

DEMOGRAM

Next Membership Meeting:

Olympic View Elementary

Thursday, Oct. 18th

7:00 PM Social

7:30 PM Mtg Begins



NOTES FROM THE CHAIR



Grassroots Democrats Prepare for General Election on November 6th

Elections in odd numbered years, such as 2007, are sometimes called an “off-year election” because they consist largely of races for local office and do not include federal or state campaigns. However, the people we elect to our Port Commission, City Council, School Board and County offices regularly make decisions that have a major impact on our daily lives. As a result, the outcome of the general election on November 6th will help determine the future of our region, as the winners will set the agenda for our city, county, port and public schools. Further, several measures on the ballot will have far reaching effects if passed.

Democrats must work hard in the coming weeks to spread the word about our endorsed candidates and positions on ballot measures. The candidates endorsed by the 46th District Democrats are both pictured and listed on *page 3* of this Demogram. These candidates were thoroughly reviewed at our candidate forums and endorsement meetings, and then endorsed as the best qualified to move our progressive platform forward. We have also made endorsements on most of the ballot measures.

In these final weeks, I’m asking every member of the 46th to share our endorsements listed on page 3 with 10 friends. If each member does this, then this action strategy will potentially reach and influence several thousand voters! Remember... we are a grassroots activist organization and our success depends on the collective effort of all members to spread the word!

After you’ve told your friends about our endorsements, please remember to vote yourself on Tuesday, November 6th!

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION FOR POSITION OF DISTRICT CHAIR

7:30 pm, Oct. 18th @ Olympic View Elementary

Thank You for the Honor to Serve You

I can remember when I first joined the 46th District Democrats... I started out as a regular member, was elected as a PCO, then worked my way up the ranks... and for the past five years I have served you as Chair. It has been a great time and we have accomplished much together. But after two and a half terms as your chair, I am stepping down to run for the State Legislature in 2008 to fill the seat being vacated by Rep. Jim McIntire. (There will be an election for a new chair at our meeting on Oct 18th.)

Over the past five years we have experienced tremendous growth in our organization: membership rolls and the annual budget have increased significantly, we began donating money to progressive candidates and campaigns, we invested in our infrastructure by building a website and reorganizing the treasury, we recruited dozens of new PCOs, and many other positive steps. **All of our successes have been a team effort and serve as testimony to what a group of dedicated grassroots activists can accomplish if we work together!**

My sincere thanks to all of you for your support and hard work during my tenure as chair. Special thanks to the Executive Board, PCOs and volunteers for their work on so many projects. Again, it has been an honor to serve you as Chair and I look forward to working with you all in the future!

Onward... *Scott White*



**46th District
DEMOCRATS**

Next General Membership Meeting

Thursday, October 18th

7:00 Social ~ 7:30pm Meeting Begins

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

Program Items:

*** Special Election to fill position of Chair

*** Guest Speaker: Kristen Comer, Washington CeaseFire

(See Page 2 for complete agenda)

46th District Executive Board Members

Chair:

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

NOTE: Scott has resigned as Chair, effective 10-17. A new chair will be elected at the regular meeting on 10-18.

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) dboysen@hotmail.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:

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

King County Male Delegate Alternate:

Mike Thompson (522-8184)
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

Sergeant at Arms:

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

At Large Members:

Pat Emerson (527-1613) emerson872@aol.com
Dean Fournier (364-4539) marydeanf@cs.com
Bernadette Laqueur (525-8911) blaqueur@comcast.net
Justin Simmons (736-9882) rehcana@yahoo.com
Javier Valdez (548-9510) airjav@msn.com

Next Demogram Deadline: October 30 , 2007

Proudly Printed by Union Labor!

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

Program for Oct. 18th Membership Meeting:

7:00pm Social and Snacks

7:30pm Regular Meeting Begins

- *Call to order and Pledge*
- *Special Election for position of Chair **
- *Guest Speaker: Kristen Comer of WA CeaseFire*
- *Resolutions, Reports and Good of the Order*

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

*** Per Section 9.4 of the King County Democratic Central Committee Bylaws governing Vacancies:**

“A vacancy in any of the offices required by these Bylaws shall be filled by a majority vote of the elected and appointed PCOs present and voting, not counting abstentions, at the meeting of the Legislative District Organization following the announcement of the vacancy, provided ten (10) days notice of the election has been given to all PCOs within the district.”



