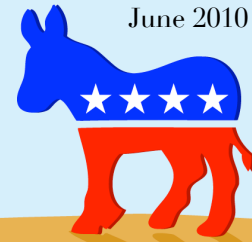


# PACIFIC COUNTY DEMOCRAT

June 2010



Keeping Pacific County Blue.

## From the Chair

By John Adams, Chair PCO

In a call from John Bessey, Denny Heck's field director, I learned that Craig Pridemore had withdrawn from the congressional race. I first met Craig in person at the DCC meetings in January and was quickly impressed. He has a clear grasp of the local issues, a great record as a state legislator, and is a great person as well.

He has decided to stop his campaign and throw his support to Denny Heck, wishing to ensure that this congressional seat stays in the "D" column. Our thanks go to Craig for running a great campaign. Now we all need to get to work to send Denny Heck to "the other Washington" as our representative.

I would like to take a moment to thank all of the great candidates who are running for county offices, as well as those running to be PCOs. This is one of the most overlooked and under-appreciated positions in the county. You are some of the most important candidates in the race. Thank you for being willing to serve.

After much consideration, I have decided that I will not be seeking re-election as Chair at our next reorganization meeting. I have definitely enjoyed the experience of chairing the club and feel that it involved me in Democratic politics in a manner that I could not have done in any other way. However, I've never felt that I had the time to give to run the club in as effective a manner as I would like.

I intend to stay as PCO of Oysterville and to help when and where I can on elections and other club events. I'm confident that there is someone out there that has been waiting for his or her opportunity to experience politics from a different perspective. Now is your chance!

**Please see CHAIR, p. 2**

## Filing Week

By The Editors

Filing Week in Pacific County is always an exciting time. This year it was easier for candidates to file due to the new and improved Auditor's website.

Candidates could file from the comfort of their home on their own computers. This time- and cost-effective new system includes automatic, real-time updating. And the candidates loved it.

This issue features a Q&A from the candidates running for County Commissioner #3.

The following Pacific County Democrats have filed for election:

County Assessor:	<b>Bruce Walker</b>
County Auditor:	<b>Pat Gardner</b>
County Clerk:	<b>Virginia Leach</b>
County Commissioner #3:	<b>Lisa Ayers, Clay Harwood &amp; Cathy Russ</b>
County Sheriff:	<b>Scott Johnson</b>
Prosecuting Attorney:	<b>David Burke</b>
Baleville PCO:	<b>David Bustamante &amp; Mark Huber</b>
Bay Center PCO:	<b>Colleen Cohern</b>
Frances-Lebam PCO:	<b>Lisa Ayers</b>
Illwaco PCO:	<b>Jerry Benning</b>
Klipsan PCO:	<b>Marshall Tate</b>
Nahcotta PCO:	<b>William Grennan</b>
Naselle PCO:	<b>Karen Spackman</b>
Ocean Park 1 PCO:	<b>Frank Logan</b>
Ocean Park 2 PCO:	<b>Melissa Goldberg</b>
Oysterville PCO:	<b>John Adams</b>
Pioneer PCO:	<b>Sid Snyder</b>
Raymond W1P2 PCO:	<b>Brian Hatfield</b>
Raymond W1P3 PCO:	<b>Michael Spencer</b>
Raymond W2R PCO:	<b>Rebecca Chaffee</b>
Raymond W3 PCO:	<b>David Burke</b>
Seaview 1 PCO:	<b>Pat Donnelly</b>
South Bend 2 PCO:	<b>Renee Goodin</b>
Willapa PCO:	<b>Janel Fletmetis</b>

## CHAIR, continued from p. 1

One of the most interesting races unfolding this year is for county commissioner #3. EDC Director Kathy Russ and county financial analyst Lisa Ayers are challenging incumbent Clay Harwood in a contest that offers the voters of Pacific county a trio of good Democrats to choose from. Each of these candidates brings unique skills and a history of service to the county and are

well qualified to serve as commissioner.

