



34TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT DEMOCRATS

Burien Georgetown Pioneer Square SODO South Park West Seattle White Center Vashon/Maury Island

Chair's Message

Greetings 34th Neighbors -



Well here we are. Smack dab at the end of the Primary season. Have you dropped your ballot into those super cool blue and white ballot boxes? No? Stop procrastinating!!! It's Time! **BE A VOTER!**

What's next? The general election! This is where things get interesting and we need your help! Please consider signing up to volunteer. I am working with the DCCC field organization which is supporting Dr. Kim Schrier's race. We will play a part in this crucial race. WE MUST PRESERVE THAT SEAT! We will have sign up links available later in August. Watch my weekly emails! The Senate race and Secretary of State race are also important, with Patty Murray being challenged by a heavily funded GOP candidate. We have some big races to support here in the 34th as well and need volunteers to cover precincts where we do not have a PCO. Please consider supporting the local races and email Nick Bonazza at pco@34dems.org if you can help.

While we were technically taking July off, the work didn't stop. A special thanks to Gina Topp and her committee (Sara Smith, Soleil Lewis, Rachel Glass, Leah Griffin and myself) for hosting a fabulous and fun event where we raised in the neighborhood of \$12K! We will share exact figures at the August meeting. Dow Constantine did a great job of doing the 'ask' and all who attended had a great time. Our first in-person even in over 2 years is complete! Thank you everyone for your financial support of our organization.

Lastly, I need to start plugging the upcoming January 34th Reorganization. This is the time of year where we elect our executive board members - Chair, Vice Chair 1 & 2, Secretary and Treasurer, State Party reps and King County reps. We will share more about the roles in a fall meeting and in our fall emails and newsletters. It takes a ton of energy and effort to run this organization and we need to fill these roles with strong individuals. Please consider stepping up and running in January 2023!

As we enter August and continue to enjoy our gorgeous summer weather, I hope you all stay safe and healthy.

-- Carla Rogers

34th LD Democrats Chair -

chair@34dems.org - 206-432-1998

August 10, 2022

Meeting Notice - on Zoom

Register [HERE](#)

6:30pm - Pre-Meeting Program:

Police Reform Updates from Rob Saka

7:30pm - Call to Order

Opening Ceremonies & Chair's Remarks (10m)

Approval of Agenda and Minutes (2m)

Chair's Announcements (5m)

What's Ahead (5m)

Conserve Our Futures: YES on Prop. 1 (15m)

Motions for Endorsement of Ballot Initiatives (5m)

PCO Appointments & Upcoming Plans (10m)

Resolutions (10m)

Fundraiser Wrap Up (5m)

Good of the Order (5m)

