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President's Message

Thank you for your Collaboration!

Greetings Patriotic Club
Members,

As our strategic planning committee begins to prepare our 2024 roadmap, I realize how fortunate we are to have dedicated volunteers who find joy and satisfaction in team collaboration!

Congratulations and Thank You!

- Programs Committee – For selecting fantastic speakers! Last month was no exception, the topic of **How to Talk Politics** had the Winn Room almost at capacity. The topic drew interest from club members, Republicans and Independents. In case you missed it, you can watch the recording from our website.
- Membership Committee – For all your creative plans to reach out to everyone on your lists!
- Communications Committee – Thank you for promoting events via social media, local newspapers. And for promptly responding to all “Contact Us” requests.
- Public Policy Committee –For understanding that **knowledge is power and action strengthens**


democracy! The nine focus areas are of phenomenal impact in our community and the region.

- Hospitality Committee – For kindly welcoming attendees at all our events. Having yummy treats and refreshments always makes socializing more fun!
- Scholarship Committee – For your commitment to select outstanding students who will benefit from our two Southwestern College scholarships.
- GO Team – For recognizing that talking to our democratic neighbors will win votes in a critical 2024!
- Our Webmaster - I want to thank our relatively new webmaster, Kathy Upton, although under contract, is always in search of effective ways to present and track club information. Her decades of experience have taken our online presence to another level.

And finally - Thank You Donors! Keeping up with our growing membership takes the time and effort from our wonderful volunteers – but it also takes money. Thus far, thanks to the generous donations by a few of our members, we have made meaningful accomplishments. If you cannot volunteer at this moment, you can make a difference by making a financial contribution to the club to afford our webmaster's work and the collaboration that flows via our website. [Please consider making a donation](#) to keep our club strong and moving forward.

Respectfully,

Marely Ramirez
Club President
president@coronadodemocrats.com



¡Gracias por su colaboración!

Saludos Socios del Club Patriótico,

¡Feliz 2024! Y vaya año debe ser. ¡Un año de transición, para nuestra nación y nuestro club! El martes 5 de noviembre de 2024 se pondrá a prueba el futuro de nuestra nación, por lo que a partir de hoy, todos debemos ofrecernos como [voluntarios](#) y actuar para ser la fuerza democrática que nuestra nación necesita.

Más que nunca, ahora es el momento de expresar su patriotismo, amor por la bandera de nuestra nación y nuestra Constitución, no solo aceptando esos ideales, sino también como voluntario en nuestro club. La iniciativa más importante en la que todos debemos participar será el Equipo de Organización de Base (GO) de nuestro club para registrar votantes y votar por candidatos demócratas. Por favor, lea el artículo "Cada voto importa en las primarias de marzo de 2024" e inscribese hoy. ¡Los voluntarios de GO Team serán una fuerza poderosa para convertir a Coronado en demócrata! - ¡Si y solo si *todos* participamos para inscribir a tantos ciudadanos como sea posible y motivarlos para votar por candidatos demócratas!

Sin embargo, si caminar por el recinto, enviar mensajes de texto o llamar por teléfono no es para usted, tal vez nuestro orador del programa de la reunión general de enero, Marc Meyer, Director de Operaciones del Centro Nacional de Resolución de Conflictos (NCRC, por sus siglas en inglés) nos ayude con "Cómo hablar de política", que es otra forma de persuadir a las personas para que voten por los demócratas. Para obtener más detalles, lea el resumen del programa de enero.

Me cuesta creerlo, pero marzo de 2024 marca el final del mandato del vicepresidente de nuestro club, Bill Seager, así como de mi mandato como presidente del club. Ha sido un honor y un privilegio servir a esta gran organización, y estamos reclutando activamente para estos dos importantes puestos en la junta directiva. ¿Eres el patriota para llevar a nuestro club al siguiente nivel? Si es así, envíame un correo electrónico a president@coronadodemocrats.com para charlar sobre posibilidades emocionantes.

En este año crucial, recuerde las palabras inmortales de JFK: "No preguntes qué puede hacer tu país por ti; Pregúntate qué puedes hacer por tu país".

Respetuosamente,

Marely Ramírez
Presidenta Patriótica del Club
presidente@coronadodemocrats.com

Grassroots Organizing



Go Team: How to Get Out and Precinct Walk!

To date, we have 12 official members of our San Diego County Democratic Office GO (Grassroots Organizing) Team in Coronado to canvass in the upcoming primary. Nine of these are returning members and three are new. Keep in mind that canvassing increases voter turnout and will make a difference in races won by 50 to 100 votes in Coronado, a few thousand votes in the County and State, and several thousand votes nationally.

