

THE DEMOCRATIC REPORTER

August 2007

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509-585-7682

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From the Chair....

I'm pleased to tell you that our involvement in supporting the State Central Committee Quarterly Meeting went very well! We co-sponsored a Hospitality Suite with Franklin County and Team Fearing at the Richland Red Lion on Friday, June 29th. It was well attended by both local Democrats and our out-of-town Democratic visitors. Our HomeStay program was a great success, tripling the number of guests from the HomeStay held at the previous state meeting. Please read about it in the Spotlight section on the Website. For those of you that attended the sessions on Saturday at TRAC, I hope you enjoyed an opportunity to see the state party at work. Those that attended the luncheon had an opportunity to hear a crutch-ity [brought on by a recent cycling accident] Andy Miller. And of course, I was pleased to give the welcoming address to the general meeting.

Because of the HomeStay program chaired by Ralph Crowl coupled with the Basket Raffle headed by Glynn Stevens, our coffers are now about \$600 richer. Special thanks go to them and also to our supporters who helped decorate and staff the hospitality room, phone called for guests, manned the tables, provided the food/beverages and helped with logistics.

The primary campaigns are in full swing. The round of League and Herald sponsored Forums covering the non-partisan primary races have been completed. I've

personally been busy working with some of the candidates not as Chair of the Party, but as an interested citizen. I encourage all of you to get involved with any of the candidates who share our Democratic values and beliefs. We have a Candidate Development Committee meeting planned for Monday August 13th at the Union St. Library. The purpose of the committee is to find ways to support current candidates, develop the resources to support candidates and offer an opportunity for those interested to get involved. If you're interested in campaigns either as a candidate or a supporter ... please plan on attending.

I'm pleased to say that our Webmaster is going to get some support. We had three supporters turn out for a training session on the mechanics of updating our database. And another three turned out for an orientation session of the use and maintenance of the website. A thank you goes out to Frank for his efforts that will benefit the party in the future.

I'm also pleased to announce that we now have a candidate for Treasurer, an experienced lad who'll be taking over in September after a concurring vote from the Central Committee. There's also some great news in the appointment of Glynn Stevens as our Fundraising Chair and Dean Burows as our Budget Committee Chair. We hope to have a budget and fundraising plan available for your review and approval for our Sept. 19th Central Committee Meeting.

Check the calendar for upcoming meetings and don't forget to get the latest information from the HOTLINE. And don't be surprised if you get a call from one of our Fair Booth Co-Chair's Ann Muggli or Mickey Beary asking you to help work our booth at the Ben Franklin Fair Aug 21-25; we have some FORTY 3 hr slots to fill.

See you August 15th 7pm at the Dayton St. Library for our NEXT Central Committee Meeting.

"Position Available"

To job seekers this is a familiar header. It could very well point to the opportunity they're looking for and the job that nicely fits the skills that they're so willing to offer an employer.

But when it comes to jobs that pay no wages, you typically don't see such lines in the Want Ad sections, on Monster.com or other job posting sites. You sometimes have to go looking for these. And you may ask ... who wants them anyway?

The truth is that public service positions become available almost every week in Benton County. There are centers for volunteers, charities, community actions and other such endeavors. But when it comes to unpaid municipal, local, regional government positions you really have to dig a bit to find them. Even though many of these governmental agencies are normally required to post such openings ... more often than not, it's through word-of-mouth, networking and other connections where candidates are found. You may see an ad here or there, on a reader board or in an agency newsletter, but there really isn't a clearinghouse for such opportunities.

If you heard my welcoming speech at the State meeting, you know that I'm a strong believer in public service as an important credential when running for partisan public office. It's not the only credential, but it's a place to start. It's a place to demonstrate commitment and leadership to others and perhaps to yourself as well, before you say YES to tackling a major partisan race.

One key element in our Candidate Development plan is to create a countywide clearinghouse of available public service positions. It's going to require a routine commitment to contact the various governmental entities, be they school boards, taxing districts, city/county boards and commissions and develop a listing of these available positions. I would welcome a supporter(s) to take on this task. We need to do this! Our loyal opposition in Benton County does this quite well. Their networking and affiliations among business, professional, service and even religious groups has performed quite admirably, thank you!

Then the other key element is to encourage those who share our values and beliefs to say YES to these public service offerings. By making the list available to our supporters and perhaps even discussing at our Committee meetings, we will hopefully see our candidate numbers grow. Let me know what you think. We'll be talking more about this at our next Candidate Development Committee Mtg on August 13th at the Union St. Library.

