



## 34<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT DEMOCRATS

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

### Chair's Message

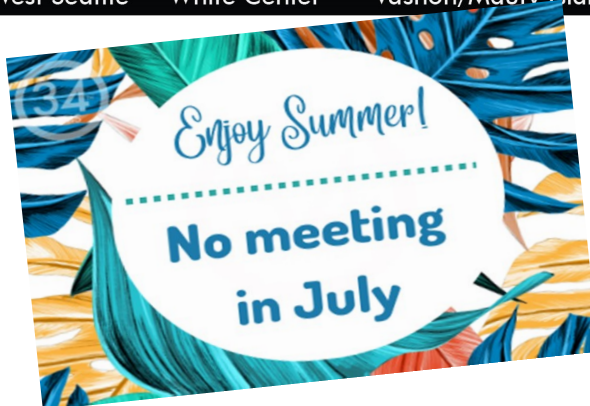
#### Greetings fellow Democrats -

So much has happened in the last month - good, bad and horrific. On a positive note, we had a successful **virtual endorsement meeting** and completed our endorsements for the cycle. We do expect to hear motions of endorsement for some ballot initiatives in August and beyond but the big task is behind us. We will be voting on how we spend our campaign donations in our August meeting. Our PCOs and volunteers will start canvassing for the primary when ballots drop on July 13th. Before we know it we will wake up on **Tuesday, August 2nd - Primary Day**. BE A VOTER! Do not forget to mail that ballot in or take it to a drop box. This is your opportunity to say what kind of America you want to live in. Don't miss that opportunity to **RAISE YOUR VOICE**.

And what more of a reason to vote than the bad and downright horrific events that have taken place in the last month??? At times, I shake my head and wonder what country I live in. We are witnessing the results of having 45 in office for four years - 3 judicial appointments that are turning our country around, upside down and on its head. All of the progressive policies that we have fought for and enjoyed for many years are at risk folks! **It's time to get angry!** Shake your fist in the air. Vote! Volunteer! Donate! Encourage your neighbors to do the same. We must fight. We cannot just step back and let this continue. I will do what I can. I will encourage friends, neighbors, and family to do the same. Are you in? Are you with me?

Also in the bad category: I contracted COVID two days before the **2022 Washington State Democratic Convention** so I was knocked out of participating in what was a really inspiring event. We had 17 delegates participate in person while reviewing the platform and resolutions on the agenda. Other delegates voted from home and watched the live streamed event on YouTube. Thank you to all of our delegates who worked with me over the last 4 months - it was a great experience as we **RAISED OUR VOICES** to influence the state party platform. We are also excited to think ahead to the 2024 Convention where we will nominate the next Presidential candidate for the Democratic party! I invite you all to consider being a delegate!

We have a lot of opportunities this summer for you to get in the game. Outreach events, our fundraiser, our July 9th Primary Kick Off, our August pre-meeting program and meeting, our September



Register for the August Meeting [HERE](#)

GOTV Kick Off and field trips to support Dr. Kim Schrier in one of the spotlight congressional races which would help us keep control of Congress - or lose it. Carve out some time to do your part in this election. **We need you. Candidates need you. Democracy needs you.**

#### Let's do this!

— **Carla Rogers**

34th LD Chair -  
[chair@34dems.org](mailto:chair@34dems.org) - 206-432-1998

### Renew or Become a Member

*click here*

**34dems.org**

[www.34dems.org/contribute](http://www.34dems.org/contribute)

#### Inside This Issue...

Primary GOTV Kickoff .....	Page 2
August Meeting Program - Police Reform .....	Page 2
July Fundraiser.....	Page 3
Outreach Events .....	Page 3
July Pop Up Social.....	Page 3
"Yes on 1471" Benefit Concert Coming.....	Page 3
June Endorsements Meeting Recap.....	Page 4
2022 State Convention Report.....	Page 6
OPED - Finding Inspiration in Local Politics...	Page 8
Democrats Abroad.....	Page 9
Outreach Activities in Photos .....	Page 9

## Executive Board

### Elected Officers

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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  
kcdccc@34dems.org

**Leah Griffin** | King Co. Committeeperson  
kcdccc@34dems.org

**Aaron Garcia** | King Co. Committee  
kcdccc@34dems.org

**Bunny Hatcher** | King Co. Committee  
kcdccc@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  
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**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

