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

Fellow Democrats.

November 3rd looms larger each day, we are less than two months away from what could be the most important election in our lives. It is imperative that we make Joe Biden the 46th President and restore honesty, compassion, and governance based in fact. We also need to re-elect Jay Inslee to lead us down the path to a green economy. And to put Gael Tarleton in place as the Secretary of State.

So, we work. And we need your help!

Our most effective means of voter contact this year the phone. We're calling voters here in the 34th and lending a hand in the 26th LD to flip a couple of state seats, in the 8th CD to keep Kim Schrier in the House...and helping to make North Carolina a Blue State.

Sign up here to help make calls!

Not into phone banking? There are other ways to help. 1st Vice Chair Rachel Glass has put together resources for getting started with alternate means of GOTV. Postcarding and text banking are useful tools in tight races across the country where just a few votes one way or another can sway an election. Work on a postcard campaign with Postcards To Voters. Text-Bank with Indivisible or the Sierra Club. These and other organizations pinpoint campaigns and give you the tools to effect the change we want to make!

We here in the 34th are lucky to have strong progressive representation, that frees us to assist in important races across the country.

Click to see Rachel's list!

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September 9, 2020

Online Meeting Notice
You Must Register to Attend:
Register Here

6:30 pm - Virtual Potluck: Miss the opportunity to connect with other 34th members? Grab your favorite snack and beverage and log on to the meeting at 6:30pm for a chance to catch up with friends from the 34th and to ask questions about our endorsement process. The official meeting will start at 7:00pm.

7:00 pm - Call to Order

Opening Ceremonies -

- Land acknowledgment: Jeff Sbaih
- · General meeting statement: Gina Topp
- Zoom logistics: Carla Rogers
- Adoption of August Minutes
- Adoption of September Agenda
- · VIP Acknowledgements

7:30 pm - Virtual Phone Banking

7:45 pm - Harborview Health for All—Yes on Proposition 1

7:50 pm - New Precinct Committee Officer Appointments

8:00 pm - Washington State Coordinated Campaign

8:10 pm - Endorsements

- King County Proposition 1
- Washington State Supreme Court

8:30 pm - Resolutions: Jordan Crawley

Two resolutions have been received by the Executive Board and moved to the General Membership with a recommendation for approval:

- 1. West Seattle Bridge Now (See Page 7).
- 2. Black Lives Matter (See Page 8).

9:00 pm - Adjourn

Renew or Become a Member click here

34dems.org

www.34dems.org/contribute

Executive Board

Elected Officers

Gina Topp | Chair chair@34dems.org

Rachel Glass | First Vice Chair vicechair1@34dems.org

Jesse Greene | Second Vice Chair vicechair2@34dems.org

Chris Porter | State Committee Person 1 wsdccm@34dems.org

Ann Martin | State Committee Person 2 wsdccw@34dems.org

Max Brown | King Co. Committeeperson 1 kcdccm@34dems.org

Leah Griffin | King Co. Committeeperson 2 kcdccw@34dems.org

Ted Barker | King Co. Committee Alt. 1 kcdccma@34dems.org

Martha Koester | King Co. Committee Alt. 2 kcdccwa@34dems.org

Carla Rogers | Secretary secretary@34dems.org

Ben Reilly | Treasurer treasurer@34dems.org

Committee Chairs

Art Chippendale | Bylaws bylaws@34dems.org

Rachel Glass | Caucus and Elections vicechair1@34dems.org

Carla Rogers | Communications digcomm@34dems.org

Jeff Sbaih | Social Justice & Equity inclusion@34dems.org

Currently Vacant | Events events@34dems.org

Dawn Rains | Finance finance@34dems.org

DeLancey Lane | Fundraising fundraising@34dems.org

Jesse Greene | Hospitality hospitality@34dems.org

Les Treall | Leadership Development future@34dems.org

Jordan Crawley | Legislative Action lac@34dems.org

Dawn Rains | Membership membership@34dems.org

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

Nick Bonazza | PCO Coordination pco@34dems.org

Gina Topp | Program chair@34dems.org

Other Roles

Steve Butts | Newsletter Editor newsletter@34dems.org

Allan Munro | Parliamentarian

Happy Birthday Georgie!

