



OCRCP NEWS

April 2025

Championing Liberty, Inspiring Change!

2024-2026 Executive Board members:

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Michael Blake - Vice Chair
Mary LaVelle - Secretary
Wayne Turner - Treasurer
Isaac Taylor - State Committeeman
Suzy Taylor - State Committeewoman
Trinity Stucker - 7th Legislative Dist.Cmt.
Ray Campbell - 7th Legislative Dist.Cmt.
Anthony Jenkins - 7th Legislative Dist.Cmt.
Kim Frey - Area 1 Chair
Kelly Knapp - Area 2 Chair
Nick Timm - Area 4 Chair
Yvette Hill - Area 5 Chair
Tina Holan - Area 6 Chair

Okanogan County Commissioners

Nick Timm, District 1
Andy Hover, District 2
Jon Neal, District 3
509.422.7100

Okanogan County Assessor

Larry Gilman
509.422.7190

Okanogan County Auditor

Cari Hall
509.422.7240

Okanogan County Coroner

Dave Rodriguez
509.422.7221

Okanogan District Court Judges

Chancey C. Crowell
Charles D. Short
509.422.7170

Okanogan County Prosecutor

Albert Lin
509.422.7280



Student Oakley Bonewell receiving the Defender of Freedom Award, for not quietly ceding to authoritarian pressure and standing strong in expressing his first amendment rights as a young American!

~ Photo credit: Suzy Taylor

Thank You for a Wonderful Evening!

We want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who attended and supported the Okanogan County Republicans' 2025 Lincoln Day Dinner!

Your presence and generosity made this event a great success.

A special thank you to those who donated—your contributions help us continue our work to uphold conservative values in our community.

We also want to express our appreciation to our guest speaker, Glen Morgan, We the Governed for sharing his insights and inspiring us all.

This is a pivotal moment in history, and we have a window of opportunity to step up, get involved, and make significant changes in Washington state.

Together, we are making a difference! Thank you for standing with us.

Get involved here: <https://oc-rp.com/>

Okanogan County Sheriff

Paul Budrow
509.422.7200

Okanogan Superior Court Judges

Robert W. Grimm
Kathryn Burke

Okanogan County Treasurer

Pam Johnson
509.422.7180

7th Legislative District Representatives

Hunter Abell
360.786.7988

Andrew Engell
360.786.7908

7th Legislative District Senator

Shelly Short
360.786.7612

4th Congressional District Representative

Dan Newhouse
North District Office
509.433.7760

4th Congressional District Senators

Maria Cantwell
Spokane Office
509.353.2507

Patty Murray
Spokane Office
509.624.9515

Did you know....

Unlike some state legislatures, the Washington State Legislature does not hold a special election between general elections if a seat becomes vacant in the middle of a term.

Instead, duly ELECTED PCOs (precinct committee officers) within the county of the political party that last held the seat in the county that contains the district nominates 3 candidates and the board of county commissioners chooses 1 from among the 3 nominees. A special election is then held alongside November general elections.

Where a district spans counties, the central committees of the party within those counties selects the top 3 candidates and the boards of county commissioners of all the counties jointly choose one of the 3 recommended.

YOU can influence the election process directly as an elected PCO!

Join your Okanogan County Republican party leadership at the Central Committee Meeting and bring a conservative friend or neighbor.

April 24th, Thursday

Potluck starts at 5:30 PM

Central Committee Meeting starts at 6:00 PM

Location: Cascade Bible Church 1119 Hwy 20 S., Twisp

Fact Finder: Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid Concerns Aimed at DOGE

By Marcia Butchart

As the DOGE team takes on the immense task of tackling issues of waste and fraud in our U.S. Government, the main-stream media and left-wing politicians continue to accuse the Trump Administration and DOGE of cutting essential Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid services. As a result, some of the nicest people you will ever want to meet are both grieved and outraged that people in need of financial and medical help will get it no longer. The Trump Administration has denied these accusations.

The following interview and press conference provide the broader framework for finding the truth:

On March 25th, the press conference by the Republican House of Representatives confirmed what the Trump Administration has said repeatedly: They have no intention of cutting Social Security, Medicare or Medicaid. The DOGE cuts are made only when they find cases of fraud or waste. Actually, all the Democrat Representatives, except Chuck Shumer, voted to shut the government down, which would have stopped all government payments to Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid. Fortunately, the Republicans all voted to keep the programs going. The explanation by Rep. McClain can be found in this C-Span link.

