



DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF CAMARILLO



May 2008

GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, May 1, 6:30pm

Orchid Building, UFCW Hall

816 Camarillo Springs Road, Camarillo

2008 Candidates Night: Come hear the candidates up for election/re-election in 2008 debate the issues. Candidates' bios are in the newsletter.

PLEASE NOTE: SIGN IN AT 6:30 – MEETING STARTS PROMPTLY AT 7:00PM

Directions to the meeting from the Freeway:

- Travel south on the 101 Freeway
- Exit on Camarillo Springs Road at the base of the Conejo Grade.
- At the end of the exit ramp go straight ahead into the parking lot of the Orchid Building.

Directions to the meeting with no Freeway driving:

- From Camarillo High School, take Pleasant Valley Road south, toward the ocean, over the freeway to Pancho (about a mile).
- Turn left at the signal onto Pancho Road.
- Almost immediately turn left onto Adohr Lane (aka Ridgeview St.) and go east for about 1 ½ mile.
- Turn left onto Camarillo Springs Rd. The Orchid Bldg. is on the right (500 feet).

May President's Message

Lots of Club-centered news this month – some happy, some very sad, and some a reflection of this very busy election year. This should reach you just before the May 1st meeting, so let's start with the busy:

Our May Day meeting features a packed agenda of candidate debates. Program chairman Bob Rust has arranged for us to hear from Jill Martinez and Mary Pallant, two of the three declared candidates for Congress (plus the third, Marta Jorgensen from

Solvang, if we hear back from her in time.) We will also hear from the two declared candidates for AD 37, Ferial Masry and David Hare and the two declared candidates, Kathy Long and Socorro Lopez Hanson for the non-partisan 3rd District Supervisor's seat. We hope to have time for the candidates for Ventura County Democratic Central Committee to make a brief statement as well.

We're doing it all this month because it's the last meeting before the June Primary, and we have a lot of candidates coming to make their case. Since we have so much to cram into one meeting, let's all plan to get there a bit early, so we can sign in and get coffee and goodies and be ready to start promptly at 7:00, OK? Thanks!

At next month's June 5th meeting we will take a break from pure politics and turn our attention to some fun: celebrating our senior member, **Bill Hammaker's One Hundredth Birthday** with a potluck dinner and a dramatic presentation of Bill's illustrious century. The skit, which has been written and is being produced by Marge Grate, features a cast of Club notables whose acting credits alone promise an entertaining evening.

Just as Bill Hammaker starts his second century, a group of young Democrats is starting a new chapter in the story of our Democratic Club. For me and for much of the Club, the "young crowd" is the under-fifties, but 20-something member Nick Scott is determined to reach the generation that is changing the face of politics across the country and to bring them into active politics. He has started using the new technology of FaceBook and MySpace to seek out the under-thirty generation of activists in the Club and in the larger community. The idea is to start an on-line conversation that will lead to organizing social and political events that can be coordinated with the election year efforts of the Club. So have your kids or grandkids contact Nick at

www.democraticclubofcamarillo.com

805-504-3749

NickScott79@hotmail.com or (805) 302-3850.
Wouldn't it be wonderful to have our thinking challenged by tomorrow's leaders?

As always, the vitality and energy of the official Democratic Party of Camarillo (that's *us*.) is an inspiration. As we gear up for this election year's big push for change, we are very grateful to be a part of a growing group of friendly people who share a passion for making a future for our kids, our country and the world. Let's make it happen!

Jack Phillips

Candidates Bios by Bob Rust

Kathy Long, County Supervisor, 3rd District
Incumbent, running for 3rd District Supervisor

Supervisor Long's goals for 2008 include working to sustain the County budget to deliver County services efficiently and effectively. Priorities for 2008 will be to provide cost effective programs for public safety, health and welfare of all residents. In addition to her work as Supervisor, Kathy participates as an active member of service and business organizations within the Third District. She was named the 2002 - 2003 Camarillo Chamber of Commerce "Public Servant of the Year" and in 2004 the Ventura County Leadership Academy honored her with the "Distinguished Community Leader Award" and on April 2, 2005 Supervisor Long received the American Red Cross Clara Barton "Public Servant of the Year" award. In 2004 and 2005 Kathy received the Ventura County Economic Development Association's (VCEDA) "Spirit of Government Award". Kathy recently received the 2007 California Association of LAFCOs Outstanding Member Award.

