

# Beach Cities Democratic Club



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

June, 2008

## Next Meeting Tuesday, June 24, 7:30PM David K. Hayward Center 2000 Artesia Boulevard Redondo Beach

We will be hearing an update from the Precinct Committee, and Toni Alario will talk about her experiences at Campaign Boot Camp.

This is also the month we hold our Club elections.

## Celebrating 20 Years of Public Service

### Senator Jenny Oropeza Fund Raiser

Saturday, July 12, 2008  
11:00 to 2:00 PM  
Home Depot Center  
18400 Avalon Boulevard  
Carson

\$3,600—Corporate Sponsor  
\$1,000—Table Sponsor  
\$100—Ticket

RSVP to 310-497-8162  
Checks payable to Jenny Oropeza  
for State Senate, I.D. #1293234  
19 Redondo, Laguna Niguel CA 92677

## Fiesta Hermosa

BCDC Members came out to work again this Memorial Day weekend at our Fiesta Hermosa booth. We signed up 67 new voters, thirteen of whom were switching from Republican. Edna Murphy and Peggy Carter made sure the booth was staffed all weekend.

## 53rd AD June Meeting

The 53<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District Democratic Congress will hold its June meeting on Monday, June 23.

We are committed to electing Senator Barack Obama as President of the United States and moving him into the White House on January 20, 2009.

To get started in our effort to organize our entire area, as we did every Monday night at Hennessey's "South Bay for Kerry" meetings, we will meet to "Come Together for Obama."

We are inviting a representative from the Obama campaign to speak and are excited to hear their "West Coast Strategy."

Everyone is invited to this very important meeting:

Monday, June 23  
6PM Dinner, 7PM Meeting  
Hennessey's Tavern  
313 Manhattan Beach Boulevard  
Manhattan Beach

*Bobbi Buescher*

## Democratic Ranks Growing

SACRAMENTO—SENATOR ART TORRES (RET.), CHAIRMAN OF THE CALIFORNIA DEMOCRATIC PARTY When the voter registration figures were last released in April, it looked like a promising trend. Now we know the trend is...real. The Democratic Party is growing, the Republican Party is shrinking and a third county so far ... has switched from "red" to "blue."

According to the California Secretary of State's latest report of registration, Democrats added 304,454 voters to the rolls, while the Republicans added only 14,969 voters between January and May, 2008.

That means that twenty voters registered [Democratic] for every voter that registered [Republican].

...I once again credit our local Democratic organizations throughout California's 58 counties for all their hard work in registering new Democrats. These numbers once again reinforce that the vast majority of Californians do not want a Bush third term with John McCain.



Visit our Website at [lafn.org/politics/bcdc](http://lafn.org/politics/bcdc)

## From the President

The Primary season is over and Barack Obama is our candidate. His message of hope and change has energized his supporters and I believe will be felt by the electorate at large. His call for solutions to our health care mess, for a withdrawal from Iraq, and for restoration and preservation of our earth tells us where we need to go.

We at the grassroots are going to need to push for the policies that will best meet our needs. He has been advocating for a movement. Obama is the facilitator but we are a part of the force that must move policy and the legislation that will follow. It's largely up to organizations like ours, networking together, that will overcome the inertia of the established ways of doing things. I believe the discontent in our country makes it likely that we will have revolutionary changes.

Are you ready to push for an end of this endless war? Can we establish a truly universal health care system? Will



we reverse global warming? Isn't it time to reestablish a free, fully tax supported public education for all? There are so many other areas needing reform: energy, immigration, trade and farm policies all come to mind.

It is the awesome number of problems that may push us to the dramatic changes that will come. We, however, need to be diligent in communicating with the elected leadership. Can you help in that effort?

Another area of reform is in the way we receive our news. I hope you saw parts of the media conference held June 6-8 in Minneapolis. Bill Moyers' keynote address regarding the failure of our media in its watchdog role is stirring. You can see it and the other major speakers at [www.freepress.net/conference/video](http://www.freepress.net/conference/video).

This month Beach Cities Democratic Club will elect officers for the next year. We want you to be a part of the selection of officers and also be willing to take a role in running the club for the next year. Your participation will strengthen our impact. Also, of course, we need you to maintain the club with your dues. Our fiscal year begins on July 1.

*Ray Waters*

## Special Tax Rebate

If you did *not* file a tax return for 2007 this year because your income was lower than the threshold for filing, but you had Social Security income of \$3000 or more, you may miss an opportunity to receive a \$300 (\$600 if married filing jointly) stimulus rebate.

All you have to do is file Form 1040A showing only your Social Security income. You can find out more about the rebate program at <http://tinyurl.com/2xytrx>. Form 1040A is available at <http://zuckers.org/BCDC/1040a.pdf> and a sample ver-

sion that shows the few parts of the form you need to fill out is at <http://www.irs.gov/pub/newsroom/1040a.pdf>.

The sooner you file the sooner you can receive your stimulus payment. Filing by Oct. 15 means the IRS can process your return and issue a stimulus payment before the end of the year.

*Steve Zucker*

## Dues Reminder

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.

## May Recap

Ray opened the meeting by introducing a group of Young Democrats from Mira Costa High School, who were attending the meeting to learn about our club activities and membership.

