



Next Meeting

Manhattan Bread & Bagel
1808 N. Sepulveda Boulevard
Manhattan Beach
Wednesday, November 28, 7:30 PM

A Time to Celebrate
Come and share your favorite stories
about the election
And Let's discuss the Results

President's Message

Dear Beach City Dem Club Members
and Supporters,

Oh, happy day! We can honestly say
"We did it!"

Elections are won with person-to-person contact - serious grassroots support. It would be an understatement to say that the Beach Cities Dem Club was "all in." We were significantly "in" to support candidates and issues in this election, most importantly Assemblymember-elect Al Muratsuchi, Congressman Henry Waxman, Senator Feinstein, President Barack Obama, Yes on 30, No on 32, and Yes on 37:

- Stuffing envelopes after work at headquarters
- Phone banking from headquarters and satellite locations
- Walking precincts – our own and others
- Delivering goodies to the headquarters for the campaign staff
- Hosting "meet and greets"
- Donating to campaigns
- Tabling at events
- Delivering signs and re-delivering signs when the originals were taken
- Registering new voters
- Getting voters to register for Vote by Mail

- Hosting fundraising events, etc.

We did whatever it took to get this done. And just when we thought we couldn't do any more, we mustered up the strength to do more.

And we can thank Sergio Carrillo and Miguel Cordova in Al's campaign and Lindsay, Aaron, and Cristina in Congressman Waxman's campaign for running such good campaigns. Even when they were worried or experiencing glitches, they kept a positive attitude and inspired us to keep going.

For me – one of the best attributes of this campaign was the amazing number of involved people who were previously not involved.

And the results are spectacular. With the exception of Prop 37 (votes are still being counted!), our candidates won and most of our propositions won. When all of the votes are in, we will send out an analysis.

I have received so many emails and phone calls telling me that people are just walking around with a smile on their face. Me too!

So – as we proceed towards 2013, pat

yourself on the back and take a break! Enjoy the news from Sacramento and DC.

This Thanksgiving I will again be grateful for my wonderful family and friends – and additionally this year I will be especially grateful to live in an area in which so many are serious about democracy and worked so hard to elect highly qualified candidates and support issues that will benefit California.

Wishing you a wonderful holiday season! I am looking forward to continuing to volunteer with you in 2013.

Wishing you peace and good health,

Diane Wallace

PS – Congratulations to Janice Hahn! Our former Representative in Congress, Janice Hahn, has been re-elected to serve in her new district. We will miss her but wish her well. We will especially miss a member of her staff, Natalie Padron Rogers, who frequently came to our BCDC meetings. And as we go to press, we await the final vote count for Betsy Butler in her new Assembly District. Holding positive thoughts for Betsy!

Here's another picture from our August meet-and-greet that helped elect our wonderful officials Henry Waxman and Al Muratsuchi. That's Kevin Cody taking a picture at the left; Dency; and of course Waxman and Muratsuchi. Courtesy of Al Fortunato.



October Recap

We did not have a regular Club Meeting in October due to the numerous election events and activities.

Instead, President Diane Wallace invited all Club members to participate in a phone bank for Al Muratsuchi from 5:00 – 9:00 PM.

Many members supported the phone bank at Muratsuchi HQ in Torrance, and 17 people participated in the BCDC event on October 24 at Manhattan Bread & Bagel. Besides Club members, several non-members joined us to call for Al, as well as students from Mira Costa High School.

Many thanks to all who walked precincts, made calls, hosted Meet & Greets and Fund Raisers, placed yard signs and made contributions to Al's successful campaign.

Lisa Power



Here's a glimpse of our October meeting-turned-phone bank, one of many vote-getting events sponsored by BCDC.

BEACH CITIES GREEN

By Dency Nelson

After our very exhausting, but extremely successful, election season I am back with this column, and this month I am reprising my annual "holiday edition" with some tips for sustainable shopping, traveling and celebrating. The following information has been compiled from some of my past columns and from information posted by "Clean Air-Cool Planet," "Coalition for Clean Air," and "Green America."



First, your holiday travel can have a big impact on the environment. Planes currently produce about 12% of transportation-related CO2 emissions worldwide. Trains and buses can often move as many people as planes, and even though most of these modes of transit use diesel fuel, they create as much as 1/3 less CO2 emissions than commercial aircraft. Better yet, if time and distance allow, consider driving your hybrid car (or renting one if you don't own one) for that holiday trip. If you must fly, consider purchasing carbon offsets through www.nativeenergy.com or some other organization.

