

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

*President*

Bobbi Buescher—310-545-7890

*Vice-President*

Lee Fink—310-370-3020

*Treasurer*

Shirlee Browne—310-798-0908

*Secretary/Publicity*

Kathleen Paralusz—310-621-3734

*Newsletter*

Moira Zucker—310-546-7562

*Mailing*

Marge Winston—310-372-8026

*Web Manager*

James McGreevy—310-320-1638

*Membership*

Barbara Blum—310-540-6346

*(President, continued from page 2)*

President Clinton was eloquent as he said Kerry would be tough on terrorists: "Strength and wisdom are not opposing values, they go hand in hand."

Al Gore, in his best speech ever, rallied the convention to put Kerry in the White House saying, "Take it from me, every vote counts. Wouldn't we be safer with a president who didn't insist on confusing al-Qaeda with Iraq? Wouldn't we be better off with a new president who hasn't burned his bridges to our allies?"

President Carter was wildly cheered for his criticism of the "confused and disturbing strategy of pre-emptive war," which has the Middle East "swept by anti-American passions...We cannot be true to ourselves if we mistreat others. And finally, in the world at large, we cannot lead if our leaders mislead."

And that was only the first night. All day, every day of the convention there were meetings, seminars, strategy sessions, speeches, parties, politics and

passion.

It was an unforgettable, moving, enlightening and completely thrilling experience. I am so grateful to have been a part of this truly American pageant.

With a sendoff like that, and our continuing efforts, electing John Kerry as our President is well underway.

Now, on to walking precincts!!!!

*Bobbi Buescher*

*(Monroe, continued from page 3)*

he would repay the loan from his personal pocket. He claims that his associates made the loan while he was out campaigning, and as a hands-on guy, it slipped thru the filter.

Der Governor has boxed us into years of paying the debts & deficits. His budget cuts come from the area of health & human services; they come from children's mental health programs; they come from employment programs for welfare recipients; they come from child welfare & foster care programs; they come from college assistance costs and reductions in

environmental spending. And just recently he had a group of officials go to Australia to explore & investigate the possibilities of setting up gas terminals along the coastline, with no regard for environmental impact!

The California constitution mandates a 2/3 majority for spending purposes & is essentially designed to be dysfunctional. What is really necessary & easily realized is that *taxes must be raised*. The tax dollars are necessary to pay for all the local & state services we desire & need. The resolution is not in folding the deficit into a big mortgage or a bond issue & blasting it into the future. And another thing is that Proposition 13 needs fixing & correcting, and we might begin by reassessing commercial real estate.

To some degree, Der Governor puts me in a mind of Groucho's philosophy...I have my principles, but I can change!!!

*Monroe Weinstock*

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

August, 2004

**Next Meeting**

**Tuesday, August 24, 7:30 PM**

Our August speaker will be Donna Groman, a candidate for Superior Court Judge. Currently, she serves as a Commissioner for the Los Angeles County Superior Court, presiding over the arraignment master calendar.

In her 24 years as an attorney, she has worked in many different areas of the judicial system including juvenile, criminal, probate, and appellate. She has been endorsed by the Los Angeles County Democratic Party, former El Segundo Mayor Mike Gordon and Manhattan Beach Councilman Jim Aldinger.

Also, Lori Geittmann will be organizing us for precinct walking in coordination with other South Bay Democratic efforts, with our kick-off on August 29.

**Activity Calendar**

Congresswoman **Jane Harman** is sponsoring a Voter Registration Rally on Labor Day, September 6, from 4 to 6 PM. Location is Harman Motive, 340 Van Ness Avenue, Torrance

The **Kerry Campaign** steering committee meets every Monday at 7:00 at Hennessey's in Manhattan Beach, 313 Manhattan Beach Boulevard.

**Volunteer orientation and mobilization** meetings are held every Saturday at 9:30 AM at 1828 Pine Avenue in Manhattan Beach.

**Receive BCDC Online**

To save money, we are inviting members to receive the *BCDC Newsletter* by email. It costs approximately 70 cents per person per month, or more than \$1,500 per year, to print and mail our newsletter.

If you would like to receive *BCDC* online each month, please email me at moiraz@dslextreme.com and I will add your name to the electronic directory. You will receive your online issue about ten days before the monthly meeting.

**Paid Your Dues?**

Club dues were due on July 1. Membership is \$20 per person or \$35 for two people at the same address.

Send your check to Beach Cities Democratic Club or come to the August meeting and join or renew.

