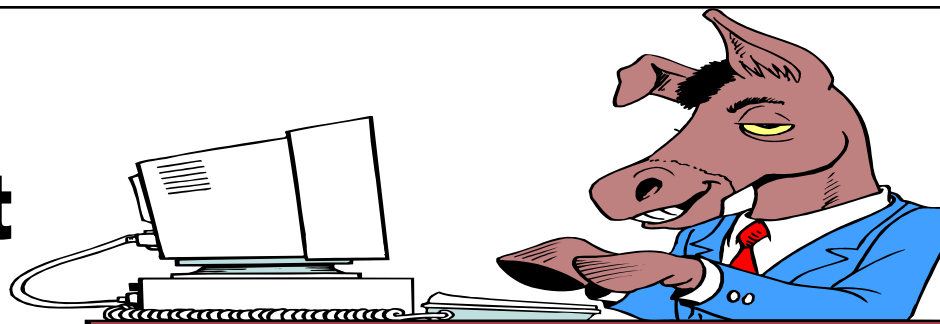


# Kitsap Democrat



Kitsap County Democratic Central Committee

January–March 2010

## *Forward, Together*—Carl Olson, Chair

Looking back over the last year it would be all too easy to submit to discouragement. That, however, is just what our opponents would want. As former Secretary of State Madeline Albright wrote early in 2009, President Obama inherited “an emergency room.” As Franklin Delano Roosevelt once noted, “To some generations much is given. Of other generations much is expected.” From my vantage point, we are definitely in the latter category, and our great work has only just begun.

We are battling the same “economic royalists” who were called out by FDR in his nomination acceptance speech of 1936. The faces are new, but the objectives remain the same. These forces have been entrenched for almost 30 years now; however, their castle walls are by



no means impenetrable. We have breached those gates before, and we must be successful in doing so again.

This can only be achieved by rallying together. While we may internally debate policy and strategy, publicly we must project a united front. Given the heated debate over

health insurance reform, we know what the opposition will do – they will use every weapon at their disposal to prevent our success. It is up to us to have the resolve, the resourcefulness and endurance to defeat them. Giving in or giving up is not an option.

In the months ahead, ask yourself what you can do for your Democratic Party. For those who have been active, your efforts have been much appreciated...renew them and enlist others. With a critical election cycle upon us, there will be much that needs doing. The momentum that has been building since 2006 must be continued, and the majority who believe that change is possible must be expanded. If not us, who? If not now, when?



## **Annual Kitsap Democrats Holiday Party**

*The highlight of this year’s annual Kitsap County Democrats Holiday Party was a good-natured “roast” and warm send-off of John and Rosemary Morgan, who are planning to travel for a while following John’s retirement (see article, Page 3). Party revelers pictured above (left to right) are Linda Gabriel, Marilyn Boynton, Lillian Crawford, Sharon Peterson, and David and Carolyn Peterson.*

**KCDCC Executive Board:**

**Chair**, Carl Olson, 360-698-6833,  
*kitsapdemocrat@yahoo.com*  
**Vice-Chair**, Lillian Crawford,  
 360-692-7514, *mandlcrawford@msn.com*

**Treasurer**, Ginger Sommerhauser,  
 360-337-7334  
*jim.sommerhauser@comcast.net*

**Secretary**, Marilyn Boynton  
 360-297-2776  
*marilynboynton@centurytel.net*

**State Committeewoman**, Sharon Peterson,  
 360-479-4479, *shapeter16@msn.com*

**State Committeeman**  
 David Peterson, 360-627-8309,  
*dwp400@comcast.net*

**Commissioner District 1:**

Sharon Brown  
 Natalie Bryson  
 Gene Bullock  
 Lucy Johnson  
 Steve Olsen

**Commissioner District 2:**

Tony Otto  
 Alison Sonntaq  
 River Curtis-Stanley  
 Matthew Keough  
 Charity Swedberg

**Commissioner District 3:**

Mark Biggs  
 Jim Chapin  
 Ginny Duff  
 Ron Gillespie  
 Position vacant

**Board Members At Large**

Jo Fox-Burr, Chair, Kitsap County Democratic Women  
 Rob Gelder, Chair 23rd LD Democrats  
 Mark Brown, Chair 26th LD Democrats  
 Nancy Frank, Chair 35th LD Democrats  
 Remo Barr, 23rd LD State Committeewoman  
 Jim Sommerhauser, 23rd LD State Committeeman  
 Susan Cruver, 26th LD State Committeewoman  
 Steve Martin, 26th LD State Committeeman

