higher-ed, as the fact that colleges have not kept pace with population growth clashes head on with harsh budget realities. Representative Kenney is also known for her advocacy on housing and economic development issues.



Rep. Jim McIntire is Chair of the House Finance Committee and is a leader in tax reform & budgeting.

Representative Jim McIntire returns for another session of advocating for tax reform and budget funding for many progressive programs. He currently serves as Chair of the House Finance Committee, and serves on both the Appropriations and Capital Budget Committees. While Jim is well known for his work on tax reform and budgeting, this self-admitted number cruncher will have his hands full this session trying to balance the budget. Also, special thanks to Representative McIntire for his **generous donation of \$500 to the 46th District Democrats** from his surplus campaign funds—we appreciate his support of the Democratic Party!

After a machine recount and a hand recount, **Governor Christine Gregoire** won by 129 votes. While early indications are that she will take a centrist approach to governing, the progressive grassroots around the state can take pride in the role they played during the recount effort to ensure that every Democratic vote

was counted! After fielding hundreds of volunteers out in the neighborhoods during the general election campaign, the 46th District Democrats fielded several more volunteers during the recount effort. We are all looking forward to working with Governor Gregoire to implement a progressive Democratic agenda!



Count All The Votes!
Christine Gregoire was sworn in as our state's 22nd Governor Jan 12th.



PROFILE: Kristin Mitchell



Interviewed by Gail Chiarello

Everyone knows the radiant smile of Kristin Mitchell, Treasurer of the 46th LD for the past two years. At Holiday Parties, she's signed up new members and helped existing members renew their memberships. At each of the monthly District meetings, Kristin has been at the front of the room, happily announcing the 46th LD's ever-improving bottom line.

Kristin was born in Edmonds and graduated from Mariner High School in Everett in 1993. She has a B.S. in Wildlife Science from the UW's School of Forestry and an M.A. in Environment & the Community from Antioch College, received just this past June 2004. She's also a 2001 graduate of the Institute for a Democratic Future. During this past summer and fall she worked on Congressman Jay Inslee's campaign in the 1st Congressional District. Kristin comes from a politically active family--her sister worked at the Northwest Sierra Club office for years. Stacey moved out of state a couple years ago, but continues to be active in politics and environmental issues; and her mother, Joyce Mitchell, is a member of the Seattle Group, Cascade Chapter of the Sierra Club and was involved with the Seattle Group actively supporting the Northgate/Thornton Creek day-lighting effort.



Despite her recent work in political fundraising, Kristin's real love is environmental policy, involving animals and wildlife. As an undergraduate, she studied wolf restoration and supported a wolf at Wolf Haven International in Tenino, WA. She has built a website focused on mountain goat research in the Cascades for the State Department of Fish and Wildlife. And as Kristin says of herself, she is an wildly enthusiastic "dog Mom," brimming over with stories about her 6-year-old black Lab/Border Collie mix, "Lucky."

She is looking for work now utilizing her new Master's degree and her experience in the Jay Inslee campaign and hopes to find a position working on environmental issues. She is willing to relocate--so keep Kristin in mind when you learn of those hot job openings in Washington DC, New York, or San Francisco!

Following are excerpts from a conversation with Kristin:

Q. *What were some of your earliest political ex-*

periences? My earliest memories include accompanying my parents to vote. I attended the Dukakis rally at Pike Place Market at age 13 with my Mom. The excitement really energized me, and I attended Clinton/Gore rallies in 1992. By the time I could vote for President in 1996, I was volunteering at the rally and working with the press.

Q. *Is there any person who has served as a mentor?* The one person I have learned the most from is the fabulous Janet Miller. I learned so much about grassroots organizing from Janet during the 2000 presidential election, and I continue to learn from her to this day. It has been a real treat to have such an incredible resource and amazing human being to learn from.

Q. *What is your history with the 46th District Democrats?* I moved into the 46th District in August 2000 and contacted Janet about getting involved with the District. I became active during the 2000 presidential election. I ran as an At-large Board member in January 2001 and have served on the Board since then, eventually moving into the Treasurer position.

Q. *Are there any national or international leaders (or local leaders) who inspire you?* Three people have continued to influence me, inspire me, and remind me to appreciate life and fight the good fight. They are Steve Biko, Mark Mathabane, and of course Nelson Mandela. Around age 13, I became aware of apartheid and how much injustice there is in the world. Another consequence of learning about apartheid was recognizing the impact of corporations, and the importance of personal responsibility when making choices on how to spend your money.

Q. *Any hobbies/interests/passions that interest you almost as much as politics?* I am a big movie fan! I am always up for a chat about movies. I am a regular at Oak Tree and the great Reckless Video store in the Maple Leaf neighborhood.

Kristin, Thank You for all of your great work as Treasurer these past years and best wishes on all your future endeavors!!!

McDermott Targeted by the GOP

As former Chair and Ranking Member of the Ethics Committee, McDermott was intimately involved in investigating complaints against Speaker Newt Gingrich. The investigations eventually led to Gingrich resigning from Congress. Exercising his First Amendment rights, McDermott used the press to expose Gingrich's deceptive behavior in violation of an agreement with the ethics panel. McDermott is now the target of a coordinated Republican attack for standing up for the public good. The Republicans' weapon of choice against McDermott is a politically motivated lawsuit.