Rep. Jim McIntire Announces Candidacy for State Treasurer

Our own 46th LD State Representative Jim McIntire has announced his intention to run for State Treasurer in 2008. Jim has served in the legislature since 1998 and is widely regarded as one of the top experts on the state budget and tax policy. He is the former chair of the House Finance Committee and current Chair of the Economic Forecast Council. One of Jim's passions has been progressive tax reform, and he has been a strong advocate for a state income tax.



The State Treasurer has wide ranging responsibility for management of the state's financial resources. As the chief fiscal officer, the State Treasurer is responsible for keeping the books and managing taxpayers' money from the time it is collected in taxes until it is spent on programs funded by the Legislature. The Office of the State Treasurer provides banking, cash management, investment, debt issuance, and accounting services for state government and plays a major role in providing financial services to local governments. Given these duties, we need Jim as our State Treasurer!

Stay tuned for more information from Jim about his campaign in the coming months. Good Luck, Jim!!!

Save a Tree, Go Online

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

Endorsed Candidates Lead the Way on November 6th!

| | | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|--|---|
|  Bill Sherman for King County Prosecutor |  Scott Noble for King County Assessor |  Larry Gossett for KC Council District 2 |  Larry Phillips for KC Council District 4 |  Gael Tarleton for Port Commission Position 2 |  Alec Fiskien for Port Commission Position 5 |
|  Jean Godden for City Council Position 1 |  Venus Velazquez and Bruce Harrell DUAL Endorsement for City Council Position 3 | |  Tom Rasmussen for City Council Position 5 |  Tim Burgess and David Della DUAL Endorsement for City Council Position 7 | |
|  Sally Clark for City Council Position 9 |  Peter Maier for School Board District 1 |  Sherry Carr for School Board District 2 |  Harium Martin-Morris for School Board—Dist. 3 |  Steve Sundquist and Maria Ramirez DUAL Endorsement for School Board—District 6 | |

Ballot Measures

STATE of WA

Initiative 960

RE: requires 2/3 vote of legislature or voters for tax/fee increases:

Yes
✓ NO

Referendum 67

RE: insurance fair conduct related to claims for coverage or benefits:

✓ APPROVE
Reject

ESSJR 8206

RE: budget stabilization account:

✓ TAKE NO POSITION

SJR 8212 RE: inmate labor

✓ TAKE NO POSITION

EHJR 4204

RE: allowing school levies to pass with a simple majority vote:

✓ APPROVE
Reject

SHJR 4215

RE: invest higher education funds:

✓ TAKE NO POSITION

KING COUNTY

King County Initiative 25

RE: creation of elected position of county elections director:

Yes
✓ NO

King County Proposition 1

RE: continue funding Medic One emergency medical svcs:

✓ YES
No

SOUND TRANSIT / RTID

RE: sales/use taxes to fund Sound Transit phase 2 and road/bridge improvements in King, Pierce & Snohomish counties:

✓ TAKE NO POSITION

Attention PCOs:

Literature Pick-up Begins Saturday, October 13th

at Janet & Gerry's house — 7750 - 17th Ave NE (just south of NE 80th on 17th NE)

Sample ballots and literature from our endorsed candidates will be available for pick up beginning on Saturday, October 13th. Please do not call to see if it is ok to come by. You can come anytime you like and everything is self service. Be sure to sign out on the clip board that you took your lit.

Thanks to all our wonderful PCOs for walking their precincts over the next few weeks. For those of you who do not use email, your walking lists will be available in envelopes in a box also on Janet and Gerry's porch.

If you can spare a few extra hours, we are in need folks to walk unfilled precincts. Please contact our PCO Coordinator Bernadette Laqueur before October 6th if you are available to help out - blaqueur@comcast.net or 525-8911.

Again, many thanks to all our PCOs and volunteers!



