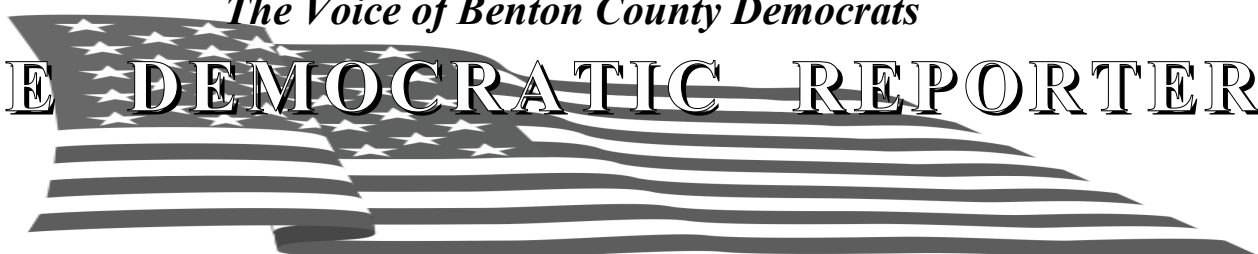


THE DEMOCRATIC REPORTER



Jan. 2008

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509-585-7682

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From the Chair

We had a very nice turnout to our Holiday Party on Saturday, Dec 17th. Our presidential Straw Poll taken during the event had Clinton and Obama neck and neck with Obama as the top choice for Vice President. We also named our Democrat of the Year. That honor was captured by our Vice-Chair Regina Speer who's been wearing multiple hats both as VC and Treasurer for most of the year. Recognition awards went to Glynn Stevens our 8th LD state committeeman and also the county Fundraising chair and the second award went to Ralph Crowl who did such a fine job in chairing our 'HomeStay '07' program in June and for the work he's currently doing as media advisor to the George Fearing Campaign.

During the event, Glynn Stevens took a survey on the level of interest in various options for financially contributing to the Party and you can find out more information on the results of that survey elsewhere in this Newsletter. He also asked attending members for support of upcoming fundraising events; also mentioned elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Regarding fundraising and the general condition of our treasury, we've been maintaining a modest reserve month to month through periodic contributions from our members. I'm particularly grateful for these donations. EACH is most appreciated. With our expected opening of a campaign headquarters in 08 we will be in need of additional funding in the near future.

If you're on any political mailing list what-so-ever or perhaps only a registered voter, I'm sure you're getting multiple mailings and phone calls ad nauseum regarding the presidential, state races and PAC committees. I've most certainly have had to LIMIT contributions as I'm sure you have as well. All that I ask is that you PLEASE consider contributing to the local party as part of your political giving. And I know it is the goal of our Fundraising Committee headed by Glynn Stevens, to give you ample, interesting and worthwhile opportunities throughout the year to assist you in your political giving to our local party. And if you have ANY ideas or comments regarding fundraising opportunities or events, PLEASE contact Glynn Stevens either through our website OR phone at 735-1659.

December Donation Tally

Contributors	Amount
1	>\$100
1	>\$75
3	>\$25
Holiday Auction	\$88

Caucus Fever? Catch it!

The variety of fever normally experienced around this time of year typically has to do with flu and respiratory infections. But every four years this caucus fever comes around. And we're in for a bout of it culminating around February 9th. That's when voters make their way to their Caucus locations and make their party voice heard regarding who they want as their Democratic candidate for President AND submit Resolutions for consideration at the County Convention, April 19th. For party staff on the local level much of this month will be spent preparing for this day.

Then following the February Caucuses by almost two months will be the 8th and 16th LD caucuses on April 5th. It is at these caucuses where we will select delegates to the Congressional District Caucus on May 17th and the State Convention on June 14th.

We will hold our County Convention on Saturday April 19th where we will finalize the County Party Platform and approve Resolutions earmarked for submittal for State Party action at the next State Central Committee meeting.

As we go to press we're finalizing the Caucus locations throughout the County and the assignment of Precincts to these locations. This information will be made available to our memberships through our February newsletter, website, phone contact and through various local media including the Tri-City Herald, a press conference and possibly the TV station websites as well. So rest assured that this information will be available to you well before Feb 9th. We tentatively has selected 6 core sites ... Carmichael Middle School, Hanford High in Richland - Kennewick High, Southridge High in Kennewick, the Islamic Center Meeting Room in West Richland and the Public Library in Prosser. Depending on the expected turnout, which could very well be affected by what happens on the national scene between now and February 5th – Super Tuesday, we may have to adjust our Caucus sites accordingly.

If the delegate counts show no clear winner by Feb 6th, it's quite possible that Washington State could

be a KEY swing state in the Democratic presidential nomination race and as a result our Caucus numbers could be way up. Only time over these next few weeks will tell.

But whether we're a KEY state or not, mark February 9th on your calendar and plan on attending, meeting your fellow Democrats and be part of an election process that allows ALL Americans to exercise their rights as citizens. See you there!

