

The 11th District Journal



MAY 2008 VOLUME 6, ISSUE 5

11th LD Democratic Organization Chair

[Susan Kruller](#)



ALL HANDS ON DECK! Everyone read this entire article to help you understand what is happening, what responsibilities you have and what events include you and need you this month!



Congressional District Caucus Delegates/Alternates: Congressional Caucus Meetings will be held May 17, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. at the

CD 7 – North Seattle Community College - 9600 College Way N, Seattle, Chair: Javier Valdez airjav@msn.com
206.548.9510 <http://www.11thliddems.org/cd7delandalt.htm>

CD 8 – Tahoma High School - 18200 SE 240th St., Covington, Chair: Di Irons, diirons@aol.com 425.391.1502
<http://www.11thliddems.org/cd8delandalt.htm>

CD 9 – North Thurston High School - 600 Sleater-Kinney Rd. NE, Lacey, Chair: Zack Smith zachhome@comcast.net
360.280.7080 <http://www.11thliddems.org/cd9delandalt.htm>

11th Legislative District Elected and Appointed PCOs: You need to attend two events: (1) the 11th Legislative District Nominating Convention; and (2) your Congressional District Nominating Convention. Only elected and appointed PCOs will be credentialed with “voice and vote.”

The CD 7, CD 8 and CD 9 Congressional Districts will each hold Nominating Conventions, likely to occur May 17 at the locations listed above. Contact the chairs in your respective Congressional District listed above for more details. Nominations will select one candidate for U.S. Congress (McDermott, Smith and Burner will be the likely candidates up for nomination – plus any challengers).

11th Legislative District Nominating Convention has been called by the Chair of the WSDCC and will begin at 7 p.m. sharp Tuesday, May 20, 2008 at Carpenter’s Hall in Renton. We will nominate one candidate for State Legislative Senator, then Position 1 and 2 State Legislative Representatives (Prentice, Hasegawa and Hudgins will be the likely candidates up for nomination – plus any challengers).

11th Legislative District General Membership: Be sure to our next General Membership Meeting on **Tuesday, May 20 immediately following the Nominating Convention – Carpenter’s Hall**. Feel free to arrive early to watch the nominations; then we’ll get on with business-as-usual. All members are welcome; we have a great program, raffle and fun. We will make sure it all wraps up by 9 p.m. as usual.

We are very pleased to feature Julia **Patterson, King County Council Chair** – She’ll talk to us about the King County Equity and Social Justice Initiative and how it impacts South King County. This initiative aims to end persistent local inequities and injustices that result in, among other things, higher rates of disease among low-income populations, higher school dropout rates and uneven distribution rates of uninsured workers by income and disproportionate populations that end up in correction facilities.

Once again, we are working hard to help you stay involved in what affects you where you live! Don’t miss this exclusive opportunity to learn more about this initiative and ask the great questions we expect you to have!

GO DEMS!

Susan 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!

Some members of the 11th LD Dems are receiving the monthly newsletter via email with a link to a PDF file at the [11th LD website](#) with an email reminder. If you would like to receive the electronic version, in color with active links, send an [email message](#) with: Newsletter in the subject and you will be added to the emailing list. james.flynn@comcast.net

Bob Hasegawa Campaign Kick Off Party

Wednesday, June 4th

5PM - 8PM.

SEIU Local 6

3720 Airport Way S

Seattle, WA 98134

If you are able to help please get in touch with Bob at (206)349-4804.

Azziem Underwood meizza@yahoo.com, 11th LD, 8th CD, WSDCC Male, is running for delegate to the Democratic National Convention in Denver, 2008 and asks you to support his campaign. <http://my.barackobama.com/page/outreach/view/main/AzziemTheDream>

The King County Democrats' May 2008 Newsletter available at: <http://www.kcdems.net/documents/may2008.pdf>