**Signing up Democrats**

New member Edna Murphy and Steve Zucker worked at a voter registration table next to a local theater showing Fahrenheit 9/11 on Saturday, August 7. In two and a half hours they took 4 registrations and distributed Kerry-Edwards tee shirts, buttons, and stickers, taking in about \$80 in donations to the campaign.

Edna (shown seated in photo) said that on another day, she registered 28 people in four hours. A significant number are Republicans changing their party affiliation.

This tabling station is one of several coordinated locally by Ranoo Shipper, who also works tables herself day after day.

*Photo by Steve Zucker*



**Environmental Priorities Program**

BY LORI GEITTMANN

A man who spent 71 days living in a 400-year-old tree to save it will be the special speaker on the present administration's environmental policies on Tuesday, September 14, 2004.

John Quigley, activist and educator, will speak before the Environmental Priorities Network at the Pacific Unitarian Church, 5621 Montemalaga Drive, RPV, at 7:30PM. BCDC and the Church's Social Justice Committee are cosponsors of the event.

Born in Minnesota, Mr. Quigley grew up in the Washington, D.C., area. He studied drama at Cal State, San Diego, and then moved to Los Angeles where he found too much density and pollution and became an environmental activist. The tree he attempted to save was "Old Glory," an oak tree on Pico Canyon Road in the Newhall Ranch area of the Santa Clarita Valley. He was in the tree until forcibly removed by sheriff's deputies. His actions were to show what the power of one person can do in the fight to

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### From the President's Pen



I cried during Senator John Kerry's acceptance speech on the last night of the convention in Boston. I cried bitter tears for the world, as the beacon of light and justice has dimmed.

I cried for our country, for what it has become during these horrid years of repression and war and fear that this administration has visited upon us.

I cried for our people for their struggles and for the outrageous lies we have been told.

I cried for myself for all the years I traveled to foreign countries, always proud to be an American, to have lost that pride in our ideals.

Then, I cried tears of overwhelming joy and hope and renewal as our next president gave our country back to all of us. Our Constitution. Our Bill of Rights. Our flag. Our government, by the people, for the people.....ALL the American people.

I'm crying now as I write this and remember that amazing feeling of uncontrollable emotion, the pure happiness that this wonderful, intelligent, thoughtful man can and will restore our pride and reputation.

I know all of you were watching as Senator Kerry gave the speech of his life. The speech the world was waiting to hear. The air in the arena was charged with an electricity that would have lit up every corner of the globe. Every seat, aisle and standing space was taken. Everyone was carried away by the spirit of hope and unity and brotherhood and love of country that has been missing under this veil of dread we have been subjected to.

The entire convention was ablaze with thoughtful, optimistic, and sometimes fiery words from the multitude of luminaries we were so blessed to see and hear.

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### July Recap

#### Up With Kerry, Down With Bush

Our convention-watch party at Las Brisas Restaurant gave BCDC members a chance to catch thrilling speeches by Senator Ted Kennedy, Teresa Heinz Kerry, Ron Reagan, and Barack Obama, while enjoying drinks and dinner with friends.

New and longtime members showed up to watch the televised convention in the bar and dining room,



#### Convention Watch

Vice-president Lee Fink chaired our July meeting at Las Brisas Restaurant. Right, Precinct Captain Lori Geittmann recruits volunteers to walk.

mix with fellow activists, and sign up for tabling and precinct work.

Since President Bobbi Buescher was herself a delegate at the Convention (as was Barbara Blum), Vice-President Lee Fink took charge of the evening's program. He urged attendees to sign up for volunteer activities and work hard until November. From now until the election, BCDC meetings will continue to feature grass-roots programs.

Lori Geittmann got new recruits for precinct walking (see her article in this issue). The evening was filled with excitement generated by our newly-energized, unified Democratic Party.



### Convention Report

Back From Boston! That's right, we are back and ready to Get Out the Vote. Are you ready to join us?

The Boston Convention was amazing, as I am sure those of you who were there or watched it on TV would agree. The South Bay Grass roots group was well represented at the convention. Tina McKinnor and Bobbi Buescher were among the delegates, and boy were they popular! Tina was quoted in the *New York Times* and Bobbi won the *Boston Globe's* vote for Best Dressed Delegate!

Jim Aldinger worked on the staff of Boston 2004 and was the man to see for convention credentials, Scott Haas drove in Teresa Heinz-Kerry's motor-

cade, and Angela Brau worked for the Kerry-Edwards staff headquarters.

And those workers were just a few of the incredible people who put in a great presence for Southern California in Boston!

