

A monthly publication of THE METROPOLITAN DEMOCRATIC CLUB of SEATTLE



"That's him," Sabrina says, 'don't let him get away. The only reason I brought him along is so he could hold me up while I give my speech. Please meet my daddy, Dow Constantine."

Johnson wins first MDC raffle - \$1,000

Anne Johnson, former treasurer of the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle and frequent hostess of many of the organization's functions, was winner of the first annual MDC raffle. Her prize was \$1,000.

The drawing took place at the MDC's annual Winter Holiday Party, December 13 at the Colman mansion, home of Maryanne Tagney Jones and David Jones.

President Eleanor Munro introduced MDC officers Vice President Jack Whisner, Director of Information Technology Charles Redmond, Treasurer Kate Martin, and former presidents Kiku Hayashi and Justin Simmons.

Then she asked King County Executive Dow Constantine to open the program with a few words about progress in 2015 and beyond. He was assisted by Sabrina, who was not originally on the program, but indicated to her father that she had some important information to impart.

A special guest, Mindy Lindquist, Washington state director of Senator Patty Murray's office, spoke briefly and answered questions.

Allan Munro, long time MDC board

member, presented certificates to former King County Assessor Lloyd Hara and former Seattle City Councilmember Tom Rasmussen honoring them for their distinguished public service and "a lifetime of promoting progressive values." Both have been members of the MDC for many years.

MDC Vice President Jack Whisner presented a similar certificate to former Seattle City Councilmember Nick Licata, who was president of the MDC 1989 – 1993, and is now a lifetime honored member.

Ms Munro introduced Senator Maralyn Chase (D-32); Lisa Herbold, newly elected to Seattle City Council District 1; Leslie Harris, newly elected to the Seattle School Board; and Carin Chase, chair of the 32nd LD and newly elected to the Edmonds School Board. She praised MDC Bill Bradburd, candidate for City Council, for his willingness to step up to the challenge of running for office.

Partygoers were treated to a visit from an unexpected candidate, Senator Karen Fraser (D-33), who announced that she will be running in 2016 for Washington state lieutenant governor.



Allan Munro, right, presents lifetime achievement awards to outgoing officials, former King County Assessor Lloyd Hara (top) and Seattle City Councilmember Tom Rasmussen (bottom)



Two books on the economy

The Great Divide

**unequal societies and
what we can do about them**

By Joseph Stiglitz
W.W. Norton & Company
New York, 2015

By *Allan Munro*

Joseph Stiglitz argues with great force and clarity that large inequalities in income and wealth are a drag on economic growth as well as bad for the lives of people at the low end. Inequality is a product of society's decisions and can be rectified by enlightened government policies. Mr Stiglitz is critical of the Bush and Obama administrations for failing to prosecute the leaders of the too-large-to-fail financial institutions that took excessive risks, in some cases committed fraud, and almost brought the entire system crashing down.

Timothy Geithner covers much of the same ground in his biographical history of the period he was chairman of the New York Federal Reserve and after that, Secretary of the Treasury in Obama's first term. However, Mr Geithner, while acknowledging the rash conduct of US financial leaders, argues against prosecution, clawbacks and other punishments. He states this would have led to further panic and dysfunction in the financial system. He correctly makes clear that the welfare of the system trumps (excuse the pun) bringing the offending financial leaders to justice.

I feel that Mr Geithner, having gone through the financial crises while having system-wide responsibilities, has been overly traumatized by the specter of another panic. He shouldn't have been so strident when advising the president to avoid addressing the subject of moral hazard. Aggressive action to rectify moral hazard is a necessary example discouraging future reckless conduct. Nevertheless Mr Geithner's description of what causes financial crises and what to do about them is very well-reasoned and cogent.

Both books are aimed at lay audiences and are easy to read. I recommend them for those interested in understanding the most salient economic event of our time.



Want to become a citizen activist?