9:00pm - Adjourn

Renew or Become a Member

click here

34dems.org

www.34dems.org/contribute

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Executive Board

Elected Officers

Carla Rogers | Chair
chair@34dems.org

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

Second Vice Chair | **Vacant**

Chris Porter | State Committee Person
wsdccc@34dems.org

Roxanne Thayer | State Committee Person
wsdccc@34dems.org

Ted Barker | King Co. Committeeperson
kcdccm@34dems.org

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

Aaron Garcia | King Co. Committee
kcdccma@34dems.org

Bunny Hatcher | King Co. Committee
kcdccwa@34dems.org

Sara Smith | Secretary
secretary@34dems.org

Julie Whitaker | Treasurer
treasurer@34dems.org

Committee Chairs

Sarah Koch | Bylaws & Rules
bylaws@34dems.org

Vacant | Caucus and Elections
caucus@34dems.org

Vacant | Community Partnerships
coalitions@34dems.org

Carla Rogers | Communications
digcomm@34dems.org

Bunny Hatcher | Endorsements & Resolutions
endorse-reso@34dems.org

Soleil Lewis | Equity & Social Justice
equity@34dems.org

Gina Topp | Fundraising & Events
fundraising@34dems.org

Trey Lykins | Membership & Hospitality
membership@34dems.org

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

Nick Bonazza | PCO Coordination
pco@34dems.org

Vacant | Platform & Legislative Action
lac@34dems.org

Rachel Glass | Programs
vicechair1@34dems.org

Other Roles

Zachary Ramels | Volunteer Coordinator
Volunteer@34dems.org

Carla Rogers | Webmaster
webmaster@34dems.org

Steve Butts | Newsletter Editor
newsletter@34dems.org

Gina Topp | Parliamentarian

Mark Your Calendar -

November Meeting Honors Rep. Eileen Cody

Save the date - **Wednesday, November 9th!**

We will have our second in-person meeting the night after the general election. The meeting will be one you won't want to miss. Our pre-meeting program will be a caucus-led pre-session Q&A with our legislators.

Our meeting will be more like a party when we honor our award winners for 2022 and recognize Representative Cody for her 28 years of service. More details will follow but please make plans to attend in person. (There will be no virtual meeting but we will stream on Youtube.)

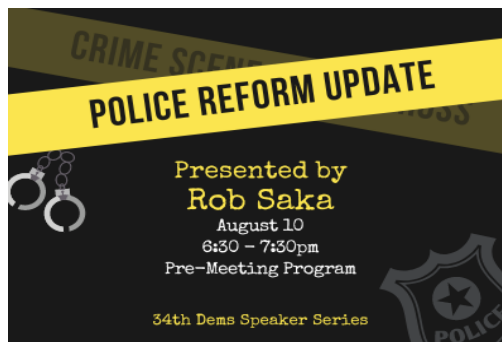
We are asking for a group of volunteers to work together to organize the event. If you are interested, please contact the chair at chair@34dems.org.



King County Democrats Seek LAC Representative from the 34th

The 2 vice chairs of the King County Legislative Action Committee are renewing their efforts as a committee, representing the entire King County. They have requested to have a participant from our district to represent the resolutions which we deem most important in the next legislative session. Next session is a long session so we can expect a lot of activity. While we have our own caucus system, we can also send a representative of our county organization. Their work will compliment ours. If you are interested in participating in this group, please email the chair at chair@34dems.org. This will be a small amount of work - one meeting a month. Thank you from King County!

August Program - Police Reform



Our August meeting is just after the Primary. Register today for the pre-meeting program and monthly meeting:

<https://bit.ly/Aug2022-Mtg-Reg>



Looking for a way to support Democrats in WA?
Check the state party website and [sign up](#) for a canvass, text bank or phone bank.
You can also view the calendar of events in the 34th LD [here](#).



We will have a table at this event! Contact Bunny Hatcher to help: pyewacket23@comcast.net

Outreach Events for Summer 2022

Things are beginning to open up after 2 years. Below is what we have scheduled....**so far**. We continue to look for events where we can engage with the community to register voters, promote our endorsed candidates and our organization. We hope this list will grow, let us know of other events. **Come out and join in on these fun events this summer!**

Contact outreach@34dems.org for more information



The Duwamish River Festival
This is a new event for us...In a new part of our District - **Aug. 6**

Duwamish River Festival	Saturday Aug. 6	12pm - 5pm	8700 Dallas Ave S - In South Park
Boulevard Park Block Party	Saturday Aug. 13	12pm - 6pm	1832 S. 120th St.
Adopt-A-Street	Saturday, Sept. 10th	1pm - 3pm	16th Ave SW at Roxbury
B-Town Fiesta	Saturday, Sept. 24	10am - 6pm	Burien Town Center Park



34th Dems Pop Up Social
Friday, August 26
5:30 - 8pm
At **Good Society Brewery**
2701 California Ave SW

www.goodsocietybeer.com/#beerandfood



The Speak Up Survey is back for August

Should the 34th organize rallies to raise visibility, have a community presence and show our support for certain issues? Would our members be interested in this type of activity? Take the poll and select the actions you'd like to take.

