



DEMOGRAM

It's Auction Time Again!

The 2008 Rita Cleary All-American Auction is Saturday, March 1st at the Centralia Eagles Reno Room.

Reserve your tickets now and save! Advance tickets are \$15 per adult, and \$7.50 per children under 12.

The Auction is our main fund-raising event. It pays for operating expenses such as this newsletter, mailings, the web site and the office.

Tickets are available by phone (360-330-5006) or on-line at www.lewiscountymocrats.net.



2008 Precinct Caucus February 9th

INFO YOU NEED BEFORE YOU RUN FOR DELEGATE OR SUBMIT RESOLUTIONS!

Anyone can attend a caucus. Registered voters and teenagers who will be 18 by the November election are eligible to participate in the caucuses.

When you come in, you will be asked to sign a statement indicating that you consider yourself to be a Democrat, that you are willing to be publicly known as such and the name of the candidate you support. Once you do that you are officially a member of the caucus and have full rights to speak, vote and run for delegate.

**Note The Republicans are holding their caucuses on the same day and at the same time as the Democrats, but in different locations. Voters may attend only the Democrat or the Republican caucus, not both.*

What happens at a Precinct Caucus

Area caucuses will be held throughout Lewis County. Several precincts will meet in the same location and these caucuses will be called to order at 1:00 pm by

an Area Caucus Chair. The Area Caucus chair will conduct the opening formalities. He/she may also allow speeches for each presidential candidate, but this is not required by the rules.

At 1:20 the Area Caucus will break into Precinct caucuses and the work of the day will begin.

The Precinct Committee Officer (PCO) will convene each Precinct Caucus at 1:30pm. If there is no PCO or alternate, the caucus attendees will elect a chair. Immediately after the caucus is convened (and chair elected if necessary) a recording secretary will be appointed and the official rules will be read aloud (hearing impaired individuals may ask for a copy of the rules).

Delegates

Once the rules have been read the chair will announce the number of attendees at that caucus supporting each presidential candidate. The Chair

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Rita Cleary All-American Auction

Do you enjoy meeting with like minded folks?

Do you enjoy attending a fun event? How would you like to see and speak with elected officials? How about maintaining the wonderful tradition of the annual Lewis County Democrats annual fund raiser, now known as the Rita Cleary All-American Auction. There will be burgers, potato salad, chips and there will also be a no host bar for refreshments.

Mark your calendar for March 1, 2008 at the Centralia Eagles Reno Room. The social and visiting hour will begin at 4:30 p.m.. Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. and the live auction will begin at 7:00 p.m..

There will also be a silent auction and raffle opportunities. Please plan on attending and enjoying good company with fellow Democrats from Lewis County and other parts of Washington State.

Bring your wallets filled with money and spend way more than you would normally. The Lewis County Democrats are bound and determined to elect good Democrats to local county offices and local government. It is time we reared up on our hind legs and made our voice known in our community and we need to raise the funds to do so.

We have invited state elected officials,

congressional representatives, even presidential candidates (it's unlikely any national candidates can attend but worth a try). We have also invited former Congressional Representatives and former local elected office holders.

Most importantly if you have a good quality item you would like to donate to the auction, you can contact Jim Lowery at 360-807-8594. We will start receiving auction items in the middle of February and look forward to some dynamic goods to bid on.

Our first donation is from Lt Gov Brad Own. He is donating a tour of the capitol with him as the guide and lunch with him in the Senate Café.

Advance tickets will be \$15.00 for adults and kids 12 and under will be \$7.50. If you wait to buy your ticket at the door it will be \$18.00 for adults and \$10.00 for kids. Go to the Lewis County Democrat 's web site to save money by reserving your tickets in advance. www.lewiscountymocrats.net

Fun, Food, Fellowship and other Democrats, what more could you ask for? We'll see you at the Rita Cleary All-American Auction on March 1, 2008. It will be a great time with great friends.

2008 Precinct Caucus Saturday, February 9th

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– or the person appointed by the chair will then calculate the number of delegates to be allotted to each presidential preference based on the number of supporters each has in that precinct caucus.

The chair will then announce that anyone wishing to change presidential preference can do so. And will provide sufficient time for the changes to be made. The Secretary will record in the minutes any changes. If any change in preference has occurred, the Chair will recalculate the distribution of delegates and announce again how many delegates

will be allotted to each presidential preference represented in the precinct caucus and announce the results as the final allocation of delegates.

