

Hayward DEMOS

★ ★ ★ ★ DEMOCRATIC CLUB ★ ★ ★ ★

FEBRUARY-MARCH 2010 NEWSLETTER

WWW.HAYWARDDEMOS.ORG ★ PO Box 56783 ★ HAYWARD, CA 94545 ★ 510-581-5169

President's Message: WELCOME TO A NEW YEAR

by James Farley



I would like to thank you for your warm welcome we received as new officers, at our annual January potluck. Our Past President, Tom Kersten, deserves our appreciation for his hard work and dedication to the Hayward Demos Club, Thank you Tom! I would also like to thank our Volunteers of the Year, Sara Lamnin, for all the work she contributes to our newsletter every month, Donna Allen-Thomas for her work on the website, and Jennifer Ong for her work to support various club efforts. Whenever, there is a need for service they are very dedicated to the needs of the club and its members.

Two important petitions were circulated at the potluck. One, a 2010 State initiative introduced by George Lakoff, attempts to change the legislative vote requirement to pass a budget from two-thirds to a simple majority. For more information, see page 2. The second petition, circulated by Hon. Barbara Halliday, strives to stop the state's ability to raid city funds every time they need to balance the budget. Many of our Councilmembers are working with Ms. Halliday on this effort.



FEBRUARY 18, 6:30PM ~ MEETING INFO

Discussing, "Managing California's Water in the 21st Century," will be our own Hayward City Councilmember Bill Quirk, Adam Scow, California Deputy Director of Food & Water Watch, Matthew Heberger, research associate at the Pacific Institute, and Richard Quigley, President of the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District; Zone 7. Learn about the issues surrounding the Safe, Clean, Reliable, Drinking Water Supply Act of 2010 including water privatization, environmental concerns, impacts on Hayward and Bay area water districts, and alternative solutions to address California's future water demands. A very controversial November bond initiative would authorize the state to borrow \$11.1 billion to overhaul the state's water system. Learn more at www.haywarddemos.org

From left to right, Bill Quirk, Adam Scow, Matthew Heberger, and Dick Quigley.



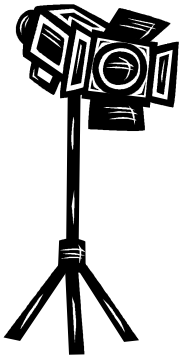
See You at the
NEXT MEETING:
THURSDAY, February 18,
6:30pm - Westminster Hills
Presbyterian Church 27287
Patrick Ave, Hayward, 94544
An expert panel will discuss,
"Managing California's Water
in the 21st Century"

CLUB NEWS

www.haywarddemos.org

Congratulations to our new officers (pictured left):

- James Farley – President
 - Jennifer Ong – Vice President
 - Helena Straughter –
Membership Director
 - Tim Forsyth – Treasurer
 - Alison Corson – Secretary
- Club Board** (e-board)
meetings are the 1st Monday
of each month at Westminster
Hills Church, 6:30pm.



NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

Helena Straughter



In the mid 1990's Helena Straughter wanted to make her niche in the professional world. She had started working at the Post Office in July of 1970. Her education in labor law, collective bargaining, and grievance handling were her stepping stones into

becoming an arbitrator for the Postal Service. Helena was also Shop Steward for the American Postal Workers Union Local 78 and ran for President of the Local in 2001. She was appointed to the Oakland Local APWU Marketing Research and Development Committee. Helena later retired as a window clerk from Station E, in the Montclair Area, but continued her advocacy role, becoming a Shop Steward with Teamster Local 78, for Oakland Airport Shuttle. Helena was also elected as a Democratic Party delegate in Stanislaus County, District 25 and has helped to register voters. Helena recently wrote her first resolution and saw it adopted by the Democratic Executive Board on July 19, 2009 - Resolution # BRG09.12 regarding the foreclosure crisis.

Helena's experience in retail marketing and civil service led her into Real Estate in 2003. She is an independent Real Estate Broker and educates the community on loan modification and Federal Trade Commission information on credit repair. She is a council member with MoveOn.org and is working to establish a local chapter. She just recently moved back to the Bay Area, and has already jumped in, sharing her enthusiasm as our new membership chair and organizing local events. Welcome Helena!



SHIFTING THE BALANCE OF POWER

The California Restore Democracy Campaign has selected Past Hayward Demos President, Tom Kersten to be its Petition Coordinator for the greater Hayward area. If enough signatures are collected, the California Democracy Act authored by Dr. George Lakoff, will be on the November Ballot calling for voters to change the State Constitution from a two-thirds to a majority vote with the phrase, "All legislative actions on revenue and budget must be determined by a majority vote." Tom will be responsible for recruiting and training petition circulators and handing out petitions. If you are interested in being part of this volunteer effort, please contact Tom at kersten.tom@gmail.com.

POP QUIZ: When was the two-thirds majority provision added to the California Constitution for budget bills? Email your answer to the newsletter editor at saralamnin@sbcglobal.net for a chance to win a prize!

Tom Kersten pictured at right with Helena Straughter and newly elected Congressman John Garamendi (10th District).



DEMO EVENTS

If you have events to list on the calendar, please send them to our Website Chair, Donna Allen-Thomas adthomas511@sbcglobal.net

EDEN AREA UNITED DEMOCRATS FUNDRAISER

Thursday, March 18
This delicious event helps to fund local Campaign Headquarters for our Democratic Governor candidate and others.

