

December, 2014

Davis Election Campaign 1,3

Calendar/Campaign Update 2



DAVIS DEMOCRATIC CLUB

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## *Uplifting Developments for Davis Election Campaigns:* by Carl Schmid

A few weeks ago, I noticed two young students wearing Garamendi T-shirts while carrying clipboards. This was new. They were obviously knocking on doors for votes, immediately reminding me of an informal precinct walking contest that I had with DDC member Rick Gonzales in 2010. Rick won that competition by covering 25 precincts compared to my 18! (Actually, Rick did not walk his precincts but used a bike.) Instead of heavily relying on older community activists, Davis was now being mostly canvassed by students

raising the question of how this change occurred.

At Don Saylor's home on the Saturday morning before the election, Congressman Garamendi discussed erudite reasons for the fall of the Mesopotamian Empire with about forty young

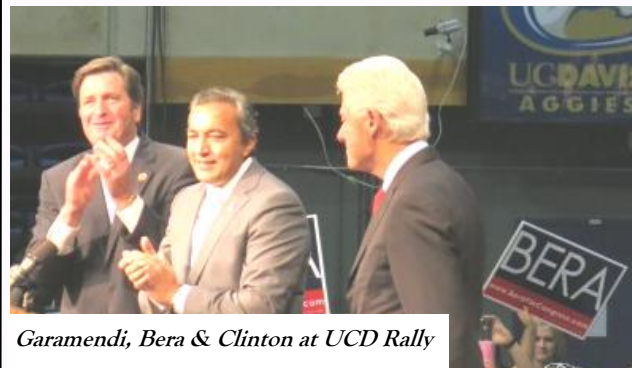


*Rep. Garamendi discussing Mesopotamian history, 10:00 am on Saturday.*

precinct walkers while praising and inspiring their civic involvement. Similarly several weeks earlier at the Davis HQ kickoff rally, the Congressman addressed fifty young campaign volunteers, who were tightly packed in cramped phone banks, encouraging them to a lifetime of service by explaining in various ways why elections matter and by highlighting the dedicated accomplishments of role models in the audience. Garamendi's consistently elevated idealism presents a refreshing contrast to a prevalent, cynical view of politics. His message to his young supporters is that by design, such cynicism is intended to dissuade their

participation and is best countered by their engagement in the political process. At Stephen and Robin Souza's home on the following Sunday morning, Rep. Garamendi coupled a discussion of environmental commitment with an impromptu voter canvassing lesson for thirty volunteers.

As a former Peace Corps volunteer, Garamendi fully appreciates the continuing, unfolding benefits of engaging youthful energy and idealism. By way of example over fifty years ago, an ebullient little Bill Clinton shook President JFK's hand; more recently, 5,000 students attending the recent Garamendi-Bera rally at UCD listened with rapt attention, as former President Bill Clinton outlined his vision for America.



*Garamendi, Bera & Clinton at UCD Rally*

Marshalling the energy of so many young volunteers transcends the immediate benefit of just winning the next election but more importantly, promises to transform future election campaigns in Davis and by extension in Yolo and surrounding counties. This accomplishment did not occur by accident but by deliberate planning. Yolo County Democratic Central Committee Chair Bob Schelen recounts that shortly after Yolo was redistricted away from Congressman Mike Thompson, Garamendi approached him with the possibility of establishing student intern programs to draw upon the opportunities presented by UCD. The YCDCC, which is unique among county committees in having many students represented on its governing board, became an enthusiastic partner in implementing Rep. Garamendi's vision.

Even a great idea in itself does not guarantee success; success does indeed have a hundred fathers. Suffice it to mention that one of these many fathers is the indefatigable and extremely able Andrew Kim, Garamendi's Campaign Manager. Among other schools, the programs that have been developed draw upon UCD, Sac State and even many wonderful Davis High students. *(continued p. 3)*

# Democratic News

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*Continued p. 4*

## Calendar of Events & Campaign Activities

**Sunday Dec. 14, 5:00-8:00 pm Annual Holiday Party.** Features a buffet potluck & Holiday Cheer. (Board provides the buffet but please share your favorite dish.) I-House, Davis.

### **Final Campaign Report by Jake Martin, Regional Field Organizer, Garamendi for Congress**

With the campaign season coming to a close, those of us on Congressman Garamendi's field team are looking back on our accomplishments throughout the general campaign. All of our programs combined made over 750,000 voter contact attempts through both phone banking and canvassing. In Davis alone, we had a team of over 100 young people (*see photos, p. 1 & 3*), both high school activists and college interns, working for democratic victories for Congressman Garamendi, Bill Dodd, Tom Torlakson, Betty Yee, and Democratic Party-endorsed local propositions.

Our Team Leader events were incredibly successful as well. Between Davis and Winters, eight community members held over 30 events in which thousands of phone calls were made and hundreds of doors were knocked. The Yolo County community was involved and engaged to a level seen only in Presidential elections. Our goal was to inspire the democratic base in Congressional District 3, and we were excited to connect with new volunteers at every one of our events.

None of this could have been accomplished without the help and support of the Davis Democratic Club and the local Democratic community. When I started as a Field Organizer for Congressman Garamendi, I had few connections in Yolo County. The DDC community embraced my involvement, and the resources you provided allowed me to successfully organize Davis and the surrounding areas. I want to thank you all for your political involvement and your interest in becoming part of a movement to preserve democratic ideals in an environment threatened by gridlock and negativity. Thank you all for all that you do.

### **We are Having a Luau by Tim Fenton and Houton Pezeshkan**

In mid-October, the Davis Democratic Club turned its traditional Fall Barbecue party into an authentic Hawaiian Hukilau party hosted by Club president Stephen Souza and Robin Souza, at their home.

Master Chef Stephen Souza created a spectacular spread of real Hawaiian dishes featuring Surfer Slaw, Kalbi Ribs, Beachside Barbecue Shrimp, Pineapple Brown Betty and authentic Hawaiian drinks. Congressman Garamendi's campaign interns helped out with set-up, serving and running games for the kids who attended.

The highlight of the event was the observation of DDC grand dame Betty Weir's 99th birthday. In honor of Betty's many years of service to the Democratic party citations were presented by Assembly member Mariko Yamada, Donna Provenza for the Yolo County Board of Supervisors and Mayor Dan Wolk for the Davis City Council.



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**Election Campaign Developments (continued from p.1)**

While the Davis College Democrats have an obvious role in these developments, the Davis Democratic Club is also well positioned to contribute to these successful programs. Student groups by their very nature experience frequent membership turnover and lack many enabling resources. In contrast, the DDC with its established membership base can provide continuity, organizational infrastructure and crucial funding. The Davis HQ center that was so productively used in these volunteer programs was largely paid for by your donations to the DDC. (See the campaign report, p. 2) As other examples, ever young Martha Beetley and Tom Hagler walked precincts Sunday and in his HQ remarks, Rep. Garamendi acknowledged Bob Bockwinkel for mentoring young volunteers. Grey hairs have enduring value. Quite simply, Congressman Garamendi's idealism has created a situation in which the whole is much greater than the sum of its parts.



*Sunday rally at Souza's home*



*Saturday rally at Saylor's home*



*Volunteer kickoff rally at the Davis HQ (photo above). One of several HQ phone banks (photo left).*



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Democratic Newsletter

Sunday, 5:00 pm  
Dec. 14  
Holiday Party  
Int'l House

Davis Democratic Club  
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