

Kitsap Democrat



Kitsap County Democratic Central Committee

October-December 2011

Not enough just to re-elect the President

Michael Arnold, Chair

Shortly after Barack Obama was elected President of the United States of America, Mitch McConnell, (R) Senator from Kentucky, said, as reported on national television, that his number one job was to make sure Barack Obama was limited to a single four-year term as President.

I'm pretty sure limiting President Obama to a single four-year term is not even mentioned in the Senate Oath of Office; I'm just saying. . . .

Unfortunately for *all* Americans, McConnell and his cohorts have been doing their best to make his threat a fact; but it's the people who are suffering for their wrong-headed thinking.

At every step of the way through the tough economic recovery we are working through, the Republican *obstructionists* have been hard at work blocking plans they had previously put forth themselves, in an effort to put this country in the worst condition it has been since FDR pulled us out of the last great Republican debacle.

And now the latest, most shameful act of Republican *obstructionism*:



Not a cent to fund FEMA and relief for victims of Irene unless all relief money is offset by cuts somewhere else (Medicare, education, health care, etc.)! We've gone beyond Republican "Death Panels" to Republican "Mercy Panels" – and there is no mercy. No money for victims of horrific natural disasters unless we cut taxes for the extremely wealthy and well connected, or provide additional tax loopholes for corporations already fat from sending good American jobs overseas; or perhaps extra loopholes for private jet users.

But the fact remains, we are very definitely in a class war: The Republican Fat-Cat Political Class against the middle class.

If you're a working man or woman, come from working stock Americans, a member of a union, a teacher, a firefighter, a policeman, or out of work, now is the time for you to get involved with us in the Democratic Party. Now is the time to fight. Now is the time to make sure all Republican *Obstructionists* are voted out of office. Now is the time for compassionate Democrats to be voted into offices.

It's not enough to just re-elect the President. We must remove the *obstructionists*. We must give Barack Obama a Democratic House and Senate so ***he can achieve the change we have all hoped for.***

If you're interested in becoming a member of the Kitsap Democrats, or would like to renew a membership, give me a call at our office number: 360-698-6833 (leave a message), or send me an email at kitsapchair@yahoo.com. You can be a part of the solution!

Kitsap Democrats Host Holiday Party

Wednesday, 7 December 2011, Silverdale Beach Hotel

Social Hour: 6:00 p.m. — No-Host Bar; Antipasto & Fruit Salad.

Buffet Dinner: 7:15 p.m.

Menu: Roasted Turkey with Apple Sage Dressing & Cranberry Sauce; Baron of Beef with creamy horseradish sauce; Fresh Green Salad; Roasted Rosemary Potatoes; Medley of Seasonal Vegetables; Warm Rolls & Butter; Chef's Choice Dessert; Regular & Decaf Coffee & Tea.

Vegetarian Dinner on request: Stuffed Portobello Mushroom

\$45 per guest. RSVP no later than November 30. Payment no later than December 3.

Mail payment to KCDCC, PO Box 27, Silverdale WA 98383

KCDCC Executive Board:

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Jim Sommerhauser, 23rd LD State Committeeman, Parliamentarian

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Meetings and Events

October 15 (Sat.)—23rd LD Democrats hold Annual Jim Sharpe Salmon Dinner, Kiana Lodge in Suquamish.

October 17 (3rd Mon.)—Kitsap County Democrats General Meeting, Fairgrounds Events Center, 6 p.m. coffee & dessert, 7 p.m. business meeting and program.

October 19—Election ballots in the mail.

Oct. 22—State Democrats Magnuson Awards Banquet, Seattle.

Oct. 26 (4th Wed.)—Kitsap County Democratic Women; luncheon at 11:30; meeting at 12:30 (see article Page 5).

November 7 (1st Mon.)—Kitsap County Democrats Executive Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Machinist Hall, Bremerton.

November 8 (1st Tues.)—26th LD Democrats General Meeting, Givens Community Center, Port Orchard. Coffee 6:30 p.m. Meeting 7:00.

Nov. 8 (Tues.)—General Election

Nov. 16—Kitsap County Democratic Women; luncheon at 11:30; meeting at 12:30 (see article Page 5).

November 21 (3rd Mon.)—Kitsap County Democrats General Meeting, Fairgrounds Events Center, 6 p.m. coffee & dessert, 7 p.m. business meeting and program.

December 3—Kitsap County Democratic Women Holiday luncheon; Ambrosia Catering, Bremerton (see article Page 5).

December 4—State Democratic Holiday Party, Seattle.

December 5 (1st Mon.)—Kitsap County Democrats Executive Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Machinist Hall, Bremerton.

