



This document is searchable. Click on any subject in the Table of Contents and you will be taken directly to the article. To return to the Table of Contents, click on any "back to top" link.

Table of Contents

LAST MEETING	2
NEXT MEETING	2
DEMOCRATIC PARTY NEWS	3
SUPPORT PLANNED PARENTHOOD	3
CIVIL RIGHTS and DIVERSITY	4
WATER RIGHTS	5
LOCAL POLITICS	7
BUSINESS AND NATIONAL POLITICS	8
FAKE NEWS AND RELIABLE SOURCES	10
Environment and Climate Change	11
THE SUPREME COURT AND LAW	12
THE WHITE HOUSE RESIDENT	13
EDITOR'S PAGE	15

LAST MEETING

Dr. Rita Ramirez presented an impassioned and eloquent appeal to the audience that Paul Cook is not representing this district as he was elected to do. She described her background (including the giving of tenure to Cook) that has led her to feel the need to serve her home area in return. All were impressed, and a few compelled to commit to helping her effort to represent CD-08 as a Congressperson. She suggests building voting excitement by asking "Are you voting in June?" Then handling the inevitable confusion by pointing out we could remove Cook in the Primary!

The Club welcomed Stan Haren as its new Vice President, filling the partial term vacated by Glen Thompson, who remains as Promotions and Media Chair.

Three letters were submitted for review to the Club before being sent. One was in support of Ruth Musser-Lopez' resolution to add safety signage to Mt. Baldy hiking trails. One was to Sen. Feinstein to support efforts against the relocation of the flight path over Lake Arrowhead by the FAA. The last was to Speaker Rendon to demand he retract the shelving of SB-562 and get on with providing California with single payer health care.

Members Leonel Salazar and David Martinez requested additional printed cards to mail to Running Springs Democrats, urging them to become involved in the Club. Their other idea, adopting a portion of Hwy. 330, was also approved for further investigation and discussion. The Club has donated \$100 to the Young Democrats to bring Sen. Lara to a Town Hall meeting on that topic in July. Box tops for Education received a boost with a Chair for gathering and delivering them to MPH to help finance sixth graders' educational supplies and field trips.

In short, a very productive meeting was held, with advances on many fronts and opportunities for many more than the 22 members and guests in attendance.

NEXT MEETING

Go to the [website](#) for details.

[Back to top](#)

DEMOCRATIC PARTY NEWS

Barbara Lee of California introduced an amendment to remove the [authorization to use Military force](#) (AUMF) given to GW Bush in 2001 during the hysteria after 9/11. Guess how it was received? With nearly unanimous approval. Nope, that's not a typo.

There is a rift between certain members of the Democratic Party, and it is over how much transparency there should be in [political support and advertising](#). The Unions play a part here that you might not expect.

Never allow detractors to claim that the Democratic Party has no message. Those people simply aren't listening; but [Joe Kennedy is speaking clearly](#). HE knows this is all about delivering health care – not guaranteeing that insurance companies get premium checks.

SUPPORT PLANNED PARENTHOOD



Imagine you discover yourself pregnant, despite every effort to prevent it. Imagine you live in a state where right wing nut jobs have passed legislation to prevent you from getting a safe abortion, or even discussing it. Well, a high school student DID imagine that, and set out to supply the information that has been lacking. Meet Maddy Rasmussen and look into the [brilliant response](#) she's been working on!

You can help Samantha Bee (a VERY Nasty Woman!) in her effort to support Planned Parenthood by raising \$1,000,000 - but only until July 12th [HERE](#). Own one of these t-shirts for \$25.

[Back to top](#)

CIVIL RIGHTS and DIVERSITY

When you [demonize a group of people](#), the echoes are far reaching . . . would somebody pass this on to #45? It's common knowledge among those who deal with interpersonal conflicts, but apparently he missed the memo.

The [League of Women Voters](#) has immediately endorsed [a new piece of legislation](#). It is not difficult to guess why . . . and it is not hard to imagine why the Party of ~~White Nationalists~~ Nazis will oppose it.



The officer charged with shooting Philandro Castile [was acquitted](#). This does not appeal to anybody with a sense of social responsibility or a desire to see justice for all.



