



25th Legislative District



Democratic Focus



**25TH LDD SEND OFF DINNER
MAIN SPEAKER
MARK LINDQUIST
PIERCE COUNTY PROSECUTOR
ANSWERS QUESTIONS**

**READ ALL ABOUT WHAT IS HAPPENING , WHAT DID HAPPEN, MINUTES
PLUS UPCOMINGS ON PAGE 2
AND - - - - - PAY YOUR 2010 DUES TODAY! SEE PAGE 8.**

**25TH LEGISLATIVE
DISTRICT DEMOCRATIC
(LDD) OFFICERS**

President/Chair: Louis Tibbs
Tel: (253) 848-5496
Email: LTibbs3@comcast.net

Vice Chair: Michelle Donaldson
Tel: (253) 341-8345
Email: chellewriter@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Luanne Green
Tel: (253) 848-0289
Email: raygre@msn.com

Secretary: Melissa Thompson
Tel: 970-7339
email:
MelissaThompson@yahoo.com

Parliamentarian: Cliff Allo
Tel: (253) 208-8167
Email: cliffallo@blarg.com

Sergeant-At-Arm: Eric Renz
Tel: (253) 302-1698
Email: ijcrenz@aol.com

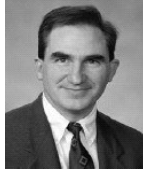
Membership Chair:
Michelle Donaldson
Tel: (253) 341-8345
Email: chellewriter@yahoo.com

State Committeeman:
Jerry Beckendorf
Tel: (253) 845-7702
email: JerryB62@comcast.net

State Committeewoman:
Ellen Zulauf
Tel: (253) 845-9370
email: eazul@msn.com

Pierce County E-Board Reps:
Pos. 1: Charley Stokes
Tel: (253) 848-8431
Email: cwstokes@earthlink.net
Pos. 2: Carolyn Merrival
Tel: (253) 845-3195
Email: lakotalegends@comcast.net
Pos. 3: Melissa Thompson
Tel: (253) 970-7339
Email: MelissaThompson@

**25TH DISTRICT
DEMOCRATIC
ELECTED
OFFICIALS**



Senator
Jim Kastama
(253) 840-4701

email:
kastama.jim@leg.wa.gov



Representative
Dawn Morrell
(253) 840-4604

email:
morrell.dawn@leg.wa.gov

For all other elected officials:
Legislative Hotline:

**DEMOCRATS
CONTACT INFO**

DNC:
www.democrats.org
WA State Dem Party
www.wa-democrats.org
Pierce Co. Dem Party
www.piercecounty-
dems.org

25th District FOCUS
Committee
Jim Morrell, Chairperson
Joan Cronk, Editor
JoanCronk@comcast.net
(253) 845-5389

FOR THE LATEST INFO
AND/OR COPIES OF THE
FOCUS CHECK OUT THE 25TH
LDD WEBSITE AT:
www.25dems.org

MEETINGS



1 Feb Mon E-Board meets at 7 PM at Fire Station 66, 9813 28th St E, Puyallup

4 Feb Thu 25th LDD LAC meets at Puyallup Library 6PM. General Membership 25th LDD Meets at Puyallup Library at 7 PM.



13 Feb Sat DEAD-
LINE for FOCUS arti-
cles, pictures, etc.

15 Feb Mon King County De-
mocrats LAC Meeting, Capitol
Bldg 10AM

1 Mar Mon E-Board meets at
7PM at Fire Station 66.

4 Mar Thu 25 LDD Meets at
Puyallup Library at 7 PM.



13 Mar Sat DEAD-
LINE for FOCUS arti-
cles, pictures, etc.

You are invited to submit your
meetings/events to be included
in the Upcoming Events.

WHAT'S UP?



The 25th LDD hosted their annual send off dinner for their legislators on Friday, January 8th at the Puyallup Elks.

The event was well attended and the food and company was fabulous.

Attendees were entertained during the social hour by the Washington High School Quintet. Eric Herde, who is a member of the light jazz group, is one of the 25th LDD's youngest and newest members.