December 6 (1st Tues.)—26th LD Democrats General Meeting, Givens Community Center, Port Orchard. Coffee 6:30 p.m. Meeting 7:00.

December 7 (Wed.)—Kitsap Democrats Holiday Party, Silverdale Beach Hotel.

December 19 (3rd Mon.)—Kitsap County Democrats General Meeting, Fairgrounds Events Center, 6 p.m. coffee & dessert, 7 p.m. business meeting and program.

February 18, 2012--Annual Kitsap Democratic Jefferson-Jackson Dinner and Auction.

You can save us the expense of printing and postage by choosing to receive your newsletter and related announcements via email. Just email your request to GeneBullock@comcast.net.

State Central Committee Meeting

Ginger Sommerhauser, State Committeewoman

The Washington State Democratic Central Committee (WSDCC) was called to order in Bellingham on September 17th. The financial report showed that the Central Committee completed August 2011 with \$117,218 in the bank.

Under New Business, the following six items were discussed with the respective actions taken.

1-- The Chair was authorized to enter into negotiations with the Legislature regarding the election of Precinct Committee Officers (PCOs). The courts have ruled that the election of PCOs under the present "Top Two" election method is unconstitutional, as a voter of any political persuasion can vote for our Democratic PCOs. After the discussion, which included cost, and voting methods, the Chair got the sense that the members were distrusting of on-line voting. The Chair will report to the State's Executive Board the results of these negotiations for their discussion and approval, prior to concluding the negotiations.

2-- The State Central Committee directed the legislative district organizations to begin meeting within their new geographic boundaries within 30 days of adoption by the Legislature. The approval process of the new legislative boundaries may be complete as early December 2011, or as late as March 2012. The uncertain

time frame has major impacts on the Precinct Caucuses to be held on April 15, 2012. If, as part of the redrawn district boundaries, one of the officers no longer lives in the district, the by-laws of the district organization must be used to determine if the officer remains until the next reorganization after the 2012 General Election, or if the officer must resign immediately. Each organization is encouraged to plan for the new boundaries.

3-- The State Central Committee directed the Chair to make the necessary technical changes to the Delegate Selection – Affirmative Action Plan to utilize the 10 new congressional districts and submit the revised Plan to the Democratic National Committee – Rules and By-Laws Committee co-chairs for approval. As this change is due to a change in law, it is viewed by the Central Committee as a technical change. If the co-chairs determine the change to be substantive, then the Rules and By-Laws Committee must determine if the change is acceptable at their December 2011 meeting.

4-- The State Central Committee endorsed Jay Inslee for Governor.

5-- The State Central Committee affirmed the action of the Executive Board when the Board members stated that the State Central Committee opposed Initiative 1125 (Eyman initiative) and Initiative

1183 (Privatize Liquor Sales), and supported Initiative 1163 (Long Term Care Workers).

6-- The State Central Committee approved the recommendations of the Resolution Committee, which considered 19 resolutions, all of which were submitted to the State Central Committee before this weekend meeting or tabled from the April 2011 meeting. The committee members worked diligently and deserve our thanks.

The different standing committees reported on their respective meetings. The Technology Committee has developed a website to list all the endorsed candidates by the different Democratic organizations in Washington. Check it out at wa-democrats.info. The Committee would like all websites for congressional districts, legislative districts and counties linked to this site.

The next State Central Committee events are the Magnuson Awards on October 22 and the Holiday Party on December 4, 2011. Both events are in Seattle. The next State Central Committee meeting is at the Casino-Hotel in Shelton on January 27-28, 2012. Take this opportunity to observe the State Central Committee in action. See you there!



Voted their number one choice by Precinct Committee Officers in the 23rd Legislative District, Drew Hansen was appointed by the Kitsap County Board of Commissioners to replace Christine Rolfes as State Representative for the 23rd District. Rep. Hansen was chosen from a field of six candidates, from left: Drew Hansen, Holly Mortlock, Jesse Cockerham, Peter Stockwell, Ed Stern, and Houston Wade. Holly Mortlock ranked second and Ed Stern third.

Photo above by Doug MacKenzie.

Kitsap County Democratic Position on Ballot Measures

Proposition 1: Veterans & Human Services Levy - APPROVE

Pay A Little, Help A Lot!

The Kitsap County Veterans and Human Services Levy would tax property owners at the rate of 5 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for six years. For a \$250,000 home, that amounts to a paltry \$12.50 a year. Half of it would help fund medical services for homeless veterans, needy military personnel and their families. The other half would help fund medical services for other homeless people and families in need.

Initiative Measure 1125 OPPOSE

Tim Eyman's latest initiative, I-1125, would stop critical transit and transportation projects across Washington, stop millions of us in traffic, and stop the hiring of thousands of workers. We should protect our transportation system

and keep our communities moving forward. That's how we can create good-paying jobs now and for years to come.

