

The Dynamic Democrat
Democratic Club of West Orange County
July 2010

Next Meeting

July 28th

Green Valley Adult Recreation Clubhouse
17260 Los Jardines West
Fountain Valley
6:30 pm

MEET AND GREET BARBECUE

Ken Arnold - 46th Congressional District
Rosalind Freeman - 67th Assembly District
Phu Nguyen - 68th Assembly District
Joe Shaw - Huntington Beach City Council
Dam Kalmick - Huntington Beach City Council
And others pending

Catered by Stone Fire Grill

BBQ Chicken, Tri Tip Roast, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Cowboy Beans,
Variety of Salads, Breadsticks, Dessert

FUNDRAISER \$20

RSVP: j.l.jennings1944@gmail.com or call 714-846-5201 by July 26th

Treasurer's Report: Club combined Account Balance \$6,244.52

Our Democratic Float in the 4th of July Parade won the

JOHN PHILLIPS SOUSA AWARD

See images of the parade in a slide show at <http://tinyurl.com/2569t72>

Farewell to talking Points by Rich Gillock

I started Talking Points over 6 years ago during the 2004 election. You remember the election when Democrats snatched defeat from the jaws of victory by nominating John Kerry and watching him lose to a should-be-felon President who had less than a 40% approval rating.

Well this month is the last time for *Talking Points*. I've enjoyed doing them but it is a lot of work and I need a rest. I am plagued by the little black cloud that says "cheer up, things could be worse." So I cheer up and things get worse.

So for a while I'm giving up on saving the world. I've come to give up on Americans but still believe in America, that mythical land where liberty and justice prevails. But it's one that a majority of the "Americans" who live there are not with the program. You see that maintaining a nation "of the people, by the people, and for the people" takes work. Unfortunately for most "Americans," that's just too much work.

Our nation is a system of shared work. We contribute to each other's welfare and we benefit from the common good whether we personally benefit or not. That is how we created the interstate highway system and the national parks. It is how the Defense Department works. It is the basis of our public school system, our parks, our police, fire and emergency services. These are the things we take for granted and expect in a civilized society.

But there is no free lunch, and you have to work for what you have. Sometimes things you don't do yourself is paid for by your taxes. So opposing taxes is basically being lazy. It means that you don't want to contribute to the common good of the United States. It means you do not care to "promote the general welfare" of our nation. It means you want it all but are too cheap to pay your share.

Increasingly the big tax revolt isn't so much about taxes, it's about the racist idea that non-whites are benefiting from government programs. In truth, taxes have dropped for 95% of taxpayers since Obama took office, yet the Tea Baggars are up in arms wanting more tax cuts while at the same time demanding that the "government keep its hands off my Medicare!"

Why is it that a hand full of angry, ignorant, armed militants gets all of the press in this country? Who decides that 1000 Tea Baggars protesting taxes are more significant than 100,000 people marching on Earth Day to stop climate change? The answer is capitalism. The "news media" generally prospers during a disaster. To meet their "fiduciary responsibility" as a corporation they have a clear profit motive in promoting disaster. And nothing will promote disaster faster the Tea Party Facism.

These people are looking for small government and no taxes. I suggest they move to Haiti. Haiti has everything they want, except for roads, law enforcement, health care, and all those other things that a liberal government provides for its residents.

But their anger is the product of corporate greed. These are not spontaneous rallies: they are marketed by Washington lobbyists and Fox Propaganda for the sake of the corporate sponsors.

After the Supreme Court ruling on "Citizens United," there will be no restraint on corporate spending on elections. With expected confirmation of Elena Kagan to the Supreme Court we will see one more conservative appointed to the bench creating a 6-3 corporate

Talking Points - continued

hole from which democracy will not be able to climb for decades, if ever.

Our nation is being recast as a corporate mining town of the early 20th century. The corporation owns the mine. It rents to you your broken down home. It runs the company store where you buy everything. And to get you started in your new job they will extend a little credit.

America's corporate town is nation wide. The inflation adjusted real wages have declined since Ronald Reagan as a direct result of legislation that has crushed unions. "Externalizing costs" has resulted in massive job losses and increased pollution.

Very few people can actually claim to own their home. They instead are paying a bank to live there, and in some cases, the house isn't worth the money that is owed. Credit card debt is through the roof and the interest rates rival the pay day lenders that prey upon the poor.

The old adage was "you can't fight city hall." Well we did that plenty of times, and won. The truth is that you can't fight a corporate cabal that controls the news, your job, your home, and your healthcare. All of the money that you think that you earn eventually finds its way back into the corporate coffers. And while you may think that you are a stock holder through your 401-K or other investments, your voice is overruled by the control of the very rich. The only voice the people had was democracy, and "Americans" have let that slip away. I love the image of America, but I'm not so sure about the "Americans."

Thank You from Ken Arnold

Ken would like to share his appreciation for all who helped him win his primary election. He especially thanks those members of the club that supported him in the campaign. Ken received additional support from the state and county Democratic organizations and from labor unions.

Ken now looks forward to the November election running against Dana Rohrabacher. If you were unable to help in the primary, now is a good time to step up to the plate. Ken will need help walking precincts, phone banking and giving donations. Donations are especially important this month with ballot statement deposits due soon.

Upcoming Events

July 17 2PM Larry Agran will be speaking on "Separation of Church & State: Making it Work In America's City Halls. Irvine Ranch Water District, 15600 Sand Canyon Ave. in Irvine.

August 24th Executive Board Meeting of the DCWOC at 7 pm at the home of Pauline Younkin 10960 El Domino in Fountain valley. ALL MEMBERS WELCOME.
RSVP: j.l.jennings1944@gmail.com or call 714-846-5201

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The Dynamic Democrat

E-mail: j.ljennings1944@gmail.com
Democratic Club of West Orange County
2781 W. MacArthur Blvd., Ste B-Box 347
Santa Ana, CA 92704

Remember
The Barbecue
July 28, 2010
Must RSVP

Membership Application
Democratic Club of West Orange County

Your name, address, occupation and employer is required by Federal & California Law for all cash donations of \$25 or Greater. Donation of \$100 or greater must be by check.

Date _____ Donation \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, ZIP _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Occupation _____

Employer _____

___ Patron \$60
___ Family \$40
___ Individual \$25
___ Senior/Student \$20

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