Socorro Lopez Hanson, Trustee, Oxnard Union High School District
Running for 3rd district Supervisor

As your Supervisor, I will:

- Make public safety a priority.
- Provide tough fiscal oversight of taxpayer dollars.
- Focus on developing affordable housing.
- Work to address traffic congestion and poor road quality.
- Protect our parks and agricultural land.

Community Service:

- Trustee, Oxnard Union High School District
- Delegate Assembly Member, California School Boards Association
- Member, Pleasant Valley Historical Society
- Member, Camarillo Ranch Foundation
- Founding Member, Santa Paula Health Action Coalition
- Recognized twice by the City of Santa Paula for Volunteer Service
- Member, Gold Coast Hispanic Chamber

Mary Pallant, Active Democrat; Founder and Host of Ventura County Speaker series
Running for Congress, 24th District

Throughout my extensive political and civic volunteer experience, I have always brought passion, dedication and integrity. I stand ready to serve the 24th Congressional District with the same determination. Being your representative in Congress is not only a calling and an obligation of duty to my country, a country I love, but a privilege: It will be a privilege to serve the people, the community, and the country at a new level.

My belief is that legislation involves compromising, but if you start with compromises you end up with nothing. Politics should instead be about bringing everyone to the table, starting with shared commonalities as the basis and then, through working together, you walk away with something better than imagined. We all have an opportunity to change our district. We all have the opportunity to be part of an historical moment, a moment that may not come again. We can all be proud of knowing we had a say in changing course.

Jill Martinez, Corporate Facilitator, community activist
Running for Congress, 24th District

Let me share briefly why I am running for congress. Why is it now, so critical to run and make a difference in this District? While my answer is simple, the issues that compel me are not. I can no longer sit idly by while we are represented by a person who has already retired from office and has told no one. I will no longer stand for a Representative who does not care about his community and is irresponsible and non-responsive to needs of our community locally, regionally and

around the world. He votes lock-step with the current administration, and will not allow himself to be held accountable for those votes by his constituency. He neither seems to care, nor does he respect, the diverse population of the District. He is found neither on the floor of the House, nor out speaking to the media, addressing local issues on transportation, education, health care, fraudulent lending practices, or a myriad of other topics. Where is he on these things? He is absent.

I have more than 35 years experience that will make a difference in Congress. While building coalitions, I will work to solve problems. My resume is expansive and I am known to have the courage and stamina to face any obstacle. I am a proven, experienced, effective leader.

Ferial Masry, High School Teacher
Running for 37th AD

Ferial has worked tirelessly to bridge cultural divides and to promote peace and prosperity in our communities. To this end, she has served as the cultural consultant for the Los Angeles Board of Education and as the creator and coordinator of the Arab Children's Cultural Exhibit at the Children's Museum of Los Angeles. She was also nominated by KCET for "Woman Who Made a Difference in Southern California."

Ferial wants to keep on making a difference and that is why she is running for office. Her rich international background, her excellent knowledge of American government and history and her service on such boards as the Coalition of Women from Asia and the Middle East, the Education Committee for the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations, the Americans United for the Separation of Church and State, the National Women's Political Caucus, and the Conejo Democratic Club make her well qualified to represent the 37th District. Having spent most of her life working to bring people together and build coalitions, Ferial now wants to use her unique background and perspective to seek consensus in our legislature and build a better future for all!

David Hare, local business owner
Running for 37th AD

A Ventura County native, his father was the County Agricultural Biologist, his mother - a local business owner.

That combination and his own experience, taught him that business and government can indeed work together to create a stronger, cleaner, healthier future for us all.

Hare formulated City programs, without raising taxes, and created private industry jobs involving recycling, energy conservation, solar and hydrogen power and renewing our environment. He was:
Honored by the State of California for creating new jobs for the mentally and physically challenged.
Honored by the FBI and International Police for assisting the homeless and "at-risk" populations to find work, education and housing.

