

Next Meeting

Tuesday, June 26, 7:30PM
David K. Hayward Center
2000 Artesia Boulevard
Redondo Beach



Our speaker will be Jacki Bacharach, Executive Director of the South Bay Cities Council of Governments. Jacki Bacharach served for 14 years as Mayor and Councilmember in the City of Rancho Palos Verdes and on the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission for 12 years. She led the Rail Construction and Planning committees through the development of the overall rail plan for LA County as well as overseeing the construction of the Metro Blue and Green Lines.

She is currently the Chair of the Senate Advisory Commission on Cost Control in State Government and the Vice Chair for the Los Angeles-San Diego Rail Corridor Agency overseeing and improving LA-San Diego Amtrak service representing LACMTA.

We will also be conducting **Club Elections** for the 2007-2008 officers.

Oropeza4 Congress.com

Our club has endorsed Jenny Oropeza, our State Senator, for the 37th CD special election on June 26th. There is a phone bank in El Segundo, Mo-Tu-Th from 5:30 to 9PM. Call Veronica Zendejas at 310-940-1387 or Teresa Bird at 310-968-4731.



(L-R) Teresa Bird (Torrance Dem. Club), Ann Faass (Palos Verdes Dem. Club), Tony Hale (in back, President: Palos Verdes Dem. Club), Shirlee Brown (53rd AD Democratic Congress), Edna Murphy (seated, Democratic Action Center) volunteering at the Fiesta Hermosa over Memorial Day weekend. All are also members of the Beach Cities Democratic Club.

Memorial Day at the Fiesta Hermosa

by Diane Strack

Total volunteers at our space: 18

Money collected from button sales and donations: \$95.

Most popular button: "Re-elect Gore '08"

2nd most popular button: "Impeach W"

3rd, "John Edwards '08"

Democrats re-registering (due to change of address): 30

Young people registering for the 1st time (Democratic): 9

Decline to staters re-registering as Dems: 3

REPUBLICANS RE-REGISTERING AS DEMS : 10

People tabling for the Republicans: 0

Becky Bayless and Ranoo Shipper were there recruiting people for "John Edwards South-Bay."

We had club presidents, vice-presidents or officers from 5 Dem clubs there tabling with Beach Cities: West LA, San Pedro, Palos Verdes, Torrance, Democratic Action Center. All Democratic clubs are welcome.

Breakdown of voter registrants by city:
The following indicates the

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From the President

When 8 is Greater than 10



There are 10 “serious” declared Republican candidates for president. John McCain is the primary proponent of the “surge” which has succeeded only in increasing the number of American military casualties; Mitt Romney says that we were right to go into Iraq because the inspectors were not allowed in—even though they were, and, surprise, found no WMDs; and Rudy Giuliani is running on a campaign pledge to torture people. All of them would continue to follow the Bush’s failed policy in Iraq, would follow Bush’s failed tax policy by making his give-aways to the rich permanent, and would re-authorize no child left behind. None of them—zero—have a universal health care plan.

There are 8 declared Democratic candidates, and I’ll take any of them, on any day, over the others. Edwards and Obama get derided for their lack of “experience”—but they have both served more time in federal office than either Giuliani or Romney—who combined have a total of zero days experience in federal elected office. People suggest that Obama is not ready, but by Election Day, he will have 12 years of experience in the Illinois state legislature and the US Senate, compared to Romney’s four years as governor of a state and Giuliani’s 8 years as a mayor.

Many progressives are upset with Hillary’s position on the war—me too. But, let’s compare a Senator who voted for the war in 2002 (Hillary) with a Senator who spawned the escalation plan (McCain). And other than Iraq, Hillary has a long history of positions which she has been right on—health care, choice, the budget deficit (or, as it was known when Democrats were in the White House, the budget surplus). McCain has consistently been on the wrong side of the issues and the wrong side of the American people.

