

## NEXT MEETING

HAPPY NEW YEAR! We hope you had a wonderful Holiday Season.

The next regular meeting and the first of 2019 for the Beach Cities Democrats will be **Wednesday, January 23, at 7:00 PM.**

We WILL NOT meet at our regular location at the Community Center. We will meet instead at the **Clark Building at 861 Valley Drive, Hermosa Beach 90254.**

Our agenda includes voting on BCD endorsements for Manhattan Beach and Redondo Beach City Council. This change in venue is due to the anticipated large number of members planning to attend to support their favorite candidate in those races.

According to our By-Laws: "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 for new members to join was December 23.

Renewing members may pay their dues up to the January 23 meeting, either online at our website: [www.beachcitiesdems.org](http://www.beachcitiesdems.org), or by cash or check at the meeting.

This month is very busy with so many important events starting with our Annual Gala Party/Fundraiser on Saturday, January 19, from 5:00-9:00 PM, at the beautiful home of Ray and Carolyn Waters in Hermosa Beach.

This is the fun and fabulous event of the year! A chance to mix and mingle with our elected officials and fellow Democrats from across the South-

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

*Bobbi Buescher  
President,  
Beach Cities  
Democrats*



It's a new year with new hopes, new thoughts, new agendas but it's the same old crazy coming out of Washington. The country is held hostage to the whims of a mad man. That is why we are so blessed to live here in California. A state of natural beauty with our ocean, mountains and desert and the glorious tapestry of the people who call it home.

This land we hold dear has always captured the imagination of people from across the country and around the world, ever since the first dreamers rushed here in droves looking for that glittering ore.

California is Gold! And our Golden Girl Nancy Pelosi is once again Speaker of the House, Hallelujah!! Nancy, the first woman to advance to that lofty position, in her second act as Speaker, has served in Congress since 1987 and is the highest ranking woman in U.S. history. She serves with grace, gravitas and heart.

Her Leadership Team includes Californians Ted Lieu, Co-Chair Policy and Communications; Eric Swalwell and Barbara Lee, Steering and Policy; Katie Hill, Freshman Caucus Representative; and Adam Schiff, Chairman of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence replacing Devin Nunes, a disgrace to our state.

These leaders will do their duty to the Constitution and the Rule of Law and will lead us in a new and dynamic direction that is for all the people not just the rich and the corporations.

Because of all the good work we

did, we now have a caucus of 46 of the 53 members in the California delegation to the 116th Congress. We won all our targeted Districts and defeated every Republican in Orange County, turning that bastion of conservatism BRIGHT BLUE. Gold.

We also elected Governor Gavin Newsom and an all-Democratic slate of Statewide Constitutional Officers with super majorities in both the Senate and Assembly. That's gold!

The new Congress is younger, bluer and more diverse than ever with 102 women, 52 African Americans, 40 Hispanics, 12 Asians and 4 Native Americans. They look like America and their communities will now have a voice and a Speaker who will work for them to confront their problems.

There are a multitude of complex issues facing our state and the nation from the government shutdown and its destabilizing consequences to climate change to immigration, income inequality, poverty, homelessness, drugs, education and healthcare but there are new ideas and Californians are on the case. We are in the best of hands here in the Golden State but given the intransigent nature of

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*Madame Speaker, Nancy Pelosi*

(Meeting, continued from page 1)

land. We have a lot to celebrate after all our hard work throughout the past year. We did it. We took back the House and that deserves a great party. You don't want to miss this one!

Tickets are \$30 in advance or \$35 at the door for admission and dinner. There will also be a no-host bar with wine, beer and soft drinks. The menu includes:

Corned Beef Brisket, Piccata Chicken Breast, Pesto Salmon Filet, Avocado Salad, Potatoes, Vegetables and Dessert. Tickets can be purchased online at our website at [www.beachcitiesdems.org](http://www.beachcitiesdems.org), or by check sent to: BCD, PO Box 2192, Redondo Beach 90278. Payment must be received by January 16.