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

Legislative Action Chair Recommends Approval of Senate Joint Resolution 8212 (Prison Labor)

by Sarajane Siegfriedt

From the Final Bill Report SJR 8212, passed by unanimously by the Senate, and 83-15 in the House (requires two-thirds majority of each), to overturn a 2004 State Supreme Court decision:

Summary: The Legislature has authorized the Department of Corrections (DOC) to establish and operate a comprehensive work program for inmates. At the next general election, an amendment to the Washington Constitution will be submitted to the voters authorizing the state to let out the labor of inmates in the state by contract, if it is allowed by statute. The constitutional provision requiring the Legislature to provide for the working of inmates for the benefit of the state is amended to include the working of inmates in state-run inmate labor programs. The constitutional amendment requires that inmate labor programs be operated so that they do not unfairly compete with Washington businesses as determined by law.

Under that statute, the wages of Class I industries workers are comparable to wages for similar work in the same geographic area, as determined by the director of the DOC. The DOC must take 5 percent of a Class I worker's income for crime victims' compensation, 10 percent for the inmate's savings account, 20 percent for the cost of the inmate's incarceration, and 20 percent for any legal financial obligations that the inmate owes, including victim restitution.

A constitutional amendment takes a simple majority of voters to pass.

I asked esteemed Democratic Activist Alice Woltdt what she

thought, and she told me her husband visits prisoners at the Monroe prison. He asked them. After complaining about the sub par wages, they said, on balance, that they would rather have the prison labor program than not.

Based on that, and the overwhelming vote in the legislature (having actually listened to testimony) I recommend you vote for it. I wish I'd been better prepared to explain and have us endorse it at our last meeting.

Here is an opinion, from Lea Zengage at Justice Works! She also supports the ballot measure.

"Although we understand the value for incarcerated people to earn more than 42 cents or \$1.10 / hour and we acknowledge the benefits of providing work experience for incarcerated people, we see the prison industries as one of the main cogs in the "Perpetual Prisoner Machine" as described in the book by the same name authored by Joel Dyer. The bottom line is that in the long run, this change support[s] the continuation of mass incarceration in this country."

(Sarajane Siegfriedt is the chair of the Legislative Action Committee for the 46th District Democrats. While our organization did not take a position on this issue at our September 20th meeting, Sarajane has since conducted further research on this issue as noted in the article. Many thanks to Sarajane for providing us with this additional information.)

Simple Majority (4204) Deserves Our Support

Voters this fall will have a chance to support local schools in a way that has never before been possible. A referendum to approve constitutional amendment 4204 will be on the ballot. This measure would allow local school levies to pass with a simple majority—50% plus 1 vote—rather than the 60% supermajority now required.

Why is this important? Local levies provide basic needs for schools, paying for up-to-date textbooks, teacher training, classroom computers and smaller class sizes. Our state's schools need this help. One startling statistic is that we are 47th in the nation in average class size, meaning that only three states have larger average class sizes. This means that the individual child often doesn't get the attention he or she needs.

When a levy fails because it doesn't get the 60% supermajority, it has a damaging effect on the schools and their students. Last year, 31 levies received majority support but failed because they fell short of the supermajority required. Levy failure disrupts school operations and causes costly re-votes. Levy success allows schools to focus on what they're supposed to do — educate our kids.

Then there's the basic unfairness of the 60% rule. If we can build parks, jails and stadia with a simple majority vote, why can't communities support education when there's majority support for the levy? The 60% rule sets an unfair hurdle for these vital levies.

Seattle residents might ask, "Does this even impact us? We pass our levies all the time." Well, Seattle taxpayers get about \$4 returned to Seattle Public Schools for every \$5 paid into the public education system. While allowing levies to pass by a simple majority may appear to help only certain school districts, it actually will help the overall fiscal health of the education system in our entire state!

The 46th District Democrats endorsed the passage of 4204 at our General Election Endorsement Meeting on September 20th and we will distribute literature for this ballot measure. However, I also hope that you will proactively tell family and friends who live elsewhere about the importance of voting YES to pass this constitutional amendment.