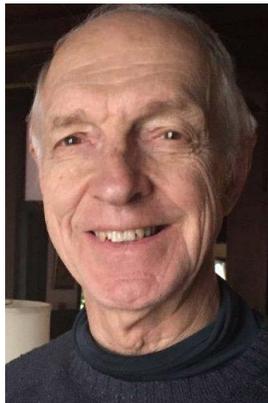
Don't miss Nick Licata at MDC's January 27 meeting (see Calendar, page 4), named progressive municipal official of the year by *The Nation*, as he discusses his book *Becoming a Citizen Activist; Stories, Strategies & Advice for Changing our World*.

Buy a book and get it autographed by one of our favorite MDC members and former presidents.

Stress Test

& **reflections on financial crises**

By Timothy Geithner
Broadway Books
New York, 2014



Allan Munro

What's special about 2016?

We are in the process of developing our **seventh operating plan and budget**. I think we're getting better at this every year. It definitely helps us to review our mission and think up new ways to achieve it, while keeping the old ones that work well. The process was somewhat compressed this year; it consisted of a survey and a couple of discussions in which members expressed their opinions and preferences on a variety of issues. We'll talk about these at the January 13 meeting.

The Diamond Jubilee. This year we're celebrating 60 years of promoting progressive values. This is going to be a REALLY BIG SHOW. We are going to improve our visibility a good deal if we can get the right speakers. And some new members. 2016 is going to be such an exciting year politically that I think a lot more people will be participating. We have a real pro in charge of this event, Producer Charles Redmond. He's already assembled most of his committee and will have a word or two to say about the Jubilee at our January 13 meeting.

And speaking of Mr Redmond we finally have someone dedicated to **directing information technology**. This is truly an important step forward. I have not been able to keep up with the administrative tasks that I continued to do after I was elected president. Primarily, I have not been sending out reminders and most of those I did send were not very tailored. Previously I had always tried to personalize each reminder. We did hire Debby Norman to take over the administrative tasks, but the largest one, membership management, was not something she could handle because the databases are on my computer and inaccessible to anyone else. So one of Mr Redmond's first tasks is to work out a way to change that

Growth is going to be an important word this year, because I think with advances in our use

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From the editor

Please send notices of upcoming events, letters, articles, and book reviews to Editor Eleanor Munro at walkere1@msn.com or 1925 41st Ave SW, Seattle WA 98116 no later than the fourth Wednesday of the month. All contributions are subject to editing. For more information call 206-370-1374.

METROPOLITAN DEMOCRATIC CLUB of SEATTLE - Board of Directors

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Rail rectification builds head of steam

A last minute cancellation of one of the speakers, Representative Reuven Carlyle, scheduled to speak at the November 18 meeting of the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle meant that the meeting was devoted to Patrick Mazza explaining solutionary rail.

Elizabeth Stanton, who organized the program, introduced Mr Mazza, who is owner of an MROC, an independent global sustainability consultancy that seeks climate solutions.

One problem that needs a climate solution, he explained, is rail transportation. He calls his solution solutionary rail. This involves rail rectification, meaning electrify and modernize rail. The results are worth the energy. For example, electrification of the main Burlington Northern Santa Fe mail rail line from Seattle to Chicago would allow higher average speed (120 mph for passenger and 100 mph for freight). Computer scheduling would allow accommodation freight and passenger on the same line.

Using renewable electricity generation would mean less carbon and less pollution, he claims, and railroads would be less dependent on bulk commodity transfer such as oil and coal.

Mr Mazza called for an interstate development bank to provide either a \$2B single-track system or \$2.5B double-track system. He says unions support this idea.