But enough about the front-runners—I’ll take our kooky candidates and long-shots. Bill Richardson (D) and Mike Huckabee (R) line up as governors who could surge to the front of the pack. Richardson has been in Congress, negotiated prisoner releases with the world’s worst tyrants, and worked to develop a sustainable energy policy. Huckabee, along with Sam Brownback, are amongst the Republican candidates who do not believe in evolution—it frightens me to imagine what they think about the Global Climate Crisis. Chris Dodd and Joe Biden are long-time respected Senators with outside chances on the Democratic side and are involved in investigating the US Attorney purge: Tommy Thompson is a Republican who headed the HHS under Bush, and would pardon Scooter Libby. Who is more pro-law enforcement???

We have 8 candidates for President—there is no doubt that our 8 is better than their 10.

Lee Fink

Calendar

Now to June 26, every Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, from 5:30pm to 9pm - Jenny Oropeza for the 37th Congressional District Phone Bank at 8800 Apollo Way, Suite 233, El Segundo, CA. Call Veronica Zendejas, 310-940-1387(c), email: vzendejas1@hotmail.com or call Teresa Bird at 310-325-4354(h) 310/968-4731(c), email: tlbird@earthlink.net

Thursday June 21, 7:30pm - 53rd AD Democratic Congress at the Democratic Action Center, 2221 Rosecrans Blvd., Suite 229 in El Segundo, phone 310-536-0093.

Saturday & Sunday June 23-24

- BCDC Table at the Riviera Village Summer Arts Festival in Redondo Beach.

Tuesday June 26, 7am to 8pm - 37th CD Special Election to replace the late Juanita Millender-McDonald.

Tuesday June 26, 7:30pm - BCDC monthly meeting at the Hayward Center, RB.

Saturday June 30, 5:30pm to 9pm - Torrance Democratic Club Summer Soiree 2007 fund raiser at the Witkowsky Residence, 3923 Mesa St., Torrance 90505. \$25.00 donation per person.

August 10 to 12 - California Democratic Council Convention at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel on Century Blvd. near LAX.

(Thanks to Teresa Bird for compiling this list.)

May Recap

Our May meeting provided an opportunity to hear firsthand reports from the Convention and talk about next steps for the Club.

Club election

New Club officers will be elected in June. Teresa Bird presented the nominating committee’s slate: Larry Fox, president; Ray Waters, vice-president; Kathleen Paralusz, secretary; and Edna Murphy, treasurer. Nominations will be accepted from the floor ahead of the vote.

Recapping the Convention

Teresa reported that Lori Geittmann is still battling bronchial pneumonia and Edna Murphy had broken her collarbone on the first day of the Convention. In spite of casualties, club members managed to have a wonderful time. The 53rd AD dinner party organized by Bobbi Buescher was a big success. Many people from other districts attended and Jenny Oropeza dropped by.

Lee said that John Garamendi’s kickoff address was right on the mark, and Hillary’s speech was one of her best. Barack Obama generated lots of excitement, while John Edwards was less impressive. Since the former senator’s primary job has been running for president for the past few years, he can seem somewhat short on experience.

On the last day, the County Committee chair called for a resolution for immediate troop withdrawal from Iraq and impeachment of President Bush. Regrettably, only 440 delegates out of 2,300 were still present, leaving the Convention without a quorum and with no alternative but to adjourn. Teresa said this points up the need for strong leadership to keep delegates from leaving early.

It was announced that Sergio Carrillo is to replace Kevin Biggers as Region 17 Director of the California Democratic Party. Tony Hale was elected chair of the Senior Caucus, replacing Lori.

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(May Recap continued...)

Other Club Business

Diane Strack asked for volunteers at the Fiesta Hermosa on Memorial Day weekend and the Riviera Festival in June. It's crucial for us to have a presence at the Redondo Beach event because the Democratic-Republican ratio is almost exactly even. Out of 38,000 registered voters in the city, there are only 27 more registered Republicans than Democrats, down from 900 when last reported.

Teresa reported that Jenny Oropeza is planning to run for the Congressional seat vacated by the late Juanita Millender-McDonald. Jenny has already been endorsed by the State Party, receiving 119 out of 168 votes. However, she did not receive the County Federation of Labor endorsement, which went to Assemblywoman Laura Richardson. The election will be held on June 26.

