

Beach Cities Democratic Club



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

September, 2012

Next Meeting

Manhattan Bread & Bagel
1808 N. Sepulveda Boulevard
Manhattan Beach
Wednesday, September 26, 7:30 PM

Report From the Convention

BCDC President Diane Wallace will give a first-hand account of the rousing Democratic Convention which she attended as a delegate in Charlotte, NC. We will also hear updates on the important local campaigns including from Al Muratsuchi's new headquarters.

President's Message

A busy month . . .

We have had a very busy month as South Bay Dems. We hosted a very well-attended "meet and greet" for Al Muratsuchi and Congressman Henry Waxman during our last meeting. Our members have been busy phone banking and preparing mailers for Al at his new headquarters in Torrance:

1628 Cravens Avenue, 310.781.3041

Additionally, along with 6 other elected delegates and one alternate from the new 33rd Congressional District, Tony Salvaggio and I just returned from Charlotte, NC and the Democratic National Convention.

We have been asked to share our experiences at the next meeting. We are definitely fired up and ready to go—to reelect President Obama, Senator Feinstein, and Congressman Waxman.

And, as Representatives of the 66th AD, we are focused on electing Al Muratsuchi to the California Assembly.

The California delegation had over 600 representatives from every region in the state. We arrived during the weekend so that we could participate in Charlotte Fest

on Labor Day—along with the residents of Charlotte. We enjoyed Jeff Bridges and his band as well as James Taylor. And we didn't mind the deluge of rain that interrupted the event.

The people of Charlotte showed us that famous Southern charm every day and made the hot and humid weather a bit more bearable.

The convention began on Tuesday and ended Thursday night. The daily schedule provided a morning breakfast meeting, which included excellent speakers.

Then from 10 am to 4:00 PM there were caucus meetings, council meetings, and special sessions, sponsored by outside organizations. Emily's List and Women's Campaign Fund held events to support women running for office. Bloomberg and Politico also offered interesting sessions.

The Convention started at 5:00 PM on Tuesday and Wednesday and at 4:30 PM on Thursday. Each day the convention ended around 11. It was really difficult to leave our seats to use the restrooms or get food because the speakers and presentations were scheduled one right after the other.

We have now seen that the President and Vice President have received an uptick in the polls. And now it's up to all of us to get out the vote—bus trips to Nevada, phone banks for Al and Henry, meet and greets for Al and Henry, and finally efforts on propositions, including "Yes" on 30, "No" on 32, "Yes" on 37 and "No" on 38.

Hope to see all members at the next BCDC meeting!

With blue thoughts, *Diane Wallace*



Democrats of The Year Honored

On Sunday, September 23rd, we will join with Democrats from all over Los Angeles County to honor the 2012 *Democrats of the Year* at the Los Angeles County Democratic Party's Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Dinner. We have a great deal to celebrate as three of our own amazing Democrats are being recognized.

Scott Houston will be honored as the 53rd Assembly District's *Male Democrat of the Year!* Isabel Rodriguez will be honored as the 53rd Assembly District's *Woman Democrat of the Year*. Sergio Carrillo will receive one of the two prestigious county-wide Pat Eastman Volunteer of the Year Awards. **Each of our wonderful honorees deserves our thanks for their willing hearts and minds in the cause of democratic activism.** We will have the opportunity to show our appreciation, to support the Democratic Party, drink a toast or two and have a great time with other Club members and community leaders around LA County.

The deadline to reserve tickets is this Monday, September 17th. You can call 213-382-4111, email rsvp@laccdp.org

The Democratic Party's superstar volunteers are always there for us, and for this special night we have the opportunity to be there for them as we celebrate their commitment, dedication and hard work.

Visit our Website at lafn.org/politics/bcdc

August Recap

In a departure from our usual meeting format, we held our August meeting at the house (instead of the bakery) of Michael Keegan and Lynne Olsen. At their lovely and spacious Hermosa Beach home, we were honored to host Congressman Henry Waxman and Assembly Candidate Al Muratsuchi.

The Congressman has been making tangible efforts to get acquainted with his new constituency, and BCDC has twice had the pleasure of seeing him at our events. He spoke eloquently about his efforts to pass legislation that is fair to the middle class and safe for the environment. He also cautioned against taking his reelection for granted; his opponent, Bill Bloomfield, casts himself as a moderate, but he is anything but.

Sergio Carrillo, Al Muratsuchi's campaign manager, spoke about Al's campaign and the critical importance of winning this seat; his election would bring us closer to reaching the 2/3 majority needed to pass meaningful tax legislation in California. He urged the audience to join in upcoming precinct walks, phone calls, and mailings—whatever it takes to get the word out.

Then Al spoke about his reasons for wanting to go to Sacramento, and his strong commitment to education and the environment.



