

Siskiyou Democrats Grassroots News

Issue #8 – November 2020

Election Results & Thanks to Volunteers!

BIDEN



HARRIS

On Saturday, November 7, 2020, Pennsylvania's voters put native son Joseph R. Biden over the top, to become the 46th President-elect of the United States. Running mate Kamala Harris, native daughter of California, is Vice-President elect, and the first woman and person of color to hold that position. Later the same day, Nevada joined in giving the Biden-Harris ticket 279 electoral votes, with counts in AZ, GA, and NC still ongoing. Whatever the outcome in those states, it is clear that Donald J. Trump has no path to winning a second term, his many futile lawsuits notwithstanding. For Democrats, many Republicans and NPP voters, and nations around the world, four long years of incompetence and chaos are almost over.

In Siskiyou County, the overall voter turnout was 79.2%, an improvement over the 76% in 2016. The Republican turnout was 80.5% and the Democratic turnout was 79.3%... leaving us with work to do as we look forward to supporting the Biden Presidency, and holding Doug LaMalfa accountable. (More data on the election on page 3.)



Audrey Denney:

In the Congressional race, results for Siskiyou County show LaMalfa ahead with 56% of the vote. Across CD-1, Audrey has cleared 50% in two counties. But at this hour it is clear that we'll have at least two more years without equal representation in Congress. For excerpts from Audrey's statement, see page 4.



Pamela Swartz:

After a hard fight, newcomer Pamela Swartz is waiting for every vote to be counted, but is running well behind long-time legislator Brian Dahle in the race for California State Senate. Latest results show her receiving 40% of the vote in Siskiyou County, and 41% across CA D-1.



Elizabeth Betancourt:

In the contest for State Assembly, Elizabeth has conceded to Megan Dahle. In Siskiyou County she gained 42% of the votes, and across the district she received 40%. For excerpts from Elizabeth's statement, see page 4.

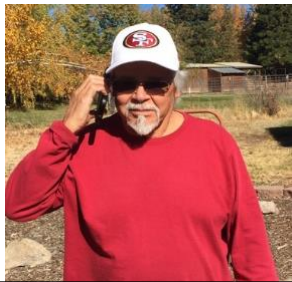
Wow! What our Volunteers Have Done in Siskiyou County!

THANKS to ALL of YOU!

In this new “COVID age” we were unable to knock on real doors as we have in past elections. Our volunteers were only able to reach Siskiyou County voters through “non-contact” ways. And, what great work you did! You made phone calls, wrote postcards, sent letters to infrequent voters, wrote letters to the editor, and distributed signs and door hangers! Whew! A great big THANKS!!

6,593 PHONE CALLS!

This year we had the extra challenge of canvassing from home – no talking to voters in person. But we took the next-best route – phone calls, and plenty of them! We had three phone banks – in August calling all No Party Preference voters to check their preferences, and in October calling all Democrats and Democrat-leaning NPP voters to remind them to vote. Thanks to all who called, especially our “Phone Bank All Stars”!



Al Lugo, our #1 caller for this election – just never stopped calling!



Sandy Sullivan made just a few calls less than Al to be our #2 caller!

Top Ten Phone Callers for the Three Phone Banks

	Volunteer	# of calls
1	Al Lugo	1098
2	Sandy Sullivan	921
3	Anne Skadsen	646
4	Lexy Clancy	606
5	Pat Von Alten	554
6	Neldena Anderson	504
7	Robin Richards	272
8	Alice Rogers	242
9	Annette Goodwin	242
10	Pat Hardig	192

And, many more callers!

Abigail Van Alyn, Ayn Perry, Betsey Shuteroff, Carol Faulkner, Don Flickinger, Gretta Brown, Jean Nels, Karen Holmes, Karen Zeigler, Katherine Shelton, Laurie Ottens, Neil Posson, Patsy Wellman, Sara Rogers, Sari Sommarstrom, Stephanie Posson, and Susie Grzesak.

10,578 Postcards & 2,027 Letters!

So many letters and postcards and so many volunteers! **Over 75 volunteers** wrote and mailed them. What a team! To get them out to everyone, we had to pre-count the letters/cards and make volunteer packets. Here’s to our “Master Counters” – **Tom and Mary Laurent** who counted over 10,000 postcards and 2,000 letters for the writer packets. Mary & Tom are seen here receiving an award of 12 flower pens:



WE’RE ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

Facebook, Instagram and Twitter

We now have a great presence in the social media world – thanks to **Katherine Shelton and Alice Rogers** on Facebook, **Christine Balletta** on Instagram and **Alice Rogers** on Twitter! Check us out: *(click on logos to reach our sites.)*



39 Letters to the Editor!

For our Letters to the Editor campaign, we submitted **39 individual letters over the 15 weeks** from July 1 through the end of October – what opinions our volunteers have! The effort was spearheaded by our “**Letter-Writer-in Chief**”, **Tom Laurent**! Tom mentored all of the new writers, giving them the details of the process. Here’s to all of you who were ready to put your name out there: *(hope we got everyone’s name!)*:

Alice Rogers, Angelina Cook, Ann Herfindahl, Anne Skadsen, Ayn Perry, Betsey Shuteroff, Carolyn Miller, Diane Deckard, Ellie Mauro, Gail Domenski, Holly Lenz, Jean Nels, Karen Zeigler, Kris Wolmar, Larry Marks, Madeleine & Jim Ayres, Marcie Ray, Mary Ellen Bryan, Neil Posson, Neldena Anderson, Pat Hardig, Pat Von Alten, Robin Richards, Sandy Sullivan, Sharon Swingle, Tom Laurent, and Wilma Dibelka

SIGNS: 975 Yard Signs, 16 Large Audrey Signs, 10 Banners, One GREAT Window, One GIANT Biden Sign, and One GIANT Audrey Sign!

