

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 debate regardless of one's political affiliations.

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LAST MEETINGS

Our regularly scheduled meeting for February was to be on February 27 but was canceled due to inclement weather and rescheduled to March 9.

The meeting on March 9, was like no previous meeting. There was no agenda, no call to order and no club business was transacted. Those in attendance sat in a large circle and just shared memories of our departed member, Glen Thompson. There wasn't a dry eye in the group and many cried at our loss. Some shared memories of our cherished friend evoked a somber chuckle and all the shared stories made us smile for that was the type of man Glen was. An impromptu 'passing of the hat' raised \$225 which was given to Glen's partner, Dale, at a gathering to celebrate Glen's life, the next day.

May we all strive to emulate Glen's nature: his support of all of us on the mountain, his community involvement and dedication to improving it, his 'can do' attitude, and may we remember how he could always laugh with anyone and make everyone laugh with him.



NEXT MEETINGS

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 27 and our April meeting will be Tuesday, April 24. Both meetings will be in the Alpine Escrow Meeting Room (27236 State Hwy 189, Blue Jay, CA 92317) starting at 7:00 pm.

Local Candidates

BLUE WAVE TOWN HALL

HEARING FROM OUR
DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES

US HOUSE OF REP. CONGRESS 8th DISTRICT

Marge Doyle
Rita Ramirez
Ronald J. O'Donnell

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 33

Socorro Cisneros
Roger LaPlante
Scott Markovich

Victor Valley College
18422 Bear Valley Road, Victorville, CA,
Student Activities Bldg. 44
April 28th, 2018 1-3 pm

Free RSVP: <https://dmcbbluewave.eventbrite.com>

HOSTED BY THE DESERT MOUNTAIN COALITION

Printed in-house by the Desert Mountain Coalition

Candidates Web Pages

U.S. House of Representatives 8th Congressional District

Marge Doyle:

<https://margedoyleforcongress.com>

Rita Ramirez:

<https://drrita4congress.com>

Ronald J. O'Donnell: nothing available at time of publishing this newsletter

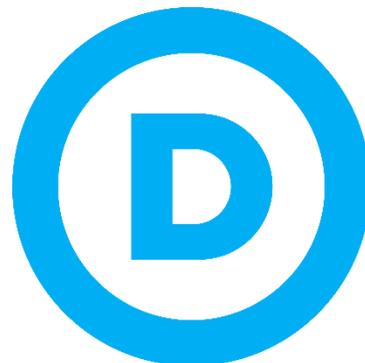
State Assembly District 33

Sacorro Cisneros:

<http://cisnerosforassembly.net>

Scott Markovich:

<http://scottmarkovichhasaplan.com>



Coffee with Marge!

2:00 pm, Thursday, April 12
Hot Shots Coffeehouse
27212 Route 189, Blue Jay



Cocktails with Marge!

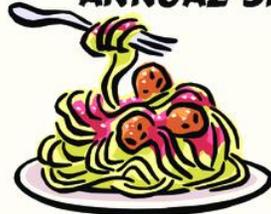
4:30 pm, Friday, April 13
Refresh Retreat on the Mountain
536 S Dart Canyon Road, Crestline



MOUNTAIN MEALS ON WHEELS

presents their

ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER

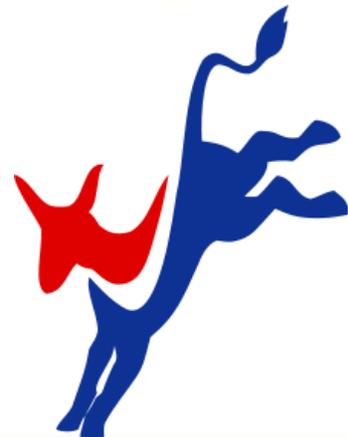
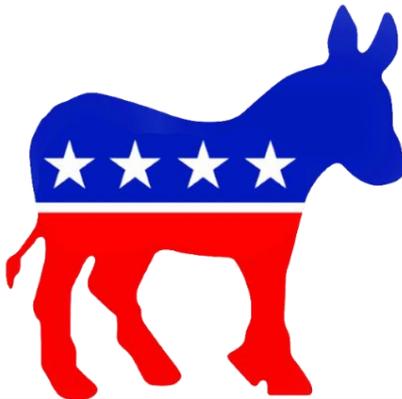


COME SHOW YOUR SUPPORT!