We should be proud as Democrats that we can field three well-qualified candidates for this office. Let's all work hard to promote an active primary and general election for these great candidates and the voters of Pacific county. ♦

## Reflections of An Outgoing State Committeewoman

*By Beverly Olson, Bay Center*

In 1996 I became the State Committeewoman for the 19<sup>th</sup> Legislative District. I would meet three times a year with other state committee members representing counties and legislative districts throughout the state. Each county (39) and each legislative district (49) is entitled to one committeeman and one committeewoman.

I quickly learned that the Washington State Democrats Central Committee performs many functions. The ones that are obvious are: electing the State Central Committee Officers, passing policy resolutions, endorsing candidates, raising money, and holding a State Convention every two years. Ones not so obvious are working closely with the Secretary of State and other political parties in scheduling elections, complying with state law, challenging state law, running a coordinated campaign, supporting Democratic candidates, maintaining voter lists, providing PCO workshops, and sending members to the National Democratic Central Committee.

Most of the work is actually done by the State Chair and the State Staff, but the direction is established by the State Central Committee. I feel honored to have been a part of that since 1996.\*

A typical State meeting includes arriving on Friday afternoon and attending educational opportunities or various caucuses. I tried to attend those that were germane to the 19<sup>th</sup> LD and Pacific County. Friday nights usually include a dinner or fundraiser followed by "hospitality suites" hosted by candidates or special interests. Saturday mornings start early with committee

meetings. Each member of the Central Committee is assigned to a committee. Through the years I served on Resolutions or Rules. Then sometimes there is a no-host luncheon with a good speaker but a tab that is too large. Sometimes the committee members are on their own for lunch. The State Central Committee meeting finally begins at 1:00 pm. AND LASTS until approximately 5:00 pm.

I would encourage anyone reading this who is interested in becoming a State Committeeman or State Committeewoman to put your name forward when Pacific County Democrats and the 19<sup>th</sup> Legislative District reorganize in January 2011. If you are elected, you will find you have accepted a job that is rewarding. I would be less than honest not to mention the downside. This is an expensive commitment. Your transportation costs, lodging, and meals are on you.

I resigned as the Pacific County Central Committeewoman at the last regular meeting because I will not be able to attend the State Convention in June 2010. We are so fortunate that Diana Thompson stepped up and will be completing this term for me and for you. Thanks Diana.

\*With one interruption for two years I served as the State Committeewoman for either the 19<sup>th</sup> LD or Pacific County since 1996. ♦

*Last month President Obama hosted a presentation in the White House for Sir Paul McCartney, who received the Gershwin Prize for Popular Song, awarded by the Library of Congress.*

*At the end of the evening, Sir Paul commented to Obama: "After the last eight years, it's great to have a president who knows what a library is."*

## Cathy Russ

Director, Pacific County Economic Development Commission

*How long have you worked in local government and what is your experience?*

I have worked 6 years for Pacific County in the Assessor's office and the Department of Community Development and 9 years with Pacific County Economic Development Council as Business Liaison and Executive Director.

Through these experiences I have attained a thorough knowledge of local government processes. I have successfully operated and have ultimate responsibility for the EDC's overall operations.

As Executive Director, I demonstrate a strong passion for local citizens and businesses, exercise effective leadership skills and I have achieved results. It is my responsibility to be an effective leader for economic development, to be a visible and valued member of our community and to create a sustainable organization.

*How do you feel your experience in local government qualifies you to be Commissioner?*

Having been a county leader immersed in diverse, countywide-experiences: a) Built strong relationships with our local, state and federal agencies, b) Strong personal rapport with our State Representatives and Senator, c) Forged partnerships on state boards for services to the citizens and businesses, d) Proven executive leader as Director of PCEDC and e) Proven a strong passion to meet, listen and hear the needs of our citizens and businesses and have achieved results.

*What do you believe to be your greatest accomplishment in local government?*

The ability to listen to citizens and industries and respond to their needs. To identify infrastructure needs and future economic opportunities: a) In-

dustrial Lands Needs Analysis - analyze industrial trends through 2028 and to anticipate the land required to sustain economic development and future job growth, b) Economic Opportunity - address types of industries which will fit within our "environmental," c) Strategic Marketing Plan - market Pacific County as a place to live, work and do business and d) Commercial/Retail Economic Opportunities - address gaps and future needs to encourage a healthy commercial/retail core. Strong relationships which have been forged with our citizens, business, local, state and Federal agencies.

