

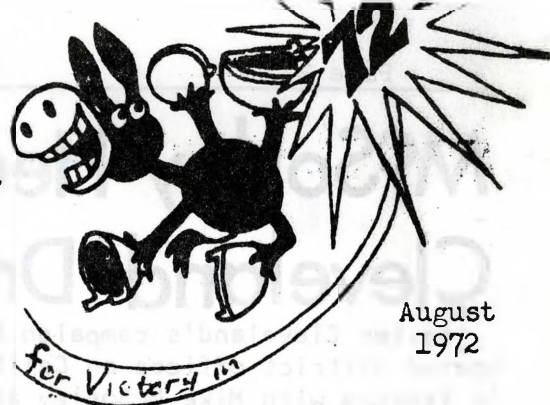


DEMOCRATIC

VOICE

OF VENTURA COUNTY

An official publication of the
Ventura County Democratic Central Committee



Four More Years of Nixon?

POLITICAL POLLS?

August polls indicate a landslide victory for the Nixon-Agnew ticket in November. The Gallup poll, the Harris poll, the Field poll, the TIME poll, the NEWSWEEK poll, and the polls of newspapers all across the land are getting attention.

But this is 1972, remember? Most of the same polls said Muskie was a choo-in last March; the Field poll said McGovern would carry California by 20% (he won by only 5%), and when they all began to back-track on Muskie, they were sure Humphrey would win the nomination.

Nixon's rating has been up and down by as much as 30% during this year. It took a detective to even find McGovern listed in the polls in January.

So polls don't mean much this year. The only poll that will count will be the actual count of ballots come November 7th.

Have Any Rummage?

Democrats--your closets, garage, attic or storage areas MUST contain numerous items of some value you will never again use. And now is the time for all good Democrats to come to the aid of their party!

A series of rummage sales are planned for September to raise funds to support Democratic headquarters and local Democratic candidates. It is a joint effort by the Ventura County Democratic Central Committee and the five Democratic clubs of the county.

So please begin thinking about what YOU can contribute. You will undoubtedly be getting a phone call from a club member in your area. Central areas to bring your rummage will be available, and pick-up of large items will be arranged. Clothing, white elephants, small or large used appliances -- anything that can bring a cheap price from 5¢ to \$50 will be appreciated.

Don't wait to be phoned. Phone today to offer what you have available as follows:

CAMARILLO: 482-2880 or 482-0583.

CONEJO VALLEY: 492-2739 or 497-3873.

OXNARD: 486-3014 or 485-5539.

SIMI VALLEY: 527-6659 or 527-8564.

VENTURA: 643-8254 or 643-2743.

Then watch for the time and place of the rummage sales in your part of the county. Get your friends and neighbors to help contribute and to attend the sales!

Local Democrats Shout "No, NO!"

Battle scars of the hard-fought Democratic primaries and national convention were healing fast as Labor Day approached and the full impact of the prime time, Madison Avenue-staged Republican convention sunk in amid visions of well-heeled young Republicans shouting "Four More Years" as the Republican convention managers pulled the strings that turned their stooges on or off as they wished!

The real issue of 1972 suddenly came real clear! Four more years of Nixon? Four more years of "secret" plans to end the war? A Nixon-dominated Supreme Court? Four more years of wage controls while profits, food prices, interest rates and taxes keep going ever higher?

"No, No!", was the rising cry of uniting Democrats who had been supporters of Muskie, Humphrey, Jackson, Chisholm, McCarthy, and Lindsay.

And the McGovern workers who had created the surprising primary victories in California and across the nation and upset all apple-carts by winning the nomination at the convention, calmed their voices and welcomed all Democrats into their ranks.

Ventura county was no exception. Local meetings seeking solutions and unity are gaining success.

Bill Peck, for example, speaking before the League of Democratic Women last Saturday, opened his remarks by reminding all present that he had been a Muskie supporter early in the primary campaign and had never been a McGovern supporter in the primaries. But he then quickly reminded all his listeners that now that the primary and convention is over, every Democrat must now be a strong McGovern supporter.

