

Beach Cities Democratic Club



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

September, 2007

Next Meeting

Tuesday, September 25, 7:30PM
David K. Hayward Center
2000 Artesia Boulevard
Redondo Beach

We will hear a representative from the Barack Obama campaign, and a speaker on the Redondo Beach initiative to limit property development.

Save the Date

The Palos Verdes Democratic Club is honored to have **John Dean** as their speaker at the November meeting. Sunday, November 18
2:30 PM

To accommodate the crowd, they are hoping to book the Community Room at Nob Hill in Redondo Beach, still to be confirmed. Watch for future announcements!



BCDC members once again pitched in to staff our booth at the Hermosa Fiesta over the Labor Day weekend. Diane Strack set it up and kept it together all weekend. Shown here, Steve Zucker, Dennis Kang from the Democratic Action Center, Jeff DuClos, Diane, Larry Fox, and Fran Holl. Booth visitors were friendly and supportive, and we signed up lots of new Democratic voters.

Don't Sign This Initiative

The GOP is at it again: Now that their untrustworthy electronic voting machines have been caught out, they're up to new election-rigging tricks.

Democrats around California have been circulating the following alert and urging fellow activists to spread the word:

A GOP-backed initiative to toss out California's winner-take-all system of assigning electoral votes was approved for circulation Wednesday, and Democrats immediately slammed it as a backdoor attempt to hand Republicans the 2008 presidential election. The initiative is a ticking time bomb for Democratic presidential hopes

"Fasten your seatbelts. It's going to be a bumpy ride!" (Bette Davis, *All About Eve*)—Labor Day has come and gone and now it's getting serious.

Our candidates for President are running hard. Some have chosen to be a bit nasty and Hillary Clinton has taken it in stride. Good for her.

When we nominate our candidate, the Republicans will do their dirty tricks on our nominee, you can bet on it! Let's unite and be there for whomever we

next year, which are pinned on winning all of the state's 55 electoral votes. The measure would award a single electoral vote to the presidential winner in each of the state's 53 congressional districts and two to the statewide victor.

The approval Wednesday by the secretary of state's and attorney general's offices means supporters can begin gathering signatures to qualify the initiative for the June ballot. "This is not reform," Howard Dean, head of the Democratic National Committee, charged in a conference call with California reporters. "It's just another Republican attempt to rig an election."

FROM THE SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE, 9/6/2007

choose as the next Democratic President of the United States.

There are so many problems that the next President will have to face. He or She will have a whole lot of work to undertake. Let us be fair to all of our candidates and come together at the end of the process. You all know I support Hillary for President because I believe she is smart and will put together the "best and brightest" to help our nation return to the tenets of the Constitution. However, it is a long campaign (maybe not). We may have a candidate by February. If so, what a ride, two candidates for President from either side and a lame duck President. History in the making is before us. Go for it!

Teresa Bird

Dues Overdue?

Club dues were payable on June 1, \$25 per person, \$40 for two at the same address. Renew promptly if you want to keep receiving the newsletter.

Visit our Website at lafn.org/politics/bcdc

From the President

At this month's meeting, we're planning to have a speaker for the Presidential candidacy of Barack Obama and a presentation on the proposed initiative limiting development in Redondo Beach.

Last month, we were to have the Bill Moyers video on the case for Impeachment of Cheney and Bush. Unfortunately, the copy we ordered was not sent by PBS in time. It's now available to watch on the web at Bill MoyersJournal.org and is also on YouTube.

This is getting to be a very busy political season. There are meetings for supporters of each of the candidates as well as for the many clubs and other political organizations.

In addition, we will have a booth at the Manhattan Beach Old Hometown Fair, which is coming up on October 6 and 7. We will need volunteers to staff the booth. BCDC is going to be able to get funds from the California Democratic Party for each new Democrat we register and for each Democrat we get to sign up as a per-



manent absentee voter. Then, on Sept. 27, we have volunteers going to the LA County Fair to staff the Democratic Party Booth.

Over the Labor Day Weekend in Hermosa Beach we had a booth and registered a lot of new voters. There were also booths for supporters of Edwards, Obama, and Richardson. We all had a good time and met many kindred souls. On Sept. 15 there was a Regional Barbecue for Southern California Democrats in Long Beach celebrating Democratic Unity. It's great to have a slew of wonderful candidates; unfortunately none of them walk on water, so Democratic Unity should be relatively easy to achieve, once we get past the nominating convention. Until then we will probably have a few inter-necine battles.

Another event coming up is THE GREENING OF CALIFORNIA: a Public Policy and the Environment panel discussion in Santa Monica on October 4. More on this at the meeting.

With the "War on Terrorism," Global Warming, Campaign Reform, Health Care for All, "No Child Left Behind," and many other pressing issues, we have enough to keep everyone stimulated. Come to our meeting and see where you can get involved.

Ray Waters

August Recap

John Edwards, CDC Convention

Our August program began with a candlelight vigil outside the meeting room, which we joined as part of the MoveOn.org citywide protest against the US occupation in Iraq. Club members stood with signs and lighted candles on the corner and along the Artesia median strip, and several motorists honked and waved in solidarity as they drove by.

