



## 30th Legislative District Democratic Organization

Regular General  
Monthly Meeting  
Dec 2, 2009  
First Wednesday of  
each month 7 – 9 P.M.  
4016 S 352 St. 98001  
½ mile west of  
Military Rd

### Reports

**Tim Burns' appointment to Vice Chair was confirmed by the body at the November meeting.**

\*\*\*REMEMBER TO BRING ITEMS FOR THE RAFFLE AND ESPECIALLY FOR THE SENIOR CENTER FOOD PANTRY.\*\*\*

### December meeting

The meeting on Dec. 2 will be our annual Christmas Pot Luck party. Ham & turkey will be provided (by L. Jackson and R. Simosky). Some persons have signed up for particular dishes; if you are not one of these, just bring whatever you want to bring. As always, we expect to have LOTS of delicious food.

We will also have a speaker, Robbie Stern, Outreach Director from the Puget Sound Alliance for Older Americans, an organization of retired working class people.

### January 2010 meeting

The January 6 meeting will have an election for King County Male Delegate. If you are interested in this position, be sure to come and be nominated from the floor. All PCO's and paid members will be eligible to vote.

### SAVE THESE DATES!

February 13<sup>th</sup>, - Mardi Gras party & dinner.

March 13<sup>th</sup> - Platform Caucus for 2010.

### Business Cards

Kurt Peppard and Tim Burns are working on getting business cards for the officers and PCOs of the 30<sup>th</sup> District Democrats. The print shop we are dealing with is Urban Press, a Union Shop located in Georgetown and owned and operated by women. Kurt has worked with them for about 25 years and vouches for their quality.

The cards are printed on 100% recycled paper and have a "Union Bug" as well as our new logo and 30<sup>th</sup> LD information and your personal information (name, office, address/phone/email). Prices range from \$12.81 for 100 cards to \$31.12 for 500 cards depending on the total number of cards we order at one time. The minimum run is 1600 total cards.

If you are interested in buying a set of cards contact Kurt Peppard at 253-303-1492 or Tim Burns at 253-874-6292 or email [tab48@aol.com](mailto:tab48@aol.com). We would like to place the initial order in early December.

**OFFICERS**  
Chair: Beth Zubitis  
253 941 4515  
Vice-Chair: Tim Burns  
Secretary: Martin Moore  
Treasurer: Patricia  
Vanderlinde 253 939 9436  
WA State Committeeman:  
Ron Simosky 253 815  
1891  
WA State  
Committeewoman:  
Donna Cirincione  
253 529 3815  
KC Male Delegate:  
TBD  
Alternate: Paul Mallary  
KC Female Delegate:  
TBD  
Alternate: Millie (Gigi)  
Williams  
Legislative Action  
Committee (LAC):  
Jean Matthew  
Keith Tyler  
Parliamentarian:  
David Baine  
Outreach: Pat Kemp  
Communications/ Tech  
Committee Chair: J.Noë  
**Newsletter**  
Jean Noë (Editor)  
Paul Mallary  
Website:  
[www.30thDemsWa.org](http://www.30thDemsWa.org)  
PCO/Membership  
Chair: Jeff Holden  
Tim Burns  
Kurt Peppard  
Hospitality/Activities/  
& Ph. Tree: Jem Wear  
Fundraising: Pat Artz  
253 941 0113  
By Laws Committee:  
Chair: Paul Mallary  
Jean Noë  
"Sunshine" Person  
Beth Zubitis

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The Senate just voted to allow debate on the Health Care Bill by a 60 to 39 margin (all Democrats and Independents voting for and 39 Republicans voting against. ) Sen. George Voinovich,(R-Ohio) abstained.

**As we draw to the close** of an astounding year it's time to take inventory of what has been accomplished and what has been left to do.

In fairness to our new president, Barack Obama, we must remember that he was presented with an enormous mess from the previous administration and a huge catalogue of things to get done in short order. Depending upon your view point and your priorities, rating President Obama is a mixed bag.

Economically, a lot of people are pretty unhappy with Obama's record. Everything seems to have gone the way of Wall Street and Main Street, our street, seems to have been left out of the recovery. But, he did get the Lily Ledbetter bill passed, unemployment benefits have been extended and some stimulus money seems to have found its way to Main Street.

A number of us are pretty upset with his administration's slowness in reforming the Justice Department and in replacing our nation's U.S. Attorneys, a task which is usually easily accomplished in the first year. We are plagued with uncertain Democratic Senators from Louisiana, Nebraska, and Arkansas who find it difficult to maintain loyalty to their party, as well as a turncoat, Joe Lieberman of Connecticut – and judges have not been confirmed because of the threat of filibuster.

