

Victory Garden Party

The Sunset Hills Country Club,

4155 Erbes Road
Thousand Oaks, CA
Sunday, September 21st,
12:00 to 3pm

Featuring a sit down lunch, silent auction, and a special surprise guest speaker.

It is our clubs biggest fundraiser of the year.

**The proceeds go toward buying materials for our candidates
and volunteers to distribute while precinct walking.**

Discount Prices before September 12 are:

Individuals \$50

Seniors (65+) \$35

Students \$25

Veterans & their families \$25

After September 12

Individuals \$55

Seniors (65+) \$40

Students \$30

Veterans & their families \$30

Menu Selections must be made in advance.

1- Chicken Scaloppini

2- Atlantic Salmon

3-Vegetarian Tortellini

For more info contact Jody Avery-Smith at (805) 375-3188 or jody.as@verizon.net.

To order tickets at the discount Early-bird Price

Send check (made out to DCCV) and enclosed order form to:

Democratic Club of Conejo Valley

P.O. Box 4421

Thousand Oaks, CA 91359

Name: _____

Number of People attending: _____

Address: _____

Menu Selection (must be made at time of order)

Chicken Scaloppini _____

E-mail: _____

Atlantic Salmon _____

Phone: _____

Vegetarian Tortellini _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____



Republican Hypocrisy Knows No Bounds
By: Richard Kolber

As I listen to Republican politicians, talk radio hosts, and other members from that side of the political spectrum, I cannot help but be struck by the differences between what Republicans preach versus what they practice. There is a huge gap. Allow me to give some examples.

To hear conservatives tell it, the government cannot be trusted. How often have you heard them say, "We believe in liberty and freedom, not big government." Yet those same people see nothing wrong with the Bush administration ignoring the Constitution and support wire-tapping without a court order, suspending the writ of habeas corpus, and favoring torture of terrorist suspects. This is OK, they say, because the government is protecting us from terrorists. I'm reminded of something Ben Franklin once said: "People willing to sacrifice freedom for safety deserve neither." If we are going

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Victory Garden Party.

The Sunset Hills Country Club, located at 4155 Erbes Road in Thousand Oaks will be the setting for this year's Victory Garden Party.

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The September General Meeting

will again be at the Thousand Oaks Library, 1401 Janss Road but it will be on the 1st Wednesday, September 3rd NOT on the 2nd Wednesday. The Topic will be November Ballot Propositions.

County Ready for Big Election Turnout
By: Sandy Emberland

Ventura County is anticipating 73% of registered voters to vote on Election Day, and is planning accordingly. Phil Schmit, County Clerk, met with Democratic leaders to discuss the County's plans for the upcoming Presidential election in November. Meeting with Phil Schmit were Deborah Dent, Obama Coordinator; Sandy Emberland, Obama Delegate; Joe O'Neill, Democratic County Chair; and Sue Broidy, Chair of Vote Blue-Central Coast.

The county uses paper ballots, because they can be re-counted if necessary, and are saved for 22 months following each election. The county's roving inspectors will have plenty of extra ballots if supplies run low, or voters may choose to use an electronic voting machine to cast their ballot. There is 1 at each polling place. Last election 69 votes were cast using electronic voting machines. Using paper ballots has saved the county \$27M.

With 128,000 permanent absentee voters, there were questions about speedy processing. Mr. Schmit explained that once the absentee ballots are mailed, they gear up to process the ballots as they are returned, working 2 shifts from 7 am to 11 pm daily. This is a time-consuming process because each signature on the ballot envelope must be verified.

Absentee ballots may be taken directly to the Government Center in Ventura, turned in to your local polling place or mailed. Voters are responsible for correct postage. Ballots without sufficient postage MAY be returned to sender by the post office, if they are delivered, the county will pay the postage & count them. The exceptions are the 218 mail-ballot precincts where there is no polling place – their postage is covered. Postage is expected to be about \$1 per ballot.

Ballots must be received at the county government center or a polling place by 8 pm on Election Day. Ballots received early and verified, are processed at 8 pm. The results are the numbers released to the press

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Republican Hypocrisy (continued from pg 1)

to ignore constitutional rights in the name of fighting terrorism, then the War on Terror is already lost.

Another example of Republican hypocrisy is supporting tax cuts during time of war, adding to the debt, and passing it on to future generations. So much for being responsible for one's own bills. Whatever happened to the concept of sacrifice for the common good?

This is the very first administration in American history to fight a war while reducing taxes on those most able to pay. Why should the people saddled with the debt be those who had no say in the war that caused these IOU's?

Another classic example of Republicans preaching one thing and practicing another is affirmative action. They keep telling us we need to be a color-blind society. Yet no Republican protested when then candidate for president Reagan promised in 1980 to appoint a woman to the Supreme Court or when he followed through on it. Surely, no one thought Sandra Day O'Connor would have been selected had she been a man. But that selection pales in comparison to Bush Sr's decision to name Clarence Thomas to replace Thurgood Marshall. Put aside Anita Hill. The man is not even up to questioning those appearing before the High Court. Also, Thomas showed his lack of character by refusing to give other blacks the same opportunity that he had by opposing affirmative action (he was admitted to Yale Law School under such a program). He reminds me of someone fleeing a burning fire by scurrying down a ladder, then taking the ladder with him while others remain trapped inside.