It is very important to me to communicate with the private and public sectors to learn of their concerns, express our county's achievements and needs, and fight hard for local opportunities.

*What do you hope to contribute to the county?*

As a proven leader I bring executive skills in accountability, communications, vision, and development along with existing knowledge of Pacific County's economic trends necessary to support and make sound decisions for the future of our County.

I understand the need to create a competitive advantage for Pacific County's future expansion and growth for existing and new business opportunities which will lead to increase the overall county's revenue for a sustainable future. ♦

---

**JULY MEETING**  
**Annual PCD Picnic**  
**July 18, 2010**  
**Glen & Beverley Olson's,**  
**145 South Palix Road**  
**South Bend, WA**

**AUGUST MEETING**  
**No Meeting**

## Clay Harwood

*Pacific County Commissioner*

***How long have you worked in local government and what is your experience?***

I have worked as County Commissioner these past four years. I was a member of the Pacific County Planning Commission two and a half years and the Pacific County Board of Adjustments for three and a half years. I also served on the Jefferson County Fair Board for two years.

***How do you feel your experience in local government qualifies you to be Commissioner?***

As Commissioner, I have the experience and background with knowledge gained during this current term. As one of the commissioners that create the budget, with help from support personnel, I have worked hard to create an efficient yet serviceable budget, still meeting the need for public services. I have worked closely with the other elected officials and department heads, developing a good working relationship, thus providing them a budget that is manageable and allows their departments and offices to perform their duties. In addition, I have voluntarily decided not to collect mileage reimbursement for travel within my district due to budgetary reasons.

***What do you believe are your greatest accomplishment in local government?***

Under my leadership, I worked to purchase the former Our Saviors Lutheran Church, which will become the new Willapa Senior Nutrition Center. The center is now located in the former PACE Senior Nutrition Center located in downtown Raymond. I anticipate that in September the new center will be open and serving the seniors in our community. The new center will be located on the corner of Jackson St and May St.

As a member of the Board for CCAP, I have supported work toward the goal of sustainable power with the construction of four new wind generation units near Grayland on the Grays Harbor/Pacific county line. Electrical energy derived from these wind generation units will

benefit residents of Pacific County in the Grayland/Tokeland area.

***What do you hope to contribute to the county?***

First and foremost, the new Willapa Senior Nutrition Center will meet a continuing need to assist our senior population providing a place to come for a good hot meal and social gatherings as well. In addition, the center will assist seniors and others throughout the area with meals on wheels and in home care information and more. In times of emergency, the center will be a place for the community to gather in case of disaster with generation and serve as a warming center. The CCAP office will be housed within this facility, continuing to provide information for services.

The wind generation site on the Grays Harbor/Pacific County line will continue to provide clean renewable energy into the future for Pacific County residents in the Tokeland/Grayland area. ♦

### Important Dates in 2010

**June 25 & 26, 2010, 9:00AM:** Washington State Democratic Convention, Location: Vancouver. A state platform will be adopted.

July 18, 2010 12noon: Annual PCD Picnic and endorsements, Location: Glen & Beverley Olson's home 145 South Palix Road, South Bend

**July 19, 2010** Deadline for registration to vote in Primary

**August 17, 2010** Primary election

**November 2, 2010:** Election Day

### Calendar of Events

July 3, 11 AM Fourth of July Parade, Tokeland

July 4, 12 noon Fourth of July Parade, Ocean Park

Aug. 7 Willapa Harbor Day Parade

Sept. 6 12 noon Labor Day Parade, SB

## Lisa Ayers

*Pacific County Financial Analyst*

### *How long have you worked in local government and what is your experience?*

I have over 11 years of experience working in local government. For the past 5 ½ years I have been Pacific County's Management and Fiscal Analyst. In addition to preparing, monitoring and analyzing the County budget, I provide information and recommendations to support the Commissioner's decisions. As a member of the administrative staff, I attend Commissioner meetings, participate in the creation and implementation of county policies, and provide budget and database support to each county department. I manage county property, and administer grant funded projects.

Prior to joining the County's administrative staff, I worked six years for the City of Raymond as a Public Works administrator where I gained experience in land use, planning, permitting, road maintenance, policy writing, grant administration, and governmental accounting and budgeting. I also built strong working relationships with city, county and state agencies.

