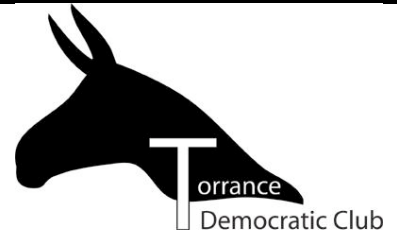


The Voice



A Quarterly Newsletter

Winter 2010

Message from the president

Club President Rick Wagner urges us all to keep fighting, and not grow complacent.

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Marcy Winograd--Green Jobs!

Democratic candidate for the 36th Congressional district, Marcy shares her ideas on green jobs.

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Club member Bob Dye gives his opinion about the club's role in Democratic primaries.

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What's happening in and around Torrance in the next couple of months.

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From the TDC President

By Rick Wagner

No Resting on Laurels

After you have achieved victory, tighten the chin strap on your helmet. --Sun Tzu, The Art of War

We were all indeed thrilled with the election of President Obama and the attendant gains in both the House and Senate. So we all relaxed a bit, I suppose. I (and other concerned TDC board members) noticed a gradual decline in meeting attendance and membership. Even after several pleas for members to renew their memberships and to bring new members into the club, our membership is still not even near the level it has been in previous years.

Now Ted Kennedy's seat in the Senate has been lost to a Repugligan. People, we must remain vigilant! The Repugligans never relax, and they now have relatively unlimited sources of funds (the hundreds of billions in bank bailout money they bilked us out of, for one). If you don't become alarmed and upset you will never do anything. You woke up during the Bush debacle, but now you seem to have gone back to sleep. Reawaken!

My only hope now (and it seems to be fading away too) is that we pass the health care bill so the President can get on with the business of governing with

his prestige intact. If health care dies as the Repugligans want it to, bad as it is, it will mean a more difficult path for the President to achieve his important work to:

- Reduce nuclear weapons and nuclear proliferation in the world
- Withdraw troops from Iraq and find a solution for Afghanistan
- Purge Bush appointees from all areas in the administration
- Redirect the economy toward green jobs
- Protect the environment by re-regulating polluters and reducing carbon burning
- Restore faith in the Constitution by directing the DOJ to investigate all crimes and prosecute where appropriate
- Stabilize the economy by re-implementing a fair income tax
- Revitalize our economy by implementing fair trade policies that impose trade barriers on countries that allow pollution and worker exploitation

So get angry. Get motivated. Get your friends and family to attend Democratic events. Campaign for progressive candidates. The Repugligans and tea baggers aren't resting.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- March 10th, 7pm
-Guest speaker: *Randolph M. Hammock, candidate for Judge, Office 28*
- April 14th, 7pm
-Annual club board elections
-Guest speakers:
Betsy Butler, candidate for the 53rd AD (20 minutes)
Edgar Saenz, candidate for the 53rd AD (20 minutes)
- May 12th, 7pm
-Guest speaker: *TBD*

Want to meet fellow Democrats, share ideas, learn new things and get involved in your community?

JOIN US!!

All meetings held at the Torrance Airport Meeting room, 3301 Airport Drive, Torrance, 90505

Winograd Calls For a Green New Deal -- Jobs, Jobs, Jobs!

Marcy Winograd is challenging Jane Harman in the June 8, 2010, Democratic Party primary. Co-founder of Progressive Democrats of America's Los Angeles chapter, Marcy has written resolutions putting the California Democratic Party on record calling for the return of our troops from Iraq and Afghanistan, a ban on touchscreen voting machines, and a prohibition against new offshore and onshore oil drilling. Marcy is a public school teacher on leave from LAUSD, where she worked at Crenshaw HS, both as an English teacher and professional developer. In 2006, in only three months of campaigning, Marcy mobilized 37.5 % of the vote. Her 2010 platform calls for transitioning from a permanent war economy to a new Green economy.

We need a Green New Deal that would fund jobs both in the public and private sector to:

- develop renewables in solar and wind
- build light rail in all the major metropolitan areas, particularly sprawling Los Angeles
- repair our aging infrastructure: ports, bridges, water & sewage treatment facilities.

Google “Top Ten Green Jobs of the Future” and you’ll read about the need for organic farmers, solar panel installers, wind turbine developers, energy-efficiency builders, waste recyclers, mass transit engineers, hydrologists, urban planners, electric and hybrid car manufacturers, and drought-resistant landscapers.

Congress would be wise to model a new job stimulus package after a proven program: the Works Progress Administration (WPA), the 1935 Roosevelt Depression brainchild that employed an estimated 10-million Americans building 850 airports, 110,000 libraries, schools, and hospitals, 500 water treatment plants, 78,000 bridges, and 8,000 parks. The WPA also employed writers and artists, many of whom painted murals in post offices, like the San Pedro post office on Beacon Street, where inside the Art Deco building of marble and chrome we find a WPA mural depicting the history of the harbor.

Obama’s first recovery plan, the American Reinvestment & Recovery Act, funded “shovel-ready” jobs: storm drain clean up; energy retrofits; highway repairs.

