

DEMOGRAM

Next General Meeting

Olympic View

Elementary School

February 17, 2004

7:30PM



NOTES FROM THE CHAIR by Scott White



Dear Friends,

I write this edition while riding the train from Portland to Seattle. The world looks different from a train. By getting out of the car and away from the dreaded I-5 corridor, a person is able to see farms, small towns, the Puget Sound coastline, industrial yards, old homesteads and new housing developments. As the beautiful rain-soaked landscape passes by, I think about the responsibility we have as Democrats to protect and provide for the people, communities and natural resources in our great state. Fortunately, the grass-roots of the 46th District Democrats are already hard at work organizing to meet the challenge!

We have much work to do in 2005. Local elections for King County Executive, Seattle Mayor, City and County Council, Port Commission and other races will occupy much of our time. We will also focus a great deal of energy on rebuilding in preparation for elections in 2006. To accomplish these tasks, the 46th District Democrats is organizing several committees to work on projects in the coming year—and we need your help! Please consider joining one of these committees and helping with the work program for 2005.

Membership and PCO Committee: Betty Means, Chair. Janet Miller, Vice Chair. Responsible for recruitment and retention of members and PCOs. Plays a critical role in building the District infrastructure. **Legislative Action & Research:**



Sarajane Siegfriedt and Chad Lupkes, Co-Chairs. Responsible for developing analyses of voters, elections and other information that will assist the 46th District with action plans to move forward the Party platform. **Program Committee:** Gerry Pollet, Chair. Responsible for the development and scheduling of District meeting programs. **Finance Committee:** Gail Chiarello, Chair. Responsible for de-

veloping an annual budget and recommendations for fund raising strategies to support the political and program objectives of the organization. **Bylaws Committee:** Dean Fournier, Chair. Responsible for reviewing and making recommendations for changes to the District bylaws. **Platform and Resolutions Committee:** Jim Mullins, Chair. Responsible for reviewing Platform issues and Resolutions for consideration by the body. **Community Outreach Committee:** Bev Marcus, Chair. Responsible for developing strategies and implementing an action plan for linking the 46th District Democrats with neighborhoods and other community organizations in North Seattle.

It is going to be a busy and fun year. Again, please consider joining one of these committees and help move the Democratic Party forward! More information and sign-ups will be available at the **Issues Summit** at our meeting on Feb. 17th.

Peace and Thank You... Scott



46th District
DEMOCRATS

NEXT 46TH LD GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

Thursday, February 17th, 7:30 PM

Olympic View Elementary School ~ NE 95th St. & 8th Ave. NE

Program: Issues Summit!

Meet with other members of the 46th LD to discuss ways to move our progressive agenda forward! Guest speakers!

46th District Executive Board Members

Chair:

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

First Vice Chair:

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

Vice Chair (Membership):

Betty Means (523-5702) bmeans56@comcast.net

Vice Chair (Program):

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

Secretary:

Stan Sorscher (522-7660) 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 (528-1366) jmullins1@mac.com

King County Female Delegate:

Sarajane Siegfriedt (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: Chad Lupkes

Next Demogram Deadline: February 2, 2005

46th LD Home Page: www.46DEMS.org

All Labor Donated



A Call for Content

Please send us ideas, articles and pictures for this newsletter and our website. This is your district organization, and we want to know what you are doing to help engage, educate and empower the people in our district and beyond!

THERE'S A NEW DEMOGRAM EDITOR IN TOWN! CHAD LUPKES

Hi everyone,

Scott has asked me to take on the Demogram in addition to our website, www.46dems.org, and I have accepted. I would like to thank Gail Chiarello for doing this job for the last few years, and I hope I can continue to manage the publication with as much skill and grace as she has shown.

The Demogram is the voice of the 46th Legislative District Democrats. We will publish news and notes about the actions of our elected officials, a rundown on important decisions being made in Seattle, King County, Olympia or Washington D.C. and give you a chance to voice your own opinions.

According to our bylaws, "The purpose of the organization shall be to promote citizen participation in the affairs of the Democratic Party and to support the party's political objectives of social and economic justice."

What this means to me boils down to three words. Our goal is to **engage** the progressive grassroots in the 46th LD, **educate** them on our positions and **empower** them to push forward positive change. Let's get to work!

