

December, 2011

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Joint Davis Appearance: Garamendi and Angelides by Carl Schmid

Veterans Memorial Hall was filled to capacity with over 250 enthusiastic Democrats attending the Annual Yolo Democratic Bean Feed. Congratulations to four waters and Kelsey McQuaid of the Central Committee who made this successful event happen. Undoubtedly this enthusiastic showing in a nonpresidential election year was partially attributable to our principal speakers, Phil Angelides and John Garamendi (photo below); YCDCC Chair Bob Schelen deserves credit for assembling this outstanding program. Judging by the attendance, Yolo Democrats are clearly fired up and ready to go for the 2012 campaign (see also p. 3).



The Bean Feed menu naturally featured beans but also great BBQ tri-tip, salad, rolls and ice cream. The tri tip cooked by the Davis firefighters was outstanding, and, as many can attest, there was enough for seconds and even thirds. The Davis College Dems also deserve thanks for setting up the hall and helping with the food service.

The evening began with an impromptu standing ovation for Arun Sen welcoming him back as DDC President

after his recent illness (photo below). I am honored to report that Arun presented me with the Weir-Williamson



Award for Outstanding Service to the Yolo Democratic Party. (Ed. Note: I thank you, the many wonderful people with whom I have been privileged to work during these years.)

In addition to his distinguished career of public service, Phil Angelides (photo below) has authored an improb-



able best seller, the *Financial Crisis Inquiry Committee Report*. He explained that the goals of the federal committee, which he chaired, were to **examine the causes of the financial crisis that grips this country** and to

put the facts before the American people. Although he accepted this appointment, **thinking that I knew something about finances**, Angelides became **shocked at what I saw** describing some banks as being a **casino**.

Angelides presented evidence that the crisis was not an unexpected accidental event but rather was entirely foreseeable consequence of lax regulatory oversight by the Federal Reserve under Alan Greenspan; **the guy who drove us over the cliff wants to give driving lessons.** Although the Fed was the one agency with the power to act, it systematically ignored specific reports of mortgage fraud and predatory lending dating back to 2001, significantly before the crisis. As he said, **The facts are on the table, people chose not to act.**

His proposes three specific steps toward ending this crisis and preventing another: 1) enforce existing laws and prosecute those who committed crimes, 2) enact real reform through financial regulation building on the Dodd-Frank Act, and 3) fix the housing market by writing down the principal on mortgages that are underwater. He highlighted our failure to enforce existing laws with several examples, such as, the CEO of Citibank, who earns seven million dollars annually was fined \$100,000. Paraphrasing Regan's famous flip remark, Angelides quipped, **Wall Street is not the solution. It is the problem.** (Cont'd p. 2)

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 (continued p. 3)

Calendar of Events

Tues., Dec. 7, 7:00-9:00 pm, regular DDC Board business meeting, Club members and public welcomed. Davis Library Meeting Room.

Weds., Nov. 18, 4:30-6:30 pm, "Yes for our Students" Kick-off Fundraiser for the parcel Tax Renewal Campaign. Hosted by Delaine Eastin at her home, 4228 Dogwood Pl., Davis. Contact Barbara Archer <bdedavis@gmail.com>.

Weds., Nov. 30, 5:30-7:30 pm, Join Senator Lois Wolk for an evening of "Evening of Reds, White and Blues," woodfire pizzas, blues music and red and white wines hosted by Rominger West Winery, 4602 Second St., Davis. Contact/RSVP Connie Emerson 916-456-4098, <conniesandrsemerson@earthlink.net>.

Sat., Dec. 3, 6:00 pm, Holiday Party, International House, Davis. Celebration with holiday cheer, buffet dinner (and if you wish, share your favorite dish with friends), raffle and special guests. Contact Mike <syvanen@ucdavis.edu> or Arun <bubusen@hotmail.com>.

In Memoriam

We regret the passing of long time Club Member, Delphine Jacobson

(Garamendi & Angelidis, cont'd. from p.1) After leading a chorus of "Happy Birthday" to Mariko Yamada, Congressman Garamendi agreed with the FCIC's findings, saying, **Phil...you did this country a tremendous service and you are correct, all across this nation something is happening. There is a mood, anger, a concern.**" He continued, **People have lost their homes and do not have jobs. This is not right.** Despite the need to put this nation back on track, Garamendi reported that every week the Republican Party in the House puts forth legislation to gut Dodd-Frank along with bills to "push back the Clean Air Act" and the "Clean Water Act."

