

March 2014

Valentine Party 1,2,3  
Calendar/photo montage 2



DAVIS DEMOCRATIC CLUB

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## Speaker John Perez stars at the DDC Valentine Party by Carl Schmid



Speaker John Perez 's guest appearance drew a capacity audience at I-House for the annual *Love your Electeds*, Valentine Party. [Ed. Note: By way of full disclosure, I am a Perez fan. Last year, he demonstrated political courage in attempting to disincorporate the fraudulent City of Vernon.] Despite the fact Republicans have Super PAC funding thanks to the Supreme Court, the Speaker observed that in California, "**We**

**keep winning elections because we have something more powerful, grass roots activists.**" Although everyone expected Democrats, the party of the President in an off-year election following a devastating recession to lose in 2010, California Democrats bucked the national trend and not only reelected all incumbents but expanded our representation in both the Senate and Assembly. "**In California, we stopped the red-tide.**" 2012 was also supposed to be a bad year, but the Assembly gained two seats, both in traditional Republican districts ("**that we were supposed to lose**"), one by 400 votes and the other by a tiny 140-vote margin. The Speaker is committed to grass-roots politics counting literally every vote.

Seguing from politics to policy, the Speaker anticipates that Republicans will use divisive wedge issues (the 4th attempt at parental notification and discrimination against gays) in the upcoming election but that "**we will be up to the challenge**" because we will be "**fighting for our values, values that bind us together.**" Examples of these values are "**to fight global climate change and combat pollution**" and that "**a woman is entitled to make the best health care choices for herself and family. California stands apart from the rest of the nation as the only state to expand access to reproductive health care. We are proud of the fact that we passed the highest minimum wage driving the national discussion.**"

The Speaker noted that California did significantly better than the Federal Government in reducing the burden of student loans adding "**California over fifty years ago made a promise that every student who worked hard at school would be guaranteed a place at UC or CSU. We are keeping that promise.**"

While arguing for the positive role of government, Speaker Perez sets standards for fiscal stewardship, "**every tax dollar protected and efficiently used.**" Despite conservative commentary that "**California is the nation's version of Greece,**" unprecedented deficits have been changed in "**multibillion dollar surpluses ... our credit rating has gone up ... billions of dollars are now available for us to invest.**" The ability of the state to pass balanced budgets has saved hundreds of millions of dollars and the key to passing budgets was simple majority rule, "**Democrats are the party of fiscal responsibility. Now California leads the nation in job creation.**" Building on this experience, John Perez will run for State Controller saying "**California is the state that will define progress in the 21st century.**"



Senator Lois Wolk later mentioned that one of the benefits of Democrats having a two-thirds majority is that the atmosphere in the state legislature has changed for the better with "**much more cooperation across the aisle ... much more working together ... a more positive environment.**" As a consequence, there is less to be accomplished by Republican being obstructionist or in yet other words, the tyranny of the minority has been eliminated by 400-vote and 140-vote margins in elections (see above). (continued p.3; photos p 2.)



*Love Your Elected*

# Democratic News

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## Davis Democratic Club Board

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Luba Schmid

## Calendar of Events & Campaign Activities

[The Board Meeting previously scheduled for March 4 is cancelled.]

**Tuesday, March 18, 7:00 pm, ELECTION OF CLUB OFFICERS: GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING .** All Club members are invited to nominate and elect Club Officers according to the by-laws. Odd Fellows Hall, Davis  
**Thursday, March 20, 5:30pm** Congressman Garamendi's annual Pasta Dinner, Veterans Memorial Hall, Davis



## 2014 DONORS

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Assemblymember Mariko Yamada took the opportunity to thank retiring DDC President Arun Sen and Vice-president Mike Syvanen with proclamations acknowledging their service. She went on to consider that the current drought crisis might lead to positive ideas to solve the state's chronic water problems shaping the upcoming water bond. **"Make no mistake, we need to have a water bond on the**

**ballot in this November election. Not the one that is on there now."**

Essentially building on this thought, Mayor Joe Krovoza advanced cogent arguments, documented with facts and figures, supporting the City's controversial water project. He makes the point that the City will retain the **"flexibility"** to draw upon our deep ground water in drought years while using our surface water allotment in other years. As added flexibility, our intermediate aquifer can continue to provide lower quality water suitable for parks irrigation. According to the Mayor, the City has made or will make significant savings in the bids to build the project, the use of federal matching funds and the availability of state funding. According to the Mayor, the rate structure will drive down use and increase conservation. The City Council will ask for a half cent sales tax increase largely to fund infrastructure improvements, the biggest single item being roads. The Mayor explains that the City intentionally underinvested in road maintenance as one necessary budget cutback while coping with the fiscal crisis. **"The half cent sales tax is absolutely critical"** to deal with this problem.

PASSPORT (\$50)

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In her comments, Councilmember Rochelle Swanson also spoke of the need to upgrade the City's infrastructure following the recession. Councilmember Dan Wolk thanked everyone for their support and reported that he received the regional party endorsement for his current run for State Assembly.

Public Guardian Cass Sylvia contrasted her office's care for the **"vulnerable in the community"** to recent reports of Nevada dumping patients into other states. She told of sending an employee to New Mexico to assist and retrieve a patient who belongs in Yolo County. School Board Trustee Sheila Allen reminded the audience that **"Education is one of the top things that Democrats care about."** She summarized her proven leadership and budget experience that qualify her to be a City Council Member. [Ed. Note; Sheila was threatened with personal legal liability for her leadership in a parcel tax campaign! She has demonstrated courage.]

In recognition of his outstanding contributions as Club Treasurer, Arun selected Ameer Alsawaf as the recipient of the DDC President's Award. (Ed. Note, Thank you, Ameer for your collegiality and willingness to contribute your skill and effort.)



Democratic Newsletter

**Elect Club Officers  
Tues., March 18th**

**Garamendi  
Pasta Dinner  
Thurs., March 20**

PLEASE RENEW your  
MEMBERSHIP

If you have a RED DOT  
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See the website photo  
gallery:

[www.davisdemocraticclub.org](http://www.davisdemocraticclub.org)

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