The outcome of that election may lead to an August runoff if there is no clear majority. If Oropeza wins in that election, the contest for her State Senate seat will be in the February presidential primary. A motion was carried to endorse Jenny Oropeza and donate \$100 to her campaign.

The LA County Committee has named Tony Hale as Democratic Man of the Year. He will be honored at the FDR dinner later this year.

It was announced that the Torrance Democratic Club is having a Summer Solstice fund raiser at the home of Hope Witkowsky on June 30.

BCDemClub Yahoo! Group

The BC Dem Club Yahoo! Group was created to allow for general discussion amongst club members and announcements that were pertinent to the Democratic Party activity in the Beach Cities and surrounding areas (whereas formal announcements tended to come from our own Constant Contact-generated e-mail). That has caused many complaints over time, and the Yahoo! Group has become full more and more of postings that are not pertinent to the mission of the club.

Accordingly, I have decided to make the Yahoo! Group a moderated list, rather than unmoderated. That means that before a message gets posted to the group, I or several of the other moderators will have to approve the posting of



Among the volunteers at the Fiesta Hermosa were (L-R) Becky Bayless (South Bay 4 Edwards), Diane Strack (Tabling Chair: Beach Cities Democratic Club), David Green (President: San Pedro Democratic Club) and Bob Dye (President: Torrance Democratic Club).

(Fiesta Hermosa, continued from page 1)

net gain in registered Democrats to each city via change of address from other cities, new voter, or change of party:

- Hermosa Beach: +16
- Redondo Beach: +8
- Manhattan Beach: +7
- Torrance: +4
- Harbor City: +1
- El Segundo: +1
- Lomita: +1
- Culver City +1
- Long Beach + 3

the message. This will prevent, I hope, unwieldy or inappropriate messages. I had hoped to avoid this, as I wanted to a forum for free speech, but as the complaints have grown, and the forum has not been used for discussion, I decided it was now time to implement this change.

I still encourage people to post any message. The policy is that any message about the activity of any Democratic Club or candidate (whether or not endorsed by the Beach Cities Club) will still be approved, discussion of local, state, or national political issues (provided that they are civil) will be approved, and any announcement of community will be approved, but postings which are outside of these broad purposes will not be approved.

Thank you, *Lee Fink*

- Los Angeles + 4
- The remaining were out of the L.A. basin area.

These tabling events let people know that local Democratic Clubs are active, relevant and valuable resources in our communities. Please support these efforts.

*** Our Next Tabling opportunity is at the Riviera Village Summer Arts Festival **Saturday and Sunday June 23rd and 24th.** Contact Diane Strack to sign up for tabling times: 310-374-4225.

(Go to:
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BCDemClub/>)



Lee showing his true identity!

President Lee Fink—310-370-3020
 Vice-President Ray Waters—310-374-4744
 Treasurer Edna Murphy—310-545-6292
 Secretary Kathleen Paralusz
 Membership Lynn Thompson—310-897-0047
 Newsletter Moira Zucker—310-546-7562
 Database Steve Zucker—310-546-7562
 Mailing Tammy Minion—310-406-8057
 Web Manager Jim McGreevy—310-320-1638

P.O. Box 2192, Redondo Beach, CA 90278

Beach Cities Democratic Club



(Our club's membership year runs from July to June, so your renewals are coming up.)

Beach Cities Democratic Club Membership Form



PLEASE PRINT

Name _____

I (we) understand that only registered Democrats, or those intending to register so, may join this club.

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (Home) _____ (Other) _____

Email _____

Distribution of the club newsletter via e-mail saves money. Check this box if you would like to receive yours by e-mail.

I volunteer to:

Telephone Help with Mailing Hospitality Write for Newsletter

Register Voters Programs Legislative Membership Other _____

Annual dues are \$25.00 per person or \$40 for two at the same address.

Please make check payable to **Beach Cities Democratic Club** and mail to P.O. Box 2192, Redondo Beach, CA 90278.