

THE DEMOCRATIC REPORTER

The Voice of Benton County Democrats

October 2006 Issue

www.bencodems.org

509-585-7682

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From the Chair

Are you ready to be jolted out of your shoes? Mayor Rocky Anderson of Salt Lake City, Utah will be our guest speaker at the Shilo Inn Rivershore in Richland on Friday, October 13th, 6:30 PM. The cost will be \$30.00 per person.

If you haven't heard or read Mayor Anderson's speech in Salt Lake City while George Bush was at the American Legion convention, you should Google "Mayor Anderson speech" to read the full text of a speech that said in part: "A patriot does not tell people who are intensely concerned about their country to just sit down and be quiet; to refrain from speaking out in the name of politeness or for the sake of being a good host; to show slavish, blind obedience and deference to a dishonest, war-mongering, human-rights-violating president,"

I hope that his presence will wake us all up so that we have to do something to help take back one or both houses of congress - and eventually, the White House.



Primary Results

We want to thank all the candidates who worked so hard right up to the Primary election. Whether they won or not, they put themselves out to represent us. Take a minute to tell them what it means to you that they ran.

Once again, we want to urge all of you who have even an hour a week to donate, please find a candidate and ask what you can do for them. Contact Kimberly Kennedy at Kimberly4coroner@aol.com, George Fearing at: www.georgefearing.com, or call Bill Grant: 509-386-5943, email: bill@votebillgrant.com and finally call Richard Wright at: 735-2490 and use: rkwright@clearwire.net to email him. November 7th is only a month away.

October Meeting

At our October 18th meeting, we'll review the major initiatives that will be on the November ballot. We encourage all PCOs, committee Chairs, and officers to attend so that we can vote to endorse or advise against these issues. We'll use the ballot language as taken from the WA State Secretary of State's website or other non-partisan site such as League of Women Voters.

In other business, we'll discuss purchase of a laser printer/copier to produce the monthly newsletter.

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Tri-City Democrats

The September meeting hosted by Mike Ragan included a presentation on biofuels by Glen Clifford, Candidate for Franklin County Commissioner and Kristen Eby, Central Washington Director for Maria Cantwell. Leona Hassing's monthly trivia question was won by Bob Ellis.

The October meeting on the 6th will feature pro and con discussions of Initiative 937 which would require large utilities to obtain 15 percent of their electricity from renewable resources. The location this month is the Labor Hall in Richland on Knight Street. Jim Timmons, Board member of the Washington Environmental Council and WA Conservation Voters, will present the pro; and Karen Miller, Manager of Communications and Governmental relations for Benton

PUD, will present the con. As usual, the potluck will be at 6:00 with the meeting at 7:00.

Frank Schmittroth
President, Tri-City Democrats

Hanford Supporters

The Hanford Atomic Metal Trades Council (HAMTC) and the Central Washington Building & Construction Trades Council (CWBCTC) support Washington State as a preferred candidate for the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP) and have requested that Governor Gregoire back up their support with her office.

President Bush announced the GNEP program this past February to develop innovative, advanced reactors and new methods to recycle spent nuclear fuel for the development and demonstration of Advanced Burner Reactors as the

cornerstone for an improved nuclear fuel cycle that enhances energy security and nonproliferation.

HAMTC and CWBCTC believe Hanford facilities and personnel are uniquely qualified for the program.

**State Committee Meeting Report
September 29-30, 2006 Tacoma, WA**

Summary: The proposed Charter Amendment that would allow Young Democrats to add two full members to the WSDCC was tabled until January's meeting, but 182 Resolutions were considered by the Resolutions Committee and acted on by the WSDCC.

The Benton County-submitted resolution on Hanford Workers Industrial Insurance coverage was passed. Another resolution submitted by BCDCC, regarding Workplace Bullying, was recommended not to pass by the Resolutions Committee, and did not pass, but may be re-submitted.

On Friday, the Resolutions Committee met and there was a Rosellini Dinner, though we didn't attend either. Hospitality Suites were few. Only the Progressive Caucus, Disabilities Caucus, and Stonewall Democrats had them at the Sheraton. Pierce County held one at the nearby Marriott. The Maria Cantwell Campaign was notably absent, which was a surprise and disappointment.

The State Committee meeting Saturday was fairly well attended and only moderately raucous.

Vice Chairperson Eileen Macoll reported that the DNC was implementing a fifty state strategy, meaning that there would be no states left out. The plan is to reach and energize the Democrats in EVERY state. Also, the states should have a "whole state" strategy to compliment the DNC fifty state strategy, which includes energizing rural Dems as well as urban. DNC representatives Karen Marchiaro and David McDonald also gave their reports, focusing on election strategies.

Take elections seriously! If there are any questions, call 888-DEM-VOTE for any kind of election help.

