



GARDENA VALLEY DEMOCRATIC CLUB

Chartered by the Los Angeles County Democratic Central Committee



Next Meeting: **Monday, December 16, 2013, from 7:00 PM sharp to 9:00 PM...**

December 2013 newsletter

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

At our December General Meeting, we will elect new club officers for 2014. Our club's Nominating Committee has nominated the following:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| For President: | Dan Medina |
| 1 st Vice President: | Richard Vaughn |
| 2 nd Vice President: | Jan Schaefer |
| Recording Secretary: | Jim McGreevy |
| Corresponding Secretary: | Don Dear |
| Treasurer: | Susana Medina |

As written in our Constitution, any other club member who is not an officer in another Democratic club and has been a member of our club for at least six months can be nominated from the floor for any of these offices except President. Nominees for the office of President must have been a member of our club for at least one year.



5th Annual Christmas Party

Our club held its annual holidays party on Thursday, December 5th at the Eatalian Café on Broadway in Gardena. We were joined by members of other local Democratic clubs, including the Progressive DC, the Mexican American DC, the Martin Luther King DC, the United Democrats of the South Bay, the New Frontier and the Beach Cities DCs.

We were entertained by a magician and his beautiful assistant and Dan Medina led us in some party games. Everyone had fun and great food!



Meeting Notice:

**Monday, December 16, at 7:00 PM sharp!
At the Ken Nakaoka Community Center
1670 West 162nd Street in Gardena,
California**

*(One long block east of Western Avenue, at the
Gardena Civic Center,*



And there were of course many more prizes and surprises!

*Enjoy the Holidays and a
Happy New Year!*

And go see "Inequality for All !"



*(Party photos courtesy
of Richard Vaughn.)*



**15433 South Catalina Avenue
Gardena, California 90247**

Founded 1932

ID#761370



2007

2008



WALK WITH US IN THE MARTIN LUTHER KING, Jr., PARADE on JANUARY 18th!

Members of our club helped create the Martin Luther King, Jr., Memorial Parade 30 years ago. This was the first parade in Reverend King's memory west of the Mississippi! Our club has had a contingent in every Gardena MLK Parade, and a number of club members also participate in other capacities in the parade, whether as elected officials, members of the organizing committee or other groups or as parade commentators.

All Democrats and supporters are welcome to join us and March or ride in the parade, which is only one mile long but it's slow and takes an hour to walk. We are usually one of the middle contingents or towards the rear, following the bands and drill teams. Please bring banners or placards supporting progressive causes and Democratic candidates or officials!

We usually have two banners, one for our club and the other saying

"PROTECT MEDICARE & SOCIAL SECURITY," which the Republican Party and their Tea Party masters are STILL trying to destroy, after 48 and 78 years, respectively. And also, of course, the **Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act**, which they call "Obamacare." The Republicans don't want to spend a penny on poor people or the unemployed or even on the Middle Class -- their only goal is to give bigger and bigger multi-million dollar tax cuts to their \$Billionaire benefactors and the multinational corporations they own stock in.

2014 will be a very important election year. The Koch brothers and their 300 billionaire buddies are going to go all-out to buy the Congress once and for all. If they do, we may never get it back! This election will be more crucial than 2010, when their Tea Party anarchists got into Congress. Help us stop them! March on January 18th!

Calendar

EVERY SUNDAY!

Weekly Sunday Breakfast
10 AM to 12 Noon

in the Normandie Casino Coffee Shop
1045 W. Rosecrans Avenue

in Gardena, California

(just west of Vermont Ave. & the Harbor
110 Freeway)

Everyone is welcome to join us for our
informal discussions!

MONDAY, December 16, 2013, 7:00 PM

GVDC General Meeting

(the THIRD MONDAY of every month)

at the Ken Nakaoka Community Center

1670 W. 162nd Street

in Gardena, California

Everyone is welcome to join us!

MONDAY, January 6, 2014, 7:00 PM

GVDC Executive Board Meeting

(the FIRST Monday of every month)

at the Ken Nakaoka Community Center

1670 W. 162nd Street

in Gardena, California

All Club members are welcome to take
part.

SATURDAY, January 18, 2014, 9:30 AM

Martin Luther King, Jr., Parade

We will form up in front of the

Serra High School parking lot

on Van Ness at Marine Avenue

in Gardena, California

Please join us to walk or ride in the
parade! Carry a sign!



2007

Prosecute REAL Voter Fraud!

