



MAY 2017

34<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT DEMOCRATS

WEST SEATTLE ★ WHITE CENTER ★ BURIEN ★ VASHON AND MAURY ISLANDS

## Chair's Message for May

### What does it mean to say someone is a Democrat?

This question has been at the forefront of my mind since our last meeting, after a Point of Information was raised during a vote about the bylaws and rules for endorsing candidates who are not Democrats. Our current bylaws are clear that candidates other than judges must be Democrats to be eligible for endorsement:

### Article VII: Endorsements

Section 1. This organization may choose to endorse a Democratic candidate for any public office. This organization may endorse candidates of judicial races. This organization may also endorse ballot measures or referenda or initiatives or signature campaigns. Candidates who ask to be endorsed are required to complete and return any questionnaire presented, or designated by this organization. Judicial candidates need not answer any questions that would breach the Canons of Judicial Conduct.

### What about nonpartisan races?

And yet, in non-partisan races the question "What does it mean to say someone is a Democrat?" remains. Maybe we'd all agree that a member of the 34th District Democrats is a Democrat, but what about candidates who are not? By what criteria do we make that determination? Is it what they say when they file with the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission? Or how they report party affiliation to Seattle's Ethics and Elections Commission? Maybe it's what they list on their King County Democrats Questionnaire? Do we go off of participation in Democratic primaries? Or perhaps "Likely Party" from the Democratic Party's own VoteBuilder database? What they've accomplished that aligns with our values? Or maybe it's some mix of all of these and those calculations are best left to our members to express through their votes?

### Shifting sands and the rise of independents

We know, having seen "Democrats" like Rodney Tom and Tim Sheldon, that just having a D next to a candidate's name in the voter's pamphlet isn't sufficient. We also know that there are times when the candidate who's most consistently championed our values may not have consistently - or even ever - been formally aligned with the Democratic Party. In an age when more voters identify as independent than with either major party this is increasingly common we'll need to address that. I've asked our Bylaws Committee to take up the issue of nonpartisan races and clarify our bylaws for the benefit of both mem-

*Continued on page 7...*

## May 10, 2017 Meeting Notice

The Hall at Fautleroy, 9131 California Ave SW  
Across from the YMCA - Parking behind the Hall  
Accessible by Metro "C" Line

6:30 Potluck Social Time, please bring a dish to share

7:00 Call to Order

7:20 Wayne Barnett, Executive Director of the City of Seattle Democracy Voucher Program

7:30 Consideration of Primary Ballot Endorsements

Seattle City Council Pos. 8

Proposed Endorsement Slate

- King County Executive: Dow Constantine
- King County Sheriff: John Urquardt
- King County Council District 5: Dave Upthegrove
- Seattle City Attorney: Pete Holmes

Other Endorsements

8:45 New Business

Appointment of Committee Chair Nominee  
Wes Morris as Technician

Appointment of PCOs

8:55 Good of the Order

9:00 Adjourn to Whiskey West

**A note about voting: according to our bylaws:**

"Only members in good standing by the end of the prior month's meeting may vote, except that any member who had paid dues in the previous calendar year may vote if the membership is renewed at or before the meeting where the endorsement takes place."

The endorsement rules for the 34th District Democrats can be found at: <http://www.34dems.org/bylaws/>

If you were a member last year but haven't renewed yet, you pay your dues and renew your membership in time for the May meeting. If you weren't a member by the end of the last meeting you won't be eligible to vote at the May meeting but can still join now to be eligible to vote in our endorsements for the general election.

**Renew or Become a Member at**

**34dems.org**

[www.34dems.org/contribute/](http://www.34dems.org/contribute/)