Then we have right-wingers singing that old familiar refrain, "We believe in strict constructionism." Yet these same folks become awfully forgetful where same sex marriage is concerned. Instead of paying heed to the equal protection clause in the 14th Amendment, we hear them argue that this practice should be banned because of majority will. That is the very same argument the South used to defend slavery. And whatever happened to keeping the government out of our private lives? Finally, we have Republicans always claiming minorities are "playing the victim card." Yet these same folks complain that Hollywood discriminates against conservatives while ignoring the many performers who have made it in show business who reflect their views. Or saying that the media has a liberal bias even though far more attention was given to Kerry's and Gore's alleged fabrications while ignoring those of Bush and Cheney. For example, there is ample evidence that Bush cherry-picked the facts in making the case to invade Iraq. This is a far more serious matter than a president having an affair, and yet we heard far more about the Monica Lewinsky affair.

Truly, is there any limit to the shameless hypocrisy of this crowd? I think not.

Hannah-Beth Jackson Opens New Office in Newbury Park



If you want to get involved in a Campaign that can truly make a difference in California
Hannah-Beth Jackson; Candidate for State Senate
for the 19th District is opening a new office at:
810 Lawrence Drive in Newbury Park.
Call 805-830-8007 for more information.

Big Election Turnout (continued from pg 1)

and are considered a good sampling of the final results.

The third topic concerned early voting. The County has early voting available at the Elections Division for 30 days prior to the election for anyone who wishes to use it. Placing early voting machines on campuses of colleges & universities in Ventura County was discussed. Due to security issues, it is not possible at this time. However, all campuses, except CLU, will have a polling place for students to vote or turn in their absentee ballots.

Ventura County is ready for a heavy turnout at the polls, processing of the absentee ballots and accommodating our new, young voters with polling places on most campuses. Remember - be sure you are registered, then be sure you VOTE.

Membership Update we have 226 Paid members.

The Sustaining Wall

Melanie Ashen	Arlene Clein	Penne Letson
Helene Bialis	Jerry Clein	Gayle MacLeod
Leo Bialis	Bruce Gardner	Tracey Wyman
Ron Block		



Volunteers Needed for Walking and Calling



By: Jay Kapitz

The Democratic Club of the Conejo Valley has had great success reaching out to voters for Democratic candidates and in past election years. This year we are especially excited about our potential to impact National and State races.

As a volunteer of the DCCV you can help many ways. To help Senator Obama link to www.barackobama.com click on "Events" and enter your zip code. For Hannah Beth Jackson's campaign for Senate District 19 call (805) 280-2408 or log on to www.jackson4senate.com. Jackson's campaign will be doing phone banking. There will also be an opportunity to help with Ferial Masry's campaign for the 37th Assembly District and Marta Jorgenson's campaign for the 24th Congressional District.

Beginning in September DCCV will be asking its volunteers to walk door to door in their local neighborhoods to encourage Democrats, Independents, Greens and Decline to State voters to get out and vote for our Democratic candidates. Please contact Jay Kapitz at j_kapitz@yahoo.com or 818-889-1039 to help.

Working The Fair

By: Debbie Birenbaum

The Ventura County Democratic Central Committee organized the various Democratic Clubs in our area for the Ventura County Fair this August. DCCV took a two day turn Sunday, August 3 and Monday, August 4. Many club members participated in registering and spreading our message to interested fair-goers. Among those who tabled were Jim MacIntyre, Mary Freed, Sandy Emberland, Kara Altshuler, George Corbin, Sherry Jensen, Elaine Herzog, Tom Mullens, Clay Carter, Larry Lord and his chick-magnet son who came down from Cal Poly SLO to draw all the young girls over to register! If I've forgotten anyone who helped those days, please forgive me. I've lost both the list and my mind.

The booth was fantastic, located in front of the entrances to the Commercial Building. It was decorated with red, white and blue banners, drapes and lights which drew large crowds. Pictures of all the candidates hung from shining stars. Obama was standing right out in front. Dozens of fair-goers stopped to take photos with Obama. Three-hundred Obama pins were grabbed up the first couple of days. We averaged registering between 30 and 35 voters each day. Many of those registered were young, first time voters and, boy, were they excited.

The Republicans looked a little lonely mid-way down the aisle. They decorated with Ronald Reagan and a wan looking John McCain, George Bush was conspicuously missing. That pretty much says it all.

Keep this event in mind next year. Its great fun. We all worked our three hour shift and then walked around the fair. Some of us even got to see the Beach Boys. All of us got to eat a lot of yummy, nutritionally void food!

