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

April, 2013

Next Meeting

Manhattan Bread & Bagel 1808 N. Sepulveda Boulevard Manhattan Beach Wednesday, April 24, 7:30 PM Our Program:

2013 Democratic Convention "We're just getting started!" Reports from our Delegates

President's Message

With only one local election in the near future, my column this month is focused on our own backyard and building the pipeline of qualified women in office. In March we celebrated Women's History Month. It's rewarding and interesting to recall the contributions by women in all areas - business, education, medicine, science, technology, law, etc. And in politics at the national level, we have made great strides. But it's really time to focus on the future.

In 2012 we elected many new progressive women to Congress, thanks especially to Emily's List, the Women's Campaign Fund, and National Women's Political Caucus. Many of those women replaced men that had been openly unsupportive of women – and that might be an understatement.

The generally accepted goal is to have 50% women in elected office by 2020 – representing close to the 51% of the population that we represent...

How are we contributing to that goal in the South Bay? We respect, value, honor and support our state and national representatives – Al Muratsuchi, 66th AD, Ted Lieu, 28th SD, Henry Waxman, 33rd CD, Senator Boxer and Senator Feinstein.

However, an examination of our cities

provides an interesting perspective. In Redondo Beach the entire elected leader-ship – the mayor and the members of the City Council – are all male. In Hermosa Beach, the City Council members are all male. In Manhattan Beach there is one women on the City Council.

In the Primary election in Redondo Beach, two women were running for City Council and one, Jan Jeffreys, is in a runoff in District 4. In Manhattan Beach there were no women running for City Council; therefore, all of the newly elected members of the Manhattan Beach City Council are men.

If you consider the School Boards, it's a bit better. Redondo Beach has two women on a School Board of five. Hermosa has three women of the five members. And on the Manhattan Beach School Board, four of the five members are women.

National statistics reveal that women represent 27% in all state and national elected positions. Not here! In the South Bay, women represent less than 10% of our elected officials. Our City Managers are all men. So the all male City Council members hire all male City Managers.

Statewide, women constitute 21% of the Superintendents. Locally, our School Boards are mostly men and they tend to hire men. Only one of the three local Superintendents is a woman – Pat Escalante in Hermosa Beach.

Isn't it time for us – men and women who believe in equality – to:

- Join together;
- encourage women to run; and
- put together the support system to ensure that women will run and win?

With sincere hope for equality,

Diane Wallace

Press Event for AB 1077 on April 19

A Press Event for Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi's (Democrat - California's 66th AD) AB 1077 is officially on for Friday, April 19, from 12:30 to 1:30, in the parking lot in front of the Public EVSEs at the Hermosa Beach City Hall, 1315 Valley Drive, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254.

Assemblyman Muratsuchi has asked me to reach out to the entire EV community for support for this Bill, and we invite all who can to attend. All of you and your EVs are absolutely welcome!!

There is a Sustainability Summit featuring California Governor Jerry Brown and other elected officials happening at the same time up at the Getty Museum, but it has been determined by the Assemblyman's Office that they'd still like to go ahead with this Press Event at this time.

More details will be forthcoming, but for now please put it in your calendars as the date is fast approaching!

Dency Nelson



Melissa Uribe, from Al Muratsuchi's office, spoke about his current legislation at our March meeting.

March Recap

Minutes Courtesy of Lisa Power
Club President Diane Wallace opened the
meeting at Manhattan Bread and Bagel
Café at 7:34 PM and welcomed
members, guests and new members.

Minutes of the February 27th meeting were approved with the following changes per the request of Lori Geittmann:

Under "Membership":

"Lisa and Lori talked about an outreach by email for membership of clubs in the 66th AD. Lori has talked with a consultant who will help us. Lori ran a test of 1200 emails on Chimp Mail and 274 opened the Email but Chimp cuts us off as spam."

Treasurer's Report

Federal Account:

Starting Balance: \$1,455 as of 2/1/2013 Edna reported that \$0 was received in the month of February.

Expenditures for the month of February

were \$272.00:

Sec'ty of State (50.00)
Gary Crummit (222.00)
Total (272.00)
Ending Balance is \$1,183 as of 2/28/2013.

State Account:
Starting Balance \$13
Edna reported that \$50 was credited to the State Account in February:

Holiday Party Payment 25.00 Renewal 25.00 Total 50.00

\$15 deducted from State account for Bank Charges. *Current Balance:* \$48.

Program

Getting to Know Our Local Schools so that We Can Support our Public Schools

Hermosa Beach City School District – Superintendent Pat Escalante

Pat shared her background in education in Beverly Hills and Hermosa Beach. She believes that it's important for educators to bring their outside experiences into education. The Hermosa Beach educational system is looking to balance budgets and priorities, keeping in mind the changes in Sacramento regarding school funding. HB doesn't qualify in any of the extra funding areas in the Governor's proposed budget. Therefore, for extra programs, they are dependent on outside funding, fundraising, etc., to fully support the HB school district.

The Superintendent reported that school districts have been receiving 25% less funding, called deferrals, since Governor Schwarzenegger started the deferrals under his administration. The purpose of deferrals was to balance the budget in Sacramento. It was supposed to be caught up in each of the following years, but school districts are still not fully funded. Governor Brown has proposed ending the deferrals.

According to Superintendent Escalante, Hermosa Schools are still missing \$2M in deferred funds. In the HB annual budget, 70-80% of their budget is payroll. Many districts are borrowing against their own funds to pay expenses, which means that they must pay interest just to stay above water and meet the needs of all children. Parents raise about \$800K each year. Prop 30 prevented schools from having to make mid-year budget cuts or to implement furlough days.