# Executive Board

## Elected Officers

**David Ginsberg** | Chair  
chair@34dems.org

**Treina Aronson** | First Vice Chair  
vicechair1@34dems.org

**Michael Taylor-Judd** | Second Vice Chair  
vicechair2@34dems.org

**Lisa Plymate** | State Committeewoman  
wsdccw@34dems.org

**Chris Porter** | State Committeeman  
wsdccm@34dems.org

**Carrie Alexander** | King Co. Committeewoman  
kcdccw@34dems.org

**Martha Koester** | King Co. Committeewoman Alt.  
kcdccwa@34dems.org

**Les Treall** | King Co. Committeeman  
kcdccm@34dems.org

**Ted Barker** | King Co. Committeeman Alt.  
kcdccma@34dems.org

**Jason Cheung** | Secretary  
secretary@34dems.org

**Gina Topp** | Treasurer  
treasurer@34dems.org

## Committee Chairs

**Michael Taylor-Judd** | Bylaws  
vicechair2@34dems.org

**Kyle Prete** | Data & Technology  
corespace@gmail.com

**Carrie Alexander** | Digital Communications  
kcdccw@34dems.org

**Sean Riley** | Diversity & Inclusion  
inclusion@34dems.org

Events | Vacant

Finance | Vacant

Fundraising | Vacant

**Kate Riley** | Hospitality  
hospitality@34dems.org

**Ann Martin** | Legislative Action  
lac@34dems.org

**Joy Pakulak** | Membership  
membership@34dems.org

**Steve Butts & Karen Richter** | Outreach  
outreach@34dems.org

**Brooks Salazar** | PCO Coordination  
pco@34dems.org

**David Ginsberg** | Program  
chair@34dems.org

**Treina Aronson** | Volunteer Recruitment  
vicechair1@34dems.org

## Other Roles

**Steve Butts** | Newsletter Editor  
newsletter@34dems.org

**Allan Munro** | Parliamentarian

**Nick Bohall** | Web Editor  
webmaster@34dems.org

# KCDCC Meeting Report for April

Due to the resignation of our State Committeeman Chad Lupkes, two people announced their candidacy for that position.

We went into executive session to discuss 3 very sensitive issues.

We have raised \$16,000 last month. LD dues are due. It was announced that Larry Phillips has turned over his annual Salmon Bake fundraiser to KCDCC. It will be held June 24th at the Daybreak Star Center in Discovery Park.

It was also announced that there will be a Day of action in the 45th LD on May 7th to do voter ID and registration.

We voted to affiliate in support of an organization called "South King County Votes". They will have staff working high Democratic precincts with low voter turnout to get more people to vote. This was done last year and turned 40 low turnout precincts into high turnout precincts.

We approved the Bylaws as amended.

We endorsed Manka Dhingra for State Senate in the 45th LD.

*Submitted by Les Treall, KCDCC Committeeman*

## Volunteer...and Help Elect More Democrats!

The 34th will not have a contested state race in 2017, so please consider volunteering in another district to maintain our edge in the House and re-take the Senate.

Contact Les Treall:  
**kcdccm@34dems.org** or **206-948-5423**.

Help the 31st remove Senator Republican Phil Fortnato. Assist virtual phone banking or door knocking. Contact:  
**Brian Gunn** at **gunnbl@comcast.net** or **253-334-8614**.

The 45th LD has a State Senate special election and is looking for phone bankers, drivers, door knockers over the next few months. Contact:

**Robin** at **robinba137@gmail.com** or **425-753-1847**.

To help the 48th retain Sen. Patty Kuderer and Rep. Vandana Slatter in their special elections, contact:  
**Peace Keenen** at **Wadempeace@gmail.com**



*Treina Aronson, Nancy Craver, Elizabeth Heath and Steve Butts prepare to canvass in Duval on April 1 in advance of the upcoming special election for State Senate in the 45th LD. The group of 34th Dems was group was organized by Treina.*

# 34th District Bulletin Board

## 34th District Democrats Meetings

All meetings of the 34th District Democrats are open to any of our members.

### Executive Board

Puget Ridge Co-Housing Common House  
7020 18th Ave SW  
Wednesday, May 17, 7:00 p.m.

