



30th Legislative District Democratic Organization

Regular General
Monthly Meeting
January 6, 2010
First Wednesday of
each month 7 – 9 P.M.
4016 S 352 St. 98001
½ mile west of
Military Rd

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
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

FROM THE CHAIR: Wishing you all a happy holiday season and the very best in the New Year. Beth Zubitis

REPORTS

December meeting

The meeting on Dec. 2 was our annual Christmas Pot Luck party. Ham & turkey were provided (by L. Jackson and R. Simosky). As always, we had LOTS of delicious food.

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

January 6, 2010 meeting ***REMEMBER TO BRING ITEMS FOR THE RAFFLE AND ESPECIALLY FOR THE SENIOR CENTER FOOD PANTRY.***

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. Per our Bylaws, all PCO's will be eligible to vote.

IT'S PARTY TIME! - We need everyone's help reaching out to persons who would enjoy our *Mardi Gras party in February*. Please send names, addresses, etc. of persons you know who should receive a personal invitation. Please email information to partz317@msn.com or call Pat Artz at 253.941.0113. Or give the information written out to Pat at the Jan 6th meeting. Every one, please make reservations early. It's Saturday, Feb.13 Doors open 5:30, Dinner 7:00 p.m. Tickets \$25 or 5 for \$100.00. \$25 at the door. More later. Call Pat if you want to help with this event.

SAVE THESE DATES!

February 13th, - Mardi Gras party & dinner.
March 13th - Platform Caucus for 2010.

DAVID KIM

David Kim worked with the 30th LD during the presidential election, in support of Obama as well as Carol Gregory. David has now graduated college and is ready to move forward. He has been offered a position as intern for President Obama, starting in January. He is asking for monetary support. He states: "This internship gives me the opportunity to give back. I will be working for the White House Office of Correspondence responding to letters and emails on behalf of the President. Our office will help write memorandums for the President, handle gifts for the First Family, and provide our Commander-in-Chief with ten letters directly from Americans which he will incorporate into his policy decision-making process. My other major task throughout the five-month internship will be to initiate a community service project in the D.C. area. My intent is to mentor and tutor local students at an urban high school. **Will you help send me to the White House** so that I can continue to strive towards the goals of achieving social justice and change in the great tapestry of the American Dream? Thank you for your consideration. "

For more information, you can reach David at <royals777@gmail.com> or his cell

DECEMBER 22, 2009 BY DWIGHT PELZ

An Historic Victory

The health care bill is poised to pass the Senate this week. The bill will go to Conference Committee, and a new health care bill will emerge that can be expected to pass both houses and be signed by the President.

When that happens, it will be an historic victory for working families in America.

When Congress passes a health care bill it will be declaring that health care for Americans below the age of Medicare is now a **federal responsibility**. Health care will join the list of major economic issues "federalized" in the last 75 years by Congress: unemployment, retirement, and health care for seniors. Congress created unemployment insurance and Social Security in 1935 and Medicare in 1965.

The fierce battle taking place in America over this issue is actually a more critical battle over whether it is the role of government to solve problems facing our nation. This opposition is spearheaded by forces and ideas that have not accepted, and still seek to roll back, the New Deal.

For the greater part of the 20th century it was the clear understanding of both political parties that the role of government was to solve problems, and that taxes were to be collected to finance these solutions. Dwight Eisenhower and Richard Nixon were classic New Deal American political liberals in this tradition. Eisenhower had used the full power of the American government to defeat Hitler. He then directed the government to build the Interstate system and respond to Sputnik by investing in education. Nixon was the greatest environmental President of all time, responding to Rachel Carson and the first Earth Day by passing the Clean Air Act and the Clean Water Act, and creating the Environmental Protection Agency.

Kennedy thrilled America with his challenge, "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country." Lyndon Johnson was the last New Deal President, passing the Great Society, the Civil Rights Act, the Voting Rights Act, and Medicare.

It was Ronald Reagan that declared war on the role of government in America. Reagan announced that "government is the problem, not the solution." He promised that the way to improve government was to starve it of its funds. He cut the top income tax rates for his patrons from 70 to 28 percent, launching an era of 25 years in which the income for the median American family remained flat, while the income for the top 1 percent doubled and the income for the top .01 percent quadrupled.

George W. Bush picked up Ronald Reagan's torch and carried it with a vengeance. **He almost repealed Social Security**, the New Deal bulwark once considered untouchable by American politicians. He became the first President to cut taxes during a war, reducing the rates for his friends in the top one percent by \$930

billion, while creating a \$1 trillion deficit in the midst of a growing economy. Bush asked his political base, "What can your country do for you?"

To illustrate how far we have moved on the role of government, take the issue of poverty. When Michael Harrington's 1962 book "The Other America" identified destitute families and communities in America, his findings shocked the nation. In 1964, Congress, on a bipartisan vote, quickly declared "War on Poverty." In George W. Bush's America we came to accept the homeless sleeping on the street and beggars on every freeway ramp. These were simply the "have nots" in Bush's "Ownership Society."

