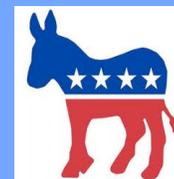


Blue Notes



Douglas County Democrats

The voice of Douglas County, Nevada Democrats

September, 2013

From the Chair...

What can we do about 'that'?



The first question that needs to be answered is, "What is 'that'?" "That" can refer to any situation we feel is wrong or unacceptable.

Mainstream news commentaries and electronic media present ubiquitous, often compelling requests for our support for, or opposition to, a grand quantity of "thats". And on a seemingly never-ending basis.

I ask myself questions such as: Should I feel flattered because I have been made to feel that my personal, minuscule contribution to a candidate or cause will inevitably overpower right-wing extremists and stop the Koch Brothers in their tracks? Could my expressed opinion

on a particular matter actually improve the state of existence in American society?

Admittedly, there are days I feel challenged deciding whether I want fries with my burger, but, since the questions were asked, here we go...

I feel privileged to live in a day and age that tremendous communications keep me informed of situations and new events. If there's a candidate or cause that really catches my attention, or even better, my interest, I feel good about sending a few bucks that might make a lot more difference in the world than my getting the latest

movie release on DVD or Blu-Ray. Chances are I'll remember significant advances in society long after that movie was forgotten. And what's my opinion worth? Or yours? I was told by a local legislator that too often bills come and go through the legislature with little or no input from constituents. Would the outcome of the legislation have been different if I had spoken up? Or if we had spoken together? Why not find out?

Life is about living even when

(Continued on Page 5)

Next Central Committee meeting:

Thursday, Sept. 26. Social at 6:30 p.m. Business at 7 p.m.
(Democratic Headquarters, 1513 Hwy 395 S., Suite 1C, Gardnerville)



Please share this newsletter with your Democratic friends





LEFT — Douglas County School District Assistant Superintendent Lyn Gorrindo (left) and just-appointed ASPIRE High School principal Mikki Trujillo talked about the new ASPIRE (All Students Pursuing Integrity Responsibility and Education) program at the August Democratic Central Committee meeting.

RIGHT — Nevada Rural Caucus Chair (and Churchill County Democratic Central Committee Chair) Nyla Howell addresses the Douglas County Democratic Central Committee at its August meeting.



LEFT — A crimson sun, thanks to the Rim Fire burning near Yosemite, greeted everybody arriving at Democratic Headquarters for the Aug. 22 meeting of the Douglas County Democratic Central Committee.



PHOTOS BY PAT STANLEY

Democratic Party Credo

We Democrats are the oldest political party in America and the youngest in spirit. We will remain so, because we enjoy the challenge of government. Time and again, for almost two centuries, the Democratic Party has made government work-- to build and defend a nation, to encourage commerce, to educate our children, to promote equal opportunity, to advance science and industry, to support the arts and humanities, to restore the land, to develop and conserve our human and natural resources, to preserve and enhance our built environment, to relieve poverty, to explore space. We have reached difficult and vital goals.

We recognize that the capacity of government is limited but we regard democratic government as a force for good and a source of hope. At the heart of our party lies a fundamental conviction that Americans must not only be free, but they must live in a fair society. We believe it is the responsibility of government to help us achieve this fair society.

- A society where the elderly and the disabled can lead lives of dignity and where Social Security remains an unshakable commitment;
 - A society where all people can find jobs in a growing full-employment economy;
 - A society where all workers are guaranteed without question the legal right to join unions of their own choosing and to bargain collectively for decent wages and conditions of employment;
 - A society where taxes are clearly based on ability to pay;
 - A society where the equal rights of women are guaranteed in the Constitution;
 - A society where the civil rights of minorities are fully secured and where no one is denied the opportunity for a better life;
 - A society where both public and private discrimination based upon race, sex, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, economic status, philosophical persuasion or physical disability are condemned and where our government moves aggressively to end such discrimination through lawful means;
 - A society where we recognize the strengthening of the family and the protection of children are essential to the health of the nation;
 - A society where a sound education, proper nutrition, quality medical care, affordable housing, safe streets and a healthy environment are possible for every citizen;
 - A society where the livelihoods of our family farmers are as stable as the values they instill in the American character;
 - A society where a strong national defense is a common effort, where promoting human rights is a basic value of our foreign policy, and where we ensure the future by ending the nuclear arms race.
- This is our purpose and our promise

**“It’s OK to be a Democrat
in Douglas County!”**



Member profile: Paul Belt

Editor's note: Each edition of your "Blue Notes" will contain a profile of one the Democratic leaders in Douglas County.

