

The Demo-Chat 2004

Volume 2, Issue 11 of the 33rd District Democrats Newsletter.

Jack Arends, Editor

November 2004

33rd LD DEMOCRATS

Executive Board for 2003-04 (*elected)

Chair*:	Tara Jo Heinecke	206-870-8819
Vice-Chair*:	Tim Clark	253-854-1895
Secretary*:	Tina Shamseldin	206-409-3038
Treasurer*:	Cass Prindle	360-280-6661
WSDCC Reps*:	Jo Ladd Clark	253-854-1895
	Aaron Ernst	206-579-6875
KCDCC Reps*:	Elizabeth Brant	206-870-1759
	Chris Elwell	206-784-8206
KCDCC Alts*:	Meenakshi Sharma	206-878-4988
	Clark Dodge	206-244-9849
KCDCC LAC Reps*:	Barbara Fithian	206-242-5055
	Bob Fithian	206-242-5055
KCDCC LAC Alt*:	Dan Caldwell	206-824-0736
Parliamentarian:	Bob Stephens	206-824-2699
Registrar:	Jean Hueston	206-878-8706
Admin. Officer:	Diane Odegard	206-870-7090
Sgt.-at-Arms:	Jim Fossos	206-824-8537
KCYD Reps:	Audry Cohen	206-212-0769
	Shaun Miller	253-872-9973



These Democrats represent the 33rd Legislative District in Olympia. Representative Shay Schual-Berke, Senator Karen Keiser, and Representative Dave Uptegrove are there to serve you. Please contact them if you have an inquiry.

Senator Karen Keiser	360-786-7664/ FAX 360-786-1999
Rep. Shay Schual-Berke	360-786-7834/ FAX 360-786-7317
Rep. Dave Uptegrove	360-786-7868/ FAX 360-786-7317
Legislative Hotline	1-800-562-6000

Re-Organization Set for Dec. 13; Holiday Party Set for Dec. 19

As noted inside, the 33rd District Democrats will reorganize for the 2005-2006 biennium on Dec. 13, 2004. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. in the multipurpose room of Normandy Park Congregational Church. Precinct Committee Officers elected during the Sept. 14 primary election will be the only members eligible to vote on these officers (per state and county party rules): Chair; vice chair; secretary; treasurer; state and county central committee representatives and alternates; and county legislative action committee delegates and alternates. As this edition of *The Demo-Chat* was being prepared for publication, Tara Jo Heinecke had indicated her desire to seek a second term as chair of the 33rd District Democrats.

State Rep. Shay Schual-Berke has agreed to provide the location of this year's holiday party: Her home, on the afternoon of Dec. 19. Further details are being determined. Last year's party was a potluck occasion, also at Shay's home in Normandy Park. Details will be published as they become available at the district web site: www.33rdDems.org

November General Meeting

Monday, Nov. 15, 2004

Normandy Park Congregational Church
19247 First Avenue South, Normandy Park, Washington
AGENDA

(Additions may be made to this agenda)

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 7 p.m. | Call to order, approval of agenda and minutes |
| 7:15 p.m. | Presentations on federal budget and home day-care workers; discussion of December re-org meeting. |
| 8:15 p.m. | Post-election reports |
| 9 p.m. | Adjourn |

General Membership Meeting Minutes: October 18, 2004

Meeting Opening

Chair Tara Jo Heinecke called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. The minutes were reviewed; Norma Kelsey, seconded by Clark Dodge, moved to accept them as written. The motion carried. Tara Jo gave an overview of the agenda. Sherry Bradshaw made a motion to approve the agenda; Ben Stark seconded it; and the motion carried.

33rd Legislative District Democrats web site: Steve Desilets

Steve Desilets, webmaster for our new web site, www.33rddems.org, gave an overview of the importance of the Internet in politics and its untapped potential. Howard Dean and MoveOn.org have clearly demonstrated how to establish a grass-roots political movement. Steve hopes the Democratic web sites, especially our local 33rd site, can become much more prominent.

Some of the special features of our new site include:

1. **Ability to collect donations/fund raising activities:** Steve is working with Cass on using Propay so members can pay their dues online or buy Democratic merchandise.
2. **Links to other websites:** A number of linkages are in place with county and state Democratic web sites, elected officials' contact information including their web sites, and links to newspapers. Steve will continue to expand this list and plans to add other legislative district web sites to this page.
3. **Announcements/Message board/Demo-Chat**
4. **Contact center/Discussion rooms**
5. **"Tell a friend" option**
6. **Conduct polls/share results/Questions for Candidates:** If well utilized for campaigns, this feature may help reduce the costs of campaigns.