For your holiday decorating, how about trading in those incandescent string lights for LED string lights? The latter use considerably less power and last longer than traditional incandescent lights, and some now come with small solar panels that make and store electricity during the day to power those lights at night. I've seen them at

Home Depot and many other local stores the past couple of years. LED lights cost more initially, but using less power and lasting longer, they offset that extra cost over time and do the planet a favor.

What about the Christmas tree itself? For the past three years our family has rented a living tree from a local company, the Living Christmas Company www.livingchristmas.com. This company received the 2010 SEED Award for Environmental Innovation, and they are absolutely wonderful! Not only do we have the fun of welcoming the same tree back into our living room each year, during the rest of the year they keep our tree and the rest of their "rentals" in tubs on the "brown field" of a local oil refinery.

It's land that can't be used for anything else and is located near a source of reclaimed water that is used to irrigate the trees throughout the year. Smart, sustainable and truly innovative! If you usually buy your tree from Kiwanis or some other local charitable organization, consider writing a check to that charity to make up for not buying your tree from them.

That brings me to holiday gift-giving. Locally made gifts are better for the local economy and better for the planet (less of a carbon footprint), plus they are often more unique and personal. Alternatively (or in addition), you can avoid the hassle of the mall and save money on gas by online purchasing. (Just skip the airmail shipping and further reduce the carbon by choosing ground delivery.) Not all companies are created equal, however, so look for great gifts from Fair Trade and environ-

(C continued on page 3)



Gourmet sandwiches, fresh salads, breakfast pastries & more

(Continued from page 2)

mentally and socially conscious businesses like those found at www.greenamerica.org. If you do purchase gifts, either from local vendors or online, be conscious about how you wrap them. Gift packaging and wrapping contribute to a 25% jump in trash during the holidays. Choose gifts with minimal packaging and wrap them in reusable gift bags or recycled wrapping paper, or even in newspaper or brown bags that you decorate yourself.

And then there is, in my opinion, the best option for holiday gift giving. I said it last year, and I'll say it again. Each year it has become easier for me to ignore the pressure imposed upon us all in our over-consuming society to buy, buy, buy! It has become my practice these past few years to cut down on buying the stuff, and instead making the gift of a better world by making donations to socially conscious and/or environmentally friendly organizations.

Last year I sought out the local food banks of friends and relatives near and far. Here in Los Angeles it is the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank www.lafoodbank.org. For my relatives in the San Francisco Bay Area, it is the Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties. I pursued the same process for my friends and relatives out of state. I made contributions to these organizations on behalf of my friends and family, and created a note announcing the gift, or used the notices that many of these organizations furnish for the purpose.

This spreads the word about the organization to the recipients of these notes, as well as providing their local organization with the desperately needed dollars to do their good work. The negative impact that this kind of giving has on the planet is minimal: just the paper for the note and the energy consumed for postal delivery, and that's it! The positive impact for the folks in need is a truly gratifying way to celebrate the spirit of the season!

A Little History

By Lori Geittmann

We often hear the British Conservative Party called the Tories. Where did that name come from?

In 1688 in England, there was a battle between the Parliament and the King. King James II was accused of subverting the British lawmakers by not calling a session and levying heavy taxes without Parliament's consent. Also he was accused of wanting to bring back the Catholic Church as the Church of England.

Those who supported the King would meet socially at dinners. Those who supported the Parliament met in coffeehouses, the precursor of Starbucks.

The printed broadsides each party flung at each other were vitriolic. The King's supporters called their opponents Whigs, which was a Scot's word for horse thief. In turn the Parliament supporters called the monarchists Tories, an Irish name for highwaymen or bandits.

The names have stuck and continue to be used.

And the solution for England? They ran King James out of town and invited William of Orange and his wife, Anne, to be their monarchs, in what is known as the Glorious Revolution.

What it meant for the American colonies was that the monarch's reins on the colonies were loosened and it probably delayed the American Revolution for almost a hundred years.

Election Night in Torrance



Photo Courtesy of Diane Wallace

From the Editor

This is my annual thank-you message to all the people who contribute their content, photos, and time, to help me put the newsletter together every month, starting with Diane Wallace, and including: Dency Nelson, Lee Fink, Lori Geittmann, Steve Zucker, and, yes, Monroe Weinstock, whom everybody keeps telling me they miss. (Open invitation, Monroe!) We elected a new Secretary in June, Lisa Power, and thanks to her and our outgoing Secretary Kathy Campbell we had excellent in-depth meeting reports. Of course Jim McGreevy continues to serve as our invaluable Web master, posting the issues as they go out. If you're at all inclined to contribute to future issues, please volunteer!

Note: we do not publish a December issue, so watch your email for announcements of holiday events. *Maira Zucker*

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**Beach Cities
Democratic Club**



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*Beach Cities Democratic Club
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