Barack Obama has challenged the Reagan/Bush doctrine that the government should not confront the myriad problems facing America. In his Inaugural Address he said, **"The question we ask today is not whether our government is too big or too small, but whether it works, whether it helps families find jobs at a decent wage, care they can afford, a retirement that is dignified."** Obama has called on the government to end the recession, enact health care reform, curb global warming, and boost clean energy jobs.

The opposition to the health care bill is fierce because the stakes are so high. FOX News commentators and right wing intellectuals lie daily about basic facts about our health care system and the proposed legislation. **Republicans in Congress offer no solutions, because they do not believe the federal government should play a role in fixing the health care system.**

If Congress enacts health care reform, the legislation will not be perfect. **But once it becomes a federal policy matter, Congress will be forced in the future to improve the system and root out the inefficiencies and inequities.** As that happens, it will be an historic great victory for working families in America.

The Morality of Bankers This rich man died and showed up at the Pearly Gates. The gatekeeping angel found that this rich man had been a selfish no-good so-and-so his whole life. But the man said, "Wait a minute, I have a pattern of charitable giving." He said he'd once tossed a nickel in a beggar's cup. Plus, a poor woman he encountered needed help, and he gave her a nickel. Then there was the time that he put a nickel in the Salvation Army kettle. Hearing all this, the angel turned to St. Peter and asked, "What do we do with this man?" And St. Peter said: Give him back his 15 cents and tell him to go to hell!" That's a story that every big-shot banker needs to hear. . . . and ponder. (Thanks to the Hightower Lowdown, Dec. 2009.)

America In Solidarity is offering scholarships to qualified high school seniors and current undergraduate college students. Applications must be received by April 1, 2010 at our office at 3049 S. 36th St #205, Tacoma, WA 98409. Google America in Solidarity newsletter. This will give you all the specifics.

Socialist Republicans.

The entire bloc of 39 Republican U.S. Senators locked arms in a failed attempt to block the federal health-insurance reform bill, declaring that their intention was to save the American people from the nightmare of gov't run health care. FIRST, the bill does NOT create any gov't-run health care program. It is an INSURANCE reform bill, dealing not with delivery of care but with the raw gouging consumers & taxpayers get from private insurance giants.

SECOND, have you ever heard any of these free-market purists mention that they and their families get a Rolls Royce level of socialized insurance coverage? . . . About 75% of their insurance costs are paid for by taxpayers –

The thing they most want to keep from us is a special spot of *unadulterated socialism* located right under the Capitol dome: the **Office of the Attending Physician (OAP)** – a boutique medical practice providing full service state of the art treatment exclusively to members of Congress. Full bore, British style socialized medicine - the physicians, specialists, med-techs, pharmacists, and others working there are **gov't employees**. No appointment required, no insurance forms to fill out, no co-pay, no waiting. Just health care.

So, let's all ask our own Congress members why we can't have what they are getting. Do they think they're better or more deserving than us? Also, if they pass a less-generous plan for us consumers, let's ask why we shouldn't take away their elite coverage and OAP, so they can enjoy the same system that they create for us.

Here's how to reach your rep and senators: <http://house.gov/>, <http://senate.gov/>, or U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510; U.S. House, Washington D.C. 20515

Also, don't hesitate to share their responses (especially if they don't respond) with others through your email and mailing lists, blogs, letters to the editor, etc.

(Thanks to The Hightower Lowdown, Dec. 2009)

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES ? IF SO, THANK YOU – IF NOT, PLEASE DO! Dues are due in February of each year. PCOs are encouraged to pay dues. (Paid Member Names on this list will be updated in February/March.)

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 - Josephine/Dean Saucedo - Paul Schlossman - Ed Sedlak - Alan Simmons - Jeffrey Snow - Keith Tyler - Patricia Vanderlinde - Inez Walker

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

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>

30th District Democrats

Website: www.30thdems.wa.org

PARTNERS

U.S. Senator Patty Murray

Jackson Federal Building
915-2nd Avenue, Suite 2988
Seattle, WA 98174. 206-553-5545
Email: www.murray.senate.gov

U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell

Jackson Federal Building
915-2nd Ave, Suite 3206
Seattle, WA 98174. 206-220-6400

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

State Senator Tracey Eide

Olympia: 360 786 7658
PO Box 40430
Olympia WA 98504-0430
FAX: 360 786 1999

Email: eide_tr@leg.wa.gov

State Rep. Mark Miloscia

30720-19th Ave South
Federal Way, WA 98003.
253-839-7037

Miloscia_ma@leg.wa.gov

King County Exec.

Dow Constantine

401 5th Ave #800
Seattle, WA 98104
206-263-9600

Dow.constantine@kingcounty.gov

Washington State Democrats

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

30th DISTRICT DEMOCRATS
P.O. Box 3268
Federal Way, WA 98063-3268

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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 30th 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 01/6 30th District Democrats *Regular General meeting*, 4016 S 352 St.
98001 (1/2 mile west of Military) 1st 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 01/13 Exec Board Meeting, Meridian Court, 31420 23 Ave S, 7:00 P.M.
This meeting is held on the 2nd 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