

DEMOGRAM

Next Membership Meeting:

Olympic View Elementary

January 19, 2006

7:00 PM Social

7:30 PM Mtg Begins



NOTES FROM THE CHAIR by Scott White



2006 is a Critical Year for Democrats

Looking ahead to 2006 I see many opportunities for grassroots activism to impact elections and policy agendas at the national, state and local levels. Volunteer opportunities, issue forums and precinct caucuses will all certainly keep Democrats busy this year. Now more than ever, our global community needs dedicated progressive grassroots activists throughout the United States and in your neighborhood! Does your list of New Year's resolutions include a pledge to renew your membership with the 46th District Democrats in an effort to help strengthen our schools, neighborhoods and economy? Read on to learn about our plans for 2006.

Issues, Activism and Caucuses

On January 19th, the 46th District Democrats will begin the year with our annual **Issues Summit** meeting where we invite YOU to join your neighbors from North Seattle to talk about issues that matter to YOU. (See inside for more info) The Issues Summit is the precursor to the Precinct Caucuses, and will be the first of many exciting and interactive programs put on by the 46th District Democrats in 2006.

Our **monthly membership meetings** (held the 3rd Thursday of the month) are always interesting as we host visits from elected officials and policy briefings to keep you updated on the most important issues. This spring we are planning to have a discussion on Tax Reform. In June we will have our annual candidates forum so you can hear directly from those who are running for office. In August we will endorse our candidates for public office. Also, dues paying members will receive this monthly Demogram newsletter. That's a pretty good menu of civic engagement activities for just a \$25 dollar membership fee!

On March 4th, the 46th District Democrats will host the 2006

Precinct Caucuses at locations throughout North Seattle. Precinct Caucuses happen only once every two years, but are a great opportunity to meet with your neighbors to discuss the issues of our Party Platform, and to help prioritize those issues for consideration at the County and State Conventions. In 2004, the 46th District Democrats set records with about 7,000 caucus participants—and we are hoping to match that record this year. The precinct caucuses will be followed by the 46th LD caucus on April 22nd where we will approve the final Platform.

Elections in 2006

2006 promises to be one of the most important mid-term (non-presidential) election years for Democrats in many years. At the top of the Democratic ballot, Senator Maria Cantwell is up for re-election against a well financed conservative Republican. Democrats will be working hard to help get Maria re-elected and to win back a majority in both the House and Senate in Congress. At the state level, half of the Senate seats and all of the House seats in the Legislature are up for election. It is critical that Democrats work to maintain strong majorities in the Legislature.

One final note: at the time of this writing, approximately 2,190 members of the U.S. military had died in the Iraq war. Further, many estimates suggest that over 30,000 Iraqi civilians have been killed in this "War on Terror". Sadly, we are still waiting for an exit strategy, despite Bush's claim of "Mission Accomplished" back in 2003. Clearly, we have much work to do in 2006! Please consider joining or renewing your membership with the 46th so we can continue to be YOUR advocate.

Happy New Year! I look forward to working with you!

Thank You and Peace... Scott



Next General Membership Meeting

Thursday, January 19th

7:00 Social ~ 7:30pm Meeting Begins

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

SPECIAL PROGRAM:

2006 Issues Summit

Please join your friends and neighbors to discuss platform issues that matter to you! (See inside for more information)



46th District
DEMOCRATS

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) GailChiarello@comcast.net

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

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

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

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

Dana O'Day-Senior (380-9459)

paleogymnast@hotmail.com

Demogram Editor: Chad Lupkes

Next Demogram Deadline: Feb 1, 2006

All Labor Donated



Please check our Website for all the latest information, meeting minutes, and calendars: **www.46dems.COM**



Hi, I am

GAIL CHIARELLO

"Good Government Advocate"

*and a candidate for
Seattle City Council's
Open Position No. 9*

- Highly successful citizen activist for Magnuson Park and for ethical standards in Seattle City Government.
- 30 years experience in fiscal management, communication & the arts.
- Please phone/e-mail City Council in support of my candidacy. Thank you! *(For more information contact Gail at 206-679-3659 or www.GailChiarello.com*

46th Holiday Party a Huge Success!

Thank you to everyone who attended the Holiday Party on December 11th at the Northgate Ramada Inn. The food was delicious, the beverages were refreshing and the auction was exciting! 2005 was a busy year for the 46th Dems and we all worked very hard to push forward the progressive agenda. It truly was a great way to end the year!