<https://bit.ly/SpeakUp-Aug22>

Contact Information and Committee Assignments for Our Legislators

Senator

Joe Nguyen

Assistant Floor Leader

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

213 John A. Cherberg Building
PO Box 40434
Olympia, WA 98504
(360) 786 - 7667



Representative Eileen Cody

Chair, Health Care & Wellness;
Appropriations

303 John L. O'Brien Building
PO Box 40600
Olympia, WA 98504
(360) 786 - 7978



Representative Joe Fitzgibbon

Chair, Environment & Energy;
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 September 2022 newsletter will be Thursday, September 1.

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

Voting: A Personal History

As I was voting this week I noticed for the first time that 17 year-olds who turn 18 on or before the General Election can vote (with some restrictions) in the Primary. I love where I live.

Voting is important to me. It was instilled within me by my parents, who were highly informed and conscientious voters who discussed the issues of the day regularly. In fact, I was named after Adlai Stevenson in 1952, having been born shortly after the presidential election...and they were hard up for a name. But as a 17-year-old kid in high school in 1970, casting my first ballot was going to have to wait a while.

The [26th Amendment](#) would later change that the next year, but in that fall of 1970, while young men just a year or two older were dying in Vietnam, voting (with minor exceptions) wasn't in the cards for 18 year-olds. And that did not seem right to a lot of folks, and facing a possible draft notice, myself included.

"Old enough to fight, old enough to vote" was a slogan used during WWII by proponents for lowering the voting age. Franklin Roosevelt had recently lowered the draft age to 18 at the beginning of the war, and it was thought by many that 18-year-olds should be given the right of suffrage since they were being "asked" to join in the war effort. Legislation was proposed but never passed.

Talk of lowering the voting age continued through the years following the war. Jennings Randolph, a Democratic congressman from West Virginia, proposed legislation 11 times without success. Dwight Eisenhower supported lowering the voting age, given the sacrifices made by 18 to 21-year-olds in service.

The late '60's found the country mired in yet another war, and finally in 1970, Senator Ted Kennedy proposed amending the Voting Rights Act of 1965 to lower the voting age nationwide. The legislation passed congress, and while Richard Nixon was in favor of lowering the voting age and signed the bill, he felt that was not the proper constitutional method and ordered the Attorney General to assist in challenges that came from a couple of states. After review by the Supreme Court, voting ages for state and local elections were to be set by the states, leaving the only the elections of President and Vice President that 18-year-olds had an absolute right to vote in.

Prior to those actions in 1970, a few states had lowered the voting age. The Washington State legislature felt the time was right to follow suit...[Thus the VOTE 19 referendum campaign](#) came to be.

Democrat Mike Lowry, then Senate Ways and Means Committee chief of staff, joined with Republican Sam Reed to Co-Chair the effort. Together they convinced the 1970 Legislature to send a state constitutional amendment to the voters to lower the voting age to 19. It was called the *Washington Voting Age of 19*

Amendment, House Joint Resolution 6...aka **VOTE 19**. And so, I became involved in my first campaign as I entered 12th grade.



Truthfully, I am not sure what the biggest impetus was: My desire to vote, or the fact that a girl I was interested in wanted me to be involved in the effort! But it was a worthwhile experience as I encountered new kids at another high schools, also interested in the political process. It was intriguing to see how a grassroots campaign was run. The young people that were our leaders were bright and talented. It was a pleasure to know them.

It was my first experience doorbelling. We canvassed in our coastal community of Hoquiam and Aberdeen, and we also would travel as a group to join up with other teens in the Seattle area to knock on doors here. I was not an articulate guy by any stretch in those days, nor was I outgoing, but the experience increased my confidence as I took on my youthful shyness.

We put up signs and handed out buttons and flyers at community events. We set up a table on Sundays at a rest stop to converse with travelers as they stopped off from the highway on their way home from a weekend at the beach. It was an enjoyable summer and fall.

How did it pan out on that November 3rd Election Day? Well, the voters in their "wisdom" [voted against it](#). But in the aftermath, things were happening quickly across the nation. On March 23, 1971, the US Congress passed what would become the 26th Amendment to the US Constitution. Washington State, along with four others, ratified it that same day. North Carolina was the 38th vote to ratify on July 1 a little over 3 months later, making for the quickest amendment ratification in history...