McDermott was the first member of Congress to publicly state that George Bush would mislead the United States to war in Iraq. McDermott's stance on Iraq did not enhance his standing with Republicans, nor did his appearance in Fahrenheit 911, where he directly stated that the President's activities and statements were intended to instill fear in the American people. This voice must not be silenced.

We cannot allow Republican leaders to financially destroy a Member of Congress who has a proven record of standing up for endangered democratic values like social security, a woman's right to chose, health care, and civil liberties.

Your online contribution will give McDermott the ability to continue to fight and hold the Bush/Cheney administration accountable. www.mcdermottforcongress.com

Authorized by Friends for Jim McDermott PO Box 21786, Main Station, Seattle, WA 98111. Contributions are not tax deductible for federal income tax purposes.

MISSION STATEMENT FOR PDCW46

Members of the 46th Legislative District of Washington are joining together to create a Progressive Democratic Caucus of Washington (PDCW) within the 46th Legislative District Democrats. The Caucus will work to implement the progressive platform of the district by educating members, articulating public policy, and holding our elected officials accountable for representing that platform. The Caucus will work to maintain the new energy of the Democratic Party by encouraging transparency of Party processes, rapid and open communication with members, and continuing tolerance of diverse viewpoints. We will promote policies and candidates that steadfastly support peaceful resolution to conflict, the protection of human rights, public infrastructure and natural spaces, as well as economic, racial, social and environmental justice.

Billy Burton

Gail Chiarello

Joshua Coberly

Kathryn Gardow

Steve Hadley

Sylvia Haven

Kurt Hulse

Katie Kennedy

Chad Lupkes

Bev Marcus

Jim Mullins

Whitney Neufeld-Kaiser

Ken Pick

Lauri Serafin

Pete Serafin

Justin Simmons

Stan Sorscher

Kim Wells

NOTE: The PDCW46 meets the first Monday of the month. For information on the time and location of the next meeting, and/or to join the discussion, go to: <http://lists.riseup.net/www/info/pdcw46>

Show Your Commitment to the 46th District Democrats. JOIN NOW!

Please take a moment to look at your name as it is printed on this newsletter's Address Label. If "2004" appears after your name, **Congratulations and Many Thanks!** You are a dues-paying member of the 46th LD Democrats. If "2004" does not appear, we hope you will send in your Membership Dues today.. We need the help and support of everyone as we organize and strengthen our base in preparation for the 2004 elections. Make checks payable to "46th District Democrats" & mail to **PO Box 15435, Seattle, WA 98115-0435**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____

WORK PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

\$100 "4600 Club"

\$46 Donor

\$25 Couple/Family

\$15 Individual

\$3 Student/Retired/Fixed Income

\$ _____



**46th District
DEMOCRATS**

Pending Election of State Party Chair

On Saturday January 29th 2005 the Washington State Democratic Central Committee will hold its re-organization meeting in Olympia. Current State Chair, **Paul Berendt**, is facing three known challengers: **Greg Rodriguez** (immediate past Chair of the King County Dems), **Bill Phillips** (current chair of the 21st LD), and **Kat Overman** (Snohomish County Chair).

In an effort to enable the grassroots of the party to learn more about the candidates, the 46th Dist Democrats developed a questionnaire to evaluate the skills and experience of each candidate. The responses to this questionnaire can be found at our website: www.46dems.org

The next State Chair will play a major role in shaping our Democratic Party and in the election of our Democrat leaders over the next two year term. Our 46th LD State Committee Reps, Janet Miller and John Webber, will be voting for the position of State Chair at the State reorg meeting. Please call or e-mail them with your thoughts on the important issues and qualifications for the position of State Party Chair. Janet and John's contact info is on page two (2).



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Thurs. Jan. 20th: "Beans and Bread" fundraiser for tsunami victims. 5:30 Olympic View Church Info: Marilyn Griffin (523-0917)
- Thurs. Jan. 20th: 46th LD Membership Meeting, Olympic View Elementary School. 7:30PM. Info: Scott White (363-9522)
- Tues. Jan 25th: KCDCC Meeting, Renton Carpenters Hall, 231 Burnett Ave. N. 6:00PM reception; 7:00PM mtg begins. Info: Sarajane Siegfriedt (440-5829)
- Jan 28-29: WA State Dem Party Reorg Meeting in Olympia. Info: John Webber (365-0741)
- Sun. Jan 30th: Progressive Issues Forum w/ Cong. Jim McDermott. 1:00PM. Labor Temple, 2800 First Ave Info: Bev Marcus (bevmar3@comcast.net or 528-0500)
- Tues. Feb 1st: 46th LD Executive Committee Olympic View Church. 7:00PM. Info: Scott White (363-9522)

Check our district website for more information

www.46dems.org



46th District
DEMOCRATS

PO BOX 15435

Seattle, WA 98115-0435

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NEXT MEETING: 7:30PM THURSDAY JANUARY 20TH
OLYMPIC VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
8TH AVE NE AND NE 95TH ST.