**Newsletter Editor/Publicity Chair:**

Gene Bullock, 360-394-5635,  
*genebullock@comcast.net*

**Webmaster: Michael Arnold**  
*middlestream@yahoo.com*  
 360-373-4955

# Meetings and Events

**Jan. 4 (1<sup>st</sup> Mon.)**—KCDCC Board Meeting, Machinist Hall, Bremerton, 6:30 p.m.

**Jan. 5 (1<sup>st</sup> Tues.)**—26<sup>th</sup> LD Democrats, General Meeting, Kitsap Room, Givens Community Center, Port Orchard. 7 p.m.

**Jan. 11**—State legislative session begins.

**Jan. 16 (Sat.)**—35<sup>th</sup> LD Democrats, General Meeting, Belfair Library, 1– 3 p.m..

**Jan. 17 (Sun.)**—23<sup>rd</sup> LD Democrats, General Meeting, Poulsbo Fire Hall, 4-6 p.m.

**Jan 19 (Tues.)**—Kitsap Democratic General Meeting, Fairgrounds Events Center. Dessert & coffee, 6 p.m. Meeting at 7 p.m. (On Tuesday because of Martin Luther King Day)

**Jan. 27 (4<sup>th</sup> Wed.)**—Kitsap County Democratic Women, 11:30 a.m. lunch, 12:30 p.m. meeting; AA China Buffet, 3583 Wheaton Way, East Bremerton. Guest speaker: County Commissioner Josh Brown.

**Jan. 29-30 (Fri-Sat)**—Washington State Democratic Central Committee Meeting, Washington State Convention & Trade Center, Seattle.

**Feb. 1 (1<sup>st</sup> Mon.)**—KCDCC Board Meeting, Machinist Hall, Bremerton, 6:30 p.m.

**Feb. 2 (1<sup>st</sup> Tues.)**—26<sup>th</sup> LD Democrats, General Meeting, Kitsap Room, Givens Community Center, Port Orchard. 7 p.m.

**Feb. 6 (Saturday)**—*Annual Kitsap Democrat Jefferson-Jackson Dinner and Auction, Olympic College Bremer Center, 6-9 p.m. \$50 per person. Reservations required by Jan 28. See insert.*

**Feb. 15 (Mon.)**—Annual State Democratic Crab Feed and PCO Training

**Feb. 16 (Tues)**— Kitsap Democratic General Meeting, Fairgrounds Events Center. Dessert & coffee, 6 p.m. Meeting at 7 p.m. (On Tuesday because of Presidents' Day).

**Feb. 24 (4<sup>th</sup> Wed.)**—Kitsap County Democratic Women, 11:30 a.m. lunch, 12:30 p.m. meeting; AA China Buffet, 3583 Wheaton Way, East Bremerton.

**March 1 (1<sup>st</sup> Mon.)**—KCDCC Board Meeting, Machinist Hall, Bremerton, 6:30 p.m.

**March 2 (1<sup>st</sup> Tues.)**—26<sup>th</sup> LD Democrats, General Meeting, Kitsap Room, Givens Community Center, Port Orchard. 7 p.m.

**March 13 (Sat.)**—35<sup>th</sup> LD Democrats, General Meeting, Belfair Library, 1:00 – 3:00.

**March 14 (Sun.)**—26<sup>th</sup> LD Democratic caucus. The 23<sup>rd</sup> and 35<sup>th</sup> LD Democrats will caucus at the Kitsap County Convention on April 10th.

**March 14 (Sun.)**—23<sup>rd</sup> LD Democrats, General Meeting, Poulsbo Fire Hall, 4-6 p.m.

**March 15 (3<sup>rd</sup> Mon.)**— Kitsap Democratic General Meeting, Fairgrounds Events Center. Dessert & coffee, 6 p.m. Meeting at 7 p.m.

**March 24 (4<sup>th</sup> Wed.)**—Kitsap County Democratic Women, 11:30 a.m. lunch, 12:30 p.m. meeting; AA China Buffet, 3583 Wheaton Way, East Bremerton.