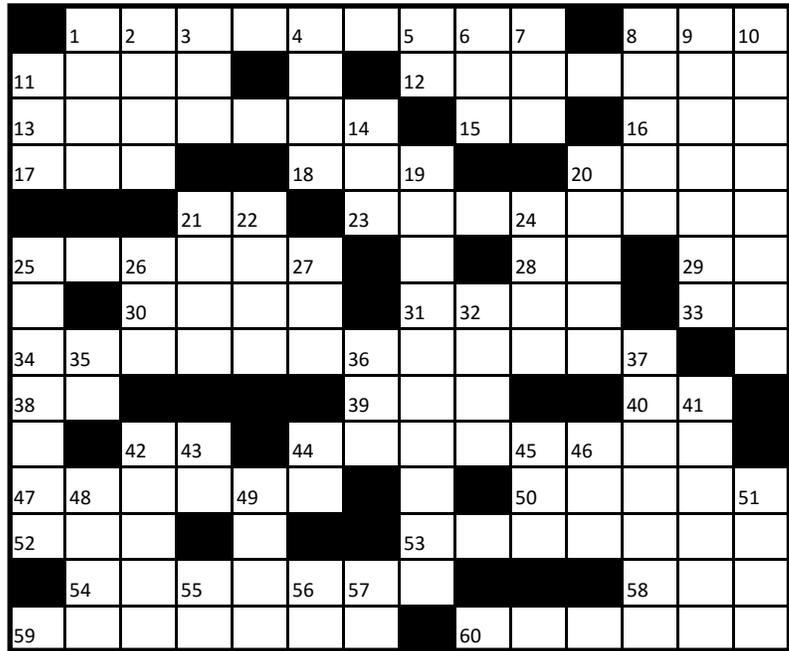
At the last legislation session, he added, a bill was introduced to provide Washington State University with \$250K for a feasibility study. The bill was sponsored by an eastern Washington republican.



Patrick Mazza

Mr Mazza has produced many influential papers on emerging energy systems and national papers on agricultural clean energy. He has provided research and writing of issues pertaining to climate policy and sustainability. He co-authored *Stormy Weather: 101 Solutions to Global Climate Change*.

Jack Whisner's annual crossword puzzle



Across

1. North Seattle mall and transit center
8. Acronym for ridiculous scooter
11. Linebacker suicide
12. Attorney living downtown (District 7)
13. Grandmother and Licata aide (District 1)
15. NBA Pelican city
16. Mine output
17. Mad Men service
18. Diving seabird
20. Stallion mate
21. NFL six-pointer
23. Former civil rights attorney (District 9)
25. Former tribal attorney (District 5)
28. Tri Met st.
29. French article
30. Window section
31. Begins on Ash Wednesday
33. Short Link acronym
34. My greeting to you
38. NBA Thunder center home nation
39. Golf ball support
40. Primary Rt. 44 directions
42. Oct. 31 prankster tool
44. Former Bellevue mayor
47. Bicycles in Fremont (District 3)
50. Birds begging at Ivar's
52. Emphatic negative
53. With Patient, starred Scott-Thomas
54. Former cop with motorcycle (District 8)
58. With Camp, Barcelona stadium
59. Wine, beer, and spirits
60. May precede Night or Running

Down

1. Necessity
2. Dory thrusters
3. Massage
4. Seattle zoning disc.
5. Northbound bays in DSTT
6. Zonker goal
7. Freud study
8. Sandy boating hazard
9. Former corporate lawyer and Husky (District 2)
10. Sliver extractor
11. Owner of Yesler Terr.
14. What Brenda did for Link
19. Was 36th District Senator and Professor
20. Serves NBA Hawks city
21. Capture
22. Not allow
24. Hoops defense
25. Studied under Shoup (District 4)
26. Software tool
27. Eastern calm
32. Watched
35. State of NBA Suns
36. SeaTac est.
37. Lean back
41. New Assessor, worked with Sims
42. Tasty fish
43. Circle ratio
44. With SF, largest Seattle RR
45. Warm Australian footwear
46. Suburban dead end street, in part
48. Prominent Seattle ape
49. UW Dept. at Padelford
51. Open opposite
55. May block for QB on strong side
56. UW Dept. at Loew Hall
57. NFL city where 11 across played longest

Answers in February newsletter.