New Training Requirements: In past years, GO Team members were trained informally. This year, formal attendance at official County trainings is required because of the “new environment” we live in with website hackers, hate emails, Zoom bombing, etc. Because of this, new members must register formally for the training so that party membership and information can be verified. I want to thank our new members for doing this.

Restricted Website Access: As other counties are doing, San Diego County has to restrict access to all GO Team information, canvassing lists, and posted trainings to those formally trained.

Door Hanger Printing: The County must set a deadline for all active GO Team Members to be in their tracking system for the printing of endorsed candidates by area on door hanger materials.

Volunteers Still Needed: Those who could not attend one of the formal trainings can still canvass with someone who is trained. We

have many GO Team Members who want to walk with someone. Just reach out to Patti!

Future Trainings: We are facing several critical races for the County Board of Supervisors, local City Council, and Coronado School Board in the Fall 2024 General Election. More trainings will be offered to increase our GO Team Members. As soon as we have those dates, they will be announced.

For Information, contact: Patti Flores-Charter at (619) 206-7450 or patti.flores.charter@gmail.com

Southwestern College (SWC) Student Scholarship

We Did it!

We are so excited to announce that as of January 20, we have raised enough money to once again provide two SWC student scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each. Many thanks to the club members who quickly stepped up to make this happen. HOORAY!

Although I solicited donations this year the exact same way I did last year, we had no donations by January 9. I'm looking at other options for members to make these tax-deductible donations over time. One option that already exists on our Club's website (SWC scholarship donation) is to make small automatic monthly tax-deductible donations throughout the year (e.g., \$5-\$10-\$15).

Again, my sincere thanks to those who donated:

- Dan Brancaccio & Carol Stanford
- Robin Seigle
- Stephanie & Sandy Kaupp
- Lydia Grypma & Bob Oakley

- Luan Troxel
- Susan & Mike Marrinan
- Judy Bambace & Brian Trotier
- Jean & Bill Seager
- Edry Goot
- Marely Ramirez & Keith Prentiss
- Patti Flores-Charter & Chuck Charter
- Jacqueline McCoy

Our scholarships make a difference in the lives of these young people. SWC students will begin applying in February, and scholarship recipients will be announced in early April. You'll be hearing more as the application and selection process continues.

Contact me -- Patti Flores-Charter -- with any questions or suggestions at (619) 206-7450 or patti.flores.charter@gmail.com

March Primary Ballot: Public Policy Committee's Recommendations for the Central Committee of the County Democratic Party

The primary is March 5, 2024. Ballots will begin arriving about February 5 or shortly after that. There are 22 candidates for the San Diego County Democratic Party (SDCDP) on the ballot, **but only six can be elected.**

It is vitally important that voters have a voice in the Central Committee. Grassroots input, free of conflict of interest and personal ambition, is crucial. There are elected officials on the ballot. Our club's Public Policy Committee (PPC) recommends votes for candidates who do not already hold elected office to give a stronger, more independent voice to Central Committee

members who can represent all of the County's voters, not just a particular district or interest.

The SDCDP charters the Coronado Democratic Club. Chartered clubs are organized to give grassroots input to the County Democratic Central Committee. No Coronado Democratic Club members are candidates for the County Party Central Committee; all candidates are residents of our 77th Assembly District.

The Central Committee is the governing body of the County Democratic Party; it conducts the Party's business. Members of the Central Committee are elected in each Assembly District in presidential election years. Their duties include conducting the Party's business, approving a budget, overseeing campaign activity, and endorsing Democratic candidates for office (sddemocrats.org).

The PPC recommends votes for:

1. **Cynara Kidwell** (Velazquez) is a current committee member and Chair of the Club Development Committee; her priorities include party integrity and developing chartered clubs.
2. **Mandy Havik** is a Coastal Community organizer; priorities include climate change issues and homelessness.
3. **Nancy Casady** is an experienced community organizer whose priorities include climate change issues and nuclear disarmament.
4. **Danny Avita** is a foster youth community advocate; priorities include homelessness and party integrity.
5. **Stephanie Wells** is an LGBTQ advocate and non-profit Executive.

6. **Bryan Pease** is a current committee member and environmental justice attorney who has been a strong independent voice; priorities include animal welfare.

These are recommendations from the Public Policy Committee, not endorsements by the Coronado Democratic Club or any other entity.

Please review the candidate list and vote for Democrats who will insist on Party integrity and who we can trust to lead us forward. We believe the six candidates we recommend will be strong, independent voices for Party integrity, transparency, and democratic values.