## Primary GOTV Kick Off - July 9

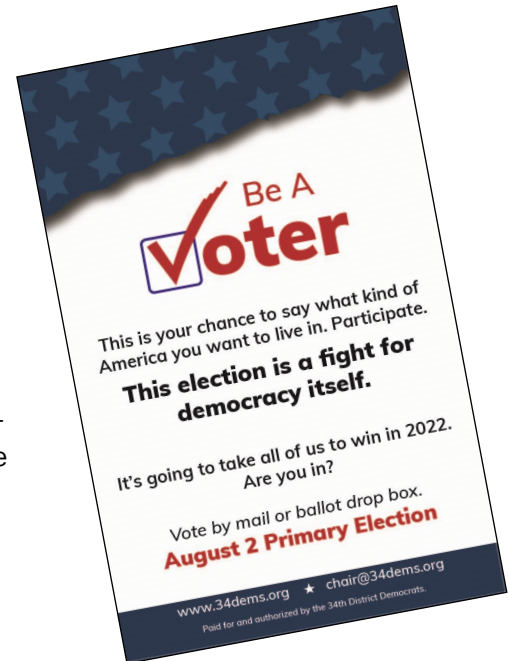


We are holding a meet up and rally on **July 9th at C&P Coffee - 5612 California Ave. SW - from 10-1pm**. We have invited the campaigns and candidates and will offer a cup of coffee and donut when you stop by. PCOs will be able to pick up their precinct walk materials.

Have other plans on July 9? A crew of volunteers will be distributing PCO packets before ballots drop.

We hope that whether you are a PCO or volunteer, you will dedicate some of your free time to the 2022 election. If you'd like to get involved, please email [pco@34dems.org](mailto:pco@34dems.org).

It's time! It's going to take all of us in 2022! Our democracy itself is at stake. Let's start this election cycle out strong by encouraging each and every voter to cast their ballot. We need every vote to maintain our majority in WA!



## August Program - Police Reform

After we come back from our July meeting break, we will have the privilege to hear from our very own Rob Saka on the topic of local, county/city police reform. Rob is a cybersecurity lawyer, justice reform advocate and Air Force veteran. He is a co-architect of recent voter-approved reform to appoint the King County sheriff as part of the once per decade King County Charter Review. Rob also was a King County Redistricting commissioner. We are so lucky to have him in our district!!!

Rob will speak through the lens of the various communities that he had the honor of being involved with over the years. He plans to bring his collective experiences to bear, including those professional, civic/community, personal, and lived experiences as he gives us insights on what is happening to improve the system while addressing unequal justice and systemic racism in policing. Don't miss this presentation!

**Register for the presentation and meeting:** <https://bit.ly/Aug2022-Mtg-Reg>  
**The presentation will start at 6:30pm.**



## It's Time to **Paint the Night Blue!**

**Thursday, July 14th, 6-8pm at Arthur's in Admiral**

We are less than 2 weeks away from our main fundraiser of the year - and it's IN PERSON! On Thursday, July 14th from 6-8pm join us for a night that will help us fund our priorities this year. You'll find out why Senator Joe Nguyen, Burien Councilmember Hugo Garcia and others are Democrats and you'll be able to share your reason on a wall of reasons. We'll have a special BLUE cocktail sponsored by Councilmember McDermott and Representative Eileen Cody. Join us at Arthur's in Admiral, located at 2311 California Avenue SW wearing your favorite BLUE attire. Chris Porter promises something you won't forget! [Buy your tickets today](#) and we'll see you Thursday!



**We are still looking for 2 volunteers for the event.** Please contact Gina Topp at [ginatopp@gmail.com](mailto:ginatopp@gmail.com).

## 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](mailto:outreach@34dems.org) for more information



### Just Added!

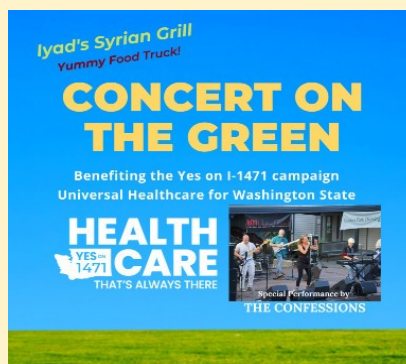
Contact  
Nick Bonazza  
to help:  
[pco@34dems.org](mailto:pco@34dems.org)

Vashon Strawberry Festival	Saturday, July 16	10am - 7pm	Vashon
	Sunday, July 17	10am - 5pm	
West Seattle Grand Parade	Saturday, July 23	11am - 2 pm	California and Lander
Boulevard Park Block Party	Saturday August 13	12pm - 6pm	1832 S. 120th St.
Adopt-A-Street	Saturday, September 10th	1pm - 3pm	16th Ave SW at Roxbury
B-Town Fiesta	Saturday, September 24	10am - 6pm	Burien Town Center Park



