

LAGUNA WOODS DEMOCRATIC CLUB  
Laguna Woods Village, California 92637

## What does the Laguna Woods Democratic Club do?

### **Activism**

Democratic Club members participate actively in local, state and national politics in the following ways:

1. **Taking Part in Political Events** Members are notified via weekly emails and monthly newsletters of upcoming rallies, protests, and other political events so they may participate.
2. **Encouraging Voters to Vote** Prior to elections, volunteers are provided with a list of potential voters and a script so that they can make calls to encourage people to vote.
3. **Contacting Elected Officials** Members meet to discuss a current issue and write letters to elected officials stating their opinions about the issue. Members and guests have petitions to sign and postcards to write regarding relevant issues at every club meeting, so that they may express their views. The club also emails members asking them to contact elected officials about specific issues.
4. **Registering Voters** Club members assist with registering voters at local colleges, fairs, Village events, businesses, and senior living facilities to enable every eligible person to vote.

### **Meetings**

Monthly meetings give members the opportunity to meet fellow Democrats, learn about recent and upcoming club activities, participate in club business, hear an informed speaker and enjoy refreshments.

1. Guest speakers are rigorously vetted for their status and the relevance of their topics. Audience members are encouraged to ask questions after the speaker has finished.
2. During election periods, the club sponsors candidate forums to enable members and guests to hear the candidates' positions, ask questions, and personally evaluate the candidates.

### **Legislative Action**

Our club is fortunate to have as a member a skilled retired lawyer who is vitally interested in the preservation of the rule of law in our country. He carefully researches current legal/constitutional issues and prepares a short summary for each meeting to foster grass-roots advocacy.

### **Social Events**

1. Each summer members get together for an indoor potluck picnic lunch.
2. Members enjoy a festive holiday party each December.
3. An annual luncheon with a renowned speaker and a silent auction is informative as well as a fundraiser and a social event.
4. During election years, members get together to watch candidate debates, election night returns and inaugurations.

### **Charitable Opportunities**

The Board of Directors has the responsibility of selecting organizations/causes to which the club contributes. The club's chosen service project since 2008 has been South County Outreach, a food bank and resource center for those in need. Club members contribute non-perishable food items at club meetings and hold food drives at local supermarkets. Members contribute school supplies and participate in other functions of SCO. Members contribute recyclable cans and bottles at meetings; funds raised from recycling are donated to SCO.

### **Representation**

Every two years, each Orange County Democratic club selects representatives to the California Democratic Party's Pre-Endorsement Conference. This allows candidates for office whom our members have endorsed to claim "endorsement" by the Democratic Party in campaign materials. It can make a difference!

### **Fundraising and Membership**

The financial support of members allows the club to provide donations to candidates and political organizations, disaster relief, Get Out the Vote efforts and refreshments at every meeting. In presidential election years, the club partners with other local Democratic clubs to maintain a central campaign office.