Chair’s Message for June

Primary Considerations

On June 5th Californians went to the polls, where a crowded field of enthusiastic Democratic candidates and the state’s “top two” primary system could cost Democrats their best shot at taking control of the U.S. House of Representatives. Three districts that Hillary Clinton won handily currently have Republican representatives and Democratic enthusiasm should make each of them flippable: the 39th, 48th and 49th. But that same Democratic enthusiasm has inspired a flurry of new candidates and that raised fears Democrats could actually end up getting shut out by splitting their votes among too many candidates, leaving only Republicans still standing.

34th District Senate Race

Here in the 34th we face a similar situation, though fortunately much more Democratic leaning voters - Hillary Clinton received just over 80% of the vote here in the last presidential election. We have 7 candidates who’ve filed as Democrats (though only 6 who currently identify as Democrats with their PDC filings). If Democrats split their votes 7 ways we could end up with a situation where no Democratic candidate makes it through the primary - in a District where Democratic voters make up over 80% of the electorate! The consequences could be dire: two of the candidates we just defeated in Burien last fall are among the 11 candidates running.

Smart Choices and Opportunities

It’s in times like this that the 34th can really serve the electorate in our communities, by helping select the strongest, most viable candidates to endorse.

Not all of these 7 are eligible for endorsement at this point, since we require that candidates fill out the KCDCC candidate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>Filed as D</th>
<th>Listed on PDC as D</th>
<th>KCDC Questionnaire</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sofia Aragon</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Shannon Braddock</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lemuel Charleston</td>
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<td>Lisa Devereau</td>
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<td>No</td>
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<td>Joe Nguyen</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Annabel Quintero</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lois Schipper</td>
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Continued on page 7...
WHEREAS many people newly involved in the political process decide to run for public office; and
WHEREAS some run as Democrats in primary contests against Democratic incumbents; and
WHEREAS newly involved candidates may lack experience in running campaigns but bring high levels of enthusiasm to the process; and
WHEREAS high levels of enthusiasm help to build stronger party organizations; and
WHEREAS the State Party is currently restricting access for candidates running against incumbent Democrats; and
WHEREAS the more voter contact data that VoteBuilder contains, the more useful it becomes as a resource for all current and future Democratic candidates;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 34th Legislative District Democrats ask that the Washington State Democrats be more transparent with the rules regarding access to VoteBuilder by clarifying and publishing said rules; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 34th Legislative District Democrats ask that the Washington State Democrats consider ways to increase access to VoteBuilder in the interest of both supporting Democratic campaigns and outreach; and

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the 34th Legislative District Democrats request that the State Party consistently remind all campaigns of the importance of entering their voter contact data to improve the usefulness of the VoteBuilder database for all Democrats.

Submitted to the 34th Legislative District Democrats meeting of May 9, 2018 by Martha Koester, PCO Aqua Precinct.
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, June 20, 7:00 p.m.

Other Meetings or Events:
West Seattle Drinking Liberally
Pizzeria 22, 4213 SW College St.
Every 1st Tuesday, 6:00 pm

Evergreen Democratic Club
Angelo’s Italian Restaurant
601 SW 153rd St., Burien
Tuesday, June 12, 11:30 am

Metropolitan Democratic Club
Plaza 600 Building #205, 600 Stewart St
2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 12:00 to 1:30 pm

Burien Drinking Liberally
Angelo’s Italian Restaurant
601 SW 153rd St.
New Day - Wednesday June 27, 6:30 pm

West Seattle Democratic Women
West Seattle YMCA’s Rotary Room,
3622 SW Snoqualmie St.
Check www.westseattledemocraticwomen.org

King County Democrats Monthly Meeting
Teamsters Hall in Tukwila
14675 Interurban Ave S, Tukwila, 98168
Tuesday, June 26, 7:00 pm

Volunteer at our June Events!
Register Voters, Promote our candidates and our organization at these fun community affairs!

The Morgan Junction Festival
Saturday, June 16th
10am to 4pm

Burien Strawberry Days
Saturday June 16
Sunday, June 17
10am to 4pm
We will be joined by fellow Democrats from the 33rd District!

Burien Independence Day Parade
Wednesday, July 4
3 - 5pm
Let’s fill the streets with Democrats

Save the date for the
34th LD Democrats Annual Garden Party and Auction
Thursday, July 19th from 7 to 10pm
At The Hall at Fauntleroy
9131 California Ave SW
Seattle, WA 98136
To Volunteer, or to donate an item, contact:
Steven Jamieson at events@34dems.org
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

In Case You Missed Our May Meeting...

