



The 11th District Journal



September 2009 Volume 7, Issue 9

11th LD Democratic Organization Chair

Kate Kruller

At the 11th Legislative District, we're doing what it takes to put Democrats first! That effort comes home to us in very special ways sometimes. One example is how we stay connected with our elected officials. U.S. Congressman Jim McDermott arranged for a two-hour meeting with a short list of district leaders this month (we're talking about eight people in the room) - to listen to us about what we see at the grassroots level. Jay Hollingsworth and I were there to be involved in a discussion that covered Health Care, Environment, Education, the Economy and local elections/preferences in the region. We both came away feeling that it was a unique experience and how fortunate we are to live in a time where everything we do can make a difference to the nation, and at home. We will also have a staff member from McDermott's office report to the membership at our next meeting. Jay and I also enjoyed an independent meeting with U.S Senator Patty Murray's Campaign Manager. The topic was specific to the 11th Legislative District Democrats and constituents we have been in touch with through our outreaches over the summer. Similarly, the conversation was focused on what perception people have on current events and how that hits home for those who live here - and what we think our Senator should be doing. It was also an important opportunity to make sure we understand her accomplishments and what to expect from her going forward. All in all, I'm pleased to report that in the constantly changing political landscape, our national delegation is listening to us.

In August, we'll held our Annual 11th Legislative District Picnic on August 9. It was another perfect day in the sun! Chair Rosemary Quesenberry out did herself in putting together a great event! We had plenty of great food, along with electeds and candidates on hand to mingle with us all. We're talking Senator Margarita Prentice, Representative Bob Hasegawa, Senator Karen Kaiser, Representative Tina Orwell, KC Assessor Candidate Lloyd Hara and KC Executive Dow Constantine (and his parents)! We enjoyed the company of a number of folks who joined in the fun from the 33rd and 34th LD! I especially want to note that Larry Grubb got up at dark-thirty a.m. to make sure we had the place reserved for our event—and invited our favorite pair of guitar-slinging, great song-singing talent, who became "Troubadours" to add to the fun at this family event. Chuck Laney gets extra applause for coming through with additional tables under the shelter (some five picnic tables were missing when we arrived, so he went back to Renton to get enough for our party).

Tukwila Days came around on August 15 and I had a whole host of members that made it down to man the booth for the day: Don Bennett, Janette Kelley, Pam Carter, Martha Koester and Larry Grubb—thanks you guys and gals! It really makes a difference when we have a strong group of folks to talk with festival attendees. The nature of this event brings citizens and local electeds to our door—we saw Tukwila School Board members, Tukwila City Planning Commission members, our favorite Tukwila Council Member De'Sean Quinn and his family! Representative Zack Hudgins came by to talk with constituents and exchange ideas with us as well - we love it!

Organizational Changes: I want to notify the membership that our district has the need to fill two open elected positions on our Executive Board in September: (1) Treasurer; and (2) Male Representative to the King County Democratic Central Committee. These vacancies represent a chance for two members to take the "next step" in their political activism. Only credentialed Precinct Committee Officers can vote for candidates running for these positions. You do not have to be a PCO to be nominated. One job will allow someone to work with our past Treasurer to learn the ropes on how to keep our records up to date each month on where we stand financially. We are currently in the "off years" where the business of the district is much more stable and so it is very easy to learn. The other job is working at the county level of the Democratic Party representing our membership on the issues. While you bring the conscience of the 11th LD to the meetings and vote accordingly, it is also a great chance to learn more about what other districts in the county are doing and what everyone is focused on at the county level. In both positions, the elected person has a voice and vote at our Executive Board meetings. We will work hard to make both of these jobs manageable for those elected. Think about whether you could contribute to the organization in either capacity. If so, throw your hat in the ring when we take nominations at our September meeting.

Upcoming Programs

*** Be sure to attend our next **General Membership Meeting on Tuesday September 15, 2009 – 7 p.m. at Carpenter's Hall.** We will open with a short report from US Congressman Jim McDermott's Office. Then, with the primary behind us, there is an opportunity for our membership to revisit races where the top-two process did not select any of our endorsed candidates. We can also take a look at candidates in races where the filing did not close before our July meeting. We will also consider ballot issues that are seeking endorsements or that need to be addressed by resolutions. This should be lively! Be sure to arrive early for good parking and seats! We will start this meeting at 7 p.m. sharp! I look forward to seeing you there!

