

Beach Cities Democratic Club



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

September, 2008

Next Meeting

Tuesday, September 23, 7:30PM
David K. Hayward Center
2000 Artesia Boulevard
Redondo Beach

Ballot Initiatives

Our September meeting will focus on the initiatives that will be on the November ballot. Vice-president Toni Alario will be providing materials about each initiative from the legislative analyst's office, the League of Women Voters, and other sources regarding the State Party's stand on the issues. We may also hear from various other persons on some of the key measures.

DAC Opens its Doors in the South Bay

Tony Hale proudly displays what it's all about. Story on page 2.



Convention Confections

Downtown Denver is a grand city, with great transportation and beautiful blue skies every day. It was great to mix with fellow Democrats who are ready to work and help elect our Democratic Nominees, Barack Obama and Joe Biden.

How about those speeches! I was thrilled with Hillary and Bill Clinton's presentations, even the notorious media finally gave them their due. Each night was special in some way; Governor Schweitzer of Montana gave a rousing speech. My heart went out to Ted Kennedy and his family and it was thrilling to hear him speak so forcefully in support of our nominees. What a difference between the faces of the Democrats in comparison to the Republicans. We the Dems are the people and the patriots.

Now to Invesco Field, what a night! We arrived at 1:30 PM, and being a delegate, we were situated on the

football field, right up front of the stage. It was a great show. Al Gore looked great. The next President, Barack Obama gave another great speech and then the arena went wild, with confetti, fireworks and because there were so many people, it took forever to get back to the our beautiful hotel, the Sheraton Denver.

I was so glad my daughter, Elaine, went with me. I was able to get a pass for her the first night at the Pepsi Center and a ticket for Invesco Field, so she has many wonderful memories. She met some great Dems and I got to see some old friends from the past and hashed over the upcoming two months and how we have to win!

"LEARNING IS NOT
ATTAINED BY CHANCE, IT
MUST BE SOUGHT FOR WITH
ARDOR AND ATTENDED TO
WITH DILIGENCE." — *Abigail Adams*

Teresa Bird



Convention Watch

In lieu of our usual club meeting, BCDC members joined friends and neighbors at the popular Manhattan Beach sports bar Mr. Pockets to watch Senator Obama accept the Presidential nomination on August 28.

The upstairs room was crowded to the max, but guests fell silent as the Senator appeared onscreen and delivered his powerful speech in front of more than 80,000 people at Invesco Stadium in Denver.

Helping to organize the event were Mark Drabkin, Peggy Carter, and Edna Murphy. Tony Hale joined BCDC President Ray Waters in a brief welcome just before Obama took the stage on television.

Visit our Website at lafn.org/politics/bcdc

Democratic Action Center is Ready for Action

Our new 4,000-square-foot Democratic Headquarters is now up and running. Lori Geittmann reports that we should have lists and walking pieces ready by press time. The office will host phone banks for calling both locally and out of state.

At the Center, you can also get information on trips to Nevada and Camp Obama. Starting immediately, you can participate in letter writing campaigns, tabling, and office work. There will be workshops on how to write letters to the editor and blogs.

We'll also have a new supply of buttons, bumper stickers, and yard signs this week. T-shirts are available now. The good news is that we sold everything out at Fiesta Hermosa, where our booth was swarming with new voter registrations and Democrats wanting Obama merchandise.

So don't wait! Call or come by to volunteer, whatever your skills.

Democratic Action Center
1673 Cravens Avenue
Torrance, CA 90501
310-533-1813
310-536-0093
DemocraticActionCenter.com

Long Beach HQ Opens

Obama Long Beach held their Grand Opening on September 5. They are located at:

306 Olive Avenue
 Long Beach, CA 90802

Volunteers are needed for data management, phone bank coordination, phone calls to Nevada, and travel to Nevada.

They announced that Camp O is coming to Long Beach on September 20-21. Connect with the Obama National Campaign and learn what it takes to win in November.

Letter from our AD Chair

September 4, 2008

Dear 53rd By-the-Sea Democrats:

Wow! The excitement over our Obama/Biden Ticket is in the stratosphere after our Fabulous Convention in Denver....We have a Great Democratic Team.

Now we must get out there and get them elected!

Last night, Congresswoman Jane Harman kicked off her reelection campaign at our new Torrance HQ Annex. Helping her celebrate were Assemblyman Ted Lieu; Torrance City Councilman Cliff Numark; Hermosa Beach City Councilman Michael DiVirgilio; and from the Beach Cities Health District, Vanessa Poster.

Our sincere thanks to Jane for her very generous donation to help us get our Democrats elected.

We still need volunteers to register voters at the LA County Fair in Pomona. This is the second year the 53rd ADDC has been involved. It's a wonderful opportunity to meet and speak to voters about our Democratic values. We must have two people for each time frame. We found last year that 3 or 4 is even better, as it makes it more fun and gives everyone a little time to rest & roam. Also, carpooling is a must.

The dates and times are:

Wednesday, September 24, 11AM - 3PM and 3PM - 7PM

Thursday, September 25, 11AM - 3PM and 3PM - 7PM

Please email or call me to volunteer 310-545-7890. I must turn in the names ASAP.

Our regular meeting will be held on Thursday, September 18, 6PM Dinner, 7PM Meeting, at:

Hennessey's Pub, 1301 Manhattan Beach Blvd., Manhattan Beach.

Please call and volunteer to work at our Democratic Headquarters:

Torrance: 310-536-0093, 1673 Cravens Avenue, Torrance.