Democratic Central Committee First Vice Chair Paul Belt believes the scales are tipping with more Democrats registering in Douglas County and other rural areas of Nevada.

"But it still seems like people are pretty closeted about being a Democrat here," he said.

Is it a challenge? Sure, but, he adds, "I think we're being heard. Registration is swinging. It was four to one (Republicans to Democrats) when I moved here, but now it's about two to one in Douglas County."

Belt, his wife Kim, and sons John Paul, 18, and Michael, 13, moved to Nevada from Yuma, Arizona, about eight years ago. A job opportunity for Kim precipitated the move.

Paul is a former Douglas County Central Committee chair, serves on the state Democratic Central Committee, and currently is the first vice chair for Douglas County.

He's a life-long Democrat. He became really interested in the mission of Democrats when he first saw a photo of his great aunt, who headed the Women's Democratic Club of Arizona. She was shaking hands with John F. Kennedy, who was campaigning in Arizona. She is believed to be the first person in that state to greet the future president.

Paul urged fellow Democrats to not become complacent in an off-election year. "People always get more active around elections," he said.

Local Democrats, he said, are trying to keep up interest. "We are making a conscious effort in the Central Committee not to just have meetings and argue about rules. We're trying to have fun and we have more events that are socially oriented."

He said he's pleased at the trend to reach out across the aisle on the part of Democrats in Douglas County. "We've had Republicans talk with us. Sometimes they seem amazed that we



Paul Belt

pledge allegiance to our flag at the beginning of our meetings. Some seem to think it's like the 60s, when there were flag burnings, no pledge, and no belief in government. There's a lot on both sides we don't understand about each other. There are stereotypes," he said. But that's changing.

Not only are Democrats highly patriotic (we pledge allegiance to the flag and we support our troops), but there's a trend to change roles. He said he's watched as some so-called liberals take on traditional conservative roles, and vice versa. He said it's easy to find many Democrats becoming more "hawkish" and more Republicans taking on issues that have been considered traditionally Democratic.

With that in mind, he urged fellow Democrats to remain open-minded and tolerant.

He said Democrats have big challenges, especially in rural areas like Douglas County. But those rural Democrats, he said, seem to be more dedicated. "It takes more of an effort to be a Democrat. You have to be really dedicated if you want to be a Democrat in a rural county," he said.

They don't come more dedicated than Paul Belt.



Highlight Moments*

Douglas County Democratic Central Committee Meeting- August 22, 2013 DCDCC Headquarters – Gardnerville, NV

- Douglas County School District Assistant Superintendent Lyn Gorrindo and new ASPIRE High School Principal Mikki Trujillo raised awareness about ASPIRE (All Students Pursuing Integrity, Responsibility and Education). The program has grown through its reputation for positively changing lives, particularly among at-risk students.
- Nevada Rural Caucus Chair and Churchill County Democratic Central Committee Chair Nyla Howell addressed DCDCC with current and upcoming activities planned in rural counties.
- DCDCC Annual Summer Barbecue was deemed a “huge success” with over 100 attendees, great speakers and an absolutely beautiful afternoon in Genoa at Mormon Station State Park.
- Several DCDCC members recently met at the office to clean and purge extra, unused furniture and other unnecessary items around headquarters. The main meeting room feels much more open now.
- It was discussed and agreed that DCDCC may consider occasionally inviting county commissioners to speak to us regarding topics of local interest
- Bo Statham (Pct. #25) and Katherine Winans (Pct. #22) were approved as central committeepersons. There are still openings in some precincts and DCDCC members are encouraged to join and represent their precincts.

“It’s OK to be a Democrat in Douglas County!”

** Fully approved minutes will be available at our next Central committee meeting.*



‘From the Chair — What can we do about that?’ (continued from Page 1)

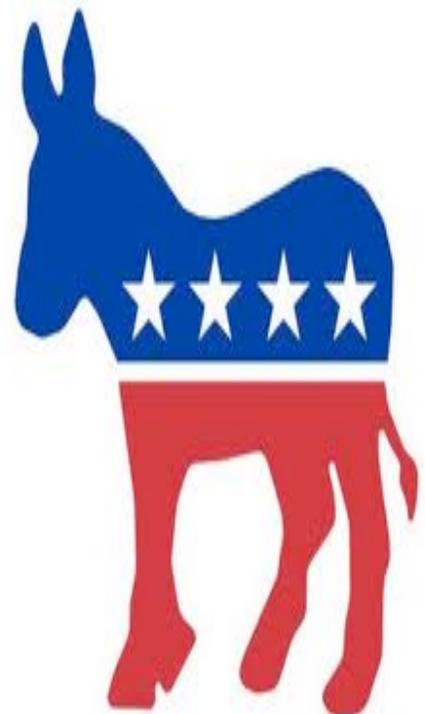
the outcome is uncertain, taking a chance while being certain that not taking a chance only leads to more of the same. If more of the same has already been termed as unacceptable, don’t we have the option, or even an obligation, to avoid knowingly embracing insanity?