The Assembly District Election Meetings (ADEMS) where we will elect seven women and seven men to represent us in the 66th AD for the next two years and who will attend the CA State Democratic Convention on our behalf, will be held on Sunday, January 27, from 12:00-3:00 PM, at the Fred Hesse, Jr., Community Center at 29301 Hawthorne Blvd., Rancho Palos Verdes 90275. Any registered Democrat living in the 66th AD is eligible to vote. For more information go to: <https://www.cadem.org/our-party/adem/elections>. For a full list of the ADEM candidates, visit our website.

As you can see 2019 is starting off with a bang! We look forward to a wonderful New Year with all our Beach Cities Democrats.

*Bobbi*

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the Republican leadership in the White House and the Senate, the next two years will be fraught with difficulty and danger.

Over that time the American people will see how the Democrats headed by Nancy will stand up for them and their families and the Constitution. They will know that the only way back to sanity will be to vote for a Democratic President, Senate, and House. Then in 2020 our California Dreamin' will be about the next Blue Wave. Golden!

## November Recap

President Bobbi opened the meeting calling for a round of applause in the wake of our very successful midterm election. We should all be very proud of ourselves for the Blue Wave that swept the nation and, particularly, in California. She asked new people to introduce themselves, and there were four, including a member of Rescue our Waterfront.

The next order of business was to renew our club charter, which requires the signatures of our paid-up members, although an individual may only sign the charter application for one club. Those who have signed for another Democratic club cannot also sign for BCD.

Dency reported that there are five Democrats on the Hermosa Beach City Council and five on the school board. He said that on the following day (November 29), outgoing Hermosa Beach Mayor Jeff DuClos would step back into his role on the City Council while Mayor Pro Tem Stacey Armato would become the Mayor and Councilmember Mary Campbell the Mayor Pro Tem.

Edna Murphy gave the Treasurer's Report:

\$1,809 in the State PAC  
\$4,281 in the Federal PAC

## Elected Officials

**Joey Apodaca**, Ted Lieu's field representative, spoke next. He thanked us for our strong support of Ted, who easily won re-election. High on the Congressman's agenda is the war in Yemen; he was one of the first House members to push for an end to US support for the Saudi operations in Yemen. Now that there is a Democratic majority in the House, there is hope for an end to US involvement in "the worst humanitarian crisis in the world."

Ted was also proud to be elected co-chair of the Democratic Policy and Communications Committee (DPPC). Joey said that Ted has written a letter, joined by Congressmembers Doug LaMalfa,

Julia Brownley and Brad Sherman, urging leadership on the House Appropriations Committee to authorize federal funding to assist people impacted by the devastating Camp, Hill and Woolsey fires in California.

Ted joins his colleagues in the House and Senate in calling for a further investigation of the murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

## Andrew DeBlock

Andrew once again is a full-time member of Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi's staff. He

thanked each of us individually for our dedication during Al's campaign and said that Al won reelection by the largest margin in his career. His district is "not the bluest" area, and everybody worked hard to support Al in a campaign against a fiercely partisan opponent.

## Bill Brand

Continuing the positive news, Redondo Beach Mayor Brand announced that he had prevailed in the various lawsuits that were launched by CenterCal and its supporters against those who had supported Measure C (Rescue our Waterfront). Three of the suits were

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Above: Ted Lieu's Field Representative Joey Apodaca, Andrew DeBlock from Al Muratsuchi's office, Redondo Beach Mayor Bill Brand

(Recap, continued from page 2)

defended by the City of Redondo Beach, but one was personal and required Bill to raise funds for his defense. The judge recognized that the plaintiffs were shills for CenterCal and thus ruled in favor of the defendants. The next step is to seek to recover legal costs.

The lawsuit alleged that Brand and Councilman Nils Nehrenheim conspired to control the political action committee Rescue Our Waterfront, and that the PAC made a mistake in not filing paperwork as an issue committee rather than a general purpose committee. On both counts the judge ruled against the plaintiffs.