**April 10 (Sat.)**—Kitsap County Democratic Convention, as well as 23<sup>rd</sup> and 35<sup>th</sup> LD caucuses.

**June 7 - 11**—Candidate filing week.

**June 25-26**—State Democratic Convention, Vancouver WA.

**Aug. 17 (Tues.)**—Primary

## Happy Travels John and Rosemary Morgan

As John and Rosemary Morgan begin nomadic life in their 24-foot travel trailer, the Kitsap Democratic Holiday Party became a spirited roast and warm send-off. Friends shared memories of working with John when he served as chair of the Kitsap County Democrats, among them, Tamra Ingwaldson, former vice-chair and former editor of the **Kitsap Democrat** newsletter:

*"I had the honor of serving as John's vice-chair. As a political novice, I was pretty unsure of myself and my role. John always made sure I felt like I knew what I was doing and helped me learn the ropes.*

*"Some of the things I remember most about John's term as our chair, were how he worked to engage citizens in the charter process, making sure people were informed about the various components being discussed, encouraging participation by being present at the meetings, giving constructive feedback, and looking at all the pros and cons of*



*the various components. Even though most agreed we needed to expand the number of commissioners, there were some components that were seen as not in the best interests of our community. Throughout the process, John always encouraged respectful dialogue, regardless of opinions.*

*"That is something about John I will always remember. He*

*may not agree with you, but he will always encourage you to share your thoughts, ideas, and opinions. Often times people had a common goal, but disagreed on the path for achieving that goal. It was in this spirit of respectful dialogue that John, in collaboration with Lary Coppola of the Kitsap Peninsula Business Journal, and Shirley Brown (then chair of the Kitsap County Republicans), agreed to coordinate a monthly point-counterpoint article around issues in our shared community. These articles were always informative, and*

*I believe helped many to find common ground.*

*"We will miss John and Rosemary being part of our community, but we know they will be enjoying a well-earned retirement and will be great ambassadors for our community. We look forward to their visits home."*

## Looking Back on 2009—Joseph J. Chapman

I like to look back at the past year and see how our community as well as our nation is growing. Last February the President signed the \$ 787 billion stimulus package into law. This stimulus package is going to help us revive our economy and put middle class Americans back to work. The stimulus package also brought millions of dollars into Kitsap County with new road construction projects, and for example, new trash compacters that will lower harmful green house gas emissions and save the county thousands of dollars. I think that this is the jump start we need in this country to get us back on track. But this was one of the worst economic years in our nation's history with skyrocketing unemployment and

many home foreclosures. I like to think of 2010 as a new start.

As the new Obama administration completes its first year, I look back and see that he has made some not-so-good foreign policy decisions; but I still consider him a better leader than his predecessor. Recovery from the previous eight years is going to take time. Here at home, our governor is drafting a budget that will cut so much that it will take away programs that are needed, from higher tuition at colleges to closing much needed correctional facilities. If the governor decides to raise taxes, I'm with her 100 percent. I would rather pay a few extra dollars than see criminals and child predators roam the streets. It would also allow us to

give children the education that they need and deserve.

This year has been filled with ups and downs. We saw the first Latino female appointed and confirmed to the U.S. Supreme Court (but the court is still in a right wing head lock), the passing of a hero, the honorable Sen. Edward Kennedy, the Ft. Hood shooting and the Lakewood police officer shooting. We also hope to see universal health care that will cover EVERY SINGLE AMERICAN.

I am looking forward to 2010, to new leadership and to a new generation of American minds. We must continue the fight for our nation. Together we can make America once again the greatest country on the earth.

**Joseph J. Chapman**

## 23rd LD News—Rob Gelder, Chair

Another election season has come and gone. With it we have seen the defeat of I-1033 and the confirmation of R-71 with the expansion of rights and responsibilities for same-sex and senior domestic partners.

Locally we experienced the disappointment in Kathryn Quade not being returned for a second term as Mayor for the City of Poulsbo. It was an unfortunate turn of events for Poulsbo – the results of which will not be seen for a while to come. Mayor Quade has provided the leadership and management of the City of Poulsbo that allowed the possibilities and potential of Poulsbo to be explored and pursued. For that, we extend our sincere thanks and encourage her continued involvement.