### Other Meetings or Events:

#### West Seattle Drinking Liberally

Pizzeria 22, 4213 SW College St.  
Tuesday, May 2, 6:00 pm

#### Evergreen Democratic Club

Angelo's Italian Restaurant  
601 SW 153rd St., Burien  
Tuesday, May 9, 11:30 am

#### Metropolitan Democratic Club

Plaza 600 Building #205, 600 Stewart St  
2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 12-1:30 pm

#### Burien Drinking Liberally

##### New Time and Location:

Angelo's Italian Restaurant  
601 SW 153rd St.  
Thursday, May 25, 6:30 pm

#### West Seattle Democratic Women

West Seattle Golf Course Banquet Room  
Check [www.westseattledemocraticwomen.org](http://www.westseattledemocraticwomen.org)  
For information

#### King County Democrats Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, May 23, 7:00 pm

##### New Location:

Teamsters Hall in Tukwila  
14675 Interurban Ave S, Tukwila, 98168

#### Treasurer's Report for 2017 May Newsletter

Balance as of March 31, 2017.....	\$ 14,063.45
Add Revenues.....	\$ 4,224.00
Less Expenses.....	\$ 903.86
Balance as of April 21, 2017.....	\$ 17,383.59



## INSTRUMENTS of CHANGE

Saturday, May 13, 2017 at 5:30pm  
SEATTLE DESIGN CENTER

West Seattle Food Bank's  
**10th Annual *Instruments of Change* Dinner/Auction**

Tickets can be purchased at:

<https://westseattlefoodbank.ejoinme.org/IOCTickets>

Please join

## DOW CONSTANTINE

### KING COUNTY EXECUTIVE

at his

## ANNUAL FILING WEEK LUNCHEON

Tuesday, May 16 | Noon • The Westin Hotel 1900 5th Ave | Seattle

Join us as an **INDIVIDUAL, TABLE CAPTAIN, or SPONSOR**

Silver \$125 (Table \$1250)  
Gold \$250 (Table \$2500)  
Sponsor \$1000

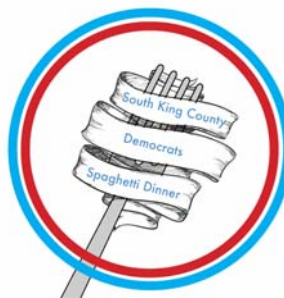
RSVP online at [www.DowConstantine.com](http://www.DowConstantine.com)

Questions: contact Sarah at [sarah@newmanpartners.com](mailto:sarah@newmanpartners.com) or (206) 328-2969

Paid for by Victory 2017 | A Joint Fundraising Committee benefitting Friends of Dow Constantine and the Washington State Democrats | 603 Stewart Street Suite 819, Seattle, WA 98101

**The 34th Dems will have a table at this event.**

If you wish to sit with other members, please contact Gina Topp at [treasurer@34dems.org](mailto:treasurer@34dems.org)



**Make Plans to Attend**

### The 7th Annual South King Co. Democrats Spaghetti Dinner

The 34th LD Democrats will join with Democrats from the 11th, 30th, 33rd and the 47th LD's for this fun, informal fundraiser!

Get tickets at:

<http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2901077>

## Contact Information and Committee Assignments for Our Legislators

### Senator

#### Sharon Nelson

Senate Democratic Leader  
Rules  
316 Legislative Building  
PO Box 40434  
Olympia, WA 98504  
(360) 786 - 7667



### Representative Eileen Cody

Chair, Health and Wellness  
Appropriations  
303 John L. O'Brien Building  
PO Box 40600  
Olympia, WA 98504  
(360) 786 - 7978



### Representative Joe Fitzgibbon

Chair, Environment  
Finance  
305 John L. O'Brien Building  
PO Box 40600  
Olympia, WA 98504  
(360) 786 - 7952



## Letters and Submitted Articles

We are Democrats, and like most Democrats we have strong opinions and like to express them. We welcome letters and articles. .

All submissions are subject to editing. If submissions need to be shortened, you will be given the option of editing your own work.

Photos and notices of upcoming events are always welcome.

**The deadline for the June newsletter will be Friday, June 2.**

Mail to Steve Butts,  
10254 36th Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98146  
or email to [swbutts@comcast.net](mailto:swbutts@comcast.net)

## In Case You Missed Our Last Meeting...

The April meeting focused on the race for the open at-large Seattle City Council Position 8, currently held by Tim Burgess, who is not seeking re-election. Dubbed "The Showdown in the 34th" provided a forum for eight of the ten candidates for the office that were present to speak to their campaign. They also took randomly chosen questions submitted by our members. The following candidates participated:

Jon Grant, Teresa Mosqueda, James Passey, Sheley Secret, Ryan Asbert, Charlene Strong, Mac McGregor and Hisam Goueli. (Rudy Pantoja and Jenn Huff were not present.)