Thanks, **Scott White**



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 _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

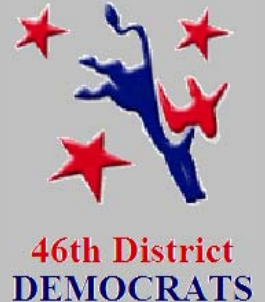
HOME PHONE _____

WORK PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

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
- \$ _____



Safe Kids, Safe Families, Safe Communities: Gun Violence Prevention in Washington State

Special Presentation by CeaseFire at our next Membership Meeting on Thursday, October 18

Gun violence takes the lives of nearly 600 Washington citizens each year and costs the state approximately \$2,000,000,000 (\$2 billion) annually. Firearms intensify and make more lethal all types of violence in our communities: youth violence, domestic violence, suicide, crime. Gun violence occurs in every corner of our state; it does not discriminate. It happens in our schools, our workplaces, and on our streets. It happens to people of all races and socio-economic brackets. It happens in the country, in the city and everywhere in-between.

But gun violence is not inevitable. Gun violence, like any public health epidemic has many solutions. Washington CeaseFire, the state's only organization dedicated to reducing gun violence, is working to identify and carry out solutions to the problem of gun violence in our communities through research, education and advocacy. **Kristen Comer**, CeaseFire's Executive Director will attend our next meeting to discuss the facts of firearms violence and the organization's new approaches to combating it in our neighborhoods. Come and hear more about how what we all can do to make our communities violence free.



SPECIAL EVENT

As a follow-up to the 46th District Democrats' Movie Night presentation last month of **SiCKO**, please join us for a special Panel Discussion:

The SiCKO Cure: Building a Movement for REAL Healthcare Reform

MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, 7:00PM

Seattle Central Community College, Room BE1110

Since Michael Moore's latest film SiCKO was released in June, millions of people in the U.S. have reached the conclusion that health care is a basic human right and that it is the government's duty to ensure that all Americans have adequate and affordable health-care. While all the politicians talk about "universal healthcare", most of their plans so far are an attempt to funnel public money into greedy private insurance companies and criminalizing people without coverage. This is not what the polls show Americans want!

A debate about REAL healthcare reform in the United States is urgently needed if we are to win a truly universal, single-payer healthcare plan. Please join us for a panel discussion on how we can build a movement in the US to win REAL healthcare reform that gives Americans what they want – a national health plan that puts patients before profits!

Guest Speakers: Larry Kalb, Kate Johnson, others TBD

For more information contact: Kate Johnson 206-853-5866 or katej326@hotmail.com

Seattle Central is located on Pine and Broadway in Capital Hill. There is free on-street parking or \$4 garage parking on Pine and Harvard behind the school.



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

**PRSRT STD
 US POSTAGE
 PAID
 #3055
 Seattle, WA**

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
 THURSDAY, OCT 18TH AT OLYMPIC VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
 7:00 PM SOCIAL ~ 7:30 PM MEETING**

**Items for Oct 18th
 Membership Meeting**

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

- Call to Order and Pledge
- Special Election of new Chair
- Guest Speaker: Kristen Comer of Washington CeaseFire
- 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



- Thurs. Oct 18th, **46th Dems General Membership Meeting @** Olympic View Elementary School, 7:00pm Social, 7:30pm Mtg begins
- Sun. Oct 21st, 2:00 pm **KCDCC Legislative Action Committee Meeting.** (Bellevue Regional Library) More info at: www.kcdems.org.
- Sun. Oct 21, 7:00 pm **KCDCC Officers and Chairs Meeting @** Renton Carpenters Hall - 231 Burnett Ave. More info at: www.kcdems.org or 206-622-9157.
- Mon. Oct 22nd, 7:00 pm Special Panel Discussion—**The SiCKO Cure: Building a Movement for REAL Healthcare Reform @** Seattle Central Comm. College, Room BE1110. More info on pg. 5
- Tues. Oct 23rd, 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
- Sun. Oct 28, 5:00 pm **KCDCC Honors Banquet @** IAM Hall, 9125 15th Place South, South Park. More info at: www.kcdems.org or 206-622-9157.
- Tues. Nov 6th, 7:00 pm **46th Dems Executive Board Meeting @** Olympic View Community Church. Info: www.46dems.com
- Tues. Nov 6th — **General Election... Don't forget to vote!**