After the final allocation has been announced late arrivals may join their preference group and fully participate but their arrival will not change the final allocation of delegates.

Once the final allocation has been announced the supporters of each presidential candidate will caucus separately and select one of their members to conduct this sub-caucus. This chair will appoint

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Precinct Caucus February 9th

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a person to take minutes of this sub-caucus. It is at this sub-caucus that delegates to the County Convention will be elected

People running for delegate can nominate themselves, or be nominated by another, no second required, and may speak on their own behalf. After the last person wishing to run has been nominated, the election will be held. If no one wants to run for delegate any delegates allocated to that candidate will be allocated to another candidate.

The Precinct caucus attendees may have an opportunity to make brief presentations in support of the various Democratic presidential candidates. The PCO will limit the amount of time equally among all represented Democratic candidates so that at least one supporter per candidate has a chance to speak. At approximately 1:30pm each precinct will elect its delegates and alternates. (Alternates are needed in case a delegate can't attend or to relieve a delegate during the convention.)

The number of delegates are assigned to the candidate following a mathematical formula which allows for distribution of delegates in accordance to the percentage of supporters at the caucus.

For example, if there are three delegates to your precinct and Edwards receives 2.65% of the vote, Obama receives 1.6% and Clinton receives .55% then Edwards would receive 2 delegates, Obama 1 delegate and Clinton 0 delegates.

A person who is not in attendance may be elected to be a delegate or if s/he is a registered voter in the precinct, indicates that s/he considers her/himself to be a Democrat and is willing to be known as such, and provides a signed letter seeking election as a delegate or alternate. A sample candidacy letter is available on our website at <http://lewiscountymocrats.net/2008/absentee-delegate.htm>.

Following the delegate and alternate elections, a discussion will be held regarding the State Party Challenge, which is a plan to organize precincts to get maximum Democratic voter turnout for the General Election on November 4.

Resolutions

In the time remaining, attendees may introduce and submit in writing resolutions they wish to have considered by the Lewis County Democrats' Platform Committee. The Platform and resolutions will be voted on at the Lewis County Convention. Attendees will NOT vote on the resolutions at the precinct caucus. Please note that there are firm rules regarding form and process for resolutions to the State Party! For more information on how to submit a resolution and a sample resolution form, go to our website at <http://www.lewiscountymocrats.net/2008/resolutions.htm>.

Following the precinct caucus, written notice of the elected delegates is sent to the Lewis County Democrats and State Democratic Party. The results of the tally of delegates is prepared and released to the various presidential campaigns and to the press.

Please review the list of precinct caucus sites by visiting our website at <http://lewiscountymocrats.net/2008/2008-precinct-caucus-locations.htm>, locate your precinct, and plan to attend your precinct caucus on Saturday, February 9 from 1:00–3:00pm. Your precinct is also listed on your voter's card.

Absentee Participation

If you have family members, friends, or voters in your precinct who cannot attend for religious observances, military obligations or physical disability, but are eligible to take part on the caucus, please complete a Surrogate Affidavit, to request a Surrogate Affidavit contact:

Dwight Pelz, Chair
RE: Surrogate Affidavit
Washington State Democratic Party
PO Box 4027
Seattle, WA 98104-0027

no later than Friday, February 1, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. Forms may also be acquired in person from State Party Headquarters at 615 – 2nd Ave. #580 in Seattle no later than Friday, February 1, 2008.

A Cynic In Israel

By Don Reinseth, Newaukum PCO

My daughter Khrystiaan and I flew to Tel Aviv two days ahead of our tour group to see more of that city than was allowed by their schedule. We were able to swim in the Mediterranean—more for being able to say we did it, than for the pleasure.

There is a small restricted area for swimming near the major Tel Aviv hotels. The pollution of the Med by ships and coastal cities to the west makes swimming forbidden in most places but the water and the bikinis still photograph well. Two beers there were “60 NIS (\$15) Service not included”. Yikes!

We spent some time and shekels at a big open-air twice-a-week street market, as well as perusing the nice neighborhoods, those all being less than a hundred years old. We found those homes and apartments are restored and updated by the city when they become run down. The city recoups when the dwelling is sold. This plan is a local option in Israel.