As the New York Times noted on Nov. 17 "Appointing federal judges, who have enormous power and serve for life, is one of the most important presidential responsibilities. President Bush, who was intent on leaving an ideological imprint on the judiciary, made his nominations quickly and pushed hard to have them confirmed. By the end of his first year, according to a report by the liberal group Alliance for Justice, he had nominated 65 federal judges and 28 were confirmed.

"By that measure ... Mr. Obama has moved slowly. As of Nov. 4, he had nominated just 26 appellate and district court judges, and only four of them had been confirmed.... Obama nominees who have been reported out of the Judiciary Committee have waited months for a vote from the full Senate, far longer than is necessary.

"Senate Republicans have been doing their best to drag things out. In March, every Republican senator signed an outrageous letter to the White House warning that they (Continued in column to the right >>>>>)

From the Everett Herald

-- [Eyman claims success even as I-1033 fails handily](#) -- "Regardless of the vote totals on 1033 tonight, this campaign has already proven to be a tremendous success," Eyman said. (It's certainly a success for him personally. As long as the initiative profiteer keeps his [Sugar Daddy](#) happy, he'll be back. Win or lose, Eyman gets paid.)

**Decline to Sign Eyman Petitions!** (Ed.)

would filibuster any nominee from their home states if they did not approve the choice in advance...."  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/11/17/opinion/17tue1.html>

One of the major factors is an extremely right wing bloc of Republicans serving on the Senate Judiciary Committee who have worked overtime to block confirmation of Obama's judicial nominations. Ranking member of the Committee is Jefferson Beauregard Sessions III, the junior senator from Alabama who is to be remembered for his crude harassment of Sonia Sotomayor during her confirmation hearings. Also on the committee are Orrin Hatch of Utah, Chuck Grassley of Iowa, Jon Kyl of Arizona, Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, John Cornyn of Texas, and lastly, Tom Coburn of Oklahoma who loves to secretly put holds on Senate actions.

A historic moment was achieved when all Senators on the Democratic side united to allow the actual healthcare reform legislation to come to the floor for debate. It was not the bill that most of us desired but given the general resistance by the health insurance and pharmaceutical industries and their lackeys to health care reform in this country, Harry Reid worked very hard to achieve even this much and we have to be happy with the results.

Iraq and Afghanistan and Guantanamo are still unfinished business but Obama and his people have been working hard to move forward on these issues.

It is obvious that a lot of work must also be done on campaign finance reform, media reform (almost all American media is right wing and monopolistic), additional regulation of the financial sector, as well as ongoing tweaking of health care reform legislation so – roll up your sleeves, folks, we've got a lot of work ahead of us.

**(For the above a great big THANK YOU to Karen Hedwig Backman. Ed.)**

. [FCC Votes to Create Net Neutrality Rules](#)

The FCC voted unanimously to begin the process of crafting formal rules for **Net Neutrality, the principle that all content on the Internet should be equally accessible to all users, and that companies cannot discriminate or block some content in favor of another content.**

While the FCC considers the first steps toward ensuring Net Neutrality, the telecom firms that would be affected by the rules and their trade groups have been *inundating Congress with campaign contributions* from the companies and their registered lobbyists. **The top recipient of their largess -- Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.), who just introduced anti-Net Neutrality legislation** to stop the agency in its tracks.

Meanwhile, the FCC approved a measure to begin the process of formalizing a set of Net Neutrality rules that would ban ISPs from throttling content.

[Why Consumers Should Care About Net Neutrality](#)

Using the Web or instant messaging is possible because of the Internet's history as an open and "neutral" network. That's how the Internet works, and it's important to keep it that way -- open and available without interference. The Internet's openness is what makes it different from other media. **SUPPORT NET NEUTRALITY!**

**AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP FOUNDATION**

The American Friendship Foundation (AFF) was founded in 1995. to promote cross-cultural friendship and goodwill in developing nations by collaborating with highly-skilled American development workers, to serve the poor while speaking the local language, knowing the people, and understanding their needs and concerns. These AFF partners develop programs that address pressing human needs for clean water, education, healthcare, and economic opportunities. AFF's goal is to assist children, families, and communities to move from a life of poverty to one with hope for the future. Clean Water and Reliable Food Supplies — Fresh water wells and agricultural training - Building schools, teacher training, school supplies and student meals - Visiting healthcare workers, field clinics and basic health care instruction - Economic Development — Micro loans and job skills training – For more information, Google American Friendship Foundation.

**HAVE YOU PAID YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2009? IF SO, THANK YOU – IF NOT, PLEASE DO!** Dues are due in February of each year. PCOs are encouraged to pay dues. (If your name is not on this list, check with the Treasurer.)

