

# THE DEMOCRATIC REPORTER

*The Voice of Benton County Democrats*

March 2006 Issue

www.bencodem.org

Matt Kizerian, Editor

## Contacts

|                        |                   |          |
|------------------------|-------------------|----------|
| <i>Chair</i>           | Mimi Latta        | 627-2679 |
| <i>Vice Chair</i>      | Bob Parazin       | 946-6363 |
| <i>Secretary</i>       | John Latta        | 627-2679 |
| <i>Treasurer</i>       | Mac Dillsi        |          |
| <i>State Committee</i> |                   |          |
| <i>Woman</i>           | Phyllis Bowersock | 943-4559 |
| <i>State Committee</i> |                   |          |
| <i>Man</i>             | Dann Lewis        | 969-0277 |

## From the Chair

If you're reading this before our March 4th caucuses, I hope you'll take two hours to join with your neighbors and work on the issues that most concern Democrats this year. Now is the time to bring forward your ideas for how to improve and strengthen the party, as well as run for a delegate position to the April 8th county convention, and then on to the State convention. An updated list of caucus sites is included with this newsletter.

We are also looking for people to plan and put on our first-ever golf tournament. If you can help, please call Dean Burows, 539-1899 or email [dburows@dkbinc.net](mailto:dburows@dkbinc.net) to volunteer. Dean is our new Finance Committee Chair. He was crucial to the success of the Autumn Festival last year and we know he'll be even better as the committee Chair. I'm sure he'll come up with other great ideas to raise money for our candidates and our organization.

If you're looking for a way to get more active in the party and want to be part of the movement to return control of Congress to the Democrats, Maria Cantwell and Richard Wright are looking for volunteers for their campaigns. Richard's formal campaign announcement will be March 7th, 9:00 am at the Richland Community Center's North River-view Room. Both Richard Wright and Maria Cantwell will need people to answer phones, put out mailings, handle databases, wave signs, assemble and put up yard signs, walk neighborhoods to hand out information, write letters to the editor...in short, do everything that a

good campaign requires. And don't forget that Andy Miller is running for re-election as Benton County Prosecutor. He's running unopposed, but he may still need help contacting voters. I urge you to get involved with one of these candidates. If everyone gave a little time, we'd make great progress. You won't regret it!

Of course, there are other events we hope to take part in as well. There's the Cinco de Mayo parade on May 6th, and parade entries for July 4th and the Benton Franklin Fair, as well as the summer picnic, the Autumn Festival and the end of the year Holiday party. So whether you want to work with a candidate, help facilitate our golf tournament, educate voters, register voters, plan a picnic, work on our parade entry, talk to people at the Fair...we have a place for you and a monthly meeting to discuss issues and meet other Democrats. We welcome you to join in and help restore sanity to America.

Mimi Latta, BCDCC Chair

## Tri-City Democrats

A large group of members, interested Democrats and guests assembled at the Richland Labor Temple on Friday, February 3rd for their monthly meeting. After an enjoyable potluck dinner hosted by Leona Hassing, President Norm Miller called the meeting to order. Announcements were made, reports from Benton and Franklin County were given, and the introduction of the speaker, Jeanne Dillner, soon followed. Jeanne is the Executive Director of SIGN (Surgical Implant Generation Network) a local company that designs, manufactures and donates orthopedic implants for hospitals in the developing world. SIGN also provides training and ongoing communications to surgeons who use their implants and techniques on a daily basis in more than 100 hospitals in 40 developing countries. On-site training is provided by Dillner, Dr. Lew Zirkle and some 30 other U.S. surgeons and nurses. Jeanne went to Pakistan with

Dr. Lew Zirkle just eight weeks after the horrific earthquake that devastated much of that country on October 8, 2005. While in Pakistan Jeanne lived and worked with Pakistanis.

## Upcoming Events

### Precinct Caucuses

Precinct Caucuses will be held *this Saturday*, March 4th, at 2:00 pm. Delegates to the April County Convention will be chosen. Locations are precinct-specific: see the enclosed flier for meeting places.

### March Exec Committee Meeting

The March Exec Committee Meeting will be held at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, March 7th in Room B of the Mid-Columbia Library on Union St. in Kennewick.

### March BCDCC Meeting

The March BCDCC Meeting will be held at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, March 15th at the Mid-Columbia Library on Union St. in Kennewick.

### Tri-City Democrats

The next Tri-City Democrats meeting will be held on Friday, March 3rd, at the Labor Temple starting at 6:00 pm with potluck and followed by the meeting/program at 7:00 pm.

## Newsletter Submission Policy

Everyone is invited to submit material to the newsletter. Material should be kept to 125 words or less. Submissions of excessive length will be returned, and a shorter revision requested. Reference articles will be summarized, or edited to an appropriate length.

Please submit material for consideration by the date listed in the calendar for each month. Due to limited space, material received earliest will receive priority consideration. The Editor reserves the right to edit all submissions. Edited submissions will be returned for review.

Please send submissions to Matt Kizerian at [editor@bencodem.org](mailto:editor@bencodem.org). E-mail text is preferred. To mail submissions, or for questions, please call Matt at 585-4900.

# March 2006

## Precinct Caucuses

### What is a "Precinct Caucus?"

In a Precinct Caucus, members of a Political Party that live in a geographic area, or "precinct," gather to discuss Party business. It is a sub-meeting of the larger County Party as a whole. In many areas of Washington State, it would be impractical to have all people in any one county, who consider themselves Democrats, meet together at the same time.

### When are our Precinct Caucuses in 2006, and what business do they do?

We will meet in all our individual precincts across the state on March 4th, 2006, at 2:00 pm. In each meeting, we will allocate and elect delegates and alternates to the County Conventions proportionate to that precinct's support for John Kerry and Christine Gregoire in 2004. These delegates and alternates will also serve as delegates and alternates to Legislative District Caucuses. Precinct committee officers (PCOs) serving prior to January 31, 2006, will be automatic

delegates to their County Convention and Legislative District Caucus in addition to the allocated delegates. In such cases, an additional alternate may be elected.

## Events

### March

- 4 Precinct Caucuses
- 7 March Exec Committee Meeting, Room B of the Union St. Library, Kennewick, 7:00 pm
- 7 Richard Wright's formal announcement of candidacy for US House of Reps, Richland Community Centers North Riverview room 9:00 am
- 15 March BCDCC Meeting, Union St. Library, Kennewick, 7:00 pm
- 24 Last day to submit material for the April newsletter

### April

- 1 Young Democrats of WA, State Convention, Tacoma Trade and Convention Center, 5:00 pm
- 3 Business Luncheon with Governor Christine Gregoire, Washington

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

|    |    |    | 1   | 2  | 3   | 4★ |
|----|----|----|-----|----|-----|----|
| 5  | 6  | 7★ | 8   | 9  | 10  | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15★ | 16 | 17  | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22  | 23 | 24★ | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29  | 30 | 31  |    |

- Athletic Club in Seattle, noon
- 8 BCDCC 2006 County Convention
- 11 April Exec Committee Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 19 April BCDCC Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 21 Last day to submit material for the May newsletter

### May

- 6 Cinco de Mayo Parade
- 9 May Exec Committee Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 17 May BCDCC Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 26 Last day to submit material for the June newsletter



Return Service Requested

Benton County Democratic Party  
P.O. Box 636  
Richland, WA 99352

PRRST STD  
US POSTAGE PAID  
RICHLAND WA 99352  
PERMIT NO. 75