

# Palos Verdes Democrats

Founded 1952



logo by  
Paul Conrad

## July 2018 Newsletter

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

### COMING EVENTS

#### JULY MEETING

**DATE:** Sunday, July 15th

**MEETING TIME:** 4:00 - 7:00pm

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

**TOPIC:** Installation Party - this year we are also inviting non-members; so bring your friends

**SPEAKERS:** Congressman Ted Lieu and other representatives

**Social time: 2pm**

#### AUGUST MEETING

**DATE:** Sunday, August 19th

**MEETING TIME:** 2:30 - 4:30pm

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

**TOPIC:** Review of 2017-18 Supreme Court Decisions

**SPEAKER:** Superior Court Judge Tom Long

#### Inside This Month's Issue:

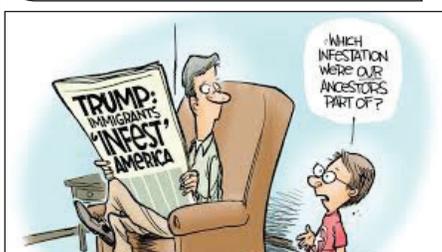
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### July General Meeting

On Sunday, July 15th, the Palos Verdes Democrats will meet at 4:00 pm in the St Luke's Presbyterian Church's garden in Rolling Hills Estates for our Annual Installation of Officers Party. Last year we noticed how shady the garden is at that later time, so decided to delay the start time a bit to avoid most of the heat.

St. Luke's Presbyterian Church is a wonderfully progressive church that provides this venue free of charge! Our keynote speaker will be Congressman Ted Lieu, who will speak about the events in Washington, efforts to flip the House, and install the 2018 PV Democrats Board of Directors.

We will also hear from our RHE Mayor Pro Tem Judy Mitchell, PVE Councilmember Jennifer King, West Basin Board of Director member, West Basin Water District Board member Harold Williams, Cameron Onumah (Dianne Feinstein campaign official), and others.

This year, we are offering box meals from Marie Callender's for \$15 per meal, but feel free to bring your own picnic snacks, instead. The PV Democrats Board members will provide beverages (including beer and wine!).

Most of us will be seated on the lawn, so bring your blankets and/or lawn chairs. Limited covered and handicapped seating will be available on the porch. The main parking will be in the lot closest to PV Dr. N is only for drop off and handicapped parking. All others park in the lot closer to Crenshaw and follow the walkway signs to the event.

Please RSVP at our website, [pvpdemocrats.org](http://pvpdemocrats.org), or call us at (310) 377-7334 so that we know how many to expect.

### June Meeting Report

by Carol Moeller

Judy Mitchell, PV Dems member, Rolling Hills Estates Mayor Pro Tem, member of the governing board of the South Coast Air Quality Management District and representative of the SCAQMD on the California Air Resources Board, spoke briefly to educate our members about [MoveLA](http://MoveLA), the local nonprofit responsible for the coalitions that initiated voter-approved RHE Mayor Pro Tem transportation Measures R in 2008 and M in 2016 and which over the past 40 years has raised \$160 billion for transportation investments in LA County. This organization is now a finalist for a \$200,000 grant for their Vision 2020 plan to build a regional ballot measure campaign that would accelerate the use of zero-emission cars and zero- and near-zero emission trucks. (Trucks that emit 90% less NOx than the average internal combustion truck are currently available, while zero-emission trucks should be available in 3-5 years.) Reducing carbon-emissions is absolutely necessary because our south coast air basin is one of only 2 areas in the US that doesn't meet current air quality standards. In addition, by 2023 we will need to reduce NOx emissions by 45% and another 25% by 2031. [Vote to award Vision 2020 this grant here.](#)



Judy Mitchell

In a unique "put your money where your mouth is" fashion, PV Dems member Carolyn Liesy is organizing a forum to give artists the opportunity to display their feelings about the culture of guns in America. In support of March for Our Lives, she is reaching out to



Carolyn Liesy

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those with an artistic bent to create entries for an exhibition, which will be featured at the Shockboxx Gallery in Hermosa on Sept 1 and The Loft in San Pedro on October 25. For more information and to “like” the Facebook page, click on the [“Don’t Shoot me Down”](#) link.

We are delighted to announce that PV Dems member **Harold Williams** has been appointed to the prestigious Metropolitan Water District’s Board of Directors. Harold holds elective office as our representative



*Harold Williams*

on the West Basin Water District (WBWD), and he will be on the ballot again in November. He announced that Palos Verdes Reservoir’s \$30 million, multi-year renovation will be **WBWD Representative** complete in November and will include a new floating cover and interior liner. The chemical feed system also is being replaced and the upper portion of the reservoir’s tower has been removed. In addition to office holders and journalists, there are a few trips to water project sites to which members of the public are invited. (I was lucky enough to be invited to one of these trips and it was fantastic!) Harold has invited PV Dems members to upcoming trips. Contact LaTonya Dean at [latonyad@westbasin.org](mailto:latonyad@westbasin.org) for information about the 3-day Hoover Dam trip on October 5th or the 2-day Delta trip on Nov 2nd.