<https://www.c-span.org/program/news-conference/house-republican-leadership-news-conference/657635> (Representative McClain 3:40-7:30)

On March 27th, the DOGE leadership team explained their goals and approach to dealing with fraud and waste at Social Security and other government agencies in an interview with Bret Baier of Fox News. The whole interview is fascinating and revealing, but discussions about Social Security are identified in the following links: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=916344540452947> (Steve Davis, Brad Smith, Elon Musk, 3:14-15:34); (Arem Moganashi, 9:40-13:02); (Elon Musk 22:50)

As Musk says at the beginning of the interview, their main concern is the solvency of the U. S. Government. In order to meet the budget every year, they have to vote to increase the debt ceiling, because they are borrowing the money the government is giving out. Our current national debt is almost \$37 trillion. We owe \$795 billion to China. Every day, we pay almost \$3 billion in interest alone. These seasoned businessmen have real fears that the U. S. government could go bankrupt, at which point, no one would be getting any money.

DOGE is committed to making sure that does not happen, by reducing the deficit by at least \$1 trillion and setting in motion changes that save us money over the years. We wish them great success.



7th Legislative District 2025 Legislative Bus Tour!

WHAT'S HAPPENING:

AREA 1 - METHOW VALLEY
call to
ACTION

AREA MEETING
APRIL 12, 2025
5:00-6:30

COACHES' LOUNGE
115 METHOW VALLEY HWY
TWISP, WA

- by Kim Frey, OCRP Area 1 Chair

In 2024 I was introduced to a national program called Braver Angels when I attended an event out of curiosity at the Winthrop Library. Their goal was to de-escalate the political divide that was ripping our country apart. At that time, I was convinced that the real enemy was not someone we could see, but a darker force that desired to see us fight each other for its own dark purposes. When we fight, that enemy (call it what you will) wins. Though I was uninterested in recorded zoom meetings with strangers across the country, I liked the concept of bringing together community members of different perspectives to make a local impact. I launched a modified version, and I called it "True Colors". Two reds and two blues sit down face to face in a private setting and do their best to listen to the other side respectfully, while also being given an opportunity to practice speaking their values coherently.

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7th Legislative District 2025 Legislative Bus Tour

-by Stacy Storm, OCRP Chairwoman

April 3-5, 2025 a 12 person group from the 7th Legislative District went to the state capitol in Olympia. We spent time with each of our elected representatives and toured the capitol building and grounds. The trip was organized by the LD7 Committee and was a very interesting and worthwhile experience. Of the 12 participants from across the district, 4 of us went from Okanogan County: myself, Anthony Jenkins, Kim Frey and Logan Stucker.

We spent Friday at the capitol. We were met by Senator Shelly Short's legislative assistant and taken to the Senate chamber where we watched floor action. We then got to watch the speaker of the house sign Representative Andrew Engall's bill into law. This bill dealt with Class B water systems and it was the first bill he has gotten passed through the house. Rep. Engall showed us the republican caucus room for the house and also took us back to the house chamber after the signing adjourned. We then toured the offices of Representatives Engall and Abell and Senator Short. Representatives Engall and Abell joined us for lunch and we had some interesting discussion about a variety of topics, from procedural questions to the wildfire insurance problem.

After lunch Representatives Engall and Abell took us on a tour of the 4 corner offices (Governor, Lt. Governor, Treasurer and Secretary of State). The weather was absolutely perfect with the magnolia and cherry trees in full bloom. We walked around the grounds and viewed the various war memorials and the Trivoli Fountain. We also got to see the Supreme Court Building which houses the State Law Library and we visited the Supreme Court Chamber.

During the afternoon, Senator Short met us in the Senate Chamber and we had a group picture taken by the official photographer. We noted how all 39 county names are inscribed around the top of the chamber wall. She then took us to the Senate Republican Caucus Room where we had time to ask questions and visit about upcoming legislation.

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Since starting this last November, we've hosted 10 rounds in the Coaches' Lounge in Twisp. I now work with the Braver Angel lead who signs up the "blues" and I work to sign up the "reds". Each session is very different as people are diverse, but it seems to have offered something insightful to the participants. We anticipate this will grow into some group conversations, some presentations and ultimately some debates, but for now, we're happy just to see more people dropping their guard a little to give it a shot.

The protocol initially focuses on the skill of being a good listener while offering an opportunity to develop the skill of speaking intelligently. We will find the holes in our thinking, or the weaknesses in our ability to give answer to our values and through the process we'll improve. Instead of cursing the opposition from the safety of our social circles, we've chosen to do the hard thing of self-improvement with the hope that it may also contribute to the preservation of our local culture. This is not an exercise in compromising values but rather learning to promote them skillfully.

