

Demogram

March, 2002

Published by the Lewis County Democratic Central Committee, P.O. Box 765, Chehalis, WA

CHAIR'S CORNER

by Deanna M. Zieske

With this column I want to share a potpourri of thoughts with loyal Lewis County Democrats.

The annual Lewis County Democrats All American Auction is coming up on March 23rd. This is a really fun event and is the principal source for the County Central Committee's income each year. I encourage you to join us at our new location, the Chehalis Eagles at 5:30 p.m. on March 23, 2002.

While state and congressional redistricting has been completed, redistricting remains an issue here in Lewis County. The three Lewis County Commissioners still need to redefine the Commission districts. No public comment period has yet been announced and while we don't know yet whether the Commissioners will be accepting public comment, nothing prevents persons interested in influencing the new commissioner districts from contacting the commissioners and giving them the benefit of your thoughts.

Several partisan county elected offices are up for election next fall -- Auditor, Assessor, County Clerk, Prosecuting Attorney, Sheriff and County Commissioner for District 3. In addition, we will be electing two representatives and one senator from the to the Washington State Legislature and working to reelect Congressman Brian Baird. We need to identify and recruit qualified Democratic candidates to run for these offices. If you or someone you know is considering running for one of these offices, please contact me at 740-9729 so we can discuss that possibility. I will keep any contacts people make with me about possible candidacy absolutely confidential unless a potential candidate authorizes me to release that information. If you have already decided to run, please call to schedule a meeting with our E-Board before you make your public announcement.

Finally, if you've read the paper lately you can't help but notice that nearly daily there is an editorial in the *Chronicle* bashing Democrats at all levels of government. Obviously the *Chronicle* is continuing its 100 year War on Democrats.

Fortunately, what we as Democrats stand for is so strong that even though that weak piece of journalistic vitriol keeps up its unrelenting tirade, people still know us and we remain a strong and vital voice in our county. And that will continue as long as we can depend on people like you to support and promote Democratic party ideals and our candidates.

COUNTY CONVENTION IS APRIL 20th

The Lewis County Democrats' County Convention will be held on Saturday, April 20, 2002. Delegates to the convention are selected at precinct caucuses. Those from the 20th Legislative District were selected at caucuses held on March 5th. At press time the 18th Legislative District was scheduled to hold its caucuses to select delegates on April 20th, one hour before the gavel falls calling the County Convention to order.

During this non-presidential election year all precinct committee officers are automatically delegates to the County Convention. Those individuals and the people selected as delegates from the precinct caucuses will be selecting Lewis County's delegates to the State Convention for the Washington State Democratic Party which will be held in Bellingham on June 8th. The delegates will also be making proposals for the 2002 Democratic Platform.

The County Convention begins at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 20th. Lunch will be provided. All interested Democrats are invited to attend, whether as an elected delegate or otherwise. Come help us work for the future of our county.

**Lewis County Democratic Central
Committee
Executive Board Members**

Deanna M. Zieske, Chehalis.....Chair
Edward Smethers, Centralia.....1st Vice Chair
Jan Leth, Centralia.....2nd Vice Chair
Susan Lamoreaux, Chehalis.....2nd Vice Chair
Philip Meany, Centralia.....Secretary
Roger Gestrine, Chehalis.....Treasurer
Cat Underhill, Chehalis.....State Committee Woman
Bob Guenther, Chehalis.....State Committee Man
Hon. Nettie Jungers, Winlock.....Lewis County Clerk
Hon. Eric Johnson, Centralia.....Lewis County
Commissioner
Lewis H. Zieske, Jr., Chehalis.....Demogram Editor

UNDERHILL, GUENTHER & SCHANZ RECEIVE AWARDS

Lewis County Democrats have honored Cat Underhill and Bob Guenther as co-winners of the annual Democrat of the Year Award. County Central Committee Chair Deanna Zieske announced their selection at the Jefferson-Jackson Dinner. The Democrat of the Year Award recognizes individuals for their long term contribution to promoting the efforts of the Lewis County Democrats.