Married, and a very proud father of two, he owns and operates a Ventura County business dedicated to protecting the environment, while helping farmers save money and improve crop yields.

<p><u>Central Committee Candidates</u></p> <p><u>District 3 (5 seats)</u></p> <p>Warren Harwood Sharon Hillbrant Laura Espinosa Susan Jones Barbara Scheibelhut Gary Tuttle</p>
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It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Harvey Ward, 84, on April 14. Harvey was a strong Democrat and long term member of the Democratic Club of Camarillo. Harvey and his lovely wife Harriet hosted fund raisers, a successful garage sale and worked at the Adopt a Poll for the Club. They recently attended our Pizza Party in March and it was so good to see them. Harvey and Harriet served as Corresponding Secretary in 2002 and Harvey served as member of the Scholarship Committee for several years. They both were very active members of the Club until health issues intervened.

Harvey served honorably in the U.S. Navy during WWII in the Pacific. He graduated from USC with a BS in 1951 and spent the majority of his working career, 42 years, with Lockheed Corporation in a variety of positions. Harvey is survived by his wife Harriett of 55 years, and his brother Asher Ward, sister Millicent Goldman and children Julie, Laurie and Robert plus grandchildren Sara, Rebecca, Seth and Natalie. We will miss you terribly Harvey.

His family has requested that in lieu of flowers a donation be made to the American Macular Degeneration Foundation at:

www.secure.valinet.com/-amdf/donation.html

You have been invited to sign the guest book at www.obits.venturacountysatr.com

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE DCC MEETING ON JUNE 5 – WE ARE CELEBRATING BILL HAMMAKER'S 100TH BIRTHDAY!!!

A few things to know about Bill:

- He is not sure but thinks he's been a member of DCC for 17 years.
- He has been a long standing telephone tree caller.
- He has brought lemons, limes and grapefruit from his garden to share with us.
- He has distributed books relating to peace.
- He has enthusiastically demonstrated for Democratic causes, feeling that we should speak up and express ourselves and let others know how we feel.
- According to his friend John Darling "Bill is the Club's

- Professor of Peace. This is his duty but, more importantly to him, it is also his pleasure and passion to carry out this assignment since he has been an active and articulate purveyor of peace for over 70 years."

How many times do you get to party with someone 100 years old?

There will be a skit performed by club members to take you through this incredible man's life and you can count on it being a lot of fun.

People new to our Club will enjoy knowing Bill and we know he will enjoy knowing them. This event will be a pot luck (see the party flyer included herein) and we encourage you to contact Joan Rust at 805-484-6601 or joan@rusts.net to make your reservations by 6-2-08. We are asking for \$5.00 donation at the door towards the celebration.

Adopt-a-Poll

We will operate two polling sites on Election Day, June 3, 2008 at the United Methodist Church on Anacapa. We will need 24 of our members to take a shift as an Election Officer. Shifts are about 2-3 hours in length. Although the schedule is not available at this time there will be a mandatory training session in Camarillo prior to Election Day. Our Club earns money from the county for providing this service for them so it is a worthy activity for our Club and besides its fun!

If you are interested in being a volunteer Election Officer please call or email Joan Adams, 805-302-4588, ronandjoan@verizon.net. We usually have more volunteers than we have spaces so we will take the first 24 people who sign up.

If you would like to make a personal donation to the Scholarship Fund for a deserving senior from each of the three high schools who will start college in the fall, please send a check made payable to DCC and mark Scholarship Fund in the memo section. Please send the check to:

Pat Wieland
7315 Village 7
Camarillo, CA 93012

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY BILL HAMMAKER!!!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!!

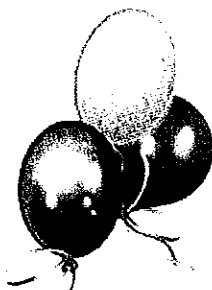
**Come one, come all for a Potluck Dinner to celebrate Bill's 100th
Birthday on June 5TH at our general meeting.**

Please confirm your attendance and if you can contribute to the Potluck by contacting Joan Rust at 805-484-6601 or email: joan@rusts.net by June 2, 2008.