Parliamentarian Cliff Allo spoke on the endorsement process and asked for volunteers to help formulate a questionnaire for candidates. Allo said the candidate questionnaires is not a "one size fits all" and should be specific to each position.



25th LDD State Representative Dawn Morrell announced that she has been appointed as Caucus Chair and, speaking of the new session said "We have a tough job ahead." She was happy to be in the company of her friends and supporters before the new session began. Morrell said this session will take care of basic needs only. "The bright side is that constituents are coming up with good ideas," she added. Members' questions ranged from legalizing marijuana to a state income tax. Morrell closed by saying she was grateful that "we have fabulous principled people in the caucus."

Pierce County Prosecutor Mark Lindquist addressed the crowd and listed four things that are going on in the Prosecutor's office.

The first one was the Clemons defendants and the second was a new gang unit. Lindquist said that gang violence in our area is growing. The third issue was to reduce the Superior Court backlog regarding the Alaskan Way Viaduct. He said there are so many cases pending that the system is jammed. The fourth issue was dealing with the fact that there are a disproportionate number of offenders committing crimes that are being "dumped into Pierce County."



Lindquist was followed by 25th LDD Senator Jim Kastama who said he was happy to be present, but looking to a difficult session ahead. Kastama talked about the unemployment rate and said that the U.S. must start selling to the rest of the world. "We have to be innovative," he said, adding that he will be focusing on a number of items to make sure this happens. His pet projects include making Seattle accountable for cost overruns and turning the State lottery proceeds to education. Many wondered what the state would do if the levy issue fails.

All the speakers were generous with their time, staying to answer questions from the crowd.



JERRY BECKENDORF, JOHN THOMPSON AND GUEST AT THE 25TH LDD SEND OFF DINNER



THE CROWD AT 25TH LDD SEND OFF DINNER

STATE COMMITTEE ARTICLES

By Jerry Beckendorf

Jerry Beckendorf Community Service Scholarship The Jerry Beckendorf Community Service Scholarship encourages future generations of union activists and volunteers by recognizing outstanding student volunteerism. Jerry Beckendorf was the AFL-CIO Community Services Liaison from the Pierce County Central Labor Council to the United Way of Pierce County from 1987 to 2002. He dedicated his working career and volunteer efforts to the improvement of the lives of working people in Pierce County.

Funding for the Scholarship is provided by an annual Bowling Tournament sponsored by the Pierce County Central Labor Council. The Tournament is usually held on a Sunday in late September. The last 3 years over \$10,000 has been netted from the bowling tournament. Additional dollars are provided by Northwest Dollars for Scholars.

Please note: you must be a graduating senior, reside in Pierce County, Washington and parent (s) must be a member of a labor union to apply. Applications are due at the Labor Council no later than February 28, 2010.

For more information on the Jerry Beckendorf Community Service Scholarship, please contact **Nathe Lawver** at (253) 473-3810 or nlawver@pcclc.org.

On line goggle Pierce County Central Labor Council and click on Community Services to get details of the Scholarship and print out the application.

.Jerry Beckendorf sent this for the calendar as well:

Feb 4 25th LD Democrats Legislative Action Committee (LAC) meeting 6 pm Puyallup Library

Feb 15 King County Democrats LAC meeting, Capitol Bldg 10 am

Other trips to Olympia as needed. Let Jerry Beckendorf know if you are interested in visiting Rep. Morrell and Senator Kastama. Remember, Dawn has a new office in her capacity as Democratic Caucus Chair.



Pay your dues for 2010 NOW –Gain Full Year Through December, 2010

The Executive Board of the 25th Legislative District Democrats have voted to encourage members to renew their dues for 2010 now (October 1, 2009)—those dues will be in effect through December 31, 2010.

Many members are never sure when they have paid their dues. Every year we always have a lot of questions about when dues are due, how much (for what category), and what the period is that the dues cover. The Board thought that this new policy would be helpful to everyone.

Our dues help us to maintain contact with membership through our newsletter and also to help notify members of important issues that are of interest. It's very important that we keep in contact with one another in this exciting time when health care issues are being decided, economic news is changing daily.

