

DEMOGRAM

Next Membership Meeting:

Olympic View Elementary

Thursday, Sept 20th

7:00 PM Social

7:30 PM Mtg Begins



NOTES FROM THE CHAIR



The changes felt in the September air mark the beginning of the end of summer, the return to school and the start of the general election campaign season. The past month has been filled with some strong victories and some sad losses... and the coming months hold promise for Democrats everywhere.

Washington State held its **Primary Election** on August 21st—one month earlier than normal. While turnout was not a record breaker, it was a successful election and everything ran smoothly. It may take a few election cycles for the citizenry to get used to voting in the middle of summer. Fortunately, our dedicated Democratic PCOs and volunteers are on the job to spread the good word about progressive candidates and to remind folks to vote.

On August 28th (and just in time for Labor Day!) the **United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW)**, representing over 20,000 grocery and retail workers in Puget Sound, reached an agreement on a contract with Safeway, Albertson's, Fred Meyer and QFC. This was a big win for our brothers and sisters in the labor community... and a win for the Democratic values of economic security, fair wages and collective bargaining. Congratulate them the next time you shop in their store!

August also brought us the passing of two cherished Democrats. **Bob Benton**, husband to Becky and a long time member of the 46th, passed away on August 22nd. **Karen Marchioro**, former State Party Chair and Democratic National Committee Delegate, passed away on August 30th. Please see *In Memorium* on page 2.

August was also one of the deadliest months for the **War in Iraq**. Power and wisdom to our national leaders to bring a swift end to this conflict and to take our foreign policy in a new positive direction.

Looking ahead to the rest of 2007...

We have an important **General Election on November 6th** that will decide several state issues and local races. The outcomes of ballot measures such as EHJR 4202 to allow school levies to pass with a Simple Majority and Tim Eyman's latest folly, will have far reaching im-

Reminder: PCO Training

6:00 pm, Sept. 20th @ Olympic View Elementary

This training session will be held immediately before our regular membership meeting. All PCOs are welcome!

More info on pg 3. We hope to see you there! ~ *Scott*

pacts on our state's education system and financial stability. Also, the Regional Transportation Investment District bond measure will determine the future of funding for mass transit and roads for decades to come. The balance of power on the Port Commission, the make up of the Seattle City Council and the future of the Seattle School Board will all be decided on November 6th. These local entities play critical roles in shaping the health and prosperity of our local communities. While endorsements in some of these races have already been made, the 46th District Democrats will make endorsements on all outstanding races and ballot measures at our membership meeting on September 20th. Please join us and let your voice be heard!

In addition to the coming General Election, politics continue to play out on the national scene as **candidates for President** campaign across America. Democrats Clinton, Obama, Edwards, Richardson, Kucinich and the rest are all being forced to discuss and clarify their positions on many issues—which is a good thing. While it seems early to be thinking about the race for President, keep in mind that the precinct caucuses will be held only five months away on February 9th!

Today is a good day to be a Democrat. Get involved, engage in dialogue with your neighbors, advocate for your issues, pick your favorite candidates and hold your elected officials accountable! That is *your* democracy. It may not be perfect, but you've got to use it to reap the benefits.

Peace. ~ *Scott*



Next General Membership Meeting

Thursday, September 20th

7:00 Social ~ 7:30pm Meeting Begins

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

Special Program Items:

*** General Election Endorsements ***

*** Approve Donations to Campaigns ***

(*** Remember... the PCO Training begins at 6:00, before the regular meeting.)



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:

Donna Boysen (816-2857) dmboysen@hotmail.com

State Committee Man:

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

State Committee Woman:

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King County Male Delegate:

Chad Lupkes (440-1592) chadlupkes@gmail.com

King County Male Delegate Alternate:

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michaeljthompson@comcast.net

King County Female Delegate:

Sarajane Siegfriedt (440-5829) sarajane3h@comcast.net

King County Female Alternate:

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

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Barbara Whitt (729-7412) barbara@whitts-end.com

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

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

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

Javier Valdez (548-9510) airjav@msn.com

Next Demogram Deadline: October 1, 2007

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

In Memoriam...



Bob Benton, 1932-2007

The 46th District lost a good friend when Bob Benton passed away on August 22nd after complications from a stroke. Becky Benton's husband of 51 years, Bob was a college educator who taught literature. His teaching career touched the lives of hundreds of students. He was also very passionate about Democratic politics, his community and the environment. Bob will be missed by his family and many friends.



In Memoriam...