Our program started off with a presentation by Dilip Adarkar on Divergent Trajectories in South Asia. Dilip, who was born in India and has visited other countries in the region including Afghanistan, focused on the 1947 partition of India and Pakistan that split the region into Muslim and non-Muslim societies.

After giving some historical background on the Hindu and Mughal periods, Dilip explained how the 150 years of British rule had both helped and hindered the country. The British introduced liberal thought and constitutional government and built roads and railways. But they also exploited the indigenous people, suppressing local industries in favor of exporting Indian natural resources and importing British goods.

As Indian Nationalism arose with the National Congress Party in 1885,



*About twelve seniors from Mira Costa High School came to our meeting to observe. They wanted to see what a well-established Democratic Club looked like in action. They took notes and asked questions after the meeting.*

Britain responded with a divide and rule strategy and set up the Muslim League in 1906.

With Ghandi's reform movement, the country saw a secular landslide that washed out the Muslim parties. After World War II, India demanded independence in return for its support for Britain, and the partition was drawn.

Since that time, Pakistan has sought to hold onto power in three ways: by getting strong partners—China and the US; by denigrating India; and through Islamization. The Pakistani neighborhood is plagued by losing wars, a lack of democratic norms, and internal disagreements.

Dilip summarized Pakistan's history of revolution and upheaval, and in neighboring Afghanistan, the Russian occupation and eventual slide into Taliban rule which made it an ideal host for Al Qaeda.

Concluding, he summarized the four reasons for divergence: British disengagement; Partition; Western powers competing in the region; and the role of Arab oil wealth in supporting conservative theology.



*Tony Hale and Mary Ann Tyler presented the new Precinct Manual and talked about the months of organization and planning involved in putting it together. Local clubs have coalesced to make sure we get our message out this election year and get every voter to the polls.*

## Club Business

Ray reported that our presence at Fiesta Hermosa was a big success, netting 67 voter signups, thirteen of them former Republicans and fourteen of them brand new voters. We are seeking someone to oversee the Labor Day Hermosa Fiesta and the Manhattan Beach Hometown Fair in October.

Tony Hale and Mary Ann Tyler spoke about the 53<sup>rd</sup> AD Democratic Congress meeting and its new precinct manual. The manual is divided into sections that cover different levels of precinct leadership, training materials, and appendixes with neighborhood resource information.

Tony said that the key to finding voters is knowing where the precinct information is. The County provides a CD with thousands of names, but it requires a lot of work to distill them into manageable pieces. To help sort the mass of data, two software programs are available, one written by Bill Nuttle and the other developed by the Party.

In recognition of their enormous contributions to the precinct work, Bill and Mary Anne have been named Democratic Man and Woman of the year for the 53<sup>rd</sup> AD.

Mary Anne and Edna next reported on the Issues Forum hosted on May 10 by the LA Democratic Party. Its purpose was to give background information on key issues and help Democrats formulate the message. The agenda included Winning the War by Ending It; Education (Program Cuts and Campus Security); Women and Voting; and Social Justice issues including immigration and minority outreach. Tim Goodrich, founder of Iraq Veterans Against the War, received a standing ovation at the event.

Mary Anne pointed out that the Republicans have appropriated the Veterans cause and now the Democrats must take it back. The new GI Bill

currently being supported by Obama and opposed by Bush/McCain should help with this message; but Democrats need to prove themselves by actively volunteering at the VA hospital, going out to register veterans, acknowledging them in public, and otherwise conveying support for their service.

## Nominations

Lori and Bobbi gave their report from the nominating committee. The slate consists of Ray Waters for president, Peggy Carter for secretary, and Edna Murphy for treasurer. We are still seeking a vice-president. New officers will be voted in at the June meeting and nominations will be taken from the floor.

In other business, Tony Hale proposed that we consider allowing Young Democrats to become adjunct, or affiliate, members of the club without paying dues. He will discuss this with Lee Fink, who is working on updating the bylaws.

Tony also moved that the club endorse its members who are running for Los Angeles County Committee—Lori, Bobbi, and Ray. The motion was passed.

Bobbi reported from the 53<sup>rd</sup> AD Congress meeting that they mostly discussed the new precinct manual. She said that around ten AD members attended the New Citizens' swearing-in ceremonies and signed up new Democratic voters.

Reporting from the Palos Verdes Club, Tony said the next meeting will be at the Pacific Unitarian Church and will be on religious freedom. Their July meeting will feature Robert Scheer and his new book *The Pornography of Power*, with the location TBD.

Teresa reported on the Torrance Democratic Club endorsements, including a Measure T on school funding. There will be a Summer Solstice party on June 21 at the Wagner home; contact Teresa for details.



P.O. Box 2192, Redondo Beach, CA 90278  
 President  
 Ray Waters—310-374-4744  
*Vice-President*  
 Bob Bohner—310-798-3725  
*Treasurer*  
 Edna Murphy—310-545-6292  
*Secretary*  
 Peggy Carter—310-372-5442  
*Membership*  
 (open)  
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 Moira Zucker—310-546-7562  
 Moiraz@alumni.reed.edu  
*Database and mailing*  
 Steve Zucker—310-546-7562  
*Web Manager*  
 James McGreevy—310-320-1638

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