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

November 2018

# **Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Beach Cities Democrats will be Wednesday, November 28. Our meeting begins at 7:00 PM at the Hermosa Beach Community Center, 710 Pier Avenue, Room 16, Hermosa Beach 90254.

This meeting will be very important as it is the last meeting of 2018 and there are many upcoming events to discuss. There will be no meeting in December.

Our agenda will include a recap of the November 6 Midterm election.

Congratulations to all the winners and to all of us for our sustained hard work over these past two years, resisting, marching, registering voters, phoning, walking and giving money to help save our democracy. It paid off and we have succeeded in restoring Checks & Balances to our government.

Looking ahead to 2019, our Annual Party/Fundraiser will be on either Saturday evening January 12 or 19, depending on the availability of our elected officials.

We will also be discussing the ADEM Caucus/Election, where we will choose the people who will represent our Assembly District for the next two years and attend the CA State Democratic Convention on our behalf. There is much to know about how to run and the time and cost of being involved. The caucus date has not been finalized, but will be either Saturday, January 26 or Sunday, January 27.

And, our first meeting of 2019 will be on Wednesday, January 23. This is also a very important meeting as we will be voting on the endorsement of candidates in the Manhattan and (Continued on page 2)

# FROM THE PRESIDENT

Bobbi Buescher President, Beach Cities Democrats

We have much to be thankful for this Thanksgiving. We can't exactly sing

"Happy Days Are Here Again" but after two terrible years of all Trump all the time combined with the sycophants who have enabled his tyrannical rule, we have finally restored Checks and Balances to our nation and regained the ability to help shape the future.

We should be very proud of the results of the election here in California and across the country. The Resistance, starting on January 21, 2017 has won the first big battle by "Taking Back the House" but the struggle continues.

Our Golden State led the nation by

completely transforming the bastion of conservative Orange County from red to bright blue. Not one Republican congress member remains. All those months of phone banking, walking and talking to voters and financially supporting our great candidates has paid off. The Blue Wave has rolled over and washed out the Orange Curtain.

To all the people from the multitude of organizations that sprang up and into action, who worked tirelessly to help make the midterms such a stunning success, your grateful nation thanks you.

More people finally realized how important this election was and voted, becoming engaged citizens again. For far too long we have taken our democracy for granted, becoming disengaged and disrespectful of its fragility.

We are all called upon to be faithful stewards of our land and blessed freedoms. Reflecting on the First Thanksgiving, we are thankful for all the

(Continued on page 2)



At our Nov. 3 GOTV rally on Hawthorne and Artesia: Kanji Sahara (I) leads a chant, with (holding Al Muratsuchi sign) Jimmy Gow, Al, and Julian Burger.

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(Meeting, continued from page 1)
Redondo Beach elections scheduled for
March 5. According to our Bylaws:

"Every member present at the meeting who has paid his or her dues at least 30 days prior to the meeting, or a renewing member, may vote." The threshold for endorsement is 60% of the voting members, which is in alignment with CADEM and LACDP. The last day to pay dues if you want to participate in the endorsement process is December 23. You may join Beach Cities Democrats or renew your dues by going to our website at www.beachcitiesdems.org and clicking Membership. Only Registered Democrats who have joined Beach Cities Democrats by the December 23 deadline will be eligible to vote in the January 23 endorsement elections!

As you can see, we will still be very busy with many important events in the near future.

On behalf of your Beach Cities Democrats Board, I want to wish you and your families a wonderful Thanksgiving. We have much to be thankful for this Holiday as Americans from coast to coast and all those in between have chosen to be thoughtful, civil citizens again.

Bobbi

# Treasurer's Report Edna Murphy

Our current balance:

Federal PAC \$4,600 State PAC \$1,480

#### Editor's Note

This issue will be the last one of the year. As is our custom, we do not hold meetings or publish the newsletter in December. I wish to thank the many great people who helped with the newsletter this year: Bobbi Buescher, Dency Nelson, Edna Murphy, Andrea Valcourt, Ryley Simcox, Mark Drabkin, Tony Hale, and Lee Fink. The BCD newsletter would not be possible without your help.





More pictures from the Rally. (Top), Bobbi reads her poem from last month's newsletter

(President, Continued from page 1) generations of patriots who lived, worked, fought and died so their heirs could prosper. We cannot lose sight of their sacrifices. We the people need to continue working to improve the democratic government we have inherited and preserve it for the future.

Now our representatives must do all they can to make sure Mueller's investigation continues, work to uphold and update the Affordable Care Act, stop the gun carnage, and address climate change. There is so much work to be done but at least now we have a hand in governing.

As we celebrate this Holiday Season let's start by being thankful for every American who voted making 2018 the highest midterm voter turnout in 50 years with 47% of the eligible population voting. That is a very hopeful start and in the next two years we will continue to work to expand on those numbers and in 2020 elect a Democratic President and Senate too.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING. GOD BLESS AMERICA.











Pictured above: (1) Governor-Elect Gavin Newsom and Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi (2) Democrat of the Year Award Winners Reggie Jue and Nichelle Henderson, with Al at the Roosevelt Awards Dinner

(3) Cara Robin, Bobbi Buescher, Carolyn and Ray Waters at the dinner.