Karen Marchioro, 1933-2007

Former King County Chairwoman and State Party Chairwoman Karen Marchioro passed away on August 30th after a brave battle with cancer. Karen was a force in state politics for four decades. She was the first woman to serve as Chair of the State Party, and held that job from 1981 to 1992. She also served as a member of the Democratic National Committee for our state. Karen had an amazing reputation for being well organized, having strong principles and incredible political judgment. She is credited with modernizing the Party's approach to organizing and many reforms. She will be dearly missed.

Program for Sept. 20th Membership Meeting:

6:00pm PCO Training before the meeting

- *Open to all PCOs—come learn the basics about the duties and techniques to be an effective PCO. Bring your questions!*

7:00pm Social and Snacks

7:30pm Regular Meeting Begins

- *Endorsements for General Election*
- *Consider/Approve Donations to Campaigns*
- *Resolutions and Reports*

Please join us for a informative evening with good friends and informative political discussions!

Save a Tree, Go Online

An online version of the **Demogram** is available by sending your email address to:
gerry-pollet@msn.com

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

Reports from King County Council Member **Larry Gossett** and Washington State Democratic Party Chair **Dwight Pelz** highlighted the July 19 meeting of the 46th District Democrats. In addition, the group passed four resolutions.

Chair Scott White welcomed PCO's and first time attendees and thanked **Barbara Whitt, Gerry Pollet, Betty Means** and all who had helped with recent events. He introduced new PCO Coordinator **Bernadette Laqueur**, who spoke about the transition from **Janet Miller**, who has done a stellar job of coordinating PCOs for several years. Laqueur passed out a sign-up sheet for mentors who would train new PCOs and go with them to canvass their precincts.

White introduced **Sameer Ranade**, Field Organizer for the "Vote to Approve 4204 - Simple Majority for Our Schools" Campaign. The 2007 Legislature passed a bill that places an amendment to the state constitution on the ballot that would allow school levies to be passed by a simple majority. The issue will go before the voters in the November election.

Donna Boyesen's brief Treasurer's report indicated that the 46th is in a good position relative to the budget, and Membership Chair **Betty Means** reported that membership is up from the comparable period in the last cycle.

Richard Dyksterhuis discussed neighborhood street improvement plans. Curbs, gutters, drains, and attractive landscaping characterize nicer neighborhoods. However, several neighborhoods in Northwest Seattle still don't have complete street improvements. Projects to complete city streets have bypassed the "Forgotten Neighborhoods," including 37,000 residents north of 105th Street. Dyksterhuis asked for help in contacting City officials.



King County Council Chair
Larry Gossett

County Council member **Larry Gossett** was introduced. He reported that earlier in the evening the Council had voted 12-1 to ban trans fats in restaurants. Chain restaurants will be required to label food for health-conscious consumers. King County is the second jurisdiction to ban trans fats, although the New York City legislation is voluntary. Gossett also spoke about the vote-by-mail process. The goal is the highest possible voter turnout, as well as excellent security. He answered several questions about the new process.

Sarajane Siegfriedt, female delegate to the King County Democratic Central Committee, said that 4,000 volunteers will be needed to staff voting locations. The County organization's annual picnic on Saturday, July 28, at Woodland Park will feature food, politics, and fun. **Chad Lupkes**, male delegate to the King County Democratic Central Committee, announced a neighborhood cleanup at 9 a.m. on July 28. Volunteers are asked to meet at Roosevelt and Northgate for a work party to clean the area up to 95th Street.



Seattle Port Commissioner
Alec Fiskien

White introduced **Alec Fiskien**, 46th District member and incumbent running for re-election as Port Commissioner in District 5. Alec has the sole endorsement of the 46th District Democrats in his bid to be re-elected and represent progressive values on the Seattle Port Commission.

Dwight Pelz, Washington State Party Chair, discussed the 2008 election and delivered a presentation on his "Challenge from the Chair." The challenge to the 46th District Democrats is to register 5,000 new voters in the 46th District before the 2008 election. His goal is to gain 100,000 extra votes across the state in the 2008 general election by recruiting volunteers through the caucuses, volunteers who will assist with voter registration and voter identification. He characterizes legislative districts in six categories, with the 46th an "urban blue" district. Seattle has 80% voter turnout and 80% Democratic voters. Pelz answered several questions and thanked the grassroots for their work.