The Congressman was uncompromising on the war in Afghanistan, **must end it now**, and protecting our water resources, **no canal to LA**. In addition to supporting the President's American Jobs Act to employ

280,000 teachers and first responders, Garamendi favors ending tax policies that send jobs abroad. He would also require restricting the expenditure of stimulus funds to American-made products pointing to Siemens (a German company) building light rail cars in Elk Grove as an example of what could and should be done. As an almost unbelievable example of offshoring our manufacturing base, the Congressman explained that the **rocket fuel in Hellfire missiles comes from China**. (Ed. Note: This single examples illustrates how our present trade policies compromise jobs, manufacturing, balance of payments, technology and even our military security.) Having highlighted the issues and solutions, Garamendi concludes, **We have twelve months and two weeks until the election** (Ed. Note: see p.3)

Holiday Party: our price cheap! by Carl Schmid

In these difficult times, we are constantly confronted with fund raising requests for worthy causes. The Board has decided to charge \$15 admission to the Holiday Party, the break-even cost for staging the event. (Board members contribute the buffet dinner but you are encouraged to share your favorite dish.) Our reason for setting this low price is that this Party should just be a fun opportunity for us to socialize and celebrate. Please join the celebration, which includes a great buffet dinner, beverage, a raffle and guest appearance by prominent local officials including perhaps one or more of the Garamendis. (See the Calendar above for details.)

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Campaigning at Farmers Market by Carl Schmid

Although the 2012 election may seem quite far away, preparations for the campaign, including planning, volunteer recruitment and training, must all be done long before Nov. 6. You will be pleased to learn that the early efforts in Davis are off to an excellent start. Tim Fenton (see below) reports the specialized training that local volunteers recently received at a Democratic "Campaign Academy." Similarly, Martha Beetley and Tom Hagler representing Organizing for America have started tabling on Saturday mornings at the Davis Farmers Market.

Many will remember Tom and Martha as being among the very first Obama supporters in Davis and, once again, they are among the first to begin working. At Farmers Market, they distribute information, register voters, identify future volunteers and provide much needed visibility for the upcoming, local 2012 campaign. The Davis Democratic Club is pleased to join them in these efforts. In addition to helping Tom and Martha, Lydia Blais, a DDC member, is coordinating the Club's efforts with the work being done at Farmers Market. She reports that it is "great fun." Club members, who wish to help at FM are encouraged to sign up either by going to the online system <signupgenius.com/go/farmers32> or by introducing themselves in person to discuss volunteer opportunities. Also, please



A Davis family flanking Lydia, Martha and Tom (l-r.) The child planed to dress as Pres. Obama for Halloween.

just say hello and thank the volunteers at Farmers Market.

A Beautiful, Sunny Weekend, Thirteen Months Before the Election by Tim Fenton

Recently, a delegation of members from the Davis Democratic Club, the Yolo County Democratic Central Committee and the Davis College Democrats attended "Campaign Academy," a training event presented by the California Democratic Committee and the influential Democratic PAC, Democracy For America. Held at the Folsom Lake College campus, the two-day Academy was attended by over 100 Democratic activists from throughout Northern California. The goal was grassroots training for Democrats from the region in preparation for the 2012 presidential election campaign.

Attendees joined seminars and breakout sessions covering the whole spectrum of campaign management: Strategic planning, information technology, field organizing, fundraising, communications and online organizing. Instructors were political consultants with experience in local, statewide and national campaigns all around the country.

Among a large delegation from Yolo County were Davis residents Dave Bakay, Tim Fenton, Carl Schmid, Mary Serra and Lyle Smith and current and former College Democrats Albert Aramayo, Brandon Craig, Don Gibson, Kelsey McQuaid and Sam Mahood. Yolo County Democratic Central Committee Chair Bob Schelen thanked those who attended saying they will be the cadre that will be training local volunteers for roles in next year's campaign.

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Democratic Newsletter

Holiday Party
Saturday, Dec. 3
6:00-9:00 pm
Come Celebrate
(our price Cheap!, \$15)

RENEW your
MEMBERSHIP TODAY
(last chance)!

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See the website photo
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Circle your Level of Membership:

Individual \$15; Household \$25; Passport \$50;
Sponsor \$100; Patron \$200; Benefactor \$200+;
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