2007— 2008 11th Legislative District Democratic Organization Executive Board

Officers				
Chair	Susan	Kruller	206-853-9330	11demschair@gmail.com
Vice-Chair	Jay	Hollingsworth	206.725.4735	jayhollil@msn.com
Treasurer	Chuck	Laney	425-260-5824	claney06@gmail.com
Secretary	Jim	Flynn	425-277.0950	james.flynn@comcast.net
WSDCC - Male	Azziem	Underwood	425-430-2652	meizza@yahoo.com
WSDCC - Female	Martha	Koester	206.762.6417	formalhaut2003@yahoo.com
KCDCC – Male	Chris	Hintz	435 442 0153,	chrshintz1@yahoo.com
KCDCC - Female	Jeanette	Kelley	425-226-0382	kelley51201@comcast.net
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KCDCC - F Alt	Bonnie	Harger	425-255-8419	bhargerj321@aol.com
KCDCC - LAC	Don	Bennett	206-242-9113	bennettdonebe@aol.com
Appointments				
Programs				
Parliamentarian	Brendan	Donckers		bwdonckers@gmail.com
Raffle	Azziem	Underwood	425-430-2652	meizza@yahoo.com
Caucus Chair	George	Summers		g.e.summers@worldnet.att.net
Webmaster	Alene	Brede	206-396-1237	alene@theflutededge.com
PCO Activities	Grubb	Larry	206.243.3199	larbeaq@hotmail.com
Past Chirman	Prince	Ed		Ed.prince@hotmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Jim	Flynn	425 221 0883	pco@seattleoptin.us

TREASURER

Charles Laney

Please Send in Your 2008 Membership Dues Now
(Make checks payable to the 11th District Democrats)



Memberships:

___ Regular Membership \$15.00	___ Family Membership \$27.00
___ Captain Membership \$50.00	___ Living Lightly \$6.00
___ Liberty Membership \$100.00	___ Subscription only \$10.00
___ Silver Membership \$250.00	___ Family Sponsorship \$100.00
___ Gold Membership \$500.00	___ Platinum Membership \$1,000.00

NAME _____

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

Telephone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Employer _____

City: _____ State: _____

Occupation _____

Payment by Credit Card Master Card _____ Visa Card _____

Name on Credit Card _____

Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

Send to: 11th District Democrats % Chuck Laney Treasurer:

PO BOX 1133, Renton, WA. 98057-1133

Minutes

11th Legislative District Monthly Meeting
Tuesday April 15, 2008 - 7:00 p.m.
Renton Carpenters Hall - 231 Burnett Avenue North



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

M/S/A Pass Agenda and March Minutes

Candidates for King County Superior Court:

Rebecca Graham-nearly two years judge pro tempore in King County. Civil, criminal, domestic violence, 20 years as attorney

Q&A: Specialties, Criminal defense, rules of confidence

Suzenne Parisen – Assistant AG, 20 yrs Litigation Experience, Corporate Counsel, Arbitrator, civil rights employment discrimination, personal injury and malpractice. Commitment needed from every candidate for Judge

Q&A: Families, Sealed Decisions(Current Bench wrong)

8th Congressional District Candidate Darcy Burner - What's ahead for Election '08 – What to expect and how to get involve. What we have now are Failed Institutions. We need Checks and Balances. Darcy is involved in one of three of most competitive races in the country. Governor Gregoire needs to win 8th District (it is her opponent's district). Darcy recited her 5 value guide to use while doorbelling for her. She has it on her website: <http://www.darcyburner.com/>

Q&A: Framing, Impeachment, 9-11 commission, Baker-Hamilton,

Recognized Electeds Present at the meeting – Margarita Prentice, Bob Hasegawa and Zack Hudgins

Program - Barbara Billingshurst - PTA-sponsored Ed Funding presentation.

M/S/A w/amendment: New PCO applications for this meeting and any applications submitted by those who had filed for election this year that turn in their application to the 11th LD prior to May 20, 2008, were approved by the General Membership

Break

Officer and Committee Reports: Chuck L Treasurer– The 11th LD has nearly double it's typical annual revenue in the Checking Account; we are being very prudent through a strategic CY2008 budget and at the same time setting funds aside to use over the next four years when fundraising may not be as good as during a US Presidential election year.