Sunday, April 15th
4 - 7 PM

Mountain Communities Senior Center
675 Grandview in Twin Peaks
Donation of \$8 - adults, \$4 - children

www.mountainmealsonwheels.org



The Mountain Bears are a politically and socially active group of local democrats who want to stay informed, encourage voter turnout, and promote Democratic Party values while sponsoring or participating in community activities for the mutual well-being of all the mountain residents.

National Politics

Here is an interesting excerpt from an article printed in the New York Times, to read the whole article, click on the hyperlink below:

“So if you want to stop school shootings it’s not enough just to vent and march. It’s necessary to let people from Red America lead the way, and to show respect to gun owners at all points. There has to be trust and respect first. Then we can strike a compromise on guns as guns, and not some sacred cross in the culture war.”

https://www.nytimes.com/2018/02/19/opinion/parkland-gun-control-shootings.html?rref=collection%2Fcolumn%2Fdauid-brooks&action=click&contentCollection=opinion®ion=stream&module=stream_unit&version=latest&contentPlacement=8&pgtype=collection

Here’s another excerpt from an article in the Los Angeles Times. To read the whole article, click on the hyperlink below the excerpt:

“In recent months, Trump has rebranded the "swamp" to mean almost anything he objects to: reporters, opponents of his immigration plan, free traders, phonies, bureaucrats, politicians who vote against tax cuts.”

<http://www.latimes.com/politics/la-na-pol-swamp-20180209-story.html>

If nuclear attacks, or even war, worry you, here’s an article that is darn right frightening:

Here, in a nutshell, are the laws and procedures that limit President Trump’s power to launch a nuclear strike against North Korea anytime he likes: There aren't any.

<http://www.latimes.com/opinion/op-ed/la-oe-mcmanus-nuclear-procedure-20171115-story.html>

Here’s a link to a bit of history on how we got national monuments:

<https://www.history.com/news/how-we-got-national-monuments>



State Politics

An interesting article in the Los Angeles Times on California's need to improve in one area:

More than 60 deaths in fires, floods, exposes weaknesses in California's emergency planning

<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-emergency-alerts-california-20180318-story.html>

Our state's fiscal situation is a concern to many Californians. Read more about it by clicking on the hyperlink below:

Stashing cash for a rainy day isn't as easy as it sounds for California government

<http://www.latimes.com/politics/la-pol-ca-road-map-california-rainy-day-reserve-options-20180318-story.html>

Nestle pushes back against California regulators about its taking water from our mountains.

Bottled water giant Nestle tells California regulators its entitled to keep piping water.

<https://www.desertsun.com/story/news/environment/2018/02/09/bottled-water-maker-nestle-tells-california-regulators-its-entitled-keep-bottling-water/324976002>

People grow through experience if they meet life honestly and courageously. This is how character is built.
- Eleanor Roosevelt



Club Needs

Help Register Voters at Rim High School

Our club will be doing voter registration at Rim High from April 16 – 18 and members are needed to help out. We need members to be there from 7:10 am to 2:30 pm.

Contact Mickey at:

1.760.567.6159 or mlawski220lakeside@gmail.com to volunteer!

• A Phone Tree Chairperson

- Serves at the discretion of the Club President (not an elected position)
- At the request of the Club President or Committee Chair, contacts a list of Club Members to advise them of Club activities (usually less than once a month).
- Divides remaining member list among other volunteers for phone tree contacts.

• Member Development Chairperson

Welcomes new members and guides them to the website, Facebook page and planned events, answering any questions about involvement and ways to participate in local organizations and political drives. Coordinates with other committee chairs to present opportunities to members.

• Guest Speaker suggestions

We are always hunting for speakers who can “inform and educate the public and bring newcomers to the party”. That’s our mission as a Club, after all.

If you know of a speaker or topic that would be of interest to Club members, don’t hesitate to suggest it!



Contact Mickey Laws, (760) 567-6159

From President Mickey Laws:

Dear Club Members,

Since I last saw so many of you when we gathered to share our thoughts and grief over the loss of our loyal member and friend, Glen, I have had time to reflect and wish to share a stunning realization that I had previously been unaware of, which kept returning each time I thought of that evening.

It came from a member who commented on the fact that the club had ebbed and flowed over the course of the years; it would meet for a few years, then stop for awhile, then come back for another stretch. But this was the first time that the club had remained consistently active, meeting regularly every month for the last eight years!

