



Lewis County *Demogram*



February, 1993

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New State Chair to visit Lewis County

The new Chair of the Washington State Democratic Party, Charles Rolland, will meet with Lewis County Democrats Thursday, Feb. 25, in Centralia.

The occasion will be the monthly meeting of the Lewis County Democratic Central Committee where Rolland, 41, Seattle, will be the guest speaker. The meeting will be held at the King Solomon Restaurant in Centralia starting at 7 p.m.

Lewis County Chair Bob Guenther encouraged people to attend.

Rolland, formerly an aide to Seattle Mayor Norm Rice, was elected to the post Jan. 30. Two Spokane Democrats, Betty Drumheller and Diane Welsh Bleck, were also elected, respectively, Vice Chairwoman and Secretary. The new Treasurer of the state party is Keith Sattler of Sunnyside.

During his successful campaign for the Office of State Chair, Rolland argued that the changes demanded by voters provide Democrats with a

tremendous opportunity. Voters want a balanced budget, a reformed health care system and improved education. Through initiatives, voters have also called for campaign finance reform and term limits.

To achieve these goals, Democrats must support their legislators in Olympia and Washington, D.C. And they must work to empower the people who feel powerless. Democrats, Rolland said, have already begun to work with Ross Perot supporters to build coalitions and to bring about an effective means to empower these voters.

Rolland also believes the State Party must be a party for all the state, not just the west side. While our state is comprised of rural, urban, suburban and small towns, he said, we must work together. Not only must we tear down the Cascade Curtain, Rolland said, we must build a party that respects diversity, supports creative solutions and draws people together.

Those are some of the challenges.

Great All American Auction set for March 6

By Dennis Auvil, Demogram Editor

The annual Great All American Auction will take place Saturday, March 6, in Centralia and all Lewis County Democrats are invited to attend.

The auction, which attracted more than 100 anxious bidders last year, will be held at the Centralia Eagles Hall, 2308 North Pearl Street, Centralia, starting at 5 p.m.

Items donated for the auction are currently being collected at the First Street Grocery, 812 West First Street, in Centralia. People who wish to support the local party's major fundraising event of the year may also telephone Tom Cleary (736-5415) to arrange for their items to be picked up.

The auction this year will include not only food

and beverage but music and fine company as well. Auctioneer for the occasion will be Joe Parypa.

Last year, more than 100 people bid on such treasures as scenic paintings, gift certificates, gravel and beauty bark, a scenic airplane ride, motor oil, Congressional memorabilia, boxes containing Washington wines, Christmas baskets, potted plants, a leather briefcase and tickets to Seattle Sonics games.

Heading up the event this year are Auction Co-Chairs Jennie Hays and Tonya Bailey.

Plan to support the Great All American Auction by donating a treasure, large or small, and by attending the local party's major fundraising event of the year.

New county Chair sees bright future

● The new Chair of the Lewis County Democratic Central Committee, Onalaska native Bob Guenther, believes Democrats have a bright future.

Since taking over the helm of the party last November, Guenther has discovered, he says, that his predecessors have already established a solid foundation upon which to build.

"I'd like to acknowledge their work," he refers to elders of the local party, "and let them know I'm looking forward to building upon that foundation in several ways."



One of Guenther's first priorities is to fill vacant precinct committee officer (PCO) positions, and then to follow up by providing PCOs with the training they need.

He also plans to continue and to expand the custom of moving Central Committee meetings to various communities around the county. This will enable Democrats to become acquainted with more Democrats, as well as to attend more of the Central Committee's monthly meetings.

"I am looking forward to our auction on March 6," he says, because I will have the opportunity to meet more Democrats. He encouraged Democrats to attend.

The new Chair also plans to promote better communications with local newspapers, radio stations and community organizations.

"With the help of the executive committee and old Democrats," Guenther says, "we're going to make things work. We're going to build and maintain a strong local democratic party."

