

Palos Verdes Democrats

Founded 1952



logo by
Paul Conrad

June 2019 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

JUNE MEETING

DATE: Sunday, June 23rd (NOTE this is the 4th Sunday to avoid conflict with Father's Day)

MEETING TIME: 2:30 - 4:30pm

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

TOPIC: CADEM Convention Discussion

SPEAKERS: Connie Sullivan, Reggie Jue

JULY MEETING

DATE: Sunday, July 21st

MEETING TIME: 4-7pm

LOCATION: St. Luke's Presbyterian Church (in the Garden); 26825 Rolling Hills Rd, RHE, CA 90274

TOPIC: Picnic and Installation Party

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Save the Date! July 21st @St Luke's Presbyterian Church, 4-7pm

Join us for a summer picnic for our members and any and all Democrats living on the Peninsula and surrounding cities who might want to join us in celebration and to meet their elected officials.

Bring your own picnic dinner, or buy one from us via our web page starting mid-June. Our dinners are box lunches from Marie Calendar's, and will cost \$15 each. There will be a choice of a beef bagette, turkey club croissant, or southwest avocado salad. Each dinner will come with a side salad and fruit and pie. Soda pop and water is complementary. We'll serve food and drink 4-5pm and then listen to the speeches.

June General Meeting

In June, fresh off the California Democratic Party (CADEM) convention in San Francisco (May 31-June 2), we will hold a panel discussion with Connie Sullivan, Reggie Jue and other convention attendees.

California moved up its 2020 presidential primary to March 3rd (with 13 other states) after the four early voting states of Iowa, New Hampshire, Nevada and South Carolina. Come to our June meeting and see how our CA Democratic Convention delegates were wooed by the largest single gathering of 2020 presidential candidates to date; where 14 candidates attended the convention.

May Meeting Report by Tex Yamada and Ann Nye

PV Democrat Board of Directors Vote

Palos Verdes Democrat members voted on Board of Director candidates for the Board Year July 2019 through June 2020. There were 12 board positions available, of which two were contested and ten uncontested. The contested board positions included President and 2nd Vice President.

Rascha Hall, the incumbent, won the vote of members for office of President over Joseph Lopez. For 2nd Vice President, Ann Nye defeated newcomer Sterlina Cerritos. Nye also serves as the PV Democrat Newsletter Designer (not a board position).



Rascha Hall

The ten uncontested Board of Director positions were filled mostly by incumbents or board members, who had served in related capacities, as follows:



Ann Nye

President Emeritus	Lynn Bommer
1st Vice President	Kathy Bradford
Recording Secretary	Asha Shahed
Corresponding Secretary	Arline Korb
Treasurer	Al Shadbourne
Parliamentarian	Carol Moeller
Membership	Irene Silver
Publicity	Nancie Silver
Web Master	Reggie Jue
Newsletter Editor	Tex Yamada



From left: Irene Silver, Reggie Jue, Carol Moeller, Al Shadbourne, Arline Korb, Asha Shahed, Kathy Bradford and Tex Yamada

The Parliamentarian position was not filled last year. All Board positions were voted on and

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approved by club members, who attended the May meeting.

In addition to the vote for board of directors, club members voted to change the club's bylaws. The first change is to submit a roster of club members in good standing per the CDP (California Democratic Party) deadline specified in the Manual of Operation. Club members approved the change of deadline date change (which is now May 1).

The second bylaw change dealt with club members registered as No Party Preference (NPP). Previously, NPP members were eligible to become members with the exception they may not participate in club voting. Now LA County and California guidelines have added two more rights exclusions: NPP members (a.) may not represent the club in pre-endorsement caucuses and (b.) may not be considered as part of the membership count reported to CADEM. Club members approved the two additional NPP member rights exclusions.

Due to a schedule conflict, **Kimberly Ellis**, running for Chair of the CA Democratic Party, did not speak at our meeting. Note: at the CADEM convention in San Francisco on June 1st, **Rusty Hicks** (who spoke at our March meeting) was voted Chair of the CA Democratic Party.

CA Clean Money Campaign

Katherine Carpio, Field Organizer & Internship Recruiting Spokesperson for California Clean Money Campaign (CCMC), provided an overview of her organization's work and objectives in the California election system and voting process.

Carpio discussed four state bills (SB 47, SB 636,

AB 1217, and AB 1784) that, if passed, would change the campaign disclosure rules by allowing for more transparency in candidate and initiative funding sources.