Our dynamic California Democratic Party Regional Director, **Sergio Carrillo**, gave a no holds barred opinion that the November 2018 election will be the most important election in our lifetime. Recognizing this, the DCCC (the political arm of the House Democrats) for the first time is running campaigns from outside of DC. They have paid organizers in all 7 of the House districts they feel are potential pickups

for Democrats (these are districts represented by a Republican congress person even though Hillary received more votes in those districts than Trump did in 2016). Plus, they now have a DCCC office in Irvine that now is responsible for the entire western US. Unlike previous years, this time around, before the primary the DCCC gave campaign tools to all Democrats running for House seats.



*Sergio Carrillo*

**CA Dem Party Regional Director**

So many Democrats entered the races below that it was feared with our top two primary, a dilution effect could result in a Democrat not getting into the top two, but fortunately, that was not the case. The turnout for the Primary was 10% over that of 2014, and 1.7 million more Democrats voted.

**The 7 House seats we hope to pick up are:**

**CA-10** (San Joaquin Valley) (Currently held by Jeff Denham) Democratic challenger Stanford & Harvard grad Josh Harder has made this a tied race.

**CA-21** (Fresno) This is the most Democratic district in the nation currently represented by a Republican (Democrats outnumber Republicans by 17 points!) It is also one of the most impoverished, with 27% of residents living below the poverty line. Incumbent David Valadao vs Democrat TJ Cox

**CA-25** (Ventura)(currently held by former police officer Steve Knight) This is the only Congressional District in LA County that is held by a Republican. Homeless activist Katie Hill is his challenger.

**CA-39** (Anaheim) (Ed Royce is retiring) Democrat Gil Cisneros vs Republican Young Kim. The district is about evenly split between

whites, Latinos and Asians.

**CA-45** (Irvine) (currently held by Mimi Walters who does not live in the district) UCI Law Professor Katie Porter is her challenger. Orange County voter turnout was evenly split between Democrats and Republicans!

**CA-48** (Huntington Beach) (currently held by Dana Rohrabacher) Challenger is Harley Rouda, who gained a spot for November in a squeaker over fellow Democrat Hans Kersten.

**Statewide races:**

**Governor:** Gavin Newsom vs Republican venture capitalist John Cox

**Lt. Governor:** Eleni Kounalakis vs Ed Hernandez, both Democrats

**Senator:** Incumbent Dianne Feinstein vs Kevin de Leone, both Democrats

**Insurance Commissioner:** Democrat Ricardo Lara vs Republican-turned-independent Steve Poizner

**Attorney General:** Democrat Xavier Becerra vs Republican Stephen Bailey

**Secretary of State:** Incumbent Democrat Alex Padilla vs Republican Mark Meuser

**Treasurer:** Democrat Fiona Ma vs Republican Greg Conlan

**Controller:** Incumbent Democrat Betty Yee vs Republican Konstantinos Roditis

**Superintendent of Public Instruction:** Tony Thurmond (Democratic Party-endorsed former teacher) vs Marshal Tuck (investment banker and CEO of a charter school company). Mr. Carrillo believes more money will be spent on this race than on any other statewide race.

**Local races:**

**Congressional: CA-33** Ted Lieu received 62% of the votes vs Republican Ken Wright.

**CA-44** Nanette Barragan received 66% of the votes vs another Democrat.

**State Senate:** Ben Allen received 77% of the votes vs NPP Baron Bruno.

**State Assembly:** Al Muratsuchi received 51% of the votes vs Republican Frank Scotto. Former Torrance Mayor Scotto is well known in Torrance as he owns a towing business that has vans with his name all over them.

**Q & A:**

**Gas tax:** Put up as a wedge issue. Gas prices will affect this election.

**DMV:** DMV Voter Registration is helping get millennials registered. Although Democratic numbers are increasing much faster than Republicans, No Party Preference numbers are increasing the most of all because this is

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the default if no party is designated.

**Vote by Mail:** In the last statewide election, 58 percent of all Californians who voted cast ballots by mail. In an experiment, every registered voter in Madera, Napa, Nevada, Sacramento, and San Mateo counties will automatically receive a ballot in the mail. If the results cause an increase in turnout and reduce the cost, vote by mail may be adopted statewide.

## Reggie Jue Selected Male Democrat of the Year

by Connie Sullivan



Reggie Jue

Each year the Los Angeles County Democratic Party selects a male and female Democrat of the Year for each Assembly District. Our 66th Assembly District caucus selected Reggie Jue for the male award and Nichelle Henderson of Gardena for the female award.

Reggie was selected for his campaign activism on a number of recent campaigns and his work on both the PV Democrats' and the Beach Cities Democrats' websites. He has been very generous with his time and the caucus is extremely grateful for all his work.

The award will be presented at the LACDP Roosevelt Dinner sometime this fall.

