

Laguna Woods
Democratic Club
Post Office Box 2254
Laguna Hills, CA 92654-2254

STAY SAFE. STAY WELL.



STAMP
HERE

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Newsletter—December 2020

Laguna Woods Democratic Club

Village TV is every Wednesday in December from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

December Meeting Speaker:

Ernie Powell, Social Security Works

LWDC's December program features Ernie Powell of Social Security Works. Social Security Works provides the core staffing for the Strengthen Social Security Coalition, a group of organizations which formalized in 2010 to address threats to Social Security.

Ernie started as a boycott organizer for the United Farm Workers. After working as a community organizer for affordable housing and the environment, he worked for AARP and the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare in D.C. Ernie's focus for over 40 years has been on public policy issues impacting older Americans. He is a nationally recognized expert on grassroots organizing and campaigns.

Ernie will be speaking on the Security and Longevity of Social Security and Medicare, specifically, how Trump's tax policies have negatively affected both those programs and what will have to be done to insure them for the future. The one-hour program can be seen on Village TV every Wednesday in December at 2 p.m.

The Social Security Act was enacted August 14, 1935. The Act was drafted during **President Franklin D. Roosevelt's** first term by the President's Committee on Economic Security, under Frances Perkins, and passed by Congress as part of the New Deal.



Ernie Powell
Social Security Works
<https://socialsecurityworks.org/>
Ernie's You Tube Show:
[Click Here](#)

LAGUNA WOODS Democratic Club

Welcome to the Laguna Woods Democratic Club.

We promote Democratic values through education and activism.

The Democratic Club serves as the meeting and gathering place for registered Democrats and friends of the Democratic Party in Laguna Woods.

MEMBERSHIP

Have you renewed your membership? There is no time like the present!

[Link for Membership](#)

WELCOME!

NEW CLUB MEMBERS!

- Sandra Fairly
- Edward Foster
- Lynn Friedman
- John Hagge
- Ramesh Joshi
- David Korts
- Joseph Meyer



2020 OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

- **President, Newsletter & Publicity** — Linda Nearing
- **1st V.P., Program** — Susan Dearing, (949) 855-6965
- **2nd V.P., Fundraising** — Rebeca Gilad
- **Secretary** — Allan Feldman
- **Treasurer, Budget** — Pat Leftwich
- **Activism** — Janice Burstin
- **Campaign & GOTV** — Jeanette Peck
- **Club Election & Nominating** — Maureen Mehler
- **DPOC Associate Member & Historian** — Heide Krueger
- **Hospitality** — Penny Cline
- **Legislative Action** — Jonathan Adler, (949) 581-2178
- **Membership** — Dana Barraclough & Debra David
- **Outreach** — Jeanne Lepowsky
- **Special Events** — Nancy Hensel, 703-964-6993
- **Voter Registration** — Mary Ribando

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Since we are not meeting in person to take nominations from the floor, we will request them through emails and the newsletter. We are always looking for new people to join the Board and the various committees which make our club work so well! You can also become part of the above committees without being on the Board. Please respond to the newsletter with nominations and/or specify the committee you are interested in joining.

*** See Proposed Elections Slate for 2021 on page 4**

ELECTION DATES

November/December 2020*

Governors Ascertainment of Results (ASAP, no later than December 14, 2020): The executive of each state is required to certify his/her ascertainment of the state's election results to the Archivist of the United States "as soon as practicable" but no later than the date the Electoral College meets. Date set by federal law.

(See 3 U.S.C. §6.)

December 8, 2020*

State "Safe Harbor" Deadline (December 8, 2020): This is the deadline for states to resolve disputers concerning the appointment of electors (Pursuant to laws enacted before Election Day) in order to have those appointments treated as "conclusive" by Congress. Date set by federal law.

(See 3 U.S.C. §5.)

December 14, 2020*

Meeting of Electoral College (December 14, 2020): Electors meet in their respective states on the same day to cast their votes. Date set by federal law (but required to be the same for all states).

(See 3 U.S.C. §7; U.S. Const. art. II §1, cl. 4.)