The Supreme Court removed the wholesale ability of #45 to discriminate against Muslims, but retained the ability of the Administration to make changes in immigration policy for the security of the nation. Tricky stuff, but they did it.

[Gorsuch tried to rubber stamp](#) the ban, but was voted down.

Legal firms sent agents to SFO, San Jose and Oakland to offer [free legal help](#) to those detained under #45's revised travel ban. Why? ". . . just last night we learned that grandparents and fiancés would not be considered close enough relatives to come into the United States, according to the government's interpretation of the court opinion."

Good news in Bloomington – Supr. Josie Gonzales helps establish an affordable housing project. [The Voice reports](#) great cooperation was involved (page 5) and thus great satisfaction resulted.



[Back to top](#)

Civil Rights and Diversity (cont.)

The House has passed two bills to attempt punishment of sanctuary cities. [HR 3003](#) (No Sanctuary for Criminals Act) and [HR 3004](#) (Kate's Law) are both criticized as not meeting the original intent. Nobody is expected to be protected from criminals intending to enter the country illegally, but [private prisons are expected to become even more profitable](#). The intent to force States' law enforcement agencies to act as arms of ICE is expected to be defeated in court.

WATER RIGHTS

The U.S. Ninth Circuit [Court of Appeals has ruled](#) that in order to transfer water rights, a water user must show no injury to other parties' rights. This is an important decision for many reasons, and may well change how we deal with the [Cadiz water project](#) and [Nestlé](#), despite #45's obvious preference for them.

Steve Loe, retired wildlife biologist with the Forest Service in our area, is willing to speak up where the Service remains silent, "Even with good winter moisture this winter in the Strawberry/East Twin Creek Watershed, the stream gauge at the bottom of the watershed showed the lowest [stream flows recorded](#) in 95 years. At .23 cubic feet per second, it is almost half of the lowest previously recorded."

It is his view that harvesting water during the drought has damaged the water table's ability to recover during the winter, further endangering the wildlife and forest below the horizontal wells the company uses to tap the water table. Nestlé could allow water to escape in support of the environment, but choose not to.



Gary Earney in Strawberry Creek

[Back to top](#)

Water Rights (cont.)

In the next few days lawn signs to gather attention about our fight against Nestlé will arrive. Contact Glen Thompson at 909 744-0779 and let him know how many you and your friends will put up in support!

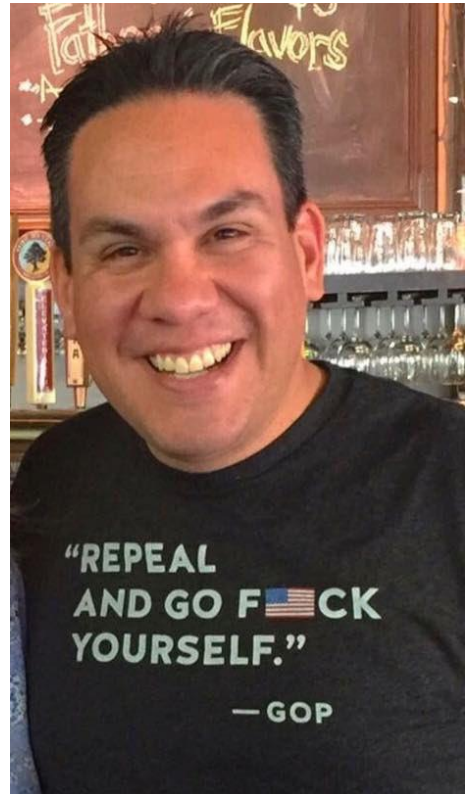
Senator Feinstein continues to fight any progress on the Cadiz water project, one that is seen by a huge crowd of experts as being [irretrievably damaging to the environment](#).

[Back to top](#)

LOCAL POLITICS

[Pete Aguilar wrote a dirty word](#). On his shirt. And a Republican woman from an adjacent district is really mad about it.

Traffic tickets are currently tried in criminal court. There is [legislation](#) intended to change that, the massive fines levied against people who don't show up on the date indicated, and more – as long as the offense was not a misdemeanor.



[Anti-Muslim demonstrations](#) across the nation made the headlines, but pro-unity counter demonstrators pointed out that not everybody is frightened of

women who wear a hijab. In fact, the diversity of our country and its acceptance got a much needed boost! The local demonstration and mile-long march in South San Bernardino was much appreciated by the local Muslim community.

