

Beach Cities Democratic Club



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

October, 2008

Next Meeting

Tuesday, October 28, 7:30PM
David K. Hayward Center
2000 Artesia Boulevard
Redondo Beach

Local Measures

This month we'll hear from Manhattan Beach School Board President Amy Howorth on Proposition BB, a \$67.48 million school bond on the ballot. We're also planning to hear more about Measure DD, the Redondo Beach zoning initiative, along with recent activities at our Democratic Action Center and other venues where local Democrats have been working hard for victory in November.

Odds Favor Democrats

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17
STEVE ZUCKER

With only 18 days until the election, all the nationwide polls in the last week show Obama holding a lead over McCain ranging from 4% to 14% (see [/PollingReport.com/wb08gen.htm/](#)). More interesting and relevant information is found at [/FiveThirtyEight.com/](#), which uses simulations based on state polls to project the outcome of the election, not just the popular vote. As I write this, they are projecting that Obama will garner about 350 electoral votes (270 needed to win), vs. only 186 for McCain. They give Obama a likelihood of winning of 94.7%, with 52.1% of the popular vote to McCain's 46.3%. They also show that the Democrats will probably hold 56 or 57 Senate seats.

Polls are polls, but if you want to wager, the betting odds through on-line bookies imply that Obama has about an 85% chance of winning, up by over 25% from a month ago.

Save the Date

Our 2008 Holiday Party is now on the calendar! It will be held on Sunday, December 14, at Ray and Carol Waters's beautiful Hermosa Beach home. Details next month.

County Committee Endorsements

1A	Safe Reliable Passenger Train Bond Act	Yes
2	Stop Cruelty to Farm Animals	Yes
3	Children's Hospital Bond Act	Yes
4	Put Teens at Risk Act	No
5	Non-Violent Offender Rehabilitation Act	Yes
6	Ineffective Prison And Crime Reform	No
7	Another Costly And Risky Energy Scheme	No
8	Don't Eliminate Marriage For Anyone	No
9	Misguided And Unnecessary Prison Reform	No
10	Alternative Fuel Vehicles & Renewable Energy Bond	Neutral
11	Stop Another Political Power Grab	No
12	Veterans' Bond Act Of 2008	Yes
R	Mass Transit Sales Tax	Neutral

Office Superior Court Judges

72	Hillari Grossman Merritt
82	Cynthia Loo
84	Lori-Ann C. Jones
94	C. Edward Mack
154	Rocky L. Crabb

Beach Cities Health District

Vanessa Poster
Robert Jay Grossman
Marie L. Corr

Water Replenishment District

Pete Manghera

Visit our Website at lafn.org/politics/bcdc

From the President Ray Waters



The last Presidential Debate is over and 60-70 of our supporters at the Democratic Action Center Annex were excited and pleased to have such a great candidate leading our party. The polls are showing that we should win handily, BUT, remember when polls have not been accurate in forecasting election returns. We must get our voters out on November 4.

In addition to the national campaign there are important races here in California. I encourage everyone to follow the endorsements of the LA County Democratic Party as listed in today's newsletter. Our members are well represented on that body.

Many of you have contributed time and treasure to our candidates. There is still time to do more; telephoning with the Obama Campaign. Michael DiVirgilio, Hermosa City Council, has been helping to lead that effort. Tony Hale has been devoting himself to organizing workers at the Democratic Action Center, which is to be a permanent Democratic presence in the South Bay. We need to continue to support the DAC beyond November. We're also pushing to get literature into the hands of voters through precinct walking. There is still much to do for those willing to look for ways to help.

At our meeting, we will think locally about Measures BB and DD, and fire everyone up for the final push. On November 4, we hope to savor our victory and celebrate at the DAC Annex. I hope to see you there.

Democratic Action Center
Your South Bay Democratic Headquarters
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info@DemocraticActionCenter.org
1673 Cravens Avenue, Torrance
Volunteer Annex 1311 Sartori Avenue

September Recap

Ray opened the meeting with a discussion of the proposed \$700 billion bailout, and said that Jane Harman recommends canceling the October recess to address it. Her position is that Congress should not write a blank check and should insist on judicial review of the final expenditures. Remedies must be tailored to the needs of homeowners and employees.

Also mentioned was the state budget. Californians need to restore the simple majority in our Legislature and do away with the 2/3 requirement that permits stalemates to occur. Ted Lieu, who serves on the Banking Committee in the Assembly, made this point on the radio.

We heard an update from Irving Pacheco, Ted Lieu's representative, on the bailout plan. Assembly Bill 1830 would reform the way we handle mortgages in California, banning kickbacks to predatory mortgage brokers who mislead borrowers and doing away with other provisions that hurt homeowners. Lieu will be holding a campaign kickoff on the coming weekend.

Next we heard from Kathleen Ryan, who gave a summary of her participation in Camp Obama. She holds weekend phone banks at her home and said messages would be targeted to Las Vegas voters.

Our main program was on the ballot propositions. Toni Alario summarized the arguments from the Legislative Analyst's Office



Top: Irving Pacheco from Ted Lieu's office. Bottom: Kathleen Ryan from Camp Obama

From the Campaign Trail

By Lee Fink

The Most Important Election of Our Lifetime

It's cliché to say this, I realize. So many people said that about 2004, but I reminded them that 2000 had been even more important—we just did not realize it at the time. This time we do.

