

# Beach Cities Democratic Club



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

January, 2011

## Next Meeting

Manhattan Bread and Bagel  
1808 N. Sepulveda Boulevard,  
Manhattan Beach

Wednesday, January 26  
7:30 PM

It has been an eventful year-end. This month we will recap our recent election of delegates to the California Democratic Party and other offices, and hear the latest from our elected officials. Come help us kick off a new year of Democratic commitment.

## 53rd Assembly District Delegates Elected

On January 8, local candidates were elected to serve as delegates to the California Democratic Party Convention and the Party's Executive Board.

The twelve elected delegates are: Rochelle Schneider, Susan Truax, Diane Wallace, Marta Evry, Karla Salazar, Gabrielle Gold, Tony Hale, Jim Kennedy, Al Lay, Lee Fink, Varo Asorian, and Tony Salvaggio.

Tony Hale was elected our Executive Board representative.

The meeting, held at the Joslyn Center in Manhattan Beach, was busy and well attended by elected officials including Betsy Butler and Janice Hahn.

Candidates were limited to one-minute speeches, and voting took place before and after the speakers. BCDC volunteers at the event included Ray and Carol Waters, Teresa Bird, Edna Murphy, Mary Anne Tyler, and Anne Faas.



## You Can Help

Please consider making a donation to the Democratic Action Center, our year-round headquarters in the South Bay. You can donate online at [DemocraticActionCenter.org](http://DemocraticActionCenter.org), or mail checks to:

Democratic Action Center  
1673 Cravens Ave.  
Torrance, CA 90501

## 53rd AD Election

*Clockwise from top: Ray Waters and Teresa Bird; Lee Fink and Dave Wiggins, Janice Hahn greeting attendees; and volunteers working the table.*



## Monroe's Ruminations

Monroe Weinstock



Let me begin the year 2011 with an exhilarating greeting....Féliciz Año Nuevo, Buon Anno, Shana Tova, and Bonne Année....

Settling on a budget, at first blush it appeared that our President Obama was naive, with little backbone & poor trading skill along with a heavy shortage of guts! The GOP meanwhile was confrontational & arrogant, with a no-compromise strategy emphasizing their newly won confidence as the House Majority.

On balance, the compromise has some painful concessions, but keeps many important features. We are looking at a bill that is almost 2,000 pages long, with 6,700 earmarks. The Senate passed it by an 81 to 19 majority. The House also passed it with a narrow majority. The conservatives swallow about \$858 Billion added to the federal budget as well as an extension of 13 months unemployment

benefits. The liberal progressives swallow much more with the extension of the estate tax and keeping the current income & investment taxes at today's levels.

President Obama has said that he "is absolutely convinced that this tax plan, while not perfect, will help grow our economy & create jobs in the private sector." Remember too, that to get re-elected in 2012, the President MUST get the unemployment down comfortably below the 9.4% it is now! Getting elected is what counts!

President Obama probably sees this compromise as a step in the direction of further agreements with the party of NO. However, there is still an open-wound-Tea-Party contingent, with an agenda that foretells chaos, disaster & ruin! So far, much legislation is "up-for-grabs" with the GOP side unwilling & unable to modify or adjust their rigid mentality. I see an ominous future for progressives unless the President makes some extremely strong moves to grab major initiatives and "shake-em-loose."

## November Recap

Acting President Lori Geittmann called to order a joint meeting of BCDC and the 53<sup>rd</sup> ADDC, combined in order to plan our upcoming fund raising party in January. Treasurer Edna Murphy reported that BCDC has approximately \$2,000 in its account, and 53<sup>rd</sup> ADDC Treasurer Katherine Campbell said that the 53<sup>rd</sup> has \$1,237.60 on hand.

Assemblyman Ted Lieu attended the meeting and announced that he is currently running for the late Jenny Oropeza's Senate seat. After December 6, the Governor has 14 days to call a special election. (Editor's note: the special election has been scheduled for February 15.) Lieu noted that with Kamala Harris leading Cooley in the Attorney General race, the Democrats made a clean sweep of Statewide elections. The Democratic-backed Propositions won with the exception of 26 which requires a two-thirds vote

to impose user fees.

The courts will now have to decide what exactly is a fee. For example, is the recent law requiring a ten-cent charge for paper bags a fee?

The main discussion centered on our Holiday Party, which will be a fund-raiser for the Democratic Action Center. It will be held on the afternoon of January 16<sup>th</sup> at the Pacific Unitarian Church, 5621 Montemalaga Drive in Rancho P.V. As the location is free and members will supply the refreshments, all monies collected will go to the DAC after overhead costs are covered. We will also hold a White Donkey sale. The suggested ticket price is \$20.

Edna Murphy will be in charge of the program, Teresa Bird will supervise food donations, and Ray Waters will tend bar.

Tony Hale said that the DAC has unpaid debts for phone and utility bills from the election campaign. DAC volunteers, which numbered about 475, made

## Announcements

Teresa Bird, outgoing secretary of the 53<sup>rd</sup> ADDC, reported the new lineup of officers: Rochelle Schneider, President; Jim Kennedy, Vice-President; Kathryn Campbell, Secretary; and Scott Houston, Treasurer. Tony Hale is the Executive Board Member. Teresa wrote: "Congratulations to all of you. It has been a great year for the California Democratic Party and its members."

Bobbi Buescher has been named Field Representative for our new Assembly-woman Betsy Butler.



Assembly Candidate James Lau reminded members to come vote at the January 8 election.

50,000 to 60,000 phone calls and walked approximately 100 precincts for the recent election.

Rebecca Kim from Jane Harman's office thanked everyone who worked on the Congresswoman's campaign and helped give her a wide victory margin. Harman supports extending the Bush tax cuts except for the high income brackets.

James Lau reminded everyone that the election of delegates to the Democratic State Convention will be held on January 8<sup>th</sup>. Anyone interested in running should register before December 9.

*This report courtesy of Anne Faas*

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