**John Gran**

The Redondo Beach City Councilman spoke about plans for upgrading the Galleria. The approved redevelopment project would add over 200 thousand square feet of retail space, including stores, shops, restaurants and entertainment. The plan also includes 300 affordable apartment units. In response to neighborhood criticism, the Galleria agreed to move the apartment building from the site's western boundary along Kingsdale Avenue to the eastern boundary on Hawthorne Boulevard.

**Christian Horvath**

Fellow Councilman Horvath talked about pending legislation: a smoking ban in public places, restrictions on places selling tobacco products, and a ban on polystyrene containers in supermarkets and other outlets that sell food. He also talked about the Metro Green Line, which is still in the planning stages. Eleven options are on the table.

**Todd Lowenstein**

Councilman Lowenstein spoke about Community Choice Aggregation, which would allow local governments including cities and counties to purchase electricity in the wholesale power market and sell it to their residents and businesses at competitive rates as an alternative to that purchased by Southern California Edison. SCE would continue to deliver electricity,

maintain infrastructure, and bill consumers. He said Manhattan and Redondo Beach have CCA, and Hermosa Beach may adopt it.

**Election Recap**

Bobbi said that we won all of Orange County and in total: 40 House seats, seven governorships, and 349 State Legislative seats. California makes up 8.1% of the national vote, with eight million more Democrats voting. We won all the California Congressional seats as well as the governorship and now have a super majority in both houses of the California State Legislature. Our new governor Gavin Newsom won in Orange County, where no Democrat has prevailed since 1978. Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer will now be the top two leaders in Congress. Karen Bass will head the Congressional Black Caucus and Hakeem Jeffries will now be the Democratic Caucus Chair.

We are thrilled that Proposition 6 was defeated. Ted Lieu's Blue Momentum PAC helped put Democrats over the top. Dency Nelson commended Lee Fink (a former BCD president) for tirelessly working in Orange County to get out the vote.

Tony Hale spoke next, and said he had managed Betty Lieu's successful campaign for Torrance School Board. She was the top vote-getter and first Asian American woman to get elected in Torrance.

**Announcements & Adjournment**

It was announced that our annual Holiday Party will be at the Hermosa Beach home of Ray and Carolyn Waters on January 19 from 5:00 to 9:00.

The 66th Assembly District will be electing seven men and seven women to represent us. These representatives attend the conventions and Party meetings. We discussed the cost of attending a convention, which is borne by the delegate. There is the cost of transportation to those conventions that are not local, hotels, and the \$130 fee to attend.

Tony Hale, who is our representative

in the 66th AD committee, reporting from the County Committee, said the LA committee is the largest in the country. He said that the conventions typically run for three days, and there are three other E Board meetings a year. The next Convention is to be held in San Francisco.

He also said there have been charges leveled against our California State Democratic Party chair (who has subsequently resigned) and that there is an independent investigation taking place. The female vice-chair will take his place until a new Chairperson is elected at the State Convention in May.

Our club will be electing new leadership in June. We will form a slate committee in April, who will announce the slate in May, and the election will be at our June meeting.

If you want to take a more active role in our Beach Cities activities, please consider joining the Club leadership. Everyone is welcome. We need you!



Above: Redondo Beach City Councilmen Christian Horvath and Todd Lowenstein; Tony Hale, our 66th AD E Board member who managed Betty Lieu's campaign

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Beach Cities Democrats Membership Form



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Distribution of the newsletter via e-mail saves money. Check here only if you would like to receive it by U.S. Mail.

*Annual dues are \$25.00 per person or \$40.00 for two at the same address.*

*Please make checks payable to Beach Cities Democrats and mail to P.O. Box 2192, Redondo Beach, CA 90278*

**This Saturday is our Gala Party! Sign up on our website or pay at the door.**

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