Then Chuck changed his hat, literally, to that of representing the Carpenter's Union to announce the Endorsement of our Legislative Candidates, 8th CD Candidate Darcy Burner and resulting funding from Carpenters Union

Old Business - None

New Business

Raffle Prizes

Good of the Order – Touchdowns after meeting, Azziem said to contact him about carpooling in a van to Spokane for the State Convention, Darcy Burner's website, Bob Hasegawa reminded us all that there will be a Town Hall meeting May 14th. Martha Koester: Coordinate campaigns for 5th CD. Azziem Underwood reminds us that he is a candidate for National Convention 8th CD and could use our support.

9:00 p.m. - Adjourn



King County Council – Larry Phillips

15th Annual Salmon Bake
Seattle's Discovery Park
Daybreak Star Cultural Center
Saturday, May 31st 1 to 4pm

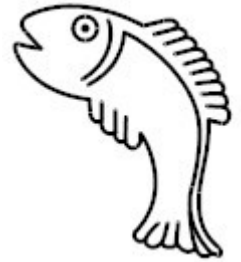
OPEN TO ALL

For more information, visit the Salmon Bake page on my website at

www.larryphillipsforkingcounty.com/salmonbake.php

King County Councilmember Larry Phillips

LarryPhillipsInfo@mac.com



VICE-CHAIR

Jay Hollingsworth

Welcome to all new members and Precinct Committee Officers! On behalf of the 11th District Democrats, I'd like to thank you all for your participation and contributions. Thank you for participating in Democracy, you are true patriots.

I believe that each one of us is bound to the United States Constitution, and by it, we must provide for each other's common welfare. I am chairing a new committee, appointed by Sue Kruller our chair, it is the New Membership Steering Committee. We would like to invite anyone who wants to, to join. We are hoping some of the seasoned members will participate and some new members as well.

New members can help us with finding out what you need to know. How can we help you? We need you to ask questions. We are currently addressing those issues and will be publishing some material to help you out.

Our first priority is to fill the vacant PCO positions we have 82 positions to be filled. I'd like to schedule two PCO training sessions, only one of which you will be asked to attend. We are also working on getting Democrats elected this November and we can get you opportunities to help our candidates. You all can email me with any suggestions or questions you may have and we will address them.

Thank you, Jay Hollingsworth Vice-chair

Representative Bob Hasegawa 11th Legislative District Town Hall Meeting Wednesday, May 14, 2008

Please join me and share you views on:

- A world-class education for all Washingtonians
- Creating family wage jobs
- Improving our health care system
- Balancing the state budget
- And any other issues you bring to the table

6 pm – 8 pm

Liquor Board Distribution Center
4401 E. Marginal Way S
Seattle, WA 98134



Top Two Primary FAQ

A Primary Primer for Democrats

by Dwight Pelz, Chair, WSDCC

What is the difference between the Top Two primary, and the primaries we have always conducted in Washington?

A primary election can serve either one or two roles: to **winnow down** the number of candidates who will appear on the general ballot; and to **nominate** the candidate for a political party.

In a non-partisan election, such as city council races in Washington, the primary takes a field of candidates running for a given office and **reduces** (winnows down) that field to two.

Historically in Washington, for a partisan race such as the Legislature or Congress, the primary **reduces** the field to two; but also serves to **nominate** the candidate of the Party. In 2004 Ron Sims ran against Chris Gregoire for Governor. When the voters gave more votes to Gregoire, they **nominated** her to be the **nominee** of the Democratic Party.

The Top Two Primary will only serve to **winnow down** the field to two candidates; and will no longer **nominate** a candidate for one party or the other. This is true even when the general election features one Democrat against one Republican – neither will be the nominee of their party.

Why are we holding Nominating Conventions?

The Top Two primary took from our party the ability to have the voters nominate a candidate. We are not willing to have this vital role eliminated. That is a time honored role of our political party in America – to let the voters know who is our **nominated candidate**.

The Supreme Court in its ruling clearly acknowledged the right of the parties to nominate through "whatever mechanism" we choose. "Whether the parties nominate their own candidates outside the state-run primary is simply irrelevant. In fact, parties may now nominate candidates by whatever mechanism they choose because I-872 repealed Washington's prior regulations governing party nomination."