Special thanks to Jan Ames, Pat Emerson and Scott White for coordinating the event. Special thanks to Marc Saporito for handling logistics, Betty Means for managing registration and Gail Chiarello for tracking donations. More special thanks to the many elected officials and members who donated items and bid on the live and silent auctions—together we raised over \$1,600!!!

Thank you for a wonderful 2005 and best wishes to all for a prosperous, peaceful and Democratic 2006!

Action Committees

Here is a list of committees at work within the 46th LD Democrats. Remember, this is YOUR party. If you would like to get involved in any of these committees, please contact the chair of that committee.

Program Committee	Gerry Pollet (Chair) Scott White (Vice-Chair)
Legislative Action & Research Committee	Sarajane Siegfriedt (Co-Chair) Chad Lupkes (Co-Chair)
Community Outreach Committee	Bev Marcus (Co-Chair) Scott White (Co-Chair)
Finance Committee	Gail Chiarello (Chair)
Membership & PCO Committee	Betty Means (Chair) Janet Miller (Vice-Chair) Jan Ames (Volunteer Coordinator)
Bylaws Committee	Dean Fournier (Chair)
Platform & Resolutions	Jim Mullins (Chair)

Issues Summit on January 19th!

What do Democrats stand for? The answer really does start with our membership and the people who come to precinct caucuses every even numbered year. Here in the 46th District, the process of deciding what we stand for begins with an Issues Forum at our General Membership meeting on January 19th. This is a participatory event with breakout groups discussing the 8 major portions of our Platform.

Our Issues Forum on the 19th is designed for you to:

- propose changes or updates to our platform on the topics that interest you the most;
- discuss what Democrats should stand for on those topics;
- propose two priorities for the 46th District's legislative action committee and our joint priorities for action on each topic;
- suggest program topics for upcoming meetings;
- suggest resolutions or actions we can take as a district to make a difference on the issues that you care about;
- become involved in our legislative action or outreach committees.

From the Issues Forum, and the resolutions or proposals for

platform planks that Democrats bring to the Precinct Caucuses on March 4th, we'll have a Platform and Resolutions Committee which will prepare an updated proposed Platform for the District. This will be considered for adoption, along with resolutions, at the Legislative District Caucus on April 22nd.

If you belong to organizations that look to Democrats and elections to work for their common agenda, this is a great time to ask them to suggest priorities and bring those to the meeting. It's also the perfect opportunity to stress to many groups that they need to think about who wins elections and what is in the party platforms they champion if the groups want to see their agendas move ahead or be defended.



From our own Precinct Caucuses and 46th Legislative District Caucus, our Platform and Resolutions move up to both King County and the State Democratic Party... and from there, they can set the tone for Democrats nationally. There's nothing top-down about this process—this is pure bottom-up grassroots activism! So please join us on January 19th

at Olympic View Elementary to start this process, and enjoy discussing where Democrats should stand.

Our current Platform is available on line at www.46dems.com

Gerry Pollet

Vice Chair for Programs

Resolution on the City of Seattle Code of Ethics

For consideration at our meeting on January 19th.

WHEREAS, the platform of the 46th District Democrats affirms "our commitment to ... the principle that political power should be wielded lightly, responsibly and with full recognition that it is a public trust conferred by the citizenry"; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seattle has enacted a Code of Ethics (SMC 4.16) the purpose of which is to assure that "citizens must have confidence in the integrity of their government," and "public office is not to be used for personal gain"; and

WHEREAS, this Code states that it is to be "liberally construed in favor of protecting the public's interest in full disclosure"; and

WHEREAS, Black's Law Dictionary 8th ed. defines *liberal construction* as expanding "the meaning of the statute to embrace cases which are clearly within the spirit of the law, or within the evil which it was designed to remedy [and] resolves all reasonable doubts in favor of the applicability of the statute to the particular case"; and

WHEREAS, from April 1, 1992 through May 4, 2005, City of Seattle advisory committees were exempted from the City's Code of Ethics through a flawed April 1992 Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission (SEEC) ruling, thus making it impossible to bring citizen complaints against individual committee members who used their positions to pursue personal gain; and

WHEREAS, on September 7, 2005, the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission adopted a ruling which brings

the City's advisory committees back under the Code; and

WHEREAS, the Seattle Planning Commission is seeking to be exempted from the Code of Ethics and seeks such exemption for all City Advisory Committees which have their *own standards of ethical conduct*; and

WHEREAS, multiple Codes of Ethics are confusing, create different standards for different bodies, standards which themselves may be unlawful and discriminatory, create barriers to compliance or enforcement; and obscure transparency in the political process; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seattle has a national reputation as a "good-government" city;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 46th District Democrats urge the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission and Seattle City Council to reject the request from the Seattle Planning Commission to exempt Advisory Committees, with or without their own separate standards of ethical conduct, from the City's Code of Ethics (SMC 4.16).