*South Bay Grass roots for Kerry-Edwards 2004*

(Environment, continued from page 1) protect the environment.

Quigley is executive director of Earth Day L.A. An actor, producer, director and educator, he also has worked to preserve rain forests.

For further information about the event, call Lillian Light at 310-545-1384 or Ed Hummel at 310-541-6986.

### Send Us Out to the Precincts

BY LORI GEITTMANN

With little more than two months left before the election, we have our most important job ahead of us.

We must reach every voter in the 100 precincts in our cities. Instead of those annoying dinnertime phone calls, we want to put a warm person at the door of every household. We want to carry our message so that no voter is left behind.

If you knock on a few doors every week, you can reach every voter in the precinct by the time of the election. First we want you to talk to Democrats. Then visit the decline to state voters. It will be your choice as to whether you want to knock on Republican doors.

Surveys have indicated that the vote count goes up six percent whenever a precinct is walked. That's a lot of voters.

With that end in mind, we will be holding a meeting at 2PM on Sunday, Aug. 29, at the Hayward Center to

instruct all the precinct volunteers.

If you have not signed up yet as a precinct walker, call me now to volunteer. We need every single one of you who are physically able to help.

We know that California will vote overwhelmingly for the Kerry-Edwards ticket. But we need more than that. We need to be sure Barbara Boxer is returned to the U.S. Senate and that Jane Harman is re-elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Locally we need to elect Mike Gordon to the State Assembly.

It will not be helpful if we elect President Kerry and do not give him a Democratic majority in the Senate and House.

If we want to create a better California, we need not only to preserve our majority in the State Legislature, we need to increase it.

Sign up today to walk your precinct.  
*Lori Geittmann, 310-316-1729*  
*Precinct Chair,*  
*Beach Cities Democratic Club*

### Convention Highlights

"The pundits like to slice and dice our country into red states and blue states: red states for Republicans, blue states for Democrats. But I've got news for them too. We worship an awesome God in the blue states and we don't like federal agents poking around our libraries in the red states.

"We coach Little League in the blue states and yes, we've got some gay friends in the red states.

"There are patriots who opposed the war in Iraq, and there are patriots who supported the war in Iraq.

"We are one people, all of us pledging allegiance to the stars and stripes, all of us defending the United States of America.

"In the end, that's what this election is all about. Do we participate in a politics of cynicism, or do we participate in a politics of hope?"

*Barack Obama*

"Mr. President, you said we would have more leverage if both parties got our votes, but we didn't come this far playing political games. It was those that earned our vote that got our vote. We got the Civil Rights Act under a Democrat. We got the Voting Rights Act under a Democrat. We got the right to organize under Democrats.

"Mr. President...This vote is sacred to us. This vote can't be bargained away. This vote can't be given away. Mr. President, in all due respect, Mr. President, read my lips: Our vote is not for sale."

*The Reverend Al Sharpton*

### And From the Republicans...

"Our enemies are innovative and resourceful, and so are we. They never stop thinking about new ways to harm our country and our people, and neither do we."

*President George W. Bush*



### Monroe's Corner

I just had an interesting thought, which is that if George Dubya is dislodged from the Presidency, then

whom can I pick on to criticize & ridicule? And quick as a flash, I had another candidate for my anger & outrage! How does Der Herr Arnold, the Governor sound???

A few initial thoughts... Der Herr claims he actually saw Soviet tanks while still in Austria. If that is true, then he saw them in the same news-reels that you & I saw. Whatever happened to the waste & over-spending he was going to have his investigative team uncover? He has indicated that he would only consider increasing taxes if it were a dire emergency, which means that a \$17 billion deficit budget is a mere drop in the bucket! You may notice too, that he does not allow the truth to interfere with his sales pitch!

And for the record...Der Herr promised a war on special interests but has invited many into his inner circles with their checkbooks. Der Herr promised not to raise campaign cash & then raked in over \$12 million for openers. Der Herr promised to balance the budget by eliminating fraud & waste, but has not found any! Der Herr promised not to cut money for education & now proposes spending cuts. Der Herr criticized Gov. Davis for not doing enough to help low income children & has proposed to freeze enrollment in healthcare programs. Der Herr criticized California's free spending habits & now has us carrying an additional \$15 billion bond, payable by our grandchildren. Der Herr promised to be a political outsider & is now surrounded by a large group of big business insiders.

Note too, the courts recently ruled that Der Herr illegally took a \$4.5 million bank loan. He said that the judge ruled exactly as he hoped & that

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