



DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF CAMARILLO



November 2007

GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, November 1, 2007 7:00pm

Orchid Building, UFCW Hall
816 Camarillo Springs Road, Camarillo

* Our guest speaker will be Sean Kelly, Associate Professor of Political Science at CSUCI. His topic, "You Don't Always Get What You Want: Democrats and the New Congress". Also, announcing her candidacy for State Senate: Hannah-Beth Jackson

General Meeting Directions

Directions 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 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).

The November newsletter – WOW!! How could the end of the year be so near?

On **November 1st**, we'll wrap up our monthly general meetings with special speaker **Sean Kelly, Associate Professor of Political Science at Cal State Channel Islands**. His topic will be "**You Can't Always Get What You Want: Democrats and the New Congress**" so if you get frustrated by the workings of Washington, and the seeming impossibility of implementing our Democratic goals, this meeting's for you.

And there's more! As you probably know, our club welcomes all Democratic candidates who wish to address us, so on November 1st we'll also be hearing from **Hannah-Beth Jackson, Democratic candidate for California's 19th Senate District**. Ms. Jackson represented the 35th California State Assembly District for six years, and founded **Speak Out California**, a group of progressive activists "working toward a positive vision for California."

Finally, at that same meeting, we'll be electing our **Executive Board for 2008**. Details appear later in this newsletter.

Huge thanks to all who helped with our October 14 event, **A Celebration of New Members**, by cooking; donating food, drinks and prizes; and assisting with miscellaneous duties. Better than forty members attended. We ate, drank, visited, and generally had a lovely time at the Crandalls' beautiful pad. **Jim Hensley of the GOOD Club** won top prize in the raffle. And we were pleased to be joined by two of our local Democratic candidates, **Ferial Masry who is running for the 37th California State Assembly District**, and **Mary Pallant, who is running for Congress in the 24th District**. Thanks for turning out!

Now for **upcoming events**..... On December 1, in lieu of our regular general meeting, we'll hold our **annual installation luncheon at Ottavio's**.

Information on making reservations appears elsewhere in this newsletter. Do reserve early to avoid disappointment; space is limited. And on December 8, led by Steve Crandall, the club will participate in the **Camarillo Christmas Parade**. Let us know if you'd like to help.

See you on November 1st,
Bob and Joan Rust, Co-Presidents

www.democraticclubofcamarillo.com

805-484-6601

Sean Kelly is Associate Professor of political science at Cal State Channel Islands. He joined the faculty after eight years at Niagara University in Niagara Falls, NY, and six years at East Carolina University in Greenville, NC. A native of Seattle, WA, he earned his BA in political science at Seattle University and PhD in political science at the University of Colorado. He was chosen as an American Political Science Association Congressional Fellow in 1993-1994 and served as a health policy analyst for the Democratic leadership in the U.S. Senate.

Sean is a community activist. He served two years as the Chair of the City of Niagara Falls Charter Commission, as the Chair of the Lake Ontario Ordnance Works Restoration Advisory Board, and as the Director of the Environmental Leadership Institute at Niagara University. He is also an active scholar. In 2006 his coauthored book (with Scott Frisch) *Committee Assignment Politics in the U.S. House of Representatives* was published by the University of Oklahoma Press, and he co-edited a book titled *Campaigns and Political Marketing*. He and Scott Frisch are currently working on a book titled *Jimmy Carter and the Water Wars: Presidential Influence in Congress and the Politics of Pork* that will be published next year.

He lives in Camarillo with his wife and nine year old daughter.

Hannah-Beth Jackson, running for State Senate: Hannah-Beth Jackson served six years in the California State Assembly, representing the 35th District encompassing Ventura, Oxnard and much of Santa Barbara County. She served as Chair of the Committee on Natural Resources, Chair of the Assembly Select Committee on Coastal Protection and Co-Chair of the Assembly Select Committee on Title IX. Other leadership positions included serving as chair of the Legislative Womens Caucus and chair of the Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee. She has authored more than 60 bills that were signed into law on issues including education, health care, environmental protection, financial privacy, crime victims,

reproductive rights, domestic violence, childcare and protecting the rights of consumers.

Hannah-Beth is married to Santa Barbara County Superior Court Judge George Eskin. She has a 21-year-old daughter, two stepchildren and four grandchildren. The family resides in Santa Barbara.

