



GRASSROOTS

The Newsletter of the
Whatcom County
Democratic
Central Committee

NO Membership Meeting In July

PLEASE ATTEND INSTEAD:

Candidate forum – Federal Offices
Thursday, July 8th, 6:30-8:30 pm
Syre Theater, Whatcom Community
College, 237 W. Kellogg Rd.
Bellingham

Candidate forum – State Offices
Thursday, July 15th, 6:30-8:30 pm
Syre Theater, WCC

Bill Mize Forum – all races
Wednesday, July 28, 7 -10 pm
Rome Grange, 2821 Mt Baker Hwy

Come cheer on our candidates as they face off against the Republicans and independents before the election.

AUGUST MEETING: In a similar vein, the August monthly membership meeting will be a more fun and casual meeting complete with a zippy trivia contest. To get your trivia tastebuds tingling, We offer up a teaser: "What is Washington State's official state muffin?" The Answer: Blueberry

July 2010
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info@whatcomdemocrats.com
www.whatcomdemocrats.com
360-647-7661

All Hands On Deck!

by *Tim Douglas*

Each election cycle, Whatcom Democrats lay careful get-out-the-vote plans. The outcomes have been remarkable. We posted great results in the campaigns for President, Governor, and most legislative and Congressional seats.

Results in more recent elections pose challenges. Voters understandably will be holding our majority accountable. Repub-

lican obstruction and delay – even as the economic chaos created by the Bush years persists – hold back the changes we so urgently need. They know the "just say no" mantra plays well when people face economic uncertainty.

Look at the pattern in the past two elections. Those we have identified as strong Democrats continue to turn out. However, other Democrats have dropped off sharply. This cost us the County Council majority and likely a portion of the transit service so many lower income and senior citizens rely on. Just a whit more turnout among those who usually vote Democratic would have produced entirely different results.

If conservatives can wrest control over policy direction, we know where it will go. Their "nays" to reform will quickly change to a decisive "yes" to restoring the very policies that created today's pain.

Yes, fighting day after day for things that make our region, state and country better is tiring. It's disappointing when the pace of change is slow. But let's not drop the campaign ball now! A strong Primary turnout assures that our candidates won't get bounced from the General Election ballot. It guarantees that conservative judges won't displace progressive voices on the bench by winning a majority in a low-turnout Primary and not facing a General election run-off.

Let's stand up for the democracy we believe in, not let it slip away through a failure to participate. Primary ballots will be mailed to voters in less than four short weeks! We need your help this week, next week, and then all through July to contact thousands of Democrats in Whatcom County to make sure they understand how important it is to vote, and plan to cast that ballot when it arrives.

Call our office TODAY at 647-7661 to volunteer to make phone calls, knock on doors, and other vital work.

Dems Endorse Some Candidates, Split Vote On Other Races

June 17, at a well attended meeting of the Whatcom County Democrats, the membership voted on endorsements for the 2010 primary election. A two-thirds super majority was required for endorsement.

Endorsed candidates are:

U.S. Senate: Patty Murray
42nd LD Senate: Pat Jerns
42nd LD Representative-2: Kelli Linville
40th LD Representative-2: Jeff Morris
County Council District 1-Position B:
Jean Melious

In other races, although there was passionate support for multiple candidates, no candidate received the necessary super majority for endorsement. The following candidates, certified as Democrats by Whatcom County Democratic Party, will continue to be eligible to use party resources as they campaign for Primary Election votes:

US House, District 2: Incumbent Rick
Larsen, Larry Kalb and Diana
McGinness

42nd LD Representative-1: Al Jensen
and Richard May

40th LD Representative-1: Tom Pasma,
Thomas Boucher and Kris Lytton

Voters can find out more about all these candidates at whatcomdemocrats.com.

Nominations for 2010 Honored Democrat Due August 15

The Whatcom Democrats recognizes annually local volunteers who have demonstrated exemplary service to our Democratic community over the past years and decades. The 2010 awards for "Honored Democrat" will be presented at our Eleanor Roosevelt event, the Sunset Social, on August 31st.

Nominations for 2010 Honored Democrat are due August 15. Criteria includes significant years of service to the Whatcom County Democrats. If you have someone you'd like to nominate, please download a form at our website, or call our office at 647-7661. Questions should be directed to Hue Beattie at 739-6602.

Your Old Computer Can Help Win Elections

With primary season upon us and the general election rapidly approaching, we are preparing to expand our very successful phone bank capabilities. Please donate functioning (but perhaps too small for your needs) PC (not Apple) desktops or laptops to the Whatcom Democrats' office. We are particularly in need of flat-screen monitors. We will recycle equipment that we cannot use and scrub the disks of equipment that we do use. Thank you in advance.