Long-time activist, writer, women's rights advocate...and 34th member...Georgie

Bright Kunkel turned 100 Monday August 31. She shared her experience working as real-life "Rosie the Riveter" with Seattle Times reporter Nicole Brodeur. Georgie described working at the Boeing plant in Chehalis, drilling holes into the wing panels of B-17 bombers. Georgie worked at Boeing for three summers, spending the rest of the year as an elementary-school teacher. She also talked a bit about her childhood in Lewis County

Read about those days here

The West Seattle blog also made mark of this major milestone, and posted a short video interview of Georgie taped a few years ago. In it she talks about her career as a local columnist and her writing technique.

See the video on the WS Blog



Photo by Patrick Sand/West Seattle Blog



Photo by Karen Richter.

Save the Post Office, Cancel Trump Instead!

Ann Martin waves while participating at the Burien "Save the Post Office" demonstration Tuesday August 25th. Behind her is Don Bennett from the 33rd District Democrats...a retired Postal Service Employee. Other 34th District Democrats present at the rally included Karen Richer and Marth Koester. There were similar shows of support at several other places in the 34th LD, going thousands of people across the country to take part in demonstrations that day in support of the USPS.



Our PCO Committee is ready to help you phone bank!

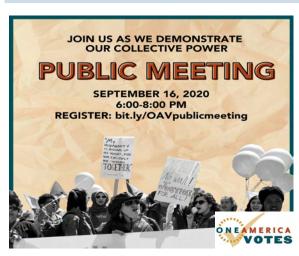
Top Row: Leah Griffin, Carla Rogers and Cat Floate (our Regional Field Organizer). Middle Row: Colleen Hinton, Max Brown and Committee Chair Nick Bonazza. Bottom Row: 34th Dems Chair Gina Topp and Jeff Sbaih

All Hands On Deck For Election 2020!

Phone Bank with the 34th Every Thursday and Saturday!

Are you are ready to help elect Democrats and win big in 2020? On the fence about phone banking and want to learn more?

Sign up online and one of our leads will contact you. Then join with other members online with Zoom and make calls together at a virtual phone bank. You'll get training, and you can ask questions and pick up tricks throughout the session.



Join OneAmerica Votes, its immigrant leaders, and community allies for a virtual public meeting on September 16 with Governor Jay Inslee and Washington Superintendent of Public Instruction Chris Reykdal. This is our moment to support immigrants in sharing their stories, demand change, and hold our elected officials in deep accountability.

Sept. 16, 6 - 8 pm on Virtual Zoom

<u>Click Here to Register</u>



September 20-24

- Special menus, drinks, & more at participating locations
- · Proceeds benefit the West Seattle Food Bank
- tasteofwestseattle.org



During the Taste of West Seattle 2020 neighbors can dine-in or get takeout and enjoy delicious food and drink from West Seattle's favorite participating eateries –restaurants, bakeries, wineries, breweries, and more!

Participating eateries will donate 10% of sales on special Taste Menu items back to the West Seattle Food Bank to support our neighbors!

<u>Click Here for More Information</u> to find out who the participating eateries will be!

Join PSARA (Puget Sound Advocates for Retirement Action)

for a webinar: After the 2020 Election: Demands for a Better Society

featuring Rep. Pramila Jayapal

speaking about the issues she looks forward to taking up in 2021 with a new Congress and under a new Administration. Also joining her to speak: Larry Brown, President of the Washington State Labor Council and Alex Lawson, Executive Director of Social Security Works



Co-sponsored by **the 34th District Democrats**, NOW Seattle, Pride At Work King County, Seattle Anti-War Coalition, Social Security Works, Transit Riders Union and the WA State Labor Council

Contact Information and Committee Assignments for Our Legislators

Senator Joe Nguyen

Human Services, Reentry & Rehabilitation (Vice Chair), Environment, Energy & Technology Rules Transportation



213 John A. Cherberg 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**

Environment & Energy (Chair) Appropriations Rural Development, Agriculture, & Natural Resources

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 October newsletter will be Friday September 25, 2020

Mail to Steve Butts, 10254 36th Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98146 or email to newsletter@34dems.org

In Case You Missed Our Last Meeting...

Second Vice Chair **Jesse Greene** welcomed attendees as they gathered into the digital space. He asked: "What are you doing for the election?". **Joey Shyloski** is sending postcards to the battleground state of Wisconsin. **Elizabeth Heath** and several others mentioned phonebanking. And new member **Hannah Cameron** is becoming a PCO. **Bunny Hatcher** is a National Delegate, was looking forward to "a whole lot of Zooming". (See *Bunny's personal account of her convention on page* 6.)