Storage Facilities Needed

With the Fair coming up I'm reminded of the kindness of a local supporter who for many years has let use an out building on his property to store our booth. However, over the years the party has accumulated not only the booth but also totes of tableware, decorations, cups, banners, signs and other paraphernalia so essential to party activities. Currently the booty is being housed in three, possibly four different households. We need to consolidate these goods in a central and safe location. If you know of any such storage space that could be donated or obtained at a nominal cost, please contact us or leave a message on the HOTLINE 585-7682. Our need is pressing, in that John David wants to donate more than 50 folding steel chairs to the party but they must be vacated from a storage locker by August 15th or they'll be given to another organization

It's Aluminum, Round, 30" Tall & It's LOST

We're missing the party Coffee Pot, a 30-cup percolator. It's been missing for some time, and a reward is being offered ☺ no questions asked.

Support Congressional efforts to bring closure to the Iraq war

Gene Weisskopf

While the nation sinks into the fifth year of the war on Iraq, efforts continue in Congress to bring the war to an end, albeit at the normal pace in a democracy, s-l-o-w-l-y. But momentum is, indeed, building, thanks to many Representatives and Senators in the Democratic Party. You can show your support for their efforts by joining our sidewalk protests, weekly in Richland and once a month in Kennewick, from 4:00 to 5:00 PM:

Once a week, on a rotating basis, in downtown Richland on George Washington Way near Swift Blvd and City Hall. Our upcoming days in August are Tue. the 7th, Wed. the 15th, Thu. the 23rd, and Fri. the 31st.

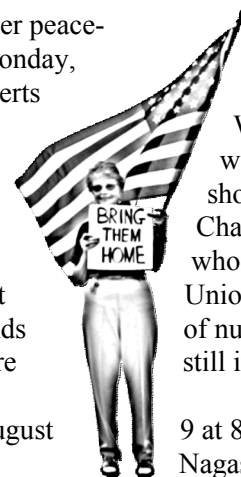
One Saturday a month in Kennewick on Columbia Center Blvd in front of the Target store. August 25 is our next scheduled day.

You can find a link to our sidewalk schedule at <http://wcpeace.org>. Click the Events link.

Bring a sign or borrow one from our ever-growing collection. You might also bring a friend, a loved one, a flag, a child, or a dog that needs walking, but mainly bring your spirit, your patriotism, and your outrage. The sidewalk protest was started and is organized by members of World Citizens for Peace (WCP), a 25-year old local peace organization. Your own telephone-dialing, letter-writing Democratic activist Margaret Munro has been encouraging her friends and fellow Democrats to come out on the sidewalk and help get this war over with. The sooner the better.

Another peace-held on Monday, Doris Roberts library. 25th year the Best chilling The Soviet of thousands material are world.

On August annual



related activity will be August 6, 7:00 PM, in the Gallery at the Richland WCP will be celebrating its with an informal gathering and showing of the movie "Last Chance," a meticulous and whodunit about nuclear terrorism. Union may be long gone, but tens of nuclear warheads and weapons still in existence throughout the 9 at 8:30 PM, WCP will hold its Nagasaki remembrance in John

Dam Plaza in downtown Richland. For more information, drop a note to info@wcpeace.org, or talk to us on the sidewalk.

Spotlight on HomeStay '07

Ralph Crowl
Chair, HomeStay '07 Committee

“Good ideas are not adopted automatically. They must be driven into practice with courageous patience.”

--Hyman Rickover (1900-1986)

The HomeStay program was, and is, a good idea. I am happy to report that we have built substantially on the initial success achieved by our friends in Whatcom County, the first Dem group to try it. At the last QM in Bellingham, they were able to get 5 party people from around the state to stay for 1 night in the home of a local Democrat, in exchange for a \$30 donation to the local party. In Whatcom, they raised \$150, and spent about the same for costs for mailers and flyers. It was a lot of effort with some good will and new friendships established, but was not really a success. But what they handed off to us was a fully formed program, with most of the “t”s crossed and “i”s dotted. We took it a step further—and with the cooperation from the State apparatus in getting the word out, and some courageous effort from our small committee of 5 volunteers--- we tripled those numbers. Because of our location here in the corner of the state, many people who used HomeStay stayed for 2 nights. We had 15 guests, raising a total of \$550, and all we spent was \$25, for table rental at TRAC. From breaking even, to a profit of over \$500, you would have to say we at least advanced the ball down the field. We hope that the next QM host-city local party will carry it even farther.

