

Town & Country Democrat

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UPCOMING MEETING

Please join us at our regular club meeting at

7:00 PM on MARCH 14, 2007

for a presentation and discussion on

**“Civil Liberties, National Security,
and the U.S. Constitution”**

with

PROFESSOR JOHN C. SYER

John Syer is a retired Professor of Government from CSU, Sacramento. Prof. Syer is coauthor of *Power & Politics in California* (eight editions), and a political analyst for ABC News (Sacramento & San Francisco), and he is the recipient of distinguished teaching awards from both Cal Poly (SLO) and CSU, Sacramento.

Location: The Town & Country Democratic Club meets at the Deterding Park clubhouse at 1415 Rushden Drive (near Watt Avenue and Arden Way) in Sacramento.

For more information: visit www.tcdems.org or call Margie Metzler, President, Town and Country Democratic Club, at 921-5008, or margiemetz@hotmail.com.

WE'LL SEE YOU THERE!!!



From the President.....

I have been giving serious thought to my vision for Town & Country for the coming year, and I'd like to share some of my ideas with all of you.

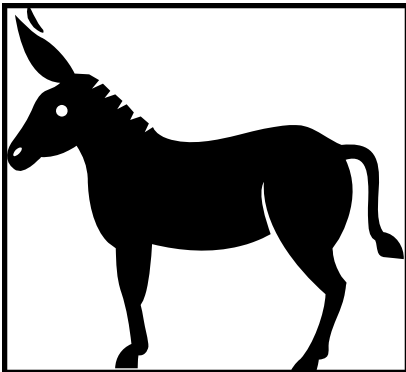
First and foremost, we need to position ourselves to be of the best possible support for Democratic candidates in 2008. Ordinarily this might be too soon, but some candidates are off and running, and we need to be not only supporting them, but making sure they understand what it is we want. (Out of Iraq, anyone?)

Second, while we are thrilled that we managed to change the balance in Congress, we had several bruising losses and we want to be positioned to support Charlie Brown, Bill Durston, Rob Haswell, and Brandon Bell if they make another run (and I for one hope they do!)

Third, we need to be prepared to take action on a multitude of issues: Bill of Rights and Constitutional issues (see this month's meeting with Professor Syer), Voting machines and voter's rights issues, The Iraq War (and any others), the war on the Middle Class and our Environment, Global Warming, and getting back a fair and balanced Media spring to mind. None of us can take on all of them, but everyone I know is seriously concerned about all these issues and more. I think we all need to stand up and be counted, and that means participated in all sorts of activities. Some of us march, we write letters to legislators and newspapers, we talk with our neighbors, we register voters, and we support candidates financially. Every one of these activities helps, and you are strongly encouraged to participate in whatever way makes sense to you. We continue to get involved as a club, as well, and will do so more in the future.

I encourage all of us to keep up the momentum... it is working!

Margie



BUSH CONTINUES WINNING STREAK FOR T&C's COMPASSIONATE CONSERVATIVE AWARD

President Bush once again has won the Town & Country Democratic Club's coveted Compassionate Conservative of the Month award. This time this much sought after prize was bestowed on Bush for the compassion he so unselfishly displayed by proposing cutbacks in veterans health care. However, there is a slight possibility that he may have overlooked the fact that his "surge" of additional troops in Iraq might just result in a "surge" in the number of veterans requiring these health care services.

The critics of this policy of reducing these benefits, assert that such a plan would shift the burden of Bush fulfilling his pledge to balance the budget in 2012, to the backs of the men and woman who so gallantly served their country. (The president shouldn't even give such an idea a second thought as it probably originated with a bunch of bleeding-heart liberals.) Bush also has been steadfast in his blasting of the Democrats whom he claims are advocating a "cut and run" policy for Iraq. Ironically, the president has taken a "cut and run" position when it comes to veterans health care.

Further, Bush's credentials as a true Compassionate Conservative has been confirmed once again by veterans' advocates who declare that the president is deliberately short changing troops on their retirement rating to hold down costs. "These people are being systematically underrated," said Ron Smith, deputy general counsel for Disable American Veterans. "It's a bureaucratic game to preserve the budget, and it's having an adverse affect on service members."

The actions of the Bush Administration regarding veterans' health care does give the impression that its' attitude is: "Okay, so you guys in World War II on D-Day fought on the beaches at Normandy, during the Korean Way battled your way to the Yalu River, in the jungles of Vietnam saw your buddies die, and shed your blood on the streets of Bagdad, but what have you done for us lately"?