Now we have another busy election cycle upon us. Our two State Representatives are up for reelection, along with a majority of our County-wide and Federal office holders. It will be a year that will require all Democrats to step up, get involved



**Brian Johnson, Rep. Sherry Appleton and Rob Gelder.**

and make things happen.

With the volatility on the national scene, we can expect push-back on the local level. We must organize early, motivate our supporters and educate voters about the good things that have come to pass because of the efforts of local and national elected officials on our behalf.

The state of the economy only heightens the energy around the issues that will face us on the campaign trail.

We will be hosting the 23<sup>rd</sup> LD Caucus on Saturday, April 10, the same day as the Kitsap County Convention. Details are being finalized and will be published shortly.

Contact me to get involved on behalf of the 23<sup>rd</sup> LD Democrats or as a campaign volunteer. Your support and involvement will make the difference. I can be reached at [rgelder@msn.com](mailto:rgelder@msn.com).

## 26th LD News—Mark Brown, Chair

Things are hopping along in the 26<sup>th</sup> LD. The elections went well in November for us. All the people and causes that we endorsed were victorious. Volunteers and PCOs worked hard in all the different local and state wide elections by doorbelling and phone banking. We really have a great team in the 26<sup>th</sup>.

We finished the year with 212 paid memberships, our highest ever. Those dues really came in handy when funding candidates in 2009. This January we will begin our membership drive once again. The cost is \$25 for an individual and \$40 for a couple. The cost for seniors and hardship membership is \$10. All you 26ers reading this newsletter can send your membership for 2010 to 26<sup>th</sup> LD Secretary Renee' Proctor-Brown, 129 Koda Circle SE, Port

Orchard WA 98366.

Our next General Meeting is at Givens Community Center, 1026 Sydney Ave., Port Orchard WA 98366, January 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. (doors open at 6:30 p.m.). Senator Derek Kilmer and Representative Larry Seaquist will be speaking about the upcoming 2010 Legislative Session. Also on the agenda is the Candidate Search Committee's recommendation for Representative Position 1 to run against Jan Angel. That person will be officially announcing their candidacy and asking for our endorsement. I can say without a doubt this candidate is one of the finest ever to come out of the 26<sup>th</sup> District.

Please come out and attend the meeting. Derek and Larry are honest, straight shooters and will give us



**Rep. Larry Seaquist, Sen Derek Kilmer**

the scoop on 2010. Also watch our new candidate's brand new stump speech. I guarantee a victory over Jan Angel (the Michelle Bachman of Washington politics).

Here's wishing us all victory in 2010!

# ◆ Dues Reminder ◆

**2010 will be a critical election year. Democratic candidates need our support. Take a moment right now to mail your annual \$25 membership dues to the Kitsap County Democratic Central Committee. Send your check to KCDCC, PO Box 27, Silverdale WA 98383. For questions about KCDCC, call (360) 698-6833, or visit our website at [www.kitsapdemocrats.com](http://www.kitsapdemocrats.com).**



## Annual Jefferson-Jackson Dinner and Auction Olympic College Bremer Center

Saturday, February 6th, 6:00 – 10:00 p.m.

\$50 per person



The Jefferson-Jackson Dinner and Auction is our principal fund-raiser for Democratic Party candidates. It cannot be stressed enough how important this event is for supporting our elected officials and candidates.

Encourage your Democratic friends and neighbors to come and enjoy a wonderful dinner with good friends. It's an enjoyable way to support Democratic candidates and meet your legislators and public officials. The dinner is always well attended by leading Democrats at all levels.

The Olympic College culinary arts students serve an outstanding dinner. You'll also have a chance to bid on fabulous items (cash, checks only; cash machine on site).

**Reservations required by January 28th. Payment due by February 1st** (not accepting payment at the door). Send check, with full name and address of each guest, by February 1st. For information, contact Marilyn Cranford, 360-731-8586 or email [mcranford@comcast.net](mailto:mcranford@comcast.net). **To donate auction items**, contact Sharon Bown at 360-692-2298 or email [luvtheson18@gmail.com](mailto:luvtheson18@gmail.com).

To pay your KCDCC annual dues, make a contribution or reserve seats at the 2010 Jefferson-Jackson dinner, fill out and mail this form to KCDCC, PO Box 27, Silverdale WA 98383. J-J Dinner reservations are due by January 28th. Payment is due by Feb. 1st. Make check payable to KCDCC.

