

THE VOORHIS VOICE

A Liberal Voice of the Inland Empire

June 2010

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www.claremontdems.org

Editor Laura Ditte Lo

MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

June 20, Sunday, Fund raiser for the Democratic Club of Claremont at Wine Styles, 201 N. Indian Hill, Claremont Village West. Come join us from 3:00-6:00, tickets are \$20.00 presale or \$25.00 at the door.

June 28, Monday General Meeting, Porter Hall, Pilgrim Place.

At the June 28 meeting of the Democratic Club of Claremont Professor Andy Winnick, a Claremont resident and Professor of Economics at Cal State Los Angeles will speak on 'Which would you rather have – Global Recession or a Larger Deficit?' The regular monthly meeting of the club will start at 7pm in Porter Hall at Pilgrim Place.

July 4, Sunday, Fourth of July Celebration in Claremont. Parade Volunteers needed.

THE NEWSLETTER IS GOING GREEN

The next edition of the Voice will be a more visually interesting electronic version that may be printed on your home computer for those readers who prefer a hardcopy. This decision was prompted by our commitment to conserving paper, ink, and energy but also to publish a newsletter which will include photographs and other graphic elements. For those members who do not have computer access newsletters will be available at our monthly luncheon and general meeting. Thanks go out to the many volunteers who have assisted in the multiple tasks involved in creation and mailing over the years and we look forward to providing you with a much-improved and more dynamic presentation this fall.

Let's Celebrate!

Carolee Monroe

Claremont's July 4 Independence Day festivities are opportunities for us to celebrate. As Democrats we not only honor our country, which our Founding Fathers designed to be both humane and humanitarian, but we also honor these principles found in our Constitution and its Amendments. As members of the Democratic Club of Claremont we act on our beliefs by engaging others to support our principles and our candidates. Our Club will again have a booth in Memorial Park and an entry in the parade. You are encouraged, invited and asked to join with us.

The theme of this year's festivities is "Star Spangled Claremont" so what better time to honor our very special stars!

Not only will we have candidate materials in our booth but we will especially honor our local "stars" in the parade.

Our Club's booth needs assertive Democrats to engage with visitors as they pass by. We will have literature about our local and state candidates that needs to be distributed. If anyone chooses to be "green", booth volunteers will be expected to verbally stress the names of our candidates. Can you volunteer for a two-hour shift?

To conform to the theme of the occasion, our parade entry will feature our "stars"; these include local candidates, honorees and club presidents. Darcel Woods, Democratic candidate for the 59th Assembly District, and Russ Warner, Democratic candidate for the 26th Congressional District, will participate. Also invited are the two honorees for the 2010 59th Assembly District "Democrats of the Year" awards, Sandy Hester and Andy Winnick. Our Club President, Zephyr Tate-Mann and the co-presidents of the Student Democrats of Claremont High School, Jacquelyn Monroe and Perry Osgood, also will be recognized.

Your participation is requested, desired and needed during the parade. Two people are needed to carry our Club banner and another person is asked to drive one of the convertibles that comprise our five-vehicle entry. All supporters of Russ Warner's candidacy who join him in walking the parade route will be given one of his t-shirts to wear.

Again, please join us in Claremont's Independence Day festivities. Contact Carolee Monroe at (909) 626-8122 or at jackncarolee@verizon.net to volunteer. Supporters of Russ can email him at russ@warnerforcongress.com.

CLAREMONT DEMOCRATS – A NEW PROGRAM

Carolee Monroe

Our Club joined in a program with the Claremont High School Democratic Club throughout the second semester of this past school year. This collaboration led to a feature article in the "Claremont Courier". The article, in the Saturday, May 15 edition, highlighted the talk DCC member Joe Lyons gave on that previous Thursday. Joe presented the two sides of the global warming research issue; one is economic while the other is scientific. He encouraged the students to seek the truth of the arguments. Indeed,

the presentations were decidedly more “Fair and Balanced” than those of other organizations.

Joe’s topic was one of many chosen by the students. Given the list of possible topics, various DCC members volunteered to address them. A description follows below.

The first talk, on “Gay Marriage”, was given by Charles Bayer, who differentiated between the legal/civil contract and the religious ceremony.

