

Palos Verdes Democrats

Founded 1952



February 2018 Newsletter

P.O. Box 2234, Rolling Hills Est. CA 90274
Visit Us on the Web at www.pvpdemocrats.org
"One of the oldest Democratic Clubs in California"

COMING EVENTS

Social time: 2pm

FEBRUARY MEETING

DATE: Sunday, February 18th

MEETING TIME: 2:30 - 4:30pm

LOCATION: Peninsula Center Library
Community Room; 701 Silver Spur Rd, RHE

TOPIC: 2018 CA Senate Primary

SPEAKER: State Senator Kevin DeLeon

MARCH MEETING

DATE: Sunday, March 18th

MEETING TIME: 2:30-4:30pm

LOCATION: Peninsula Center Library
Community Room; 701 Silver Spur Rd, RHE

TOPIC: CA Assembly Update

SPEAKER: Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi

Inside This Month's Issue:

February General Meeting Page 1

January Meeting Report Page 1-2

**Nominating Committee for 2018-19
Board** Page 2

**AQMD Refinery Committee Hearing,
January 2nd** Page 2

Book Review - Unbelievable Page 2

Los Angeles and Redondo Beach

Women's March Photos Page 3



February General Meeting

At our February meeting we are very pleased to be welcoming President pro Tempore of the California State Senate, Kevin de León. Senator de León is mounting a campaign for the U.S. Senate taking on longtime California Senator Dianne Feinstein.

Senator de León was elected by his colleagues to lead the Senate in 2014, making him the first Latino to hold that position in over a century. Prior to that, Kevin served four years in the Assembly before his election to the Senate in 2010. Before entering into politics, Kevin served the public as a community organizer, taught English as a Second Language and U.S. Citizenship, and advocated for public schools.

In many ways, Senator de León embodies the promise of America. From a childhood of poverty to community activism, to the upper echelon of the California Legislature, his respect and commitment to working families and the betterment of all Californians has never diminished. We look forward to hearing about the Senator's campaign and vision for California and the country..

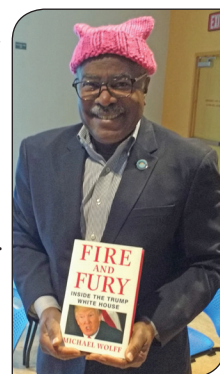
January Meeting Report

by Carol Moeller

Incumbent Harold Williams running for West Basin Municipal Water District

PV Democrats' club member **Harold Williams** announced he will be on the ballot again in November. Since 1947 WBMWD has had the challenge to insure safe and reliable water to a 185-square mile service area. Their conservation

programs have resulted in over 167 billion gallons of conserved water! Director Williams announced gray water information classes as well as distribution of free rain barrels in February and beyond. He also informed us of the opportunity to tour Diamond Valley Lake on Mar 2. He also was the winner of our opportunity drawing for both the *Fire and Fury* book as well as a pink pussy hat!



Harold Williams

Candidate for Insurance Commissioner

Asif Mahmood, MD has thrown his hat into the ring for the 2018 California state election. As an immigrant from a poor village in Pakistan, pulmonologist Mahmood feels his embodiment of the American Dream as well as the struggles he sees as his patients deal with insurance nightmares, provides him with a deeply personal perspective for the Insurance Commissioner office.



Asif Mahmood, MD

His three-point platform recognizes healthcare as a right, and includes women's, children's and mental healthcare. Other aspects of his Commissioner role would be to make sure victims of disasters are helped, improve infrastructure so as to minimize the effects of disasters, and make sure disaster insurance is affordable.

continued on page 2

continued from page 1

Bend the Arc: SB 10 Money Bail Reform

Bend the Arc is a non-profit, progressive organization of Jews that advocates and organizes for a more just and equal society. Their focus is on 4 issues:

1. Immigrant rights
2. Homelessness
3. Getting Democrats into office
4. Criminal Justice reform

To the last point, [Bend the Arc](#) representatives screened a movie clip that personalized the



*Bend of the Arc representatives (from left):
Julia Zukin, Dan Kuptez and Marie Mazzone*

plight of those caught in the justice system who do not have the means to post bail. Their choices are to remain incarcerated until their trial (which could be months), or use bail bonds that charge 10% of their bail total and that amount is not reimbursed, even if found innocent! Most bail bond companies are actually arms of giant insurance behemoths. 63% of California inmates are incarcerated awaiting trial! Our prison overcrowding could be greatly relieved with the passage of [SB 10](#). Only the US and the Philippines have a money bond system that unfairly punishes the poor. States who use systems like those proposed by SB 10, and a pilot program in Santa Clara County have worked well. Under SB 10, flight risk and risks to the community would be taken into account. Right now, most wealthy people who are accused of even extremely heinous crimes can post bail, so SB 10 would level that

playing field and keep those at most risk to the community off the street, regardless of their ability to pay. SB 10 has passed the state Senate and has the backing of Jerry Brown. Al Muratsuchi requested community input on this issue prior to his vote. PV Dems, Lynn Bommer, encouraged everyone to call Al and ask him to support SB 10 and our membership elected to send him the following message:

*Dear Al Muratsuchi,
As our representative, members of the Palos Verdes Democrats have voted to strongly urge you to vote YES on SB 10 money bail reform.*

Nominating Committee for 2018-2019 Board

By Lynn Bommer

Each January we ask for 3 volunteers from our membership to serve on the Nominating Committee. The 3-person team generally consists of one board member, one long-term member, and one fairly new member. This committee usually only works for a couple of months. They identify which Board members are stepping down, elicit candidates to fill these positions, and then submit their list of candidates to be voted on by the membership. We have 2 members on this committee so far. If you are interested in being on the Nominating Committee or on serving in a Board position, please email me at labommer@gmail.com. All are welcome and we have fun!