There was a time the masses made comments like, “We’ve always taken the horses before; why would we want to take that

noisy mechanical contraption to town?”

Perhaps now is the time we need to hitch up the mare, turn on the starter key, get on the phone, maybe send an email or three.

The question, “What can we do about ‘that’?” is often best answered simply- “We MUST do SOMETHING!”



Your 2013 DCDCC Officers ...

Chair of DCDCC: Kim Cole

First vice Chair: **Paul Belt**

Second Vice Chair (Campaign Liaison): **Cindy Trigg**

Secretary: **Katherine Winans** (minutes, correspondence, agendas, blast-outs, etc)

Treasurer: **Eric Griffin**

Member-at-large: **Melanie Meehan-Crossley**

Member-at-large: **Gim Hollister**

Chair of Standing Committees:

Administration Committee: **Nancy Downey** (data base maintenance, etc.)

Publicity/ Public Relations: **Pat Stanley**

Fundraising/Finance: **Pending**

Membership: **Pending**

Candidate Recruitment: **Pending**

Political Action/ Programs: **Pending**



YOUR BLUE CALENDAR



September 19 - Thursday

DCDW Dangberg Ranch Home private tour
w/lunch

Noon for lunch - \$20

Christie Aldinger 775.267.3982 or
caaldinger123@aol.com

September 21 - Saturday

Douglas Democrats 2013 Progressive Dinner-
There are currently 2 remaining available
seats at the table for DCDCC members who
would enjoy a magnificent evening of fine
dining and friendship.

September 26 - Thursday

DC Democratic Central Committee Meeting
Headquarters - 1513 Hwy 395 Gardnerville

6:30 p.m. Social - 7 p.m. Call to Order

kimimcole@gmail.com

October 7 — Monday

DCDW Meeting at CVI

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Info: jkw@gbis.com or 267-0539

Oct 24 - Thursday

DC Democratic Central Committee Meeting
Headquarters - 1513 Hwy 395 Gardnerville 6:30

p.m. Social - 7 p.m. Call to Order

kimimcole@gmail.com

October 26 — Saturday

Nevada Day Parade

Nov. 5 - Tuesday

“Nonelection, Election Day” Hawaiian Rib

Cook-off at DCDCC Headquarters

November 16 — Saturday

Nevada State Democratic Party Central
Committee meeting, Pahrump, NV

November 21 — Thursday

DC Democratic Central Committee
Headquarters, 1513 Hwy 395, Gardnerville
(Guest speaker is Nevada State Treasurer Kate
Marshall, a candidate for Secretary of State)

6:30 p.m. Social

7 p.m. Call to Order

November 4 — Monday

DCDW Christmas Party at CVI

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Info: jkw@gbis.com or 267-0539

Douglas County residents have the opportunity to interact with leaders from Nevada's top renewable energy programs. Why use green energies? Ask the experts.

Tour of south Reno geothermal plant Sept. 16th at 3 p.m. Very limited space. First come, first served. Must RSVP to info@sierranevadaforums.com.



info@sierranevadaforums.com

FREE PUBLIC FORUM

FUELING CHANGE: *an Emerging Renewable Energy Era*

September 17th 2013

Carson City Plaza Conference Center

911 E. 9th St. Carson City, Nevada

Doors Open at 5:00. Presentation at 5:30



Guest Speakers

- *Dr. Alan Gertler, DRI, Vice President for Research, Director of DRI's Clean Technologies and Renewable Energy Center*
- *Jack McGinley, NV Energy, Director of Regulatory and Legislative Strategy for NV Energy*
- *Paid Thomsen, Director of Policy and Business Development, Ormat Technologies, Inc. (NYSE:ORA)*
- *Marnie Benson, Deputy Director, Black Rock Solar*
- *David Noble, Esq., Commissioner, Public Utilities of Nevada*
- *Anne Macquarie, Moderator, Blog editor for NCARE - Nevadans for Clean Affordable Reliable Energy*

The mission of Sierra Nevada Forums is to provide our audience with fact-based, verifiable information to assist them in making well informed decisions on issues of importance to our community and beyond.

For more information call: Judy Welch 775-721-1731 or Anne Macquarie 775-882-4898

Venue compliments of Plaza Hotel and Event Center

Thank you to sponsors Guild Mortgage and Lumos and Associates



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Name
Street
City, State, Zip code