**34th Dems Pop Up Social**  
**This Time On Vashon Island**  
**July 16th, 5:30pm to 8pm**  
**At Camp Calvos Brewing**  
17636 Vashon Hwy SW

## Whole Washington "Yes on 1471" Benefit Concert



More information [HERE](#)

**July 23rd**  
at **Vashon Brewing**  
**6:30 - 9pm**  
17205 Vashon Hwy SW



[wholewashington.org](http://wholewashington.org)



## 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 August 2022 newsletter will be Thursday, July 28.**

Mail to Steve Butts,  
10254 36th Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98146  
or email to [newsletter@34dems.org](mailto:newsletter@34dems.org)

## In Case You Missed Our Last Meeting...

The June endorsement meeting brought 115 people into our Zoom space as we went about the work of picking our preferences for this year. 257 current members including 101 PCOs were eligible to vote and were validated.

Previous members who had renewed by the previous evening could vote. New members needed to have signed up by May 11 to participate. Voting was done via the Zoom Poll we've become accustomed to, as well as by phone and Zoom messaging to facilitate those sharing a computer.

Candidates must have reached 60 percent to be endorsed. All candidates for an office are listed on the first ballot along with "No Endorsement" as an option. If no candidate reaches the 60 percent threshold, a second ballot is cast with only the top two selections. A motion for a dual endorsement on a third ballot may be considered if the second ballot does not result in a 60 percent majority for one of the candidates.

First up we endorsed by voice a slate of candidates who were unopposed, or unopposed by another Democrat. This list included Pramila Jayapal, Joe Nguyen, Joe Fitzgibbon, and 12 judicial candidates in various jurisdictions. Senator Patty Murray and Secretary of State Steve Hobbs had been endorsed during our April meeting by request from the State Party.

King County Prosecutor candidate Leesa Manion was also endorsed by a voice vote. She has an opponent, but he did not seek an endorsement from the 34th.

The race that has drawn the most interest in the 34th is the contest to see who will replace Eileen Cody, who is stepping down after representing us for decades as State Representative. Leah Griffin and Emily Alvarado are the two Democrats in the Primary. The initial ballot listed the two candidates, and the "No Endorsement" option... neither candidate reached the 60% threshold, and both fell short again on the second ballot. A dual endorsement was made on a third ballot.

Two judicial races are contested. We endorsed both Adam Eisenberg and Pooja Vaddadi for Seattle Municipal Court Position 3 and gave a sole endorsement to Damon Shadid for Seattle Municipal Court Position 7.

We also heard from Kate Stockert, a volunteer from the Washington Chapter of Moms Demand Action, which is part of the national group Everytown for Gun Safety.



34th Representative candidate Emily Alvarado



Leesa Manion is running for King County Procecurator



Pooja Vaddadi is a candidate for Seattle Municipal Court



Kate Stockert and daughter. Kate gave a presentation from Moms Demand Action.

## 2022 Endorsed Candidates

**Let's get our endorsed candidates elected!**

**Contact Nick Bonazza to help: [pco@34dems.org](mailto: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 Endorsement)

### 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



# The Washington State Democratic Convention - June 25, 2022



DNC Chair Jaime Harrison.

This year the convention took place in Tacoma, both in-person, and virtual with full voting privileges. This dual format made it unique in the country.

Victoria Woodards, Mayor of Tacoma, gave a welcome to the delegates

on Saturday morning, followed by 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Congressman Derek Kilmer. Mr. Kilmer spoke about avoiding the impact of big money; interesting, as he still refuses to sign the "National Nurses United Pledge" for members of Congress to commit to not taking more than \$2,000 per year. The 34<sup>th</sup> reminded him of this error on his part, during the convention.

The State Party Chair, Tina Podlodowski, did her best to increase the excitement of delegates on the issues of the SCOTUS decision on abortion and the need to elect Democrats to reserve our Civil Rights including same sex marriage and voting rights. She also highlighted the hypocrisy of the Republican Party's rhetoric on abortion when they are opposed to parental paid leave, preschool, childcare, maternal care, tax relief for parents. And the Republican's refusal to publish their own platform!

Following Tina's cheerleading, the Washington State High School Democrats Chair, Waylon Menzia, gave an excellent, brief report on his work.

The highlight of the morning was the speech by Democratic National Committee Chair, Jaime Harrison.