Hermosa Beach Superintendent Pat Escalante

No Child Left Behind is having an effect on public education: Schools are still being held accountable for meeting NCLB requirements, but they weren't given the funding to implement the program. Hermosa Beach and surrounding communities are working together to meet the criteria. Students are doing well in Hermosa. On the California STAR test, 90-93% of the students are performing at Proficient and Advanced levels.

The student-teacher ratio in grades Kindergarten through 3rd is 25:1 and the ratio in grades 4-8 is 30:1. Since Hermosa Beach is a K-8 district, there are no high schools. Students can choose between Mira Costa in Manhattan Beach and Redondo Beach High Schools. Students from HB bring funding to whichever HS they attend.

The Hermosa Art program is outstanding, funded by Chevron. The STEM program (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) is led by Technology Director Teri Tsosie. Dency shared that Ms. Tsosie has been the catalyst for the STEM program. The Video design class is an example.

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Beach Cities Democratic Club

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Superintendent Escalante also described the "Book Bowl," which encourages students to read more books. In addition to STEM, the schools provide a balanced education program, which includes social studies, history, geography, reading, writing, art, music, etc. The instructional program emphasizes critical thinking skills. At the end of her presentation, Superintendent Escalante also shared that a Hermosa Beach student is on the cover of South Bay magazine this month.

Redondo Beach USD – School Board member, Todd Loewenstein
Todd reviewed his background in education and with the Democratic Party. He has been on the school board for eight years. The Redondo Beach school district is doing very well. They have a great Superintendent; two more school members have only six years left to serve.

Todd reviewed some of the "stats" of the Redondo Union HS program, including STEM programs and a Mandarin language program. The district has a modernization program of school facilities. They have spent \$2M - all on time and on budget. There are now LEEDcertified buildings, which conserve water. Solar-powered buildings will save a ton of money, which will be put back into the schools. They modernized the classrooms first, then performing arts and athletics, and the student union. At the high school, the new cafeteria in the Student Union is set up to prepare healthy food. Boys' basketball team won State (one of the kids dunked: made #1 video on ESPN Sports Center).

Student ethnic make-up in Redondo Beach is diverse: 25% Latino, 10% Asian, 10% African-American, 50% Anglo.

Earth Day Events

Volunteers are needed for: *Earth Day Polliwog Park 4/27 10-4*: Distribute literature *Hermosa Fiesta Pier Ave. 5/25-27*: Application due 4/12; requires an



Redondo Beach School Board Member Todd Loewenstein

insurance policy.

An insurance policy from the State will cost \$500, which would cover all of the fairs, etc. Tony Hale suggested seeing if we can create an umbrella policy for all of the local clubs, including the DAC. Great idea; Diane will call the state to follow up.

Ray Waters will send out email asking for volunteers for both events.

Reports from Senator Ted Lieu and Assembly Member Al Muratsuchi's Offices

Melissa Uribe, Field Representative from Assembly Member Al Muratsuchi's office, provided an update on some of Al's priorities and legislation. She noted that Al is a member of the Assembly Budget Committee, as well as Budget Subcommittee #2 on Education Finance.

AB 1214, Support SoCal Regional Occupation Centers (SCROC): Under Governor Brown's proposed budget, the budget line item for Regional Occupational Centers and Programs funds is eliminated; thus ceasing a revenue stream for SCROC and causing it to shut down. The Bill would allow SCROC to receive a dedicated funding stream should the Governor's budget proposal be adopted in its current form. This legislation is waiting to be heard in the Assembly Committee on Education.

AB 810: Yesterday (March 26th), Assembly Member Muratsuchi hosted a press conference with local law enforcement officials to introduce his Public Safety Data Sharing bill, AB 810. Presently, inmates are not being tracked as they are released from jail. With realignment, which releases inmates early, law enforcement officials need a method that will facilitate their inmate tracking procedures. This Bill would require the Attorney General to meet with law enforcement leadership to examine the possibility of an inter-county offender database that will be fully accessible to local law enforcement state-wide.

Melissa Uribe will be working with the South Bay. You can contact her at 310-316-2164 or email her at Melissa. Uribe@asm.ca.gov.

66th ADDC Approval and Membership

Lisa reported that elections for Cochairs from the three areas of the 66th ADDC will be held at the club meetings in May. Beach Cities will elect a co-chair on May 22nd at our regularly scheduled Club meeting. Nominee submissions for cochairs will be made at the April meeting (April 24); brief candidate statements by nominees will be made at that meeting.

Our first full ADDC meeting will be the Thursday after the CA State Convention, April 18th. A meeting announcement will be sent out when they determine a location, but please pencil in the date. ALL ADDC Members are invited and encouraged to attend. Membership dues are \$20 for an individual; \$30 per couple.

A 66th ADDC Dinner was held in Sacramento on Saturday April 13th at Frank Fat's restaurant.

Announcements

Resolutions – We are working on the resolutions regarding the Ballona Wetlands. We will be separating the Annenberg Proposal for one resolution and the long-term issues related to preservation and protection for another resolution. We will bring the resolutions back at a future meeting.

President
Diane Wallace—310-266-1241
Wice-President
Mark Drabkin—213-787-5267
Secretary
Lisa Power—310-944-0265
Treasurer
Edna Murphy—310-545-6292
Moira Zucker—310-546-7562
moiraz@alumni.reed.edu
Web Manager

P.O. Box 2192 Redondo Beach, CA 90278

> Beach Cities Democratic Club



Please Print

Beach Cities Democratic Club Membership Form

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I volunteer to:			
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□ Register voters	□Programs	□Legislative	□Membership □Other
Annual dues and	\$25.00 ton toncon on \$40.00) for two at the same	a adduses

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