(I wrote this a year ago, intending it for a Gardena Valley Democratic Club newsletter, but I instead gave it to the Beach Cities Democratic Club who put it in their newsletter. However, with the June 2013 Supreme Court decision gutting the Voting Rights Act and the subsequent deluge of States trying to limit voting by the poor, minorities and the elderly -- groups that tend to vote Democratic -- this is more relevant than ever! Just look at now-elderly former Speaker of the House of Representatives Jim Wright, once third in line to be President of the United States, who was denied his right to vote in Texas last month! I've got photos of Speaker Wright speaking at an event for Mervyn Dymally in Inglewood a number of years ago. I'll put them up on our club's website, www.gvdc.org, along with this article. --Jim McGreevy)

Republicans in States where they control both the Legislature (often through gerrymandering, like in the lower House of Congress) and the Governor's mansion have taken to repressing the vote of groups that tend to vote Democratic, like racial minorities, Hispanics, the elderly and the poor. This was a stated goal of many Republican leaders during the 2012 election, and it resulted in millions of Americans being denied their right to vote.

This is, of course, old news to California voters where the ultra-right wing has controlled the Republican Party for over half a century. We have seen voter repression in places like Orange County, where for decades in the latter half of the 20th century right-wing groups did things like set up police road-blocks near polling places in minority neighborhoods to discourage citizens there from voting, tell voters that they should vote a day or two after the election, send out phony "Democratic" slate mailers endorsing Republicans in close races, throw away voter registration forms of people they registered as Democratic or change their registration to Republican, etc. etc. Then there were more insidious ways to repress the

vote like creating a shortage of ballots in Democratic precincts, or fewer voting machines than in Republican-majority precincts, or combining precincts, making voting places more distant, all intended to make voting queues longer. In 1996 electronic voting machines with proprietary, "trade secret" software appeared, usually with no paper trail, and vote tabulating was done inside computers with no visible means of observing the vote count process. The vendors of these voting machines have been shown to lie about the process, and on one occasion even promised to deliver a State's electoral votes to one Presidential candidate. Computer experts have shown repeatedly that electronic voting results can be easily manipulated in seconds by a single person, and there is ample evidence that elections have been manipulated in that way. Always in favor of Republicans, it seems.

The Federal government seems to do nothing to investigate, never mind prosecute, such widespread voting fraud. Nor has Congress put any teeth in election fraud laws.

We all have to thank "Anonymous" for preventing Karl Rove's minions from stealing the 2012 election by computer fraud and installing President Romney! Rove only had to change the vote counts in three States. No one would have been the wiser. Just like 2000 and 2004.

Watch the old HBO documentary "Hacking Democracy" (it's streaming on Hulu right now *[no longer! -- It is now available for free streaming on the Internet Archive, or you can buy it in the iTunes Store]*) to see how elections have been and can be manipulated, from the local level on up. Notice how the workers in the Elections Departments treat signed precinct vote count data, which any investigation would use as evidence of voting fraud, like it's a joke while they are attempting to destroy it. Or the Elections Supervisor pre-choosing

three "random" precincts, presumably precincts that she knew weren't manipulated during the election, that she and her staff had already pre-sorted and pre-counted. How many seconds would "evidence" like that stand in a trial?

If anyone prevents a single citizen of the United States of America from voting, that is just as much voter fraud as, say, someone claiming to live in an unfinished room in his son's basement and voting from that address while actually living in another State. Both should be subject to the same \$10,000 fine and five years in jail! And whatever else felons are due. For each occurrence! And every person complicit in that crime, be they legislators or chiefs of police or janitors, should be subject to the same penalties!

This is voter fraud that affects all 300 million citizens of the USA. It totally distorts what Democracy is. How can we proselytize Democracy when we don't practice it here? Democracy is not a joke, despite what Republicans think. Every American is equal. Every American has the right and should have an equal ability to vote.

Get more involved!

Next year is going to be very important. We don't want the Tea Party taking over both houses of Congress in 2014, which they might do with all their billionaire backers. They are creating more fake nonprofit "public interest," "religious" and "think-tank" groups which are tax-exempt, to funnel money into anti-Democratic campaigns. The billionaire Koch brothers are now even financing local elections to give right-wingers a launching pad.

The exodus of American technology, factories and jobs that began under Ronald Reagan will skyrocket if the right wing takes over Congress. They are already semi-secretly working on the Trans-Pacific Partnership which many have called "NAFTA on Steroids." A Republican takeover would guarantee the enactment of the TPP. We've ALL got to fight.

Club



GARDENA VALLEY DEMOCRATIC CLUB

Chartered by the Los Angeles County Democratic Central Committee



Membership

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email address or Fax#: _____

\$15-Membership; More members at same Address (\$10 each); SUSTAINER: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to "Gardena Valley Democratic Club"

Return to: GVDC, 15433 S. Catalina Ave., Gardena, CA 90247

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