Jeff Sbaih gave acknowledgement to the Duwamish people who called this area home before White settlers arrived. He spoke of the landing at Alki, the subsequent takeover of the Seattle area, and gave a brief history of West Seattle. Jeff is now the Chair of our Social Justice & Equity Committee (nee Diversity and Inclusion). Jeff asked for those that wish to help in this endeavor to contact him: jsbaih@gmail.com

Chris Porter gave honor to late Georgia Congressman John Lewis by presenting a slide show of high points of his life. A shocking note: Lewis' great, great grandfather acquired a voting card in 1867. From that date, until after the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, nobody else in Lewis' family was able to vote again.

Max Brown gave a rundown of our phone-banking operation. This will be our main GOTV tool this year, as the pandemic will preclude most face to face interactions. He described the two phases of contact. Before the primary, we were contacting sporadic voters about whom we do not have good information as to their partisan leanings. We are working to identify Democrats to target in the GOTV effort for the General Election, particularly these inconstant voters. The individual voter who is contacted is 10-12% more likely to turn their ballot in than those who we don't talk to. Our Primary effort went through our district universe of voters one and a half times. As we head toward November 3rd, the population of voters we need to reach will double.

Max asked us to "dig deep" and find time to help. We are phonebanking as a group every Thursday evening and Saturday mornings. We gather together in Zoom, and there is training at the start of each session, with one of our leads on hand to help with questions.



Kathy Rawle explains the ins and outs of Text-Banking and Postcarding



King Co. Charter Review Commission member Rob Saka explained proposed amendments that will be on the November Ballot.

But some people don't enjoy phone-banking. Fortunately there are other methods that can be used...instead, or in addition to phoning.

Kathy Rawle explained the postcarding process, something she's been doing for three years. She mainly works with an organization called "Postcards to Voters". You provide the postcards and postage. PTV focuses primarily with downballot races, in which a slight uptick in turnout can have the most success. Kathy also participates in text-banking which uses online platforms, so you don't need to use your own phone. In addition to supporting candidates, volunteer texting is also being used to increase responses to the 2020 Census. These GOTV activities are easy to do, and the organizations provide training, with group participation and support on the Slack work platform. There are pre-written scripts for you to use.

Rachel Glass has compiled a list of resources that people can use to do postcarding and text-banking...here, and to help in important races across the country. Find it at: https://34dems.org/6167-2/

Nick Bonazza brought six new PCOs to the meeting for approval. Jordan Crawley (SEA 34-1435), Hannah Cameron (SEA 34-1456), Laura Goodsell-Stocki (SEA 34-1463), Erica Brody (SEA 34-1476), Richard Bartlett (SEA 34-1486), Sarah Koch (Glasgow)

Leah Griffin moved for and spoke to an Endorsement to Approve Referendum 90. This will uphold the new Washington state law requiring all public schools to teach age-appropriate, inclusive, comprehensive sexual health education to K-12 students. It was passed by acclimation.

We were given a presentation by cyber security and digital safety lawyer **Rob Saka**, who served on the Charter Review Commission to review the King County charter. He described the review process and presented the proposed amendments to the Charter, with emphasis on the proposed changes to the criminal legal system.



LAC Chair Jordan Crawley gives background information on three resolutions submitted for to the membership.

Six proposed amendments will be part of the November Election, shown here in ballot order. (The proposed justice reforms are in bold.)

- 1. Affordable Housing Changes (makes it easier for the County to dispose of land for less than full value if the land will be used for affordable housing)
- 2. Appointed Sheriff (returns the office of Sheriff to an appointed position)
- Inquests (grants an attorney to families during inquests process and requires an inquest for incustody deaths)
- 4. Removal of almost all references to citizenship in the charter
- 5. Additional non-discrimination protections for caregivers and military veterans A
- Adding subpoena power to the charter authority granted to the civilian Office of Law Enforcement Oversight (OLEO)

We took up a few resolutions, a couple of which had been languishing due to canceled meetings and our move online.

We passed a Resolution in Support of Washington Democrats' Commitment to Israeli-Palestinian Peace, and in Opposition to any Further Occupation, Settlement Expansion, or Other Unilateral Annexation of West Bank Territory.

We also approved a Resolution Defending Immigrant Rights. A third, a Resolution in Support of Political Consultants of Color Coalition, was tabled due to ongoing efforts by the State Party in working with the involved parties to reach an equitable solution.

Member **Michael Epton** proposed a policy working group to work on messaging and talking points "to produce zingers" to use in our campaign persuasion conversations. Interested people could meet up with him either online, or at his home, outside...with libations to stimulate conversation! To join Michael's group contact him at: **epton@drizzle.com**

An Unconventional Convention

Bunny Hatcher was a Bernie Sanders Delegate to Democratic National Convention, and shares her observations. She is the PCO of Cross Precinct on Vashon Island. She was our representative to the state party platform committee.

