

# REDLANDS AREA DEMOCRATIC CLUB

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<http://wp.redlandsdemocrats.org>



# The Progressive



## President's message

**I**t's been an interesting time for that price floor on wages we call minimum wage.

I've watched with admiration as workers rallied big retailers and fast food restaurants for higher earnings, demanding wages that meet their needs and gaining some wins.

California workers, who only moved to a \$9.00 minimum wage last July, may soon get a new increase thanks to Senator Mark Leno. His SB-3 bill, which our Club supported, passed the State Senate earlier this month. If signed into law, SB-3 would raise the minimum wage in stages: \$11.00 in 2016 and \$13.00 in 2017.

And then, just last week the city of Los Angeles increased their minimum wage to \$15.00.

But for all of this positive movement around the minimum wage, I'm concerned that wage earners may not be getting the kind of pay raises they really need. Working full time should protect families from poverty. Yet if you work full time for minimum wage in California you can still fall below the poverty line. While the proposed wage increases prevent workers from hitting the poverty line, I'm not convinced the increases go far enough to significantly improve quality of life. Perhaps it's time for the minimum wage to be considered in a different way.

A Living Wage is one that is substantial enough to provide the basics such as food, housing, transportation, personal care and other necessities, with less than 30% of those wages

having to go toward housing. If we used the Living Wage as the minimum wage, workers might get the pay raise they need.

A typical family of three living in Los Angeles will continue to struggle even with the city's new raise in minimum pay if you calculate their Living Wage requirements. The typical family of three I'm speaking of has two adults (one working, one not) and one child. To earn a Living Wage, the working adult in that Los Angeles family needs to earn \$24.40 hourly. A far cry from \$15.00.

If that same typical family moved from LA to the Riverside-San Bernardino area where the cost of living is lower, the Living Wage for them would decrease to \$22.20. However, the family would face a far bigger problem because in the Inland Empire the minimum wage is still only \$9.00. At this minimum wage the family would be in poverty and eligible for Medicaid benefits. A boost to \$11 or \$15 would certainly help, but think of the impact on that family if they earned the Living Wage of \$22.20.

I'll continue supporting all efforts to raise the minimum wage, but for me the more important fight is to get our lawmakers to use Living Wage calculations to determine the minimum wage.

**A note about SB-3:** Earlier this month Sen. Mike Morrell voted against the minimum wage bill SB-3 when it came before the Senate. Although he was out-voted by the Democrats, and the bill has to make it through the Assembly, Sen. Morrell represents the 23rd District where there are plenty of low wage workers struggling to live on minimum wage pay. He should be held accountable for voting to keep the minimum wage at \$9.00.

The next time Sen. Morrell comes to your community for coffee and a chat, you should attend and ask him why he thinks low income families in the Inland Empire should continue living on \$9.00, because apparently that's what he believes. If he doesn't walk away, then your follow up question should be "Have you ever heard of the concept of a Living Wage?"

For a closer look at MIT's Living Wage Calculator, which I used for my calculations, visit <http://livingwage.mit.edu>.

Kristin Washington, President,  
Redlands Area Democratic Club (RADC)



<b><i>In This Issue:</i></b>	Page
<i>President's Message</i>	1
<i>RADC Voices</i>	2-3
<i>RADC Committee Reports/Updates</i>	3-4
<i>About City Council Meetings</i>	5
<i>Coffee with Council</i>	5
<i>Upcoming RADC Events</i>	5
<i>RADC Representative Contacts/RADC Leadership</i>	7

## RADC voices

Club member Don Singer adds his voice to:

### ***Judges can sway perspective on God's word on marriage***

A recent letter writer [to the Redlands Facts], opposed to same-sex marriage, claims that "God invented marriage" and that the Bible says that same-sex marriage is "unnatural."

While one can wonder how this individual knows that the Supreme Being invented this human institution, equally as interesting is that the Bible presumably proclaims that same-sex marriage cannot be as pure as a marriage between people of different genders.

I wonder if this supposed student of marriage and God's word is knowledgeable about the fact that until 1967 some 18 states in the United States banned inter-racial marriage on the same basis that he now claims is the reason for Biblical certainty on same-sex marriage, i.e., that it was contrary to God's word.

Thus a judge in Virginia, in the famous case (and how ironical is the name of the case) of *Loving v. Virginia* upheld the state's ban on interracial marriage by writing the following: "Almighty God created the races: white, black, yellow, Malay (he was less than knowledgeable about racial classifications) and red. And for the interference with his arrangement there would be no cause for such marriages. The fact that he separated the races shows that he not intend for races to mix."