Katherine Carpio

SB 47, Petition DISCLOSE Act, authored by Senator Ben Allen, requires initiative signature gatherers to disclose the top three major funders of the petition being circulated before they sign to qualify the initiative for the ballot. The top funders must be calculated similar to how it's presently done with political ads to identify the true source of funds for specific ballot measures and the top funders must be updated monthly.

SB 636, Ballot DISCLOSE Act, authored by Senator Henry Stern, requires a short list of supporters and opponents of ballot measures on the ballot itself. This list is taken from the signers of the arguments in favor and against the measures in the official voter pamphlet.

AB 1217, Issue Ad DISCLOSE Act, authored by Assemblymember Kevin Mullin, seeks to extend the CA DISCLOSE Act, AB249 (Mullin), to provide disclosure of funding sources for issue ads that influence legislative actions and to close the loophole for electioneering communications that attack or support candidates during election season without expressly advocating for their election or defeat.

AB 1784, Secure the VOTE Act, tri-authored by Assemblymembers Miguel Santiago, David Chiu, and Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher, authorizes the Secretary of State to award up to \$16 million in matching funds to counties to speed the development of an Open-Source Paper Ballot Voting Systems program. These systems

are expected to increase transparency of vote counting, and earn voters' trust.

In support of the four bills cited above, CCMC will launch a Campaign Kickoff on Sunday, August 11. Senators Allen and Stern and Assemblymember Santiago will attend the rally. Location site will be determined at a future date.

During the Question and Answer period, the issue of PV Dems endorsing the four legislative bills was brought up and voted on. Endorsement passage won by an overwhelming margin. Also, we voted to send a letter urging support of the four bills to Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi and Governor Gavin Newsom.

California Clean Money Campaign is funded largely by individual donors at an average of \$28. It does not accept contributions from corporate donors. Carpio says CCMC works toward campaign finance reform with the belief that "dark money" does not belong in politics.

The CCMC office, located in Culver City, is a nonprofit organization built on volunteers, who perform computer data entry, phone banking, and signature gathering. The organization website is at www.caclean.org.

Meeting Announcements

Carol Moeller, newly elected Parliamentarian for Palos Verdes Democrats, reported several events of note. PV Dems member **Roxi Zilmer** is giving us a chance to fight back after Alabama passed the most oppressive law on women's reproductive health yet. She is hosting the documentary *Trapped*, which focuses on the contentious issue of reproductive rights through the story of healthcare providers in Texas, Mississippi and Alabama who are struggling to comply with controversial new TRAP laws (Targeted Regulation of Abortion Providers). This excellent educational event will take place at her home (here on the hill) on Friday, June 7th at 7pm. The suggested donation is \$25, cash or checks made payable to South Bay Cares. All donations will go to Planned Parenthood. Email roxnh@gmail.com to RSVP and get the address.

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Carol reported the PV Dems are seeking volunteers to operate a booth at the Rancho Palos Verdes July 4th Fair. Two-hour shifts are available during the Fair event. If you can volunteer, please email Carol at rpsdem@gmail.com.

Carol also discussed the appearance of a campaign spokesperson for Senator Amy Klobuchar on Tuesday, May 28, at her house. Please see article about the get together.

Dency Nelson, a PV Dems member and Shakespeare by the Sea board member, reported the 2019 production of Shakespeare By The Sea will kick off at Point Fermin in San Pedro on June 13. The Shakespeare shows run for about ten weeks through August 17 at various Southland venues. Additional show information is available at <https://www.shakespearebythesea.org/wp/events/>. He noted Ben Allen's father, UCLA Professor Michael Allen, will be discussing the behind the scenes of one of the plays.

Barbara Epstein, a PV Dems member, announced the South Bay Parkland Conservancy Summit being held at the Redondo Beach Historic Library on Wednesday, May 29. The South Bay Parkland Conservancy organization wants to "restore, preserve and activate public use of coastal land resources in the South Bay Region." Check out their website for more info <https://www.southbayparks.org/>.

Connie Sullivan, our 66th ADDC Rep, asked us to call the Chair of the Refinery Committee, Larry McCallon, at (909) 864-6861 x302, to encourage him to hold the next refinery meeting in the South Bay vs in Diamond Bar so more of the people impacted by the refinery committee's decisions can attend.

President's Report

by Rascha Hall

I want to thank everyone who came out on a holiday weekend to our May meeting. Not only was it Memorial Day weekend, but the meeting was not on our regularly scheduled day - it was the 4th Sunday rather than the 3rd Sunday. A lot was accomplished at the meeting and you will see the reports in other parts of this newsletter.