We know the historic nature of this election—the 4 candidates on the 2 major party tickets represent the first African-American, only the second woman, the third-oldest person, and

(Continued on page 3)

and talked about Props 7, 10, and 11.

Proposition 7, on renewable energy, gives incentives to people who create renewable energy sources and raises the standards for public utilities. The measure is opposed by the LA County Committee and by some environmental groups, including the League of Conservation Voters, who claim it lacks positive incentives.

Proposition 10 would encourage consumers to buy alternate fuel vehicles and give rebates to individuals who buy high fuel economy vehicles, and would create financial incentives for solar, wind, and renewable energy. The bill does not define what kind of vehicles are covered, and it has been learned that billionaire investor T. Boone Pickens paid for signature gathering.

Proposition 11, on redistricting, would call for a census and a redrawing of district lines every ten years. The responsibility for developing district plans would shift to a "Citizens Redistricting Commission" consisting of five Democrats, five Republicans, and five "other" registered voters. Congressional districts would not change. The club has discussed this issue in past meetings, to divided opinion.

The club passed a motion to oppose all three propositions.

(Campaign, continued from page 2)

only the fourth Catholic to appear on a major party ticket. And we know the stark differences on the policies we face economic crises at home and war abroad.

But these two campaigns have been run very differently from any in the past, and the winning campaign will re-define how our politics work in the future.

The Obama campaign message of Hope and Change is an inspiring and exciting message. But it has been backed up by a grassroots campaign of unprecedented reach. Just here in Colorado, I have seen a larger organization than what I have seen anytime in the last 20 years in California, a state 7 times larger. The basic philosophy has been to create an organization one person at a time. And on the same principle that if you doubled a penny every day for a month you would have \$10 Million, if you get one Field Organizer to recruit one new volunteer, and that volunteer to recruit another volunteer themselves, you can

build an enormous grass-roots organization that can change our entire politics. Even with the massive staff deployed in the state, it is an organization that has relied on volunteers not just as grunt workers, but as leaders and organizers themselves. It is this type of effort that can make the difference between politicians beholden to special interests and big money, and politicians responsive to the people.

On the other hand is the McCain campaign. One which has been the nastiest, most negative in history. It had taken to spending all of its time—on the stump and on the TV airwaves—spewing negativity. And while it's bad enough to criticize your opponent's program without ever offering a policy alternative (which, in McCain's campaign would be simply more of the same), McCain had taken to outright lies about Obama's tax plans, his record on voting for sex education for children in Illinois, and setting a generally ugly and potentially racist undertone. In a manner that can be described only as Orwellian, the

candidate whose policies promise more of the same, recession, and continued war promotes himself as "Reform. Prosperity. Peace." A campaign whose ticket features the only two major party nominees found to have breached ethics codes calls for an end to abuse of power. It is a strategy to be negative enough and dishonest enough to see if you can thoroughly tear down the opponent. Even before Sen. McCain and Gov. Palin had taken to whipping their crowds into violent frenzies, which ginned up death threats to their political opponents, Karl Rove—the prior holder of the crown for the dirtiest campaigns—had blushed at the dishonesty of the McCain campaign, saying that it had crossed a line. Now, they can't even see where they left that line behind.

One of these two men will become President. One of their campaigns will be a model for how Presidential campaigns—and all other campaigns—are run for a generation. Will we see a generation of hate and lies, or a generation of grass-roots and Hope?

Monroe's Ruminations

Monroe Weinstock

Obama for President & McCain for the Dung Heap. I am against Senator John McCain, who placed 498th out of 500 graduates from Annapolis.



McCain was a P.O.W. in Viet Nam for five & a half years, which no doubt were horrible & excruciating experiences. Yet no expert analyst has noted the psychological damage this must have caused. And little or nothing is said of his caving in to the enemy to make a propaganda film (under torture). Today he is noted for his violently short temper, his explosive reactions to criticism & correction, his dirty mouth, and his having the short-

est fuse known to mankind.

My added litany of objections: He plans to have a League of Democracies, to bypass the U.N. He will expand NATO's antagonism against Russia. He plans for an unnamed agency to perform unconventional warfare & covert operations (like the OSS in WWII) and he will do all he can to prevent Iran from having nuclear arms. His plan is to select Supreme Court Judges in the same mode as Roberts & Alito; he will keep our troops in Iraq for 100 years if he thinks it necessary; he will try to have Roe v. Wade overturned (no abortions).

Moving right along, he will try to make Bush's tax cuts permanent; he will try to reduce corporate tax rates; he will try to change health coverage to private insurance companies; he will try to end unions' ability to donate soft money to campaigns; he plans to

privatize Veterans' medical care; and recently has emphasized a program for oil drilling off-shore and in Anwar.

After 7 years of war he still does not know the difference between Sunnis & Shiites. His financial Guru Phil Gramm, when in the Senate, manipulated the rules to start deregulating financial markets. This has been instrumental in our current monumental fiasco requiring a \$700 Billion dollar bailout. He has been wrong, going back to 1989 when he helped Charles Keating rob the Lincoln Savings Bank, costing the government Millions. Keating ended up going to jail, but not McCain!

We & the world know that George Dubya is a complete failure in office. McCain is another step down the slippery slope to the loss of Democracy & financial disaster.

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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