PRESIDENT ELECT JOE BIDEN



GEORGIA SENATE RUNOFF

By Pat Leftwich

The General Election is behind us and we are excited that Joe Biden and Kamala Harris will be our President and Vice-President on January 20, 2021. But our work is not over.

As we follow the Georgia results we know that a runoff is necessary for the two Senate seats. We must continue to do what we can to ensure that the two Democrats, Rev. Dr. Raphael G. Warnock and Jon Ossoff defeat the current incumbent Republican senators David Purdue and Kelly Loeffler.

The Laguna Woods Democratic Club recently donated \$900.00 to this Georgia Senate Race. This donation will be split among Dr. Warnock, Jon Ossoff and Fair Fight, the organization founded by Stacey Abrams.

This race is crucial as it will determine the outcome of the Senate being controlled by the Republicans or split 50/50 with the deciding vote by Vice President Kamala Harris. We must win both seats to ensure a 50/50 split. Please contribute if you can at: <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/georgiasenate> or mail to: Georgia Senate Victory Fund, 611 Pennsylvania Ave SE, Suite 143, Washington, DC 20003. Please make the checks out to: Georgia Senate Victory Fund.

HEALING THE NATION

By Rebeca Gilad

Friend, we need to talk. We have become isolated and politically divided. We don't listen to each other; our conversations are broken. When we first met, Laguna Woods was a place where each one of its residents -as different as we all are- had a role to play in making it a good place to live and thrive. With a sense of community and belonging. A safe place. A home.

Now, things have changed. We are isolated. Afraid of the virus. Distanced from each other because of differences in political views. Our conversations are broken. I miss you.

How do we listen and understand others who don't think like us? We cannot do it staying divided. We need each other to regain our sense of community.

Please, let us do it together. Let us talk and listen to each other with empathy. Please participate in the Zoom "Healing our Community" planning program on December 9, 2:00 to 3:30pm. Register: [Click Here!](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

CIVILITY

*"I have heard many of you talk about how we need a return to civility in how we do our public business. **We need politics to be about a productive debate about the best way to solve problems, not a mud fight and name calling.** I believe that we have to think carefully about what we say and do after an election victory. Remember Michelle Obama's advice to "go high." We teach our children to have winners and losers shake hands after a game. I know we have all heard the curse words and hand signals from a few Trump supporters. Going forward, we should respond with respect and understanding so that we can hope to follow Lincoln's advice--united we stand!"*

Louise Adler, Chair
Canyon Democrats

THANKS FOR DONATING!

A Special Thank You to
Mr. John Hagge
for his recent and very generous donation!



Happy Holidays Let's Donate!

As many of you know, we always support South County Outreach's Holiday programs. However, with Covid-19 these programs aren't available.

Instead, we recommend that you contribute \$25 gift cards from Target, Wal-Mart or give a Stocking Stuffer. **Need More Info, see links below?**

Holiday Program - [Click here](#)

Stocking Stuffer - [Click Here](#)

You can drop off a donation, or mail a check to:

South County Outreach
7 Whatney, Suite B
Irvine, CA 92618.

Or, you can use their online donation form: [Donation Form | South County Outreach](#)

Whatever you decide, it will be appreciated by those in need.



Happy Holidays!
From the LWDC Board

HONORING OUR VETERANS

"It's about how we treat our veterans every single day of the year.

It's about making sure they have the care they need and the benefits that they've earned when they come home.

It's about serving all of you as well as you've served the United States of America."

– **Barack Obama**

Newsletter Production:
Debo Orrill

JANUARY CLUB ELECTION

It is time to plan for LWDC's election in January 2021. As usual, the Board has prepared an excellent slate of candidates:

- President Sue Dearing, Program
- 1st V.P. Rebeca Gilad, Outreach & Fundraising
- 2nd V.P. Nancy Hensel, Special Events
- Secretary Allan Feldman, Central Committee Assoc. Member
- Treasurer Pat Leftwich, Budget