(4) Candlelight Vigil on October 30 in support of the victims in Pittsburgh, held at the Manhattan Beach Pier Beach Cities Democrats 3

#### The 2018 Midterm Election

The following articles are by two of our previous BCD presidents. One was written just before the midterm elections, the other one after.

#### **Pre-Election Message**

Lee Fink

Tuesday is a big election. We know this. So most of you are about to turn your attention to GOTV. Good. But I want everyone to remember this Tuesday night as we put into perspective whatever happens.

In big elections, we usually know if it's good because an historic, transformational, leader is elected President, or we know it's bad because a terrible person wins the Electoral College.

But in this midterm, we do not have one central focus point. And a lot of good people are going to lose. And I mean really good people, like so great we want them to be President. And a lot of bad people are going to win. Like actual indicted-criminals soon-to-be-spending-time-in-federal-prison-bad are in safe districts. And, let's face it, there is a good chance that some of the best people will lose to some of the absolute worst people. (I won't say who, but some of you know who I am looking at.)

So be prepared for that. The republic will not be lost just because Louie Gohmert gets re-elected. We can't move to Canada if Devin Nunes goes back to DC. This is likely to be a good night if we do what we need to over the next four days. But it is just the beginning. Whatever the results, we have made inroads in places that we have never expected, from Texas to Orange County. We have had more good candidates emerge than in years—and not just for Congress, but for Mayors, City Councils, School Boards, and Water Boards. Win or lose, we know that these candidates will be the backbone of a new movement that will continue the inroads we've made these last two years, and more importantly all the

progress we made in the prior eight. Whatever the results in any given race, make sure to celebrate that.

We know that "progress isn't always a straight line or a smooth path," and it will take more work over the next two years to right the ship—and work in the years to come after that to keep moving forward.

In the meantime, GOTMFV. And here's a little inspiration in case you ever start thinking we can't do it. (Here the author includes a link to the Obama video "Yes We Can" by the Black-Eyed Peas.)

### **Election Report**

Tony Hale

Since there are plenty of good sources for following nationwide elections, I would like to focus on California elections and Los Angeles county races. As the votes continue to be counted, you can follow updates at LAVote.net for L.A. County election results and SOS.CA.Gov for statewide returns, and since these results can easily be looked up, I would like to take you behind the scenes of our California Democratic Party (LACDP) and the Los Angeles County Democratic Party (CADEM).

To aid in the effort of taking back the house, CADEM mailed over nine million pieces of mail in 212 individual messages and designs. This did not include the twenty different walk pieces and door hangers and GOTV pieces. Direct person to person contacts reached out to over 6.5 million voters.

To win legislative races, the party produced 252 individual mail pieces and sent them to some 14 million voters. To assist Tony Thurmond for Superintendent of Public Instruction, the party ran two weeks of statewide television ads including more than 18 million digital ads.

Statewide candidates were helped by more than 3 million slate mailers, along with 1.4 million other campaign materials and over 18 million digital ads and TV ads

over the last two weeks.

To protect the vote, CADEM supported 70 hotline operators in ten different languages and organized 163 attorneys that responded to some 76 incident reports. "Know Your Voting Rights" cards were produced in seven languages.

The State Party employed 108 organizers, supported thousands of volunteer activities and put on numerous rallies and events engaging thousands of voters and activists. All this and more was capped off with a six day Big Blue Wave bus tour that carried our party leadership to 27 cities and visiting election efforts at 32 locations.

The Los Angeles County Democratic Party, in addition to supporting our own endorsed candidates in L.A. County, also financially supported targeted Assembly and congressional races. LACDP sponsored two buses to transport volunteers to Congressional Districts 25 and 39.

LACDP did a countywide mailer for our endorsed candidate for Sheriff, Alex Villanueva, along with other targeted mailings. LACDP also did targeted robo calls in 25 individual races, and 2 countywide calls for Sheriff Candidate Alex Villanueva. L.A. County had four Democratic headquarters during this campaign season.

This report is only a sample of what went on behind the scenes of these two political organizations; the cost of these efforts was close to 50 million dollars and included thousands of paid work hours and countless volunteer efforts. There were numerous conflicts engaged in, and there were life-long friendships made. In the end, we elect imperfect people and enact laws that are works in progress, but it is because of that promise in our Constitution, to form a more perfect union, that we must continue to strive to achieve our Democratic values of equality, freedom and government for and by the people.

**♦** 

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## **Helping Our Veterans**

The following message comes from Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi:

From November 1st through December 15th, Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi will be collecting the following gently used and new items for distribution to veterans:

- Sleeping Bags
- Men's and Women's Jackets/Coats
- Blankets
- Socks (new only)

Collection bins are located at the Assemblymember's District and Capitol Offices.

Capitol Office: State Capitol, Room 2179 District Office: 3424 Carson St., Ste. 450, Torrance. CA 90503

Please call 310-375-0691 for more information.

#### Save the Date!

Senator Ben Allen's Annual Holiday Toy Drive

Please join Ben for his Annual Holiday Toy Drive! They will be collecting wrapped toys to benefit the children of Venice Community Housing and the Children's Lifesaving Foundation.

Thursday, December 13 from 5—7PM

1401 Olympic Blvd. Santa Monica, CA 90404-3823



Speaker Anthony Rendon at Al Muratsuchi's Election Night party







More pictures from AI 's November 6 Election Night Party