

Beach Cities Democratic Club



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

February, 2011

Next Meeting

Manhattan Bread & Bagel
1808 N. Sepulveda Boulevard
Manhattan Beach

Wednesday, February 23
7:30 PM

We have lots of election news to cover:

- The February 15 special election to fill the late Senator Jenny Oropesa's seat, for which Ted Lieu is the front runner.
- Congresswoman Jane Harman's announced resignation and the candidates for her Congressional seat.
- Municipal elections on March 8.

Come hear the latest and find out how you can help keep Democrats in office.

Democrats Rock DAC Fund Raiser

Dedicated Democrats from the local clubs took time out to play and party at our big DAC fund raiser on January 16 at the Pacific Unitarian Church in Palos Verdes. Members enjoyed a spread of elegant potluck dishes in the bright and festive community room.

Featured on the program were Eric Bauman, Chair of the Los Angeles Democratic Party and Vice Chair of the California Democratic Party; Los Angeles City Councilwoman Janice Hahn; and Assemblyman Ted Lieu.

Bauman spoke forcefully about the California election outcome that placed so many Democrats in office, saying that Meg Whitman had outspent Jerry Brown many times over yet still lost the Governor's race. Bauman sees California as a beacon of hope on the national scene.

But there are exceptions to our suc-

cess story. He talked about the new "top two" primary election law that Proposition 14 put into effect, in which only the top two candidates advance to the general election. Both parties will almost certainly have to spend a bundle to ensure their candidates make it through the primary. Bauman said the Democrats will need to have tighter discipline, something the Republican Party already has. He thinks the new redistricting commission is not good news for Democrats.

Janice Hahn took the podium and talked about the hard fiscal decisions on the City Council. She said that her focus remains on revitalization and saving jobs. To maximize revenue, the city has put up parking lots for lease with the revenue earmarked for the general fund to avoid layoffs. She favors "education and health programs over concrete."

Ted Lieu thanked all those who worked to put him in office and talked about his current run for the California

(Continued on page 2)



Governor Jerry Brown (I) came to Ted Lieu's campaign office on a recent Friday to stump for Ted. From left: Darrell Steinberg, president pro tem of the Senate; Jerry, Ted, and Ted's wife Betty. Below, guests enjoy a festive table of edibles at our DAC fund raiser in January.



Monroe's Ruminations

Monroe Weinstock



Once upon a time, Jerry, the former Governor & the son of ex-Governor Pat Brown was a "flaky loose cannon." Since I arrived in California in 1990, I can only read history and the opinion of others. Today, the newly re-elected Governor gets an entirely new review.

Calling these times difficult is not quite like calling the kettle black. These times, literally are from hunger—and the budget is JOB ONE!!! The way of California politics requires Jerry the Democrat to swing about FOUR Republican votes to get his budget passed with an extension of the \$9 billion recent tax hike.

Our next budget MUST extend tax raises; MUST cut welfare programs; MUST reduce healthcare for the poor; MUST eliminate some business subsidies; MUST dismantle some development agencies; MUST cut into higher education programs; MUST also return dozens of state functions back to the local communities. And the biggest hurdle needed is to RE-ALIGN PROP 13 to get power back to where they were.

Jerry has indicated he knows the government does good things. Now,

he MUST feed the public from a dwindling tax trough. He MUST do a superb selling job to the public to get proper & necessary support for some Draconian measures. Personally, I like his style, particularly because at 72 he is old enough to do the job!

It is said that one should speak kindly of the past, but I cannot resist defiling the Ditzzy Dopey Blonde Meg Whitman, who just couldn't buy herself the Governor's Office, but did get re-planted at the HP Corp. Then there is GOVERNATOR Herr Arnold who leaves Sacramento, without his smoke & mirrors and goes back to his Monster Movies or whatever! We now have an adult in office, and what we need from Jerry Brown is to clean house, generate transparency & honesty!!!

(Continued from page 1)

Senate seat formerly held by the late Senator Jenny Oropeza. The son of immigrant parents, Lieu wants all Californians to have a chance to achieve the American dream as his family did.

Winding up the program was our traditional White Donkey auction headed up this year by DAC director Tony Hale, with lively assistance from Rochelle Schneider. They auctioned off items from the classy to the hilarious as members outbid each other. In all, the event netted over \$2,600 for the DAC.



(Top) Ted Lieu talks about his upcoming election at the January meeting. (Above) a moment of levity as Dency Nelson is presented with a surprise birthday gift by Ted.

(Below) Tony Hale ran a fun-filled auction at the January fund raiser; (right) Edna Murphy and Teresa Bird staffed the entrance. PVP Democratic Club President Kay Jue is seated in the background.