Chad Lupkes—Pct. 2324

Chairs Note: Chad has played a major role in helping the 46th District Democrats increase our visibility on the Internet these past two of years. His dedication to the Party is unmatched and I am excited that he is willing to take on this big project! Please join me in welcoming Chad as our new Editor!

In Case You Missed It... Life in the Fabulous 46th!


Our first meeting of 2005 was held on January 20th at the Olympic View Elementary School. The crowd at this meeting was as large as the meetings before the election! The 46th District Democrats is more engaged than ever, and it's great to see.

Before the meeting, **Marilyn Griffith** and **Sylvia Haven** organized a very successful "Beans and Bread" dinner to benefit the victims of the tsunami disaster. We brought in \$800 dollars in donations that will be distributed to World Vision and Mercy Corps. With our donations, we became part of a groundswell of good will around the world. Thank you for your support!

Scott White, our Chair, kicked off the meeting and welcomed the crowd. Scott remembered **Anna Vargo**, who passed away recently. The 46th District Democrats will donate \$50 to Northwest Harvest in her memory.

County Councilmember **Bob Ferguson** announced that he will challenge incumbent **Democrat Councilmember Carolyn Edmonds** for Council District One because of the reduction of the number of county districts from 13 to 9. While Ferguson supported the Republican sponsored measure to reduce our Council representation, the measure was opposed by the 46th District Democrats and it failed in Seattle. Carolyn Edmonds will come to a future meeting.

Legislative Preview

 The highlight of the evening was a special visit by our own State Legislators... **Senator Ken Jacobsen, Representative Phyllis Kenney, and Representative Jim McIntire**, who all spoke on the legislative session.

Ken Jacobsen was recognized for his great work to help win a Democratic majority in the Senate. He told a fantastic story about a young student at his wife's local elementary school, who found out that her husband was a State Senator. The student asked if he could get a meeting set up to talk about the possibility of a Youth Advisory Council. The kid did his homework on the subject, got his meeting with Ken, and now the Senator has sponsored a bill (SB-5254) that sets it up!



Phyllis Kenney thanked members for their support in her campaign. She warned that while the state economy is recovering slowly, we could still have a \$1.8 Billion (with a Big B) budget shortfall. The top issues for Rep. Kenney will be education, getting about one million residents covered by state health care and helping many more who have no health care coverage at all, and state employees who have had no salary increases for 4 years.

Jim McIntire is Chair of the Finance Committee, and is working hard to create a dialogue on tax reform in this state. Jim has been consulting with people from labor, educators, business, local government and the public to identify the key questions and possible solutions for tax reform. Stay tuned!

Legislative hearings covering the work of Ken, Phyllis and Jim can be found on cable TVW and on the internet at www.TVW.org

State Party Chair candidates...

Paul Berendt, Bill Phillips and Greg Rodriguez were each given 2 minutes to speak on their vision for the party. The speeches were followed by a discussion session among the members. Paul Berendt was re-elected at the State Reorganization Meeting on January 29th (see article on page 5)

Law Suit Update...

It ain't over till it's over, and the Republican Party just doesn't want it over! **David McDonald**, our local DNC member, received a standing ovation for his work on the legal team for the Gregoire recount. David said events in the courtroom have been somewhat reassuring. The Superior Court judge in Chelan showed he would not be overwhelmed by the political situation and ruled that Republican's discovery process must follow civil rules - no expedited process. It seems that the Republican legal theory rests on finding enough errors to cause the election results to be discarded. However, the law provides that no election may be set aside for illegal votes unless the illegal votes - subtracted from each candidate's totals - would change the election. Keep up the great work David!

7th Congressional District Progressive Forum

On Sunday, January 30, the PDCW46 held a "Call to Action" Forum with Congressman Jim McDermott and the Progressive Community at the Seattle Labor Temple. The forum focused on three topics that are urgent, strategic, and actionable: Social Security, Elections, and Taxes. Congressman McDermott provided his ever so wise perspective on the State of the Nation, followed by a panel discussion on the three topics. Lois Canright, United for a Fair Economy, spoke on Taxes; McDermott on Social Security; and Paul R. Lehto, Attorney at Law, on Elections. We also had a surprise guest: Congressman Dennis Kucinich, who gave a great presentation on Social Security, providing terrific "framing" material. Following the speakers, we had breakout sessions on the three topics. By the time the breakouts happened, we were already two hours into the program -- and it was heartening to see how many attendees stayed to meet with fellow Progressives and discuss how to take action in the upcoming months.