## UCI Law Professor Rick Hasen to Speak

by Connie Sullivan

On July 18 The 66th Assembly District Democratic Council will host a very special guest speaker, UCI Law Professor Rick Hasen. Professor Hasen specializes in election law and is the go-to person for expertise on gerrymandering, voter roll purging, the Voting Rights Act, etc. He's appeared on MSNBC, writes regularly for the Los Angeles Times and Slate, and is the author of the recent book *The Justice of Contradictions: Antonin Scalia and the Politics of Disruption*. I can't think of a better person to advise us as we get ready for November, 2018.

The event will take place at Zamperini Field at 7 pm. RSVP to [pvedems@gmail.com](mailto:pvedems@gmail.com) so we can have enough goodies for everyone at the talk. Hope to see you there.

## Southern Border Humanitarian Crisis: Ways to Give

by Gary Boston

The unfolding humanitarian crisis created by the Republicans at the southern border has created the need for considerable resources to both care for and work to reunite families separated by this inhumane policy. While working to flip the House and the Senate are longer term solutions to help reverse this crisis, there are many organizations working on the ground near the border that could use our immediate financial support.

If you want to make a quick one stop donation, **ActBlue** -- a progressive social fundraising tool -- has created a one-stop option for donating to 12 important organizations, including the ACLU, Human Rights First, The Florence Project, KIND (Kids In Need of Defense), and more. If you use its donation option (<https://secure.actblue.com/donate/kidsattheborder>), your contribution will be split evenly between all of the organizations, which is a great option if you're not totally sure about which organization you think is best suited to you. If you want to make a more targeted donation, below are a few of the organizations doing important work to help reunite families and protect asylum seekers and other immigrants and refugees. This list is by no means exhaustive, but these organizations are more frequently cited in news pieces as some of the most effective organizations working to help alleviate this terrible situation.

**RAICES** (<https://www.raicestexas.org/>)

RAICES (Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services) is a non-profit focused on "providing free and low-cost legal services to under-served immigrant children, families and refugees in Central and South Texas," according to the organization's website. RAICES, which currently has about 50 lawyers on staff, got a lot of attention over the past week after a [Facebook fundraiser](#) raised over \$10 million in just four days. Currently the fundraiser has raised over \$20 million, which is amazing for an organization that typically runs on an annual budget of only \$7 million. "It's a ton of money, but we're actually up against the federal government," said Jenny Hixon, development director at RAICES, during a recent Facebook Live session.

Donations made to the Facebook fundraiser go directly to RAICES. The money -- which will go toward legal fees, bond (so that families

can be released from detention and find their children again), and transportation costs -- will quickly dissipate. A case can range between \$2,500 to \$15,000. Currently, the organization -- which didn't expect such an outpouring of support -- is working to hire more staff.

**Texas Civil Rights Project**

(<https://texascivilrightsproject.org/>)

The Texas Civil Rights Project (TCRP) is "helping families at the US border get legal advice and translation services," and is interviewing families to document what is happening to ensure they are reunited as quickly as possible. Facebook founder [Mark Zuckerberg created a fundraiser](#) that has generated over \$50,000 for the TCRP so far. The organization has four stars, the highest possible rating, from Charity Navigator.

From the TCRP website: "TCRP is fighting around the clock to reunite the 381 families we represent and to ensure that they get excellent legal representation on their underlying immigration claims. We'll continue to go to court every day in South Texas to monitor and protect against the ever-changing policies of the Trump Administration for as long as it is necessary. Our lawyers are litigating to stop family separation permanently in an action against the United States before an international human rights body called the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. At the same time, we are pursuing an aggressive public education and advocacy campaign to push back against misinformation and confusion, with the goal of ending the cruel and unworkable "zero tolerance" policy."

**ACLU** (<https://www.aclu.org/>)

The ACLU needs little introduction. Among the many fronts on which the organization is battling the current administration, the ACLU is focused on defending the rights of immigrant families and says it "won't stop fighting until families are reunited." The ACLU is advocating for the immediate release of all the parents and children held at detention centers and has also filed a [class action lawsuit](#) against the Trump administration.

In addition to financial support many of the organizations are looking for lawyers able to help, either at the border or remotely. Finally, one desperate need is for translators who speak the many Indigenous languages of Central America (e.g., zapotec, nahua, ma'am, quich'e, maya, mixe, mixteco-not Spanish) as many of the asylum seekers are not native Spanish speakers.



### 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: Arlene Korb 310-544-7203  
Treasurer: Al Shadbourne 310-326-4953  
Parliamentarian: Craig Williams 301-265-9812  
Membership: Irene Silver 310-541-2650  
Publicity: Nancie Silver 310-375-4912  
Newsletter Editor:  
Newsletter Designer: Ann Nye 310-373-6805  
Newsletter Mailings: Ron Moeller 310-541-5526  
Hospitality: Susan Tyree 310-541-7915  
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](http://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

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_  Renewal  New Member

Please contact me to help in the following areas:

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