Submitted by Gail Chiarello, Martha Dye-Whealan, Kurt Hulse, Chad Lupkes, Bev Marcus, Ken Pick and Barbara Whitt

Save a Tree, Go Online — An online version of the *Demogram* is available by sending your email address to: gerry-pollet@msn.com

Executive Sims calls for all-mail voting

King County Executive Ron Sims announced he is proposing to change King County elections to an all-mail ballot system. Sims directed Records, Elections and Licensing Services Director Dean Logan to prepare a comprehensive plan and a proposed timeframe for establishing a vote-by-mail balloting process for the county's 1.2 million registered voters by the end of January 2006.

"While numerous outside reviews of our elections operation have recognized and praised the many improvements in King County elections, they also point out the complexity and duplicate effort in the current dual-voting system where the vast majority of voters have chosen to cast absentee ballots," Sims said. "An all-mail system is an important next step to reducing the challenges to running trouble-free elections and to build on the improvements and achievements of these last two years."



Sims said his goal is to adopt a system that fosters the highest level of public trust and confidence while increasing voter participation, improving access to voting, and simplifying the administration of elections. Options for in-person voting will be included in the report. The plan will include voter education and outreach plans to make sure the public is well versed on how the vote-by-mail system works. New technology also will allow for tracking of ballots in the mail stream and the ability for voters to confirm that their votes were received and tabulated.

The comprehensive plan for adopting all mail elections – including a recommended timeline and any proposals for legislative changes, will be completed by the end of January, 2006.

Many thanks to Ron for all his work to improve and reform our Elections system!



Let Our Elected Officials Hear Your Voice

The residents of the 46th Legislative District are very fortunate to be represented by a collection of dedicated officials representing us in Federal, State and Local government. Our leaders want to hear from you and communicate with you! Here is a contact list:

US Senator Patty Murray

D.C.: (202) 224-2621
Seattle: (206) 553-5545
murray.senate.gov

US Senator Maria Cantwell

D.C.: (202) 224-3441
Seattle: (206) 220-6400
cantwell.senate.gov

US Congressman Jim McDermott

D.C.: (202) 225-3106
Seattle: (206) 553-7170
www.house.gov/mcdermott

WA State Governor Christine Gregoire

Phone: (360) 902-4111
www.governor.wa.gov

WA State Senator Ken Jacobsen

Phone: (360) 786-7690
Email: jacobsen_ke@leg.wa.gov

WA State Representative Jim McIntire

Phone: (360) 786-7886
Email: mcintire_ji@leg.wa.gov

WA State Representative Phyllis Kenney

Phone: (360) 786-7818
Email: kenney_ph@leg.wa.gov

King County Executive Ron Sims

Phone: (206) 296-4040
Email: exec.sims@metrokc.gov
www.metrokc.gov

KC Council Chair Larry Phillips

Phone: (206) 296-1004
Email: Larry.Phillips@metrokc.gov
www.metrokc.gov/council

KC Councilmember Bob Ferguson

Phone: (206) 296-1001
Email: Bob.Ferguson@metrokc.gov

KC Councilmember Larry Gossett

Phone: (206) 296-1002
Email: Larry.Gossett@metrokc.gov

Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels

Phone: (206) 684-4000
Email: Greg.Nickels@seattle.gov
www.seattle.gov

Councilmember Jan Drago

Phone: (206) 684-8801
Email: Jan.Drago@seattle.gov
www.seattle.gov/council

Council Position 9 – vacant

Councilmember Richard Conlin

Phone: (206) 684-8805
Email: Richard.Conlin@seattle.gov

Councilmember David Della

Phone: (206) 684-8806
Email: David.Della@seattle.gov

Councilmember Jean Godden

Phone: (206) 684-8807
Email: Jean.Godden@seattle.gov

Councilmember Nick Licata

Phone: (206) 684-8803
Email: Nick.Licata@seattle.gov

Councilmember Richard McIver

Phone: (206) 684-8800
Email: Richard.McIver@seattle.gov

Councilmember Tom Rasmussen

Phone: (206) 684-8808
Email: Tom.Rasmussen@seattle.gov

Councilmember Peter Steinbrueck

Phone: (206) 684-8804
Email: Peter.Steinbrueck@seattle.gov

State Party Chair Paul Berendt Resigns

WA State Democratic Central Committee Meets on Jan. 28th to Elect New State Chair

By Janet Miller and John Webber

After 11 years of dedicated service as our Washington State Democratic Party Chair, Paul Berendt is resigning his position at the end of this month. Under his leadership, we have consistently elected Democrats, fought against the Republican initiatives and successfully won some very close races. He leaves us with a great foundation to build on, and a great opportunity to take our party to the next level. At the January 28th meeting of the Washington State Democratic Central Committee we will be electing someone to finish out the one year left of Paul's term.