Following the vigil, we heard a report on the John Edwards campaign from Becky Bayless. Becky said that Edwards is focusing on three major issues:

Standing up for regular families. Bring truly universal health care to all Americans. 45 million people have no health coverage. Reverse Bush's tax cuts and trade policies that have increased the burden on workers.

Restoring America's leadership in the world. Immediate withdrawal of 40,000-50,000 troops from Iraq and the complete withdrawal of all combat troops from Iraq in 12 to 18 months. Strengthen homeland security and establish a strong, principled national security policy.

Investing in our future and our communities. Restore energy independence, make college more affordable, and restore our sacred contract with America's military families and veterans.

Edwards would work to combat global poverty by creating a new cabinet-level position focusing on the fight against AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria.

Edwards does not accept any money from lobbyists or PACs. The official local action arm of his campaign, One-Corps, engages in local service projects and issue advocacy as well as online organizing.

Next Marc Salzberg reported on the CDC Annual Convention held



Vigil—BCDC members participated in the MoveOn.org anti-war vigil before our August meeting. Left, Shirlee Browne and Steve Zucker protect their candles from the breeze; right, Sander Shipper holds up a sign that drew approving honks from motorists.

August 10-12 at the Sheraton LAX Gateway, the area's only union hotel. Founded in 1953 by Senator Alan Cranston, California Democratic Council is the only South Bay organization representing the grassroots.

Salzberg said the event was a big success, with outstanding service, great food, and camaraderie experienced by all. Most attendees volunteered for at least one job, and the workshops—over 25 of them—were well attended.

The list of over 70 distinguished speakers at the event included Dennis Kucinich, California Assemblyman Paul Koretz, LA City Councilmen Bill Rosendahl and Eric Garcetti, Assemblywomen Jackie Goldberg and Judy Chu, and Congresswoman Hilda Solis.

Bobbi Buescher, who coordinated the volunteers, said this was the best convention ever and urged all members not to miss the next one.

The club passed a motion to re-affiliate with CDC, as our membership has lapsed.

We heard next from Jeff Hirsch, a Hermosa Beach resident and close friend of Howard Fishman's family. He announced an upcoming event in honor of Fishman's late wife, Kathy Keane. Keane died of a brain tumor not long after her husband had won election to the Hermosa Beach City Council. The Angel Adventure Walk will be held in Huntington Beach on

October 20, 2007, to benefit the National Brain Tumor Foundation. People wishing to participate can go to the website www.firstgiving.com/kathy/keane.

It was reported that Sergio Carrillo, the Party's Region 17 Director, has announced the Party's 2008 Platform Committee called "Blueprint for the Golden State." He wants all Democrats to share our priorities at cali4us@cadem.org and encourages clubs to discuss the Party Platform at our meetings and adopt resolutions as a body. He plans to convene a Regional Meeting in October that will include a Platform Hearing.

Jeff DuClos reported that he may be going back to Iraq a second time. A few months ago, Jeff presented a slide show about his earlier trip there with actor Chuck Norris. He emphasized that these trips should in no way be construed as supportive of Bush's Iraq policy or the invasion, and that people should not confuse support for the troops with support for the war.

Club News

It was reported that Vice-president Bob Bohner will be away for a few meetings because he is donating a kidney to his brother in Indianapolis.

Marc Salzberg is running for the Venice Neighborhood Council, one of 80 councils throughout Los Angeles. Anyone who has served as a volunteer

in Venice in the last twelve months is considered a stakeholder and can vote on September 16 at Venice High School.

Diane Strack reported that the DAC office will lose its lease on September 1. The website will stay up. We are still fund raising and looking for a store front space to rent. She said the DAC's goal is to become self-funding by selling Democratic items in the new location.

Lori Geittmann reported from the meeting with Jane Harman that local Democrats encouraged her to stand up for the values of the Party. There was a 50-50 split among those gathered on the question of impeachment. On the extension of FISA, Jane said that the Senate was worried about political fallout if they voted against it, but the bill will be revisited again soon.

Bobbi said that the 53rd AD has decided to staff the Democratic Party booth at the LA County Fair on September 27, from 11AM to 10PM. The next AD meeting is on the third Thursday, location TBD.

Tony Hale reported that John Dean will be the speaker at the Palos Verdes Democratic Club on Sunday, November 18. They plan to hold the event at the Redondo Beach Community Center on Nob Hill, which seats 300. All clubs are invited to attend.

Young Democrats?

Visitors to our booth at the Fiesta Hermosa enjoyed the political goodies, including a lifesized Bill Richardson mask. We weren't endorsing any candidate, but made friends with the staff at nearby Obama, Richardson, and Edwards booths.



Calling Phone Tree Volunteers

We still need more volunteers for the phone tree. You'll call five or six people a month to help boost turnout at our meetings and special events.

Old Hometown Fair Tabling

We need volunteers to staff our booth at the Manhattan Beach Old Hometown Fair October 6 and 7. Contact Diane Strack at 310-374-4225 or a.strk@verizon.net.

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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