The following resolutions were passed at the meeting:

- 1) The City should enact legislation to study re-implementation of public financing of campaigns and support a local option in the State Legislature.
- 2) The Congressional delegation is urged to champion a positive direction for U.S. foreign policy, such as promoting health, housing, and education rather than military action.
- 3) Public local demonstration and testing of equipment to be utilized in the 2008 vote-by-mail elections must be completed before King County commits to purchasing new equipment.
- 4) Rules were suspended, and a resolution was passed to support impeaching Dick Cheney.

As always, details of the speakers' remarks and complete wording and discussion around the four resolutions passed can be found at www.46dems.com under "Resources."

Enjoy your summer, and remember that the next District meeting will be held on Thursday, September 20. There will be a PCO training beginning at 6:00 and the regular meeting starts at 7:30.

By Jan Ames, Vice-Chair



PCO Training

6:00 pm, Thursday, Sept. 20th
Olympic View Elementary

Join new and seasoned PCO's for a one hour PCO training just prior to the September 20th general meeting. We'll spend a little time on the big picture of the Democratic Party at the national, state, county and local levels followed by the nuts and bolts of being a PCO on the ground. Walking lists, distributing literature, registering voters, how to approach that prickly voter – all these topics and more will be discussed.

Please contact Bernadette at blaqueur@comcast.net or 206-525-8911 with any topics you would like to see covered. We want this meeting to meet your needs and answer your questions. See you there!

Meet Our New PCO Coordinator: Bernadette Laqueur

When I was examining my reasons for running for the Executive Board, I kept returning to the horrifying thought of waking up the morning after the next presidential election and feeling that if I had done more, maybe the outcome would have been different. I feel the same way today. When asked by Janet Miller to assume the responsibilities of PCO Coordinator, I felt that this was one job that would have a tremendous multiplier effect and so I said "yes". If we have more PCO's and each of us does just a little more, think of the possibilities – higher voter registration, a more informed citizenry, the same leader in Olympia, new leaders in Washington, and a return to our country that has slowly disappeared. My goal, as the new PCO Coordinator, is to provide you, our invaluable and wonderful PCOs, with all the support you need to get the job done. Please let me know what we can do to make your job

easier – email me at blaqueur@comcast.net at any time with your ideas – I'd love to hear them.



Bernadette Laqueur is our new PCO Coordinator.

I come to this job having worn a variety of hats throughout my working and volunteer careers. Stints in the corporate world plus a variety of environmentally related jobs and volunteer positions filled in the time with raising a family, playing the piano, gardening and pursuing other interests. My interest in national politics came later in life and, like so many others, I was roused to action after the 2000 election.

I look forward to working with you!

Bernadette

PS—Please join us at the PCO Training Session on Sept 20th, right before the membership meeting! More info on page 3.

Congratulations to Chad Lupkes and Technology Team!

Five weeks ago, BlogPac put out a call to "find the five best new, grassroots progressive infrastructure projects in America, and provide those projects with the money, exposure, and connections necessary to get off the ground." The response was incredible with over 100 innovative submissions. It is with great pleasure and pride to announce that one of the winners of the first BlogPac Progressive Entrepreneurs Contest is our very own 46dems.com webmaster and King County Democrats Delegate, **Chad Lupkes!**



Chad entered the competition by detailing the project that he has led with Roger Crew, Fred Morris, and Rob Dolin. This is a project to map every precinct in the state of Washington, along with providing information on how each precinct voted in key elections. Over time, this project has a goal of expanding across the entire nation, and it could also potentially be used for letting people know which precincts nationwide need someone to be the local precinct committee officer (PCO). In other words, this project has the potential to map every precinct in America, and make that information available to Democratic and progressive activists nationwide. The project has already mapped every precinct here in King County.

Congrats to Chad and the entire Tech Team!

Hey 46th District Democrats! You're invited to the

Chair's Breakfast



Saturday, Sept. 22nd
9:00am to 10:30am
at

Claire's Pantry
12360 Lake City Way NE

Join 46th District Chair **Scott White** and Special Guests, Local Political Pundits

Sandeep Kaushik

former political editor for The Stranger and campaign strategist

&

Christian Sinderman

Democratic campaign strategist

In a lively and interactive discussion on the 2007 local elections... and preview the 2008 elections!

\$25 Suggested Donation includes breakfast!

Please **RSVP** by Sept 19th to 363-9522 or scott.white46@comcast.net

This event is open to all PCOs and members of the 46th District Democrats, but *hurry* because space and seats are limited!