President Obama’s second recovery plan must invest in future industries with large pay-offs in terms of career-path learning and earning opportunities in the Green economy. Put laid-off Boeing missile defense workers back on the job building electric buses for the future. Put college professors back to work in Green Energy Departments at universities across the country. Put steelworkers back to work strengthening our bridges in earthquake-prone California. Put everyone with a hard hat back to work building solar panel parts now outsourced to China.

How are we going to pay for this Green New Deal? Cut the fat in the bloated military budget, a sacred cow that is larger than all the world’s military budgets combined, and reemploy the workforce in the Green economy. Bring our troops home from the trillion-dollar wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and honor our veterans with land and lessons in organic farming. Levy a 25-cent tax on every stock transaction on Wall Street and offer stock brokers opportunities to create real wealth developing credit unions that never heard of a sub-prime loan.

Close the corporate loopholes that hide billions in bank vaults in the Caribbean and use the cash to hire artists and musicians to inspire our young. Repeal the Bush tax cuts for the wealthy and employ doctors and nurses to work in the inner city. End the war on drugs with its obscene prison costs and recruit counselors to open mental health clinics.

When President Roosevelt enacted the New Deal one out of every four Americans was out of work. Today, in California, though the official unemployment rate hovers at 12 %, the real unemployment rate, the one that includes the underemployed and those who have given up looking for a job, is pushing 20%.

Mr. President, Congress, let us look to the past, to the future -- and Celebrate a Green New Deal.

Want to know more?

Visit Marcy’s website at Winograd4Congress.com to find out about volunteer opportunities, sign up for her newsletter, or find out more about her campaign and ideas.



Marcy at the Torrance Farmers' Market

(Photo Credit: Holly Mosher)

Upcoming Events

~TDC at the

Farmer's Market

March 6th, 9am-12pm

April 10th, 9am-12pm

May 8th, 9am-12pm

Come help us reach out!

~Torrance City

Council Meetings

City Hall Council

Chamber

3031 Torrance Blvd.

Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m.

~Torrance Unified

School District Board Meetings

1st and 3rd Mondays of the month

7:30pm

Educational Materials

Building at 2336 Plaza del Amo

Comments? Concerns? Want to write an article for the next newsletter? I want to know about it!
Contact Carrie Lang, editor
tdccarrie@gmail.com or
310-985-3893

To Endorse -- Or Not....

Former club President Bob Dye explains why he believes it is not the job of a chartered Democratic club to endorse between Democratic candidates--we are better served focusing our energies on defeating Republicans.

The prospect of a partisan election seems to get the juices going, and the presence of an unpopular (for some) incumbent brings those juices to a boil.

What should a chartered Democratic club do in such a circumstance? Does the club throw down the gauntlet and endorse a challenger candidate or endorse the incumbent--or sit tightly on the fence?

To cut to the chase: to club has no business endorsing candidates in contested Democratic primaries. The club exists to support the Democratic party, its candidates and to ensure the success of Democrats in the general election (check the club's by-laws). When the club engages in endorsements in contested primaries, it goes from being a Democratic club to a Democratic faction--hardly the sign of unity and solidarity needed for victory in November.

It can be argued that controversy and dissent are the dynamics of a democratic process. Granted. But often lacking in such a process is a commitment to unite behind whoever wins in the primary--and this lack of unity and commitment is the price of factionalism displayed in pre-primary endorsements.

Certainly we can have debates, tables with literature, candidates or representatives making their cases before the club. Let the fur fly--then we put our shoulder to the wheel to work for our party's nominees.

Albert Einstein:

The world is a dangerous place, not because of those who do evil, but because of those who look on and do nothing.

Adlai Stevenson:

I have been thinking that I would make a proposition to my Republican friends... that if they will stop telling lies about the Democrats, we will stop telling the truth about them.

MEMBERSHIP --- JOIN --- RENEW --- GET INVOLVED!

Join the Democratic Club at the crossroads of the South Bay! This Democratic Club caters to the Democratic voters of Torrance within the South Bay of Southern CA. We are a dedicated group, working to elect Democrats, champion issues of importance, and educate our members on matters of the day through speaking engagements, networking, and presentations. We'd love to have you join in! Sign up by filling out the form below...or better yet, renew online! www.torrancedems.com

Next meeting: The second Wednesday of every month at 7:00pm.; Torrance Municipal Airport Meeting Room 3301 Airport Drive, Torrance, CA 90505

Name _____ I am a registered Democrat

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code + 4 _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Occupation _____ Employer _____

Assembly District (please list, if different) 53 _____
 Senate District (please list, if different) 28 _____
 Congressional District (please list, if different) 36 _____

Individual membership: \$20/year Family (2) membership: \$30/year

Please indicate your area(s) of interest so we can help you participate right away:

- I want to help by monitoring Torrance issues (e.g., watching City Council meetings)
- I want to help by researching an issue and presenting a task for group action
- I want to help by hosting a fundraiser for the Torrance Democratic Club
- I want to help by tabling at Farmer's Markets and around Torrance
- I want to help by serving as a precinct captain (outreach, election materials distribution, etc.)
- I want to help a political campaign (phoning, house parties, mailings, rallies, etc.)
- Other

Mail completed form with dues (payable to Torrance Democratic Club) to:

Torrance Democratic Club,
 c/o Rick Wagner
 4319 W. 180th
 Torrance, CA 90504



Join or renew online!



<http://www.torrancedems.com>

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