[California's budget](#) made it before the deadline for legislators to start losing pay. I wonder if that was an incentive? (snark)

The Colonies trial proceeded with [more testimony](#) and 'righteous' outrage at it. Methinks the shady protesteth too much.

State Controller Betty Yee pens out an [analysis of the actual costs](#) of the repeal of the ACA. It is not a lovely sight.

[Back to top](#)

Local Politics (cont.)

While it might sting, the truth is that CA-08 did NOT vote Democrat in the last election, so we're not on [this list of 'flippable districts.'](#) Does that mean we can't flip our district on our own? Not at all – it just means that the formula being used is not going to work HERE.

We're going to have to figure out how to motivate the non-voters to show up at the polls in greater numbers while discouraging the Republicans from wanting Paul Cook for another two years. Speaking to the moderate members of the opposing party might be a BIT easier if we listen carefully to what George Lakoff has to say in [THIS ARTICLE](#) that has been saved on our website.

There may be hope for both residents and local governments as the effective freeze on new home building may finally be over! [Liam Dillon reports in the Los Angeles Times](#) that legislation may be the trick!

The Clean Money Act hopes to bring political advertising and contributions both out of the dark back rooms and into the light. It is entering the Assembly with the new number [AB-249](#) - Political Reform Act of 1974: campaign disclosures. It would be good to [contact Assm. Jay Obernolte](#) and support it!



BUSINESS AND NATIONAL POLITICS



Pharmacy benefit management firms seemed like a good idea to reduce misuse of drugs. [As it turns out](#), both individuals and entire corporations are being accused of raising costs without providing much benefit.

Single payer health care is realized by [most analysts](#) to offer a cost savings over what is happening now. It would require that the current, VERY profitable [health management industry would be eliminated](#) – and that is where money to fight SB 562 is coming.

[Back to top](#)

Business and National Politics (cont.)

Congress has joined individuals and states in suing #45 . . . and this time for [violating the Constitutional ban on emoluments](#). Sic `em, folks!

[Duke University](#) and [Nancy MacLean](#) have compiled what would be a damning courtroom case for treason or sedition – except that neither charge has been left with its original `teeth.’ As a result, we have to **reveal** [the radical right’s stealth plan for America](#) – and then fight it with all our might. Read the link under her name for a lot more.

The strained relations in the Middle East revolve around accusations of harboring terrorists by Qatar. They, in exchange, [deny it vehemently](#).

The central question may have its day in front of the Supreme Court. If the elections WERE rigged in 2016, [who has the authority](#) to put them aside in favor of another?

The drum beat of “run the country like a business” got a trial run in Colorado Springs. [Check out how THAT turned out](#). While the final result might be desirable, the question remains if we can survive the “cure.”



[The USS Gabrielle Giffords](#) was commissioned recently. The almost \$500 Million dollar warship received much publicity, as did the courageous woman whose name will grace it; an honor well deserved and justly placed.

[Back to top](#)

FAKE NEWS AND RELIABLE SOURCES

The AHCA gets a lot of press. Unfortunately the stuff that comes from the Republicans in the House is composed of "[providing incorrect information, using euphemisms for the impact of their actions, and deleting comments critical of them.](#)" We were warned that the strategy over the course of this Administration would be to flood the world with misinformation and then try to normalize it. We must not allow that to happen. This fact checking article in ProPublica points out the lies from both sides of the aisle. While you're considering that, [check out this brilliant piece](#) from the Oatmeal that tries to explain how we are so easily misled.

This article by Hart Williams (50+ years of writing on politics, etc.) in his blog, '[His Vorpel Sword](#)' is stuffed with facts, examples and links. Grab something cool to drink and a pad and pencil. It's worth it.

Where ARE all the 'thought pieces' on the voters who showed up at the polls in greater numbers than any other? Hillary Clinton won the popular vote, yet the media obsesses on the losers . . . except for [THIS article](#).

The Guardian posted a piece about the theft of clear thinking in our nation by the usual bad actors. So Cambridge Analytica and SCL Elections Limited promptly filed lawsuits to challenge its validity. Despite the legal challenges certain to follow, the article, [The great British Brexit robbery: how our democracy was hijacked](#), has been thoroughly verified.