.....John Bernier

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Where in the World Is Dan Lungren (The Search for an Evildoer)



Recently warriors from Gray Panthers, Town and Country and others embarked on a journey to confront Congressman Dan Lungren and engage him in a war of words, hoping that, in the end, the Congressman might vote to change the path he has helped lead this country down.

Our proud warriors went to Dan's fortress only to find that he and his outlaw band had skipped! So the warriors fanned out and did some reconnaissance in hopes of smoking out their adversary. Where had he gone?

Had he gone to Iraq to bring our boys and girls home? No he wasn't there. Maybe he had gone to New Orleans to help rebuild that forsaken city. No, he wasn't there either. Was he looking for WMD? Bin Laden? (I doubt it!) Our brave warriors searched and searched, but to no avail. Dan Lungren had moved and left no forwarding address.

Wait, isn't he an elected representative? Aren't we supposed to know where he is? Maybe he heard our forces coming to confront him, and, shaking in his boots, he ran off to hide in the forest. Maybe he ran out of money, and like so many Americans, he's been evicted and is out on the street. Or maybe he is just a coward, and unable to face the truth about his dastardly ways, he fled to South America!

If you have seen that coward, Dan Lungren, spread the word far and wide. Don't let the scoundrel get away! He must be confronted and made to change his evil ways.

Update:

We found Dan's fortress, he just didn't have his shingle out. The blaggard!

... Lyn Stueve

Welcome to our New Members!

Ken Gonigan
Sally Fuller Hoffman
Herb & Mavis Perry
Regina Rowe
Rosemary Wakeford-Evans
Glenda Wertemberger



ACTION ITEMS



From Clean Money Campaign Newsletter:

Assemblymember Loni Hancock Re-Introduces AB 583!

Clean Money champion Assemblymember Loni Hancock (D-East Bay) has just re-introduced AB 583, now entitled the California Clean Money and Fair Elections Act of 2007. As with last year's AB 583, the new AB 583 would provide full public financing of campaigns to all statewide and legislative offices in California using a Clean Money system similar to the highly successful Clean Elections system used in Arizona and Maine, but scaled up and modified to work for California's greater size.

For more info go to:

<http://www.caclean.org/>

Peace Demonstration Sat. March 10th, 11am-1pm

**Meet at the corner of Truxel Rd and Gateway Park Blvd
(near Home Depot and Natomas Market Place).**

**For further info contact Paul or Candy at 916-455-6312
or email paulncandy@comcast.net**

**An honest man can feel no pleasure in the
exercise of power over his fellow citizens.**

...Thomas Jefferson

MORE ACTION ITEMS

Town and Country Democratic Club is taking a leadership role in attempting to stop local radio station KCTC, 1320 AM, from “flipping” the station from Air America content and Progressive local talent Scott and Sims and Enid Goldstein, into an ESPN sports station. We publicized two demonstrations at the station, an online petition (www.tcdems.org/kctc.htm) and a massive letter writing campaign. While the activity originated within the Town and Country Democratic Club, we have been joined by people from every Progressive organization in the Sacramento area.

The group had a highly successful demonstration on Friday at 10 am. 20-30 people spent time at the Station, which we felt was remarkable since we only had 2 days notice and it was a mid-morning event. The group demonstrated again on Wed., Feb. 21 in the evening.

It is clear now that we are not going to stop Entercom, the parent company of KCTC, from making the change, but are hopeful that we can help get another local radio station interested in broadcasting Air America. We have also been talking with Thom Hartmann and Air America, and our story is on www.nonstopradio.com. We urge everyone to sign our petition. We believe that the numbers will help convince the media and potential stations that there is in fact an audience for such content.

Background: On Tuesday afternoon of Feb. 12, most of the staff of radio station KCTC suddenly found themselves unemployed. KCTC had two local radio shows, the Morning Retort with Scott and Sims, and an evening show, Enid Live. These two shows were wonderful to the Progressive community; they provided financial and emotional support and publicized Progressive events in the area.

In addition, the rest of their programming was Air America and included Thom Hartmann, Ring of Fire, and Randi Rhodes. KCTC is the only station in the area to carry those programs.

(Cont'd from Column One)

Air America is still going strong, but we in this area will not hear them. The layoffs were ostensibly about money, but this would not be the first time corporations have tried to silence Air America.