Our May membership meeting featured a forum with five of the Democratic candidates seeking to assume the seat of retiring State Senator Sharon Nelson. The panel of candidates was moderated by Chair David Ginsberg, who presented questions submitted by members.

The following are summaries from their opening statements:

Lois Schipper has lived in the West Seattle/White Center for the past 25 years. She is a nurse by profession, currently at Seattle Children’s hospital, working in diversity and health equity by helping recent immigrants with children suffering from illness. She has served as Chair for the Highline Citizens for Schools. She is also a PCO, and was the 34th Dems Diversity Chair, 2015-16. Issues: Gun control, increased K-12 funding to close the achievement gap between rich and poor and more for Special Education. Fix our regressive tax code is also a goal.

Sofia Aragon is a resident of Burien, and a PCO. She served for 12 years in Olympia as governmental affairs director for WA State Nurses Association. She worked to pass the ACA in Washington, for healthcare for undocumented children, and against cuts in higher education. She wants to ensure that everyone can have the opportunity for an education and a career. Affordable housing is also an important issue she wishes to work toward.

Lem Charleston is a 21-year resident of the 34th. He is a veteran, serving in the Marines. He has been a minister and a pastor since 1992, and has been an associate chaplain with Seattle Police Department. He is a 25-year Boeing employee and union member. Lem got involved in politics by going down to Olympia to fight against Tim Eyman initiatives. He wants to work on education and fixing the tax system.

Shannon Braddock has lived in the 34th for 20 years. She has worked in the private sector and at various levels of government, the past 8 years under County Councilmember Joe McDermott and Dow Constantine. She is active in West Side Baby and the West Seattle Foodbank. Regressive taxation, guns, healthcare are issues she will work on.

Joe Nguyen was born in White Center to immigrant parents and now lives in West Seattle. A graduate of Seattle University, he is now a Project Manager for Microsoft. He would be the first person of color to represent the 34th, and the first Vietnamese elected to the legislature. Affordable housing, early learning and economic equity are some issues he’d address.

The entire hour and a half forum was captured on video by the West Seattle Blog. To see the answers the candidates gave to questions submitted by members, please view the video here:

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 July newsletter will be Thursday June 28.
Mail to Steve Butts,
10254 36th Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98146
or email to swbutts@comcast.net
Annabel Quintero (West Seattle) and Lisa Ryan Devereau (Vashon) joined the contest in late May after our forum and are also running as Democrats. Two Republicans and two independents fill out the complete primary ballot for State Senator - 11 in total.

Chair David Ginsberg’s report told us that Washington State can be an example to the rest of the country in a post-Trump era through the things we are doing here. We will enforce the concept of inclusion rather than the “you’re on your own” attitude that is being projected from the White House currently.

We heard from judges seeking our endorsement. Steven Gonzalez is running for re-election to the State Supreme Court. He has an opponent. Now Former Magistrate Judge Faye Chess stopped by to tell us that she had been recently appointed to the vacant seat on the Seattle Municipal Court by Mayor Durkan, and she is running to retain that seat. Willie Gregory is also running for re-election to his Seattle Municipal Court position.

A resolution was proposed by Martha Koester, to support the idea of giving VoteBuilder access to Democrats that wish to challenge incumbents in primary elections, and thus encourage newly-involved people to participate in our political process. It was passed. The full text of the resolution is on page 2.

Steven Jamieson was appointed as Chair of the Events Committee. He announced that our garden party will be on Thursday, July 19 at the Hall at Fauntleroy. He will need volunteers to help at the event, and to procure donations for the auction.
First vice-Chair Shasti Conrad oversaw the meeting. We are making good progress on getting more PCOs. 158 filed in the 45th LD. We need to compete everywhere in the county.

Endorsement committee—cochairs Rick Politan and Gloria Hatcher-Mays

First proposed was that our incumbent members of Congress be endorsed as a body. This was approved 40-6.

State legislature endorsements were then considered.
LD 1: Derek Stanford (Position 1) and Shelly Kloba (Position 2)
LD 5: Lisa Callan (Position 2)
LD 11: Zack Hudgins (Position 2)
LD 32: Maralyn Chase, state senate
LD 34: No recommendations until action by the 34th LD
LD 36: Noel Frame (Position 1) and Gael Tarleton (Position 2)
LD 37: Sharon Tomiko-Santos (Position 1)
LD 41: Tana Senn (Position 1)
LD 43: Jaime Pederson, state senate, Nicole Macri (Position 1)
LD 45: Manka Dhingra, state senate
LD 46: David Frocht, state senate, Gerry Pollett (Position 1) and Javier Valdez (Position 2)
LD 48: Patty Kuderer, state senate

In the 32nd LD, The committee recommended endorsement of Lauren Davis. The 32nd LD endorsed Chris Roberts. By rule, the LDs endorsed candidate was moved for endorsement first. He was endorsed. Next, the recommended candidate was moved and did not achieve endorsement.