Andrew Engall once said he thought he would do well as our Legislative Representative because he had experience negotiating across the aisle. In a predominantly blue state, effective change would require skills in listening, debating, problem solving and perhaps telling the story in a way that matters to their value system too, not just ours. That takes practice.

Interestingly, Wenatchee's Braver Angels chapter has caught wind of what we're doing and would like to learn more about our program. If you too would like to bring back honor, statesmanship, respect and self-control, try being a braver angel for a couple of hours. You might like it.



The budget is just being released and since the Governor has already said he will not sign either the house or the senate budget as currently proposed. That means there will have to be negotiation before anything is sent to the governor. The Democrats are attempting to keep the negotiations out of the public eye. Senator Short said the most important thing citizens can do now is to demand transparency in the negotiation process. The Republicans put forth a budget proposal that funded everything necessary and did not require tax increases. We need to insist on a budget that lives within our means and does not rely on tax increases. It can be done.

All three of our legislators emphasized how important it is for us to weigh in on legislation, even if it is just to record a pro/con position. They really appreciate that feedback and committees really do take the comments into consideration. They also seemed genuinely pleased to have a delegation from home come to see them. As we were touring the various areas many of the staff commented that it was nice to see a group of constituents especially from so far away.

The day finished with a wonderful seafood meal at Anthony's Home Port Restaurant on the waterfront at the Port of Olympia. Representatives Engall and Abell and Senator Short joined us and were able to discuss a variety of topics. We were joined by Steve Duenkel, Mason County Auditor who spoke about election integrity.

This was a very worthwhile experience. If it becomes available next year, I highly recommend it. Not only is the capitol building and surrounding campus beautiful and interesting from a historic and architectural standpoint, but we got to spend time with our elected representatives and have a peek into what a day of work looks like for them. It is a long trip to Olympia, but the travel time was not wasted. The 7th Legislative District is the largest geographic legislative district in the state and it was very interesting to meet people from the other counties in the district and learn more about their areas. I hope that this trip becomes an annual opportunity.

Once they have had a little time to recharge after session ends, all three of our reps are looking forward to planning some type of event with the OCRP where we can visit, ask questions and think about upcoming issues of importance. Stay tuned for an upcoming event!

ELECTION INTEGRITY

By Glen Morgan

President Trump's recent Executive Order #14248, titled "Preserving and Protecting the Integrity of American Elections" which he signed on March 25th will impact Washington State elections in several significant ways. First, the order requires the Department of Homeland Security and other Federal Agencies including the Social Security Department to identify all the non-US citizens illegally registered to vote and to determine how many of them actually voted illegally. This Executive Order requires these illegal voters to be removed from the voter rolls, at a minimum with additional requirements including potential prosecution of those who voted illegally.



As many of us have been saying for years now, Washington State routinely registers non-US citizens to vote, often against their will, and even without their knowledge. Whistle-blowers and long-time employees of the Washington State Department of Licensing have publicly testified to this fact, indicating they did this every day under pressure and the dozens of non-US citizens who have showed me their ballots over the past few years clearly prove this is true. Despite this well-known problem, Washington State's Secretary of State Hobbs went public the next day on March 26th and claimed there were no problems with Washington State's election rolls.

Based on the timeline requirements in this Executive Order, it seems certain that Secretary of State Hobb's claims are going to come back to haunt him. Politics is not a game for the thin skinned, and it is likely that County Auditors, senior bureaucrats at the Department of Licensing, the AG's office and the Governor will all be pointing fingers at other people as the true extent of Washington State's defective voter rolls is exposed. Fortunately for the voters and residents of Washington State, however, this means that for the first time in decades, some progress can be made to clean up this well-known defect with Washington State's Voter Rolls.

Unfortunately, this isn't the biggest problem with Washington State's voting system, but it will be an obvious one that must be addressed. The second major impact of Trump's EO on our state's election process will be the requirement that all the ballots need to be received by election day and counted. In order to comply with this Executive Order, Washington State can no longer have election month where ballots get discovered in the trunks of election worker's cars for many weeks after "Election Day" is long past. This part of the EO will be greatly resisted by the entire Democratic Party establishment, and is almost certain to end up in Federal Court. All sides are aware of this coming conflict.

President Trump's EO on election integrity reform is likely just the first step down what will prove to be a long and contested road to election reform in Washington State. There will be drama, litigation, panic, and chaos because our state's political establishment is happy with the mess we have today. Utopia is not around the corner, but it is possible we can finally start cleaning up the problems with our State's election system, and this recent EO may be a good first step.

"In a world of inhumanity, war and terrorism, American citizenship is a very precious possession."

~Phyllis Schlafly

Paid for by the Okanogan County Republican Party - P.O. Box 3504, Omak, WA 98841
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