



## 11th LD Democratic Organization Chair

Susan Kruller

Spring has arrived and the 11<sup>th</sup> Legislative Democrats have their house in order for CY2009! Our meeting was a perfect combination of business and camaraderie! We got a chance to meet new 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District candidate Suzan DelBene. This was her first introduction to the 11th LD Democrats. Members got a chance to put pointed questions and comments to her. She said the exchange was important to her, and she wants the conversations to be ongoing.

The elected and appointed PCOs exercised their voting privilege to amend our by-laws in positive ways: (1) While our organization prefers to endorse candidates after the filing period, it makes sense to process endorsement considerations for candidates we have previously endorsed well before then (typically they are well-known by us and are running for re-election) – and now our by-laws specifically state that. (2) There is a new provision to allow a Chair-appointed Deputy Treasurer to be part of the group authorized to sign checks for the organization. There is a LOT to the Treasurer's job and this option provides support to the new Treasurer during the transition. This will make the arrangement more effective when an outgoing Treasurer is asked to return in a mentoring role as Deputy Treasurer (provides the ability to work solutions – not just give advice).

The entire Membership voted to approve the CY-2009 11<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Calendar (we'll get it published on the website, so everyone can make plans to attend events and activities). We also voted to support resolutions on an international and national scale, concerning Middle East peace measures and asking the DNC to provide national coordination and technology support related to VoteBuilder.

Then everyone agreed that we had been so effective we should wrap up the business end of our meeting and get into the spirit of the Irish holiday! I'm telling you there was splendid music to dance a jig to, a brain twister of a quiz challenging us to demonstrate our knowledge of who has been appointed to what position in the O'Bara Administration (I didn't know so many of them were Irish!), and we mixed in an exceptional round of raffle items, along with St. Patrick's Day related snacks, desserts and beverages to make for nice celebration!

### Upcoming Programs

\*\*\* Be sure to attend our next meeting on **Tuesday, April 21, 2009 – 7 p.m. at Carpenter's Hall**. The race for the King County Executive position is heating up. We've received requests to speak before the membership from both of the two King County Council Members who have announced they are running for that seat. Many of us are torn on this choice because we have supported both for quite a while now. This is a chance to hear what each has to say about how they would lead King County during these challenging times and why they deserve your vote.

We have also received a request from King County Council Member Julia Patterson to consider her for an endorsement as she is planning to run for re-election in her current post. After that, we will hold a lively discussion about any and all local election information and issues we know about – so we can be as informed and up to date as possible on what's happening right now. I hope to see you there April 21!

**Welcome to the  
11th Legislative Democratic Organization**

**You are Invited to attend the Monthly  
Meetings and engage in democracy in action!**

**Your dues enable you to receive the district newsletter, help us defer our  
meeting expenses, and support our efforts on behalf of Democratic candidates.**

**We provide or participate actively in fun and informative  
opportunities to reach out to Democrats and other voters in the 11th District.**

**Your volunteer efforts will further our goal  
of active members in all of the 11th District precincts.**

**We welcome you!**

The King County Democrats' Newsletter is available at:  
<http://www.kcdems.net/>