That meeting saw a strong defense of his record by Assemblyman Ken MacDonald that brought loud applause. It heard rousing talks by Lester Cleveland and Mark Novak,

Continued on Page 2

PARDON OUR ? ? ? MARKS!

The stories on this page all have headlines that end with question marks. Not the best journalistic practice, we know.

But hasn't this been the year of the political question mark? Do you have any reason to believe it still isn't the year of the political question mark?

Wanta bet?

McSorley Heads Cleveland Drive

Lester Cleveland's campaign for Congress opened district offices on California Street in Ventura with Mike McSorley assuming duties of District Campaign Manager. Cleveland, first Mayor of Simi Valley, is opposing aging Congressman Charles Teague of Santa Paula.

"As far as putting the campaign on paper, we are ahead of schedule", says McSorley. "The only things Les' campaign lacks at this time is a people's organization so that we have a vehicle for selling Les to the voters.

"The only reason there is such a small organization now is that Les was unopposed in the primary and people felt compelled to help in the contested races. I'm sure that once people are made aware of the fact that Les is the first candidate to run against Teague who has a record as an elected public official--and when they find out that he is a moderate Democrat--then I think people will be willing to work and work hard to elect Les and defeat Charlie", McSorley said as he mapped plans to cover the big 13th Congressional district.

Anyone wanting to help in this important campaign is asked to contact Mike at 132 So California Street, Ventura, 93001 or phone 643-7942.

Democratic Doings

Dr Russell G. Herron has been named to head a campaign coordinating committee for the Central Committee. Serving with him, by appointment of George Taylor, chairman, is Al Duff of Oxnard and Chester R. Weber of Camarillo.

Representatives of the Democratic candidates will meet with the committee at regular times throughout the campaign to report on their campaign plans and help coordinate Democratic functions, fund-raisers and headquarters throughout the county.

The candidates sending Representatives to the coordination meetings include the local McGovern-Shriver group, Lester Cleveland, Mark Novak and Ken McDonald.

Secretary of State Edmund G. Brown Jr was honored guest and speaker at a McGovern fund raiser held Saturday, August 19, at Howard Johnson's in Thousand Oaks. The gathering was chaired by Linda Valentino.

Another McGovern fundraiser was held the following weekend in Oxnard at the home of Paula Reach. Similar no host cocktail parties, progressive dinners and private home social events are providing much help to local McGovern headquarters which require much money for rent and telephones.

Ken MacDonald's re-election campaign headquarters was opened with a gala party on Thursday, August 10 at 1780 East Main St in Ventura. It is open daily under the direction of Vi Kinney. Volunteers to work in this vital campaign are urged to phone her at 648-7701.

Conejo Valley Club Elects Officers

A new slate of officers for the revitalized Conejo Valley Democratic Club was elected on Wednesday, August 9, with Leonard S. Smith named President; Freeman Jones, First Vice-President; Louise Rice, Second Vice-President; Greg Kampf, Treasurer; and M. Marie Ryan, Secretary.

The Constitution and By-Laws is being revised by the Executive Committee so that it can be adopted by the membership at their next meeting at Horizon Hills School, 33 Greta Ave. at 8 p.m., September 13th. Membership cards have been printed and may be obtained from any officer.

"Thus on this date", Smith says, "We will be officially recognized as an official Democratic Club and we plan to have an exiting program of candidates and speakers to launch the 1972 campaign of united Democrats in the Conejo. Join us at this meeting! Everyone is welcome.

Four More? cont from Page 1

candidates for Congress in the 13th and 27th districts. It produced pledges of monetary and grass roots work from the members of the League for the campaigns of McGovern, Cleveland, Novak and MacDonald.

The Ventura Democratic Club is expected to produce similar pledges of work and money for McGovern, Cleveland and MacDonald at their next meeting on September 14. Similar actions are expected from the Oxnard Club for McGovern, Novak and Cleveland. And the more recent Camarillo, Simi Valley and Conejo Valley clubs will probably respond in like manner as near as funds are available.

All clubs are planning rummage sales (see story elsewhere) to build funds to support these drives and help fund the year-round office of the Ventura County Democratic Central Committee which has helped all these groups in their activities.

