

## NEXT MEETING Note New Date!

Tuesday, June 25, 7:00PM  
Hermosa Beach Community Center  
Room 16, Hermosa Beach 90254

We normally meet on the fourth Wednesday, but due to the first Democratic Presidential Debate which will be on Wednesday, June 26, our membership voted at the May meeting to move our June meeting up one day.

Our main focus will be to elect a new BCD Governing Board for the 2019/20 Year. We will be voting on President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

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." Renewing members may pay their dues on line at our website, or by cash or check at the meeting in order to be in "good standing" to vote.

The Nominating Committee recommended a slate of candidates for consideration at the May meeting, but additional candidates may be nominated from the floor at the June meeting.

Our program will be a talk on the "Grassroots Democrats HQ", by Tamara Levenson, who was instrumental in organizing the phone banking operation that we used during our extremely successful 2018 election cycle. She is our hero! The mission of the GDHQ is to Defend and Flip: Defend Democrats' 2018 House gains, and flip the Senate, take back the White House in 2020, and turn key state legislatures blue.

We will also have a discussion on the recent CA State Democratic Convention that was held in San Francisco, May 31-June 2, where we elected our new State Party Chairman, Rusty Hicks, and saw and heard from 14 of our Democratic Candidates for President in 2020.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

*Bobbi Buescher  
President,  
Beach Cities  
Democrats*



"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair."

It's hard to believe Charles Dickens wrote that profound paragraph in 1859. It could easily be on the editorial page of today's Washington Post.

Our country is on the precipice of becoming a nation we do not recognize.

Daily, hourly even, absurd utterances insult our senses from the "extremely stable genius". Again Dickens, "cruelty and the abuse of absolute power are two of the bad passions of human nature."

While we must endure, we have a chance for great change in 2020. The hopes and dreams of the people can be rescued by one of the 24 people who want to be our next president. Although a

list this long is not optimal, it is wonderful to have such diversity among the candidates.

At a time when "the other" is being vilified for political gain, it is heartening to see our Democratic Party shine as a model of inclusion and open opportunity for all.

The first debates are on June 26 and 27, with ten candidates each night. Four did not make the cut. This will be the time for many of them to introduce themselves to the country and for all of them to try for that elusive zinger that will get their name splashed across newspapers, TV and the internet.

With all that we know about the election of 2016 there is much to worry about, especially since 45 has said he would certainly listen to a foreign friend or foe with dirt on his opponent. Not to mention how the media and the internet have skewed the way people get and process the news.

By the third debate in September when the criteria for participation becomes more difficult, I hope a majority of them will be out of the race, so we can concentrate on the strongest candidates who have emerged, one of whom will become our standard-bearer. We need time to really get to know the person, their

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*Democrats throughout the 66th AD joined up for a fun breakfast at Mimi's Café in Torrance. We met a week earlier than is our custom to avoid a conflict with Fiesta Hermosa, which was held on the last Sunday of the month.*



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priorities and their intended policies.

We have great choices. I hope and pray we choose wisely. We need to come out of the Darkness and into a season of Light.

Let the games begin!

P.S. My thanks to the very prescient Charles Dickens.

P.P.S. As this is my last column as your President, I want to thank my Vice President Dency Nelson and all the BCD Board Members for their friendship, help and encouragement over the past three years. It has been my honor and privilege to serve all of you wonderful Democrats of the Beach Cities. I will continue to work for the causes we believe in, especially turning our National Government BLUE. My best wishes to the new President and Board, who will continue to move us always forward in our quest for a more perfect Union. My sincere thanks to all.

#### Upcoming Events:

\*June 22, 4-6 PM, Congressman Ted Lieu's Blue Momentum PAC special "Keep the House Blue" Reception in Los Angeles. Contact: GENELLE.BUCHERT@GMAIL.COM or call 562-981-2111. \$100

\*June 26 & 27, 6 PM. 66th AD Democratic Primary Debate Watch Parties. Schooner Bar and Grill, 2701 190th Street #100, Redondo Beach 90278 at the corner of Inglewood Ave. For more information call: 310-378-1554.  
\*June 30, 10AM, 66th ADDC Breakfast at Mimi's Café, 25343 Crenshaw, Torrance 90505



At our Fiesta Hermosa booth: Bobbi Buescher, Jeff DuClos, Tony Hale, and Scott McDonough

## May Recap

by Andrea Valcourt

Bobbi greeted everyone and said it was another busy week: Nancy Pelosi gave the President what for, and is working the long game toward impeachment.