How Ventura County voted with their contributions:

Mitt Romney	\$159,740
Rudolph W. Giuliani	\$145,825
Hillary Clinton	\$136,099
Barack Obama	\$112,031
John McCain	\$49,120
Bill Richardson	\$28,050
John Edwards	\$26,274
Ron Paul	\$24,195
Mike Huckabee	\$17,700
Christopher J. Dodd	\$16,250
Dennis J. Kucinich	\$8,670
Fred Thompson	\$7,635
Joseph R. Biden Jr.	\$7,550
Sam Brownback	\$5,286
Tom Tancredo	\$4,425
Duncan Hunter	\$3,500

From Hardy Hayes – DCC Club Member

Don't get me wrong, WHOEVER is the Democratic nominee is going to get my vote. It's just that we have so many excellent choices and we should make sure that we get the best (of the best) that we can get. We get painted as the party that doesn't believe in anything or that doesn't stand up for its beliefs or values; okay, among my beliefs and values is the belief that the average American is getting screwed (and I don't think we're enjoying it one damned bit!) by conservative and corporate America in every way imaginable and in ways we don't even know, much less have the ability to defend ourselves from their actions.

I just want to be represented by someone who will take care of OUR interests for once. I'm tired of platitudes from people who are making millions of dollars a year telling me that we can't have universal health care because it's socialized medicine. I'm tired of corporations threatening to take their business out of the country if we don't all work for minimum wage (fine let them go, just ban them from selling product in our marketplace), I'm tired of a President who would veto healthcare for less fortunate children because it's going to cost \$35 billion over seven years but demands an additional \$40 billion this year to fund a war I don't believe we should have been in in the first place. I'm tired of being labeled a traitor because I belong to an organization that questions the war and its motives. I'm tired of a right wingnut hack deciding who real soldiers are for me and then telling me I'M NOT supporting the troops. I'm tired of having rightwing ideologues questioning my patriotism when I signed my life away for four years and agreed to do whatever the military wanted me to do but most of them have never served a day.

I can't believe that for six years the Repugnantcans could get any kind of legislation through Congress they wanted and this President would approve it without question but now our majority party can't get anything through because the cost of everything is too high. I can't believe that after two hundred and thirty years this nation has run up a national debt of approximately \$7 TRILLION and that 50% of that debt was accrued while a man named Bush was President and 70% of it was accrued when a Bush or a Reagan was President and yet my party is the "tax and spend" party. I'm tired of taxes that affect only the very richest of us get portrayed as leading to the downfall of the American way of life (i.e., the "death tax") when they'll never affect 99% of us and how a raise in taxes for the very rich to help support the social security of the very people on whose backs they became rich is somehow unfair.

I don't want a Democrat elected who is going to give us more of the same. I really want a President and Congress to stand up for us. And I really want a President whose wife has a tongue stud; now that's got to be cool! :-)

Seriously though, in my heart I truly believe that either John Edwards or Dennis Kucinich would be the best we could get but I know that it's probably

not going to be either of them and I'm not sure Kucinich could get elected in a million years even if he did get the nomination.

Sorry this has gotten so long, in the end I agree that Hillary will probably be the one and I SURE don't mind having Bill be back in there with her. I just wish she could be a little more progressive and be able to articulate our side rather than bending to placate interests that don't serve us well.



WANTED: TELEPHONE TREE CALLERS

Ron Adams has moved up the political ladder from the Telephone Tree brother and sisterhood to Treasurer of our club. Thanks Ron, for your time spent doing this service for the club.

Our current TT callers (some who have cheerfully done this for years) are: Carol Bley, Louise Bockall, Mary Burton, Gail DeWolfe, Bridget Frank, Bill Hammaker, Hardy Hayes, Ann Hills and Agatha Miller. Thank these good members for their helpfulness.

If you find it in your heart to spend an hour a month calling members to remind them of forthcoming meetings and events, please call Marge Grate at 482-8320.

www.democraticclubofcamarillo.com

805-484-6601

Generous Members Donate Books and Cash to our DCC Library Project

Always gracious and generous, **Harvey and Harriet Ward** donated dozens of books from their extensive library to the Democratic Club of Camarillo's Library Project. Included are rare copies of Richard Leakey's *Origins* and Albert Einstein's *Relativity*. Oprah Book Club title *Night* by Elie Wiesel and *Dreaming War-Blood for Oil* and the *Cheney-Bush Junta* by Gore Vidal were included.

Marge Grate donated a copy of Al Gore's, *The Assault on Reason* and Bob Woodward's *Plan of Attack*. Marge also donated a subscription to *Mother Jones* magazine. **Diane Zeamba** gave several current political books, including the Susan Estrich book, *The Case for Hilary Clinton* and *Home Grown Democrat* by Garrison Keillor. Other titles that were given are *Blackwater: The Rise of the World's Most Powerful Mercenary Army* and Thom Hartmann's *Screwed: The Undeclared War Against the Middle Class and What We Can Do About It*.

