

# 31<sup>st</sup> District Democrat's Newsletter

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## MEETING NOTICE

**The 31<sup>st</sup> L.D. Democrats will meet  
Wednesday, May 24th  
7 TO 9 PM**

**SUMNER PUBLIC LIBRARY  
1116 Fryer Ave.  
Sumner, WA  
Coffee hour 6-7 PM**

<http://31stDistrictDemocrats.org>  
PCO training 6:15 to 7:00 covering the  
new voter registration form and making  
voter ID calls.

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### SUPPORT OUR CANDIDATES

**Yvonne Ward for State Senate-** 128  
14<sup>th</sup>. St. SE, Auburn, WA 98002  
253-887-8609

[www.yvonneward.com](http://www.yvonneward.com)

**Karen Willard for State Rep.-**  
PO Box 140, Wilkeson, WA 98396  
360-761-8101

<http://electkarenwillard.com>

**Christopher Hurst for State Rep.-**  
62504 Indian Summer Way E.  
Enumclaw, WA 98022  
360-663-2608

[www.christopherhurst.org](http://www.christopherhurst.org)

*(By Sharon Hodgins, PCO Chair, 31<sup>st</sup>  
District Democrats)*

## **IT IS TIME TO ELECT PRECINCT COMMITTEE OFFICERS ONCE MORE!**

For those of you who are Precinct  
Committee officers, it is time to file  
again, so you can be on the September  
Primary ballot. Cost is \$1.00. We will be  
distributing out PCO app's at the next few  
meetings; I believe they have to be in by  
July. Please let me know if you wish to be  
a Precinct Committee Officer, and I can  
get you an application!

### **What are Precinct Committee officers (PCO for short)?**

Each political party may have a Precinct  
committee officer/(PCO) who is the main  
contact between the political party and  
people within that precinct in that party.  
IN OTHER WORDS, A DEMOCRATIC  
PCO IS THE CONTACT PERSON FOR  
ALL DEMOCRATIC VOTERS IN  
THAT PRECINCT.

### **WHAT ARE THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF A PCO?**

1. To help identify Democratic voters in

*(PCO's continued)*

your precinct by making contact with  
them in some way - by phone (I have a  
great script that is quick), or walking your  
precinct. Due to the our last governor race  
fiasco, our Secretary of State has  
mandated that all counties clean up their  
voter files; our state party has downloaded  
all these files and they are probably the  
most accurate they can be. We will also  
make available to you paper copies of  
your voter file.

Once a voter has been ID'd as a  
Democrat, we would like you

- a. To update that file on the Democratic  
State voter file;
  - b. If that voter would like to be in contact  
with the 31<sup>st</sup> District Democrats, we  
would also like you to let our membership  
chair know.
  - c. We would also like you to keep your  
own list, so you know who to call upon  
for help during campaign times or for  
caucuses.
2. To conduct a precinct caucus when  
necessary usually every two years.
  3. To serve as election observers

# 31<sup>st</sup> District Democrat's Newsletter

## *(PCO's continued)*

(sometimes paid) at polling places as well as at the county elections office.

4. To help make recommendations for nominees for Democratic officials who cannot fulfill their terms of office. (Example of latter: When Kent Pullen died before he could fulfill his term on the King County Council, it was the Republican PCO's of the area he represented who recommended candidates to fulfill this position).
5. To doorbell with campaign materials for endorsed candidates prior to each primary and general election.
6. To help with political campaigns.
7. To register voters.
8. To attend appropriate meetings and conventions. Each precinct committee officer automatically belongs to the County Democratic Central Committee; Pierce County Democrats meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month; King County Democrats meet the last Tuesday of each month.

## **There are two ways to become a Precinct Committee Officer:**

Stand for election every even-numbered election year, serving a

## *(PCO's continued)*

two-year term. PCO's will be elected in the September Primary, and will officially become an officer after the November election/in December.

Be appointed by the local Democratic organization in your state legislative district, and then be approved by the local County organization. Both King and Pierce counties also allow one to become an 'Acting' PCO, who serves a neighboring precinct until someone in that Precinct runs/is appointed.

Once you become a Precinct Committee Officer, you can gain access to the State Democratic Voter File. **YOUR MAIN RESPONSIBILITY IS TO, AS YOU HAVE TIME, CONTACT PEOPLE IN YOUR DISTRICT WHO HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS DEMOCRATIC VOTERS, AND GET THEM INTO CONTACT WITH US!** This can be done by a quick phone call, and then sending the information onto our membership chair. We would also like you to keep your own list, so that when you run across

## *(PCO's continued)*

a person who would welcome a campaign yard sign, work on a phone bank, help with other campaign activities, you know who to call on within your precinct. When you download a voter registration file, on the average about 1/3 of the voters have identified themselves as Democrats (A and B voters), 1/3 are Republicans (D and E voters), and about 40% claim no party affiliation (C or party affiliation blank). As a Precinct Committee Officer, we would like you to contact the identified Democrats and the unaffiliated voter.

Helpful websites are: [www.wa-democrats.org](http://www.wa-democrats.org) (WA State Party Website) [www.kcdems.org](http://www.kcdems.org) (King County Democratic Central Committee Website) [www.piercecountymdemocrats.org](http://www.piercecountymdemocrats.org) (Pierce County Democratic Central Committee Website) [www.31stdistrictdemocrats.org](http://www.31stdistrictdemocrats.org) (Our own 31<sup>st</sup> District Democrat website.) Contact information for me: Sharon Hodgins at 253-862-7103 or [rshodgins@earthlink.net](mailto:rshodgins@earthlink.net).