Five candidates are known to be seeking this office as of our press time. They are: Jean Brooks, Bill Harrington, Mark Hintz, Dwight Pelz and Laura Ruderman.

Recently, the 46th District Executive Committee met and discussed these candidates as well as criteria for our next Chair. The job is a complicated one and requires someone with incredible skills and dedication.

These are some of the most important criteria our Executive Committee identified to look for in choosing Chair:

- A passion for the position, who can galvanize people to action;
- Proven fundraiser;
- Full-time commitment to the position;
- A spokesperson who can clearly and diplomatically work with our elected officials, can frame a powerful message for the public, and can be an effective media

contact;

- A visionary who can articulate and motivate our party statewide from the grassroots to the DNC;
- Organizing experience;
- Commitment to overseeing the financial well being of the party;
- Proven record of effectively running an office or organization on a budget;
- Ability to recruit and develop strong candidates.

As your State Committee people, we would like our votes to represent the views and role of the 46th District Democrats. We believe that we need a party chair who is supported by the entire party. This is someone who needs to be accountable to all of us, not just the central committee members.

We both would very much like to hear from each of you about your feelings about these candidates. The vote is at the end of the month, not all of the candidates are known at this point, and some may withdraw before it is all said and done. We welcome your insights about the individuals as well as the skills, vision and direction you would like the new chair to have.

Feel free to call or email either of us with your thoughts.

Janet Miller

528-0078

gerry-pollet@msn.com

John Webber

365-0741

jpwebber@verizon.net

Show Your Commitment to the 46th District Democrats.

Please take a moment to look at your name as it's printed on this newsletter's Address Label. If "2006" appears after your name, **Congratulations and Many Thanks!** You are a dues-paying member of the 46th Legislative District Democrats. If "2006" does not appear, we hope you will send in your Membership Dues today in the enclosed envelope. 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** **JOIN TODAY!**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____

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E-MAIL _____

\$100 "4600 Club"

\$46 Donor

\$25 Couple/Family

\$15 Individual

\$3 Student/Retired/Fixed Income

\$ _____



YES! Please send me an email when the newsletter is ready for online reading.



46th District Democrats
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**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING — ISSUES SUMMIT!
 THURSDAY JAN. 19TH AT OLYMPIC VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
 7:00 PM SOCIAL ~ 7:30PM MEETING**

Happy New Year!

It is time to renew your membership to the 46th District Democrats for 2006.

If you haven't renewed already, please use the enclosed remit envelope to send your check to the 46th District Democrats. Together we can help keep the grassroots alive and elect Democrats who share OUR progressive values!

Please check our website for the latest info on caucuses, events, meeting minutes and other special opportunities to get involved:
www.46dems.COM



CALENDAR OF EVENTS



- Mon. Jan 9th, **Washing State Legislature Convenes** in Olympia. See inside for info on how to contact Ken, Phyllis or Jim. More info at: www.leg.wa.gov
- Mon. Jan 16th, 11:00 am **MLK Day—Rally and March** @ Garfield High School. More info: 812-4940 or www.MLKSeattle.org
- Thurs. Jan 19th, **46th Dems General Membership Meeting** @ Olympic View Elementary School. 7:00pm Social, 7:30pm Meeting begins. *2006 Grassroots Issues Summit!*
- Sun. Jan 22nd, 7:00 pm **King County Democrats Central Committee (KCDCC) Officers and Chairs Meeting** @ Renton Carpenters Hall - 231 Burnett Ave. More info at: www.kcdems.org
- Tues. Jan 24th, 7:00 pm **King County Democrats Central Committee (KCDCC) Executive Board Meeting** @ Renton Carpenters Hall - 231 Burnett Ave. More info at: www.kcdems.org
- Sat. Jan 28, **WA State Democratic Central Committee (WSDCC) Meeting** in Kent. Meeting to elect new State Party Chair! More info at: www.wa-democrats.org
- Tues. Feb 7th, 7:30 pm, **46th Dems Executive Board Meeting** @ Olympic View Community Church. Info: Scott White 363-9522
- Sat. March 4th, **Precinct Caucuses** Locations and details forthcoming—stay tuned! More information at: www.46dems.com