

Palos Verdes Democrats

Founded 1952



August 2016 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

AUGUST MEETING

DATE: Sunday, August 21st

MEETING TIME: 2:30 - 4:30pm

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

TOPIC: 2015-16 Supreme Court Review

SPEAKER: Hon. Tom Long

SEPTEMBER MEETING

DATE: Sunday, September 18th

MEETING TIME: 2:30 - 4:30pm

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

TOPIC: Empowering Teachers to Repair the World

SPEAKER: TBA

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August Membership Meeting

2015-16 Supreme Court: What Did They Do to us This Time?

In what has become a well-received annual meeting topic, member and recent judicial appointee Tom Long will elaborate on U C Irvine Law School Dean, Erwin Chemerinsky's 2015-16 Supreme Court Review video. Chemerinsky has been even more in the news lately in defense of [Ruth Bader-Ginsberg](#) and also due to his article that described Trump as a greater threat to the rule of law than any other [political candidate](#) he has seen in his lifetime.

In addition to Chemerinsky, the panelists include Frederick Lawrence, former Dean of George Washington Law School and expert on civil rights law, and Dahlia Lithwick, attorney, editor at Slate Magazine and frequent guest on The Rachael Maddow Show. All commented on how decisions were changed due to the 4:4 philosophical split as a result of Justice Scalia's death and the failure of the Senate to consider President Obama's pick to replace him, Merrick Garland. One scary scenario; what would happen if the Presidential election ended up in that court as it did in the 2000 election?!

The following cases are discussed in the video:

- Evenwal v. Abbott (Texas voting rights)
- Fisher v. Univ of Texas (affirmative action)
- Friedrichs v. Calif. Teacher's Association (labor

union protections)

- United States v. Texas (immigration)
- Whole Women's Health v. Hellerstadt (abortion restrictions)
- Zubik v. Burwell (health insurance provider and contraceptives)

July Meeting Report

by Carol Moeller

PV Democrats' Installation Party

In lieu of a regular monthly meeting, our PV Dems celebrate our new club officeholders with a party. To accommodate a larger crowd, this year it was held in the beautiful gardens at St. Luke's Presbyterian Church, and close to 90 people attended! Both incoming and outgoing board members (and several other members) generously donated their culinary talents, resulting in a large array of delicious treats. A special thank you to David Hall, Reggie Jue, Ron Moeller and Dick Sullivan for the hard labor they put into setting up all the canopies, tables and chairs....and then taking all that down again.

Board members Lynn Bommer, Kathy Bradford, Connie Sullivan, Al Shadbourne, Rascha Hall, Arlene Korb, Craig Williams, David Hall, Susie Boone, Teresa Savo and Dee Dee Gonzalez were installed by CA State Treasurer (and 2018 candidate for Governor), **John Chiang**. Other speakers included Congressman **Ted Lieu**, LA County Assessor **Jeffrey Prang**, and candidates **Al Muratsuchi** (66th Assembly District), **Jim Kennedy** (Water Replenishment District) and **Alicia Molina** (Superior Court Judge). A representative from State Senator **Ben Allen's** office also added his congratulations.

In his discussion of the Congressional Gun Safety sit-in, Congressmen Ted Lieu praised the

Membership Dues Now Due! by Susie K. Boone, Membership Chair

Many of you have already renewed your 2015 -2016 dues, but those who haven't, let me remind you that our fiscal year runs from July 1st through June 30th. We depend primarily on dues and donations to run the operation, which are spent not only for vital donations to Democratic candidates, but also to pay for room rentals and refreshments. We are also required to pay fees to the FEC and the Los Angeles County Democratic Party.

You can use the renewal form in the newsletter or find it on our website or even complete the process entirely online at <http://pvpdemocrats.org/membership/>

This is an exciting election year to help Democrats up and down the ticket. I look forward to seeing you at our August General Meeting.

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documentary *Making a Killing, Guns, Greed and the NRA*, that our club viewed in June. However, everyone's favorite moment came in this pastoral setting when John Chiang was speaking and a donkey could be heard braying in the background. A real-live Democratic Party mascot sent its approval!

The overarching theme voiced by our speakers is the absolute necessity to elect a Democrat to the White House. Our Supreme Court and down ticket offices are totally at stake, and there are huge differences between the parties. Environmental protection, gun safety, women's rights, campaign financing, social and financial inequality and trade policies are just some of the extremely important issues that



Picnic in the St Luke's Garden



Rev Dr. Sunny Kang, St Luke's Presbyterian Church

likely will be legislated during the next term. It is only a few months until the election, so each of us must help out as much as we can in this short amount of time to insure Democratic victory in November.



John Chiang, CA State Treasurer



Al Muratsuchi, Candidate for CA 66th Assembly



Ted Lieu, Congressman 33rd CA Congressional District



St Luke's food buffet



Jeffrey Prang, Los Angeles County Assessor



Picnic attendees enjoying the party with Al Muratsuchi



Alicia Molina, Candidate for Superior Court Judge

A Message from your New President **By Lynn Bommer**

No one needs to be convinced of the importance of this election! The results up and down the ticket will affect our lives for years to come.

But, you say, California is already Blue and will vote for democratic candidates. This is not always the case. Just ask Al Muratsuchi. By all measures he was the better candidate and as hard as we worked for him, the results were just not there. We must get EVERY vote out this time! When Democrats come out to vote, Democrats win!