With a bit younger, if no less knowledgeable voice, [Roger Sollenberger](#) lays out the techniques (with brilliant examples) of the same bad actors and their coordinated efforts to use Google ([How the Trump-Russia Data Machine Games Google to Fool Americans](#)) to literally create a new reality in the followers of #45 – or in any other group they decide could be of use to them.

Social sites on the internet are plagued with fake pages created with the express design of causing upset. A fairness doctrine, even updated for new technology and standards of behavior seems even farther away than ever. But [a judge's decision](#) that manslaughter was committed with a phone may change all that. This is the first foray of social media and "information age" technology being seen as having limits.

[Back to top](#)

Environment and Climate Change

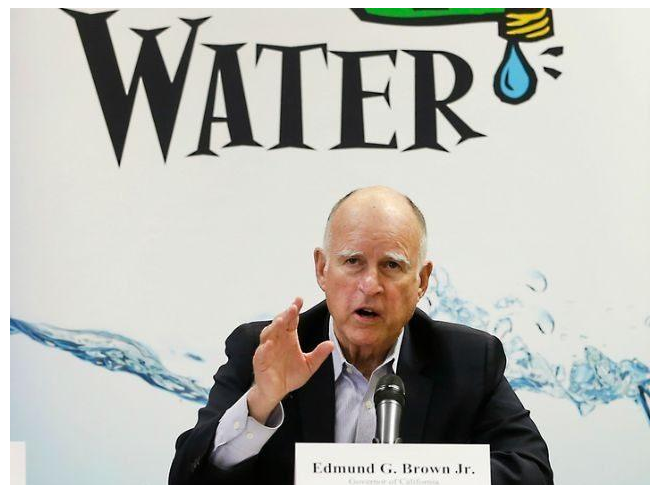


Energy for the U.S. is still mired deeply in fossil fuels. Rick Perry was an embarrassment to Texas, now he's moved on to being an embarrassment to the nation, as [his 'policy' is revealed](#) to be a salvage piece for Coal.

Thanks to the buffoon in our White House, the United States has now lost its world leader position in both trade AND carbon reduction. The rest of the world is [doubling down on their commitments](#), especially in research. Unfortunately, that will leave the U.S. behind the curve once more in technological advances.

Failing coal mines were pointed at by #45 as a "reason" for spending money on coal miners (echoes of the much better plan for re-training them from Ms. Clinton), but the 'clean burning coal plant' was the justification for keeping the coal mines in business. Not any more; the [crown jewel has finally been revealed as a fake!](#)

Governor Brown got some crucial early approval on his North/South water tunnels. These are the ones that will keep from using outdated and expensive pumps installed ages ago to feed water to the arid South from the Sacramento river. [KPPC presents a good primer](#) on this controversial topic. Special interests are expected to weigh in, and every Republican in California is expected to resist this action to reduce our annual water crises.



[Back to top](#)

THE SUPREME COURT AND LAW



An appeals court has [slapped down the lawyers](#) pushing for approval of the travel ban from #45. I wonder if he's tired of 'winning' so much? I wonder if he's ever going to USE that dictionary to find out what *winning* actually means.

The country's laws and institutions are constantly being threatened or tested. [This analysis](#) of the many ways #45 has been ignoring or challenging the laws of the land is obvious to those who are expert.

A Constitutional Convention is a goal of the very wealthy and powerful corporations. They know that if held during this period of turmoil, it is likely their money will once more sway the country away from Democracy and toward their oligarchy. One [article in Alternet](#) shows the questions, just be careful you aren't led into a false conclusion.

[Back to top](#)

THE WHITE HOUSE RESIDENT

So much is written about the daily farce that is the current Administration. Naomi Klein steps back and looks at the whole, [disgusting and manipulative picture](#). "It is undeniably terrifying that at this moment of such intense gravity for the planet this figure of such extreme stupidity has risen to power. But that means that there is more urgency to find solutions."

While the Administration attempts to remove governmental protections on a wholesale basis, there are watchdog groups attempting to define the limits of #45's information mismanagement. A [nice NPR article](#), here.