I had originally thought that it was because of the people who volunteered to serve on the board. If it hadn't been for the support and work that they put in, we could not have continued. I always considered myself to be so incredibly lucky to surround myself with such talented people who decided to jump in and offer to help.

Glen was one of those people. He didn't start out wanting to be on the board. He wanted to be actively involved in shaping the community into being a more hospital place. The plan for that day was to meet at Hot Shots, pick up our signs, and place them around the mountain. Glen helped me hang a banner in Blue Jay for a candidate in the mid-term election, and we never looked back. He quickly became a regular at the meetings, and eventually stepped up to fill the vacancy for vice president when it became open. In the past seven years as president, every board position has turned over at least three times, sometimes

four, and every time, they have been amazing people who brought new strength and energy to the club, but none more so than Glen.

The club really started growing due to Glen's capacity for outreach. He created the newsletter, took over the website, started a Facebook page, he was everywhere out there talking to people and drawing them in. Then the election results of 2016 really spurred him on and even more people started showing up, needing a place to vent their own frustration, knowing that there was a group of like-minded of people meeting every 4th Tuesday.

I looked around that evening of March 9, and realized it wasn't just the boardmembers that have been so amazing, but all of you sitting there, and all of you who weren't there but will be reading this, you have been the ones that have been keeping the board going, and ultimately the club. You're all an amazing group of people, and I feel so privileged to know all of you. Some of your own efforts have been responsible for bringing in others, and in that respect, you mimicked Glen. As long as that continues, we can't help but continue. You're the well the board draws from. Thank you all for everything you do that keeps this club going.

In unity,

Mickey Laws



From Stan Haren, Vice President:

The recent passing of our beloved colleague and friend Glen Thompson, the upcoming 2018 primary and election, and the severity of the issues facing our democracy and country has brought us to a critical point in time. As a club, as Democrats as citizens, and as a nation, it is a good time to reflect upon and re-evaluate our purposes and direction.

As a club, we should reach out to all voters, including Hillary Democrats, Bernie Democrats, Republicans, Trump followers, independents, and the apolitical. As Democrats, we must advance the values of the Democratic Party and unite to support the winning Democratic candidates who prevail in the June primary, regardless of who we may have previously supported. As a nation, we must reject the authoritarian values of the Trump Administration and the corporate and social values of the Republican Party, and support our democratic values, which include the restoration of the social and economic safety net, and rejecting all barriers to the fair and just treatment of all people, regardless of race, national origin, gender or citizenship or any other quality which distinguishes one person from another.

From Keith Martin, Secretary:

My heart is empty for words about losing a friend and role model. I often teased Glen by looking up at him and saying, “When I grow up I want to be just like you”. But I wasn’t kidding. And now he’s gone.

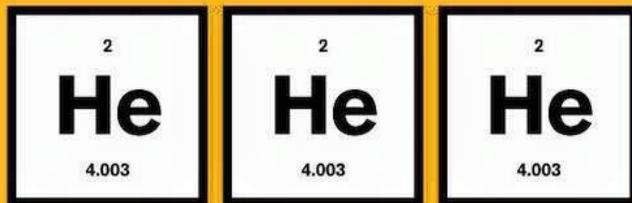
As the new editor of this newsletter, I ask for your patience as I grow into this pair of “Glen’s shoes”. Feel free to email me leads, topics, ideas, etc., that you want considered in our future newsletters:

mountainbeardemsecretary@gmail.com

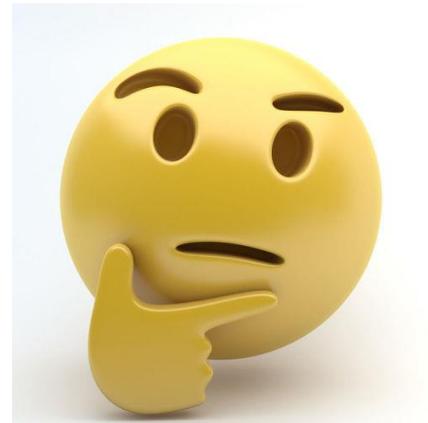
From Jane Haren, Treasurer:

During these stressful times, I think it's important for us to take time to laugh, relax and take care of ourselves.

Pun Page



LAUGHING GAS



I'm close friends with 25 letters of the alphabet....I don't know Y.

I once tried to figure out why the sun was so bright, but the answer was way over my head.