This year a new award called the Chair's Award was instituted recognizing an individual whose contribution during the past year was extraordinary. A newly active precinct committee officer for Curtis precinct, Norma Schanz, was selected for the Chair's Award.

Cat Underhill has served as State Committee Woman for the Lewis County Democrats Central Committee for over three years. She chaired the annual auction for several years, chaired the parade committee and has worked hard on virtually every central committee activity.

Bob Guenther served as Chair of the Lewis County Democrats Central Committee for eight years. He presently co-chairs the 18th District Democratic Central Committee. Bob is known state-wide for his involvement in party activities and has helped keep us before the public.

While some in Lewis County may believe that the Lewis County Democrats are weak and not a force

to be reckoned with, our choices for Democrat of the Year show what the true nature of our party is -- a political group to be feared and respected, ferocious "Bob-Cats."

Interested in advertising in the *DEMOGRAM*?
A 2 1/2" x 3 1/2" business card size ad costs
\$25.00 an issue, or \$60.00 for the balance of
2002. Send your business card to the
Democrats office along with your check.

18th DISTRICT RAISES \$5K

Bob Guenther, co-chair for the 18th District Democratic Central Committee recently announced that their Second Annual Clam Bake/Auction grossed over \$5,000. The event, held in Longview on February 24th, brought together Democrats from throughout Southwest Washington for a day of good food, fellowship and Republican bashing.

Guenther reported proceeds from the event will be distributed to 15th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th and 49th legislative districts. The Lewis County Democratic Central Committee contributed \$200 for ten tickets and a gift basket containing wines and other items plus two tickets to our All American Auction that was auctioned at the clambake.

BAIRD KICKS OFF CAMPAIGN IN LEWIS COUNTY

Jan Leth, Lewis County campaign coordinator for Congressman Brian Baird's reelection campaign, reports that over \$3,000 was raised on February 4th during a series of dinners and a dessert held in Lewis County. The Congressman attended some of the dinners and then spoke about his legislative plans when he met with over 50 people who came to the dessert that was held in Chehalis.

"We are a nation of lovers and not a nation of haters. We are a land of good homes, decent wages and decent medical care for the aged. Yes, we want a land of hope and happiness but never a land of harshness and hate."

Lyndon Baines Johnson, 36th President of the United States

LEWIS COUNTY DEMOCRATS
PRESENT THE

**GREAT ALL-AMERICAN
AUCTION 2002**

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 2002

CHEHALIS "EAGLE'S WING"
1993 S. Market Blvd., Chehalis

DINNER \$10.00

SOCIAL HOUR/SILENT AUCTION

5:30 P.M. - 6:30 P.M.

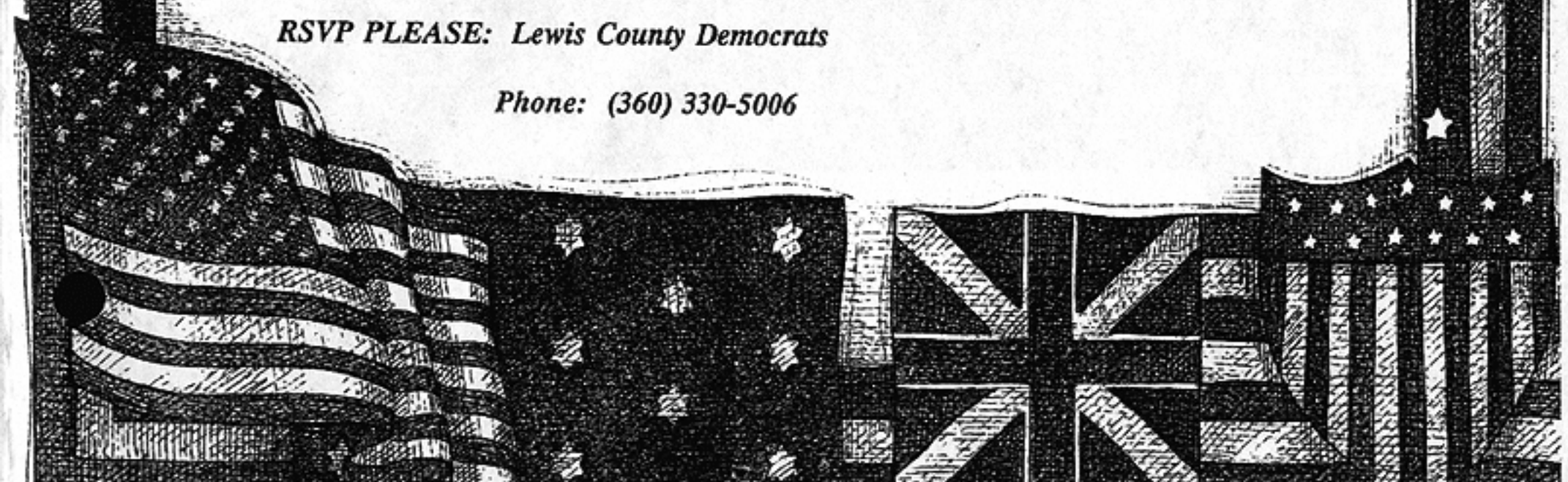
TABLE #1 CLOSES at 6:00 pm
TABLE #2 CLOSES at 6:15 pm
TABLE #3 CLOSES at 6:30 pm