After evening walks we patronized a noisy sports bar called Mike’s Place next to the American Embassy. It’s a great spot with outdoor seating facing the beach. You can listen to conversations in an assortment of languages. A walk to the back revealed messages on the hallway wall: “Our sympathy” “chin up” and more. The place had been bombed in April, 2003. The media had called it a pizza place, nothing else.



There is a nice walkway from Tel Aviv along the shoreline south to Jaffa, an older city of Arab history and population. On the Jewish Sabbath many go there as we did to enjoy a meal by the harbor. For our first time, we heard the sunset call to prayer from a minaret at a mosque. That’s a sound that is not easily described, except that we agreed it was haunting, soothing and timeless. It takes an Israeli flag flying out on the jetty (Andromeda’s Rock) to remind folks where they really are. Many new brides were posing for photographers against the backdrop of very old Armenian and Greek Orthodox Church architecture. Napoleon had an incursion here once and there are reminders everywhere. Friday after sunset, the beach’s barbeque pits are lit all the way into Tel Aviv by Muslims ending their own Sabbath. Feral cats abound.

Our tour group was comprised of people from Canada and the US. “David” was our Israel portion guide. All the guides are licensed by the government, and will, to keep their well compensated positions, tell you what the government wants you to hear. Example: The Cairo smog (light years

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Precinct Caucus Info, concluded

An original copy of this form, no other facsimile, must be presented to the County Chair or Precinct Committee Officer of the precinct no later than Friday, February 8, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. in order for consideration at the precinct caucus.

A Cynic in Israel

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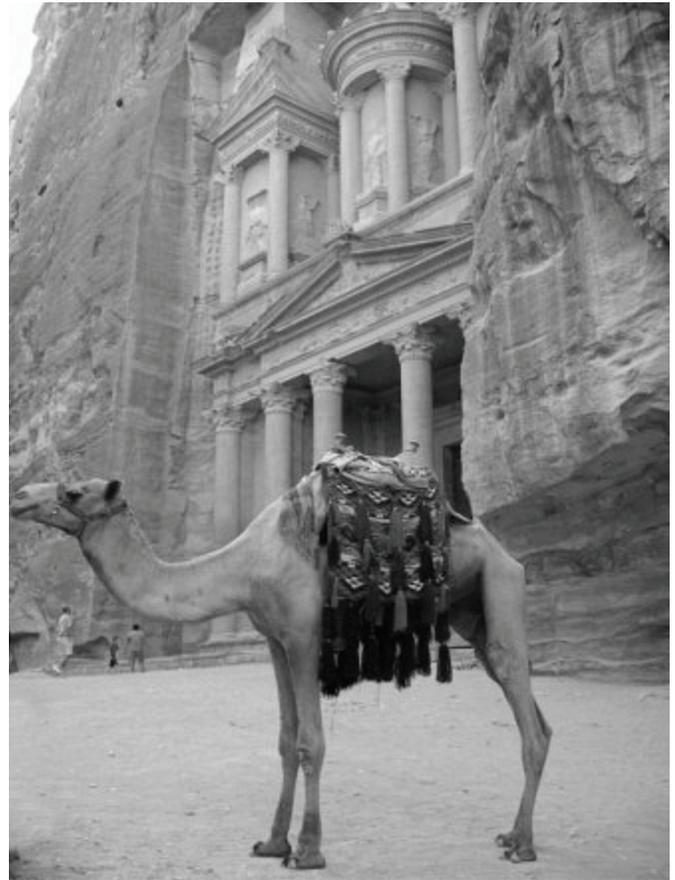
beyond L.A., Houston, or any place you've been here) is "temporary, due to burning the rice fields after the harvest." No. They are burning garbage. 18-20 million people burning garbage 24/7/52!

There are some places like the Diaspora Museum at Tel Aviv University that are truly interesting and don't require a guide. There was easy access to the museum as the campus was mostly unattended, but for the souvenir shop. Three floors in the building provide most interesting histories of the Jews since their dispersion in the time of King Herod. Their lives are depicted in numerous countries around the world. The continuation of their culture everywhere was extraordinary.

As we left the city, the site of the 1995 assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, the former Prime Minister, was pointed out. A right-wing Israeli law student had shot him there. Later, in Jerusalem, we were excluded from viewing the Rabin grave at Mt Herzl due to an official commemoration of his death on that October day. It is the will of the Israeli people to recognize Rabin as a peacemaker. I believe any perceived reverence for Rabin on the part of Ohlmert, Netanyahu or other current officials there that day is just that, only perceived.