Eyman's I-1125 is just another self-serving, irresponsible scam backed by more than \$1 million from a Bellevue developer who hates transit.

I-1125 would prohibit the use of motor vehicle fund and vehicle toll revenue for non-transportation purposes, and require the road and bridge tolls to be set by the legislature.

Initiative 502 Endorse

This measure would legalize, tax and regulate marijuana for adults 21 and over.

Initiative Measure 1163 NO POSITION

Concerns long-term care workers and services for elderly and disabled persons. It would reinstate background checks, training and other requirements for long-term care workers and providers.

Initiative Measure 1183 NO POSITION

This measure would close State liquor stores and sell their assets; license private parties to sell and distribute spirits; set license fees based on sales; regulate licensees; and change regulation of wine distribution.

Senate Joint Resolution 8205 SUPPORT

Proposed constitutional amendment would remove 60-day residency requirement to vote in Presidential elections.

Joint Resolution 8206 SUPPORT

This proposed constitutional amendment would smooth out the allocation of revenue during years when the State receives "extraordinary" revenue growth.



Kitsap Democrats - Endorsed Candidates

These candidates have been endorsed by the Kitsap County Democrats:

Robert Gelder for Kitsap County Commissioner, District 1

Leslie Daus for Bremerton City Council, District 2

Faye Flemister, Bremerton City Council, District 6,

Shawn Cucciardi for Bremerton Port Commissioner, Position 3

Val Torrens, North Kitsap School Committee

Jeanie Schulze, Central Kitsap School Director, District 4

Kitsap Democratic Women—Jo Fox Burr, President

For our fall meetings, we returned to what used to be called the AA China Buffet, which is now the No. 1 China Buffet. It is located at 3583 Wheaton Way in East Bremerton. Starting in January, we will return to the Red Barn at Country Meadows.

As an organization devoted to promoting and supporting women and their issues, we invited four first-time Democratic women candidates for city council positions throughout Kitsap County to be our speakers for our September meeting. We felt it would be a good opportunity for them to present themselves to a generally supportive group and get helpful feedback. They were: for the Port Orchard City Council, Amy Miller (position 5); for the Bremerton City Council, Leslie Daus (District 2), and Faye Flemister (District 6); and for the Bainbridge Island City Council, Anne Blair (North Ward).

Our speakers for October and November are not fully set at the moment, but we are trying to get someone from the Housing Authority

to speak at our October meeting. And in February, we are hoping to have Bob Ferguson, Democratic Candidate for the Washington State Attorney General position, as our speaker. We will have more information about that later.

The schedule for our general meetings through May of 2012 is as follows: October 26th, probably November 16th—as we usually move this up a week to avoid having our meeting the day before Thanksgiving, January 25th, February 22nd, March 28th, April 25th, and May 23rd. These are all Wednesdays. Generally, we gather at 11:30 to eat and chat and start our meeting at 12:30.

Instead of a general meeting in December, we have a Holiday Party. This year it is scheduled for Saturday, December 3rd, at Ambrosia Catering Company near Fred Meyer's in East Bremerton. It will start at 11:00 am.

Information and updates about all of these events will be posted on our website at <http://www.kitsapdemocraticwomen.org>.



Membership is not required for attendance. So please join us when you have a chance. As I have said before many times, while we are a female dominated group, we do not discriminate against men.

23rd LD Democrats—Gene Bullock, Editor

The 23rd LD Democrats have been a hub of activity and excitement. The 23rd LD Democratic Precinct Committee Officers selected Christine Rolfes as their first choice to succeed Phil Rockefeller as senator for the 23rd, and Drew Hansen as their first choice to replace Christine Rolfes as 23rd LD State Representative, Position, 2. The Kitsap County Board of Commissioners concurred with their choices for both positions.

Dwight Pelz, chairman of the Washington State Democratic Central Committee, gave a rousing speech at our September meeting about the Republican assault on the middle class.

The annual Jim Sharpe Salmon Dinner and Dessert Auction is coming up October 15th. It's our biggest annual fund-raiser, and the

competition for the choice desserts can be intense. This year's keynote speaker is Jeff Johnson, President of the Washington State Labor Council.

The 23rd LD Democrats are working hard to build a strong foundation for 2012. Mark Hufford chaired a committee that has drawn on the insight and experience of a great many Democrats to build a solid strategic plan. The database committee chaired by Bryan Johnson is working on an inclusive database for communications, volunteer recruitment and fundraising. Drew Hansen chaired a membership committee that has dramatically increased membership and helped recruit many new PCOs.