Alas for Judge Bazile, the U. S. Supreme Court, in 1967, unanimously overturned this judge's cramped and bigoted view of matrimony and said that inter-racial marriages fit well within the guidelines of the U.S. Constitution.

While I would not deign to divine the word of God, as did the aforementioned letter writer, I would surmise that should the Supreme Court hold that same-sex marriages are Constitutional that the country will continue on its path without any great shake to its foundations, as it did so many years ago when it made the right decision in the famous case of *Loving v. Virginia*.

###

### **Here's a blog forwarded by Don Singer for *The Progressive* that was written by member Bruce Daniels.**

Bernie Sanders is my kind of guy! He is outspoken, forthright, honest, courageous and tenacious. Whether or not he is presidential material remains to be seen; however, his stand on domestic and foreign policy, including Israel/Palestine, dovetails with mine.

Where I take issue with Senator Sanders is his self-inflicted wound branding himself unnecessarily as a socialist, a loaded and perceived derogatory buzzword these days. Progressive? Yes. Liberal? Certainly. Socialist? In

effect, he opened the door to others labeling him as a socialist where in fact he is his own brand of independent.

Sanders comes from Vermont, the home of Calvin Coolidge! Maybe he should become a neo-Federalist!

###

### **More on Bernie**

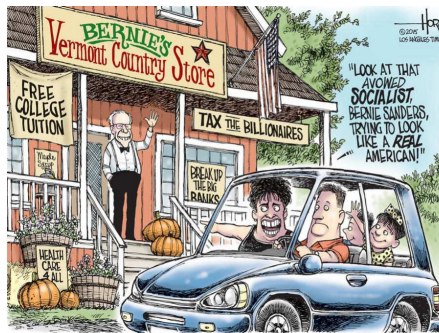
**May 27, 2015: Doyle McManus, LA Times**

Sen. Bernie Sanders, the self-described socialist who kicked off his presidential campaign on Tuesday with a characteristically fiery speech, isn't going to win the 2016 Democratic nomination unless lightning strikes. To be really effective, in any case, the lightning would have to strike Hillary Rodham Clinton, who holds a prohibitive lead in every poll. But Sanders will still have a major impact on the Democratic race, and that could, paradoxically, be good for Clinton.

The Vermont senator preaches a bracing populist message that's likely to thrill millions of voters on the left, the ones who sometimes dub themselves "the democratic wing of the Democratic Party." A lot of those progressives are democratic socialists, whether they realize it or not; the only unusual thing about Sanders is that he actually uses the "S-word."

"There is something profoundly wrong when the top one-tenth of 1% owns almost as much wealth as the bottom 90%," Sanders said at a raucous lakefront rally in Vermont. "This type of rigged economy is not what America is supposed to be about."

He said he hopes to "begin a political revolution to transform our country economically, politically, socially and environmentally." And he has a detailed program to do it.



Sanders wants to raise taxes on the rich not only to limit the flow of income to the upper crust but also to redistribute some of their accumulated wealth. He wants to impose a federal sales tax on stock trades

and other financial transactions to pay for free tuition at every public college. He wants to open Medicare to everyone, young or old, creating a European-style single-payer healthcare system. He wants to break up big banks, clamp more regulation on Wall Street and outlaw massive donations to political campaigns.

Even without a full-blown national campaign, those ideas have been enough to vault Sanders into second place in surveys of Democrats in early primary states. Well, perhaps "vault" is an overstatement: He draws 15% in Iowa and 18% in New Hampshire, still far behind Clinton's 60% or so.

"There is something profoundly wrong when the top one-tenth of 1% owns almost as much wealth as the bottom 90%." - Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders.

Here's the key to those poll numbers: Sanders is winning

almost exactly the same levels of support that Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) drew in early surveys. Now that she's made it clear she isn't running, pollsters are leaving her name off, and Sanders appears to be inheriting her support.

The Vermont socialist, who once chafed at comparisons with his progressive colleague, now readily embraces the role of her stand-in.

"I think our views are parallel on many, many issues," he told a reporter this week.

So why is this challenge good for Clinton?

Second, until now most of the media coverage of Clinton's campaign has focused on secret emails, entanglements with uranium moguls and outlandish speaking fees. If Sanders forces a robust debate on issues such as healthcare, taxes and trade, the media will have to pay attention to that instead. Sanders' entry into the race will allow Clinton, who has already veered left, to call for vaguely similar policies and still say: "He's a socialist; I'm not."

On a superficial level, moreover, Sanders' presence on the stage will make Clinton, 67, seem relatively young. Sanders is 73; if he won the presidency, he'd be 75 at his inauguration, more than five years older than Ronald Reagan in 1981.