PEACE AND PIZZA

Speakers, movies, and discussions, held the 2nd Friday of every month, 1533 B Street, Hayward, 7pm

GREATER HAYWARD DEMOCRATIC CLUB

February 17, 7p. Firefighter's Hall, 22734 Main St, Hayward
Topic: State of the City

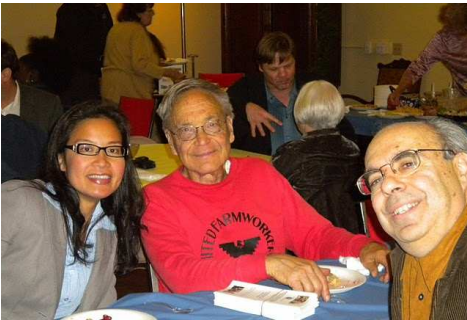
CASTRO VALLEY DEMOCRATIC CLUB

Meetings on the 4th Tuesday on every month. 7p. Faith Lutheran Church 20080 Redwood Rd. Graydon Room.

TRI VALLEY DEMOCRATIC CLUB presents

Norman Solomon - Media critic & author – discussing current events in Afghanistan. IBEW Hall 6250 Village Pkwy, Dublin.

PLEASE RENEW YOUR DUES! Club funds support YOUR candidates, issues, events such as the annual New Year's event pictured below. **Remember, you must be a paid member in order to vote in the club endorsement process.** New members must join by February 27 to vote at the Club's March 27 Candidates Forum. Details on Page 4.



Have Events to promote? News to share? Issues to raise? Send them to our Newsletter Editor saralamnin@sbcglobal.net



HAYWARD AREA YOUNG DEMS MOBILIZE

Last week the Alameda County Democratic Party officially chartered the South County Young Democrats (SCYD), an organization dedicated to electing Democrats and engaging young progressives in the Eden, Tri-Cities and Tri-Valley areas of Alameda County. Rocky Fernandez, AC Transit Board President and former California Young Democrats President, leads this new club. Other officers include Vice President Alex Hilke, a college student at CSU East Bay, Political Director Michelle Thomas and Secretary Meriam Reynosa, both district staffers to State Senator Ellen Corbett. American Government professor at Berkeley City College, Matt Freeman serves as Treasurer and local labor organizer, Itonia Gelin, is Club Membership Director.

SCYD currently has 44 members from San Leandro to Fremont and Hayward to Livermore. All local registered Democrats 35 years old or younger are eligible to join. For more information, find them on Facebook, or email southalamedacountydys@gmail.com

MORE EVENTS

FUNDRAISERS

Thursday, Feb 11, 5:30p
Re-Election Campaign
Kick-off for Hayward
Mayor Michael Sweeney
Hayward Firefighters Hall
22734 Main St. Hayward.

Sunday, March 7,
Oscar Party for Kevin
Dowling's Supervisor Race
Hayward City Hall.

Friday, March 12, 7-10pm
Sara Lamnin for Hayward
Casino Night, Skywest Bar
& Grill, 1401 Golf Course Rd
www.saralamnin.com

KEEP HAYWARD CLEAN AND GREEN Join the volunteer efforts to clean up neighborhoods. Feb 27 - Palma Ceia Elementary School - 27679 Melbourne. Mar. 27 - Southgate 26601 Calaroga Ave. For details, <http://user.govoutreach.com/hayward/faq.php?cid=10863>

Foreclosure Prevention Workshop Sat. Mar 6, 12p
Castro Valley Library
3600 Norbridge Ave,
Castro Valley, 94546. For more information, call Helena (510) 895-9783

SUSAN B. ANTHONY CELEBRATION Sun. March 7, 3pm. The National Women's Political Caucus will honor District Attorney Nancy O'Malley, Oakland Council Woman Nancy Nadel, and Susan Muranishi, County Administrator. Montclair Women's Cultural Arts Club. www.nwpcan.org
Hayward Demos are proud to Co-Sponsor this event.



P.O. Box 56783
Hayward, CA 94545
TIME VALUE
Return Service Requested

Renew your Demos membership today!

Individual/Family-\$20/30
Low Income - \$10
Send checks to:
DEMOS Club
P.O. Box 56783
Hayward, CA 94545

Next Meeting:

THURSDAY, February 18, 6:30pm *Note Earlier Time*****

Westminster Hills Presbyterian Church 27287 Patrick Avenue Hayward, 94544
"Managing California's Water in the 21st Century"

Future Meetings - All meetings are open to the public.

Saturday, March 27th 10am-4pm. **'Meet the Candidates'** day will provide club members an opportunity to vote to endorse their favorite candidates for the June Hayward City Council and state primary elections. More details about this event to follow. Members can drop by any time during these hours to cast their ballots.

Members must be current on their dues for 2010 by February 27 to vote.

Friday April 23rd @ 6:30pm - California's June Ballot Propositions



MEMBER SURVEY

Thank you for continuing your membership in Demos. We value your feedback and look forward to a successful new year for the Club. There is still time to respond to drjenniferong@gmail.com. Preliminary Results are:

Reasons for attendance

- 1. Interesting speaker
- 2. Interesting topic
- 3. A tie between Meeting electeds and socializing

Recommended Topics for Future Meetings

- 1. Candidate Forums
- 2. Health Care
- 3. A tie between Climate Change and Current Legislation