Left: Al Muratsuchi, Congressman Waxman, and host Michael Keegan. Top to bottom: Attendees at the Keegan house; Henry Waxman greeting well-wishers; and Al's Campaign Manager Sergio Carrillo lining up volunteers

From our Congressman

Friends,
For decades, one of my priorities in Congress has been to take on the tobacco industry and their relentless marketing of cigarettes aimed directly at minors. I held the first ever hearing on tobacco, where the CEOs of the seven major tobacco companies were forced to testify and incredulously claimed that cigarettes were not addictive and did not cause cancer. Those hearings finally exposed the industry's efforts to sell cigarettes to kids and we were successful in requiring tougher warning labels and limiting advertising directed at children. As a result, over the past twenty years the number of smokers has plummeted- especially among our youth.

Unfortunately, these efforts have not stopped the tobacco industry. Recently, I was made aware that the tobacco companies are manipulating their products to exploit regulatory loopholes, resulting in an alarming use of unregulated flavored cigars by young adults. That is why today, I stood with health leaders from across Los Angeles to share these findings with the public.

The tobacco industry is relentless in seeking new ways to hook children. After Congress outlawed flavorings in cigarettes, tobacco companies began promoting cigarette-like cigars and pipe tobacco as a way to circumvent the flavoring ban. Today, I am calling on the FDA to take immediate and forceful action to close these loopholes and protect the public's health.

Together, we will continue to hold the tobacco industry accountable and work to protect our children and public health.
Sincerely, Congressman Henry A. Waxman



Obama *Will* Win

Nate Silver is a statistics genius. From a very early interest in baseball and baseball statistics, he has turned his talents to political predictions and is best known for his FiveThirtyEight.com blog. The blog's name refers to the size of the electoral college, and is now hosted at the New York Times. If you're reading this column, you're probably interested in the November elections. You can't find more useful information anywhere than at FiveThirtyEight.com.

In 2008 Silver successfully predicted the electoral outcome in all but one of the states (Indiana), as well as every one of the Senate races. He gathers polling information from all the major pollsters as well as others and weights them and other factors, especially national economic conditions, using his own methodology, which is well explained on the blog. As I write this on September 15, Nate's model shows Obama winning 308.3 electoral votes vs. 229.7 for Romney, with Obama having a 76.2% chance of winning, better than three times Romney's 23.8%.

The blog is updated daily. The left column is usually an analysis of what has happened recently and why. The right column has graphs showing his predictions for the electoral vote, the probability of a win for the two principal candidates, and the popular vote.

You can get the numbers for every day since May 1 by moving your cursor along the graphs. Below the graphs is a blue/red electoral map, showing the probability of a "red" or "blue" win by the color intensity. You can get the actual numbers by moving your cursor over the states. Below that, there is a wealth of detailed information, including state-by-state polling data.

For more about Nate Silver, see http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nate_Silver

Steve Zucker

Right: BCDC Members share information and good cheer at our booth at Fiesta Hermosa over the Labor Day weekend. Ray Waters set it up, staffed it every day, and took it down, with help from Dency Nelson.

Learn the Truth About Fracking

The Environmental Priorities Network will present a very interesting public forum on **Saturday, September 29th** at the Pacific Unitarian Church, 5621 Montemalaga Drive in Rancho Palos Verdes. Coffee and snacks will be available from 9:30 to 10 AM, and visitors may visit tables with information on environmental organizations and activities.

From 10 to 12 AM two well-informed speakers will discuss the controversial process of Fracking or hydraulic fracturing. They are Paul Ferrazzi, Executive Director of Citizens for a Safe Community, and Dr. Clyde Williams, Oil and Gas Specialist and leader of the Sierra Club California Fracking Group.

California is the fourth largest producer of oil and gas in the nation, and companies here are increasingly turning to Fracking in order to extract oil or gas trapped in rock formations buried deep below the earth's surface.

Highly pressurized water, sand, and unknown chemicals that may be toxic are injected about two miles deep to shatter the rock and allow the oil and gas to escape. The Halliburton Loophole exempts fracturing operations from the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act, and the Safe Drinking Water Act.

The dangerous environmental impacts

continue unchecked by safety regulations or government oversight and are causing increasing public concern. The huge volumes of chemical-laden water used can contaminate water tables and streams and bring high levels of radioactivity to the surface.

Residents near these drilling sites have reported that gas has migrated into their mains, a phenomenon depicted in the documentary "Gasland" when water from kitchen faucets bursts into flame. Across the nation, Fracking has raised concerns about its links to contaminated groundwater, greenhouse gas emissions, earthquakes, and adverse health effects. Several states and localities have placed a moratorium on hydraulic fracturing, and our EPN is recommending that California do the same until comprehensive regulations ensure that public safety and the environment are adequately protected.

To find out what can be done to protect public health and the environment, plan to attend the "Can we Stop the Frack Attack?" public forum. Admission is free, but voluntary contributions are appreciated. Cosponsors of the event are the PUC Green Sanctuary Committee and the South Coast Interfaith Council. To request a table or for more information, contact Lillian Light at 310-545-1384 or at llight@verizon.net.

Lillian Light



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**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