Who decided we should hold Nominating Conventions?

In 2005 the State Central Committee extensively debated how the Party would nominate candidates in the event that the State or the courts implemented the Top Two Primary. The Central Committee voted and passed the **Rules for the Selection of Candidates and Nominees for Public Office**.

These rules were applied in 2005 in two County Council races, one in King and one in Snohomish. In King County, PCO's had to choose between two incumbent Democrats, and nominated Bob Ferguson over Caroline Edmonds. Both candidates filed, and the race was very close, and not decided for a week after the voting.

On April 3 this year the Executive Board met and reviewed these rules. Because the rules were adopted by the Central Committee, the E Board could not amend them, rather they met to decide whether an emergency Central Committee should be called to consider amending the rules. The E Board decided against an emergency CC meeting for 3 reasons: 1) they felt the rules were well drafted and a good response to the current election cycle; 2) they were not certain the necessary quorum could be met for an emergency meeting; and 3) they doubted the Central Committee would amend the rules if a quorum were met.

Why Should the PCO's Have the Power to Nominate?

There is ample precedent for this. Elected PCO's are elected public officials, and granted legal powers by statute. PCO's are currently charged by state law with the responsibility to nominate a candidate to the county authority, to fill vacancies in the Legislature and other partisan positions. This is not a task PCO's in Washington shirk. When PCO's choose a person to fill a vacancy, that person is usually sworn into office within a week. The "winning" candidate takes office, the "losing" candidates go home.

Filling a vacancy arguably is a more consequential task than nominating a candidate at a Nominating Convention. Both the nominee and the challenger are free to file for the position, and campaign for the Top Two primary. In highly Democratic districts the two may face each other a third time, on the general election ballot. **What if our LD or County Organization Does not Nominate?**

It is the policy of the WSDCC to have a nominee in contested partisan races. According to the **Rules for the Selection of Candidates and Nominees for Public Office**, the State Party Chair shall nominate a candidate in the event that the local party does not. I will propose a nominee to the Executive Board, and ask them to approve that candidate

Is it democratic for the Local Party and the PCO's to nominate a candidate?

Clearly it is far more responsive to local voters and the local party for the PCO's to exercise this power than for the State Party Chair to act. Elected PCO's are elected officials, and appointed PCO's are also officers of the party.

The Washington State Democratic Party is a democracy -- a representative democracy governed by the State Central Committee. It is the role and responsibility of local party organizations to follow policies adopted by the Central Committee.

The act of nominating a candidate at the Nominating Convention is not the same as endorsing a candidate. This is not an endorsement meeting, there is no two-thirds rule, and there will be no dual nominations. As the Rules state:

These rules are mandatory and are not amendable by any party organization other than the Washington State Democratic Central Committee or the State Convention. The Top Two primary eliminates choice.

Proponents of the Top Two primary argue that the measure expands choice for voters.

In fact the Top Two primary eliminates many of the choices voters have had in Washington elections. The new primary is described as a blow to the Democratic and Republican parties, when in fact it insures they will be the only two parties considered in Washington.

We are virtually banning minor parties in Washington. In 2006 there were five parties to choose from in the US Senate race – Democrat, Republican, Libertarian, Green, and Independent. If that election were held today, under the Top Two primary rules, you would be free to choose between Mike McGavick and Maria Cantwell. If you are a Libertarian or Green or Independent you no longer have any choice.

Part of our political heritage in America has been the right to cast a protest vote. That right no longer exists in Washington state.

Under the Top Two primary, a Republican in Seattle may be free to choose between two Democratic candidates for the legislature, while a Democrat in Ritzville will be free to choose one of two Republican candidates for the legislature.

The Top Two primary will confuse Voters.

Every November in America voters look at their ballots to see who is the Democrat or the Republican or independent candidate; and they cast their votes. Some voters take more time to research the candidates, others trust the Republican Party or the Democratic Party and vote more or less along party lines. Under the Top Two system voters will not know which candidate is the nominee of the Democratic or Republican Party.