Winter Holiday Party



Justin Simmons, Brian Allan, and Seattle City Councilmember Lisa Herbold

This is where containers go directly from ship to railroad flatbed vehicles and bypass the intermediate step of being trucked from dock to yard.

The commissioners also stated that T-5 will not be used as a hosting facility for the Shell arctic drilling fleet. Portions of the fleet will be harbored in Everett, though. The commissioners also cited the recent clean air performance of the Port of Seattle with shore-provided power for tour ships and a carbon dioxide reduction plan for all marine and truck traffic.

Shifting facilities, Commissioners Gregoire and Bowman discussed SeaTac International Airport and reminded everyone that this is the fastest growing major international airport in the US and has been for the past five years. There are plans to renovate and improve the north passenger facility and SeaTac has been working with Alaska Airlines on that major upgrade. In addition, the International Arrivals/Departures terminal is the oldest such facility in North America and now very much outdated and overtaken by a huge growth in international travel. Plans are underway to significantly enhance this terminal, and include such new environmental features as “facility air,” where aircraft at boarding gates can plug into SeaTac conditioned air rather than having to operate the aircraft’s Auxiliary Power Unit (APU) to provide air conditioning and power.

Commissioners update the MDC on management of “north” and “south” ports

by Charles Redmond

At the October 14 meeting of the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle, Seattle Port Commissioners and Co-Presidents Courtney Gregoire (position two) and Stephanie Bowman (position three) presented a status update on the Port of Seattle’s maritime and aeronautics activities and future plans.

Commissioner Bowman gave a review of how the NW Seaport Alliance came into being and how this would be beneficial to the Puget Sound region. This historic arrangement combines the Port of Tacoma and the Port of Seattle maritime activities under a single management structure. By collaborating on port activities rather than competing, the new NW Port Alliance can effectively compete against the most serious competition we have on the West Coast - Los Angeles/Long Beach and Prince Rupert, BC.

The new alliance now identifies the Port of Tacoma as “south port” and the Port of Seattle as “north port.” The renovation and upgrade of North Port’s Terminal 5 is an important element in the competitive strategy of the NW Seaport Alliance not just because it’s a deep draught location with the shortest West Coast path to Asian ports, but because it has significant “on dock rail.”



Stephanie Bowman

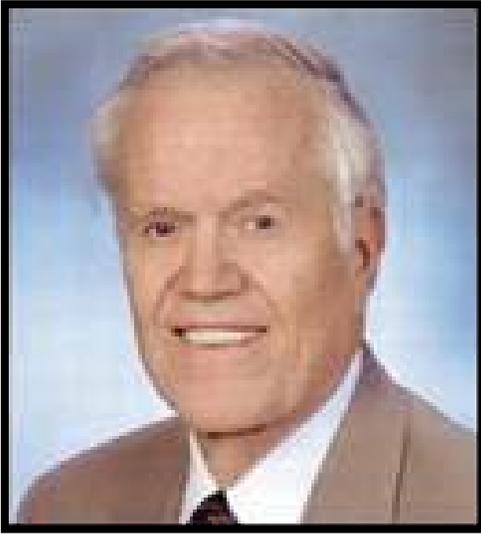


Courtney Gregoire

The airport management has also worked to develop a client list of truly local vendors within the airport concourse areas. The question of minimum wage support came up and both Gregoire and Bowman indicated that SeaTac already pays above that and the vendors will now be doing the same based on the recent judicial ruling. They also cited the Port’s emphasis on overall working conditions including child care, sick leave and an overall career path improvement.

Both commissioners responded to member questions and continued to cite the importance of the middle income jobs that both the seaport and airport provide to the local economy and how important it is to maintain an industrial area in SoDo. The airport expansion will occur within the existing SeaTac footprint. The recent conversion of flight paths to a GPS-based landing or takeoff has helped with lowering the fuel use of airlines which has benefited both the environment (lower emissions) and economic conditions of the airlines (lower fuel use).