- Enclosed is my check for \$25.00 for 2010 membership dues in the Kitsap County Democratic Central Committee.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

- I prefer to receive my KCDCC newsletter via email to save on postage and printing.

- YES, I can volunteer to \_\_\_\_\_

- Enclosed is an additional contribution to KCDCC of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Contributions more than \$100 per year require the following additional information:

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Employer \_\_\_\_\_

City of employment \_\_\_\_\_

- Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ seats for the J-J Dinner at \$50 per person (amount included in check). Include full name and address of each guest (list additional guests on the other side).

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Use this two-page form to make  
reservations for the  
Jefferson-Jackson Dinner.  
The full names of your guests may  
be written on the back.

## 35th LD News—Nancy Frank, Chair

Since the 35<sup>th</sup> LD Democrats only meet quarterly, we had no meetings in November and December. Our next meeting will be January 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. at the Belfair Timberland Library. Please join us for pre-meeting pizza. Our speaker will be Tamra Ingwaldson, from the Mason County Domestic Violence Task Force.

We are gearing up for a series of district-wide member-comprised focus groups that will study the purpose and desired function of the 35<sup>th</sup> LD Democratic organization. In anticipation of the upcoming legislative session, we are reorganizing our website to provide continuously updated news regarding



*Larry Frank, Jim Chapin and Nancy Frank at Kitsap Democrats Holiday Party.*

bills that are of interest to our membership.

Finally, I've been hearing speculation lately about whether or not Lynda Ring-Erickson, who is currently one of the three Mason

County Commissioners, is considering a run for the 35<sup>th</sup> LD Senate position, currently held by Tim Sheldon. In response to my inquiry about this issue, I learned that she does not plan to run for the senate position. According to her campaign treasurer for the last two commissioner campaigns, "A main logical argument is financial - winning the senate seat would negatively impact her state retirement pension. She already took a significant pay cut to go from City of Olympia Public Works to Mason County Commissioner in 2004. The salary disparity between full time county commissioner and part time legislator is even worse."

## Kitsap Democratic Women—Jo Fox Burr, Chair

Our Holiday Party this year was held on December 5<sup>th</sup> at Ambrosia's Catering Company. We asked all who attended to bring Feminine Hygiene items for donation to women in need to help restore some sense of dignity (see photo). This year we split our ample collection between the Bremerton Food Bank and Stand up for Kids. We also held a raffle which collected \$100 for the Kitsap Sun Bell Ringer. Now we need to start collecting money for our political coffers to help insure

that the social safety net is kept as intact as possible.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at the AA China Buffet at 3583 Wheaton Way in East Bremerton. As usual we will eat and chat for an hour starting at 11:30 a.m. The meeting will begin at 12:30. Our speaker will be Kitsap County Commissioner Josh Brown who is running for re-election in 2010. Among other issues, he will talk with us about the new Silverdale Community Center which will

include a wonderful new YMCA. He has been very instrumental in bringing this project to fruition. All are welcome to join us.

Our webmaster, Bert Johnson, has made some significant progress on our new website at <http://www.kitsapdemocraticwomen.org>. Not only has he donated considerable time and skill to making it a very informative site, but he has also generously paid for our first three years of web hosting for the site. Check it out.



# 2010 Environmental Legislative Priorities

Mark your calendar for the annual **Environmental Lobby Day**, Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>. Some 600 citizen lobbyists will convene in Olympia for updates on the top environmental issues and meetings with their legislators. The Environmental Priorities Coalition will also hold an all-day legislative workshop for citizen lobbyists on Saturday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at Seattle Pacific University. You can register online at [www.environmentalpriorities.org](http://www.environmentalpriorities.org).

## **Legislative Priorities**

Each year the Environmental Priorities Coalition, made up of some two dozen State-wide environmental organizations, chooses three or four environmental priorities for action in the coming State legislative session. Coalition organizations then combine their resources, political clout and volunteer bases to help pass related legislation. This focus on a few key bills has been very effective.

The Priorities Coalition has selected the following three priorities and one additional focus area for the 2010 legislative session:

**1 - The Working for Clean Water bill** is about creating jobs, rebuilding our local economies, and cleaning up polluted waterways like Puget Sound and Spokane River.