Changes to the Membership Dues Structure

At the November 2, 2009 Executive Board Meeting a motion was seconded and carried to make yearly membership dues cover each calendar year; beginning January 1 and continuing through December 31. This means that all current members' dues will pay them for one calendar year beginning January 1 through December 31. The 25th Legislative District would appreciate dues to be paid by the end of January to keep individuals in good standing; i.e. electronic newsletter receipt, voting privileges, etc. When new members join, if they join in months later than January, they will receive a prorated rate for the portion of the year that remains on the calendar. For example, if a new member joins the organization in June and chooses to pay Rainier level dues, they're prorated dues rate would be \$14.00, and their membership would be active through December 31 of that same calendar year. New members should consult with the Treasurer or Membership Chair to arrange a prorated dues receipt.

Changes to Distribution of Newsletter

It is the strong desire of the organization to continue to distribute and provide a monthly newsletter to our members. Rising costs of production, printing and postage have made it difficult to continue to produce a mailed copy to each member. Many of our members have requested that their newsletter be emailed to them each month and this has helped the organization greatly. Beginning with the January 2010 newsletter all copies of the 25th Legislative District Democrats newsletter will be sent via email. Please update your email address now with the Membership Chair to ensure that you don't miss a copy! Realizing that not everyone has an email address, or that some simply prefer to have the newsletter in hand to read, the organization is offering two opinions to serve you:

1. 25 hard copies of the previous month's newsletter will be provided for at each monthly meeting.
2. Supplemental newsletter membership dues will be offered. Again, due to the cost of production, printing and postage the organization must look to supplementation to produce the newsletter. If you would like to continue receiving your newsletter in the mail each month, you may opt to pay the additional newsletter dues. Newsletter dues will be \$10 per year. This amount is in addition to your membership dues.

25TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT
FINANCIAL REPORT
JANUARY 13, 2010

Period reported: December 1 – 31, 2009

Beginning Balance: \$ 7,693.46

Expenses:

Joan Cronk – Refreshments	\$ 17.20
Postmaster – Annual Box Rent	92.00
Chad Lupkes, 25 th LDD Domain Fee	15.00
Benton’s Twin Cedars – Jean Brooks Memorial Flower Basket	62.31
Total Expenses:	(\$186.51)

Income:

Dues	1,295.00
Send-Off Dinner	380.00
Newsletter Mail Fees	30.00
NW Regional Carpenters’ Union – Contribution Party Bldg.	1,000.00
Balance as of December 31, 2009	<u>\$10,211.95</u>

Checking A/C Balanced, C-3’s filed, C-4 filed for year-end 2009

25th LDD Still Searching for Assistant Treasurer

Chair Louis Tibbs announced that we are still looking for an Assistant Treasurer for our organization. The position has been open since our past Treasurer resigned and the then Assistant was elected to that position. This would be an appointive position.

The individual would need to have good computer skills, some background in checking and banking procedures, and own a computer. Duties would be: a back-up for monitoring our 25th LDD mail box at South Hill Post Office, banking funds, making PDC (Public Disclosure Reports) and other fiscal duties, if needed, in the absence of the Treasurer.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR 2010 MEMBERSHIP DUES ?

IF SO, THANK YOU - IF NOT SEE PAGE 8!

**Use this form to recruit friends and neighbors to join you
in helping our Democratic party.**

Name: _____ Address: _____

Phone: () _____

Zip: _____ City/ _____

Precinct: _____

Email: _____

Dues: Evergreen (includes Senior, outside district, etc) \$10 per member; Rainier \$25; Chair's Voice \$50; Senators Club \$100 (can be paid in installments.)

Please send dues to: 25th LDD, POBox 73594, Puyallup, WA 98373



IS ANYONE
OUT THERE
LISTENING?

**Well, you should be if you want the truth about politics
by Audrey and Frank on their radio show
Fridays at 1200 to 1 PM on KLAY 1180 AM!**

**And if for some reason or other you miss it then go to
<http://www.liberaltopia.org>. There is a link on the right hand side of
the screen that says: Frank and Audrey. Tune in or be tuned out.**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #569
TACOMA, WA

25th Legislative District
Democratic
(LDD)
PO Box 73594
Puyallup, WA 98373