### 2009— 2011 11th Legislative District Democratic Organization Executive Board

Officers				
Chair	Susan	Kruller	206-853-9330	<a href="mailto:11demschair@gmail.com">11demschair@gmail.com</a>
Vice-Chair	Jay	Hollingsworth	206-725-4735	<a href="mailto:jayholli1@msn.com">jayholli1@msn.com</a>
Treasurer	Kathy	Pouncy	425-271-4717	<a href="mailto:vitaltouch@hotmail.com">vitaltouch@hotmail.com</a>
Deputy Treasurer	Chuck	Laney	425-260-5824	<a href="mailto:claney06@gmail.com">claney06@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Karen	Patterson	425-226-5066	<a href="mailto:khenry1994@hotmail.com">khenry1994@hotmail.com</a>
WSDCC - Male	Azziem	Underwood	425-430-2652	<a href="mailto:meizza@yahoo.com">meizza@yahoo.com</a>
WSDCC - Female	Martha	Koester	206-762-6417	<a href="mailto:formalhaut2003@yahoo.com">formalhaut2003@yahoo.com</a>
KCDCC – Male	Dennis	Moyers	425-687-0158	<a href="mailto:dennis.moyers@gmx.com">dennis.moyers@gmx.com</a>
KCDCC - Female	Rosemary	Quesenberry	425-271-4396	<a href="mailto:running4renton@msn.com">running4renton@msn.com</a>
KCDCC - M Alt	Chris	Hintz	435-442-0153	<a href="mailto:chrishintz1@yahoo.com">chrishintz1@yahoo.com</a>
KCDCC - F Alt	Brooke	Lindquist	425-255-8419	<a href="mailto:brook.lindquist@gmail.com">brook.lindquist@gmail.com</a>
KCDCC - LAC	Don	Bennett	206-242-9113	<a href="mailto:bennettdonebe@aol.com">bennettdonebe@aol.com</a>
Appointments				
Programs Parliamentarian	Brendan	Donckers		<a href="mailto:bwdonckers@gmail.com">bwdonckers@gmail.com</a>
Raffle	Azziem	Underwood	425-430-2652	<a href="mailto:meizza@yahoo.com">meizza@yahoo.com</a>
Membership Retention	George	Summers	206-244-0632	<a href="mailto:g.e.summers@worldnet.att.net">g.e.summers@worldnet.att.net</a>
Webmaster	Alene	Brede	206-396-1237	<a href="mailto:alene@theflutededge.com">alene@theflutededge.com</a>
PCO Activities	Grubb	Larry	206-243-3199	<a href="mailto:larbeag@hotmail.com">larbeag@hotmail.com</a>
Newsletter Editor				

11th Legislative District Monthly Meeting  
Tuesday March 17, 2009 - 7:00 p.m.  
Carpenter's Hall – 231 Burnett Avenue North

**Renton, Washington 98057**

Meeting Minutes

**7:00 p.m.**

Call to Order  
Flag Salute

**7:05 p.m.**

Approve Past Minutes/Approve Agenda  
Announcements and Introductions

**7:10 p.m.**

Suzan DelBene (Candidate for 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District) – This was Suzan's first introduction to the 11th LD Dems. She remarked that the feedback and advice received from 11LD members was valuable to her in the early days of her campaign. She want the conversations to be ongoing and looks forward to returning to 11th LD soon.

**7:25 p.m.** – Vote on Proposed By-Laws Change (Elected and Appointed PCOs voting only) - MSA

**7:35 p.m.** – Vote to approve Proposed 2009 11<sup>th</sup> LD calendar (Entire Membership voting) - MSA

**7:45 p.m.** - New Business

\* Resolutions prepared for and submitted by Martha Koester, recommended to the Membership  
MSA – Middle East Peace Measures Resolution  
MSA – DNC Coordinated Technology Support Resolution (regarding VoteBuilder)

**8:00 p.m.**

Program: St. Patrick's Day activities of interest regarding the same (fine Irish music, good competition for the political match quiz, excellent raffle prizes, St. Paddy's related snacks, desserts and beverages to make for nice celebration)!

**Break**

**8:10 p.m.** - Brief Officer and Committee Reports - Truncated for holiday celebration

**8:30 p.m.** - Old Business: Truncated for holiday celebration

**8:45 p.m.** - Raffle Prizes

**8:50 p.m.** - Good of the Order

**9:00 p.m.** - Adjourn



### What will happen to our resolutions next?

We passed a resolution on the Middle East and another requesting more technology resources from the Democratic National Committee. Check out the files section of our Yahoo group for copies. I have submitted these to the state party office well in advance of the April 17<sup>th</sup> deadline. They will be sent, along with other resolutions, to members of the Resolutions Committee, consisting of state committeemen and women who have been appointed to that committee. Each member volunteers to look over resolutions on a particular topic.

If several similar resolutions are submitted, the person in charge of the relevant topic may pick the most comprehensive to use as a starting point and add material from the others. They will present their work to the committee as a whole, and the committee will sort them into the recommendation categories DO PASS, DO PASS WITH AMENDMENTS, REFER and DO NOT PASS. The recommendations are then referred to the general meeting.

A few years ago, passing resolutions was a very contentious process because they were dealt with one at a time on the floor of the general meeting, and the committee people often got bogged down on one or two and the rest had to be tabled. Now, the chair of the Resolutions committee asks for approval of all the resolutions by category and directs all of the committee people to pull resolutions for further discussion if they don't agree with the categorization. After the resolutions which will be discussed are pulled, all of the non-controversial ones are passed all at once.