Representative Dave Upthegrove

Dave gave a pep talk to the group and reviewed his draft legislative agenda for the next session. Education was a strong theme with an emphasis on ensuring that our schools teach critical thinking that includes civic classes. Rep. Upthegrove also said we need to make sure students who are more recent immigrants receive the educational opportunities they need to be successful. He also spoke about keeping schools healthy and the need to address water-quality issues, including lead contamination.

State Democrats Meeting: Update

Jack Arends gave updates from the State Democrats meeting in Moses Lake in September. He spoke about the Get Out to Vote effort. The Democrats have over 3,000 PCO's who will formally take their positions December 1. A statewide Disability

Caucus has been founded. The next meeting will be the last weekend of January 2005 in Olympia.

Chair Report

Tara Jo noted that the 33rd needs to elect new officers and complete its reorganization by December 17. Since our regularly scheduled meeting is on the 3rd Monday (December 20), it will need to be held the week before, on December 13. Lisa Plymate made a motion to move our December general meeting to the 13th; Meena Sharma seconded the motion; and the motion passed. Nominations from the membership will be solicited for positions that will include: Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and representatives (and alternates) to the county and state Democratic Central Committees. Tara Jo will review the charter to see if nominations must be given at the November or December meeting.

Kerry Campaign Update/Amy Meadows

Amy gave an update on the campaign and encouraged members to become even more involved in the last weeks before the election. There has been incredible work done by the Kerry campaign so far and they hope to keep up this momentum.

Other Business

- More than \$100 was raised in the meeting raffle. Winners of the auction included Mary, Florence, Louise and Wendy.
- A special thank-you to all the persons who brought in goodies for the meeting, including Winnie, Diane, Jane, Cass, Wendy and Carol. Next month's volunteers include: Tina, Bob, Jennie and Meena.
- No location has been secured yet for the Kit Dexter Dinner.

Membership Business

Cass gave the treasurer's report stating that as of the meeting we had **\$1,210.39 in the non-exempt account and \$251.74 in the exempt account**. Carol Rose made a motion to accept the treasurer's report; Tim Clark seconded the motion; and the motion carried. Cass has been updating forms and is trying to simplify the accounting processes. Cass made a motion to allow for three people on the executive board to be able to authorize/sign checks: the treasurer, chair and secretary. Bob Fithian seconded the motion; and the motion carried.

During the first half of the meeting prior to voting, Jean Hueston gave the registrar report and stated we had 58 voting members in attendance. Toward the end of the meeting new persons attending our meeting for the first time were welcomed. Jean made a motion to enter into membership the following individuals: **Loraine Custer, Cathy Dozer, Caryn Roberts, and Harpreet Singh**; the motion was seconded by Meena Sharma, and the motion carried. Tara Jo adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Tina Shamseldin, Secretary

Colorado or Bust?

In September I took off for Denver, along with two friends, to help the Kerry campaign in one of the tightest swing states in the country. Unfortunately, despite the hard work of hundreds of dedicated Democratic campaign staff, Colorado did bust for Bush. But not all was lost in this fine state. In an e-mail after the election from Karen Tomb, a woman we stayed with while campaigning for John Kerry and Ken Salazar (the state attorney general who was running for the U.S. Senate), Karen wrote:

“Well, your work in Colorado was not entirely without positive results. You can take solace in the fact that Ken Salazar, his brother John, and a number of state-level Democrats won in Colorado, despite the terrible loss at the presidential level. For the first time in 40 years Colorado will have Democratic majorities in both the state Senate and House.”

We need to take comfort in these important gains made in such states as Colorado, Virginia, Nevada, and New Hampshire. We also need to reflect on lessons learned during these campaign efforts. The interesting part of stepping into a well-oiled campaign in another state is that it allows for more general analysis without the distraction of local politics.

One observation I made was that there were tremendous, well-organized resources in the major city of Denver for both phone calling and canvassing, but in more rural areas it was dismal, with virtually no local staff involved in the campaign. All the staff we met in Pueblo, a small blue-collar town, were shipped in from other areas and could be counted on one hand. Yet, Pueblo had significant pockets of unlikely Democratic voters. Clearly, the Republican party was much more effective in rural areas of many states, including Colorado. I also wonder if campaign workers should be trained before calling or canvassing with techniques such as “motivational interviewing” that emphasize open-ended questions and draw out the person on issues important to them. Ideally, we would help educate the electorate before asking them to vote well in advance of the campaign formally beginning.

Hopefully we can spend time reviewing this and other strengths and weaknesses of the campaign during the next several months to ground ourselves for Round Two.