*** **Fiestas Patrias Parade in South Park – Saturday, September 19 (Parade line up 10 a.m.; Parade starts at 11a.m.)** - It is now a renewed tradition for us to be a part of the Fiestas Patrias Parade in South Park! This year we are very proud to announce that our own Senator Margarita Prentice will be the Grand Marshall of the parade leading at the front! This year's theme is "LA MUJER LATINA" translation: "THE LATIN WOMAN"- and we think that's perfect! The 11th LD Democrats will go through shortly after Senator Margarita Prentice and there is a great celebration at the end of the short route. South Park is just across the Duwamish River from Boeing Field (the parade starts not far from the IAM Hall). The parade starts at 12th Avenue South and South Henderson up on the hill. Find a place to park and join us! Call me when you get there at 206.853.9330 and we'll talk you to where we are in the parade. This is really a special opportunity to be included in a rich cultural event – Yours truly will help organize it and if you participate you will not be able to stop talking about what you see and hear! Call me if you want to get involved!

GO DEMS! Kate Kruller – Chair, 11th Legislative District Democratic Organization

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 newsletter has gone totally electronic and is available online in PDF format at the [11th LD website](#) and via email. The digital format is in color with active links. You can change the text size to fit your preference.

There are some great new features at the 11th LD [website](#). Join the Discussion Group and be heard by the entire membership. You will find it at <http://www.11thliddems.org>

Some members of the 11th LD Dems are receiving the monthly newsletter email notice when it is posted. If you would like to also receive this notice for the newsletter to see in color with active links, send me an e-mail message at 11demschair@gmail.com with: Newsletter in the subject and you will be added to the emailing list.

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

2009— 2011 11th Legislative District Democratic Organization Executive Board

Officers

Chair	Kate	Kruller	206-853-9330	11demschair@gmail.com
Vice-Chair	Jay	Hollingsworth	206-725-4735	jayholli1@msn.com
Treasurer				
Deputy Treasurer	Chuck	Laney	425-260-5824	claney06@gmail.com
Secretary	Karen	Patterson	425-226-5066	khenry1994@hotmail.com
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WSDCC - Female	Martha	Koester	206-762-6417	formalhaut2003@yahoo.com
KCDCC - Male				
KCDCC - Female	Rosemary	Quesenberry	425-271-4396	running4renton@msn.com
KCDCC - M Alt	Chris	Hintz	435-442-0153	chrshintz1@yahoo.com
KCDCC - F Alt	Brooke	Lindquist	425-255-8419	brook.lindquist@gmail.com
KCDCC - LAC	Don	Bennett	206-242-9113	bennettdonebe@aol.com
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Programs				
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Webmaster	Alene	Brede	206-396-1237	alene@theflutededge.com
PCO Activities	Grubb	Larry	206-243-3199	larbeag@hotmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Young	Virginia	206-650-0240	greenrolls3@msn.com

11TH LD TREASURER



Please Send in Your 2009 Membership Dues Now
(Make checks payable to the 11th District Democrats)



Memberships:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Membership \$15.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership \$27.00 |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Liberty Membership \$100.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Subscription only \$10.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Silver Membership \$250.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Sponsorship \$100.00 |
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NAME _____

(Please list all household names joining if membership is for Family or Sponsor)

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Send to: 11th District Democrats c/o 11th LD Treasurer:

PO BOX 1133, Renton, WA. 98057-1133

I-1033

If you're like me, when you see an Eyman initiative, you have a knee-jerk reaction to oppose it. But what do you know about his latest initiative, 1033? Basically, it would restrict the growth of government general fund revenues and result in lower property tax rates. Sounds good, doesn't it? Ah, but the devil is always in the details.

Under this initiative, the annual growth of state, city and county general fund revenues would be limited by an arbitrary formula based on the rate of inflation and population growth. Any revenue in excess of this limit would be used to reduce the next year's property taxes.

This means that if/when the economy rebounds in the next couple of years, governments would not be able to restore the draconian cuts taken during this recession. It would increase the current state deficit and at the same time require property tax cuts. And the effects would grow worse with each passing year.