...And I was able to vote in November 1971 at age 18 in local elections.

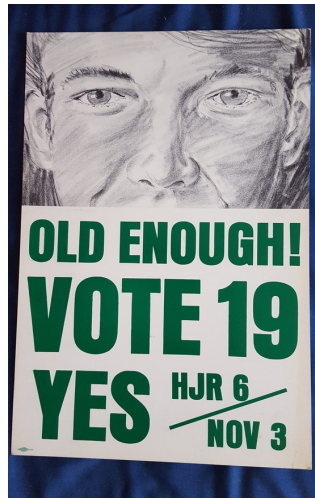
I am in awe of the continuing efforts being made by Democratic leadership in Washington to make voting as accessible as possible to all those eligible.

Yet as we have seen in the past two years, our counterparts in the GOP, especially those in states with much more benighted leadership, hurtles are intentionally erected and suffrage is deliberately assaulted. Our voting rights protections have been degraded in places by courts serving those who wish to cling to power. They will not use that power to constructively make people's lives better, but solely for the sake of control. They defile our country and constitution as they seek to silence our voices.

The struggle continues. We must continue to protect...and expand...our right to vote just as we did as kids in 1970.

by Steve Butts

A version of this story was printed in the November 2020 Edition of the Newsletter



Campaign poster for the 1970 "Vote 19" Referendum

2022 Endorsed Candidates

Let's get our endorsed candidates elected!

Contact Nick Bonazza to help:

pco@34dems.org

US Senate

Patty Murray

WA Secretary of State

Steve Hobbs

US House of Representatives

Pramila Jayapal

WA Senate

Joe Nguyen

WA House of Representatives, Position 1

Emily Alvarado & Leah Griffin (Dual)

WA House of Representatives, Position 2

Joe Fitzgibbon

King County Prosecutor

Leesa Manion

Supreme Court Justice

Mary Yu, Position 1

Barbara Madsen, Position 5

G. Helen Whitener, Position 6

King County Superior Court

Kristin Ballinger, Position 2

SW Electoral District Judge

Brian Todd, Position 1

Andrea Jarmon, Position 2

W Electoral District Judge

Lisa Paglisotti, Position 1

Kuljinder Dhillon, Position 2

Rebecca Robertson, Position 3

City of Seattle, Municipal Court Judge

Catherine McDowall, Position 1

Pooja Vaddadi & Adam Eisenberg, Position 3
(Dual Endorsement)

Willie Gregory, Position 5

Faye Chess, Position 6

Damon Shadid, Position 7

Thanks to All for a Successful “Paint the Night Blue” Fundraiser

A big thank you to everyone who came out to our annual fundraising event in July! We enjoyed a perfect summer evening at Arthur’s Restaurant in Admiral. Folks came dressed in blue, Chris Porter takes home the prize for best dressed, and a refreshing blue signature cocktail was served. It was wonderful to gather in person to support the efforts of the 34th District Democrats.

A special thank you to the fundraising team: Sara Smith, Carla Rogers, Gina Topp, and Rachel Glass along with our brilliant volunteers: Julie Whittaker, Trey Lykins, and Katherine Woolverton. This event would not have been possible without you all!

Together we raised over \$11,000. If you missed the opportunity to contribute to the work of the 34th District Democrats, you can still go online to support our efforts [HERE](#).

— **Gina Topp, Event Chair**



Katherine Woolverton and Trey Lykins greet attendees.



KC Exec Dow Constantine signs in, anxious to make his pitch for donations!



Councilmember Teresa Mosqueda...and a well-attired Chris Porter.



Event Chair Gina Topp, and our Treasurer Julie Whitaker.



Rep. Eileen Cody helped sponsor the event.



Nick Bonazza “digs deep”.



Rachel Glass can’t wait to tell us why she’s a Democrat. Attendees were also asked to share their reasons too...on the wall behind.



US Rep. Pramila Jayapal and her contingent joined us at the West Seattle Grand Parade on July 23.



Nick Bonazza coordinated our presence at the Vashon Island Strawberry Festival July 18 and 19.