We need main dishes, salad, drinks to include sodas, beer and wine.

There will be a skit by DCC club members to take you through Bill's life and you can be assured it will be like no skit you have ever seen before- and it won't take 100 years!

We are asking for a small \$5.00 donation at the door to help cover costs.



Letters to the Editor by DCC Club Members

(All letters were published)

Not a Good Way to Spend Taxes

I didn't even have to open Assemblywoman Audra Strickland's mailer to constituents before I smelled something wrong.

I could have understood it if she had sent the "protecting working families" mailer (I've seen that phrase before on Democratic literature) out of her campaign funds to members of her party because it clearly states, "Conservative legislators have a solution that will balance the budget without raising taxes."

Inside, she goes on to talk about the false claims of "the majority party in the Legislature" (Guess who?) as opposed to the solutions of "conservative legislators."

Apparently, the assemblywoman doesn't see an ethical problem in sending out her political message using public funds. Is that really "spending the tax dollars of hard-working Californians responsibly?"

Sharon L. Hillbrant, Camarillo

Trustee Selection Disappointing

Re: your March 25 article, "County Board of Education appoints new trustee"

I was not surprised the Ventura County Board of Education picked the least-qualified of five candidates to fill the District 5 seat vacated by Ron Matthews.

Matthews was proud that he tried to push religion and creationism into the classroom. The board said its selected appointee seemed to have the same philosophy as Matthews. Let's hope he will not become a Matthews' clone or one who always agrees with the majority of the VCBOE.

Those who were surprised at the VCBOE meeting were the other candidates for the District 5 seat, each obviously more qualified than the appointee. They seemed sincerely concerned about the future of our children, but they were naive about the agenda of the majority of the VCBOE.

Those who have followed the reckless actions of the VCBOE know they hired two lobby firms with 15-month contracts costing us \$292,000. Neither firm has produced results to better education, but each has given political contributions to a local GOP candidate.

A bizarre scheme pursued by one of the lobbying firms was to provide a program for our "at-risk" youth. An Indiana congressman planned to place an earmark on a federal bill for Grace Evangelical College in Indiana to build an \$8 million building, where they would provide an eight-week summer program for Ventura County's at-risk youth.

Ramon Flores was unquestionably the best-qualified candidate. I hope he will not be discouraged and will seek the District 5 seat in the November election.

Ventura County voters must pay attention when we select VCBOE members if we want quality education for our children. Begin by attending the next VCBOE meeting on Monday, April 28, at 6 p.m. at 5100 Adolfo Road, Camarillo.

Kate McDermott, Camarillo

Re: John Mondy's April 20 letter, "Cowardly act on free speech":

I wasn't sure whether to publicly acknowledge the creepy little anonymous letters to me after letters of mine appeared in The Star, but the apparent volume of hate mail he sends out to anyone even slightly progressive makes me think airing it out is probably best, as Mondy did. This twit is harmless, I hope, but people who get the letters are at least initially quite unsettled.

So, let's let people know: If you send a left-of-O'Reilly letter to the editor, expect an anonymous hate letter from this nutcase — "A neighbor" — a poorly written, ill-informed letter full of vitriol and venom. Maybe "A neighbor" would like to identify himself? Bet not.

Bob Rust, Camarillo

Hannah Beth Jackson has her campaign website up at jackson4senate.com and you can sign up for her mailing list.

PIZZA NIGHT THANKS!!!

Our annual Pizza Night fundraiser was held before our March general meeting, and as always, was lots of fun. Thanks and congratulations are in order to those who worked hard to create such a successful event. Lenna Reyes made the room festive with colorful tables and candles. Numerous members – too many to mention -- donated salads, desserts and beverages. We netted almost \$800. There were so many drop-ins (including compatriots from other Democratic clubs) that we were down to one piece of pizza as the dinner hour wound down. That's cutting it close, but it worked out. Whew!

The biggest contribution – and we are so very grateful – came from local restaurant **Cucina Isabella**, which donated half the cost of the pizzas. Wow! And big thanks! They're located at **455 Carmen Drive in Camarillo, in Carmen Plaza**. Their phone number is **482-0666**. It's a lovely place for a delicious dinner, and a great place for take-out. If you go there tell them thanks from Democratic Club of Camarillo.