BUFFET DINNER: 6:30 P.M.

DESSERT & LIVE AUCTION 7:30 P.M.

RSVP PLEASE: Lewis County Democrats

Phone: (360) 330-5006



Editorial

by Lew Zieske

Like all Americans, I was appalled by the brutal terrorist attacks on our nation that took place September 11th. And like you, I mourn the loss of so many innocent souls and cry out that such horror must stop. I, too, said "good for you Mr. President" when he took swift action against Osama Bin Laden and his followers.

September 11th changed our country and its people in myriad ways. We seem more patriotic, increasingly willing to sacrifice in the name of freedom and eager to follow our President's lead. And we have been willing to spend big bucks to protect ourselves and the world from terrorists.

But I am starting to wonder about the motivation for George W's war on terrorism. He may be going too far. He's seems to be using popular support for the war on terrorism to increase his personal approval rating, to help his political cronies and to move the world to the brink of nuclear war.

Now why on earth, you say, would I ever harbor such absurd notions? Well, I see 9-11 being blamed for the recession that's taking place in our land, without acknowledging that recession was rearing its ugly head well before 9-11.

I've seen the President push an \$80 billion airlines industry bailout through Congress and the airlines industry immediately respond by laying off thousands of folks. And I see the President promoting the largest tax cut for the wealthy in history while proposing budget deficits resembling those of the Reagan years. In weeks this President reversed the economic gains of the Clinton Presidency.

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But now the worst has arrived. Mr. Bush has instructed the D.O.D. to prepare plans for using tactical nuclear weapons against Russia, China, North Korea, Libya, Iraq, Syria and Lybia. [Hmm, that sounds a lot like the tactical nuclear weapons proposals from back when I was much younger and the cold war was at its peak.]

My God! We've just destroyed what little was left of Afghanistan, and now Bush wants to reignite the cold war. Whatever happened to those treaties the U.S. signed a while back to reduce the nuclear threat?

And then there's Enron!

George W. Bush is much more interested in promoting his own political and personal agenda than he is in moving our country's economy toward stability and in seeking true world peace.

20th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT TO BE REORGANIZED ON APRIL 9TH

Deanna Zieske and Dave Kemper, Chairs, of the Lewis and Thurston County Democratic Central Committees, have announced plans for reorganizing the 20th Legislative District Committee. That committee has not been functioning for nearly two years and State Chair Paul Berendt has asked the two County chairs to spearhead a reorganization effort.

Democrats from the 20th Legislative District are encouraged to attend the reorganization meeting which the social hour will take begin at 6:00 p.m. and meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday April 9, 2002, at King Solomon's Restaurant in Centralia. Precinct Committee Officers from the new 20th Legislative District are eligible to vote, but anyone is invited to attend.