I won't take you through the various other places the Isram Tour chose to take us: the Lebanon border, the many Roman ruins that were interesting but are wearing after you've seen a few. It's the "history" lectures that were intriguing. The war against Lebanon was "concluded too soon because of the interference of other countries."... "The Golan Heights was won in a "hard fought battle over days."

A main interest for me was the Golan. We visited one kibbutz of thirty-three established there since the 1967 war. The kibbutznik who greeted us was an Irish girl who pleaded (as per script) that if the Israelis were to relinquish the Golan Heights (to the proper owner, Syria, via UN Resolution 242) they would lose the ability to make the wine we could buy there and the benefits of milking 650 cows three times a day. We didn't see the cows, but they were around there, no doubt about it.



A car drive on one's own in the area should reveal much more than a timed and guided tour. Subsequent research revealed to me that this kibbutz manufactures valves and other water supply accessories. There is an ongoing worldwide boycott of products marked "Made in Israel" that are actually made in the illegally occupied territories.

The people of the Middle East understand the Golan Heights gives birth to the Jordan with three tributaries and receives 20-60 inches of rainfall and snowfall. Ownership of the fertile land and that river to the Red Sea, illegally and immorally provides Israel with water to maintain a new immigrant population and tourism (the Dead Sea) it could not support otherwise.

We were taken to Mt Bental, overlooking a vast reach of Syria that is beyond the Golan. There were old army bunkers, comic animals made of war scrap, and the usual souvenir shop. Lebanon may be seen to the north and a U.N peace keeping HQ to the south.

You can read the rest of this story online at www.lewiscountydemocrats.net/demogram.htm

Talkin' 'Bout My Generation

By Lisa Herzog

Everyone knows the famous Who song “My Generation” and the infamous Pete Townshend line of, “I hope I die before I get old.” Unfortunately for Townshend he is now nearly old enough to collect Social Security. Fortunately for me, the aging of the baby boomers has made way for a new generation, my generation. And like our baby boomer parents this generation is going to make history.

Do you know that there have been record voter turnouts during this year's primaries? All of the political pundits are chalking this phenomenon up to the young voters. Gone are the days of the apathetic young adults; this generation has an opinion, and we want it to be heard. We've watched for seven years as our future social security disappears, our health care system becomes a joke, and a nine-trillion dollar debt was racked up in our name. We watched all the while with no say in the matter, with no power to choose our leaders. But now we can vote, and we're going to, in record numbers. We're going to vote for

a candidate who will stand for the change we want to see.

Barak Obama won the Iowa primaries because he spoke to the younger voters. He talked about changing the way Washington D.C. politics work, and that was what the younger generation wanted to hear. The majority of female Democrat voters 30 years and under voted for Obama, much to Hillary's chagrin. Now all the candidates are talking about change. It just goes to show how important the young vote is.

This is the most important election in decades, and this new “baby boom echo” generation will be able to vote in it. I'm thinking of casting my vote for Obama, but who you vote for is not nearly as important as simply voting. My generation has an opportunity to affect history, if only we vote. So register to vote, pay attention to the candidates, and what's going on in your world, and turn out on Election Day to make a difference. I know I will.

An Open Letter To The Candidates

By Norma Schanz, PCO Curtis

Dear candidates,

At a recent gathering of several hundred people served by the Dryad-Doty Command Center, a speaker facetiously urged us to “be optimistic, because George Bush is looking out for us.” I was pretty sure the speaker and most of those present were Republicans. However, this comment elicited a groundswell of decidedly cynical laughter.

The flood did what politicians like to promise, but seldom achieve. Out here in Mudland, our political divisiveness has been replaced by the harsh realities of recovering as much as possible of our lives and property. Harsh or not, reality works for us. We expect similar realism from our elected representatives.

If you want our vote, show us the mud you are wearing on your lapel to signify your commitment to honest action about why this flood endangered lives and destroyed property far beyond the flood plain and far beyond the parameters to be expected from the rainfall of the “Pineapple Express”.

If you want to *lose* our votes, mumble that the culprit was uprooted trees from the riparian buffer zones that shade our rivers and hold stream banks together.

If you want our votes, tell us you don't have to be a hydrologist to understand that clear-cutting on steep hillsides above a flood basin is irresponsible. Tell us you understand how these great timber trains of high-speed debris piled up at bridge after bridge, damming the floodwater and spreading it into huge lakes over our homes and farms. Tell us you comprehend how the pressure of these timber dams destroyed three bridges and sent accumulated floodwater and tons of debris in ever-deeper surges across and through the homes and farms downstream.