### *How do you feel your experience in local government qualifies you to be Commissioner?*

During the past 11 years of public service I have accumulated experience in each area of the County Commissioner's responsibilities. However, my current position is of most significance. As Pacific County's Management and Fiscal Analyst I have gained a thorough understanding of a Commissioner's most significant responsibility, the management of the County budget and finances. In addition, I have a solid grasp of the County's interworkings, departmental structure, policies, assets, and issues. I have also established a close working relationship with County elected officials, management and employees.

My background has prepared me to seamlessly transition into a County Commissioner's role, fully up to speed on day one in the commissioner's chair. No learning curve required!

### *What do you believe are your greatest accomplishments in local government?*

Over the past 11 years, I have been involved in the acquisition and management of over \$7.5 million in grant funded projects. These projects ranged from emergency water system repairs to an early childhood education center. Without these outside funding sources, our community would not have been able to complete these crucial projects.

### *What do you hope to contribute to the county?*

A Commissioner's job is to manage the county government. As a Commissioner, I will be a full time working manager. I will provide representation and balanced decision making based on community priorities. I will use my expertise and knowledge of County finances to effectively manage County resources. The greatest contribution that a County Commissioner can make to Pacific County is a well managed, stable county government.

These are challenging times for government. Typically the first response for those with less than intimate knowledge of budget and operational issues is to increase revenues through higher fees and taxes. As we all know hiking fees and taxes creates a hostile business environment, further exacerbating the problem. Because of my expertise dealing with the county's financial issues I'm well equipped to understand and implement meaningful operational savings as opposed to raising fees and taxes.

Beyond their basic responsibilities, a County Commissioner has an opportunity become a true community leader. The improvement of the overall well-being of Pacific County should be a priority. As a Commissioner I will be that leader. I will facilitate partnerships between agencies, organizations, businesses and citizens and lead the fight to search out effective and innovative solutions to current and emerging issues. I will provide the representation, expertise, and leadership necessary to take Pacific County into a successful future. ♦

#### *Pacific County Democrat Newsletter*

Co-Editor: Peter Janke 360-665-0773

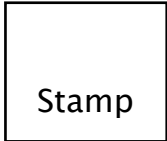
[pjanke@centurytel.net](mailto:pjanke@centurytel.net)

Co-Editor: Marshall Tate 360-665-0023

[mctate65@pondhouse.com](mailto:mctate65@pondhouse.com)

We meet at 7 p.m. on the second Monday of each month, alternating between South Bend (even months) and Seaview (odd months)

PACIFIC COUNTY DEMOCRATS  
P.O. BOX 455  
SOUTH BEND, WA 98586  
Return Service Requested



Do you have an email address? Please let us know so that we can send this to you via email and save costs. Email [PCD@pondhouse.com](mailto:PCD@pondhouse.com)

## State Committee Report

*By Diana Thompson, PCD State Committeewoman*

According to the Washington State Democrats website, the State Democratic Central Committee is the state-wide umbrella organization for the Democratic Party. It is made up of Chairman Dwight Pelz and the other officers and female and male representatives elected from each Legislative District and county.

It is the job of the Central Committee to set the tone of the Democratic Party in the state, to support the LD and county organizations and to recruit and support Democratic candidates for offices. From another source, I found this description: "represent the concerns of their neighbors to

the Democratic Party. This grassroots representation is at the heart of our democracy. . . "

In considering accepting the position of County Committeewoman, I was drawn by the task of representing the concerns of my neighbors. I believe that it is important that the Central Committee hear from all parts of the state and recognize the value that we all bring. There is always a challenge in any state-wide organization to balance the needs of the large high-population counties with those of the smaller, more rural counties.

Pushing for this balance is one of my goals as your county committeewoman. I am very honored to hold this position especially when I consider the good work that those before me (especially Beverly Olson) have done. Thank you for letting me serve the Pacific County Democrats. ♦

✂.....

### PACIFIC COUNTY DEMOCRATS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Annual Dues --- \$10 Per Year

New Membership     Renewal

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Pacific County Democrats, PO Box 455, South Bend, WA 98586

*Thank you for your support*