In the 41st LD, their endorsement meeting was to happen the next day. The committee had recommended My-Linh Thai for endorsement for house position 2. The delegates from the 41st asked that we endorse her, prior to their endorsement meeting, because she was likely to be endorsed and they didn’t want to wait a month. My-Linh Thai was endorsed for house position 2 in the 41st.

Judicial candidate slate
District Court
Northeast Position 2: Ketu Shah
Southeast Position 1: Jason Poydras
Southeast Position 2: Matthew York
West Position 1: Lisa Paglisotti

Seattle Municipal Court
Position 1: Ed McKenna, no action
Position 2: Andrea Chin

Position 4: Anita Crawford-Willis
Position 5: Willie Gregory, no action
Position 6: Faye Chess

Positions Susan Owens (Position 2). Northeast District Court Marcus Naylor (Position 1), and Seattle Municipal Court Willy Gregory (no action recommended, Position 5) were pulled for separate consideration. The remainder of the slate was endorsed 30-14. Motion for reconsideration of Susan Owens passed 38-11, but the endorsement failed 18-25 in the first round. Later the rules were suspended by a 2/3 vote, and she was endorsed.

The Naylor endorsement was pulled for reconsideration and endorsement passed. A motion to endorse his opponent, Joshua Shear, failed. The Gregory nomination was pulled and he was endorsed 41-0.

Election of replacement State Committeeman from KCDCC
Brian Gunn, Justin Baird and Marvin Rosete ran for the position. Brian Gunn was elected with 69% of the vote.

Election of new King County Chair
Nicole Gomez (36th LD) and Natalie Reber (46th LD) ran. Tara Gallagher of the 43rd was also nominated, but declined. Natalie Reber won 27-26.

Resolutions Committee
Dean Fournier presented three resolutions, one for the impeachment of Trump, which passed 18-14, one to facilitate statewide infrastructure for electric vehicles, which passes 37-3, and one to support an ammunition tax with proceeds to pay for victims medical and mental health costs which passed unanimously.

Other business
Time to get tickets for the South King County Blue Wave Spaghetti Feed June 2nd at the IAM Hall, 9125 15th Pl S, Seattle, WA 98108 5pm-8pm. Get tickets online here:
https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3375400?cookie_header=1

Treasurer’s Report for the June Newsletter

Balance as of May 01, 2018 .......... $26,349.22
Add Revenues .......................................... $1,238.81
Less Expenses ..................................... $280.78
Balance as of June 02, 2018.......... $27,307.25
This is the proposed slate of non-controversial, previously endorsed candidates without Democratic primary challengers:

**Federal**
- US Senate: Maria Cantwell
- US House: Pramila Jayapal

**State Legislature**
- 34th LD, Position 1: Eileen Cody
- 34th LD, Position 2: Joe Fitzgibbon

**State Supreme Court**
- Position 2: Susan Owens
- Position 8: Steve Gonzalez
- Position 9: Sheryl Gordon McCloud

**King County Superior Court**
- Position 22: Karen Donohue
- Position 38: Michael Diaz

**Seattle Municipal Court**
- Position 1: Ed McKenna
- Position 5: Willie Gregory
- Position 6: Damon Shadid

Other endorsements may be considered at the discretion of the voting members, including the 34th District Senate Race.

**Follow the Money**
One indicator of viability is fundraising. You can see how much each candidate has raised as well as where they're getting their money from (Is it mostly individual contributions? Are they contributions from within the district? Is the candidate self-funding? Etc.). You can research campaign contributions for this race on the PDC website here:

https://www.pdc.wa.gov/browse/campaign-explorer/candidates?jurisdiction_code=4763&election_year=2018&office_code=12

We look forward to seeing you June 13th at the Hall at Fauntleroy!

In solidarity,

David

David Ginsberg,
Chair, 34th District Democrats

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**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.” Endorsement Rules in PDF can be found on our Bylaws page: [http://www.34dems.org/bylaws/](http://www.34dems.org/bylaws/)

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

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

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Laurence Redman and Jeryka Taft (with a few helpers she brought) work gathering trash on 16th Avenue SW during our May 19th clean-up. Photo by Chris Porter.

Conrad Knutson and Karen Richter at our booth at Burien Pride. We registered 17 people.
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/

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.