Finally, Sanders will give voters a reason to watch the Democratic debates — and maybe even get excited about the party's ideas, an emotion that's been missing until now.

"There are signs that Democratic voters are demoralized," Andrew Kohut, a pollster at the independent Pew Research Center, told me. "If that persists, it can depress their turnout on election day."

A recent Pew poll, for example, found that only 58% of Democrats said they had given a lot of thought to the presidential campaign, down from 71% eight years ago.

Meanwhile, the Ipsos polling organization projected that voter turnout next year could drop to 50%, down from 55% in 2012 — a trend that's especially bad for Democrats, since Republicans turn out more reliably.

A Sanders campaign won't be all sweetness for Clinton, to be sure. He isn't a forgiving soul; he has already come close to calling the likely nominee a plutocrat.

"It's not just the Clintons," he told CNBC last week. "When you hustle money like that ... you sit in restaurants where you're spending — I don't know what they spend — hundreds of dollars for dinner and so forth. That's the world that you're accustomed to, and that's the worldview that you adopt."

But Clinton already knew she had that vulnerability, and so did her voters; it's already reflected in her poll numbers.

At this stage, Sanders can't beat Clinton; only Hillary and Bill Clinton can beat Hillary Clinton — in the form of new problems with emails or finances or other peccadilloes as yet undiscovered.

doyle.mcmanus@latimes.com - Twitter: @doylemcmanus

## President Kristin offers her voice on

### *Aguilar's ideas good for economy*

We keep hearing news about how the economy is improving around the country. I don't know about you, but I think anyone who lives and works in the Inland Empire can see we're still struggling.

Too many people are out of work, many of them lacking the skills to get a good-paying job.

That's why I was so encouraged to read the jobs plan released by our newly elected Rep. Pete Aguilar.

It's about time someone put forward a plan to get people back to work. This is what we need.

Most impressive were Rep. Aguilar's ideas to give tax breaks to small businesses and to help people find jobs by hosting job trainings to connect job seekers to employers ready to hire.

I'm excited about what this plan has to offer and appreciate having a representative who looks out for all of us.

## ***RADC committee reports***

### **RADC Communications Committee**

**Attending:** Roger Bell, Richard Tully, Jack Brennan, Les Greenberg, Nancy Ruth White, Lorraine Enriquez. Host: Dianne Landeros.

The following items were discussed and agreed upon:

**Letters to the Editor:** Roger Bell will write occasional letters to the editor on various topics to be determined, as needed throughout the year.

**RADC Facebook Page:** Richard Tully will look into the established Facebook RADC pages that already exist for the club. He will combine, enhance and maintain our Facebook page and presence. He will invite friends to "Like" our page, inform and invite our friends to our club's activities/events. He will report back to us at the next meeting.

**News Releases:** Jack Brennan will write news releases for upcoming "Public Events" that the club sponsors [needs clarification]. He will also write news releases for events that have already happened such as the Annual Club Picnic on June 28, 2015. The next Public Event will be our booth for the Fourth of July. He can also write press releases about our Market Night booth which will promote Voter Registration and Membership Drive.

**Meet Up Page:** Les Greenberg will research re-establishing the RADC Meet Up page on our own, which cost \$12/month. He will also look into partnering with the Riverside Democratic Club to share the \$12 per month cost.

*RADC committee reports, cont'd.*

**Phone banking:** Nancy Ruth White will spearhead phone tree/banking efforts to increase attendance at our club events. She will recruit Diana Bowling on a, as needed basis. They will focus on people who do not have emails. The phone tree/banking will enhance any flyers/handouts that have been generated for that particular event. We discussed reaching out to other Dem clubs for their lists of members to enhance our event attendance. Jack , Nancy and Lorraine will collaborate on this effort.

**RADC Website:** Lorraine will contact Chritine Rogue for training, assistance and maintenance of the RADC Website.

**RADC Progressive Newsletter:** It was agreed amongst the attendees that Carole Coley is doing a great job with the newsletter, therefore, she should continue to produce this publication. All club members are welcome to submit articles to our monthly newsletter. We will invite Carole to join and attend our committee meetings going forward.

**RADC Monthly Meeting Announcements:** The committee agreed that George Alfano should continue in his role to announce the Club's monthly meetings.

**Social Media 101:** Dianne mentioned that her daughter, Toni, might be interested in holding a Social Media 101 workshop for our club members. Dianne will report back to us at the next meeting.

**Committee Budget:** The committee agreed that its budget should include the costs of the Meet Up Page, stamps, envelopes, and stationery as needed.

