

Beach Cities Democrats

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

April 2018

Next Meeting

Wednesday, April 25, 7:00PM

Hermosa Beach Community Center,
Room 16, Hermosa Beach 90254

Our agenda, according to our ByLaws will include selecting a Nominating Committee to provide a slate of candidates for our 2018/19 Board, which will be elected at the June meeting to take office for one year beginning July 1.

Coming Events you won't want to miss:

- April 22, 12:00-3:00 PM. Al Muratsuchi Fundraiser, Lundquist Home, Palos Verdes
- May 11, 7:00-9:00 PM. John Chiang for Governor Reception, our BCD Endorsed Candidate, Lantern House, Venice
- May 26-28 Memorial Day Weekend. "Save the Dates" for volunteering at our BCD Booth at Fiesta Hermosa.

For more information and to RSVP, visit our website at beachcitiesdems.org to see all the latest BCD news.

Phone Banking

We are holding joint phone banking with the Palos Verdes Democratic Club from 6:30-8:30 PM at 540 24th Place, Hermosa Beach 90254.

We are coordinating with Code Blue, the DCCC and CADEM to have the most up to date information on all the targeted districts.

This phone bank will be held regularly EVERY Tuesday evening.

RSVP: 310-374-1188 or labommer@gmail.com or just come.

Please remember to bring your laptop or tablet, cell phone and charger.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The president has been quite frustrated that nobody wants to fund his stupid wall. He promised his supporters that Mexico would pay, but that's not going to happen. Then he had prototypes built, making his first trip to California to check them out. Congress however, passed the budget with only enough money to maintain what's already there. He wants his wall. What's an ignorant racist to do?

Then while sitting in the White House during "Executive Time" he saw a caravan of hundreds of Central American migrants on their way north to the U.S. on Trump TV. It's a CRISIS!! Send out the troops.

Ever since that fateful escalator ride at Trump Tower we have been subjected to the most disgusting xenophobic rhetoric, actions and lies that appeal to the most base elements in this country.

Mexicans are drug dealers, criminals and rapists. Muslims must be banned. El Salvador, Haiti and parts of Africa are s... hole countries and Nazi sympathizers are good people.

He has been on a mission to divide our people and stoke hatred and fear in his



followers from the very first day of his candidacy.

Now 400 California National Guard troops are headed to our southern border, despite the fact that illegal border crossings are at a nearly 50 year low.

If there is a crisis, it's that of the jeopardy the Dreamers face. Their lives and fates have been uncertain since Trump's repeal of DACA last September.

His instincts are driven by his needs and what is good for him. He is becoming ever more unhinged daily as his poisonous personal troubles continue to grow exponentially worse.

Over these past fifteen months of total Republican rule, our country has been sliding more deeply into peril. Our people are at risk. Never before have we faced so many threats from within and around the world.

That is why we must do everything we can to make sure we take back the House so Democrats can be a check on this president and his heinous policies.

Signs are good that we will prevail, but the hard work must be done and we need your help. Please join us every Tuesday evening in Hermosa Beach to call and connect with the people whose votes we need in November to save our democracy.

*Bobbi Buescher, President
Beach Cities Democrats*

Also, starting on Saturday, April 21, from 1:00-3:00 PM a weekly phone bank will be held at 1447 Via Castilla, Palos Verdes Estates. Same RSVP as Hermosa Beach.

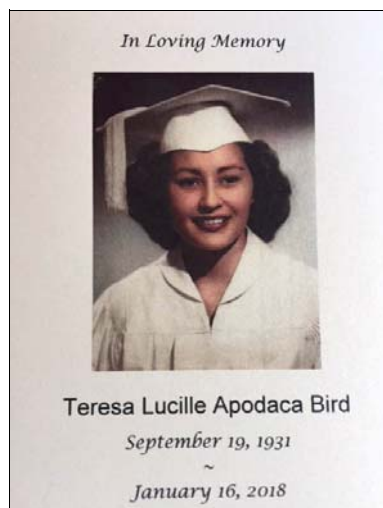
Thursday, April 19, 6:30-8:30PM, 1720 Gates Ave, Manhattan Beach, 90266.

Right, at the March 24 March for Our Lives: Moira Nelson, Bobbi Buescher, Dale Petrucci, and Dency Nelson



Visit our Website at beachcitiesdems.org. Like us On Facebook

Teresa Bird Memorial



Our dear friend Teresa Bird was remembered at a Memorial Celebration held recently at the Redondo Beach Historic Library.

The lovely tribute began with her daughter Elaine singing her favorite song "Somewhere Over The Rainbow", which really sums up her vision of a better world through politics, as she marched on behalf of farm workers, in support of civil rights and against the Viet Nam War.

Her life in pictures, press clippings and scrapbooks was testament to her long and dedicated activism on behalf of Democratic Values and candidates from Bobby Kennedy to Presidents Clinton and Obama. She worked for Governor Jerry Brown during his first term in office and for State Senator Ralph Dills.