Mysteries of Membership Renewal Revealed

THANK YOU!! to all members. Some members are so enthusiastic that they pay their dues before receiving their renewal notification. We extend the membership and don't send a renewal notification, starting a confusing cycle. Also, under certain circumstances we may apply a donation to membership renewal. If you are confused about the status of your membership or think that we have forgotten you, please call the office at 647-7661. Thank you again. - Steve Schuck

Deadline for updating your voter registration is July 19

Do it on-line at whatcomdemocrats.com

Campaign Staff Lead State Democratic Effort

Each congressional election year (even numbered) the Washington State Democrats put together a coordinated campaign to support the Democrats running for office in Washington. This effort mainly involves opening offices across the state (13 this year), hiring field organizers for each office, and coordinating the "generic" campaign work of voter registration, identifying Democratic voters, and getting out the vote, that helps all Democratic candidates get elected.

Again this year there will be an office and organizer in Bellingham. They will be opening the office in early July, probably very close by to the Whatcom Dems office and our new Field Organizer, Tim Muldrew, will be hitting the ground soon.

Democrats push for two ballot initiatives

Initiative campaigns for the two ballot measures endorsed by the Whatcom Democrats – 1068 and 1098 – are now complete. All petitions were due in the Secretary of State's office by July 2.

Yes on 1098 campaign turned in 360,000 signatures on July 1st, having needed 241,000 legal ones to qualify. I-1098 is the middle-class tax cut and revenue package supported by Bill Gates, Sr.

I-1068 to legalize marijuana for adults in Washington state will not qualify for the fall ballot.

At press time, campaign leaders announced that they fell short by about

The Whatcom Democrats will be working very closely with the Coordinated Campaign, so until they get their "legs" please contact them through our office at 647-7661.

We need your help to get Democrats elected! Please come volunteer for the Democratic Coordinated Campaign and Patty Murray's campaign as we gear up for the election.

Volunteer shifts are flexible. We need people to make phone calls, go door-to-door, register new voters, enter data, and do office work and other miscellaneous tasks. We will hold phone banks every night from 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and canvasses Saturdays and Sundays from 11 am – 4 pm

40,000-50,000 signatures. Initiative 1068 was one of the most sweeping marijuana reform efforts playing out around the country this year, and polls have suggested it could pass — if it made the ballot. Organizers say the campaign will be back again next year.

You can find links to more information on the Whatcom Democrats website. Both initiatives were backed up with solid volunteer efforts here in Whatcom County, resulting in several thousand signatures each.

Thanks to the many volunteers who helped gather signatures.

Whatcom Democrats Executive Board

			email: add @whatcomdemocrats.com
Chair	Natalie McClendon	671-6851	demchair
1st Vice Chair			demvchair
2nd Vice Chair			
Treasurer	Peggy Borgens	384-0861	treas
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State Committeewoman	Stephanie Kountouros	734-7340	statwoman
State Committeeman	Hue Beattie	671-5597	stateman
Affirmative Action	Monica Gunderson	425-351-9477	
Campaign	Elisabeth Britt	305-8875	
Candidates	John J. McGarrity	738-9695	
Communications	Riley Sweeney	360-649-1801	
Finance	Roni Beall	756-1405	
Issues and Resolutions	Dave Willingham	224-5628	
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WCD Women's Club	Catherine L. Chambers	647-3888	
Young Democrats	Mike Estes	220-1100	
40 th LD Representative	Bob Burr	671-8862	
42 nd LD Representative	Steve Lydolph	384-5414	

Dems Gather in Vancouver to Get Fired Up

The Whatcom Dems sent down a solid handful of delegates to the Washington State Democratic Convention. Democratic party leaders, candidates, citizen activists and just good interested people gathered to organize and get fired up.

Volunteering in Office a Good Place to Start

Hi this is Rebekah Lee, the office manager for the Whatcom Democrats. One of the most important parts of the your office is the small group of volunteers who fill a two hour weekly shift or are part of an on-call list to fill-in these shifts when one of the regulars is unable to be at the office.

Office routines are not difficult; a little computer work, phone answering, general office work and helping those who visit the office. I familiarize everyone with our duties and procedures, and, I am usually there to help when something is not clear. The atmosphere is relaxed, rewarding and often fun.

At present there are two unfilled weekly shifts; office hours are M-F, 10a-2p. The morning shift is from 10a-12p; afternoons 12p-2p. The "on-call" list is a little thin right now and I would like to augment that group with as many as possible.

If you are interested in keeping your local Democratic Party efficient, vibrant and one of the best county political organizations in WA, please call me at 647-7661 or leave a message with your contact information. My email address is: office@whatcomdemocrats.com.

The feature attraction was a headline speech by Patty Murray as she seeks re-election to the United States Senate. One day earlier at the convention, Bellingham local Bob



Burr received the endorsement of the Progressive Democratic caucus for Murray's seat. Burr made it clear his main issue is campaign finance reform and that his candidacy is intended to raise that issue.

Other bits of excitement, a close vote was held on whether or not to endorse I-1068, the legalize marijuana act. At first the executive board of the Washington State Democrats urged no opinion but after a few exchanges and a motion from the floor, a tightly counted vote was held. Whatcom County voted almost universally for endorsing I-1068 and they were successful in getting the state party to endorse it.

Being a representative to the State convention is a great way to meet other good democrats and get involved in the inner workings of your party. Consider it as we continue into the presidential election season in the next couple years.