We were overwhelmed by our attendance, more than anticipated -- we'd guess that 500 or more people flowed through our doors, some that we unfortunately had to turn away. Our deepest apologies. However, we did videotape the proceedings, which will broadcast on Public Access TV channel 77. Portions will also be aired on KEXP on "Mind over Matters" with Mike McCormick, which airs on Saturdays and Sundays from 6-9 a.m.. As soon as we have more information about when it will air, we will post that on our website, www.pdcw.org. We'll also be posting a lot more information about this event and how to form your own Caucuses on www.pdcw.org -- so please take a look!

Thanks to the Progressive Community for making this event so successful and for all of your work! —*Bev Marcus*



Save
The
Date

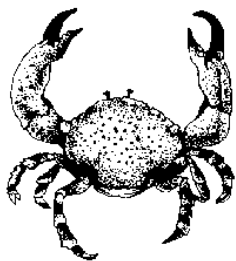


Washington State Democrats PCO Training and Annual Crab Feed

Presidents' Day - Monday, Feb. 21st

10:00 am PCO Training (\$15 per person)

5:00 pm Crab Feed (\$40 per person- \$10 kids)



St. Martin's College
5300 Pacific Ave SE
Lacey, WA 98503

For more information or to
RSVP, please call Heather
Woodruff at 206-583-0664
or email to:

heather@wa-democrats.org

We're all Democrats:

Don't Support Lawyers Versus Doctors

Opinion from Patricia Boiko, MD, MPH, PCO 46-1970

I ask my fellow 46th District Democrats to vote against the "Support Initiative 336 Resolution." Doctors in our 46th District and around Washington are limiting vital services such as obstetrics, trauma care and brain surgery because of the uncontrolled costs of the legal system. As a result, access to health care for pregnant women and trauma victims is critically limited. When our state legislators were gridlocked about how to solve this crisis, lawyers and doctors issued their own calls to action; I-336 is the Washington State Trial Lawyers Association's response, I-330 is the state's doctor's response. Both groups are so powerful, our state democratic majority legislature will not support either initiative. But they would gladly pass a malpractice reform bill sponsored by both doctors and lawyers.

I emphatically agree that too many people are harmed by medical negligence. But I-336 will increase pressure to cover up mistakes and decrease efforts to prevent medical errors. I-336's "3 strikes" rule is ridiculous; NONE of the 5,400 physicians covered by the state's largest provider of medical liability insurance lost 3 malpractice suits in the last 10 years. In addition, I-336 creates a state run insurance company and adds to the cost of liability insurance.

I-336 does NOT solve the malpractice crisis, it does NOT make patients safer. It will lower everyone's access to medical care. Vote against support of I-336. Instead, we need to get our doctors, lawyers and legislators together to solve our malpractice crisis.

NOTE: *The opinions expressed in Op-Eds and Letters to the Editor are those of the author and not necessarily those of the 46th District Democrats or Executive Board.*

News from the State Party *by Janet Miller, State Party Committee Woman*

As you may know, the Washington State Democratic Party Central Committee met for its biennial reorganization meeting on Jan. 28 and 29 in Olympia. And as with the Legislative Districts and County organizations, this meeting was primarily dedicated to the election of officers for the executive committee.

Let me first say that we are so lucky to have such a dedicated and talented group of activists committed to this party. Three of the four Executive Committee seats were contested races and each of them had a field of candidates we can be very proud of.

With a commitment to building a permanent field operation, a focus on message and communication, improving the party's technology and outreach to the Hispanic Community, Paul Berendt was reelected as state party chair on the first ballot. This was a competitive race and I am confident that all of the members of the state party Central Committee will be holding Paul's feet to the fire to live up to these promises.