Common reasons for recommending that resolutions not be passed are 1) that almost identical resolutions have been passed within the last couple of years (all available at the state party website), 2) that the resolution has been combined with another resolution, 3) that there is a conflict with the state party platform, 4) that the Resolutions Committee can't understand what the resolution means, or it lacks supporting evidence (in which case it is referred back to the maker for clarification), 5) that the resolution deals with material that ought to be reviewed by one of the other standing committees (Technology or Affirmative Action, for instance) or 6) the resolution deals with an issue that does not apply to the entire state.

In that last cast, the idea is to avoid resolutions that, for instance, commend or criticize one of the nine Washington congressional representatives for some legislative action. Those resolutions should stop at the level of the legislative district and county organizations in the congressperson's actual district. The state organization does not accept resolutions recommending actions by cities or county councils for the same reason. The governor and our senators are fair game, though.

If you want to watch the process yourself, the next quarterly meeting will be in Tacoma on April 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> at the Hotel Murano. Rooms are \$138 for a double, an expense which is typical, so it's a good idea to take advantage when the meetings are held within easy driving distance. A likely fate of the Middle East resolution is that it will be combined with some of its other versions and then get pulled for discussion by the general body regardless of the recommendation of the Resolutions Committee. The technology support resolution may well be referred to the Technology Committee.

If you'd like more information, please contact either me or Azziem Underwood.

Martha Koester

### What you can do about getting universal health care, and other things too.

Senator Murray has advised health care activists that she is not hearing much from people about health care. She has also said that she heard far more from opponents of Obama's stimulus plan than from supporters. If we are serious about hope and change, every one of us needs to make a commitment to contact our representatives on a weekly basis and the White house as well.

As we've already seen with everything Obama has attempted so far, Republicans have been a united front against it. Expect exactly the same behavior with health care. In 1993 conservative pundit Irving Kristol advised the GOP that the Clinton proposal "should not be amended; it should be erased," because "it will revive the reputation of the party that spends and regulates, the Democrats, as the generous protector of middle-class interests." In 2008, the Cato Institute has stated that "blocking Obama's health plan is key to the GOP's survival. If Obama succeeds in passing health care then people who might have been conservatives will like it and will be more likely to vote for the people who passed it."

The only way to counter this is to mobilize public support for universal health care that our representatives can't ignore. Call your senators and representatives at least once a week--if not always on health care, choose other areas of interest. If once a week is too much, make it once every two weeks or once a month.



(Con't. p. 5)

Ask Senators Murray and Cantwell to support a Senate version of HR 676/1200. Only Congressman McDermott currently supports single payer universal health care. Lobby the others to do so and ask Congressman McDermott to lobby the other members of Washington State's congressional delegation.

Senator Patty Murray: 202-224-2621, 206-553-5545

Senator Maria Cantwell: 202-224-3441, 206-220-6400

WA-07, Jim McDermott: 202-225-3106, 206-553-7170

WA-08, Dave Reichert: 202-225-7761, 206-275-3438

WA-09, Adam Smith: 202-225-8901, 253-896-3775

If you don't let Obama know what you are thinking, rest assured that those people who are constantly attacking him are certainly going to do so.

Log on to [http://change.gov/agenda/health\\_care\\_agenda/](http://change.gov/agenda/health_care_agenda/) frequently, and voice your support for single payer health care, accountability for bailout money, etc. <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/> is the general email contact form, and the comment line numbers are 202-456-1111, 202-456-1112 and 202-456-1414,

As FDR once said to A. Phillip Randolph, "You know, Mr. Randolph, I've heard everything you've said tonight, and I couldn't agree with you more. I agree with everything that you've said, including my capacity to be able to right many of these wrongs and to use my power and the bully pulpit." He said, "But I would ask one thing of you, Mr. Randolph, and that is go out and make me do it."

Sign the John Conyers single payer health care petition by clicking on: <http://johnconyers.com/transition>

At the state level, ask our representatives to support the Washington Health Security Trust, a single payer plan for Washington State. This year's legislation will be enabling legislation only, without provision for funding. However, we do need to build support for universal health care at all levels.