Dency said that the courts are packed with political Federalist judges. McConnell's revenge is to pack the Supreme Court as well and approve Trump's Cabinet appointees, even if they are incompetent.

Bobbi asked for visitors/new members, but there were none.

Dency said that new contact information cards were made to show our local representatives and the vetted activist groups. We added the Sister District Project South Bay LA after last month's presentation. We will have them at our Fiesta booth. A big thanks to Tony Hale for helping us make these cards.

At the Hermosa Fiesta, we will have posters of our electeds, and flags, and literature to educate folks about what we represent. The booth is not to confront others. If some are of a different mindset, we direct them to the other booths. At the September Fiesta, we will have literature on those running for office in November. Hermosa Beach will have two City Council seats up for election and hopefully two Democratic candidates.

**The County Committee elected Moira Zucker and Wayne Mogilefsky as the LA County Woman and Man of the Year. Moira has been involved for 20+ years and Wayne is relatively new, but has made tremendous strides.** He told Dency about the misstatements being made about our club not endorsing Redondo Beach candidates last election. Dency was able to correct the information.

Tony said that Wayne has achieved a lot of good work for the South Bay. It should be noted that each district elects a Man and Woman of the Year.

#### Treasurer's Report

Edna Murphy gave the Treasurer's report: \$2464 in the Federal PAC  
\$5246 in the State PAC



Rusty Hicks was elected Chairman of the CA Democratic Party at the State Convention in San Francisco with 57% of the 3,162 delegates voting.



Jake Ridout with Adi Rick, speaking about Al Muratsuchi's recent legislation.

Dency mentioned that dues are due by June 30. They are \$25 per person or \$40 for a family at the same address.

**Jake Ridout for Al Muratsuchi, with Adi Rick, an intern from Mira Costa,** spoke about Al's recent legislation:

The following bills passed the Assembly and moved to the Senate. For more information on them, input [www.leginfo.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov) into your browser.

AB 39—\$35 Billion for school funding.

AB 308—extends tax relief for small businesses.

AB 342—prohibits oil/gas infrastructure on State or Federal public lands in California.

AB 720—provides funding for police and fire mandated training at community colleges.

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AB 245—establishes an Aerospace and Aviation Commission within the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development.

Al will be speaking at the opening of the Hermosa Fiesta on Memorial Weekend. He may also be able to come to the Democratic booth.

Stacey Michaels, a Carson teacher, stated that Al abstained from voting on AB 1505, which passed in the Assembly. She hopes that he considers that he is endorsed by the Teachers' Organization and would vote for the other bills. Charter schools are encroaching on LAUSD schools. (Note: there are three bills related to charter schools: AB 1505, 1506, and 1507.)

Jake responded that Al is concerned about the success of the schools. Stacey said that she is always pointing out how he supports other good work. It was disappointing that he abstained.

Dency said that his concerns regarding Al's position on charter schools leaves a door open for money draining away from public schools.

Jake said that he is leaving his position in Al's office to study for his LSAT. We wished him good luck.

Another person asked if there was legislation to have changing tables in men's restrooms. Jake did not have an update.

Jake also said Andrew DeBlock will run for Torrance City Council in District #6, but will continue working for Al.

#### **Joey Apodaca for Ted Lieu**

Ted moved his office to 1645 Corinth, near the 405 and Santa Monica Blvd.

There are three bill updates. For more information on them input [www.congress.gov/bill](http://www.congress.gov/bill) into your browser.

The House passed a bipartisan disaster relief bill for \$19.1 B, which now goes to the Senate.

Ted introduced in Congress the bicameral, bi-partisan Bill HR 1899, the Protecting Data at the Border Act, which would prevent unnecessary searches of people's electronic devices at the border.

Currently, border officials can request your password and search your data without a search warrant, citing national security. This bill would make that illegal. (Note: The companion Senate bill is S823.)