Members then voted for their favorites to for a second round of questions. Selected for the 2nd bout were Grant, Mosqueda, Secret, Strong, and Goueli

The third round left us with two candidates: Mosqueda and Grant. Grant received the most votes, thus winning "The Showdown".

We then proceeded to with the final endorsement. The procedure was halted when it was brought up that Grant identified himself as an "independent democratic socialist" on his questionnaire to the King County Democrats. The endorsement was then tabled to allow further clarification of our bylaws. The tally didn't count but was announced anyway: Mosqueda 36, Grant 32, Goueli 6, Secret 4, Strong 1.



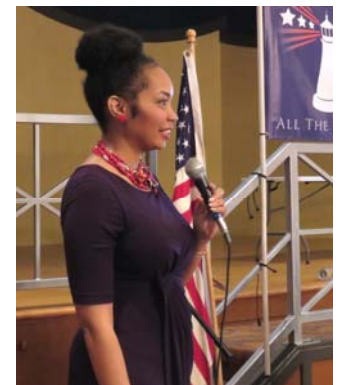
Charlene Strong



Hisam Goueli



Mac McGregor



Sheley Secret



*Jon Grant*



*Teresa Mosqueda*



*Lorena González*



*Rep. Pramila Jayapal*

Rep. Pramila Jayapal spoke to tell us that we are not the “minority” party but the “opposition” party. And more than that, we are also a “proposition” party. She told us of the “College for All” bill that she introduced with Senator Bernie Sanders. She has also signed onto the “Medicare for All” proposal. “Trumpcare” is simply a tax bill, with tax breaks for the richest Americans, she said.

Referring to the strike on Syria, she feels: “It was absolutely unconstitutional for the president to do what he did with that strike ... You cannot bomb your way to peace; that is my belief” as Syria is not an eminent threat. And if we care about the kids that were poisoned, refugees should be allowed into our country.

She also panned President Trump’s proposed budget, and said that it would cut everything we care about.

She stated that her long-time work in immigration and health care has helped ease her into her new role in the US House. Congresswoman Jayapal is currently the Vice Ranking Member of the House Budget Committee. Although she currently lives outside of our district, she will soon be moving into the 7th CD...possibly relocating in West Seattle.

Seattle Councilmember Lorena González (Pos. 9) spoke about her re-election campaign. She said she’s been “prioritizing three important things” – sustainable police reform, advocating for a statewide paid family/medical leave program and the \$1 million city legal-defense fund for immigrants and refugees that has passed her committee.

King County Council Chair Joe McDermott said the council’s Budget Committee also had “voted out” a fund to help immigrants and refugees on April 12. “We recognize that one in four King County residents is foreign-born – this isn’t about somebody else, this is us.” He referred to the detained “Dreamer”, and to the detained people who are on a hunger strike at the Tacoma immigration detention center.

*Photos of Candidates and Officials  
by Dina Johnson*



*Six new PCOs were elected at the April meeting. Among those was former elected official Irene Stewart (at right), who said the last time she spoke to the 34th was when we gave her a unanimous endorsement for the Seattle School Board 14 years ago.*

# Report from Washington State Democratic Central Committee Meeting April 22, 2017 in Walla Walla

## Structural changes under new leadership

In overview, our meetings have a new format under our new chair Tina Podlodowski, and so far it's a real improvement. Under our new system, caucuses begin Friday night, and it would be theoretically possible to attend a series of 3 caucuses, from 5-8PM before hospitality suites. On Saturday morning, we were able to attend special training sessions and hold longer committee meetings of 1hour 45minutes each, making our work far more meaningful. Plus, **our committees will be much more active** than they were in the past. We formerly met for an hour three times a year. We now meet for 1:45 in person, plus hold at least monthly conference calls for work, and we have much more extensive goals than in the past.