Labor, still somewhat frustrated by George Meany's "hands off" national policy, is expected to give great support to many local Democratic candidates, and many individual unions have come out in strong support of the McGovern-Shriver ticket.

Four years of Nixon in power has proven to Democrats that this is no year to enjoy Democratic feuds, however much Democrats enjoy them. They are coming together much more quickly than in 1968. And when Democrats bury the hatchet among themselves, Republicans might as well fold up their tents and go home!

KEEP THE "VOICE" COMING!

Democratic Donors, a group of more than 100 active Democrats in Ventura County, provide the financial background that operates the Democratic Headquarters for the Central Committee at 1727 Thompson, Ventura ((3003)

Your contribution of one dollar or more is needed to expand our mailing list during this important campaign from now to November. Become a sustaining subscriber to the "VOICE" by mailing your contribution today.

Capitol Comments

There has been a great deal of lamenting over the "do-nothing" legislature. Actually, most important bills died on the Senate side. However, both houses supposedly passed one substantial measure, a constitutional amendment to "reform" the legislature.

Legislative Report has been one of my major concerns for the past six years. The voters will be again asked to vote on this amendment in November to reform the legislative process by establishing biennial sessions. I opposed this proposal and I hope my constituents will do likewise at the polls. The key to reform is not another constitutional amendment but instead public pressure on the legislators to do the job within the present laws. Here are a few reforms I support which do not require constitutional amendment:

1. Open all committee meetings to the press and public.
2. Abolish "ghost voting"--a practice by which a Legislator authorizes a colleague to electronically vote for him in his absence.
3. Limit per diem (\$30) expenses to 180 days maximum each year. Result would be to expedite sessions and allow much needed time for interim study hearings.
4. Require members to lose their per diem for failure to attend standing committee hearings without good cause.
5. Require budget and revenue bills to be in the hands of the Governor by June 10.
6. Require all measures to identify the sponsoring individual, organization or special interest group.
7. Unilateral appointing authority of Committee Chairman members by the Assembly Speaker should be abolished and turned over to the Rules Committee.
8. Strictly enforce a recorded vote in all Committee actions.
9. Require detailed monthly disclosure of all sources of political contributions and amounts received with detailed expenditures and unexpended balances on deposit in identifiable checkings or savings accounts.

The above reforms would do much more to assure the priority of public interest than the proposed Constitutional amendments.

J. K. "Ken" MacDonald

Victory Key-Registration

The most important key to victory in November is registering voters, and Ventura Democrats are now going into action on a broad front to do just that.

While detailed figures are not available, the County Election Department reports that as of mid-August there were 166,652 registered voters. That represents an increase of 7,560 since close of registration for the primary election.

Fully one-third of the new registrations since then are in the Oxnard, Port Hueneme and El Rio areas, where a large group of Democratic Deputy Registrars have been doing house-to-house calls in addition to having Registrars at shopping centers of the area. This group has been organized by Gerrard Kapuscik and Greg Kampf working out of the Oxnard Democratic Headquarters.

A break down of party totals is not available at the Election Department, but all indications are that Democrats top Republicans by about 17,500. The Democratic edge over Republicans in the primary was 15,000. The trend that has been evident all this year appears to be holding: the Democratic percentage is growing and the Republican percentage is slipping. It is expected that the Democratic registration will exceed the Republican registration by approximately 12% for the November election.

Tom Jolicoeur, 1st Vice-Chairman of the Democratic Central Committee, is sticking by his prediction of 100,000 registered Democrats for the November election.

To accomplish this goal will require concentrated work by the more than 300 Democratic Deputy Registrars between now and October 8 when registration closes. An all time high of more than 600 Deputy Registrars are now at work. Democratic Registrars top Republican Registrars by a better than 3 to 2 margin.

The Ventura County Democratic Central Committee will meet Thursday, September 7, at 8 p.m. at the Democratic Headquarters, 1727 Thompson Blvd., in Ventura. All members, alternates, club presidents and candidates or their representatives are urged to attend.