Sandy Hester spoke on the need for advocacy as she addressed health care reform. She also discussed her recent trip to Washington, D.C. to promote health care reform principles to legislators, as part of her volunteer role as AARP’s 26th Congressional Representative, and she distributed information developed by The American Institute of Progressive Democracy on health care reform.

Ivan Light addressed two topics. In his first talk, he discussed what makes us Democrats: those principles and values that we hold and include peace, the environment and community. He returned to CHS to talk about immigration, its history and practices in our country. He stressed that while we have “desirable” immigrants, those with college degrees and PhDs, most of the people wanting to enter our country are not as desirable.

Andy Winnick explained the federal budget, where money comes from and where it goes. He included a history of the budget with percentages in the various areas. His handouts made the topic understandable to future taxpayers.

The last talk, by Merrill Ring, focused on the California budget, with a comparison between priorities during the Pat Brown era and today. Merrill asserts that the election of Ronald Reagan and subsequent Reagan Era and passage of Proposition 13 fostered a “Me” attitude rather than a “We” attitude. With lower taxes, there has been less money available for the needs of our citizens and infrastructure. Merrill provided data that our taxes are much less now, proportionally, than during the ‘60s.

The agenda of the final student Dems meeting included the election of next year’s officers. Jackie Monroe and Perry Osgood will be co-presidents while Storm Dowd-Lukesh will be vice-president. Congratulations to them.

The student meetings also included opportunities for the CHS members to work with our club. President Zephyr Tate-Mann and Voorhis Voice Editor Laura Ditte-Lo made urgent appeals and the students responded by participating at our Earth Day booth and our Democratic Election Forum. We thank them for their help and encourage them to join with us during the July 4 festivities.

DCC members Laura Lo, Chuck Farritor and Jack and Carolee Monroe coordinated planning with the students. Mr. Mike Callahan is the advisor to the student club and club meetings have been held in his classroom during lunch period.

Altogether the program has been very successful and we hope to continue it in the next school year. Again, thanks to all who participated in making it a success.

YET ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY!

Carolee Monroe

We will not publish another edition of this newsletter until mid-September so you are getting notice now about the Los Angeles County Fair and a need for all of us to volunteer during the month-long event.

Our club is one of the most active Democratic clubs in the area and we are located very close to the fair site. These factors help us to provide many of the volunteers needed to staff the Los Angeles County Democratic booth. In recent years we have been up to half of the booth staffers.

While other Democratic clubs are asked to staff the Democratic booth, especially on the day that is their community's day at the Fair, many do not fill all the needed volunteer spaces. Frequently we have supplied the vacancies.

The schedule for any day is divided into three time slots, with two volunteers needed for each time. That adds up to six volunteers daily and 144 volunteers during the 24 days that the Fair is open.

The Fair begins on Labor Day weekend. It is then open Wednesdays through Sundays until it closes on October 3. Thus, it is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Please contact Nancy Gibson at rnychadd@aol.com if you can volunteer this year.

TALKING POINTS BY AELIAN GUNAWARDENA

Counting To One Billion:

India has begun the biggest census in the history of humankind. Because the government wants to photograph and fingerprint every citizen over age 15 so it can create national ID cards, simply mailing in a form is not an option. Instead, some 2.5 million census workers speaking dozens of languages will fan out over the country visiting every village in an

attempt to interview all 1 billion-plus Indians. The challenges are immense, as most of the poor are illiterate, some lack surnames, and many don't know their birthdays. "An exercise of this kind has not been attempted anywhere else in the world," said Home Affairs Minister Palaniappan Chidambaram.

DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF CLAREMONT MEMBERSHIP

Circle choices: I am / am not registered as a Democrat to vote in California.

I wish to join / renew my membership in the Democratic Club.

Lifetime \$250 or more Patron \$100 to \$249 Contributing Member

\$50 to \$99

Family \$35 Individual \$25 Student/Limited Income \$5

Name _____

Street Address or P.O. Box _____

City, State and Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Occupation _____ Employer _____

Credit Card M/C VISA AM EX # _____ EXP _____

(Money from dues may be used in part to influence Federal and State elections.)

Then mail this with your check to: Democratic Club, PO Box 1201, Claremont CA 91711

(FPPC #841491, FEC #C00404319, not sponsored by a candidate or candidate's committee)

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