The House passed HR 5, the Equality Act, which protects the LBGTO community from discrimination, and it moved to the Senate.

Ted supports a Green New Deal and supports a bill that mimics California's bill. Some changes need to be made to match the latest UN report.

Ted also supports an Impeachment Inquiry. If the President is acquitted of crimes by the Senate, he is free and cannot be indicted.

There is a letter asking that Attorney General William Barr be investigated with the goal of disbarring him.

#### **Christian Horvath, Redondo Beach Councilman**

SB 50 was put on hold until January. This bill would allow increased density near transit centers and major bus stops. There are two other housing bills in process.

We made the second round for grant money from the Natural Resources Board for the AES land purchase. Redondo is working on its budget now and this would be helpful. Christian wants Redondo to declare a climate emergency.

#### **John Gran, Redondo Beach Councilman**

Redondo and Manhattan are part of the Energy Alliance and we want Hermosa to join. Dency said that they started the process, but had to stop because of a PUC ruling.

#### **Tony Hale for the Officers Nominating Committee**

These are the people who were nominated, with their consent. No one else offered to run. Following our by-laws, next month's election will be appropriately noticed.

Michael Detoy—President  
Tony Hale—Vice-President  
Edna Murphy—Treasurer  
Andrea Valcourt—Secretary



*Katherine Carpio, our featured speaker*



*Michael Detoy, our nominee for BCD President*

Bobbi reminded everyone that the following weekend was the Hermosa Fiesta and we need folks to volunteer for two hour shifts on all three days. We'll pass around a sign-up sheet, or you can sign up on line, or you can just show up. Ray, Dency and Bobbi will be there all weekend. It is fun and you meet some great people.

#### **Katherine Carpio from the Clean Money Campaign**

Katherine discussed several bills that pertain to clean election money. For more information on them input [www.leginfo.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov) into your browser.

SB 47—Ben Allen introduced this bipartisan bill, which the Senate passed and was sent to the Assembly. It requires disclosure of the top three donors for a petition and prevents backers from hiding their identity, so you know who is backing the petition you're asked to sign.

SB 636—Henry Stern introduced the Election Ballot Label bill, which the

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## Beach Cities Democrats

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Senate passed and sent to the Assembly. The bill requires disclosing who supports and does not support a ballot measure.

AB 784—multiple assembly members introduced the bill, which provide \$16 million in matching funds so that counties can use open-source paper ballot voting systems, which would prevent hacking into county voting systems. Currently, private companies provide these systems.

AB 1217—Kevin Mullin introduced this bill, which requires disclosure of supporters of political advertisements in all media forms.

Katherine said they need volunteers to get these bills passed. They can use phone bankers, data entry people and signature gatherers. They use Phone Fire, which has auto-dial and records answers, making it easy for our volunteers. August 11 will be a Kickoff meeting.

Tony Hale made a motion to endorse these four bills and to ask our members

to call our Representatives in support of these bills. The motion passed unanimously.

Ray Waters and Tony gave the County Committee Update:

There was a first reading of our By-laws changes. They passed a resolution to support the Green New Deal. A more controversial resolution was to change the voting age to 17. Currently, teens can vote when they turn 18, which is also when they are graduating high school and making major life changes. At 17, they are still in high school and studying government. It would be a better transition. The Federal law is 18. They also endorsed some legislation going through the state house.

LA County will have 25 slots for the Executive Board: one for every district and for the county.

The Convention is May 31 through June 2 in San Francisco.

Tony described the new election process. He went to an information meeting in Carson. There will be another

meeting in October, at which you can use the touch screens. We are going to do our best to test their reliability by trying to break them. We should all go to these meetings.

There was some discussion by the members, some voicing concern about the change. Tony said that the new system is coming from our state government and Alex Padilla. It has already been used in other counties. Since LA is the largest county, it was not ready for the 2018 election. It has also worked in other states.

Another change is that everyone will get an absentee ballot.

Bobbi thanked everyone for coming and adjourned the meeting.

**We hope to see you at the 66th  
ADDC Breakfast on June 30 at  
Mimi's Café. It's a fun opportunity  
to network and bond with like-  
minded Democrats!**