Tina Shamseldin

Thanks from Shay

I tried not to ask much for my campaign this year, being much less at risk and frankly, much less important in the grand scheme of other races, but when I did ask, you were there for me, and for that I would like to say a great, big THANK YOU! The outcome of this year's elections makes state legislatures more important than ever, and it will be my privilege to continue fighting for core Democratic values in Olympia. As others have said, we have suffered a defeat, but we will not be defeated.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at my home for the annual district holiday party, and wish you a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Shay Schual-Berke

Thanks from Dave

Our local victories were overshadowed by the re-election of President Bush. I agree with the comment John Edwards made to his supporters that "you can be disappointed, but you cannot walk away."

I think the best thing that Democrats can do is find opportunities to lead. With our new control of the State Legislature, Democrats should move forward with a thoughtful progressive agenda. All of us -- elected officials, party activists, and concerned citizens -- should look for new ways to provide leadership in our own ways. Instead of dwelling on the negative, we should take positive actions.

I want to thank the members of the 33rd District Democrats for the early unanimous endorsement you gave me this year. Thanks to those of you who doorbelled with me and/or distributed my campaign literature. I also want to thank the Democratic Coordinated Campaign, and in particular, our local coordinator, Amy Meadows. She spearheaded an effort that registered nearly 1,000 new Democratic voters in the 33rd District and organized and mobilized more than 100 volunteers (thanks to all of you) out of the Des Moines office. This work will benefit all Democrats in our district for years to come.

Without an opponent this year, I was able to raise and contribute \$5,000 toward this Democratic Voter Registration and Get-Out-The-Vote effort. I also spent time doorbelling for other House Democratic candidates like Pat Sullivan and Geoff Simpson in the 47th District. As the youngest Democratic legislator, I also was dispatched to help turnout the youth vote, and had a fun time speaking at high schools and colleges throughout the region.

I for one am not going to lose hope. I am recommitting myself to my vision of a compassionate government that provides real solutions to the economic challenges facing average folks and that supports equality and fair treatment of all people. Keep the faith my friends.

Dave Upthegrove

A note from the registrar

Many friends sent me encouraging words in the week after the election. Some of the best are the encouraging words from Howard Zinn, published in *The Nation* under the title of "The Optimism of Uncertainty." Below are the closing paragraphs. It is a very LONG RANGE VIEW; we may not be able to save America from its blind lemming rush into bankruptcy, but we can feel encouraged by the widespread energizing of half of the citizens. Now we must stay energized to take advantage of the impossibility of Bush's promises. **Jean Hueston**

"I keep encountering people who, in spite of all the evidence of terrible things happening everywhere, give me hope -- especially young people, in whom the future rests. Wherever I go, I find such people. And beyond the handful of activists there seem to be hundreds, thousands, more who are open to unorthodox ideas. But they tend not to know of one another's existence, and so, while they persist, they do so with the desperate patience of Sisyphus endlessly pushing that boulder

up the mountain. I try to tell each group that it is not alone, and that the very people who are disheartened by the absence of a national movement are themselves proof of the potential for such a movement.

“Revolutionary change does not come as one cataclysmic moment (beware of such moments!) but as an endless succession of surprises, moving zigzag toward a more decent society. We don't have to engage in grand, heroic actions to participate in the process of change. Small acts, when multiplied by millions of people, can transform the world. Even when we don't "win," there is fun and fulfillment in the fact that we have been involved, with other good people, in something worthwhile. We need hope.

“An optimist isn't necessarily a blithe, slightly sappy whistler in the dark of our time. To be hopeful in bad times is not just foolishly romantic. It is based on the fact that human history is a history not only of cruelty but also of compassion, sacrifice, courage, kindness. What we choose to emphasize in this complex history will determine our lives. If we see only the worst, it destroys our capacity to do something. If we remember those times and places -- and there are so many -- where people have behaved magnificently, this gives us the energy to act, and at least the possibility of sending this spinning top of a world in a different direction. And if we do act, in however small a way, we don't have to wait for some grand utopian future. The future is an infinite succession of presents, and to live now as we think human beings should live, in defiance of all that is bad around us, is itself a marvelous victory.” **Howard Zinn**

King County Democrats to reorganize Dec. 4

During December and January each county organization and legislative district organization of the Washington State Democratic Party convenes a reorganization meeting for the purpose of electing new officers. Precinct Committee Officers elected Sept. 14 will take office officially on Dec. 1. They will be the only ones eligible to vote for their top officers in their respective district and county organizations. The King County Democratic Central Committee reorganization meeting will begin at **9:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 4**. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. at a location to be announced. Download the agenda and rules from the appropriate links at <http://www.kcdems.org>

Neighboring districts' reorganization meeting schedules

11th: 6 p.m. Dec. 10, Renton Carpenters Hall, 231 Burnett Ave. N., Renton.
Contact: Susan Sheary, 425-228-4729. [Map It](#)

30th: 7 p.m. Dec. 1, Federal Way Senior Center, 4016 S. 352nd St., Federal Way. Contact: Paul Mallary, 253-833-4085. [Map It](#) **31st, 34th:** Locations TBA (34th will meet at 7 p.m. Dec. 8).