Our training program starting this meeting was on "**Heroes' Narratives**." The aim is to teach us to take the long view of identifying stories that excite our base at the moment, while building our base over the long term. When it comes to using a values-based narrative, the conservative voices have been defining the message... Story-telling over a long period of time delivers a strong message that captures and holds the audience's attention, stimulating the desired action. A good narrative, however, helps different campaigns tell a common story and builds power over time. A given campaign may have many messages, but these should all support a long-term narrative. We discussed the importance of making messages resonate, using values-based language; we need to speak to peoples' hearts to change their minds. People cherry-pick what facts they will believe based on the emotional parts of their brains.

In this era of sound bites, we need to return to developing "epic stories," as, over time, that is what will resonate with people. The story elements include:

1)a **hero** who makes 2) a **quest** which should be real, tangible and urgent. The hero faces 3) a **threat** which may not necessarily be true, but which resonates and mobilizes. The hero uses policies as 4) **tools** to accomplish goals. It's more important to tell why a policy matters, not what it does. Along comes 5) a **villain** is the person we hold accountable for the threat; he has his own weapons. The story is most compelling if the hero, the heart of the story, is your audience; you are their mentor. For example, Obama spoke of "single moms" as heroes. A quest might be "change you can believe in." A threat might be "climate change." To Trump, Hillary was the villain; she was "weak" and "threatening." Her weapons were "lies." This session provided a refreshing way to approach our strategies as a party moving forward.

## Lunch speaker Hillary Franz, newly-elected Commissioner of Public Lands

She spoke of the importance of listening to others, of spending time to come up with solutions to common problems we see in rural areas. She wants to work with communities and focus on helping the economy while conserving public lands. She feels we can address climate change without speaking of "climate change" per se in a way that upsets opponents; we can find common ground and build on that. She wishes to demonstrate that we can create a strong

economy while supporting clean energy, and she plans to start with demonstration projects that should do just that in 5 areas she will select.

## Chair's report

Chair Podlodowski has built a budget and has an organizing plan. She's hired 5 new staffers, and we have a new funding source, "the Resistance." Based on small dollar fundraising attracting new participants, the state party's working budget based on recurring contributions went from \$2000 to \$17,000 per month. We now have 1100 small donors and plan to grow this base further. We now have a full-time communications director for the first time who is about to start working.

## Progress report from Dylan Cate, our new organizing director

Theme "**win every race in every place**." We plan to win elections and build strategic long-term political relationships. Previously the party didn't support candidates in areas we "couldn't win." We will instead support all good Democratic candidates. They might not win this election, but they'll become known, and they'll become stronger. We'll have new tools in our voter file; traditional methods are not working. We won't just canvass known Democrats; we'll get out and listen to voters, ask their priorities. PCOs should learn what their neighbors care about.

## New tool

On your cell phone, open the text messaging app and write: 444999. Type the word "persist" and you'll go to volunteering opportunities. Type "resistance," and you'll be able to support us financially.

## Committee reports

Rules committee will have rules for endorsements ready in September. Rules for primaries (vs. caucuses) will come later.

Affirmative action committee (chaired by our own Chris Porter! and to be renamed to express "inclusion") is dealing with harassment issues and code of conduct language plus a framework for mediation

Technology committee has recruited 60 members from tech industry and has in place 16 teams with functions ranging from mobile apps, webcasts, centralized calendar, PCO finders.

## Democratic National Committee

Members report feeling new Chairman Tom Perez is refreshing and is truly overhauling the party. We will have a 57 state strategy going forward. They feel the "people at the top are interested in listening."

## Resolutions

See state party website for resolutions passed.

Please contact either Chris Porter or myself if you have any specific questions or concerns. *And yes, we enjoyed both the eastern Washington sunshine and the wines!*

*Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa Plymate, State Committeewoman*

...Continued from page 1

bers and candidates. The Bylaws Committee will bring a proposal first to the Executive Board, and then to the membership for approval. If you're interested in participating on the bylaws committee you can sign up on our website [here](#).

### Endorsements in the 34th

In the meantime we have the question about what to do with the endorsement vote already under way. After consultation with current and former party chairs, at the District, County and State Party levels and extensive discussion with state party parliamentarian David McDonald it is clear that the in-process vote is invalid and must be thrown out.

