



MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Friday, Mar. 6, 20, 27 noon– 2pm
Rabi's Café, 930 Central Avenue, Upland
Issues Committee Luncheon. No speaker: Bring your issue

March 13 – club luncheon at Darvish restaurant: Speaker, Bob Gerecke, title ‘Wall Street Snipers: Small Investors as Targets’

March 30 – members’ meeting, 7pm – 9 pm, 601 Mayflower Rd., Pilgrim Place Campus, Claremont. Our speaker is David M Steinberger on the psychological profile of those who would become police

Our Earth Day Booth

by Carolee Monroe

The DCC’s booth at the Claremont Earth Day celebration (Saturday, April 18, 2015) will focus

on individual *responsibility for saving the world. It doesn't get more important than that!* With the help of members of the Claremont High School Young Democrats Club, volunteers will ask the adults and children who visit the booth to participate in at least one action.

There will be several activities for adults. It is hoped that the background poster will promote discussion and advocate action. The poster, along with the display of the desert landscape, “Your Child’s Future?” carries the theme, “Take the Claremont Energy Challenge for a Brighter Future”. Materials to read will include information about the possibility of a megadrought and the horrifying consequences of fracking. Visitors will be asked to sign petitions that will be sent to our elected representatives.

Children, and all those young at heart, will be given the opportunity to assemble a wand. Attached to it will be a tag with the individual’s “Wish” and “Work.” The wish is what the person wants for the Earth while the work is what the individual will do to make it a reality. Wishing alone does not count as work.

Volunteers are needed to prepare materials prior to the event and to work in the booth on April 18. Please contact Carolee Monroe at jackncarolee@verizon.net.

DCC Mentoring Project

by Carolee Monroe

The Democratic Club of Claremont sponsors the Young Democrats Club of Claremont High School. The Young Democrats Club attracts students who lean toward the Democratic Party. Through its mentoring effort, the DCC provides speakers who introduce various topics from a progressive viewpoint to the student members of the high school club. The student club officers, elected by their peers in the Spring for the following school year, meet with the DCC mentors during the summer. They discuss the format of the meetings, possible topics and

speakers and other programming and scheduling matters. A calendar of twice a month meetings is set, with the final meeting to be the election of officers and an evaluation of the club.

The first meeting, in late September, garners input from the members. They are asked to select the topics of interest to them, to suggest possible topics and speakers and to compete in the club's annual t-shirt contest. The list of topics is checked for those receiving the most votes. The DCC mentors then use the list to arrange speaking dates. The t-shirt contest winner has his/her design made into the club t-shirt that is then worn at such events as Earth Day, Independence Day and club picture day.

To facilitate the meetings, the DCC provides pizza at the Young Democrats Club meetings. Because all high school clubs meet during the school lunch period, pizza, water and a dessert are available so that meetings can begin promptly. This gives the speaker a half-hour to present the topic and answer questions.

The DCC also shares with the students upcoming events that affect politics. The YDs post the events on their club Facebook page and announce them at meetings.

YDs volunteer for many DCC and Democratic activities. Besides the community events already mentioned, students have been active in local campaigns, the Los Angeles County Democratic Party's booth at the LA County Fair and the DCC annual holiday party.

Members of the DCC are always welcome to join this project. Speakers, coordinators, cookie-bakers and pizza deliverers are required for meetings. Please contact Carolee Monroe at 909 626 8122 for more information.

Who was Jerry Voorhis?

by Merrill Ring

Newer members of the club have asked: Why is this newsletter called *The Voorhis Voice*? Not only is the newsletter named after Jerry Voorhis but if you noticed the full name of the club is the *Democratic Club of Claremont* (*The Jerry Voorhis Democratic Club*).

Jerry Voorhis served in the U.S. House of Representatives from January 1937 until January 1947. He was a Democrat who represented California's 12th Congressional District: in those days Claremont was in the 12th. He was our Congressman for a decade and a Democrat to boot. His successor? Richard Milhous Nixon.

Jerry Voorhis was an important figure in California politics and in regional and local affairs. He was a Claremont resident. The club and its newsletter are named in recognition of those facts.

Club "elders" will be following this explanation with brief further discussions of Jerry Voorhis in succeeding newsletters.

Amanda Hollis Brusky

23 Feb 2015 ---- Merrill Ring, Vice-President, Issues and Programs, introduced Dr. Amanda Hollis-Brusky at the February DCC members' meeting. While the U.S. Supreme Court is supposedly to be removed from politics, its recent decisions have led many to question possible political influences. Dr. Hollis-Brusky in her recently published book, *Ideas with Consequences: The Federalist Society and the Conservative Counterrevolution*, examines and documents the conservative tilt in the Court's make-up and decisions. The Federalist Society, founded in 1982, has approximately 42,000 members. The Society is organized around issues; its individual members produce position papers, endorsements, money and lobbying efforts. Questions about Shelby County, selections of nominees to the Court, and

“conservative” versus “originalist” were discussed.

From DCC’s President

by John Forney

First of all, I want to thank all of you for your support and confidence in my leadership. It is because of the quality of the people we have on our Board that I am encouraged about what we can accomplish in 2015.

We have a marvelous club that continues to do great things, like bringing in the speaker last night on the Supreme Court. Thank you, Merrill, for a most informative program on the Federalist Society. This is a scary group, of which I hadn’t known much more than just their name and their bizarre notions of jurisprudence. Amanda Hollis-Brusky, in presenting the findings of her research, informed us how this stealth group has insinuated itself into our legal system at all levels, politicizing our federal courts beyond what any of us might have imagined. Go out right now and buy *Ideas with Consequences: The Federalist Society and the Conservative Counterrevolution*. Or put it on your Kindle.

Thank you, Carolee, for your great display for Earth Day. I loved the quote. “There are Republicans who would like you to think that they are concerned about leaving a debt to their children. The reason that is a bogus argument is because they are also against measures that would leave a clean Earth, with clean air/water and a sustainable environment, for those same children. Leaving a pillaged, poisoned planet IS leaving a debt...a greater debt that will render money **USELESS**.”

Secondly, as we move into a most important election year – maybe the most important in recent memory (see above on Federalist Society) – we need to be informed of the issues, support our elected Democratic leaders, and lean on

them should they become infected with Republican ideas and other neo-con idiocy.

Lastly, the Board is planning to put a major emphasis on reelecting Pete Aguilar in the neighboring 31st Congressional District. He only won by three hundred votes last election, the only Democrat to take a red seat. You know they will be coming after him with every single dollar they have. He is one of the most vulnerable Democrats going into 2016. We’ve got skin in this game. Many in the club walked precincts, made phone calls and did myriad other tasks to get Pete elected. In 2016 we have to let Pete know that we’ve got his back.

I close with a challenge. Complete the sentence: “I am a Democrat because _____.” Now, let’s all go out and put that sentence into action. It’s all about the Common Good. John

**The Voorhis Voice is published by
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The newsletter’s name commemorates the late Jerry Voorhis, a talented and courageous Congress member from Claremont.

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Opinions expressed represent the writers, and are not necessarily those of the DCC.