Teresa was a stalwart of the Beach Cities Democrats as one of the founding members and Past Presidents, working tirelessly on campaigns, walking, phone calling and mentoring a generation of activists and elected officials.

Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi spoke of her influence on him and her community and presented her family with a proclamation from the State Assembly remembering all her good work and lifelong dedication. He was joined in saying farewell and thank you to Teresa by LA County Supervisor Janice Hahn, Rep. Ted Lieu, and the community of people who loved her.

Bobbi Buescher

March Meeting Minutes

By Moira Nelson

1. Welcome & Visitor Introductions

President Bobbi Buescher, calling the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m., introduced new member Geri Cohen of Torrance, a retired school teacher who moved here recently from Florida. Our other first-time visitor, Grady Schneider, also of Torrance, came to the meeting to check us out.

2. Officer Reports

President Bobbi Buescher:

Bobbi reported on the memorial for Teresa Bird held Sunday, March 18, at the Redondo Beach Historic Library. Among those who spoke and shared memories at the event were many South Bay Democrats and electeds, including Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi.

Bobbi also described last Saturday's local March for Our Lives, in which 5,000 to 7,000 demonstrators added their voices to those of the millions of others marching throughout the country in support of gun control. Many of our club members were there, parading on the Strand from Manhattan Beach Pier to Pier Plaza in Hermosa Beach, where speakers included local high school students and parents, Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi, State Senator Ben Allen, and Congressman Ted Lieu. Beach Cities Democrats marched with our banner and attracted a great deal of interest in our club.

Vice President Dency Nelson:

Dency informed us that Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach, and Redondo Beach have now all signed a letter to the South Coast Air Quality Management District asking for a ban on the use of Modified Hydrofluoric acid in Southern California. This would put an end to its use at the Torrance Refinery.

Dency also reported on the gubernatorial debate at USC March 26. Five top contenders for California governor participated but Gavin Newsom declined to attend.

Dency asked club members to sign a petition he had brought from the League of Women Voters. The goal of the petition



Andrew Lachman speaking to the club about John Chiang's candidacy

is to get an initiative on the ballot aimed at reforming California Proposition 13 so as to make large corporations (but only large corporations) pay taxes on the true value of their property.

Lastly, Dency announced that Connie Sullivan, who is cohosting a fundraiser for Al Muratsuchi at the Lundquist estate in Palos Verdes, would be raffling off 4 tickets to the fundraiser at the end of our meeting. The proceeds from the raffle would be donated to the Beach Cities Democrats. (Yay, Connie!)

Treasurer Edna Murphy:

Federal Account

Beginning Balance	\$6303.00
Money In	100.00
Money Out	40.00
Ending Balance	\$6,363.00

State Account

Beginning Balance	\$439.00
Money In	65.00
Money Out	165.00
Ending Balance	\$339.00

3. Endorsement of Candidate for Governor of California

Our club has decided not to endorse candidates in any of the upcoming election races except the race for governor. Bobbi read off a list of the top five Democratic gubernatorial candidates and described their recently held elected offices or jobs and their most notable

(Continued on page 3)

(Minutes, continued from page 2)

accomplishments. An effort had been made to invite spokespeople from the various campaigns but only the Chiang campaign had sent a representative: Andrew Lachman. Andrew spoke of John's visibility and accessibility throughout his political career, his credentials as a solid progressive, his success as a problem solver, and the specific plans he has developed (instead of just offering smooth slogans) for the various problems facing the state.

Bobbi invited anyone else to come forward and speak for other candidates. No one did, and the vote for endorsement was taken. Results: out of 27 ballots, 22 were cast for John Chiang, 2 for Gavin Newsom, and 2 for No Endorsement; 1 ballot was blank. Per our bylaws, a vote of 60% or more is required for endorsement. In this case, that meant 17 votes; therefore, the club endorses John Chiang for governor of California. Lori Geittmann made a motion, seconded by Christian Horvath and subsequently approved, for BCD to cohost John's May 11 fundraiser at the Lantern House, at a cost of \$500.

4. Program: Red to Blue: Phone Banking for Flippable Districts

Speakers: Jason Berlin, Regional Field Organizer, LA, CA Democratic Party; Lynn Bommer, President PV Dems.

Jason gave an overview of the major phone banking effort underway to flip five swing districts in Southern California (districts won by Hillary Clinton in the Presidential election but represented by Republicans in the House of Representatives) as part of the Democratic effort to take back the House. Nationwide, we need to increase the number of Democrats in the House by 23 in order to do this. Research shows that the most effective ways to get votes are, in descending order, door-to-door canvassing, phone banking, and voter registration. The website swingsocalleft.org should be our go-to guide to phone banking and other election-related activities throughout Southern California; it compiles information from and links to a long list of organizations dedicated to turning the House



Above (clockwise): Lynn Bommer and Jason Berlin; Olina Wibroe-Benson; John Gran and Christian Horvath

blue. Jason passed around a sign-up sheet for weekly email updates.