#45 claims the Supreme Court decision on his travel ban is his 'victory' on the subject. Of course, most don't see it as any such thing, like the [Washington Post's Ilya Somin](#), who sees it and the Administration's attempts to circumvent it, as just more clumsy bullying.

Republicans

"Inappropriate. Undignified. Unpresidential," Jeb Bush

"Obviously I don't see that as an appropriate comment," House Speaker Paul Ryan

"Stop it! The Presidential platform should be used for more than bringing people down." Sen. Lisa Murkowski

"Mr. President, your tweet was beneath the office and represents what is wrong with American politics, not the greatness of America." Lindsey Graham



"It's time a Republican calls Trump up and tells him to stop acting like a mean girl or else we just won't take it, we won't vote with you, we won't work with you." Ana Navarro

Twitter

WH source: Trump was FURIOUS to learn calls to remove him from office by invoking [#25thAmendment](#) are trending on Twitter. Hit a raw nerve. Jon Cooper

Elsewhere

"For decades, studies have found that deterioration in the fluency, complexity, and vocabulary level of spontaneous speech can indicate slipping brain function due to normal aging or neurodegenerative disease." STAT/Boston Globe

Los Angeles Impeachment March

"We have to act now to protect our country from abuse of power and impulsive, ignorant incompetence," Rep. Brad Sherman.

[Back to top](#)

WORLD EVENTS

Iraqi forces have [recaptured most of Mosul](#), leading some to claim that Daesh may be finally about to succumb. As of Monday, Iraqi forces have the terrorist group completely surrounded, according to [United Press International reports](#).



Venezuela (in close comparison with our country) is going through a very fascist patch of their democracy. Mexico has spoken up against this tide change, but its [underlying reason is under question](#).

The Emir of Kuwait apparently asked for a delay in the [deadline for demands issued against Qatar](#), whose government claims that #45 falsely accused their country of supporting terrorist groups.

Only one in 10 rapes are reported in Germany, and only eight percent of rape trials end in convictions, according to German justice minister Heiko Mass. [A new law there](#) hopes to end that, especially in light of the [New Year's Eve violence](#) in Cologne. [An antiquated law in N. Carolina](#) remains on the books that has allowed a violent rapist to go free. A corrective law is languishing in committee.

[Back to top](#)

* EDITOR'S PAGE *

June was Pride Month, and LGBT persons all over the globe took to the streets to either celebrate hard earned equality of treatment, or to demand that it finally be granted by their nation's churches or government, or both. Canadians are way ahead of many places in this, as Prime Minister Justin Trudeau gallantly expressed:



“Today, Canadians from coast to coast to coast join together to celebrate the multiculturalism and openness that make us who we are as a country.

Canadians come from every corner of the world, speak two official languages and hundreds more, practice many faiths, and represent many cultures.

Multiculturalism is at the heart of Canada's heritage and identity – and as Canadians, we recognize that our differences make us strong.

Canada's strong tradition of multiculturalism has allowed our society to benefit from fresh perspectives and find new answers to old problems. It has also

helped Canada attract some of the most innovative and entrepreneurial people from around the world, showing that openness is the engine of both creativity and prosperity.

This year, we mark both the 150th anniversary of Confederation and the 35th anniversary of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. These milestones remind us of the values that unite us – openness, inclusion, and deep respect for our differences. Whoever we are, wherever we come from, these values bring us together as equal members of this great country.

On behalf of the Government of Canada, Sophie and I wish all those celebrating a happy, fun, and educational Multiculturalism Day. I invite Canadians to take part in the many activities happening across the country, and I ask all of us to work even harder to protect and promote multiculturalism. Today, and every day, let us celebrate the differences that make Canada strong, diverse, inclusive, and proud.”

It has come to my attention there is an opportunity to both advance education in our area and remember a remarkable man - [Dr. Edward C. Hohmann](#).

[Back to top](#)

Mountain Bears Democratic Club was founded in 2004. We are located in the San Bernardino Mountains of Southern California. We hope to do our part to inform and educate the public and bring newcomers to the party by registering new Democrats. The Democratic Party believes that the American Dream should be within the reach of all people. We welcome and encourage people from all walks of life to join us in discussion and debates regardless of your political affiliations.

Mountain Bears Democrats website:

<http://www.mountainbearsdemocrats.org>

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[Back to top](#)