The HomeStay '07 committee would like to thank all the wonderful local Democrats who showed off their hospitality by agreeing to host an out-of-town guest. We had many more families offering rooms than we had guests to fill them, and I know many of you are a little disappointed not to have had the chance to host. For that we are sorry, but we are so very grateful that you agreed to help if needed. We have heard back from many folks, hosts and guests, and it seems that HomeStay was a great time for all.

New friends made, some newfound admiration for the quality of life we have in the Lower Columbia Basin, and a little money for the local party...

I think that counts as a success. Thanks to Kae Hopkins, Leona Hassing, Margaret Munro, and Laurel Piippo for their excellent hard work on the HomeStay Committee. And of course, thanks to Bob Parazin, and also to the George Fearing campaign, for their valuable contributions. On to the next good idea.

The State Central Committee Meeting Hospitality Room

Phyllis Bowersock and Margaret Munro, Co-Chairs for Benton Co. Hospitality Room

Gracias, merci, and many thanks to all the good Democrats who made the Benton/ Franklin/Fearing Campaign hospitality room a tremendous success. Mimi and John Latta, Teresa LoPresti, Phyllis Bowersock, and Charlotte Lewis for decorating the patio with the sparkling lights, bunting, and banners. Glynn Stevens and Margie for providing the outstanding basket filled with goodies, which was raffled for \$250 for Benton County Central Committee. Thanks to Donna and Frank Ling, to Ann Muggli, to Ann and Bob Parazin for setting up and providing food. Shirley Miller, Cynthia and Jim Dillman, Muriel Templeton, Micki Wilburn, Tom Moak, Patricia Heasler, Clark Denslow, and Donna and Frank Ling for donations toward refreshments.

Our good friends from Franklin County's efforts were lead by Shirley Murrow and Leona Hassing. Many Franklin Democrats provided cookies, dips, pickled asparagus, punch, soda and other treats for the event.

Dennis Clayton, Joseph Conant, Kendall Miller, Mimi and John, and Ann Muggli worked into the night taking down lights, decorations, and banners.

Upcoming Events - Ben-Franklin Fair

Our biggest event in need of support this year will be our County Fair Booth we FORTY slots to fill [two people per 3 hr shifts]. We have some passes available for those on tight budgets. But note that Seniors can get in ANY DAY for \$5 and with the Ben Franklin bus free to seniors, a day at the fair can be quite affordable. If you'd like to volunteer PLEASE call our HOTLINE with your name and phone number and date and time preferences. Shifts are 10am, 1 pm , 4 pm & 7 pm., Aug 21 thru 25th. . See you at the Fair.

See the Calendar for other meetings & events.



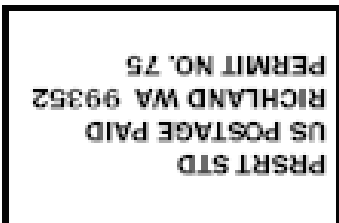
August

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 *Drink Liberally Shilo/O'Callahans 7pm	8	9	10	11
12	13 Candidate Development, 6:30 MCLU	14 * Executive Board Mtg (check HOTLINE for time & place)	15 Central Committee Mtg 7 pm MCLD	16	17	18 County Fair Parade (participation tentative)
19 Fair Booth Asbly/Decoration 9 am Fair Grounds	20	21*, ** Fair Booth Open 10am/10pm	22 ** Fair Booth Open 10am/10pm	23 ** Fair Booth Open 10am/10pm	24** Fair Booth Open 10am/10pm	25 ** Fair Booth Open 10am/10pm
26 Fair Booth Removal 9am Fair Grounds	27	28* Finance Comm Budget/Fundraising Mtg 6:30 RPL	29	30	31	

* **Drinking Liberally** - Every Tuesday at the Shilo/O'Callahan's in Richland - 7 pm soft drinks and water are available! NOTE O'Callahan's & Restaurant are operated by a subcontractor NOT the Shilo Inn Corporation.

** **Ben Franklin Fair** -Senior Admission \$5 EVERY DAY ... Ben Franklin Bus FREE to seniors ... 'come on down! !!

RPL --- Richland Public Library RCC -- Richland Community Center MCLU -Mid-Columbia Library 16th & Union
MCLD --Mid-Columbia Library 405 Dayton St, Kennewick in Keewaydin Park



Return Service Requested
Benton County Democratic Party
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