Senator Margarita Prentice: 360-786-7616

Rep. Zack Hudgins: 360-786-7956

Rep. Bob Hasegawa: 360-786-7862

Join state legislative district action teams with Health Care for All-Washington <http://www.healthcareforallwa.org/>. The South Seattle Action Team is for people who live in the 11<sup>th</sup>, 34<sup>th</sup> and 37<sup>th</sup> Legislative districts. The next meeting will be on May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 2-4pm at the Beacon Hill Library. 2821 Beacon Ave S.

- 11<sup>th</sup> LD Action Team Facilitator: Martha Koester - [fomalhaut2003@yahoo.com](mailto:fomalhaut2003@yahoo.com)
- 34<sup>th</sup> LD Action Team Facilitator: David McLanahan - [pnhp.westernwashington@comcast.net](mailto:pnhp.westernwashington@comcast.net)
- 37<sup>th</sup> LD Action Team Facilitator: Don Mitchell - [dwmitchell@stanfordalumni.org](mailto:dwmitchell@stanfordalumni.org)

Physicians for National Health Care has a Western Washington chapter—you don't have to be a doctor to join. <http://www.pnhpwesternwashington.org/>.

Join the Progressive Democrats of America's Health Care Not Warfare campaign. <http://pdamerica.org/articles/misc/2008-02-29-14-19-42-misc.php>

Consumers Union, a long-time advocate of universal health care, is collecting health care stories. Tell them yours. [http://www.prescriptionforchange.org/share\\_your\\_story.html](http://www.prescriptionforchange.org/share_your_story.html)

#### **Other upcoming health care events**

*4th Annual Public Meeting of Physicians for National Health Care—Western Washington*

*Health Reform In The Obama Era: Can Change Really Happen?*

Featuring:

Jim McDermott, MD - US House of Representatives, Author HR 1200

Oliver Fein, MD, National President, PNHP, Assoc. Dean, Weill Medical College, Cornell University

Robby Stern, Chair, Healthy Washington Coalition

FRIDAY, APRIL 3 @ 7pm

Kane Hall Room 120, University of Washington Campus

Easy parking under Kane Hall, enter via 15th Ave

Admission - FREE

For more information visit [www.pnhpwesternwashington.org](http://www.pnhpwesternwashington.org)

*Mothers Leading the Way for Quality Affordable Health Care March*

MAY 30 late morning

Get involved in putting on this event. The program, logistics, outreach, fundraising and media/publicity committees are looking for help. Contact [lynne@washingtoncan.org](mailto:lynne@washingtoncan.org), 206-805-6676



**Upcoming 11<sup>th</sup> District Meetings**

General Membership Meeting  
Tuesday, April 21, 2009 7:00 PM  
Renton Carpenters Hall, 231 Burnett Avenue North

**Executive Board Meeting: Thursday April 2 – 7pm**  
Renton Carpenters Hall, 231 Burnett Avenue North

**Official Call**

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Tuesday April 21, 2009 - 7:00 p.m.  
Carpenter's Hall – 231 Burnett Avenue North

Renton, Washington 98057

Proposed Agenda

(Endorsements will be considered)

7:00 p.m.  
Call to Order  
Flag Salute

7:05 p.m.  
Approve Past Minutes/Approve Agenda  
Announcements and Introductions

7:10 p.m.  
King County Council Member: Dow Constantine (Candidate for King County Executive)

7:20 p.m.  
King County Council Member: Larry Phillips (Candidate for King County Executive)

7:30 p.m. – Endorsement considerations of candidates running for re-election who have been previously endorsed by this organization (not running against another of the same).

7:35 p.m.  
Program: Focus on Local Elections coming up. What positions are open? Who has announced? What we know about new candidates running.

7:45 p.m. Report on the Issues Event held March 22 by the 11<sup>th</sup> Legislative District – Jay Hollingsworth

8:00 p.m.

Break

8:10 p.m. - Brief Officer and Committee Reports

8:30 p.m. - Old Business

8:40 p.m. - New Business

\* Resolutions prepared for and submitted to the Executive Board, that is recommended to the Membership

8:45 p.m. - Raffle Prizes

8:50 p.m. - Good of the Order

9:00 p.m. - Adjourn

*The 11th District Journal is published on a monthly basis as a means of notice of general membership meetings. It is published and distributed about 10 days preceding general meetings pursuant to District Bylaws.*

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

11th District Democrats  
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