**Keep up with LOCAL news
at our PAGE on
FACEBOOK,
and become a FAN!**

**Collecting
Now
for Fall Sale!**



Household Goods, Working Electronics, Smaller Pieces of Furniture, Clothing in Good Condition, Collectibles

Drop off at 215 W. Holly Street, Suite B-27 (enter on Bay)
M-F, 10 am to 2 pm

For details call 647-7661 or email office@whatcomdemocrats.com

Chili Cook-off August 1

The 40th District Democrats are gearing up for their 4th annual old-fashioned chili cookoff, noon - 4 pm, Sunday August 1, at SS Quarter Horse Ranch, 15216 Colony Road, Bow, WA.

- Tribute to retiring Rep Dave Quall
- Meet Candidates and Legislators
- Vote for Best Chili 2010
- Quarter Horse Riding Demonstration
- Tour working champion-producing quarterhorse ranch

Ways to help: Bring side or dessert to share, camp or lawn chairs, an "I'm done with it" something for our auction, submit a chili entry, or come early to help set up.

Tickets \$7 in advance or \$10 at the door. Find more information wa40dems.net.

Connect With Your Favorite Candidate – No Excuses!

Candidate	Contact	Phone	Email	Website
Coordinated Campaign	Tim Muldrew	(240) 425-7789	timm@wavictory.org	
Patty Murray	Jessica Garson	(301) 704-1328	jessica@wavictory.org	
Rick Larsen	Justin McMahon	(425) 750-1468	justin@ricklarsen.org	ricklarsen.org
Larry Kalb	Meredith Murray	(360) 738-4071	meredith@servicewithheart.com	kalbforcongress.org
Diana McGuinness	Sharon Crozier	(360) 378-6499	sharon@dianaforcongress.com	dianaforcongress.com
Pat Jerns	Sheryl McCrary	(425) 737-8674	sherylmccrary@gmail.com	patjernsforsenate.com
Jeff Morris	Caroline Theobald	(206) 850-2951	car.theobald@gmail.com	morriscampaign.com
Kris Lytton	Art Shotwell	(360) 299-8392	art@krislytton.com	krislytton.com
Tom Pasma	Georgia Requa	(360) 708-6355	georgia@tompasma.com	tompasma.com
Thomas Boucher	David Osting	(360) 941-4265		electboucher.com
Kelli Linville	Mandy Feutz	(360) 739-6432	linvillecampaign2010@yahoo.com	
Al Jensen	Nick Fletcher	(360) 393-5495	nick@electaljensen.com	electaljensen.com
Richard May	Shari Walton	(360) 220-4203	swalton38@aol.com	richardmay.us
Jean Melious	Riley Sweeney	(360) 649-1809	riley.sweeney@gmail.com	voteforjean.com

*Mark Your
Calendar!*

*August 31
Sunset Social*

*our annual
Eleanor Roosevelt fundraiser*

Before you fill up your summer calendar, please set aside August 31st to join us for an evening of food, drink, and vital fundraising. The campaign will be in high gear, and we hope that our congressional representatives on August recess will be able to stop by.

Look for more details and ticket information in the August newsletter.



Whatcom County Democrats

215 W. Holly Street, Suite B-27
P.O. Box 3095
Bellingham, WA 98227

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July 2010 Check whatcomdemocrats.com for details

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
4 Independence Day	5 9:30am Beach Clean up, various Whatcom County Beaches	6 6pm-Young Democrats Social, Cooper Hog, State St, Bham	7 1pm- Canoe Journey at Lummi, 2201 Lummi View Dr, Bham. 7pm- Green Drinks	8 10am-Whatcom Fair Voting Mtg, RE Sources, 2309 Meridian St, Bham 6:30pm-Tea Party Forum, Syre Theater, 237 Kellogg Rd. Bham. See Page 1	9	10 10am- 42 nd LD Dems Membership Mtg, 2064 Vista Dr, Ferndale.
11 Bham Pride Parade	12	13 7pm – Drinking Liberally, Horseshoe Café, Bham	14	15 6:30pm- Tea Party Forum, Syre Theater, 237 Kellogg, Bham. See Page 1	16 Dems at the Raspberrry Festival, Lynden.	17 Raspberrry Fest, Lynden. 9am-Lynden Dems Mtg, 115 E Homestead Blvd, Lynden
18	19 Voter Registration Deadline	20 6pm- Young Dems, Rudy's Pizza, 1232 N. State, Bham	21 12pm Health Care not Welfare Vigil, 119 N. Commercial St., Bham	22 Dems at Old Settlers, Ferndale	23 Old Settlers, Ferndale	24 Old Settlers, Ferndale
25 Old Settlers, Ferndale	26	27 7pm – Drinking Liberally, Horseshoe Café, Bham	28 Ballots Mailed 7pm Bill Mize Forum, 2821 Mt Baker Hwy, Bham 7pm- E Board Meeting, Dems HQ, Bham	29	30	31
1 AUG 12pm- 40 th LD Chili Cookoff	2	3 6pm-Young Democrats Social	4 7pm- Green Drinks	5	6	7