Instead they will view a new, goofy ballot which reads:

Booth Gardner	Prefers Democratic Party
John Spellman	Prefers Republican Party

We should not be making voting or ballots more difficult for voters. Only 54 percent of eligible voters in the US cast their ballots during the last four decades of presidential elections. We rank 35th in voter turnout out of the world's prominent democracies – 90% of Italians, 80% of Germans, and 76% of French and Canadian voters vote.

Congratulations To All of the Congressional District Caucus/State Convention Delegates and Alternates that were elected during the 11th Legislative District Caucus

Congressional District 7			
Clinton		Obama	
Delegates	Alternates	Delegates	Alternates
Lee Newgent	Pamela Standal	Helen Howell	Daniell Pattalochi
Kwan Wong	Michael Johnson	Debbie Proctor	Fawn Proctor
Eloise Thomas		Christine Kirk	Pamela Dickerson
Jennifer Santos		L. Beth Yockey Jones	Ogbanna Mills
		Tom C Armon III	Ali Rodol
		Rebeka LaSala	Robert Kangas
		Jay Hollingsworth	
		Don Bennett	
		Joshua Russert	
		Paul Johnson	
		Bernadette Henderson	
		Wyatt Ho	

Congressional District 8			
Clinton		Obama	
Delegates	Alternates	Delegates	Alternates
Kyle Barber	Raechelle Turner	Azziem Underwood	Moniques Thrower
Beverly Henness-Fry		Linda Smith	Christopher Hintz
		Tracy Dyer	
		Marvin Rosete	

Congressional District 9			
Clinton		Obama	
Delegates	Alternates	Delegates	Alternates
Carmen Rivera	Karen Aaragon	Karen Patterson	William Flora
Sarah Hooper	Todd Plesco	Beverly Ferrell	Crystal McLean
Emett McCormic		Willa Blacknall	Anette Squetinkin-Anquoe
Peter Way		Trevor McDowell	Stephanie Aragon
		Jeremy Myrick	Thomas Palmetsheim
		Lisa Michelle Guild	
		Toussaint Myricks	
		Donovan Furin	
		Carolyn Bledsoe	
		Priest Amen	

King County Council Town Hall to Examine Public Campaign Financing

Councilmember Bob Ferguson recently sponsored legislation that was approved by the County Council to study the use of public campaign financing, or voter-owned elections, in King County. The council will hold a special Town Hall Meeting on **Monday, May 19**, at the **Shoreline Conference Center**, 18560 1st Avenue Northeast, in Shoreline, to hear public comments on the topic of public campaign financing. The meeting starts at 6:30 p.m., with a reception beginning at 6:00 p.m.

**Notice to LD and County Parties on Conducting Nominating Conventions for Partisan Offices
From Dwight Pelz, Chair, WSDCC
April 6, 2008**

On Thursday, April 3, the WSDCC Executive Board met to discuss the Party's response to the US Supreme Court ruling upholding the Top Two Primary. The E Board reviewed the **Rules for the Selection of Candidates and Nominees for Public Office**, which were debated and adopted by the State Central Committee in 2005.

The Rules provide procedures by which the Party will nominate its candidates when the State does not conduct a Democratic Primary which meets the rights of the Party to have Democrats nominate Democrats. The Top Two Primary does not meet this test. In fact it is not a primary, in the sense of an election whose purpose is to nominate a candidate from within a political party.

The Executive Board reviewed these Rules; then voted 17 to 1 to affirm the implementation of them. The Executive Board acknowledged that because these Rules have been adopted by the Central Committee, the Party is required to implement the Rules -- unless an emergency Central Committee is convened to amend them. Nonetheless, the E. Brd. found the Rules to be a well reasoned response to the Supreme Court's ruling, and did not recommend to convene an emergency Central Committee meeting at this time.

I encourage all Party Leaders to review these Rules. They call for the conduct of Nominating Conventions to be held at the LD, County, and Congressional levels -- where those jurisdictions will have partisan races this year. The votes at these Conventions shall be cast by elected and appointed Precinct Committee Officers. (PCO's) Each Nominating Convention will nominate one Democrat for each partisan office, by majority vote. This is not an endorsement meeting, there is no two-thirds rule, and there will be no dual nominations.