Guenther, although pleased for the opportunity to serve as Democratic Chair of Lewis County, also realizes the job means hard work. "I do not take this job lightly," he says.

His background has prepared him for the work at hand. For 30 years, Guenther, 48, has worked in industry. He and his wife Judy have raised and sent two children to college. Today, he remains active in the local forest industry, operating a tree farm near Napavine.

● The new Chair was born in Lewis County and raised in the Onalaska area, he and his partner own and operate their own business, Independent Machine, and also work at the Centralia power plant.

President ready to put nation back on track

By U.S. Rep. Jolene Unsoeld

The Capitol buzzed with anticipation before President Clinton's swearing in, and he met all expectations when the thrilling moment came!

It was an ushering in of the politics of inclusion and a wave goodbye to the politics of division. Finally, we have a President who will work with Congress instead of butting heads with us. More important, we have an Administration ready to bring people together and be accountable to them, rather than drive a wedge between people and groups.

We've already seen President Clinton carry out some of the campaign rhetoric of Candidate Clinton. By overturning the Gag Rule, he unleashed medical professionals and proved that he trusts women to make their own decisions when they are faced with difficult and painful options. And by moving towards lifting the ban on gays and lesbians in the military, he is showing that he supports civil rights and freedoms for all Americans--regardless of their color, creed or sexual orientation.

Sacrifice Needed: Congress No Exception

In the Town Hall meetings I held earlier this month, I was struck by the willingness of people to sacrifice in order to reduce the national deficit and get our country moving again. There is a growing realization that it will take more than the elimination of waste to tame the runaway budget deficit.

It was a theme President Clinton sounded in his inauguration speech, too. We all have to sacrifice -- and Congress is no exception. That's why I voted against reauthorizing the Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control, a committee that spotlights a critical issue but does not have the power to send legislation to the House floor. Along with the elimination of up to 16 House subcommittees, this is a step toward our doing our part to control a massive budget

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. . . . (President ready to put nation back on track)

deficit.

Bill Protects Retirees

After coming close last Congress, I have just reintroduced my "source tax" bill, which would prohibit states from taxing the pension incomes of retirees who once lived and worked in those states, but then chose to retire elsewhere. These taxes are an outrage because the retirees who are asked to pay them no longer vote in, live within, or receive government

services from, the states trying to collect them.

Hundreds of retirees in our state are getting slapped with this unfair tax, and thousands more could be next. People deserve to live where they want and take their pension income with them -- without harassment by California and other states that no longer have any right to tax that income. This could happen to anyone -- and if we don't act, we're jeopardizing the

future of thousands who are or will be living on fixed incomes.

Deputy Majority Whip

On Tuesday, Jan. 26, I learned that I was appointed one of 11 Deputy Majority Whips -- and the only one from Washington and Oregon -- during the 103rd Congress. It may be the lowest rung of the leadership ladder, but it is a leadership position. I'm honored to have been selected.

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Coming Events

February 25, 1993 - Lewis County Democratic Central Committee, 7 p.m., King Solomon Restaurant, Centralia. Guest speaker for the occasion will be Charles Rolland, Chair of the Washington State Democratic Party.

March 6, 1993 - Great All American Auction, 5 p.m., Centralia Eagles.

March 20, 1993 Pacific County Crab Feed, IWA Hall, Raymond, social hour, 5-6 p.m., dinner 6 p.m.

March 25, 1993 - Lewis County Democratic Central Committee, 6:30 p.m., King Solomon Restaurant, Centralia.

May 27, 1993 - Lewis County Democratic Central Committee, Lake Mayfield Restaurant, Silver Creek, 6:30 p.m.

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**Donkey pins
Going fast
Hurry!
Order one now!
Order two!**

Attractive lapel pins that display the Democrat Party's mascot, the Donkey, are currently being offered by the Lewis County Democratic Central Committee.

To obtain one of the pins, which sell for \$3 each, telephone Wyn Smethers at 736-6486 in Centralia.

But hurry, Smethers says, because the pins are going fast.