The Committee's first publicity event will be the Annual Club Picnic to be held on Sunday, June 28, at the home of Dianne Landeros. We will work in concert to maximize attendance and enhance our fundraising goals.

Our intentions are to publicize, promote, support and generate a positive public perception of the Redlands Area Democrat Club in Redlands and the surrounding Inland Empire communities. Your suggestions in achieving these goals are greatly appreciated.

Share your publicity ideas with us!

**Lorraine Enriquez reporting**

###

## **Membership Committee update**

Based on recommendations from the last Membership Committee meeting and upon approval of the Executive Board, permanent magnetic badges are being made (in color with white background) for each member in good standing. Guests will be provided a "Hello, My Name Is" tag. New and former members who join/rejoin will receive the new permanent badge, which will look similar to this.

YOUR NAME

REDLANDS AREA DEMOCRATIC CLUB



In addition, the newly revised Membership/Membership Renewal application will include a box to check authorizing RADC to use his/her images in *The Progressive*, on social media or other public publications. For those members in good standing who do **not** wish your image to be used, please notify Membership Chair **John Coley** at a meeting or by phone at 909-810-7768.

**John Coley reporting**

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## **Get Out The Voter (GOTV) Committee**

This committee has been working with the Boys and Girls Club to identify times when children were being picked up, so someone could talk to parents/guardians about voting and/or registration. GOTV members will be at the Stater Bros Market on Colton Avenue on July 11 for voter registration and will be calling the Redlands Community Center for a date to set up a voter registration table there. Discussion of how or where to be involved in the North Side politically continue and mention was made of contacting residents in that area.

Market night in Redlands is in process and GOTV activity in Loma Linda is being discussed with Justin Kim.

A sign-up sheet will be passed around at the June 20 meeting for members and guests to sign up to participate in Market Night, the Fourth of July Booth at Sylvan Park, and the Boys and Girls Club.

**Nancy Blastos reporting**

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## **Legislative Update:**

Five Letters were prepared by Ron Hattis and signed by Kristin supporting various legislation (wage equality, greenhouse gas emission, etc.) and our club had been listed as a reference on two of these bills. Four of the bills have been passed so far.

**Ron Hattis reporting**

###

## City Council meetings

Regular City Council meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. (closed session) and 6:00p.m. (open session) at the City of Redlands, City Council Chambers, 35 Cajon, Ste 2, Redlands and at such other times as special meetings may be called. Should a regularly scheduled Council meeting fall on a holiday, the meeting shall be conducted the next regular business day.

Know what's going on in Redlands. Archived videos of all meetings are posted at <http://www.cityofredlands.org/councilvideo>. Council meeting minutes can be read at <http://www.cityofredlands.org/citycouncil/meeting>.

## Coffee with Council dates

Can't make it to City Council meetings to voice your concerns, Then try attending one or some of these "Coffee with Council" events. Here's the schedule for the remainder of 2015:

Saturday, July 18	Olive Avenue Market
Saturday, September 19	Cuca's Mexican Food
Saturday, October 17	Stell Coffee & Tea Company
Saturday, November 21	Olive Avenue Market

## Market Night participation

Let's take advantage of Market Night in Redlands—every Thursday night from 6:00 'til 9:00 p.m.—to register new Democrats. Market Night teams with newcomers to Redlands and can be an invaluable source for not only new Democrats but also new members for our club.

A minimum of three volunteers are needed every week. Kudos to member **John Schricker** for taking on this effort and doing a fantastic job.

See Nancy Blastos to sign up.



## Upcoming events



### Every Thursday of Each Month (*Unless otherwise notified*)

Weekly Salon at the home of Dianne Landeros. Join in for lively political discussions from 10:30 a.m. 'til 12:30 p.m. Please bring a potluck dish to share or leave a donation. Feel free to bring a friend. Please contact Dianne for more information or email [redlandsdems@gmail.com](mailto:redlandsdems@gmail.com) with Salon in the subject line.

### Annual Club Picnic Fundraiser: Sunday, June 28

Location: Dianne's backyard - 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Cost: \$20 per person

### Saturday, July 4

RADC Booth at Sylvan Park, Section A on University Street near the University of Redlands (**Six volunteers needed!**)

### Sunday, July 12

RADC Executive Board Meeting—2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Location: Chez Landeros

### Saturday, July 18

Monthly RADC Meeting

12:00 - 1:00 no-host Lunch / 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Meeting

Napoli's Italian Restaurant

24960 Redlands Boulevard, Loma Linda, CA 92354

Speaker TBA

### Saturday, August 15

Monthly RADC Meeting

12:00 - 1:00 no-host Lunch / 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Meeting

Napoli's Italian Restaurant

24960 Redlands Boulevard, Loma Linda, CA 92354

Speaker TBA

### Saturday, September 26

Heritage Potluck celebrating International Peace Day

Bring a dish that reflects your heritage.