The I-1033 formula leaves no room for the unanticipated costs of natural disasters like the maybe a swine flu epidemic or massive earthquake or the effect of unfunded mandates like No Child Left Behind. If/when one of those occurs, the budget will have to absorb the costs by cutting more money for essential services.

Eyman touts his initiative as a way to control the growth of government and provide property tax relief. Well, it would not only control growth but force government to cut services and programs. And it does nothing to ensure that property tax relief would be properly targeted to those who need it most.

This measure is similar to Colorado's revenue limitation, the Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR), which was such a disaster that in 2005 citizens voted to suspend the law for five years to stop the deterioration of their state. Even the legislator who originally lead the fight for TABOR realized it was hurting the state and supported its suspension.

So if you're pleased with the current state budget, if you like the county cuts to essential human services, if you think our schools can do a better job if they had less money – then by all means vote for I-1033. As for me, my vote is a very strong NO!

More information can be found at

<http://www.no1033.com/>

<http://no1033.com/pdfs/FactSheet.pdf> (Washington State Budget & Policy Center analysis)

http://www.ofm.wa.gov/initiatives/i-1033_fiscal_impact.pdf (Fiscal Impact Statement from Office of Financial Management)

-- Pam Carter

Your legislators and President Obama cannot read your mind about health care!

Our representatives are telling us that they have heard far more from angry and ignorant opponents of health care reform than from supporters, though we did get somewhat more organized after the first few Town Hall meetings.

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. Let's not let off-year election fatigue keep us from vocally supporting health care for all Americans. Do it as often as you can—once is not enough.

Legislator contact information

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

Toll free number: 1-866-220-0044

White House contact information

http://change.gov/agenda/health_care_agenda/

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>

Phones: 202-456-1111, 202-456-1112 and 202-456-1414

Send free faxes to members of key Congressional committees and other members of government at <http://www.1payer.net/>

State legislative district action teams with Health Care for All-Washington are still meeting.
<http://www.healthcareforallwa.org/>.

The South Seattle Action Team is for people who live in the 11th, 34th and 37th Legislative districts.
11th LD Action Team Facilitator: Martha Koester - fomalhaut2003@yahoo.com

34th LD Action Team Facilitator: David McLanahan - pnhp.westernwashington@comcast.net

37th LD Action Team Facilitator: Don Mitchell - dwmitchell@stanfordalumni.org

United for Single Payer—a new coalition of health care activists groups

www.unitedforsinglepayer.org/

The meetings are Wednesdays at 7PM the Swedish/Cherry Hill Campus (1600 E Jefferson St, Seattle), James Tower, Rm C

Upcoming 11th District Meetings

General Membership Meeting
Tuesday, September 15, 2009 7:00 PM
Renton Carpenters Hall, 231 Burnett Avenue North

Executive Board Meeting: Thursday October 1 – 7pm
Renton Carpenters Hall, 231 Burnett Avenue North

Official Call

11th Legislative District Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, September 15, 2009 - 7:00 p.m.
Carpenter's Hall – 231 Burnett Avenue North
Renton, Washington 98057
Proposed Agenda
(Endorsements may be considered)

7:00 p.m.

Call to Order
Flag Salute

7:05 p.m.

Approve Past Minutes
Approve Agenda

7:10 p.m.

A message from U.S. Congressman Jim McDermott - David Loud

7:30 p.m.

Endorsement Meeting Rules and Guidelines

7:35 p.m.

This meeting is an Endorsement Night and continues the endorsement process in areas not covered previously. Candidates (or representatives) who are present will get an opportunity to speak for two minutes and will answer up to 3 questions with 30 seconds or less response time. Ballot issues recommended for consideration by the Executive Board will also be considered. Take good notes – we will hear from all the candidates on the agenda, then vote after the break.

7:50 p.m. Nominations for Treasurer and KCDCC Male Representative. Credentialed PCOs present and voting only for these positions.

8:00 p.m.

Break

8:05 p.m.

11th LD Membership Endorsement Voting – Credentialed members only make nominations for endorsements and vote.

8:45 p.m. - Raffle Prizes

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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9:00 p.m. - Adjourn