Payton Smith

Oct 1932 – Sept 22

Payton Smith died September 22 in Las Vegas. He was vice president of the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle in 1965. The MDC membership rolls list his name from 1961 to 1967.

He was born in Fort Worth, Texas, graduated from Southern Methodist University and the University of Chicago Law School; and in 1957 moved to Seattle where he served as chief assistant US attorney for the Western District of Washington 1961-1963. He practiced law at the firm of Davis Wright Tremaine 1963 – 2011.

Mr Smith was obviously active in politics. He was a Kennedy delegate to the Democratic National Convention in 1960. He also served as president of the Young Democrats.

In 1997 his book, *Rosellini: Immigrant's Son and Progressive Governor*, a political history of Washington's Governor Albert Rosellini, was published by the University of Washington Press.

Memorial services were held in the offices of Davis Wright Tremaine on October 21, 2015. The family suggests donations to Plymouth Housing Group or Grace in the Desert Episcopal Church in Las Vegas.



The MDC will honor these members, now departed, at the club's Diamond Jubilee – promoting progressive values for 60 years. The date has not been set.



Pat Emerson

Nov 1925 – Dec 2015

Having just celebrated her 90th birthday, Pat Emerson, first woman president of the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle, died December 2, 2015.

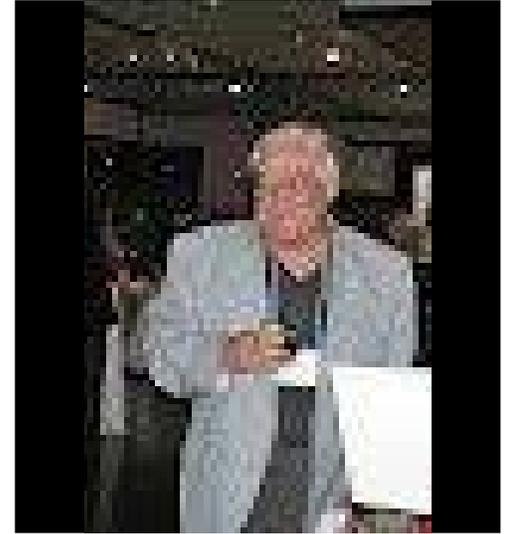
Ms Emerson was president from 1993 until 2001 after which she acted as secretary for three years. She had served in that capacity before having been elected president, too.

She was born in Wyoming and graduated from the University of Wyoming with a bachelor's degree in political science and language.

Her husband, Dick Emerson, was a mountaineer and sociologist who was a member of the first American expedition to Mt Everest. They moved to Seattle when he joined the faculty of the University of Washington. She earned a graduate degree in South Asian studies, which prepared her for years of research and teaching in Pakistan. After her husband died in 1982 she spent years living and working in Pakistan by herself, managing the Urdu Language Program in Pakistan for the University of California Berkeley.

Her involvement in local politics included serving as the president of the Seattle League of Women Voters, during which time she moderated panel discussions of public affairs and local issues for a weekly show on channel 9.

The family suggests a donation to the Asia Foundation or to the Juniper Fund as remembrances.



Dave Wood

February 1930 – November 2015

Dave Wood was one of two remaining founding members of the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle. The club honored him at the Gala 56 event in 2013 along with three other founding members. (Judge Robert Winsor is the remaining founder.)

At his advanced age he was able to hop on a bus in Shelton and make it to Seattle in time for an MDC meeting. He remained active in the organization to the end, talking on the phone to members shortly before his death.

Mr Wood was born in Tacoma, graduated from high school in 1948 and married Joyce Hunter the next year. He earned a bachelor's degree in journalism in 1952. During his university years he edited the UW daily newspaper and was a member of the Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity. Upon graduation he went to work as public relations officer for Bethlehem Steel. He joined the Society of Professional Journalists and maintained his membership for the rest of his life.

