



Town & Country Democrat

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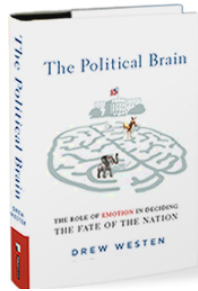
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Monthly Program, Wed. Feb. 13, 7 pm.

The Political Brain, by Drew Westen

Town & Country Democratic Club meets monthly at the clubhouse of Deterding Park (1415 Rushden Drive) at the corner of Rushden Drive and Somerset Road near Watt Avenue and Arden Way in Sacramento. We meet the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 7:00 pm. Please join us!

This new book describes how we can talk to undecided voters and even Republicans. Mr. Westen made a presentation at FamilesUSA two weeks ago. Margie Metzler brought back the presentation and will replicate it for us. She will also bring a copy of the book, which will be available in paperback on May 10.



Here is an overview of the book, from <http://www.thepoliticalbrain.com/videos.php>:

The Political Brain is a ground-breaking investigation into the role of emotion in determining the political life of the nation by Drew Westen, professor of psychology and psychiatry at Emory University. Westen shows how politicians can capture the hearts and minds of the electorate through examples of what candidates have said—or could have said—in debates, speeches, and ads.

The Political Brain shows how a different view of the mind and brain leads to a different way of talking with voters about issues that have tied the tongues of Democrats for much of forty years—such as abortion, guns, taxes, and race. You can't change the structure of the brain. But you *can* change the way you appeal to it.

***Drew Westen is a must read and must hear for any Democrat... In 2008 we will win the presidency if our candidate reads and acts on this book.* —Howard Dean, Chairman, Democratic Party**

About the Author: Drew Westen received his B.A. at Harvard, an M.A. in Social and Political Thought at the University of Sussex (England), and his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at the University of Michigan, where he subsequently taught for six years. For several years he was Chief Psychologist at Cambridge Hospital and Associate Professor at Harvard Medical School. He is currently a guest Blogger on the [Huffington Post](http://HuffingtonPost.com), a commentator on NPR's "All Things Considered" and the founder of [Westen Strategies](http://WestenStrategies.com), a political and corporate consulting firm.

Also at the meeting: Club elections, NE Headquarters, Central Committee update, Voter Registration, Common Cause, Blue Diamond, and more!

From the President...



I hope you are all off to a great start in the New Year.

This year is shaping up to be a really exciting year for Democrats. We've never had so many terrific candidates, and this year it looks like it is the Republicans who are shooting themselves in the feet.

We expect to see more in the way of Headquarters this year. Arnie has been working ceaselessly for a NE Headquarters, which we will help sponsor, and we will likely see candidates staking out territory in our fair city. Right now, the Obama campaign has created their own local office:

From the Sacbee, article by Marcos Breton, <http://www.sacbee.com/breton/story/612813.html>:

The political magic of Sen. Barack Obama is alive and thriving in a cramped office in midtown, on Q Street between 20th and 21st.

Right there between a Mexican diner and a dive bar are clues to how a black candidate from Chicago could triumph at the Iowa caucus – winning a historical victory among largely white, rural voters.

There is a clear sense of how Obama is neutralizing Sen. Hillary Clinton – making the first viable, female presidential contender seem tired and establishment.

It's not a miracle, fluke or spontaneous accident. History is being sought by reaching undecided voters on a visceral level.

On Friday, a giddy day after Obama's Iowa victory, it was plainly visible when one of my colleagues asked an Obama supporter why she chose Obama rather than Clinton.

Kim Mack had planned to vote for Clinton, until her son's Army unit was deployed to Iraq – a war she opposed and Clinton initially supported. A vote for Obama became a vote for her son's life, words that put a human face on the often mundane nature of politics.

While heartfelt, Mack was trained to deliver her testimonial for effect at "Camp Obama," a workshop she attended last summer.

"I worked on some campaigns in the 1990s and we would talk about health care but that's not what voters want to hear now," said Mack, a 44-year-old county worker whose son Robert is now on leave from Iraq. "It's much more powerful when I tell people I support Barack because of my son."

PS You may have noticed that this newsletter is shorter than usual. This is because I received fewer contributions than usual! Please send me any material you'd like to see here!

Margie Metzler, President, Town & Country Democrats
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Kuehl's is only real universal bill

(Letter to the Editor Published Monday, Jan. 7, 2008)

Re "Assembly bill would help cover state's uninsured," Jan. 2:

Republicans and health insurers aren't the only ones opposing Assembly Bill X1 1. Gray Panthers are proud to stand with doctors, advocates and patients, California nurses and the League of Women Voters. We all oppose a solution that continues to place the fiscal health of the insurance and pharmaceutical industries above the physical health of Californians.

Forcing everyone to buy health insurance for whatever premium companies decide to charge – for whatever benefits they choose to offer – does not make sense. Quality standards are absolutely vital for any fair plan.

The bill as it stands hints at penalties for those not purchasing insurance, but gives no real details. Would wages be garnished by the state? States that passed some similar employer mandate have not reached anything like universal coverage: Massachusetts' widely touted plan has seen uninsured numbers go up by roughly 150,000, while Oregon's uninsured numbers stagnate.

Don't call something "universal" unless it truly covers everyone. Like state Sen. Sheila Kuehl's Senate Bill 840! Californians need to understand their options. We may be voting life or death.

Joan Lee, Sacramento President, Gray Panthers

Margie Metzler, Sacramento Program Coordinator, Gray Panthers

<http://www.sacbee.com/326/story/611004.html>

2008 Elections

The Town and Country Nominating Committee, headed buy Arnie Godmintz, has come up with a slate of officers for 2008. The committee is composed of T&C stalwarts Leonard and Beverly Thomas, Joan Lee, John Bernier, and Arnie. The following is your Ballot. Please be aware you can always write in candidates of your own, or if anyone has interest in running next year, please contact Arnie or any officer of the club. We would love to have more member participation!

Please copy this or tear it out and mail to: P.O. Box 1286, Citrus Heights, CA 95611-1286

President: Margie Metzler

Write-in: _____

Vice President: Warren Harding

Write-in: _____

Secretary: Laure Olson

Write-in: _____

Treasurer: James Nakata

Write-in: _____

Join the Town & Country Democratic Club!!!

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail Address _____

Strengths/Experience _____

Please check one box and circle the correct membership below: NEW RENEWAL

Annual Dues: \$25.00 Individual \$30.00 Family
 \$20.00 Senior Individual \$25.00 Senior Family

Signature _____
Club _____

Please mail to: Town & Country Democratic

Date _____

P.O. Box 1286
Citrus Heights, CA 95611-1286

The Calendar

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

2nd Tuesday, Yolo County Library-Davis, 14th St & B, 7 PM
Contact: John Chendo, (530) 758-3331 or jac07@dcn.org

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 scyd@yahoogroups.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 & 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, jossouvign@comcast.net, website www.wdsc.net

Other Progressive Clubs

Sacramento For Democracy

1st Wednesday, 7:00pm; Various locations. Contact: (916) 622-VOTE; r.hundrieser@comcast.net
www.SacramentoForDemocracy.org

Gray Panthers of Sacramento

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

Capital Area Progressives (CAP)

3rd Thursday, various locations; Cathlyn Daly, 479-5961; dalywood@comcast.net



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**January 9: Kenneth Burt, Obama, Central Committee Reports
Coming Soon: Joint Dem Clubs Candidates Forum**