When I found out in early May that I had been elected a Bernie Sanders delegate to the Democratic National Convention I was thrilled. At that point there was still the

optimistic view that the pandemic would be brought under control and that we would convene in Milwaukee in July. As time went on, that became less and less likely. Our County Convention was postponed indefinitely (the platform I helped write awaits a vote to this day!). Then our State Convention became a virtual event. Even after moving the National Convention from July to August did not help, and we were informed that we would not be going to Wisconsin, but would instead conduct our Convention virtually.

Yeah, I felt like I was on a team that finally qualified for the Super Bowl, only to be told that we would play the big event as a video game.

Here let me give a huge shout out to Tina Podlodowski, Drew Estep and Anjali Naruli at the State party level for keeping all delegates up to date and making things run as smoothly as possible as the untried processes rollled out. They are total rock stars, especially Tina, who shouldered chairing both our State Convention and our State delegation when no one else volunteered.

As a Sanders delegate, I knew where things stood by the beginning of August as our first informational and instructional emails began pouring in. However, I was heartened when I received the Unity Agreement hammered out by the Biden and Sanders teams, especially since our own Pramila Jayapal was involved in the production of this 110 page document.

Because of the pandemic, much of the business that would have taken place at the Convention was handled remotely, with teams composed almost exclusively of East Coast moderates. We delegates were able to view some of these committee meetings but our input was limited to submitting written or video commentary in a short time window. As a result, much of what was featured in the Unity Agreement was not reflected in the Rules or Platform that emerged from the committees. Of course, Sanders delegates felt completely disenfranchised, and these feelings were not assuaged by comments from the Biden team (The "rage texting" between some folks is wonderful, but not shareable). Even the voting, which would have been done with great public fanfare, was conducted and completed several days before the actual Convention started on the 17th, and the results not disclosed until the end. Following collection of our ballots, the DNC removed opposition to fracking and subsidies from the Platform, saying they had been included by mistake. Despite howls of protest from delegates concerned about the environment, no re-vote was permitted. So a Platform passed that might otherwise have failed (Nearly 1100 delegates voted NO based on removal of the Medicare 4 All plank). So overall, all voices of dissent felt pretty severely squelched.

There, now I have filled you in on the not so good stuff. But there was some pretty awesome stuff, too



Our Roll Call, featuring shots from every State and Territory, was an amazing snapshot of our ethnic and geographic diversity, and should be the standard by which all future roll calls are judged. The speakers were absolutely the best I have ever heard at these events, the nightly Pledge of Allegiance really supported our "One Nation, Under God, Indivisible" claim, and the (formerly Dixie) Chicks rocked the National Anthem. And, let's face it, we got John Legend while Trump settles for Ted Nugent!!!

The best parts were all the events and caucuses and councils. While sitting on my sofa, I attended Labor, Poverty, Disabilities, Native American, Women's and other caucus/council meetings. Our State delegation had wonderful online events with other State

delegations, we celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment, and had karaoke "after parties". We had access to workshops put on by numerous partners. And we 23 Bernie delegates watched each night as a group on our own zoom feed, where the production values were mediocre, but the snark factor was priceless. I even participated in my first live Youtube performance and didn't screw it up. I love my fellow delegates so much, and we all look forward to gathering together at some point once it is safe to do so. I really hope that in the future I get a chance to represent our State at a Democratic National Convention in the traditional sense.

Resolution to Efficiently Establish Sustainable Means of Travel to and from West Seattle

Whereas, the Jeanette Williams Memorial Bridge ("West Seattle Bridge") was closed on March 23, 2020 due to critical structural issues; and

Whereas, the West Seattle Bridge functioned as the primary avenue of travel to and from West Seattle for more than 100,000 residents and guests every day; and

Whereas, the forthcoming reopening and expansion of industries in and near West Seattle will increase the need for effective and sustainable means of travel to and from West Seattle; and

Whereas, to meet current and future demand for such means, our government must efficiently develop and implement community-driven solutions; and

Whereas, the actions necessary for success require means which (1) at least maintain commute duration with equivalent traffic volumes, (2) incorporate safe traffic flow practices, (3) minimize environmental and socioeconomic impacts, and (4) complete projects before they are needed; and

Whereas, the ways in which we move forward should maximize positive impacts, such as convenience, safety, availability, accessibility, diversity of use, and accommodation of planned population growth; and

Whereas, the ways in which we move forward should minimize negative direct impacts, such as excessive cost, extended timelines, displacement of residential lot occupants, displacement of commercial lot occupants, removal of green space, unavailability or inaccessibility of transportation options, and excessive fines (tolls, tab fees, bus fares, etc.).