**President's Club:** Frank/Beverly Warnke, Art/Dee Fluharty, Jeff/Kaori Holden, Jem Wear, Sterling Smith

**Senator's Club:** Peg/Jay Altman - Hope Elder - Rick Hoffman - LeeAnn Prielipp - Linnea Peterson - Ron/Mary Simosky - Beth Zubitis

**Members:** Pat Artz - Karen Backman - David Baine -Jeff Bergeron - Andrew Boike - Tim Burns - Barbara Carmichael - Howard/Vernita Christianson - Donna Cirincione - Larry Coghill - Marguerite Condon - Michael/Sue Dillard - Lupe Cook - Bob Dickinson - Tracey Eide - Al Frank - Roger Freeman - Linda/Elbert Gage - James//Madalyn Grayson - Carol Gregory - John Haynes - Max Hedgecock - Miriam Helgeland - Larry Jackson - Patricia Johnson - Joyce Johnston - Pat Kemp - Michael/Mary Kun - John/Darcy Lees - Nancy LeMay - Paul Mallary - Jean Matthew - Kevin McManis - Thos. Miller/Anne Robsamen - Jean Noe - Kurt Peppard - Romana/Carolyn Perna - Richard/Nancy Poppe - Barbara Reid - Verleene Riggins - Paul Schlossman - Ed Sedlak - Alan Simmons - Jeffrey Snow - Keith Tyler - Patricia Vanderlinde - Inez Walker - Gigi Williams

**AM 1180** on your radio dial Fridays noon to 1 P.M. Frank & Audrey with "the truth about politics." Tune in! Also check out the programs to the right.>>>

The White House: 202 456 1111

WASH D.C. toll free hotlines:  
1 800 828 0498 1 877 851 6437  
1 800 459 1887 1 866 338 1015  
OR [www.callcongress.org](http://www.callcongress.org)

WA STATE Legislative toll-free  
Hotline: 1 800 562 6000

King County Elections:  
206 296 VOTE

Track WA Bills & Votes Here:

<http://www.leg.wa.gov/legislature>

30<sup>th</sup> District Democrats

Website: [www.30thdems.wa.org](http://www.30thdems.wa.org)

**PARTNERS**

**U.S. Senator Patty Murray**

Jackson Federal Building  
915-2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Suite 2988  
Seattle, WA 98174. 206-553-5545

Email: [www.murray.senate.gov](mailto:www.murray.senate.gov)

**U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell**

Jackson Federal Building  
915-2<sup>nd</sup> Ave, Suite 3206  
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[Maria\\_cantwell@cantwell.senate.gov](mailto:Maria_cantwell@cantwell.senate.gov)

**U.S. Rep. Adam Smith**

**3600 Port of Tacoma Rd. Ste 106**

**Tacoma, WA 253 593 6600**

1 888 SMITH 09

[www.house.gov/adamsmith](http://www.house.gov/adamsmith)

**State Senator Tracey Eide**

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Olympia WA 98504-0430

FAX: 360 786 1999

Email: [eide\\_tr@leg.wa.gov](mailto:eide_tr@leg.wa.gov)

**State Rep. Mark Miloscia**

30720-19<sup>th</sup> Ave South

Federal Way, WA 98003.

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**King County Exec.**

P.O. Box 4429

Seattle, WA 98194

206-293-6947

[www.metrokc.gov/exec](http://www.metrokc.gov/exec)

**Washington State Democrats**

[www.wa-democrats.org](http://www.wa-democrats.org)

**Dwight Pelz, Chair**

616 First Ave. Ste. 300

Seattle, WA 98194

Phone 206-583-0664

Fax: 206-583-0301

**King County Democratic Central Committee**

Susan Sheary, Chair 206-852-4823

**Check these out!**

**AM1090** on your radio dial

**Thom Hartmann** 9 to noon M-Fri

**Rob't Kennedy, Ring of Fire, Sat**

**noon-3** or go to: [www.goleft.tv](http://www.goleft.tv)

30<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT DEMOCRATS  
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**Membership Levels:**

Voting Member: \$20      Family (2 voting members) \$ 25      Associate/Non Voting Member: \$10  
Senator's Club: \$50      President's Club      \$100      Newsletter only:      \$ 5

**Any registered voter residing within the 30<sup>th</sup> Legislative District who hereby declares him/herself to be a Democrat may become a voting member upon payment of Annual Dues.      *Dues are payable at time of joining and renewable in February each year.***

**CALENDAR**

Wed    12/2            30th District Democrats *Regular General meeting*, 4016 S 352 St.  
98001 (1/2 mile west of Military) 1<sup>st</sup> Wed of each month 7-9 PM  
Doors open 6:30 P.M.  
**\*\*\*REMEMBER TO BRING ITEMS FOR THE RAFFLE AND  
THE SENIOR CENTER FOOD PANTRY\*\*\***

Wed    12/9            Exec Board Meeting, Meridian Court, 31420 23 Ave S, 7:00 P.M.  
This meeting is held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month.  
Some of us get there at 6:30. This meeting is open to all  
members.

**EVENT DATES AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. CHECK AGAIN LATER**

**If you have suggestions or input for the newsletter, or to request the newsletter by e mail, contact**