DCCV Members Respond

By: Kara Altshuler

Ray Freeman and Kara Altshuler have organized a group of DCCV members to write letters to the editors of three local newspapers; the Ventura County Star (reaching about 300,000), the Los Angeles Daily News (approximately 900,000 readers), and the Los Angeles Times (as many as 1.5 million readers). Approximately 20% of these readers are undecided voters. The effort is designed to respond to consistently anti-Democratic columns such as the ones written by Terry Paulson and Bill O'Reilly, and to individual articles or op-ed pieces written by or about local residents or politicians such as Elton Gallegly. Our letters might help break through the noise, and get this 20% to the polls voting for a Democrat.

Ray has had over 60 letters published in these papers. Since our efforts began in July, member's letters have been published 7 times: Once each by Lisa Strom, Jim McGuire and Marty Harrington and twice

each by Sherry Jensen and Kara Altshuler.

Why do we write? Because we are outraged at the Republican lies! Simply put, somebody has to rebut the falsehoods of the conservatives, and if we don't do it, who will? Plus, it's exciting to get your name in print. It's important for all of us to take part in our democracy, and this is an easy way of contributing to the success of Democratic candidates for state and federal office.

But, we need your help. A writer can only be published once a month in the Ventura County Star so we need as many people as possible writing letters to increase our chances. Kara and Ray provide talking points as a springboard for all letters which makes it incredibly easy. Use the info you like and add some of your own touches to make the letter personal. If you haven't already signed up to help, please do so at the next DCCV meeting or contact Kara at kara.altshuler@gmail.com.



Club Cookbook Fundraiser

Wanted: Recipes for Democratic fundraiser cookbook. We need recipes from at least 75 people to make this a viable fundraiser. Thanks to those who have submitted recipes for inclusion in the Club cookbook.

Please contact Sharon Thomas at 805- 499-2423, or sharonannethomas@roadrunner.com

Eye On The Issues

By: Sherry Jensen

This month's EYE ON THE ISSUES, the official TV program of the Democratic Club of the Conejo Valley will present a very special Candidate Forum featuring: **Ferial Masry:** Candidate for 37th Assembly District, **Marta Jorgensen:** Candidate for 24th Congressional District, and **Hannah-Beth Jackson:** Candidate for 19th State Senate District. The candidates will tell a little about themselves; why they are running and what they think the important issues facing local voters are. Then they will answer questions from the audience. The show airs Thursdays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Constance Starkey is the moderator, Jody Avery-Smith the director and Teri Smolarski and Sue Gunther are co-producers. Any Club members who are interested in finding out more about the show or has an idea for future shows is welcome to attend the media committee meetings which are held monthly. For more information contact Sue Gunther at suegunther@verizon.net.

DCCV to Poll Sit November 4

DCCV to Adopt-a-Poll for the General Election November 4. The club will earn \$475.00 for the day. This is a very long day, but it will be divided into 2 to 3 hour shifts. To volunteer for this exciting fundraiser, contact Debbie Birenbaum at ginso350@roadrunner.com.

Calendar of Events

Thursdays
New 1 hour format
6:30 – 7:30 PM

**EYE ON THE ISSUES
NEW DAY AND TIME**
Timewarner Cable
Channel 25

September 1
11:00 AM to 3:00
PM

Labor Day Picnic
Conejo Creek Park

September
3
6:30 PM

September General Meeting
will be back at the Main Library,
1401 Janss Road, T.O.
It will be the 1st Wed. not the 2nd.

September 9
7:00 PM

Obama Meetup
UFCW – Camarillo, CA
Contact Sandy Emberland
semberland@verizon.net

September 27
12:00 – 4:00 PM

**TABLING AT THE
OAKS MALL**
Contact Kara Altshuler
kdba@roadrunner.com

Sunday
September 21
12:00 – 3:00 PM

GARDEN PARTY
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4155 Erbes Road
Thousand Oaks.
Contact Jody Avery-Smith
(805) 375-3188
jody.as@verizon.net

September
Date & Time
To Be
Announced

PRECINCT WALKING
Starts after Labor Day
The club focuses on Democratic
households and walks for all
Democratic candidates.



Democratic Club of Conejo Valley
P.O. Box 4421
Thousand Oaks, CA 91359
www.conejodemocrats.com
805-675-8785

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage Paid
Thousand Oaks, CA
Permit No. 177

DCCV Officers for 2008

Tom Mullens, **President**
Jim McIntyre, **Exec. Vice President**
Debbie Birenbaum, **Admin. Vice President**
Mary Wallin, **Recording Secretary**
Jody Avery-Smith, **Corresponding Secretary**
Jerry Clein, **Treasurer**

Committee Chairpersons

Jay Kapitz, **Election Strategy**
Executive Board, **Fundraising**
Susie Canfield, Millie Reina, **Hospitality**
Debbie Birenbaum, **Membership Coordinator**
Tom Mullens, **Program Coordinator**
Executive Board, **Public Relations**
Jim McIntyre, **Technology**