As Chair of the Party, and pursuant to the **Rules for the Selection of Candidates and Nominees for Public Office**, I call on all Chairs of LD or County Parties in jurisdictions which will be conducting partisan elections in 2008, to inform me of the date and location they will hold a Nominating Convention Prior to May 23. Once I learn of the time and place you identify, I will formally issue the "Call" for that meeting.

Each jurisdiction must hold a separate meeting -- LD and County Nominating Conventions shall not occur at the same time. These meetings can be scheduled to occur at a regularly scheduled monthly meeting. I encourage LD and County Chairs to coordinate these efforts to insure there are no conflicting Conventions within a County or Legislative District.

Conventions for purposes of nominating candidates for Congress shall be held prior to or immediately following the May 17 Congressional District Caucuses. However the votes cast at the Congressional level Nominating Convention shall be by the PCO's, not the delegates.

Statewide candidates will be nominated at the State Convention in Spokane on June 14, by the delegates to the State Convention.

I understand these Conventions will be an additional burden to Democrats working very hard to implement our Delegate Selection Plan. However I am confident that you will step up to the challenge of a Supreme Court Ruling which calls into question our rights and responsibilities as an American political party. I am confident you will meet this challenge with clarity, supreme organization, and equity to all involved.

It's odd that you can get so anesthetized by your own pain or your own problem that you don't fully share the hell of someone close to you.

Lady Bird Johnson

11th District Democrats
PO BOX 1133
Renton, WA. 98057-1133

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Upcoming 11th District Meetings
General Meeting: May 20, 2008 7:00 PM
Carpenter's Hall, 231 Burnett Ave North Renton
Executive Board Meeting:
Thursday June 5 – 7pm
Carpenter's Hall, Renton

WSDCC Official Call

Call for Nominating Conventions
by Dwight Pelz, Chair, Washington State Democratic Party
April 16, 2008

As chair of the WSDCC, and pursuant to the rules adopted by the Central Committee in 2005 (Rules for the Selection of Candidates and Nominees for Public Office) I am calling the following Nominating Conventions:

The 11th Legislative District Democrats will hold their Nominating Convention on Tuesday, May 20, beginning at 7 p.m. at Carpenter's Hall in Renton, 231 Burnett Ave North. The purpose of this meeting is to select Legislative Nominees. The nominees for Washington State Senate and Washington State House of Representatives shall be chosen at a legislative district nominating convention consisting of elected and appointed precinct committee officers representing precincts in that legislative district as of the last legislative district meeting held prior to the legislative district nominating convention.

Proposed Agenda

7:00 p.m. Call to Order: Flag Salute; Adopt Nominating Convention Agenda and Rules

7:05 p.m. Selection of Candidates and Nominees for Public Office – Legislative District Level
Each candidate or the candidate's representative shall be entitled to address the convention in the order of the list of offices below and in alphabetical order within that office race. Each candidate or the candidate's representative shall be entitled to address the convention for not less than two minutes, and no more than 5 minutes.

The nominees for Washington State Representative Position 1
The nominees for Washington State Representative Position 2
The nominees for Washington State Senate

7:30 p.m. - Adjourn and 15 minute break before the next meeting is called to order

11th Legislative District Official Call

11th Legislative District Monthly General Membership Meeting:

Tuesday May 20, 2008

Immediately following the Nominating Convention (approximately 7:45 p.m.)

Renton Carpenters Hall - 231 Burnett Avenue North

Proposed Agenda

7:45 p.m. Call to Order ; Flag Salute; Adopt Agenda and last meeting minutes

7:50 p.m. Program – Julia Patterson King County Council Chair. The King County Equity and Social Justice Initiative and how it impacts South King County. This initiative aims to end persistent local inequities and injustices that result in, among other things, higher rates of disease among low-income populations, higher school dropout rates and uneven distribution rates of uninsured workers by income and disproportionate populations that end up in correction facilities.

8:05 p.m. - Officer and Committee Reports

8:25 p.m. - Old Business

8:35 p.m. - New Business

Raffle Prizes

Good of the Order

9:00 p.m. - Adjourn

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