37th: 7 p.m. Dec. 13, Central Area Senior Center, 500 30th Ave. S., Seattle.
Contact: Dian Ferguson, 206-723-5532. [Map It](#)

47th: 7 p.m. Dec. 1, Machinists Hall, A St. SW/2nd St. SW, Auburn.
Contact: Tyler Page, 253-631-6612. [Map It](#)

Our endorsements: How they fared

President-Vice President: John Kerry and John Edwards won in our state, giving field organizer Amy Meadows a 23rd birthday present, but they did not win the U.S. popular vote or Ohio's Electoral College votes. They do, however, have 56 million new (and angry) friends.

U.S. Senate: Patty Murray stomped on George Nethercutt, becoming only the third Democrat in state history to win three consecutive terms in the U.S. Senate. (The other two are a couple of guys named Warren Magnuson and Henry Jackson. You may have heard of them.)

U.S. House, 8th District: Dave Ross went back to his radio job ...

U.S. House, 9th District: ... but Mr. (Adam) Smith is going back to the other Washington.

Governor: Christine Gregoire may yet beat Dino Rossi, but at press time, it was anybody's guess. Meanwhile, she's asking for money at <http://www.gregoireforgovernor.com>

Attorney General: Deborah Senn lost to Rob McKenna. At least Julia Patterson won't have to listen to him whine at King County Council meetings much longer.

Auditor: Brian Sonntag didn't have any trouble getting re-elected. His Republican opponent had a police record. Enough said.

Secretary of State: Laura Ruderman lost her bid on our behalf, and at press time there was no word on whether Sam Reed gave her a ride home in that fancy state car he bought. What we do know is her campaign is \$37,000 in debt. So keep sending checks to the Friends of Laura Ruderman at 16625 Redmond Way, Suite M #465, Redmond, WA 98052, or donate on-line at www.lauraruderman.com

Treasurer: Mike Murphy doesn't need your money. He won easily.

Commissioner of Public Lands: Mike Cooper lost to the incumbent, Doug Sutherland. Mike doesn't need as much of your money; he's only \$5,000 in debt. But you can send donations to P.O. Box 1324, Edmonds, WA 98020 or donate on-line at www.mikecooper.org

Washington State House of Representatives: Shay Schual-Berke and Dave Upthegrove (33rd); Mark Miloscia (30th); and Geoff Simpson and Pat Sullivan (47th) all won, or at least were leading at press time. But Joe Henry (30th) did not prevail against Skip Priest.

Referendum 55 (Charter Schools): NO (the voters agreed with us)

Initiative 297 (Hanford Cleanup): YES (then they agreed with us again)

Initiative 872 (Top 2 or "Cajun" primaries): NO (but they didn't agree with us on this one)

Initiative 884, (Raise sales tax 1% to create K-12 education fund): YES (or this one)

Initiative 892 (Tim Eyman's gambling initiative): NO (voters sided with us again)

County Initiative 18 (reduce County Council to nine members): NO (voters disagreed)

County Proposition 1 (advisory ballot on proposed RTID plan): YES (voters agreed)

The Demo-Chat 2004

33rd Legislative District Democrats

2035 S. 223rd Street

Des Moines, WA 98198

E-mail: demochat@33rdDems.org

Message board: 33rdDistrictDemocrats@yahoogroups.com

Visit us on the World Wide Web:

<http://www.33rdDems.org>

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**For more Democratic Party
information, visit these web sites:**

<http://www.wa-democrats.org>

<http://www.kcdems.org>

or call Tara Jo Heinecke, 206-870-8819

Upcoming Events ...

Thursday, Nov. 11, 2004, 6:30 p.m.

33rd LD E-Board Meeting

Carpenters Specialties Training Center

20424 72nd Avenue South, Kent

Information: Tara Jo Heinecke, 206-870-8819

Thursday, Dec. 9, 2004, 6:30 p.m.

33rd LD E-Board Meeting

Carpenters Specialties Training Center

20424 72nd Avenue South, Kent

Tara Jo Heinecke, 206-870-8819

Monday, Nov. 15, 2004, 7 p.m.

33rd LD General Meeting

Normandy Park Congregational Church

19247 First Avenue South, Normandy Park

Information: Tara Jo Heinecke, 206-870-8819

Monday, Dec. 13, 2004, 7 p.m.

33rd LD Reorganization Meeting

Normandy Park Congregational Church

19247 First Avenue South, Normandy Park

Information: Tara Jo Heinecke, 206-870-8819

Save the Dates:

Saturday, Dec. 4: King County Democrats Re-Org

Sunday, Dec. 19: Holiday party at Shay Schual-Berke's home