While Paul will remain the Chair, there will be new energy on the Exec. Committee. Eileen McCall, a feisty, outspoken, rural Democrat from the 9th Legislative District in Pullman, was elected as the Vice Chair. Eileen ran for the legislature last year. She didn't win her bid in November, but she gained valuable experience. She is committed to improving the communication between the Central Committee and the local Party organization as well as promoting more training for our members and candidates.

For the position of State Party Secretary, we elected Luis Moscoso of Snohomish County. Many of you may know Luis from his work on the Dean campaign last year or his years of experience in Labor Organizing. He is a hardworking

progressive Democrat with great ideas for our party both at the state and local level. We are very lucky to have him on the Exec. Committee.

And finally, Habib Habib was reelected by acclamation as our state party Treasurer. There were several comments at the meeting that the financial statement provided at the January meeting were the clearest and most easily understood of any that have ever been presented.

Each of the Congressional districts also elected their representatives to serve on the Committee. Our own Javier Valdez was reelected. Javier has done a great job of communicating with the committee people over the last 2 years and he has pledged to continue this.

Many of you are following the campaign for Chair of the Democratic National Committee. The candidate names and numbers seem to be in bit of flux as this newsletter goes to print. One thing was clear at our state meeting, Howard Dean is our Man! Several members of the DNC who were at the meeting have already pledged to vote for Dean (Paul Berendt, David McDonald, and Karen Marchiaro.) When the room was polled, it was clear that an overwhelming majority (just short of unanimous) supported Dean for Chair of the DNC. The next few weeks will be interesting as this campaign finishes up.

In closing, I would like to thank all of you who took the time to talk, email or phone John Webber and myself about the state party. I was very impressed with the thoughtfulness that went into your input and comments. I took this vote for party chair very seriously and I look forward to continuing to hear from you. I am your representative.

Janet Miller—46th Dems State Committeewoman

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

Please take a moment to look at your name as it is printed on this newsletter's Address Label. If "2005" appears after your name, **Congratulations and Many Thanks!** You are a dues-paying member of the 46th LD Democrats. If "2005" 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 2005 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 Dems Provide Tsunami Relief

\$800 of Tsunami relief was raised at the Alternative Inauguration Beans and Bread Dinner sponsored by the 46th District Democrats on January 20th. The event was the brain child of **Marilyn Griffin** who together with **Sylvia Haven** donated the mostly organic food and cooked four bean dishes. **Carolyn Hauger** gave much needed help with preparation. Two great helpers came to the rescue at clean-up time: **Jill**, the owner of Cloud City and **Jean Erickson** a member of Olympic View Community Church where the dinner was held. **Carl Pennington** provided the sound system which was donated by **American Music**. The **Essential Baking Company** donated all the organic bread.

The money collected came to nearly \$200 for World Vision and nearly \$600 for Mercy Corps. To make the numbers even, Marilyn Griffin added another contribution herself.



Another reason for planning this event was to provide the Democratic Party visibility within the community. We want to build a base for future elections and start conversations with our neighbors about important issues such as social security, election reform and taxation.

Sylvia Haven—46th Dems At Large

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Thurs. Feb. 17th, 7:30pm, **46th LD Dems Membership Meeting @** Olympic View Elementary School. Info: Scott White 363-9522
- Sat. Feb. 19th, 10:00am, **Forum on Social Security with Congressman Jim McDermott @** Bloedel Hall, St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral, 1245 10th Avenue East, Seattle.
- Mon. Feb. 21st, **WA State Democrats Annual Crab Feed and PCO Training in Olympia.** Info: Heather at 583-0664.
- Tues. Feb. 22nd, 7:00 pm, **King County Democrats Monthly Meeting @** Carpenters Hall; 231 Burnett Ave N., Renton. Info: KC Dems 622-9157
- Tues. March 1st, 7:30, **46th LD Dems Executive Committee Meeting @** Olympic View Church. Info: Scott White 363-9522
- Sun. March 6th, 7:30, **Gov. Howard Dean: NOW WHAT? On the Future of America @** Paramount Theatre in Seattle

Check our district website for more information

www.46dems.org



46th District
DEMOCRATS

PO BOX

15435

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#3055
Seattle, WA

**NEXT MEETING: 7:30PM THURSDAY FEBRUARY 17TH
OLYMPIC VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
8TH AVE NE AND NE 95TH ST.**