January Recap

Special Election

The first order of business at our January meeting was to congratulate ourselves and our fellow Democratic clubs for our hugely successful January 16 fund raiser. The event was well attended, drawing Democrats from San Pedro all the way to West LA, and delivered a great program led off by Eric Bauman. We raised \$2,629 from the combined door, bar, and White Donkey auction. Many club members pitched in to decorate the room, organize food, and staff the door and wine bar.

These proceeds will help keep the DAC open. In addition, we are once again operating the annex on Sartori Avenue as a site for phone banking and helping Ted Lieu's run for State Senate. Open Monday through Friday, day and evening shifts, the office is located at 1311 Sartori Avenue in Torrance, 2 ½ blocks south of Torrance Boulevard. There is free parking on the street and underground.

Tony Hale said this space, which was also used for the Brown and Obama elections, is ideal for campaign work. It is especially important that Ted get 50% plus one of the vote to avoid a runoff; there are seven other candidates in the race and they do not have to disclose their party affiliation.

We were honored to have our Assemblyman Ted Lieu stop by and address the meeting. He praised Governor Jerry Brown's new budget and his proposal to extend the 2009 increases on vehicle, sales and income taxes for five more years to keep California solvent. Senate President Darrell Steinberg said that without a Democrat in this seat, it will be

much harder to get to a 2/3 majority vote on budget matters. Lieu does not agree with Jerry Brown on every issue, but he joins the Governor in emphasizing job creation; it's hard to be a progressive leader if there's no money. Lieu has consistently voted in favor of the oil extraction tax.

Lieu said it will be important to keep health care reform on the table; other states may try to reverse Obama's landmark legislation, but California will not be among them. Health care is one of the areas in which free enterprise doesn't do very well; Lieu supports programs that cover everyone.

He talked about Assembly Bill 32, the Global Warming Solutions Act, which he co-authored. The bill was stalled in the Legislature by Republicans, but it is expected to become law. It sets the 2020 greenhouse gas emissions to be reduced to 1990 levels.

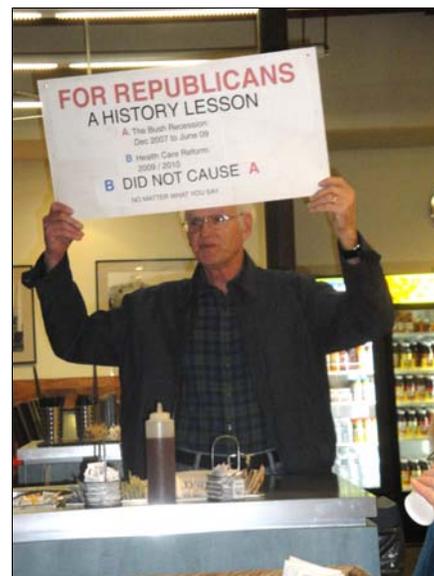
There followed some discussion about major banks starting to charge customers, without warning, for transferring funds between accounts. Lieu suggested calling the bank and asking to have the charges reversed; or, if that doesn't work, moving your money to a small local bank. At the conclusion, the membership moved to endorse Ted Lieu.

Next we heard a talk from Hans Grellmann from the Palos Verdes Peninsula Democratic Club. He has read George Lakoff's new book *The Political Mind* and thinks it contains an important message for Democrats. The book describes how much of our thought is unconscious and can be manipulated through the emotions. As a result, huge portions of the citizenry accept the Republican framing of issues. Lakoff points out that Democrats

think they can win elections by appealing to reason and offering programs that serve voters' interests. Lakoff says that conservatives understand our brain wiring and they manipulate public opinion more effectively with false "frames" such as referring to opponents of legal abortion as "pro-life."

Grellmann thinks this message is so important that he has set up tables at farmers markets and other venues, and put up signs to attract debate on the issue. He said that House Speaker Nancy Pelosi invited Lakoff to address the House of Representatives.

Concluding the meeting, we heard that the 53rd ADDC continues to meet on third Thursdays at Hennessy's in Manhattan Beach. 53rd ADDC Chair Rochelle Schneider wants to focus on a strategy to integrate district efforts among the northern and southern regions.



Hans Grellmann invites debate on George Lakoff principles.



President
Lori Gettmann (Acting) 310-316-1729
Vice-President
Geoff Hirsch — ghirsch@verizon.net
Treasurer
Edna Murphy—310-545-6292
Secretary
(Open)
Newsletter
Moira Zucker—310-546-7562
Moiraz@alumni.reed.edu
Database and mailing
Steve Zucker—310-546-7562
Web Manager
James McGreevy—310-320-1638

P. O. Box 2192, Redondo Beach, CA

Beach Cities
Democratic Club



Please Print

Beach Cities Democratic Club
Membership Form



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