The bulk of the day was spent on hearing pros and cons on the Minority Report. These are resolutions that did not

make the "Do Pass" group of resolutions. The Minority Report included:

- 1) Prohibition of background checks for employment – **failed**
- 2) Replacing existing nuclear energy with distributed energy like wind and solar – **failed**
- 3) Policies to incentivize Emission Intensive and Trade Exposed entities under the Climate Commitment Act to incorporate the best-available technology to continually reduce greenhouse gas emissions and retain jobs within Washington state. – **passed**
- 4) Carbon Tax – **failed**
- 5) School Bonds pass with a simple majority – **passed**
- 6) Full time, well-paid Washington State Legislature and legislative support staff – **passed**
- 7) Developing and implementing a comprehensive plan for recovery of endangered Columbia-Snake salmon and steelhead and Southern Resident orcas, whose twin cornerstones are: breaching four federal dams on the lower Snake River; and replacing the services the dams now



Andrew Litzky and Rachel Glass



Bunny Hatcher at the mic



Our in-person delegation. Credit the efforts of our 1st Vice Chair for beating the state's inclusion goals through her outreach and recruitment, giving us extra delegate slots!



Ann Martin assumed leadership of our delegation as Chair Rogers was unable to attend.

provide with investments in clean energy, and in agricultural irrigation and transportation infrastructure.– **passed**

Highlights of the “Do Pass” group of resolutions, each of which will be delivered to each State legislator and the governor, include:

- Reproductive Freedom
- Keep Our Care Act, which was written within the 34th and submitted by the WSFDW
- Gun Control
- Protecting Public Water
- Protecting Women’s Health
- End Privatizing Medicare
- Indian Boarding School Truth and Healing Commission
- Full Time Medical Health Care in Schools
- High School Voter Registration
- Wealth Tax
- Provide Shelter for Unhoused
- Impeach Clarence Thomas (SCOTUS)
- Incentive Clean Energy
- Support the Equal Rights Amendment

There are more of these for your review [HERE](#)

Patty Murray gave the keynote at the Saturday dinner. She spoke of the work ahead, including the need to elect Democrats in all positions to save access to reproductive services and abortion. She also spoke of her Republican opponent and the opponents connections to Donald Trump as well as that opponent's strong opposition to a woman's right to bodily autonomy.

The dinner speaker to watch in the future was state senator T’wina Nobles who represents the 28th Legislative District. She was sworn into office in 2021, she is also the first Black state senator to serve in a decade. Senator Nobles spoke of her youth as a foster child and her work to improve education access. She is the vice chair of the Higher education and Workforce Development Committee.

*Text Submitted by Roxanne Thayer, State Committeeperson*

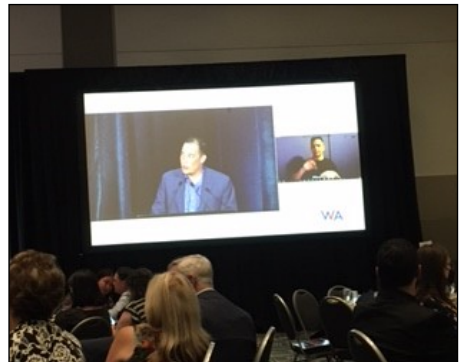
*Photos Submitted by Rachel Glass and Chris Porter*



Gov. Jay Inslee and Tacoma Mayor Victoria Woodwards



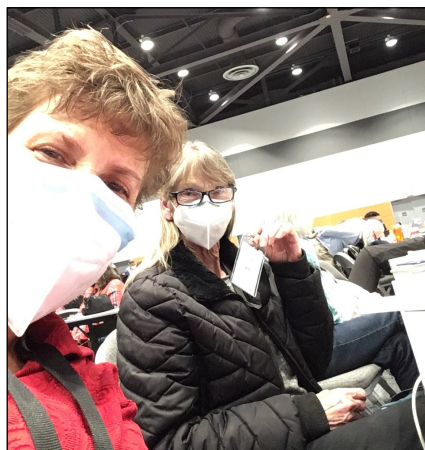
28th LD Senator T’wina Nobles



Steve Hobbs gives a rousing speech at the Gala Dinner



L to R: Art Chippendale, Ted Barker, and Nick Bonazza.



Rachel Glass takes a selfie with Treasurer Julie Whitaker.



Preston Anderson and Chris Porter



## COMMENTARY: Finding inspiration in local politics

By Member Lauri Hennessey

It's really impossible for me to choose a favorite episode of "The West Wing."