For more information about this event, please contact Margie Metzler, President, Town & Country Democratic Club, (916) 921-5008 or 248-6148 or margiemetz@hotmail.com; or Steve Reed, (916) 202-8577 or stevreed@hotmail.com

Update on Town & Country Website/e-Mail Issues Margie Metzler, Webmaster (margiemetz@hotmail.com)

T & C has had a website for several years, with the address of www.tandconline.org. It was originally set up, created and maintained by Kevin Murphy, and I took it over about two years ago. Some people reported confusion over the name of the site, its “domain name,” so I reserved a new one, www.tcdems.org. For a while they both were online, but this week, I cancelled www.tandconline.org. This means you won't see our site when you go to that address. Please change your contacts to reflect our new site. (Contact me at 921-5008 if you have any problems with this.)

We have also asked people who don't need a paper copy of our newsletter, but who prefer an online version only, to let us know. That way they won't have unnecessary mail and we won't have to mail their copy. (As a reminder, the newsletters are always online at <http://www.tcdems.org/newsletters.htm>.)

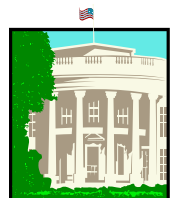
Finally, I have been sending out the occasional e-mail to all our membership when we have a meeting or other event coming up. If you haven't received any e-mails from me over the past two months, it means either that I don't have your e-mail address or that the one I have is wrong. If you want to be on our list, please call me or send an e-mail. Conversely, if you don't want such e-mails and you are getting them, please let me know.

Margie Metzler, margiemetz@hotmail.com or 921-5008.

Contribution Policy

The opinions expressed in editorials or other contributions do not necessarily reflect those of the membership of the Town & Country Democratic Club. Contributions may be edited due to space or content, are due by the 25th of each month for the coming issue, and can be sent to.....

Lyn Stueve
Editor Town & Country Democrat
E-Mail: lynette.stueve@earthlink.net



BLACK HISTORY MONTH



Representative John Lewis

February is Black History month. T & C is celebrating by commemorating the work of Congressman John Lewis (D), Georgia, who was a civil rights leader in the 1960's and marched with Dr. Martin Luther King.

Representative Lewis holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Religion and Philosophy from Fisk University; and he is a graduate of the American Baptist Theological Seminary in Nashville, Tennessee.

From 1963 to 1966, John Lewis was the leader of the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). He also participated in southern "freedom rides" that tested the new federal desegregation laws in the South. He is best known as a participant in the "Mississippi Freedom Summer", of 1964 that was a push to register African American voters. During that summer John led 600 marchers over the Edmund Pettis Bridge in Alabama. He was beaten and left bloody after being attacked by Alabama State Troopers sent to stop the march. The attack has been remembered as "bloody Sunday".

In 1986 John was elected to the House of Representatives from Georgia, serving the Fifth Congressional District.

Today John is active in the Congressional Black Caucus, one of the most progressive caucuses in the House of Representatives. He also serves as the Chief Deputy Democratic Whip.

John's autobiography is entitled, "Walking with the Wind, a Memoir of the Movement", published by Harvest Books in 1999.

ACTIVISTS OF THE MONTH



I recently had a chat with Town and Country's good friends, Beverly and Leonard Thomas about their lives, loves, and activities. Below is the result of our "chat":

Beverly and Leonard met at a dance at the London Society of Los Angeles in 1957. Beverly was working as a nurse and Leonard was a senior at UCLA. One thing led to another and they have been married for 49 years. They raised three boys and one girl with the philosophy of John Adams: "Be just and good."

How did Beverly and Leonard become Democrats? Beverly, a native of Brooklyn, New York, was born into a Democratic family. She admits that as a teenager she investigated the "other" party, but it made her an even stronger Democrat. Leonard was born in LA where his father was active in the Democratic Party. Leonard's first real campaign experience was working for the Adlai Stevenson presidential campaign.

Voter registration and community outreach are just two of Beverly and Leonard's goals. Voter registration allows them to meet people, hear their concerns, and help them become Democrats. Leonard acknowledges that it is a challenge to talk to Republicans during voter registration drives. They make such foolish remarks and aren't really interested in having a conversation.

Among their many heroes are The "Founding Fathers," Lincoln, Gandhi, John F. Kennedy, Jimmy Carter, Martin Luther King, Susan B. Anthony and Rosa Parks. Leonard's current hero is Phil Angelides.