Location: Chez Landeros



Contribute your opinion on any topic to our newsletter. **Speak what's on your mind about today's issues that affect all of us. Your help is needed in making *The Progressive* a successful informational tool for our club.** Please email your articles to **Editor Carole Coley** at [c.coley11@verizon.net](mailto:c.coley11@verizon.net) or mail them to the RADC address at 1554 Barton Rd #227 Redlands, CA 92373.

**Unless otherwise noted, editorials and/or articles that appear in 'The Progressive' are the opinions of named contributors and not necessarily of the RADC leadership or its membership.**

# RADC Representative Contacts

## Redlands City Council

35 Cajon Street, Ste 200, Redlands  
 Mail: PO Box 3005, Redlands 92373-1005  
 Tel: 909-798-7533; Fax: 909-798-7535  
 Website: [www.cityofredlands.org](http://www.cityofredlands.org)

Paul Foster, Mayor

[pfoster@cityofredlands.org](mailto:pfoster@cityofredlands.org)

Jon Harrison, Mayor Pro Tem

[jharrison@cityofredlands.org](mailto:jharrison@cityofredlands.org)

Pat Gilbreath, Council Member

[pgilbreath@cityofredlands.org](mailto:pgilbreath@cityofredlands.org)

Paul Barich, Council Member

[pbarich@cityofredlands.org](mailto:pbarich@cityofredlands.org)

John James, Council Member

[jjames@cityofredlands.org](mailto:jjames@cityofredlands.org)

## Redlands Unified School District Board

District Office

20 W. Lugonia Ave., Redlands, CA 92374

Tel: 909-307-5300

Email: [rsudboardmembers@redlands.k12.ca.us](mailto:rsudboardmembers@redlands.k12.ca.us)

Neil Waner, President

Patty Holohan, Vice President

Ron McPeck, Clerk

Donna West, Member

Richard Haller, Member

## San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors

James Ramos, 3<sup>rd</sup> District Supervisor

San Bernardino CA 92415-0110

385 N. Arrowhead Ave., 5<sup>th</sup> Floor

Tel: 909-387-4855; Fax: 909-387-3018

Email: [SupervisorRamos@sbcounty.gov](mailto:SupervisorRamos@sbcounty.gov)

## Governor

Edmund G. "Jerry" Brown, Jr.

State Capitol, Suite 1173

Sacramento, CA 925814

Tel: 916-445-2841; Fax: 916-558-3160

Web <http://www.gov.ca.gov/home.php>

## State Senate, 23rd District

Mike Morrell (R-Rancho Cucamonga)

State Capitol Room 3056

Sacramento CA 95814

Tel: 916.319.2040; Fax: 916.319.2041

District Office

10604 Trademark Parkway

Rancho Cucamonga, CA 90730

Tel: 909.466.9096; Fax: 909-466-9892

Web: <http://district23.cssrc.us/>

## State Assembly, 40th District

Marc Steinorth

State Capitol Office

P.O. Box 942849, Room 2111

Sacramento, CA 94249-0040

Tel: 916-319-2040

District Office

10604 N Trademark Parkway Suite 308

Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

Tel: 909- 466-9096

## U.S. House of Representatives, 31<sup>st</sup> CD

Pete Aguilar (D-Redlands)

1233 Longworth House Office Building

Washington, DC 20515

Tel: 202-225-3201

Fax: 202-226-6962

District Office

8300 Utica Avenue, Ste. 105

Rancho Cucamonga, CA 92305

Tel: 909-980-1492

Fax: 909-980-1651

# REDLANDS AREA DEMOCRATIC CLUB LEADERSHIP

## OFFICERS and TRUSTEES

Kristin Washington, President  
 Roger Bell, Vice President  
 Christine Roque, Secretary  
 Richard Tully, Assistant Secretary  
 Carole Coley, Treasurer  
 Les Greenberg, Assistant Treasurer

John Coley  
 Ron Hattis  
 Dianne Landeros  
 Ande Spencer



Redlands Area Democratic Club  
 1554 Barton Rd #227 • Redlands, CA 92373

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*"The Progressive"*

Carole Coley, Editor and Newsletter Design

[c.coley11@verizon.net](mailto:c.coley11@verizon.net)



*"All the world over, I will back the masses against the classes."*

~William Ewart Gladstone~