Want some talking points when discussing Progressive issues with your Republican friends?

When they talk about Clinton reducing the military and that it is his fault the military has been degraded, remind them that it takes 10 to 15 years to draw down the military. This process was started in the last two years of the Reagan administration due to the end of the Cold War and Reagan decided we didn't need to be afraid of Russia anymore, so we didn't need a large military. The reduction continued under George HW Bush, Clinton and into the current Bush Administration. This talking point is compliments of Wade Sanders.

When they ask you how we are going to pay for services that are essential to our country's well being: health care, Social Security, Medicare, infrastructure and so on, ask them this question, "What do businesses do when they need to increase profits?" The answer is, "They raise their prices or they cut costs, they DON'T cut products or services unless those products or services are not profitable". And who pays for the increase in those prices to help keep businesses in the black? We do. So how are we going to pay for the services from the government we so desperately need? We raise taxes. The right

wants to run the country like a business but their distaste for taxes doesn't quite square with their fondness for raising prices. These talking points compliments of Hardy Hayes.

SAVE THE DATE: JUNE 28

DCC is planning a party and we hope you'll attend! The time: 5 p.m. on Saturday, June 28. The place: member Rose Obetz's new house. The theme: an evening for our Democratic candidates. Admission: your pledge to make a donation to your favorite candidate(s). Details to follow in next month's newsletter. In the meantime, call or email Joan Rust for updates (484-6601, joan@rusts.net). Fun!!!!

For political reasons efforts often are made to obfuscate the definition of "**socialized medicine**," but it is important to understand the meaning of the term. A socialized medicine system is one in which the government is the owner of the health care delivery system, and professionals providing the health care are employees of the government.

In contrast, social insurance is a government insurance program, which pays for health care provided by the private health care delivery system. Social insurance programs may be government-administered programs, such as the single payer model, or they may be contracted through private insurers. Do not confuse these private, non-profit insurers in social insurance programs with the model of for-profit private insurance in the United States. The private insurers in social insurance programs serve primarily as administrators, but the tightly-regulated financing system functions basically like the single payer model.

The **Veterans Administration** health system is government owned, and the professionals within the system are employees of the government. Thus it is a system of socialized medicine.

Medicare is a government insurance program that pays for services in the private health care delivery system. Thus it is a program of social insurance.

Even Americans who believe they understand the term "socialized medicine" are often confused. In the Harvard/Harris poll, only 47 percent believe that the veterans health care system is a system of socialized medicine (it is). In contrast, 60 percent believe that Medicare is a system of socialized medicine (it is not).

Membership Application

Date: _____

Name _____

Street
Address: _____

City _____ State _____

ZIP _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Signature: _____

(I am a registered DEMOCRAT
or wish to change to such)

*Annual Dues: \$20.00/individual, \$30.00/couple/family
\$15.00/seniors, \$20.00/couple*

Mail to: DCC, c/o Joan Adams
830 Calle Los Gatos, Camarillo 93010

Club Officers & Committee Chairs	
Officers	
President	Jack Phillips
Vice President	Bob Rust
Recording Secretary	Hardy Hayes
Corresponding Secretary	Pat Wieland
Treasurer	Ron Adams
Member-at-large	Sue Bolorchi
Member-at-large	Steve Crandall
Standing Committees	
Membership	Joan Adams/Lenna Reyes
Parliamentarian	Sharon Hillbrant
Publicity	Marianne Slaughter
Legislative	Kate McDermott
Telephone Tree	Marge Grate
Central Committee Rep	Linda McKenna
Voter Registration	Bridget Frank
Fndrsing/Spcl.Events	Joan Rust/Carolyn Crandall/Rose Obetz
Scholarship	Pat Wieland
Social	Sue and Mahmood Bolorchi
Newsletter	Carolyn Crandall

Help us save postage,
ask to receive this Newsletter by email.
Just ask **Carolyn Crandall** at softails.togo@verizon.net

Democratic Club of Camarillo
830 Calle Los Gatos
Camarillo, CA 93010