At Large Directors

- Jonathan Adler, Legislative Action
- Dana Barraclough, Bylaws
- Janice Burstin, Activism
- Debra David, Membership
- Heide Krueger-Gerson, Historian
- Jeanne Lepowsky, Field Organizer
- Maureen Mehler, Nominating
- Jeanette Peck, Campaign
- Mary Ribando, Voter Registration

Special Director (To be appointed by Board in Jan. 2021)

- Debo Orrill—Publicity, Website & Newsletter

GARY BAIN, VETERAN HONORED

By *Cottie Petrie-Norris*

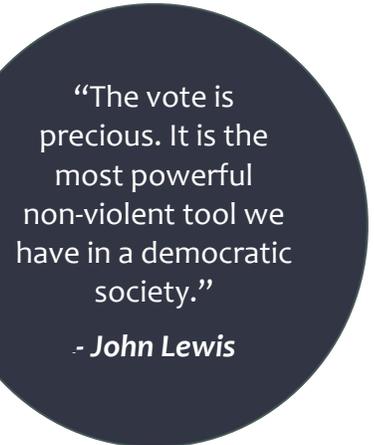
On Veteran's Day Assembly Member Cottie Petrie Norris honored one veteran from each of the six cities in the 74th Assembly District in a Facebook Live ceremony. Lt. Colonel Gary Bain was selected for this honor in Laguna Woods after being nominated by Mayor Pro Tem Shari Home.



Gary, who has a B.S. in Marketing and an M/S in Counseling, served 23 years in the Air Force both here and abroad as a Chief of Services and member of an Inspector General Team.

He and his wife Susan moved to Laguna Woods in 2014. Gary enjoys playing golf and is proud of his work as chair of The Guys of Leisure, a men's group which focuses on charity, such as donating turkeys and hams to South County Outreach for the holidays. Anyone interested in joining can contact him: baingary3@gmail.com or (714)-443-1943.

Gary is "very proud of the work done by the Democratic Club and happy to have Joe Biden as our next President."



"Fear Never Builds the Future, but Hope Does."

- **Joseph R. Biden**

GOTV WRAP UP

By Jeanne Lepowsky

Our club's Get Out The Vote volunteers did a fabulous job in the November election. Over 100 volunteers, club members and friends, made thousands of phone calls to Democrats and No Party Preference voters, and dropped nearly 12,000 door hangers at the doors of both Democrats and Republicans to get turnout in Laguna Woods to just short of 93%. Many volunteers also wrote post cards and made phone calls to voters outside of Laguna Woods. Each of you who helped in any way, whether through the LWDC's GOTV effort, directly with the Biden, Min, Porter, or some other candidate's campaign, or simply by speaking directly to voters – be proud of yourself. We are a great team!

There is still work our members and friends need to do, to the extent each of us is able. Will Mitch McConnell continue as Senate Majority Leader, or will it be a Democrat? Volunteers are already making phone calls, writing post cards and sending texts to Georgia voters. Go to <https://www.mobilize.us/fairfight/> to sign up and help.

Michelle Steel (R) is replacing Harley Rouda in US Congressional District 48, so there will be a special election to replace her on the Board of Supervisors in the months ahead. More information to follow!

ELECTION DATES

Continued from page 2

December 23, 2020

Receipt of Certificates of Electoral College must be received by the Senate and the Archivist.

January 3, 2021

NEW CONGRESS IS SWORN IN as set by the Constitution

January 6, 2021

Joint Session of Congress where they open electoral certificates, consider any objections and resolve them under federal law, and counts electoral votes.

January 20, 2021

End of Current Presidential Term at 12Noon as set by the Constitution At 5PM God willing, and the creek don't rise, we will raise a glass in thanks for the end of our nightmare.

**Information provided by: www.protecttheresults.com*

Election Results City of Laguna Woods

President

Biden 55%
Trump 44%
Others 1%

US 45th District

Porter 54%
Raths 46%

CA 37th Senate District

Min 54%
Moorlatch 46%

CA 74th Assembly District

Petrie-Norris 53%
Dixon 47%

SOCCC Area 1

Inman won 54%

SOOC Area 6

James Wright won 54%
(not endorsed)

Capistrano USD

Castellanos won 59%

Laguna Beach USD

Osborn won 34%
Vickers won 32%

Saddleback USD

Wong won 61%

Laguna Woods City Council

Incumbents Hatch, Horne
and Connors won

Measure V

Yes 51%, No 49%

INAUGURATION BREAKFAST

It's time to celebrate the 46th Inauguration of Joseph R. Biden. Join us for our Pajama Party Celebration on January 20th.

