

# February Web News Update

## Chairs Corner; Earning Respect

*By Martin Chaney*

When you elected me your chair, I spoke some about how I just wanted the 45<sup>th</sup> to have a little respect. I've been putting a little thought into what this means and what we need to be doing a little differently. I would like to share some of those thoughts with you. [Read more...](#)

## A Call to Action

*By Judith Shattuck*

Friends a young man, Lt. Ehren Watada who is near and dear to my heart is in trouble and needs our help. I had the privilege of being seated with him at the Veteran's for Peace Banquet in August, the night he made his electrifying speech. The speech which led his being brought up on charges of "conduct unbecoming an officer and gentleman." Ehren has chosen the arduous path of a true patriot--in the tradition of Thoreau and Patrick Henry. He has taken a stand against the entire United States military apparatus and its commander in chief, President Bush. I am now asking you to take a stand. This young man is coming up for court martial because of his antiwar stance. People from all over Washington, and from around the nation, are gathering at the gates of **Ft. Lewis Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup>** to bear witness to his courage and our support for him. It is impossible for me to express how strongly I feel that there is nothing more important for you to do on Monday than to be there.

Buses to Ft. Lewis have been hired and are filling quickly. Currently there are 2 buses leaving from Kirkland. There are buses leaving from Seattle, Bainbridge Island, Bremerton, Bellingham, Whidbey Island, Vancouver and other cities and car pools are forming as well. Many have planned to take the day off. People are coming from cities as far as Los Angeles and Chicago.

Susan Arndt has reserved buses that will leave from the **South Kirkland Park & Ride at 10:00AM on Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup> and return around 7 PM.** The cost will be approximately \$16/person. The company, Chinook Charter Service, is very supportive of Ehren. Signs and food are allowed on the bus. There is a restroom on board. The bus will allow people to board at any time during the day to warm up, use the restroom, etc. You can send a check (made out to Susan Arndt) for your seats (\$16/each) now and if we have to adjust the amount up or down, we can do it on the bus. The address is: Susan Arndt, 632 14th Place, Kirkland, WA 98033

For more information:

The [Lt. Watada address](#) delivered at the Veteran's for Peace National Conference in August. Find out how you can support Lt. Watada by [clicking here](#). [Click here](#) for a link to the website that supports all military resisters.

Thanks for your support.  
In Peace,  
Judith Shattuck

## **Treasurer's Message**

*From Terry Linkletter*

*Happy New Year!* If you have not yet had a chance to become a dues-paying member of 45th District Democrats for 2007, feel warmly invited to do so. Your regular membership is \$25. You can alternatively become a Club 45 member for \$45 – and if you do, all adults at your family home will also be members for the year.

*Please make check payable to **45th District Democrats** and mail to:*

Terry Linkletter, Treasurer  
12826 230th Ave NE,  
Redmond WA 98053

## **Important Announcements**

### **General Meeting February 2007**

The 45<sup>th</sup> LD Democrats presents guest speaker be [Bob Ferguson](#) King County Councilman District 1. He will explain to us what the council does and update us on recent activities. There will be an election for District 6 seat this year. (District 1,3 and 6 intersect the 45<sup>th</sup> LD). *\*(Bob Ferguson had to cancel due to a death in the family. Our thoughts are with him and we hope to reschedule at a future date.)*

- **Resolutions will be discussed at the February meeting.** For list and complete text of resolutions [click here](#). Hard copy of the resolutions will be provided at the General Meeting in limited number. **Please consider printing copies for your own use to help limit expenses.**
- **We will discuss the issue of “emergency” time sensitive resolutions.** Your input is vital. Please take a moment before the meeting to familiarize yourself with the resolutions to facilitate a productive meeting.
- The executive board recommends the appointment of **Bob Horn** to be Chair of PCO Support, subject to the approval of members at the February meeting. Committee chairs are members of the eboard.

Announcements are displayed on the [Home Page](#) of our website in the blue left hand border for easy reference and are frequently updated. Log on and keep informed!

## Special Elections

One goal of our organization is to focus on local down ticket items. Check our new [special elections](#) page for issues and election information. Things will move fast as there are several special elections this year so feel free to submit updated information to [feedback@45<sup>th</sup>democrats.org](mailto:feedback@45thdemocrats.org)

## Committees

New committees are forming and beginning to meet. Don't be left out of the loop. Check out the new [committees page](#) and peruse the list. Want to know more? Click on a specific committee, read their mission statement, and volunteer. Here's what the [PCO page](#) looks like, for example.

Yes! Now you can **volunteer on line!** There is plenty of room for comments so you can detail in what way you would like to help or simply say you're available.

The Legislative Action Committee is off to a strong start and it is a good thing. The 2007 session of the Washington State Legislature convened on January 8th and is scheduled to end April 22nd. That gives us only a little more than one hundred days, so now is the time to get active! Check out the new [LAC web page](#) . It contains everything you need to stay informed and become active in this fast moving committee.