That's our reality. In Chehalis and Centralia, voters are looking for candidates who will be honest about the realities behind their flood losses.

Chair's Corner: 2008 Looks Great For Dems!

by Jan Nontell, Lewis County Democrats Chair

2008 is going to be a great year for Democrats and for the American public. We have watched record turnout in Iowa and New Hampshire. People actually waiting for the opportunity to make their voices heard or vote. That same opportunity is rapidly approaching for voters in the State of Washington.

If the numbers of phone calls and emails that we are receiving are any indication Lewis County will see turnout that dwarfs that for the 2004 caucuses. It is an opportunity to stand up and be counted, meet other Democrats in your precinct and be introduced to a variety of ways to support your candidates (on a local and national level) and the Democratic Party. If you have questions on where your caucus is going to be held please go to the website (IS THERE GOING TO BE A LOCATION LIST IN THE DEMOGRAM?)

2008 is also going to be a year of rebuilding.

On a local level we will be rebuilding our communities after the devastating flood of December 5, 2007. The Governor and Democrats in the House and Senate are already working on the means to help our community. It made me laugh out loud to read that Richard DeBolt was going to make sure that Lewis County wasn't forgotten. Don't worry Richard, Lewis County is at the top of everyone's list – of course you may not have realized that while you were sitting out the flood and storms in Hawaii. While you are waiting for the legislative session to get started and telling everyone how you are going to make sure things will be done, the Democrats are already doing them. When we get state funds to help with mitigation and recovery it will be in spite of DeBolt, not because of him.

On a County Government level we have the opportunity to rebuild the County Government. I never thought that I would utter these words, but the Chronicle is right, our county government is not working. However, the Chronicle doesn't quite "get it." It isn't the **form** of government we have that is not working, it is the **people** who are doing the governing. We have the opportunity to replace two of the three County Commissioners in 2008

– and we need to work together to do exactly that. We need progressive leaders who will be able to work with the cities and towns of the county, the neighboring counties, the State and the Federal governments. We are looking for the best possible people to run for these offices. Call me if you are that person.

On a party level we are still working on building and rebuilding. We need Precinct Committee Officers, Precinct Assistants and individuals who are willing to write letters to the paper and call the local and regional radio shows. We need people to go door-to-door and to sit and do data entry. We have a job for you no matter what your interest or skills are. We are going into what will be the most important election in my lifetime – if not history – and we need to be ready. This new president will determine the Supreme Court for years to come. On a Legislative level, when elected, Mike Rechner (and other Democrats) will work with our communities, helping them grow and thrive, not be off on vacation (or signing the papers on a vacation home) when they are needed here. The Commissioners elected in 2008 will determine how to mitigate future disasters –both from the environment and the fiscal disaster that Lewis County is facing.

Let's build something together that we all can be proud of.

I WOULD PREFER TO RECEIVE
THE DEMOGRAM VIA E-MAIL

Mail to: Lewis County Democrats
417 N. Pearl #9
Centralia, WA 98531

Add me to the Headlines List!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

E-Mail: _____

JOIN THE LEWIS COUNTY DEMOCRATS

Yes--I want to support the Lewis County Democrats! Here are my \$10.00 Annual Dues for 2007 .

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Employer*: _____ Employer Address*: _____

** Required by the Public Disclosure Commission*

Amount Enclosed: \$_____ (We will gratefully accept a larger amount)

Your contribution helps support the Demogram, our web site and other party-building expenses.

VOLUNTEER TO HELP THE DEMOCRATS

Yes--I believe in winning instead of whining and I'm ready to help! Here's what I'm willing to do:

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help with mailings | <input type="checkbox"/> Help on campaigns--doorbelling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Work in the office, answer phones | <input type="checkbox"/> Help on campaigns--sign placement |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Work in the office, make calls | <input type="checkbox"/> Help on campaigns--sign monitor |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Work in the office, database entry | <input type="checkbox"/> Help on campaigns--sign retrieval |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help with events | |

I'm available to help: Evenings Weekends Weekdays

Please clip and then mail this form, along with your dues check, to:

**Lewis County Democrats
417 N. Pearl St. #9
Centralia, WA 98531**



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