We will consider this race again, and we'll follow the same procedure for all the candidates we consider for endorse-

ment in May: we'll ask them "Are you a Democrat?" and candidates who answer in the affirmative will be eligible for endorsement by the 34th.

### What to expect in May and June

In May we'll hear from the City of Seattle's Democracy Voucher program about how to use your vouchers (and what to do if you've lost them), and we'll consider endorsements for campaigns and initiatives on the August primary ballot.

In June we'll host a mayoral debate and consider endorsements for that race.

We hope to see you there!

In solidarity,  
David

## 34th Dems Cook Book Project is Looking for Recipes

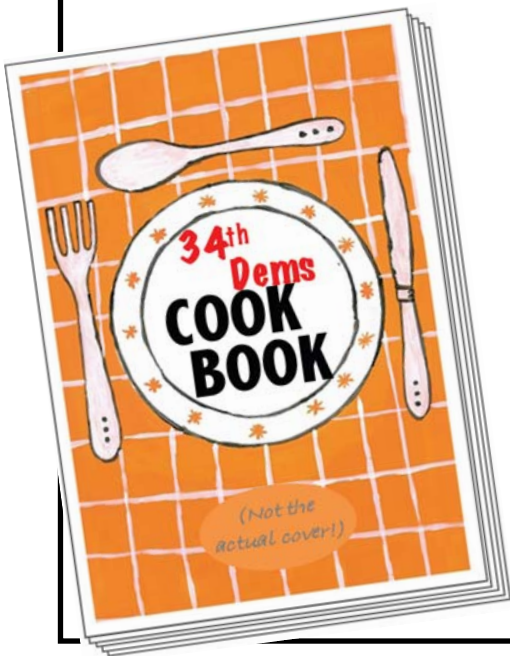
The Volunteer Committee is launching an exciting project! We're creating a cookbook that will serve as both fundraiser and outreach activity. More than a collection of recipes, it will tell the story of the diverse members of our community through something that connects all of us- food. The recipes will be organized by neighborhood and will feature stories and pictures of the contributors.

We are calling for submissions of recipes from people who live, work, have businesses or run organizations in the 34th District. They need to be original recipes and include a story about the recipe or the organization submitting the recipe. *You do not have to be a 34th member in order to contribute.*

To submit a recipe please contact Treina Aronson at [vicechair1@34dems.org](mailto:vicechair1@34dems.org) or fill out the form under our [Get Active page](#).

### Examples of recipe stories:

- The recipe was handed down within a family, the recipe celebrates traditional ethnic cuisine,
- The recipe represents an historical event within the district,
- The recipe is from an established business or nonprofit within the district,
- The recipe is from an important figure/trailblazer/activist within the district,
- The recipe is from an elected 34th official, the recipe is from a historical location/property within the 34th



Nick Bonazza and Jason Cheung help at the White Center Cambodian New Year Festival.



Newsletter Editor  
10254 36th Ave. SW  
Seattle, WA 98146

Return Service Requested



## Join the 34th District Democrats!

Sign up by filling out this form and mailing it with a check made payable to:  
**The 34th District Democrats, 6523 California Ave SW, Box 183, Seattle, WA 98136-1879**

Or join at online [34dems.org/contribute/](http://34dems.org/contribute/)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

If you use a P.O. Box, do you live in the 34th District? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ \* Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

\*Employer \_\_\_\_\_ \* Employer City \_\_\_\_\_

\* Required by Washington State Public Disclosure Commission/ Contributions are not tax deductible.

**If interested in paying your dues in monthly installments contact the treasurer for more information.**

- \$3 Living Lightly
- \$34 Friend of the 34th
- \$50 Sponsor
- \$1,000 Endowment
- \$100 Benefactor
- \$250 Sustaining
- \$500 Underwriter

In the interest of protecting our environment and building funds to support endorsed candidates, the 34th District Democrats wish to communicate electronically.

**Please check this box if you do not have access to electronic communications and need to receive a mailed newsletter**

Paid for and authorized by 34th District Democrats. 6523 California Ave SW Box 183, Seattle, Washington 98136. Contributions to this committee are not tax deductible. State campaign finance law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, occupation, employer and city and state of employment for each individual whose contribution exceeds \$100 in the election cycle.