**2 - Safe Baby Bottle Act** to protect children's health and the environment by phasing out the harmful chemical bisphenol A (BPA) from baby bottles, food and beverage cans, and other consumer products.

**3 - Budget for our Environment** to ensure adequate funding for the core environmental protections that make Washington a healthy place to live.

In addition, the coalition is dedicated to maintaining the strength and integrity of the Citizen's Clean Energy Initiative, I-937. We will ensure that the Legislature delivers on the commitment to building a clean energy economy and supporting green jobs. By doing so, we will decrease

both our fossil fuel dependence and climate pollution.

## **Working for Clean Water Bill**

Each year, millions of gallons of petroleum end up in our water through storm runoff, a serious threat to our health and the environment. We are proposing a fee on polluters to fund shovel-ready, local projects all over the state to stop this contamination. Now is the time to put Washington back to work by building clean water infrastructure.

Puget Sound may look beautiful, but beneath the surface it is very sick. Our orcas, salmon and shellfish are contaminated with toxic chemicals. These chemicals can be found in most adults and children who live around Puget Sound

Contaminated stormwater runoff is the main source of this pollution, and petroleum products are the most significant contributor. Fossil fuel combustion, leaking oil and grease, and degrading asphalt emit hydrocarbons, zinc, arsenic and other toxic substances. Every time it rains, these pollutants are flushed down drains and into our lakes, streams and waterways.

Local governments are required by law to control stormwater pollution; but the costs for compliance are enormous. Without adequate funding, these efforts are doomed to fail.

The petroleum industry makes record profits year after year, so it does not seem unreasonable to ask the industry to pay some portion of the cost of cleaning up its toxic byproducts. This bill would impose a relatively modest \$1.50 per barrel fee at the refinery (not at the pump) to be distributed to local governments across the State in the form of competitive grants. Local governments would provide matching funds. This would produce about \$250 million every two years to fund stormwater infrastructure projects

throughout the State.

## **Safe Baby Bottle Act**

The Safe Baby Bottle Act would phase out the use of bisphenol A (BPA) in baby bottles, food and beverage cans, and other consumer products. BPA is one of the highest volume chemicals produced in the world. Testing by the Centers for Disease Control found 93 percent of Americans age 6 and up were exposed to BPA. It is a hormone-disrupting chemical that can have health effects at extremely low exposure levels. Studies have linked BPA to cancer, miscarriage, obesity, hyperactivity and reproductive development problems in children.

[www.toxicfreelegacy.org](http://www.toxicfreelegacy.org)

## **Environmental Budget**

We are asking the Legislature to ensure adequate funding for the core environmental protections that make Washington State a healthy place to live. Our state is in the midst of an economic recession that threatens the core environmental protections that keep our families healthy. In the face of these tough times, we must have a balanced approach to ensure our state can protect our communities and rebuild our economy. The people of Washington rely on our drinking water to be clean, the air we breathe to be pure and toxic contamination to be cleaned up. We also want to create jobs that will make Washington a driver in the new green economy. We cannot afford disproportionate cuts to the core environmental programs that provide the basic safeguards that we all rely on for our health and economic future. With the *Budget for the Environment* priority, the Coalition will work to ensure that Washington's budget decisions adequately protect our communities and promote sustainable economic recovery.

# ***Kitsap County's Top Environmental Issues***

***Kitsap Conservation Voters (KCV)*** and ***West Sound Conservation Council (WSCC)*** have identified four key environmental priorities for Kitsap County. Their detailed report is available on request.

WSCC is a coalition of nine environmental groups that work together on environmental issues of concern to its member organizations, which include ***Kitsap Audubon Society, Kitsap Conservation Voters, Bainbridge Conservation Voters, Hood Canal Environmental Council, Hood Canal Coalition, Friends of Miller Bay, Chums of Barker Creek, Kitsap Citizens for Responsible Planning*** and ***Kitsap Trees and Shoreline Association***.

KCV and WSCC shared a booth at the Great Peninsula Future Festival last August. Visitors to the booth were asked to write down their top environmental priorities. More than 200 comments were received. The comments were then grouped into categories, refined and distilled by members of KCV and WSCC.