I love them all. I love the Washington, D.C. backdrop, the brilliant writing and acting. The chemistry between the actors is fantastic, as is the emotional pay-off in many an episode (darn that Aaron Sorkin!). The episodes move me, inspire me, remind me of my own time in politics and make me smile. But the best part of my favorite show? It makes politics look beautiful.

I am a lifelong political junkie. These years have not been easy for those of us who love politics. Our country has fallen into camps, our social media adroitly sections us into silos and our cynicism runs high. I worry about the future of our country.

We actually saw an insurrection last year at our capitol. I never thought that would happen in my life. But when things are heavy and fears run deep, I think of a West Wing world, in which presidents are brilliant, staff are loyal and good is done.

When I don't live in my fictional America in which we follow the rule of "Let Bartlet be Bartlet", I find my inspiration in the 34th Legislative District.

I worked on Capitol Hill in D.C., which I had dreamed of doing my whole life. My memories of that chapter made it even tougher to watch the January 6 videos. I believed in democracy back then. I still do. And while I have been involved in politics most of my life, getting involved in my local legislative district is new. I have only been participating for a couple of years now, and it's a balm for my weary soul.

These dedicated people put so very much thought and care into making a difference in local politics. They host events, rally for Democrats and decide endorsements of candidates. The endorsements are particularly moving to me. It is a long, thorough process, in which all of the members of the 34th vote after hearing from the candidates.

"Participation in the process is so critical. So many take democracy for granted," said Carla Rogers, who is chair of the 34th District Democrats.

***When I don't live in my fictional America in which we follow the rule of "Let Bartlet be Bartlet", I find my inspiration in the 34th Legislative District.***

"It's so easy to post on Twitter or Facebook about your frustrations and your passion topics," she added. "It takes strength and drive to actually do something about it. And you can — the heart and soul of policy is the voting process and that is what we are all about at the local party level. It is our mission to get out the vote — knocking on doors, calling, texting, and sending postcards. Life is hard. It takes passion to carve out time to get involved. I can't think of anything more important, honestly, to my family, my community and the country."

These local volunteers are heroes. They organize, they give their time, and they engage in the process. They build democracy from the ground up.

At our endorsement meeting last week, I was able to give the statement for one of the candidates. I admit to a certain West Wing-esque sense of pride as I participated in democracy, engaging locally and raising my voice.

On Saturday, June 25, I will participate in something I have never done before: I will be a delegate at the state Democratic convention. To say I am excited is an understatement.

I know that getting involved in grassroots politics may not be the thing for everyone. But I keep thinking of this weary world, this cynical, challenging time. And then I think of all of these hard-working volunteers, talking earnestly and debating into the night as they make their endorsements in local races.

It is a balm for the soul. As Margaret Mead (and later President Bartlet) said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world."

And with that, I am off to the convention! President Bartlet would be proud.



*Lauri Hennessey is a member of the 34th District Democrats and is the CEO of the League of Education Voters.*

*Originally published in the Vashon- Maury Island Beachcomber June 22, 2022. Reprinted with permission.*



# US Citizens Abroad - An Untapped Block of Potential Democratic Voters

Member **Dean Shuey** reminds us that there are at least 6 million potential US citizen voters who live abroad. In actual fact, only about 15% of them actually vote. However, in 2020, the overseas ballots were greater than the margin of victory for Biden-Harris in Georgia and Arizona. Citizens living overseas include people such as students studying in other countries, military members who are serving abroad, or people who are working or retired outside the USA.

**Democrats Abroad** is an arm of the Democratic Party for US citizens who are abroad and it can be found at [www.democratsabroad.org](http://www.democratsabroad.org). Democrats Abroad has 48 country committees scattered across the world and members from over 200 countries.



Democrats Abroad even gets eight voting delegates at the Democratic convention every four years. The Democratic Party also organizes a website that provides the information, and the necessary form (Federal Post Card Application), for all citizens who are abroad on how to get registered and request a ballot no matter what state they vote in. That site is: [www.votefromabroad.org](http://www.votefromabroad.org)

Dean encourages all of the 34th District Democrats who know a US citizen living abroad to contact them to share these websites, and encourage them to get organized to vote...they could be the difference!

## Photos From Our Outreach Events in June...



Chris Weiss and Karen Richter at Burien Pride.



A 16-year-old pre-registers to vote at our booth at Burien Strawberry Festival.



A pup shows her Pride.



Annie Phillips engages with a voter at Burien Pride.



Karen Richter at a activist gathering at C & P Coffee.



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

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## 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](http://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**

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