AQMD Refinery Committee Hearing, January 20

By Connie Sullivan

The hearing was set for 9:00 AM, but by 7:45 AM there was a huge crowd waiting outside the ballroom of the Torrance Gateway Holiday Inn.

The majority of the crowd was made up of unionized refinery workers (who were paid to be there and who left on masse at 12:00 PM). The Torrance Refinery Action Alliance (TRAA), however, did marshal around 150 supporters. And this hearing conflicted with the Women's March, where many of our potential supporters chose to attend.

The refinery committee heard a draft of Rule 1410, which in TRAA's opinion falls short of our goal. The proposal presented by staff laid out three tiers of mitigation, the final tier being a "failsafe" that requires the refineries to construct containment structures around their alkylation units. In lieu of tiers II or III, the refineries can opt to convert to a safer chemical for alkylation.

The refinery brass seemed to push back on both the so-called failsafe mitigation and the conversion to the safe chemical. The TRAA and their supporters asked for a ban, which would require a conversion (or refinery closure, according to the refineries.) The workers argued against a ban because they are understandably concerned about their jobs. To be clear, TRAA believes a conversion can be done without bankrupting the refineries, according to research done by the AQMD's consultant.

The committee listened to testimony from about 100 people (my guess, it seemed like 100, at least), with both sides being ably represented. In fact the AQMD board members on the committee congratulated the crowd for being polite and for conducting a great debate.

Four of the six AQMD board members in attendance made comments that TRAA found very encouraging, but we will have to see what the staff propose in 6 weeks time. That's when the committee indicated they want to see a more definitive plan.

Unbelievable: My Front Row Seat to the Craziest Campaign in America

by Katy Tur

Reviewed By Carol Moeller

Katy was working as a correspondent in London when she was tapped to (reluctantly) cover the Trump campaign at its onset. While many of us ignored his campaign as

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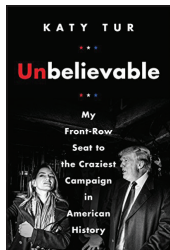
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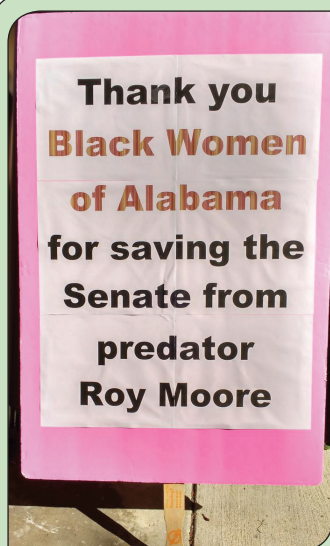
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a joke, Katy was forced to accompany Trump throughout, so shares insight into a part of the campaign not widely known. She describes being publicly derided by Trump to inflame his supporters, highlighting the beleaguered plight of reporters (particularly female) in this era of Trumpeted "fake news".



Tur documents the roller coaster chaos that we now realize is simply a part of Trump. A well written page-turner, this book ends with the same jaw dropping disbelief the rest of us experienced on election night. That someone so well informed and well-connected also never saw a Trump Presidency coming only serves to underscore my personal skepticism that Trump was actually elected.

Photos from 2nd Annual Women's March Downtown Los Angeles -- January 20, 2018



Photos from 2nd Annual Women's March Redondo Beach -- January 20, 2018





Palos Verdes Democrats Officers for 2017-2018

President: Lynn Bommer 310-374-1188

President Emeritus: Carol Moeller 310-541-5526

1st Vice President: Rascha Hall 310-377-7334

2nd Vice President: Gary Boston 917-880-2823

Recording Secretary: Kathy Bradford 310-265-9812

Corresponding Secretary: Arlene Korb 310-544-7203

Treasurer: Al Shadbourn 310-326-4953

Parliamentarian: Craig Williams 301-265-9812

Membership: Irene Silver 310-541-2650

Publicity: Dunja Maglica 310-375-4912

Newsletter Editor: Carol Moeller 310-541-5526

Newsletter Designer: Ann Nye 310-373-6805

Newsletter Mailings: Ron Moeller 310-541-5526

Hospitality: TBD

Web Master: Reggie Jue 310-433-8189

Palos Verdes Democrats

Founded in 1952 - One of the oldest and largest Democratic Clubs in California

www.pvpdemocrats.org

As a member of the Palos Verdes Democrats, you can:

- Meet other Democrats
- Meet and get to know your elected officials, raise funds and work for candidates
- Attend special events and monthly meetings
- Hear speakers and discuss issues of local, state and national import
- Receive a monthly newsletter
- Vote on club issues, unless registered as NPP (No Party Preference)

Please send your membership form to P.O. Box 2234, Rolling Hills Est. Ca 90274
Please fill in all items to ensure that we have your full and correct current information.

Name _____

Name* _____

* Fill in if Applying as a Family - two memberships

☐

I am a registered Democrat

☐

I am registered No Party Preference

☐

I am a registered Democrat

☐

I am registered No Party Preference

Residence Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ Zip _____ Cell _____

Occupation _____

Employer _____

E-mail Address _____

*Select One: ☐ Individual: \$ 25.00/Year ☐ Family Membership \$40.00/Year

☐ Young Adult \$10.00/Year

Amount enclosed _____ ☐ Renewal ☐ New Member

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