TELETHON VOLUNTEERS—Three bus loads of Ventura County Democratic volunteers had a great day of work and fun July 9th at the Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles and the Palace Theatre in Hollywood. A fourth bus got lost in Santa Barbara and did not join the caravan, but many Santa Barbara volunteers proceeded to Los Angeles by private car to help in the National Telethon. Included in the group of volunteers above are Lester Cleveland and Mark Novak, Democratic candidates for Congress in the 13th and 27th Congressional districts. (See letter page 4).

Letters to the Editor

July 31, 1972

Dear Dave:

As I'm sure you know, the telethon was an enormous success in Los Angeles. As I have attested to many times, such a success would not have been possible without your Ventura County volunteers.

I sincerely want to thank you all for supporting this National Democratic party effort to erase this debt. It was most enjoyable working with you these past few weeks.

You don't know how nice a sight it was to see all the busses of volunteers arrive.

Please give my thanks to all who helped in Ventura and Santa Barbara counties. Your cooperation and help was most welcome.

Sincerely,
Michael R Steed, Assistant Regional
Director, Democratic Telethon.

July 26, 1972

Dear Sirs:

Thank you for the copy of the "VOICE" for July. I appreciated the information and desire to become more active in Democratic Party affairs.

I enclose \$2 and would like to receive all copies as soon as possible so that I can attend some of the scheduled events.

Thank you for the cooperation and keep up the good work.

Sincerely,
Jonathan Steepe, Thousand Oaks

July 18, 1972

Mr. David Deal
Democracy DDq.
Ventura; Calif.

I received my copy of your Newsletter and was thrilled! I know you are & how much you need volunteers, so I am writing to donate some services as a tipist should you need me help. Thank for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Pat Harloff, Ventura

(Editor's note: Sum deal. Thenx!)

July 15, 1972

Dear Democrats:

Thank you for including me on your mailing list. Enclosed please find a check to help cover costs of the Newsletter. Mailed a check to the Washington address in response to the Telethon, which I watched for many hours. All success to you.

Helen O. Knapp, Thousand Oaks

Novak Gets Solid Support

Mark Novak, Democratic candidate for Congress whose district includes the 5th Supervisorial district of Ventura County, has received full pledges of support from all five Democratic opponents in the recent primary, his campaign manager, Allen Cone, reports.

Robert McInerney, John T. Butchko, Michael Mitchell, Kent Corey and James Jennings are all supporting Novak. The six Democrats had a total vote larger than that of the unchallenged Barry Goldwater Jr. in the primary. "A united party, which we now have in the district, will defeat the man (Goldwater) who didn't even recognize unemployment as being a problem in his district until very recently," Novak said.

"He voted against all of the progressive legislation introduced in Congress--including manpower training programs which could have alleviated unemployment here.

"As for the young, new registrants, how can they--whether Democratic or Republican--support this man (Goldwater) who was one of a comparative handful who voted against the 18-year-old vote?" Novak added.

Novak, who scored an impressive victory with 37% of the votes cast in the six-man race in the primary, is confident he will be the district's next Congressman. He is conducting an extensive campaign in the Ventura County portion of his district, and he has the full support of Democratic leaders, clubs, and labor in his bid to unseat Goldwater.

Dear Sir:

Received this empty envelope this a.m. Would appreciate it if you would send me the enclosure or whatever. Thank you.

Beatrice L. Carlson, Newbury Park
(Editor's note: The empty envelope should have included an invitation to the McGovern fundraiser at Thousand Oaks. Occasional mistakes will happen on big mailings.)

Dear Sir:

Democrats, count your blessings!!

The Republicans have nominated their weakest and most vulnerable candidates--Mr. Nixon and Mr. Agnew.

Now they must carry the burden of four years to boo-boos. We couldn't wish for a better target. They have no records to defend. Our chance to fight these vulnerable incumbents is our greatest opportunity for victory in November.

Samuel Whitman, Long Beach

Democratic VOICE of Ventura County
1727 Thompson Blvd. Ventura 93003
Phone (805) 643-8254

BULK RATE
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID

Permit No. 9
Ventura, CA 93001



Published by the Ventura County
Democratic Central Committee
Dave Deihl.....Managing Editor
Vol. 1, No. 4