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 "2007" appears after your name, **Congratulations and Many Thanks!** You are a dues-paying member of the 46th Legislative District Democrats for the coming year. If "2007" does not appear, we hope you will send in your Membership Dues today in the enclosed envelope. Make checks payable to: "46th District Democrats" & mail to: **PO Box 15435, Seattle, WA 98115-0435** **JOIN TODAY!**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

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

- \$500 "Benefactor"
- \$100 "4600 Club"
- \$46 Friend of the 46th
- \$35 Couple/Family
- \$25 Individual
- \$5 Student/Retired/Fixed Income
- \$ _____



Contract Agreement Reached for Puget Sound Grocery Workers

United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW), representing over 20,000 grocery and retail workers in Puget Sound, has reached an agreement on a contract with Safeway, Albertson's, Fred Meyer and QFC. On August 26th and 28th, UFCW members voted to approve a three-year contract, negotiated by a bargaining team that included twenty-three members employed at stores throughout the region.

Negotiations between the three chains and UFCW Local 21, Local 44 and Local 81, went into the early morning hours the last three days of bargaining, ending Sunday morning, August 19th. This agreement comes after over five months of bargaining sessions and over a hundred days past the initial contract expiration date.

This is a big win for our brothers and sisters in the labor community. Equality and economic justice is an important part of our Democratic Platform, which states: "We believe in the dignity of work and demand fair wages and benefits in return." These are the same principles that the grocery workers were standing for in their negotiations.

Many congratulations to our friends in UFCW!



Do you know someone who would like to be a PCO? If so, please contact our 46th PCO Coordinator Bernadette Laqueur at: blaqueur@comcast.net

Movie Night
with the 46th District Democrats
presents:

SICKO

A revealing and hard hitting documentary film by activist filmmaker Michael Moore.

This documentary compares the highly profitable American health care industry to other nations, and exposes a few HMO horror stories. Writer/producer Michael Moore interviews Americans who have been denied treatment by our health care insurance companies -- companies who sacrifice essential health services in order to maximize profits. The consequences for the individual subscribers range from bankruptcy to the unnecessary deaths of loved ones. Moore then looks at universal free health care systems in Canada, France, Britain, and Cuba, debunking all the fears (lower quality of care, poorer compensation for doctors, big-government bureaucracy) that have been used to dissuade Americans from establishing such a system here.

This is the fifth of regular film screenings sponsored by the 46th District Democrats. Discussion after film.

FREE Admission and Popcorn

7:00 PM, Tuesday, September 25th
Olympic View Church Social Hall ~ 425 NE 95th St
(Donations gladly accepted to help cover room rental.)



46th District Democrats
 PO Box 15435
 Seattle, WA 98115-0435
 www.46dems.com

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**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
 THURSDAY, SEPT 20TH AT OLYMPIC VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
 7:00 PM SOCIAL ~ 7:30 PM MEETING**

**Items for Sept 20th
 Membership Meeting**

6:00 PCO Training (see pg 3)
 All PCOs are welcome to attend!

7:00 Social and Snacks
7:30 Membership Mtg Begins

- Call to Order and Pledge
- General Election Endorsements
- Consideration of donations to endorsed campaigns
- Resolutions
- Reports



**Please check our Website for
 all the latest information, PCO
 and activist tools, meeting
 minutes, campaign links and
 calendars at:**

www.46dems.com



CALENDAR OF EVENTS



- Sun. Sept 16th, 2:00 pm **KCDCC Legislative Action Committee Meeting.** (location TBD) More info at: www.kcdems.org.
- Sun. Sept 16th, 7:00 pm **KCDCC Officers and Chairs Meeting @** Renton Carpenters Hall - 231 Burnett Ave. More info at: www.kcdems.org or 206-622-9157.
- Thurs. Sept 20th, 6:00pm **46th Dems PCO Training @** Olympic View Elementary School. (just before the membership mtg.) info pg 4
- Thurs. Sept 20th, **46th Dems General Membership Meeting @** Olympic View Elementary School, 7:00pm Social, 7:30pm Mtg begins
- Sat. Sept 22nd, 9:00-10:30 am, **Chair's Breakfast w/ Sandeep Kaushik & Christian Sinderman.** Come learn the inside scoop on the 2007 elections. More info inside on pg. 4
- Tues. Sept 25th, 7:00 pm **King County Democrats Central Committee (KCDCC) Regular Meeting @** Renton Carpenters Hall - 231 Burnett Ave. More info at: www.kcdems.org or 206-622-9157
- Tues. Sept 25th, 7:00 pm **46th Dist Democrats Movie Night @** Olympic View Church. More info inside on pg. 3
- Tues. Oct. 2nd, 7:00 pm **46th Dems Executive Board Meeting @** Olympic View Community Church. Info: www.46dems.com