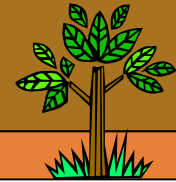


31st District Democrat's Newsletter



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Volume Number- IV

Issue Number -3

Date-3/11/08

Meeting Notice

The 31st L.D. Democrats will meet on:

March 19, 2008

At

Marion Grange

27725 Buckley-Sumner Hwy E

Buckley

Coffee Hour 6PM

Meeting 7PM

Program for March

- Information (and a “mock” caucus) concerning the April 5th 31st Legislative district caucus (Bonney Lake High School, doors open at 8:30 am and the process begins at 10:45 am). If you are a **delegate** or an **alternate** this meeting will fill you in on what is to happen.
- 4 Washington State Court Judges will be here to answer your questions: Debra Stevens and Mary Fairhurst are running for WA Supreme Court positions, and Monica Benton and Regina Cahan are running for King County Supreme court positions. A wonderful nonpartisan website is www.votingforjudges.org if you want to read about them.

Why the Marion Grange?

It has been quite a few months since the monthly meetings of the 31st District Democrats have moved from the Sumner Library to the Marion Grange in Buckley. Still some people are asking why the decision to change was made. They contend that the Sumner Library is near a convenient crossroads for many people in the District. Rest assured that before the decision was made, the Board members of the District took that fact into consideration, and looked hard at the options.

For most of the couple of years that we were meeting at the Sumner Library, we were usually lucky enough to be able to reserve the room for our chosen day. Some months the meeting had to be changed to a different day, but not often. About a year ago, that began to change. The rules for reserving the library meeting room are the same for all groups. It is first come, first served, with the ability to reserve on the first open day of the month three months before the date desired. The exception is when a library program is booked far ahead for the evening a group would want. Demand for the room is fierce. Though we would usually call to reserve on the first eligible day, we were not always first to call, and therefore, not always successful.

In frustration we began to seek out other choices with no cost, less unpredictability, and possibly added amenities such as more space and a kitchen area. We couldn't find anything close to Hwy 410 in the Sumner or Bonney Lake areas. We found the Marion Grange. There we are able to book the space far ahead and don't have that concern. A positive factor has been that those Democrats who live at the eastern end of the District have started to come more often and some are becoming more active.

We don't want to lose those at the west end of the District and want to offer carpooling from the Sumner Library.

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Things Happening Around Our Area

- 1) March 19th is the 5th anniversary of the invasion of Iraq. There will be 2 protests in Seattle on this day:
 - National Day of Non-Violent Resistance. 2-5pm at Fisher Plaza 140 4th Ave N, Seattle.
 - Iraq War Anniversary Protest
6pm at Westlake Park (<http://answerseattle.org>).
 - 2) If you don't want to travel to Seattle there will be a "Stand for Peace" protest on March 19 from 4:30-6pm in Federal Way at the Intersection of South 320th Street and Pacific Hwy South.
 - 3) March 22-rally at Fort Lewis.
 - 4) March 13-16 IVAW (Iraq Veterans Against War) will be testifying on capital hill (Winter Soldiers). Ben Marx who talked at our October 2007 monthly meeting will be there.
- (If you want something posted- please [email](mailto:szot.patricia@gmail.com) szot.patricia@gmail.com with the information)

Update on Washington Clean Elections:

On March 5th the Washington State Congress approved Bill 5278 to allow cities and towns to support clean elections for local offices. This is the **first** step to getting the ability to have public financing of elections of public offices. I am sorry to say that **all** of our representatives, Pam and Dan Roach (R) as well as our Chris Hurst (D), voted against it. Chris even took to the floor to argue against the bill (www.leg.wa.gov and type bill 5278). For more details concerning "CLEAN" elections go to www.wpc.org.

ONGOING FOOD DRIVE

Please bring any food item for our ongoing food drive to help those less fortunate than ourselves.

War Statistics (<http://www.antiwar.com>)
3974 US Military Deaths (Iraq)
29320 US Military Wounded (Iraq)
151,000-1,173,743 Iraq Civilian Deaths