You can check the library on-line catalog at <http://www.vencolibrary.org/> to find authors or titles. You will find 132 titles about Bill Clinton, including all the negative ones. Clinton has a new book, *Giving: How Each of Us can change the World*. Consider donating this book or the cash for the book.

We have donated over 30 titles to the library. The club is matching the money donated to the project. We plan a shopping trip soon and want suggestions from club members of book titles that you would like to read or see in our new library.

If you have current hard-back political books, DVD's or video tapes on your home library shelf, consider donating it to our DCC Library Project.

Who said this?

I will never treat anyone the way I was treated in this city. I also will never do my job as poorly as people did their jobs when I was at their mercy.

Clarence Thomas

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE CAMARILLO CHRISTMAS PARADE!!

DECEMBER 8, 2007

We have an entry this year! Steve Crandall has agreed to donate his 2002 Dodge Ram pick up truck to serve as the Democratic Club of Camarillo float. We need volunteers to help decorate on the morning of December 8. Please contact Steve at 805-484-0173 for more information on costumes and decorations no later than November 23.

Please see the flyer attached announcing our Annual Holiday Luncheon to welcome our 2008 Executive Board members listed below:

President:	Jack Phillips
Vice President:	Bob Rust
Treasurer:	Ron Adams
Recording Secretary:	Hardy Hayes
Corresponding Secretary:	Pat Wieland
Member at Large:	Sue Bolorchi
Member at Large:	Steve Crandall

Reservations must be made no later than November 23. Details in the flyer.

Ventura and Conejo Valley Audubon Societies will be sponsoring a **global warming rally on the National Day of Climate Action, November 3rd**, as part of the Step It Up 2007 campaign. The rally will be held at the Ventura Harbor from noon to 2:00 p.m. The purpose of the rally is to bring attention to the huge problem of global warming and what can be done about it, especially on a political level. Politicians from throughout the area have been invited to attend. Step It Up 2007, a citizen's movement demanding that the U.S. government address global warming, is organizing in hundreds of communities across the country, to ask our political leaders and candidates to finally do something about bringing us into a clean energy future. This will be one of the first big nationwide rallies against global warming and we encourage everyone to join us. For more information visit the

Step It Up campaign website: www.stepitup2007.org. Contact Chrystal Klabunde at 522-8023 or Marianne Slaughter at 484-8415.

Pay Your 2008 Membership Dues Now

Our Club dues are payable starting January 1, 2008-- but you can pay them right now and receive a full 2008 membership. And the good part is, you won't have to think about it in January--it will already be done.

The price is nominal, just \$20/individual or \$30/couple or family. Seniors and students may join for \$15/individual or \$20/senior/student couple.

Just use the form in this newsletter and **send your money in today—don't delay.**

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### **What Will You Do For Your Club??**

Please help us organize for the upcoming year and the 2008 election activities. It is such an important year for local and national politics and we will need all the help we can get from our members to assure that we have a winning year in 2008. Whether you have a little or a lot of time to give there will be a job you can do.

In this newsletter you will see a **membership survey titled Do You Have 2 Cents or 2 Minutes**. The survey lists all the many ways you can get involved as a member of the Democratic Club of Camarillo. You can choose one or you can choose many just please let us know what you will do for your club by completing the survey.

Your completed survey can be mailed to Joan Adams, 830 Calle Los Gatos, Camarillo, 93010 or emailed to [ronandjoan@verizon.net](mailto:ronandjoan@verizon.net). Or you can bring it to the November meeting or the December luncheon.

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October 13, 2007

The fundamental federal law governing K-12 education, ESEA/NCLB (Elementary and Secondary Education Act/No Child Left Behind), is up for reauthorization this year. The California Democratic Party platform states that "California's children must have access to free, individually appropriate, high-quality public education

from preschool through grade 12. Education must provide a well-rounded curriculum including the arts, music, and physical education. Teachers, as the stewards of our future, should be well paid and work in safe learning environments with up to date curriculum and learning tools."