Beverly and Leonard both work so hard for Democrats, but what do they like to do for fun? Both love to travel, but each enjoys doing other things too. Beverly likes to volunteer for the Red Cross, paint, and is addicted to the New York Times crossword puzzle and "Jeopardy." Leonard gardens and is addicted to Keith Olberman and The News Hour on PBS.

Finally, I asked Beverly about what she thought of Senator Hillary Clinton's presidential aspirations? Beverly, in her matter of fact way, stated that while she likes Hillary's positions on many issues, she is not her front-runner just because she is a woman. Clinton is one of several candidates Beverly could support.

Next time you see Beverly and Leonard at a Town and Country meeting or at a voter registration activity, say hi! Remember, they really like to talk to other Democrats!

Sacramento County Democratic Central Committee Fundraiser



BRING A DISH TO THE POTLUCK and BYOB!

Friday March 23, 6:30 to 9 P.M. at the home of Anne and Bruce Pomer, 170 Gifford Way, Sacramento.

All monies raised will go toward keeping Sacramento County Blue and electing Democrats.

Tickets \$15 a person/\$25 per couple at the door

Sponsor Levels:

\$500 Dixie Chicks Level -10 tickets

\$250 Bono Level- 7 tickets

\$100 Melissa Etheridge Level- 4 Tickets

(Sponsors will receive recognition at the event)



Featuring the Classic Rock Sound of Papa Hip!

For Information, to sponsor, or to RSVP, please contact Virginia Moose at:
Vgmoose@aol.com or by phone at: (916) 446-7149

*Computer Generated Labor Donated

Proceeds to fund various SCDCC activities in 2007

Sacramento County Democratic Central Committee

2nd Tuesday, State Capitol, Room 127, 6 PM. Contact: (916) 442-0264 or www.sacdems.org.

Auburn Area Democratic Club

1st Thursday, Auburn Public Library, 250 Nevada St., Auburn, 7 PM; Contact: Trish Grenfell, (530) 887-8873, pgrenfell@yahoo.com

Davis Democratic Club

1st Tuesday, Yolo County Library-Davis, 14th St & B, 7 PM
Contact: John Chendo, (530) 758-3331

Folsom Democratic Club

Last Monday, 7 PM; Contact Tessa Janian, tessa.janian@comcast.net for location

JFK Democratic Club

1st Saturday, 10 AM at the Raley's at Hazel and Madison; Contact: Mike Dillon, (916) 967-3157, mikedillon2@comcast.net

Lincoln Democratic Club

1st Thursday, Orchard Creek Lodge, Lincoln Hills, 7 PM; Contact: Della Sharief, (916) 408-5028

Rocklin/Roseville Area Democrats

3rd Monday, Rocklin Library, 5460 Fifth St., Rocklin, 7 PM; Contact: Glenda Wertenberger, (916) 723-9930, paulindaw@yahoo.com.

Sacramento County Young Democrats (35 and younger)

1st Tuesday, State Capitol, Room 317, Sacramento, 6:30 PM; Contact scydc@yahoo.com

Stonewall Democratic Club of Greater Sacramento

2nd Monday, Lambda Players Theater, 2427 17th Street, Sacramento , 6 PM; Contact: (916) 441-1787, info@sacstonewall.org or www.sacstonewall.org

Sun City Democratic Club

4th Tuesday, Sierra Pines Recreation Center, Whistlestop Way, Sun City, Roseville, 9 AM; Contact: Myra Schimke, (916) 772-4371, mschimke@surewest.net

Town and Country Democratic Club

2nd Wednesday, Deterding Park Clubhouse, 1415 Rushden Drive, 7 PM; Contact: Margie Metzler, (916) 921-5008, margiemetz@hotmail.com, website www.tcdems.org

Women Democrats of Sacramento County

3rd Monday, SCTA Office, 5300 Elvas Ave., Sacramento, 6:30 PM; Contact: JoAnn Souvignier, (916) 971-9601, jousouvi@comcast.net, website www.wdsc.net

Sacramento For Democracy

1st Wednesday, 7:00pm; meeting locations on website
Contact: (916) 326-5850
www.SacramentoForDemocracy.org

Gray Panthers of Sacramento

2nd Tuesday, 1:00pm, Hart Senior Center, 27th & I Streets, Sacramento; Contact: Joan Lee, (916) 332-5980, Or joanblee@sbcglobal.net; www.gpcal.org

Capital Area Progressives

2nd Thursday, 7 p.m. contact Cathlyn Daly, 916-479-5961 or dalywood@comcast.net



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Time Value Mail
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