We dealt with the 182 Resolutions that were left over from the State Convention in Yakima with major kudos going to Jean Brooks and the Resolutions Committee! The meeting adjourned at around 4:30 PM.

John Latta Proxy - Phyllis Bowersock

WA State Chair's Meeting

At the Chair's meeting, we reviewed the Coordinated Campaign's effort. Many of us questioned the recent signs used with Mike McGavick's name prominently displayed. We called for an immediate change to this. We discussed the Chair's website, the new Voterfile, and dates for Organization meetings. Then a serious issue was brought up. WA State Democrats will no longer provide insurance riders for counties and LDs. That means we'll have to budget for insurance riders for our precinct caucuses and county convention. The cost can be high so we should

begin looking into it immediately to determine what type of insurance to purchase and how much.

Mimi Latta, Chair
BCDCC

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**Below are the Initiatives** that have qualified for the November ballot according to the WA State League of Women Voters. Please read them prior to our October 18<sup>th</sup> meeting at the Dayton Street Library in Kennewick.

**Initiative Measure No. 920 concerns estate tax.**

This measure would repeal Washington's state laws imposing tax, currently dedicated for the education legacy trust fund, on transfers of estates of persons dying on or after the effective date of this measure.

**Ballot Measure Summary**

Washington law currently imposes a graduated tax on the transfer of certain Washington estates having a taxable value of more than 2 million dollars. Certain property, described in statute, is excluded from the taxable value. The revenues from this tax are deposited in the education legacy trust fund. This measure would repeal this estate tax. The repeal would apply to the taxable estates of persons dying on or after the effective date of the measure.



**Initiative Measure 933 concerns government regulation of private property.**

This measure would require compensation when government regulation damages the use or value of private property, would forbid regulations that prohibit existing legal uses of private property, and would provide exceptions or payments

**Ballot Measure Summary**

This measure would require government agencies to consider the effects of and alternatives to regulating private property. Compensation would be required when regulations are enforced that damage private property use or value, including regulations prohibiting or restricting property uses that were allowed as of January 1, 1996. Exceptions would exist for regulations applying equally to all property subject to the agency's jurisdiction. Development regulations that would prohibit existing legal property uses would not be permitted.



**Initiative Measure No. 937 concerns energy resource use by certain electric utilities.**

This measure would require certain electric utilities with 25,000 or more customers to meet certain targets for energy conservation and use of renewable energy resources, as defined, including energy credits, or pay penalties.

**Ballot Measure Summary**

This measure would require investor-owned and consumer-owned utilities with 25,000 or more customers to meet designated targets for energy

conservation, including cogeneration as defined, and use of eligible renewable energy resources. Renewable energy resource targets may be met by designated investment levels, including energy resource credits. Utilities not meeting conservation and renewable energy resource targets would pay penalties to the state, to be used for purchase of renewable energy credits or certain energy conservation purposes.



**Richard Wright Coffee Hour**

Dick and Nyla Brouns will host a coffee for Richard Wright, 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District candidate, on October 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM at the Alterra Retirement Community’s multi-purpose room, 1629 George Washington Way, Richland. Cake and coffee will be served and the public is invited. There is no cost, but donations of any amount will be accepted.

**Calendar**

**October**

- 10, 7:00 PM** EBoard mtg., Hastings Coffee Shop, Richland
- 13, 6:30 PM** Mayor Rocky Anderson dinner, Shilo Inn, Richland
- 18, 7:00 PM** BCDCC mtg., Dayton St. Library
- 31 Halloween**

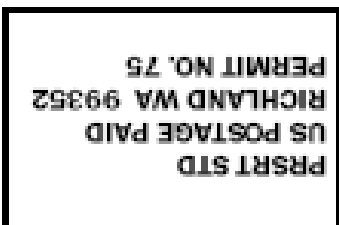
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| 1   | 2   | 3    | 4    | 5   | 6    | 7   |
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| 15  | 16  | 17   | 18 ★ | 19  | 20   | 21  |
| 22  | 23  | 24   | 25 ★ | 26  | 27   | 28  |
| 29  | 30  | 31   |      |     |      |     |

**November**

- 6, 7:00 PM** EBoard mtg., Hastings Coffee Shop, Richland
- 7 Election Day**
- 15, 7:00PM** BCDCC mtg. Union St. Library, Rm. A
- 23 Thanksgiving**

**December**

- 9 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM** Holiday Party at Roy’s Western Smorgy, Columbia Center North



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



**The Benton County Democratic  
Central Committee  
Will Host**

***Salt Lake City Mayor,  
Ross "Rocky" Anderson***

Friday, October 13th, 6:30 PM

at the

Shilo Inn, Rivershore

50 Comstock Avenue, Richland, WA

**Come And Be Energized!!**

**Cost: \$30.00**

**Reservations: 509-627-2679 OR 509-585-7682 by 10/10/06**

**[www.bencodems.org](http://www.bencodems.org)**