And, did you know, Big Blue California reaches out to other states? Through Phone Bank calls and weekend trips to Nevada, California volunteers helped turn Nevada Blue

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PV Democrats Candidates (from left) Connie Sullivan, Dee Dee Gonzalez, Craig Williams, Rasha Hall, David Hall, Kathy Bradford, Lynn Bommer, Al Shadbourn
officially installed by CA State Controller John Chiang

and we'll do it again! In the same way we will support Colorado also, this time!

And, did you know, in the election of 2012, 5+ MILLION calls were made from California to all states during the last FIVE days before Election Day! Over ONE MILLION calls were made by California volunteers ON Election Day alone!!

That's how elections are won! We are the tail that wags the dog! Join me in volunteering this election!

Go to hillaryclinton.com and sign up for an event.

Go to the Phone Bank at Muratsuchi Headquarters at 1513 Sepulveda Blvd, Torrance Monday - Thursday 4 to 8 PM. Call Marc Sussman to volunteer: 323-382-1111.

Go Blue!

PV Dems Booth at RPV July 4th Fair

By Carol Moeller



Members Dee Dee Gonzalez and Connie Sullivan staffing the PV Dems Booth

Celebrating the USA, PV Dems gave small flags to kids, helped get voters registered and advertised our club at RPV's annual July 4th fair. Members Nelly and Jim Bertolina, Carol Moeller, Dee Dee Gonzalez and Connie Sullivan took

turns manning our colorful booth. Campaign signs and literature were available for interested parties in this fun way opportunity to let the community know the PV Dems are there for them.

My DNC Experience

By Connie Sullivan



I'm going to assume most of you watched at least part of the convention on TV, so I'm not going to write about the speeches and how I felt about each one of them.

Instead, I'm going to tell you about the experience of going to the convention.

The first and most salient feeling is one of excitement to actually be in the building where the convention takes place. I went as a guest, not a delegate, so I sat in the balcony looking down on the stage and all the delegations. The seats were wonderful; better than the California delegation seats on the floor, I believe.

It was fun meeting other guests from all over the country. As a California guest, with many friends among the California delegates, I was asked to text down to my friends to find out what the California Bernie people were chanting in their protests or what their T-shirts said, etc. So, I was a very important person in my section.

Each session started very early, as early as 3:00 pm on Monday and 4:00 or 4:30 each of the other days. The evenings ended at midnight each night. So, because credentials have to be picked up each morning, the other pervasive feeling to go along with excitement was sleep deprivation.

Each morning the California delegation has a breakfast in the ballroom of the delegation hotel. Anyone can buy a ticket and attend these. They start at 8:00 am. It's the place to hear short speeches from visiting politicians, both from California and around the country. I attended on Tuesday morning only and heard Sen. Amy Klobuchar, Sen. Al Franken, Sen.



Sen. Bernie Sanders

Bernie Sanders, among others. At this particular breakfast, the Bernie people booed Bernie for encouraging his followers to get



Connie and Sen. Al Franken behind Clinton.

This is when he famously said, "Booing is easy. What's not easy is looking your children in the eye the day after Trump is elected."

During the time after the breakfast and before the sessions began, there were caucuses held in the convention center. And Elizabeth Warren decided to give an unscheduled special lecture on the economy and the agenda she would like to see our country adopt to improve the lives of our middle class. She started by saying she's a teacher and can't help herself, she has to teach so she decided to hold this special lecture. She was quite wonderful.

Sightseeing was on my agenda for Thursday before the last session. A friend and I boarded one of those on-and-off buses and were able to stop at the art museum



Donkeys were sprinkled around the city, each one depicting scenes from a certain state; here's Connie posing with the donkey from Maryland

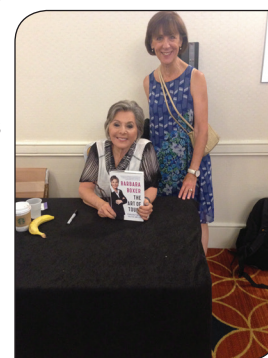
(the location of the steps made famous by the Rocky movies) and Independence Hall.



Connie & MSNBC Chris Matthews

And finally, being in the room when history was being made as the first woman to be nominated for president by a major party was very moving and powerful.

In short, my trip to the convention was the experience of a lifetime.



Connie and Sen. Barbara Boxer



Palos Verdes Democrats Officers for 2016-2017

President: Lynn Bommer 310-374-1188

President Emeritus: Carol Moeller 310-541-5526

1st Vice President: Kathy Bradford 310-265-9812

2nd Vice President: Connie Sullivan 310-378-1554

Recording Secretary: Rascha Hall 310-377-7334

Corresponding Secretary: Arlene Korb 310-544-7203

Treasurer: Al Shadbourn 310-326-4953

Parliamentarian: Craig Williams 301-265-9812

Membership: Susie Boone 310-686-0455

Publicity: David Hall 310-377-7334

Newsletter Editor:

Hospitality: Teresa Savo 310-541-1139

Precinct Captains: Connie Sullivan 310-378-1554

Dee Dee Gonzalez 210-367-9727

LACDP Associate Member: TBD

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

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 _____ ☐ I am a registered Democrat

Name* _____ ☐ I am a registered Democrat

* Fill in if Applying as a Family - two memberships

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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