Chair Carla Rogers, PCO Chair Nick Bonazza, and Dean Shuey.

July 9 Primary Kickoff

Our 5-month long February finally ended in time for us to start campaigning for the 2022 Primary! We gathered at C & P Coffee to pickup lists, doorbelling materials, signs...and well as grabbing a doughnut and sipping some coffee. Several candidates joined us.



Leah Griffin and Preston Anderson.



Marty Strelecky and KC Prosecutor Candidate Leesa Manion.



Ann Martin and Emily Alvarado

A Resolution Calling for Passage of the Local Journalism Sustainability Act

Whereas the first amendment of the United States Constitution protects freedom of speech and of the press, cementing the importance of these rights to the foundation of this nation; and

Whereas the former president, like autocrats before him tried to erode that foundation by characterizing the press as an “enemy of the people,” thereby threatening the continuation and viability of our democracy; and

Whereas local newspapers, an important investigative and communicative resource for communities, both urban and rural, in this country, have been losing readership and advertising, which are primary financial resources supporting publication and staffing; and

Whereas Senator Cantwell’s office released a report stating that over the last 20 years the local newspaper industry has lost approximately 70% of its total revenue and newspapers have let go of more than 40,000 journalists accounting for 60% of the journalistic workforce; and

Whereas the Local Journalism Sustainability Act (LJA), introduced by Senator Cantwell in the Senate and Representatives Kirkpatrick and Newhouse in the House (H.R.3940), is an effort to stabilize and reverse these losses by providing local media with tax incentives that support subscribers, advertisers and hiring of reporters, in total estimated to cost about \$1.67 billion over ten years; and

Whereas, in a floor speech, Senator Cantwell stated, “The tax incentives in this bill will help local newspapers and digital-only news journalists, and broadcast newsrooms remain financially viable to retain and hire local base journalists to cover local news stories;”

Now therefore be it resolved the Delegates of the 2022 Washington State Democratic Convention thank Senator Cantwell for her leadership on this important issue and urge passage of the Local Journalism Sustainability Act by the US Congress; and

Be it further resolved copies of this resolution be distributed broadly to members of Congress and specifically to Washington State Representatives and Senators.



Submitted by Ann Martin, member of the Resolutions Committee.



Top: Our Burien Independence Day Parade unit was swarmed by members of the 33rd LD...including all of their Olympia Delegation.

Left: Senator Joe Nguyen being swarmed...by his children...at his campaign kickoff on July 10.



PUGET SOUND ADVOCATES FOR RETIREMENT ACTION (PSARA) PRESENTS:

THE RIGHTEOUS MOTHERS!

A BENEFIT CONCERT TO STOP THE PRIVATIZATION OF MEDICARE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13 @ 7PM

MACHINISTS HALL | 9125 15TH PLACE S | SEATTLE, WA 98108

OR VIA LIVE STREAM

The Righteous Mothers are four singer-songwriters who for 35 years have woven social comedy and personal and political commentary through intricate vocal harmonies and theatrical performances with songs about ice cream, labor pains, bad presidents, Supreme Court decisions, annoying dreams, love, and women's empowerment.

**SUGGESTED
DONATION: \$20**

OR \$50: MEDICARE HERO

\$100: MEDICARE CHAMPION



PSARA FIGHTS FOR EXPANDED

SOCIAL SECURITY MEDICARE MEDICAID

TO REGISTER:

SCAN THE QR CODE
WITH YOUR PHONE
CAMERA OR VISIT
[HTTPS://BIT.LY/PSARA](https://bit.ly/PSARA)



Register here: <https://bit.ly/PSARA> After purchasing your tickets, if you choose to watch the concert via live stream let Mike Andrews know at organizer@psara.org and he will send you the live stream link.



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

Return Service Requested



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

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 _____

☐ \$ 180 Suggested Membership Donation ☐ Recurring Monthly Donation* \$ _____ ☐ One-Time Donation \$ _____

***Please consider paying your dues in monthly installments...Go online to www.34dems.org/contribute**

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.