See attached flyer.

Contact: Nancy Hensel
at 703-964-6993 or
email her at:

hensel.nancy@gmail.com

“As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.”

- John F. Kennedy

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT ELECTION MEETINGS

By Sue Dearing

Assembly District Delegates (ADDs) to the CA Democratic Party are elected in caucuses that are usually held in each of the California Assembly Districts in January of each odd-numbered year. However, this year the voting will take place by mail. Any Democrat can run to become an Assembly District Delegate in the Assembly District in which he/she lives. Any Democrat can vote in this election in the Assembly District in which he/she lives. All the information both for being a candidate and for voting is available at the following link: <https://adem.cadem.org/> The deadline to apply to be a candidate is December 15. The deadline to request a vote by mail ballot is January 11.

For additional information about the responsibilities and duties of an Assembly District Delegate, see these two links: <https://cadem.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/CDP-DSCC-Delegate-Organization-1.pdf> and <https://cadem.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Delegate-Cost-What-To-Expect-1.pdf> Note that the information is not updated and that costs may be much less if COVID restrictions continue and the Convention is virtual. It costs \$30 to apply to be a delegate.

PROPOSITION RESULTS:

Corporate Millions Crush! Democrats Win 4 of 11 and Laguna Woods May OK Pot Sales!

By Jonathan Adler, Legislative Action Chair

Can you find \$232 million, say in petty cash? Uber, Lyft, and DoorDash did, to buy a ballot spot (Prop. 22) for their own law to protect billions in future profits, overruling a 7-0 California Supreme Court case defining employees' rights. The law, supported by 70% of state legislators passed to codify it; took only \$226 million on blatantly lying ads that saturated TV and the mail to overturn it. Uber also paid \$95K to gain support by Calif. NAACP and its President Alice Huffman (per the [LA Times](#), [CalMatters.org](#), [NY Times](#), and other reports). So, despite opposition by the Democrats, unions, and hundreds of other groups, Prop. 22 passed with 58.6%. Millions of dollars was also spent for false fear-mongering ads that beat four other propositions. Supported by Democrats (Ca. Democratic Party and LWDC) along with other progressive groups, they would have threatened the industries' future profits:

- Big commercial property owners beat Prop 15 (“Schools and Communities First” funded from split-roll property taxes) by 4%.
- Big developers and landlords beat Prop 21 (to allow local rent control) by 20%.
- The three giant for-profit dialysis clinic corporations beat Prop 23 (regulating that industry) by 27%, falsely claiming it would close clinics and kill their ads' patient-spokespersons.
- The bail bond industry beat Prop 25 (ending pre-trial cash bail) by 13%. [CalMatters.org reported](#) that those four industries also paid \$1.615 million for Calif. NAACP and its President Alice Huffman's opposition in TV ads and the Official Voter Guide. Its local chapters objected to the process and press reports led to Huffman resigning Nov. 20.

The other eight propositions that didn't include industry profits included:

- Democrats were neutral on Prop. 24 (online privacy); it passed by 12%.
- Laguna Woods “Measure V” (advisory, marijuana stores); passed by 2%.

Of the other 6 propositions, Democrats and progressive groups supported and prevailed in four propositions:

- Prop 14 (stem cell research bonds) won by 2%.
- Prop 17 (to let parolees vote) won by 17%.
- Prop 19 (easier replacement home rules for seniors, disabled, wildfire victims, etc.) won by 2%.
- Prop 20 (tougher parole and property crime rules) failed by 23%.

Finally, the two remaining propositions that Democrats favored, but lost, were:

- Prop 16 (return to affirmative action) lost by 14%.
- Prop 18 (vote in Primary by 17½-year-olds) lost by 12%.