## ***Kitsap's Four Priorities***

Their process identified four top environmental priorities:

- ***Storm Water Control***
- ***Shoreline Protection***
- ***Hood Canal Conservation***
- ***Vesting***

The detailed report was hand delivered to area legislators and Kitsap County Commissioners. KCV has been meeting individually with each of them to discuss solutions.

Legislators are constantly harangued by special interests that oppose spending to protect our environment and the health of Puget Sound, so your legislators urgently need your support.

## ***Storm Water Control***

Storm water runoff has been identified as the main source of pollution in Puget Sound. Natural storm water buffers, such as trees and forest duff have been replaced with

impervious roads, sidewalks, parking lots and rooftops. Toxic residue from internal combustion, tire and brake pad wear, car wash chemicals, lawn care chemicals, pet wastes and many household products are flushed down our storm drains. With 4.5 million residents each contributing their share, Puget Sound is sick; and it is making us sick.

Controlling and managing storm water is enormously expensive, and municipalities around Puget Sound are struggling with those costs. Proposed legislation (see preceding page) would provide matching grants to fund stormwater projects and facilities. We must urge our legislators to pass this legislation.

## ***Shoreline Protection***

Kitsap County is currently working on a required update of its Shoreline Management Plan, which is old and antiquated. While shoreline property owners are rightfully concerned about further restrictions and how they could affect nonconforming structures, it's clear that Kitsap cannot continue to allow practices that jeopardize near-shore habitat, the survival of salmon, the productivity of incubator estuaries and the recharge of critical aquifers.

Stopping the degradation in ecological function and selective restoration is in everybody's interest, so citizen participation will be crucial. Otherwise, special interests will dominant the discussion. At the same time, sensitivity to the rights of shoreline property owners is essential, as is their cooperation and support. It is important to everyone that we get it right.

Jurisdiction between the Shoreline Management Act and the Growth Management Act is being disputed. Court decisions exempting shorelines from Critical Areas Ordinances under the Growth Management Act are being appealed. Legislators may need to clarify the

issue and resolve the confusion.

## ***Hood Canal Conservation***

Hood Canal faces serious threats from sewage and animal waste treatment and from proposed industrial, commercial and residential development within the Hood Canal watershed. Low dissolved oxygen results in periodic fish kills and other clear signals that Hood Canal is in serious trouble.

The natural shape of the Hood Canal floor limits circulation, and is part of the problem. However, near-shore human activity is magnifying the problem. Nitrogen and phosphorus promote algae blooms, which consume oxygen as they decompose. Sewage and septic systems are another major contributor. Clear-cut logging adds to the problem as evergreens are replaced by nitrogen-fixing alders.

## ***Vesting***

Current law allows proposed development to become vested at the time a permit application is submitted. That exempts the development from future changes in policy. However, developers sometimes rush to get vested in anticipation of pending changes. This widespread use of the vesting privilege nullifies efforts to regulate land use under the Growth Management Act. For the GMA to work, Hearings Board decisions must apply retroactively and permits granted during the appeal process should be rescinded.

## **The KCV/WSCC report:**

### ***Top Environmental Issues***

### ***Affecting Kitsap County***

**is available free on request. Contact Gene Bullock at 360-394-5635 or email [genebullock@comcast.net](mailto:genebullock@comcast.net).**

Kitsap County Democratic Central Committee  
P.O. Box 27, Silverdale WA 98383

**PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
SILVERDALE WA  
PERMIT NO. 111**

**Return service requested**

**Visit Kitsap Democrats at  
[www.KitsapDemocrats.com](http://www.KitsapDemocrats.com)**

## **Membership Application**

This is your newsletter. Please help us continue to bring you the voice of Democrats. Yearly dues are \$25.00 per person. Mail your check today to KCDCC, P. O. Box 27, Silverdale, WA 98383. Your contributions to KCDCC will make our party stronger, more active and more effective. **Contact the Editor to receive our newsletter via email.** This will help us to communicate more effectively, efficiently, ecologically and economically. Thank you!

Please be sure to include the following:

Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone Number:

E-mail:

If your donation is over \$100.00, please provide the following information so we can adhere to PDC regulations:

Occupation:

Employer:

City of Employment:

Editor, Kitsap Democrat  
1968 NE Lind Ct.  
Poulsbo WA 98370  
360-394-5635  
[genebullock@comcast.net](mailto:genebullock@comcast.net)