Whereas, the ways in which we move forward should minimize negative indirect impacts, such as environmental impact, economic impact, interference with activity in the vicinity of Harbor Island, the Duwamish River, and peripheral communities, disruption to local communities (road work, detours, and closures), and avoidance of increased property taxes which affect housing affordability; and

Whereas, including and empowering a diverse set of stakeholders from impacted communities as well as means to amplify the collective community voice will ensure solutions are aligned with community priorities and needs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE 34TH LD DEMOCRATS:

- Recognize the urgent need for the stabilization and repair or, if structural or financial circumstances dictate, replacement of the West Seattle Bridge (especially as the economy reopens further);
- Understand that West Seattle communities must be included and empowered in the process of developing solutions;
- 3. Understand the need for transparency in the process of developing solutions;
- 4. Will work to amplify community voices, especially those of marginalized communities; and
- 5. Will partner with West Seattle Bridge Now in communicating community priorities and needs to entities involved in the decision-making process.

Submitted by Jordan Crawley.



Resolution on the Black Lives Matter Movement

Whereas, this body acknowledges that racism is defined as the patterns of privilege, power and authority granted to one group over others based on race: and

Whereas, this body acknowledges that the United States was founded on the genocide of native people and appropriation of native land and the exploitation, dehumanization and oppression of Black people whom were descended from Africans who were kidnapped and forced into the system of chattel slavery; and

Whereas, this body acknowledges that systematic racism exists and is included in the police and institutions of governance in our country. We also acknowledge that the American police force developed in large part based on slave patrols in the South. Moreover, that anti-Black and racist practices have been embedded in the training and institutional culture of many police departments; and

Whereas, this body acknowledges that racist policies in America's past and present involved distributing resources in a discriminatory manner, thus depriving Black, Indigenous and other Communities of Color (hereafter 'BIPOC') of a decent standard of living and depriving them of the ability to develop and full enjoy the promise of freedom and equality in America; and

Whereas, this body acknowledges that the murder of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Giovonn Joseph-McDade and Charleena Lyles were unjustified killings of American citizens by police officers and vigilantes. These murders reflect a four-hundred-year history, that has been largely ignored or mischaracterized, of state and non-state sponsored aggression against Black people. Furthermore, this body demands justice pursuant to the standards laid out in the U.S. Constitution, and equal to what white victims receive, for each murder; and

Whereas, since 2014, millions of people have risen to demand that America acknowledges that BLACK LIVES MATTER and that policy, legal and cultural change must occur to reflect that; and

Whereas, this body acknowledges and embraces the wisdom of Rev. Doctor Martin Luther King Jr. that moderation and telling communities facing oppressive conditions that "waiting" is fundamentally unjust, and counter-productive to our values as Democrats; and

Whereas, this body acknowledges that as of the 2010 census, many majority BIPOC communities have emerged and have a diverse population from various racial and ethnic backgrounds within them;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE 34TH LD DEMOCRATS:

- 1. Fully supports the Black Lives Matter movement and stands in solidarity with the Black community against attack.
- 2. Commit themselves to supporting, recruiting and developing candidates of color whom share our values, and reflect a deep concern for our community.
- 3. Stands against gerrymandering which dilutes or intentionally excludes our BIPOC neighbors from being a part of our district.
- 4. Support allocating resources and changing policies on a local, state and national level to address systemic racism and repair the damage that has been done to our communities.

Original Author: Clifford Cawthon PCO, 47th LD

LDs approved: 47th and pending in the 33rd, with 36th and 43rd with similar resolutions



Virtual Delridge Day

Delridge Day would have been August 8th this year, if not for the coronavirus. Unable to hold the festival live, the organizers put on a virtual event in its place. Some of the usual participating groups presented short videos...and Chris Porter produced a clip for the 34th Dems. He made note of annual celebrations we've missed so far this year: Cinco de Mayo, Canada Day, 4th of July...and of course Pride Month...all in appropriate costume!

Click Here to See Chris' Video

Click Here for The Complete Virtual Delridge Day



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

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Sign up by filling out this form and mailing it with a check made payable to:

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*Employer	* Employer City
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\$ 180 Suggested Membership Donation Recurr	
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each individual whose contribution exceeds \$100 in the election cycle.