Lynn Bommer filled us in on local phone-banking opportunities, especially a phone bank to be held in Hermosa Beach on Tuesday evenings, from 6:30 to 8:30, starting April 10. To sign up, go to the events calendar on swingsocalleft.org. After RSVP'ing you'll be given the address on 24th Place in Hermosa Beach. Bring your laptop or tablet and your cell phone and charger. Training will be provided on the premises. (Tamara Levinson of Code Blue also does a weekly on-line training session.) The scheduled phone banks are two hours long, but you do not have to stay the entire time. Also, you can make calls from your home if you wish. The online program for these phone banks provides a script and all the numbers and necessary information, making the calling and reporting process very easy. The goal, for the time being, is to contact voters registered as Democrats or as decline-to-state voters and remind them of why they need to and want to vote Democratic in the coming elections.

Phone banking and canvassing to flip the five districts will be our club's chief focus as the elections approach, and members are urged to try to attend a phone bank or do phoning from home



once a week. A link to the website will be posted on our BCD website. Dale Petrulis has volunteered to host phone banking at her house in Redondo Beach. Lori Geittmann asked if the swingsocalleft.org site could identify which phone bank locations are wheelchair accessible, and Jason agreed to see to it.

5. Reports from Elected Officials

Olina Wibroe-Benson from State Senator Ben Allen's staff described an array of bills sponsored or cosponsored by Ben: a bill providing tax incentives for businesses that treat their workers well; a bill to ban polystyrene; and a bill aimed at obstructing offshore drilling. Ben held a successful South Bay Community Day

(Continued on page 4)

Beach Cities Democrats

P.O. Box 2192
Redondo Beach, CA 90278

President
Bobbi Buescher—310-545-7890
Vice-President
Dency Nelson — 310-374-4543
Treasurer
Edna Murphy—310-545-6292
Secretary
Ryley Simcox—661-202-8938
Newsletter
Moira Zucker—310-546-7562
moiraz@alumni.reed.edu
Immediate Past President
Kathryn Campbell—310-738-6845
Social Media Manager
Mark Harrison—713-397-0099
Database and Mailing
Mark Drabkin — 213-787-5267
Web Manager
James McGreevy—310-320-1638

(Minutes, Continued from page 3)

March 24 after the March for Our Lives as a way of communicating with and getting input from constituents.

Andrew DeBlock from the office of Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi (66th District) described the progress of Al's AB 1775, which aims to obstruct off-shore oil drilling along California by banning transportation of oil across the California Coastal Sanctuary (our club sent a letter in support of this bill), and AB 2808, which would increase funding for K-12 education. Andrew reminded us that Al has never taken oil money. Andrew also reported that Al made a statement honoring the memory of Teresa Bird on the floor of the Assembly. Al is inviting constituents to an Air Resources Board Town Hall on April 12 at El Camino Community College to hear about a new statewide "Fighting Pollution Together" program. Lastly, Andrew mentioned the coming fundraiser for Al on April 22 at the Lundquist's home in Palos Verdes, featuring Speaker Anthony Rendon as a special guest.

Redondo Beach Councilmember John

Gran gave us a rundown of doings in his city, beginning with the rewarding of a Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor by President Trump to Firefighter/Harbor Patrol Officer David Poirier, Jr., of the Redondo Beach Fire Department for rescuing three people from drowning at Redondo Beach. Redondo Beach has signed the letter in support of banning Modified Hydrofluoric acid (with Hermosa Beach and Manhattan Beach, as stated above) and has also become part of a community choice aggregation. John also mentioned that a Superior Court hearing will be held in coming days to decide whether Measure C applies to Redondo's waterfront project.

6. Raffle for April 22 Fundraiser

Connie Sullivan's raffle earned \$145 for our club. The four winning raffle tickets belonged to Stephanie Solomon, Moira Zucker, Ray Waters, and Rochelle Schneider. Tony Hale moved that the club pay \$500 to cohost the Lundquist fundraiser. John Gran seconded the motion and it passed by acclamation.

7. Reports from County Committee; 66th AD; and other Democratic Clubs

Tony Hale, our County Committee representative, reported that LA County Democratic Party Chair Mark Gonzalez is planning to survey LA Party members (300 delegates) to see what the party can do to better represent its members. Tony is also now chair of the 66th AD Democratic Council. He reported on last month's general membership meeting of the 66th AD held at Manhattan Bread and Bagel, when UCLA history professor Chris Gantner spoke on "Current Events with a Historical Perspective." Tony suggested adding a link to our website to encourage BCD members to engage with and participate in the AD committee. Connie then made a motion to that effect, seconded by Dency, and approved by vote of the members in attendance.

8 Announcements & Adjournment

Fundraiser for Al Muratsuchi, April 22, Lundquist home, PV
Fundraiser for John Chiang, May 11, Lantern House, Venice
Tabling at Fiesta Hermosa, Memorial Day Weekend, May 26-28