As new committees form keep in mind that there are communication options available to you on the website. You can add content to your committee's webpage by sending your document to [feedback@45thdemocrats.org](mailto:feedback@45thdemocrats.org) or post meetings on the calendar page by submitting them to [events@45thdemocrats.org](mailto:events@45thdemocrats.org).

**Please note. Our public libraries** provide comfortable, free meeting rooms for anyone who wants to use them. They limit, however, the number of meetings an organization is permitted per month. If you want to reserve a meeting room for a committee meeting and you reserve it in the name of the 45th LD Democrats, please, check with [Martin Chaney](#) to avoid conflicts with other committee commitments. Thanks!

Special thanks to **Melissa Waldie** for all the hours she spends on the website. Her creative vision makes us all look good. And to **Terry Thorsos** and **Mike Burner** for their work on the organization and description of the committees used in the content of those new web pages.

## Books, Articles, and Letters

There is a new Members [book review](#) page. Special thanks to **Barbara Eickhoff** who started us off with four reviews! Read a good book lately? Write a brief review and submit it to [feedback@45<sup>th</sup>Democrats.org](mailto:feedback@45thDemocrats.org)

The **Letters to the Editor** committee has been on hiatus during the district's reorganization, but that hasn't stop **Ken Jauch** from voicing his informed opinions concerning the funding measure for Fire District 34 to the *Redmond Reporter*. It was published on Saturday January 27<sup>th</sup>. Good job Ken!

To read the letter in its entirety [click here](#). To see all the letters submitted by our members go to our website, under the "get active" drop down menu, click letters to the editor, then click on letters to the editor under [archives](#) in the left hand column.

Special kudos to **Carol Davidek-Waller** who is becoming a regular contributor to Buzzflash.com. Check out her latest [article](#) and visit her [blog](#). Good work Carol.

Submit all of your letters to the editor to [feedback@45thdemocrats.org](mailto:feedback@45thdemocrats.org) and be sure to let us know if you get published!

New articles have been recommended and submitted to our [Member Links page](#). Check them out and submit recommendations of your own. Scroll to the bottom of the links page for instructions.

**Quotable quote:** "The test of a first-rate intelligence is the ability to hold two opposed ideas in the mind at the same time and still retain the ability to function." -- F. Scott Fitzgerald

We have a new [opinions page](#). The views expressed on this page belong to members of the 45th LD Democrats. They do not necessarily reflect the views of the 45th LD Democrats organization or its platform. Thanks to **Ronald Roberts** for his contribution "**Better Arguments**". This article would be a good starting point for debate on the Yahoo discuss group!

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Volunteers are needed to observe or become poll workers for the King County special elections. If you are interested please contact: Emily Willoughby, 206-241-5885 or [emilya57@comcast.net](mailto:emilya57@comcast.net)

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**Help our new members** get connected! New members are encouraged to join our email groups. It is the main way we communicate what is essential to the 45<sup>th</sup> LD and the only way for us to keep informed on time sensitive information. You can direct new members

to our website for directions on how to sign up and flyers with instructions will be provided at our general meetings so please encourage participation in any new members you see at our meetings and events.

For those members who are just getting started using Yahoo groups:

- The Announcement group is for conducting 45<sup>th</sup> LD business. It is our main means of communication and is important for keeping up with what is going on in the 45<sup>th</sup>. Rarely should you “reply to all” in this group. It, generally, should not be responded to in a conversational thread. This group is monitored. Sign up here: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/45thWADems-Announce/?yguid=241020025>
- The Discuss group is just that. Open to all for discussion on any and all topics. We only ask that members be respectful to the group such that it can continue to be a place to discuss similarities and differences in an informed and intelligent way. Sign up here: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/45thWaDems/?yguid=241020025>
- The PCO group is essential for all Precinct committee officers. Updates and committee meetings related to your job as a PCO will be communicated through this group. Sign up here: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/45thWADEM-PCOs/?yguid=241020025>
- The new legislative action committee has organized a group for communicating with its committee members but any 45<sup>th</sup> LD member can join and keep informed. Sign up here: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/45thWADems-LAC/?yguid=241020025>

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September 2008 seems so far away, and yet already Convention plans are underway. It’s time to start thinking about how you will participate in the various convention and caucus activities and who you will be supporting to be our next president.

KCDCC has set up a on their website a list of links with [presidential hopefuls](#) if you want to jump in early, follow your favorite candidate’s progress, and/or give early support.

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**Minutes** for both the Executive Board Meetings and the General Meetings are now available on our website. Click the calendar drop down menu on the [home page](#) to find both. We vote to approve the minutes at each new meeting so come prepared. To read the January meeting’s minutes [click here](#). All are welcome to attend the General Meetings.

Please note that the Executive board meetings are held in variable locations. Watch for email announcements via Yahoo groups or check the [calendar page](#) for details. All Members Welcome.

It will be a busy and productive [General Meeting](#). You will find the [updated agenda](#) on our website. See you all there.

*Lynn Norwood, Second Vice Chair*

*Web news updates are archived [here](#).*

*Please send your comments to [feedback@45thdemocrats.org](mailto:feedback@45thdemocrats.org)*