WLA: 310-576-2090, 900 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica.

I am leaving for a weekend trip then on to Egypt and the Land of the Pharaohs on Monday, returning 9/20.

Work Hard for the BIG BLUE WAVE. WE MUST WIN!!!

Ciao, *Bobbi Buescher*



New Democrats, Democrats who have moved, and even former Republicans flocked to our BCDC booth at the Fiesta Hermosa on Labor Day weekend. Edna Murphy and Diane Strack were among the club members who made the event a success.

New Voters, Donations Flow In

Edna Murphy reports that we got 270 voter registrations and made a little over \$2,000 in donations at Fiesta Hermosa. We still owe \$800 for the swag—T-shirts, signs, pins, etcetera—and we've ordered another \$1,000 worth. All told, we have received more than \$2,500 for our swag, including sales at our DAC grand opening, the Convention watch party and Hermosa Fiesta.

We should do at least as well over the next couple of months, but we do need volunteers to table each weekend and at the Manhattan Beach Home-town Fair in October.

From the Campaign Trail

By Lee Fink

On August 28, Denver, Colorado was the center of the world. On that night, 45 years to the day after Martin Luther King Jr. gave his "I Have a Dream" speech, Barack Obama made history by accepting the Democratic nomination for President. As the sun set over the Rocky Mountains, a new day began to dawn for America.

Being at Invesco Field that night was one of the great moments of history and my life. It was the political equivalent of Woodstock that night.

Along with most of the Colorado state staff that day, I was working as a

"visibility whip," handing out signs and American flags during the course of the day. My words would pale in comparison to Barack Obama's; the images I could describe would not do justice to the images on television, or the sights of those present. As I stood in the aisle at the end of the speech, I saw the African American woman to my right crying—knowing that her country had taken a giant step forward that she had maybe never imagined was possible—and I saw the white woman to my right, the same tears in her eyes.

I saw the older, white-haired man in a perfectly tailored gray suit and blue tie standing on his chair applauding with the same gusto as the 15-year old-kid with braces who had volunteered,

who promised to remember this day his entire life.

But now, the fireworks have stopped, the parties have ended, and the confetti has been swept up. The delegates have filed out of town, back to California and the Carolinas; to Washington state and Washington, DC. But here in Colorado—like everywhere else across the country—the reality hits home, for we have only 55 days left to make sure that the Convention will not be just a footnote in history, but the beginning of the Change that we need.



Monroe's Ruminations

Monroe Weinstock



So long as the USA aspires to greatness, so long as we pretend to be free & equal, so long as we are a land ruled by laws not opinions & attitudes...then we must continue to probe & question & investigate all political matters honestly & fairly. What generates this column is the "Amerithrax" dilemma. In late 2001 the FBI began its investigation of the Anthrax mailings when a premature fixation on a single suspect evolved. In May '03 I wrote about Dr. Steven Hatfill as the "person of interest." In June '03 I again wrote that Dr. Hatfill had been fined \$5.00 for creating a safety hazard when a 24-hour-a-day FBI investigator ran over Dr. Hatfill's foot.

In October '04 I wrote about Dr. Kenneth Berry whose life was disrupted, his home invaded, his marriage & reputation destroyed. There was also Perry Mikesell, microbiologist, who was harassed, began drinking heavily,

& as a result, died. Then came three Pakistanis who were forced to quit their jobs & left the USA. And there was a doctor in New York City that drew FBI interest, causing his practice to suffer & his marriage to fall apart.

Most recently the last victim of the investigation was Dr. Bruce Ivins, who was an apparent suicide. He had been informed of his impending prosecution, had been treated for depression, & was a marginal personality. The AMERITHRAX investigation has to date included 9,100 interviews, 67 to 100 searches, & 6,000 grand jury subpoenas. In July this year, Dr. Hatfill agreed to a \$5.82 million settlement from the government. No admission of error has been made by the Administration or the FBI.

It is my considered opinion that the FBI had to find a "patsy" or someone to fit the crime. The choices extended thru the laboratories for the weakest psychological links in the chain...& must have wiped out many able researchers & technicians. So the questions still remain...are we really the land of the free & the home of the brave? Who actually mailed the Anthrax? Will we ever know for sure? Can the FBI

do the work it supposedly should be doing? Is the CIA any better or any different? Stay tuned...there may be added "persons of interest"...and it may be ME....or YOU....next time.

Picket Rove

Bob Gerecke, President, Democratic Club of Claremont, writes:

According to the Claremont Colleges Calendar, Karl Rove will speak at the Marian Miner Cook Athenaeum on Monday, September 15, at 6:45PM. The general public will not be admitted to the Athenaeum but will be allowed to watch on video in McKenna Auditorium, 390 E. 9th St.

I hope that many of us will be there with appropriate signs to condemn Mr. Rove's contribution to the sorry state of our country and that the news media will be there to photograph us and report our patriotic message.

Put it on your calendar! I hope that I'll see you there.

<http://collegescalendar.org> (hit & scroll down)

<http://www.claremontdems.org>

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Toni Alario—310-728-5890
Vice-President
Ray Waters—310-374-4744
President

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

*Beach Cities
Democratic Club*



*Beach Cities Democratic Club
Membership Form*



Please Print

Name _____

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

Address _____

City _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Employer _____ Occupation _____

Distribution of the club newsletter via e-mail saves money. Check this box only if you would like to receive it by US 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 \$40.00 for two at the same address.

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