Our hardworking chair, Kol Medina, has been temporarily distracted by his awesome and



wonderful responsibilities as a brand new dad. Each new child renews our hope for the future and our passionate determination to give them a better world. Congratulations Kol and Elsa.

Photo: Linda Gabriel, 23rd Vice Chair, and Dwight Pelz.

26th LD Democrats—Rep. Larry Seaquist, Chair

After saying thank you and goodbye to Chair Isaac Delgado, the 26th LD Democrats asked State Rep. Larry Seaquist to serve as Chair pro tempore at their September meeting in Port Orchard. Explaining that he had decided he needed to get back to college on top of work and family responsibilities, Isaac noted that his new class schedule preempted the regular meeting of the 26th Democrats. The group gave Isaac a warm round of applause and thanks for his service as a District leader.

Echoing that praise, Larry noted the need to rebuild the LD's leadership team and pledged to work with the members to nominate new officers, start restocking the ranks of district PCOs and continue to rebuild the membership toward the 2012 election season.

The group finished the meeting hearing from a number of interesting candidates headed for this year's



Rep. Larry Seaquist, is now chairman pro tempore of the 26th LD Democrats. With him in this photo from a Kitsap Democratic Women's picnic are Natalie Bryson and Carl Olson.

election in November. The 26th District Democrats invite everyone to join them at their "First Tuesday" meetings, 7 p.m., at the Givens Community Center in Port

Orchard. The October meeting included two short talks, "This I believe — politics from the heart" by members and a detailed review of the redistricting maps.

35th LD Democrats—Mark Biggs, Chair

The Chair and Vice-Chair continue to attend all County Central Committee Meetings in Kitsap, Mason, Grays Harbor and Thurston Counties. It's been a great experience so far. We really enjoying seeing how all of the counties do things, and we are seeing a level of participation and energy from each county that is truly inspiring. Redistricting will change the 35th LD, but we don't know how just yet. It appears that the 35th LD will still be a substantial part of Kitsap County.

Kathy Haigh has announced that she will seek re-election in 2012, and has begun assembling her campaign team. Fred Finn has announced that he will not seek a third term in 2012. Many thanks to Fred for all his hard work and dedication. Port of Olympia Commissioner Jeff Davis and Mason County Commissioner Lynda Ring-Erickson have announced that they will run for the seat in 2012.

Our website is now in "Blogger" format. Contributors are encouraged – we need to share our ideas and encourage one another. The webmaster can't do it all. Contact us to set up an account.

Our Strategic Plan was finalized by the Executive Board and was approved at the May 7th General Meeting. Informational copies are available. As part of our Strategic Plan, we are putting together a roster of all elected officials in the 35th LD. We intend to partner with our county organizations to recruit, train and support strong Democratic candidates, starting with our "Farm Team" (Municipal and County Governments, Planning Commissions, School Boards, etc.) This roster will be a simple spreadsheet showing each elected office, the office holder and his or her VoteBuilder rating, and the year that the office is next up for election.

Our main fundraiser, the Summer Picnic, was held at the Allyn Waterfront Park on August 13th. We hosted the first annual Calvinball Croquet Open, and a wonderful time was had by all.

The 35th LD has only one other upcoming General Meeting in 2011, a holiday party potluck co-hosted with the Mason County Democrats. In 2012, the 35th LD will meet six times: usually on the first Saturday of even-numbered months, at locations in Belfair or Shelton. A schedule will be published on our website, and events will be posted on Facebook as they get closer.



Michael Arnold Rep. Sherry Appleton Marilyn Boynton



Jim & Ginger Sommerhauser



**Fran Moyer, Carl Olson,
Sandy Bullock**



**Drew Hansen, Julie Carson
& Family**



**Commissioner Charlotte Garrido
& Ray Garrido**



Fran & Bob Moyer



Roger & Mary Zabinsky & Family



Ron Gillespie & Joyce Merkel



Holly Mortlock & Leslie Daus



Commissioner Rob Gelder



**Commissioner Josh Brown
& Rep. Sherry Appleton**



Ginny Duff & Sharon Brown

Kitsap County Democratic Central Committee
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Membership Application

This is your newsletter. Please help us continue to bring you the voice of the Kitsap County Democratic Central Committee (KCDCC). Yearly dues are \$25.00 per person. ***You can save \$5.00 with a combined membership in both KCDCC and your legislative district Democrats.***

Mail your check today to KCDCC, P. O. Box 27, Silverdale, WA 98383. Your contributions to KCDCC will make our party stronger, more active and more effective. ***Contact the Editor (genebullock@comcast.net) to receive your newsletter via email and save us the expense of printing and postage.***

Please be sure to include the following in your membership application:

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If your donation is more than \$100.00, please provide the following information so we can comply with Washington State public disclosure requirements:

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