This year before the election of that we hope will put a new person in the White House is already pretty frenetic. Talk of impeachment is growing louder, disastrous floods and tornadoes

are threatening and taking lives and property, too many states are challenging a woman's right to choose. Where do we go first? We need to hear your voices. If you want us to tackle a particular problem, tell us. If you know of a speaker who can address a pressing issue, tell us. Come to meetings and engage in dialogue. Sign up to do phone banking or walk precincts when the time comes. We helped turn Orange County blue, let's keep it that way.

In closing, I want to thank you for your confidence in electing me for second year. Congratulations to our new Board.

PV Dems Receive Notice from Amy Klobuchar's Presidential Campaign by Carol Moeller

After moving the date of our primary to Super Tuesday, Californians are finally players in national politics! Fourteen Presidential candidates spoke at the CADEM convention in San Francisco. Likely because the candidate was in California, and also due to our state's heightened importance in the primary process, the PV Dems were contacted by Amy Klobuchar's campaign to enable our voices to be heard by her staff, and ultimately by the candidate herself. The last-minute gathering included members of our board, and we each were given the chance to present the issues we felt were most pressing (climate change topped the list). We were told that Amy has never lost an election, and even though Hillary carried her state (Minnesota) by a slight margin, Amy was reelected by overwhelming numbers. We let her staff know we would be delighted to host Amy as a speaker, likely in coordination with other Dem clubs in the area. Stay tuned!

Movie Review

Knock Down the House

Reviewed by Carol Moeller



This is an interesting documentary you can view on Netflix! Director Rachael Lears targets four running in the 2018 election, each with seemingly unbeatable opponents and each presenting a progressive platform. Lears follows their campaigns through the election, and what is particularly fortuitous is one of the woman she chose to follow ended up becoming a political star: Alexandra Ocasio Cortez.

Cori Bush ran for Congress in Missouri against an incumbent who had represented the district for 17 years. Juggling the challenges of being a registered nurse, pastor and mother, Bush was inspired to take a stand after seeing the racist violence in Ferguson spread across her district.

Paula Jean Swearengin ran for the Senate in West Virginia, challenging long-time conservative Democrat, Joe Manchin. Coming from a coal-mining family, her platform centered around ensuring the safety of West Virginian's, whose environment has essentially become a dumping grounds for the coal industry.

Amy Vilela campaigned for congress in Nevada in the wake of an unnecessary tragedy: her daughter passed away because she was unable to provide health insurance documents. As a result, Vilela took a stand against the 'profit-driven healthcare system' in place in America, and promoted healthcare for all.

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez ran for congress in New York, against Joseph Crowley, who had remained unchallenged for 14 years and who was considered the 4th most powerful Democrat in the House. Although she graduated near the top of her class at Boston University with a degree in economics, she continued to work as a bartender to allow her considerable activities outside of work. These include establishing a publishing firm that specializes in children's literature portraying the Bronx in a positive light, interning for Senator Ted Kennedy and organizing for Bernie Sanders' 2016 presidential campaign. Of particular interest to her fans, in the documentary, AOC's red-headed, bushy-bearded partner plays a significant supporting role.

Although AOC was the only women to win the election, the documentary showed that all of these women display the grit and determination needed to succeed in politics. I sincerely hope this documentary is the impetus to have their names appearing on ballots in the future.





Palos Verdes Democrats Officers for 2018-2019

- President: Rascha Hall 310-377-7334
- President Emeritus: Lynn Bommer 310-374-1188
- 1st Vice President: Randall Klinenberg 310-977-1607
- 2nd Vice President: Joseph Lopez 310-935-9801
- Recording Secretary: Kathy Bradford 310-265-9812
- Corresponding Secretary: Arline Korb 310-544-7203
- Treasurer: Al Shadbourn 310-326-4953
- Membership: Irene Silver 310-541-2650
- Publicity: Nancie Silver 310-941-4501
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- Newsletter Mailings: Ron Moeller 310-541-5526
- Hospitality: Maria Frusteri 310-270-1160
- Web Master: Reggie Jue 310-433-8189
- 66th ADDC Rep: Connie Sullivan 310-567-2210

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 _____ I am a registered Democrat
Name* _____ I am registered No Party Preference
* Fill in if Applying as a Family - two memberships 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 **Check payable to: Palos Verdes Democrats**

Amount enclosed _____ Renewal New Member

Please contact us to help in the following areas:

- Hospitality Newsletter Membership Publicity Correspondence
- Voter Registration Campaign Work Website/Facebook Phone Tree