Fundraising Survey Results

by
Glynn Stevens

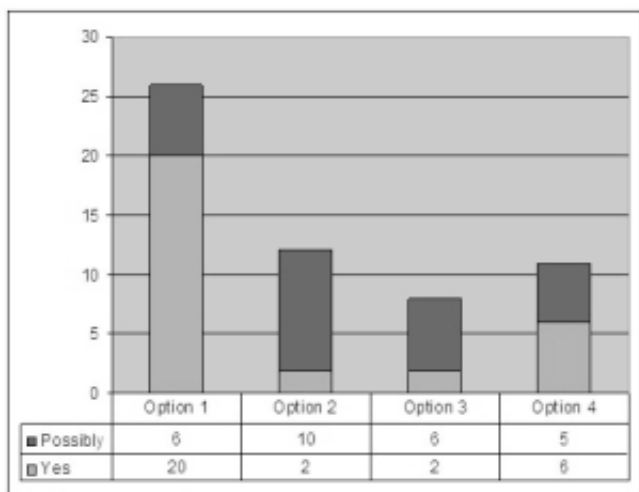
Thank you everyone who participated in the fundraising survey conducted during our annual Christmas party in December. We asked those who were at the party if they would be receptive to some new ways to contribute to our local Democratic Party organization. Specifically, we asked if they would be interested in setting up automatic one-time or recurring donation from their bank accounts or credit cards. In addition, we asked if they would be receptive to donating directly to our organization using an internet transaction.

Most people who completed the survey preferred to contribute to our organization using a personal check or cash. There also appears to be interest in providing a donation capability via the internet. There does not appear to be interest in providing a donation capability that would occur one-time or recurring directly from bank or credit card.

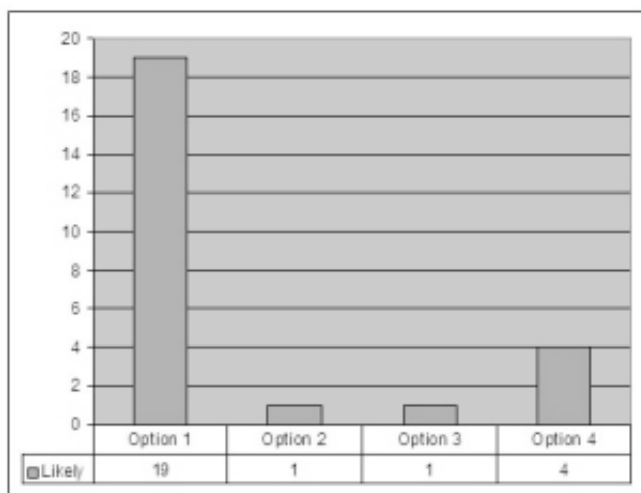
Below is a summary of the survey results. We offered (4) options to consider:

- Option #1 - Direct Cash or Check Contribution
- Option #2 - One Time or Recurring Credit Card Contribution
- Option #3 - One Time or Recurring Checking or Savings Contribution.
- Option #4 - One Time or Recurring Online Web Contribution

Question 1) Would you contribute to our organization if this option was available?



Question 2) Which option would you Likely use?



In the future we'll be considering these results in our fundraising strategies.

Tri City Democrats Kick-Off the New Year
Ann Parazin

Tri-City Democrats held their first meeting of the new year on January 5th. Members read predictions they wrote in January of 2007 and as per tradition, those bold enough put in writing their visions of political events of 2008. These new predictions were sealed in an envelope and left in the care of Frank Schmittroth, not to be opened until January 2009.

Members elected the following officers: Veda Guynes, Chairperson; Rob Dupuy, Franklin County Representative; Margaret Munro, Benton County representative; Ann Parazin, Secretary;

Huberta Yelding, Treasurer; Leona Hassing, Historian.

George Fearing, candidate for the 4th Congressional District addressed the group citing voters' real need for a change in leadership. Sheila Sullivan, Richland Councilwoman, spoke briefly on the status of the upcoming election of a new Richland Mayor. Benton County Chair Bob Parazin outlined upcoming events, opportunities for training and participation in the Precinct Caucuses.

Outgoing President Frank Schmittroth was honored and given many thanks for his able leadership these past two years.

The Tri-City Democrats welcome ALL as guests or new members (membership dues: \$5.00 per person) to their gatherings on the first Friday of every month. Meetings begin with a potluck and then a presentation is made on a local, state or national topic. Good Food. Good Friends. Good, timely, accurate information and political opinion in a relaxing atmosphere. Contact Ann @ 946 6363 or Leona @ 492 4111 for more information.

Upcoming Events

Every Tuesday Night Drinking Liberally, 7 PM, at the Shilo... O'Callahan's

Friday, Jan 11, Executive Board Meeting, 6:30 MCLD

Saturday, January 19 & Feb 2, Caucus Training, Jan 19 and Feb 2 Time/Place TBD.

