



CASTRO VALLEY DEMOCRATIC CLUB

Newsletter March 2012

Our next meeting will be at the Faith Lutheran Church (20080 Redwood Rd., Graydon Room) at 7:00 p.m. on March 27th where we will have two speakers for the 15th Congressional District. Jason Teramoto will speak on behalf of Pete Stark and Eric Swalwell will be present. This meeting should be both informative and perhaps enlightening.

The Candidates Night (now Forum), that CVDC is in part sponsoring, date has changed to March 30th from 6:30 to 9:30. The location is 27287 Patrick Ave in Hayward at the Westminister Hill Outreach Center across the street from the Weekes Branch Library. Democrats from Congressional Dist. 15 and Assembly District 20 will debate and a Q & A will follow. Non-partisan candidates running for Hayward City Council (with Q & A) and three judges for Alameda County Superior Court will make presentations. The Hayward Demos and Globe will conduct their ballot endorsements at the forum, shall we? The Greater Hayward Democratic Club will not be endorsing.

A bit down the road, but to note on your calendar is the Rowell Ranch Rodeo Parade on May 12th. Nate Miley has graciously accepted my request for CVDC to march with the Miley contingent. You can sign up to see a showing of "The Heist" (about the American economic crisis) on April 1st at 2:00 at heistresponse@hotmail.com

Good as always; corned beef & cabbage and politics, the St. Patrick's Day Dinner was well attended and we were treated to John Chiang's remarks on why we want a Democrat as our State Controller. Ellen Corbett finished the event with a version of the traditional Irish Blessing to send us out invigorated about the elections.

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WEB SITES OF INTEREST:

Our Web Site:

www.ebdir.net/cvdemos/

www.acdems.org/calendar.php

www.bradblog.com

www.democrats.com

www.pdamerica.org (Progressive Democrats of America)

www.911truth.org

www.onecarenow.org

www.democracyforamerica.com

www.afterdowningstreet.org

www.liveearth.org

Dolly Adams
CVDC President

The “March on Higher Education”

By Karen Swain, CSUS

Thousands of students from all over the state of California joined in solidarity to protest cuts across the board to the CSU, UC, and Community college systems.

Over a dozen buses from San Diego to Hayward dropped off students eager to express how the budget cuts have affected them.

The march to the Capitol decorated the streets with students holding colorful signs and banners.

From a comical sign with a Sarah Palin picture that read “Think Education is expensive, Try ignorance” to the more serious sign “I represent 10,000 student voices, Can you see me?”, students of all ages represented.

As a Student Action Committee member from Sac State, it was inspiring to see students travel from so far to participate in the march. Every college student is suffering right now due to classes being cut, CSU tuition has risen a dramatic 193% since 2004 and every semester I've attended college at Sac State.

One of the most encouraging aspects of the March was the fact that it provided a perfect platform to introduce upcoming legislation that will directly impact college students. The “Middle Class Scholarship Act” introduced by Speaker of the Assembly John A. Perez and co-written by Assemblyman Dr. Pan has the ability to lower college tuition by 2/3. Higher education has become more privatized and less accessible to middle class families. This bill would cut college tuition by 2/3 for families with household income of

150,000 or less by closing corporate loopholes. Several students were seen gathering signatures of support for the bill.

The time has come for middle class students and their families to have some relief. As one of the signs read in the protest, “Education is not a privilege, it's a right.” Education is a right that all hard-working Californian students should have access to. The future of California depends on the investment in the future leaders of the state. The “Middle Class Scholarship Act” has the ability to help students and their families that help support their college education.

Karen Swain is a member of the CV Democratic Club attending Sacramento State.