We, as California Democrats, support public education and economic justice for all, particularly children, women, and labor. Now is the time to speak up on behalf of California's children and teachers, primarily women, in support of the type of public education described in the platform. Congress is considering linking educator pay to student test scores as part of the reauthorization of ESEA/NCLB. We do not have a plan or the resources for supporting and assessing student performance in a way that truly represents the type of achievement we want from our children. Linking educator pay to standardized student test scores will shift the best teachers away from the neediest children and from the profession all together. The National Education Association (NEA), which represents teachers across the country like myself, supports 93 bills that would improve ESEA/NCLB, and it strongly supports the stated goals of the law - to raise student learning, close achievement gaps, and ensure that every child is taught by a highly qualified teacher. But, simply put, the law is not working.

NEA is asking Congress to make three fundamental changes in the law so that it will work for children.

1. Use more than test scores to measure student learning and school performance.
2. Reduce class size to help students learn.
3. Increase the number of highly qualified teachers in our schools.

However NEA will not compromise on any of the following 3 principles regarding teacher pay:

1. Nothing in any ESEA/NCLB plan should undermine educators' current collective bargaining rights.
2. Use of test scores/learning gains must not be a required or mandatory element of any program.
3. Any program that rates educators and/or affects their compensation must be agreed to through bargaining, or where bargaining doesn't exist, through a 75 percent majority vote of teachers in the district.

I urge the California Democratic Party to stand behind teachers in taking the time to get the bill right for the sake of our children, our teachers, and our public education system.

Kim Marra Stephenson, PhD  
Delegate, AD 37  
Teacher, Conejo Valley Unified School District

**You are cordially invited to a reception honoring**

[www.democraticclubofcamarillo.com](http://www.democraticclubofcamarillo.com)

805-484-6601

**Ferial Masry for 37th AD in 2008**  
**[www.ferialmasryforassembly.com](http://www.ferialmasryforassembly.com)**

**Saturday, November 10th, 2005**  
**3:-7:pm**

**International cuisine, drinks, music**  
**& a chance to meet elected officials**

**Hosted by**  
**Fahim Shah & Nagma Gandhi**  
**831 Camino Tierra Santa**  
**Camarillo CA 93010**  
**805 298 3430**  
**805 427 4737**

**Suggested Minimum Contribution**  
**\$50 per person ...and bring a friend...**  
**or two**

**No maximum contribution will be refused, so**  
**please be generous! ALL \$ directly to turn a**  
**RED area to a BLUE one!**

**Directions: 101 North – Las Posas off ramp –**  
**turn right – Left on Ponderosa which becomes**  
**Tierra Santa**

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### **Mini Report on Monies**

DCC has done quite a bit with its modest funds this year. As a group, we've:

- Mailed (and emailed) a monthly newsletter
- Funded three scholarships for graduating seniors (supplemented by private donations from individual members)
- Staffed a booth at the Camarillo Fiesta
- Kept a presence at the Camarillo Farmer's Market through tabling
- Rented space at The Orchid Room for general meetings
- Created a matching fund for books donated to the library in the name of the Club
- Planned to fund an entry in the Camarillo Christmas Parade
- Put money in the bank

At last month's Executive Board Meeting it was unanimously decided to hold money over to election year, as there will be no end to the ways in which we can well use funds to further our Democratic goals.

Newsletter expenses were kept to a minimum this year thanks to the generous donation of printing from Hayes Printing and Graphics, owned and operated by our recording secretary, Hardy Hayes.

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Members of DCC get printed in Letters to the Editor to Ventura County Star

September 13, 2007

### **Mining the sun**

California has a critical need for clean and affordable energy sources. Without prompt passage of AB1451, the development of the new technologies that will allow us to move away from dependence on nonrenewable sources will be set back, possibly for years. Without the addition of utility-scale solar installations featured in this bill, a whole new industry will fail to be created.

We are perplexed to find this bill, which passed unanimously in the Assembly, stalled in the Senate, even though it is designed to give a boost to the existing AB32 and the California Solar Initiative.

Without active support, the future of the property-tax exclusion is in doubt, and with it, the whole solar venture.

The solar power potential in this state is vast, limited only by our imaginations, and the byproducts of this venture range from cleaner air and water to greenhouse gas mitigation to improved public health. This will happen because the need for new power plants using dangerous, polluting fossil fuels such as liquefied natural gas — or coal-produced power imported from the Four Corners — will be significantly offset, as it has been in progressive countries such as Germany.

Our 3-kilowatt photovoltaic system, retrofitted on our all-electric home in 2001 with the help of state and federal rebates and tax credits, is estimated to have paid for itself in savings in those six years,

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**805-484-6601**

resulting in almost free electricity from now on. With the recent addition of a solar water heater, our electric bill averages \$14 to \$20 per month, down from \$160 to \$190. We think all California homeowners should have the same experience through consistent incentives already provided by the state, along with the extension of the property-tax exclusion that will make clean, sustainable electric power generation a reality.