Thursday, January 24th 6:30 pm, Loc TBD

Thursday, January 31st 6:30 pm, Loc TBD



The George Fearing Campaign Corner

Happy New Year! Campaign for Our Children/ George Fearing for Congress '08 closed out 2007 with a bang! George made a mighty effort to shift his priorities to fundraising and brought in \$23,000.00 in November and December with pledges still coming in. That brings our total receipts to \$59,832.00 with the balance in the checking account at \$24,080. It's an excellent position to be on the 1st of January in what promises to be an exciting year.

One of the reasons that George was so successful is that his message is dead on target concerning the need for a change in representation in the 4th Congressional District.

Only a few weeks ago, Hastings cast another dead-wrong vote on mortgage reform legislation (HR 3915) even as the sub-prime mortgage crisis has sent shock waves through world financial markets. Foreclosure rates are at the highest levels since the Great Depression, and banks continue to disclose more mortgage losses weekly, with still no end in sight. This vote came just as Congress was moving to adjourn for Thanksgiving, and once again Hastings assumed people would be too preoccupied with the holiday to notice that he'd taken his usual stand in support of 'big-money' at the expense of working families desperate for relief from fraudulent lenders.

But this time Hastings is in for a surprise. People are noticing. George hears it from them all the time on the phone and at grassroots meetings throughout the 4th Congressional District. They can't understand why Hastings voted against the SCHIP program which provides health insurance to needy kids, when he has no problem accepting health insurance for himself and his family for free, one of the perks of being a US Congressman. They can't understand why he has voted repeatedly to weaken and strip pension guarantees, while he himself enjoys the lifetime guarantee of a very large pension as a US Congressman when he retires. They can't understand how he could serve as Chair of the House Ethics Committee and allow his Chief of Staff to break Congressional Rules by calling a US Attorney in Seattle and pressuring him to answer questions about the 2004 Gregoire-Rossi gubernatorial race with the sole purpose of affecting that election in favor of the Republicans.

The list of Hastings' wrong-headed and 'ethically-challenged' votes is almost endless. That's the bad news. The good news that really has everyone excited is we can really beat Doc Hastings. As a long time advocate for education and a successful attorney, George has a proven track record of knowing what needs to be done and then doing it.

- He has 25 years experience as an attorney fighting for government accountability and efficiency in the 4th Congressional District
- He has a workable plan to get us out of Iraq and bring our troops home, and he's ready to tackle this job head-on his very first day in office.
- He brings to the campaign bedrock values of faith and family which he learned growing up in a family of seven living on his Dad's modest salary as a minister.
- Since entering this race last spring, George has traveled non-stop throughout Eastern Washington, networking with community leaders, union members, working folks from every walk of life, and has already put in place a solid, broad-based campaign organization working hard to defeat Doc Hastings.

George got into this race because he believes he can make a positive, long-term impact on the lives of the people of this district and because he believes he is the best candidate for the job. He's in it to win and is totally energized by the constant encouragement from people everywhere, eager to shake hands, share ideas and get involved in our effort to take back the 4th.

You can join with us to restore strong, Democratic values in the 4th Congressional District and do away with borrow and spend policies that are ruining our economy. You can call Mimi Latta, George's campaign manager at 627-2679 or at 378-5416 to volunteer time in the upcoming 10 months, volunteer materials for a headquarters we hope to move into in March or April, or pledge a donation to help get George's message out. Or go to George's website www.georgefearing.com for more information or to let us know how you'd like to be involved.

Mimi Latta, campaign manager
Campaign for Our Children
George Fearing for Congress '08
Change Starts NOW!

January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 Caucus Training, 10-12 pm, Pasco 598 Labor Hall
6	7	8 *Drinking Liberally Shilo /O'Callahans 7pm	9	10	11 E xec Board Mtg 6:30 MCLD	12
13	14	15*Drinking Liberally Shilo /O'Callahans 7pm	16 Central Committee Mtg 7 pm IBEW	17	18	19 Caucus Training, Time/Place TBD
20	21	22 *Drinking Liberally Shilo /O'Callahans 7pm	23	24 Finance Comm Budget/Fundraisin g Mtg 6:30 RCC	25	26
27	28	29*Drinking Liberally Shilo /O'Callahans 7pm	30	31 Operations Comm Mtg 6:30 RCC	Feb 1	2 Caucus Training, Time/Place TBD

* **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. **RCC** -- Richland Community Center
MCLU -Mid-Columbia Library 16th & Union, **MCLD** --Mid-Columbia Library 405 Dayton St, Kennewick in Keewaydin Park.
IBEW – IBEW Local 77 Meeting Hall at 2626 West Clearwater Ave (East of the Intersection of 395 and Clearwater)
Check HOTLINE 585-7682 for Time and/or Location of TBD Meetings