He used his profession to promote political figures and issues, working as campaign or government press secretary for Governor Albert Rosellini, Senator Brock Adams (MDC's first president), and Mayor Wes Uhlman. He also served as Mr Uhlman's deputy mayor.

Mr Wood worked as a lobbyist and communication instructor, and eventually moved to Olympia to work with the state legislator as a consultant and contract lobbyist. Many of those he served were developmentally disabled or families who were having their children removed from their custody.



mark your
MDC Calendar

January 2016

All regular membership meetings occur on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, noon – 1:30 pm at the Plaza 600 Building #205, 600 Stewart St, Seattle, unless otherwise noted. The MDC welcomes guests at all of its noon meetings and special events. Members are welcome at all MDC committee meetings.

January 13 (second Wednesday)

Topic: 2016 operating plan.

Speakers: Members will review a first draft of the plan based on survey results and December 16 discussion. Once the plan is approved by the members, the finance committee will draft a budget to present to the board of directors for approval.

January 27 (fourth Wednesday)

Topic: Citizen activism.

Speaker: Former Seattle City Councilmember Nick Licata will talk about his recently published book *Becoming a Citizen Activist; Stories, Strategies and Advice for Changing our World.*

and the most important event of the year

The MDC Diamond Jubilee

The MDC celebrates 60 years of promoting progressive values.

Committee meetings

Look for notices of Diamond Jubilee, program, and other committee meetings. They will be listed here in the Calendar column of The MDC News and the bimonthly meeting notes.

To join the MDC or for more information contact MDC President Eleanor Munro at 206.370.1374 or walkere1@msn.com or visit metrodeems.org or facebook.com/metrodeems.

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of technology, we will be able to promote the MDC and its activities much more efficiently and effectively. And that leads to more members and greater visibility. There will undoubtedly be the usual discussion about the need for younger members. I've started to design an experiment to see if we can get younger members without changing the basic mission and identity of the organization. We should try to attract more members of all ages. The common ground is that we believe in the same progressive values.

Promotion is another important word. Without expanding our promotional activities we are not going to attract more members and more top notch speakers. We have a newsletter. We have a website. We have an account on Facebook. We know how to use MailChimp. And there may be other media we will want to use. But what is different in 2016 is that we have Mr Redmond to help up get the most out of these media. Kate and some others have tried to help, but they have other responsibilities and cannot dedicate themselves to consistent oversight of the use of these media. This sort of jumble is detrimental to our identity. *And we need to remember that our identity is our most important asset.* One glance should let people know that what they're looking at (a post card, poster, newsletter, business card, letterhead, event programs) is from the MDC.

I believe this is going to be a fabulous year if we all pitch in to get things done, share ideas, and always be on the lookout for terrific programs.

Happy 2016,

Eleanor Munro, president



Redmond elected to executive committee

Charles Redmond, an MDC member since 2009, was elected director of information technology at the December 16 meeting of the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle. The vote was unanimous. Mr Redmond had been elected to the board of directors in October.



Charles Redmond

President Eleanor Munro announced that she was appointing him to produce our Diamond Jubilee. His curriculum vitae lists numerous positions and projects that involved expertise in public affairs and writing/editing for the US Army, Seattle-Post Intelligencer, National Park Service, NASA Lyndon B Johnson Space Center and NASA Headquarters.

After retiring he moved to Seattle where he became involved in numerous local projects intended to improve the quality of life in West Seattle.

He received his BA journalism at Pennsylvania State University, and did graduate work at the USDA Graduate School in Washington DC and the University of Texas Graduate School. He was certified in electronic news gathering and in virtual reality-computer-generated imagery. He also did graduate work in speech/public speaking.



Membership renewal date appears on above label

January 2016

METROPOLITAN
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OF SEATTLE



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