Donald & Mary Jacqueline Wallace, Camarillo

October 14, 2007

Do you wonder why there are not enough votes to override the President's veto of the SCHIP bill? Perhaps, it is because the tobacco companies successfully campaigned against the 61-cent additional tax on a pack of cigarettes that will fund the bill.

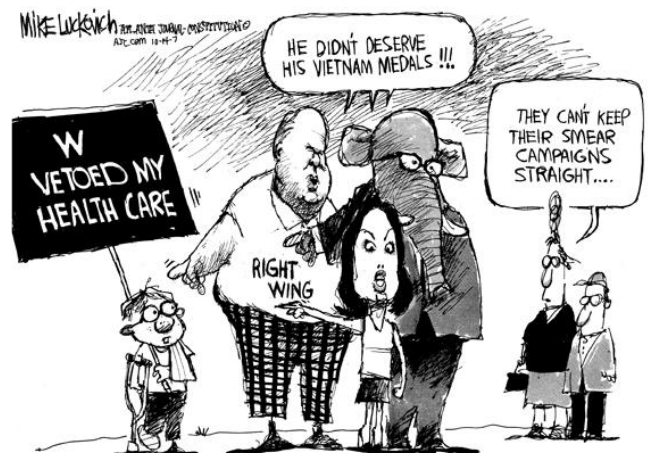
Even though 72% of Americans approve of the SCHIP bill, big tobacco's donations to Republican lawmakers have thwarted the effort by Congress to continue the necessary levels of funding for this successful program, which the states run, using private insurance companies.

Tobacco pays enormous sums to influence the GOP votes in Congress. In fact, the top donor to the Republican Party in the 2004 election was Philip Morris, now known as Altria, donating over \$10 million. Tobacco's biggest shill in Congress is Roy Blunt of Missouri. Blunt's wife and his son are lobbyist for Altria and their subsidiaries. Blunt, is the Minority Whip, the second ranking Republican in Congress. He is the one who successfully 'whips' Congressman Elton Gallegly into making his every vote, a vote for the GOP party line.

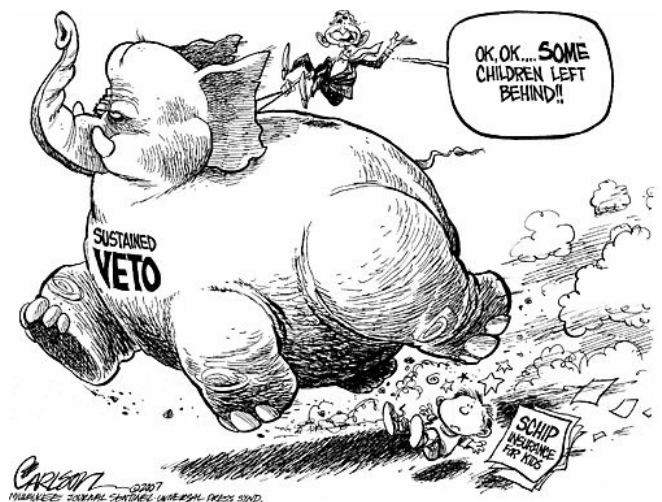
Gallegly, told the STAR that he "would not even consider overriding the President's veto". Perhaps if he hears from enough of us, he will reconsider.

Congress has burdened every child born today with a \$29 thousand share of the national debt, a birth tax, so-to-speak. If they could vote, I'm sure these children would rather have healthcare to insure them a healthy start and a productive life. All 11 million of our uninsured children need healthcare. This is a moral issue. Don't let the tobacco lobby win. Call Congressman Gallegly at 805/497-2224 and tell him you support the changes to the SCHIP bill.

Kate McDermott



Clarence Thomas



**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               | Bob and Joan Rust |
| Vice President          | Carolyn Crandall  |
| Recording Secretary     | Hardy Hayes       |
| Corresponding Secretary | Pat Wieland       |
| Treasurer               | Jack Phillips     |
| Member-at-large         | Linda McKenna     |
| 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 | Hardy Hayes            |
| Voter Registration    | Bridget Frank          |
| Fndrsing/Spcl.Events  | Open                   |
| Scholarship           | Pat Wieland            |
| Newsletter            | Carolyn Crandall       |

Help us save postage,  
ask to receive this Newsletter by email.  
Just ask **Carolyn Crandall** at [softails.togo@verizon.net](mailto:softails.togo@verizon.net)

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830 Calle Los Gatos  
Camarillo, CA 93010