City Council Crew Needs YOU!

Our Club needs to keep abreast of issues affecting our City in real time. All of us were caught off guard when a coordinated group of far-right conservatives attacked our library during public comment at a City Council meeting, where they pushed for the removal of books that address LGBTQ+ and racial issues. That incident was a wake-up call, which spurred the creation of our “City Council Crew” signup, seeking volunteers to attend the open public comment portion of City Council meetings. **The job is easy and doesn’t require a long-term commitment!** Simply attend a City Council meeting and stay at least through public comment on items NOT on the Agenda (usually at the beginning of the meeting). Make notes on comments of concern, comment in response as appropriate, and afterwards, advise the Public Policy Committee on what you observed. To sign up, simply click [here](#), select a spot that works for you, read the instructions in its description, and enter your contact information. As of this printing, our next open spot is February 20! Thank you in advance for your help.

Please note that you will NOT need to register an account or keep a password on the signup.

Update: Stop the Sewage

Efforts by Stop the Sewage (www.stopthesewage.org) continue apace, with positive movement by the Mexican government who broke ground on the new Punta Banderas waste treatment plant last week.

The old plant has been inoperable for a decade, with raw sewage from Tijuana's growing population increasing in volume and washing up the coast onto Imperial Beach, the Cays, the Shores, and Coronado's beaches, closing our beaches almost continually since January of this year. The construction project's timeline is fast -- on paper. The Governor of Baja California is pledging completion in the fall. As construction is within the authority of the Mexican Military, and *not* local politicians, confidence is higher than it has been that this project will get built and become operational.

The current rainy season will make the water even more dangerously polluted with increased "flows." Our beaches will be closed for a long time, we're afraid.

The International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) is currently taking bids for repair work at the San Ysidro plant -- our own broken US wastewater treatment plant. \$300 million was allocated as part of the lawsuit settlement when the South Bay Cities, the County of San Diego and Surfrider sued the IBWC (Coronado at the time declined to join that lawsuit). An additional \$310 million dollars for expansion of the plant was directed by President Biden, but Congress has yet to approve it in this year's budget. Our city elected officials (Bailey and Duncan) have lobbied in D.C. for this funding, and Congressman Scott Peters, Mayor Aguirre from Imperial Beach, and Laura Wilkinson Sinton

will be in the contingent traveling to D.C. to assure the money stays in the budget.

We cannot be constantly begging for money to fix a neglected environmental disaster in our beloved community. Please contact these Appropriations Committee members to ask them to appropriate the funds needed, and assure Coronado can stop the sewage poisoning our Navy Seals, Border Patrol, First Responders, tourists and locals!

Rep Kay Granger (R-TX)

- Phone: (202) 225-5071

Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY)

- Phone: (202) 224-6542
- Email: <https://www.schumer.senate.gov/contact/email>
- Whitney Atrium encouraged us to write thank you notes to our Library Staff.



SAVE THE DATES!

Saturday, February 10: General Meeting. Winn Room, Coronado Public Library. Social time 3:30 p.m., meeting 4 p.m. Program: League of Women Voters to discuss: (1) Threats to Our Democracy; and (2) the Pros and Cons of Prop. 1 (The Mental Health Bond) that will be on the March 4 primary ballot.

Saturday, March 23: Annual Meeting. Winn Room, Coronado Public Library. Social time 10:30 a.m., meeting 11 a.m. Election of Club President and Vice President, Annual Review and Awards.

Thursday, April 11: General Meeting. Winn Room, Coronado Public Library. Social time 6:00 p.m., meeting at 6:30 p.m. Program: Cynara Kidwell Velazquez, San Diego County Democratic Party Director of Clubs, to discuss the purpose of chartered clubs and how the Coronado Democratic Club interacts with the State and County Parties to further democratic values and support Democratic candidates for office.

Saturday, May 18: Red White and Blue Wave Brunch. Feast and Fareway, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Program TBD.

Visit Our Website <https://coronadodemocrats.com>

[Join or Renew Your Membership](#)

[FOLLOW OUR NEW FACEBOOK GROUP](#)

2023 -2024

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President: Marelly Ramirez
Vice President: Bill Seager
Secretary: Lori Doyle
Treasurer: Edry Goot
Member at Large: Susan Marrinan

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Programs: TBD

Hospitality: Jenna McIntosh
Membership: Luan Troxel
Public Policy: Susan Marrinan
GO Team: Patti Flores-Charter
Communications: Stephanie Kaupp
Scholarship: Patti Flores-Charter

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Unsubscribe communications@coronadodemocrats.com