Our volunteers worked hard on getting signs all over Siskiyou County! Thanks to **Alice Rogers, Anne Skadsen, Karen Zeigler and Carolyn Miller** in South County and **Ayn Perry, Ayn Herfindahl, Lea Vanderwater and Madeline Ayres** in North County. What a distribution job getting signs all over the county! A special thanks to **Karen Zeigler** for the great sign display on Yreka's Miner Street, and to **Mary Ellen Bryan and Ayn Perry/Ann Herfindahl** for the giant BIDEN and AUDREY signs on the County Fairgrounds electronic display!



1,945 Door Hangers!

Karen Zeigler (left) and **Carolyn Miller** (right) are the “Chief Door Hangers” for our grassroots group, seen here receiving their satin coat hanger awards. They coordinated this effort in Mt. Shasta, Weed, Dunsmuir and Yreka.

They were joined in the effort in South County by **Al Lugo, Kris Wolmar, Patti Crossen, Maria Bertram, and Alice, Kevin, Sara and Cari Rogers**, and in north county by **Lea Vanderwater, Betsey Shuteroff, Pat Hardig, Abigail Van Alyn, Steve Renner, Carol Faulkner, Mary Laurent, Tom Laurent, Robin Richards and Pat Von Alten**. Nice work!

By The Numbers: Preliminary Data on the November 3rd Election

Although the results in California will not be certified until December 11, Siskiyou County Elections Office has tallied almost all of the ballots cast here – only about 200 are missing. Here are some highlights:

- A total of **23,328 Total Votes** were cast in the November 3rd election on Siskiyou County. The county has **29,240 Registered Voters** of which about **40% are Republicans and 30% are Democrats**.
- The **turnout** was high – about **79% of the total registered voters** voted in our county. This included 9,282 of 11,532 Republicans (80.5%), 6,835 of 8,618 Democrats (79.3%), and 5,018 of 7,532 NPP (66.6%). This is about 3% higher than the voter turnout in the 2016 Presidential election of 76%.
- The following is how **Siskiyou County** voters voted:
 - ⇒ In the Presidential election, Donald Trump received 56% of the vote compared to 41% for Biden.
 - ⇒ For the US Congressional Seat, LaMalfa received 56% of the vote and Denney received 44%.
 - ⇒ For CA State Senate, Dahle received 60% of the vote compared to 40% for Swartz.
 - ⇒ For CA State Assembly, Dahle received 58% of the vote and Betancourt received 42%.

Check the most current results at the CA Secretary of State: <https://electionresults.sos.ca.gov/>

Words From the Candidates

AUDREY DENNEY

After a brilliant campaign and heroic efforts by thousands of volunteers all across CA D-1, Audrey Denney has lost her bid to unseat Congressman Doug LaMalfa. Here's an excerpt from her statement: (see the full statement at <https://www.facebook.com/audreyforcongress>)

"... I am overwhelmed with gratitude. I am grateful for each person I met along the way and all the things I learned from them. I rejoice that I was able to stay true to who I am and run two campaigns grounded in honesty and transparency. I will forever be proud of the people who we helped and the good we did along the way. My journey has been fueled by your encouragement and your support and love. I could not and would not have done it without you. I am a better woman today because of you."

ELIZABETH BETANCOURT

While final results will take more time, it appears that Elizabeth Betancourt has not prevailed in her race against Meghan Dahle, for a seat in the California State Legislature. Here are excerpts from her email to supporters:

"I wanted to be sure that you knew that none of this work is for nothing. It is all progress.... Our civility and adherence to honor, rules, civility, and trust in worthy institutions will get us through.... Thank you for all you have done. And for all you have yet to do. I believe in you, and I believe in our District as part of our great state of California. We have tasks before us and I have no doubt in our ability to push forward." (see her full statement at <https://www.facebook.com/BetancourtforAD1/>)

PAMELA SWARTZ

With characteristic courage and resilience, Pamela Swartz is waiting for every last vote to be counted before conceding. We'll keep you posted. Meantime she has offered this statement:

"Sometimes the words I possess are too feeble to express my heartfelt feelings. ...I'm struggling to convey my overwhelming gratitude...the depth unexplainable...to a group of previous strangers, for their hard work, dedication, kindness, enthusiasm and all-around humanity."

What's Happening

In light of the stay-at-home requirement in California, we will not be conducting the SISKIYOU DEMOCRATIC GRASSROOTS COMMITTEE or the SISKIYOU DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE meetings in person. Instead, we will be using remote access (Zoom). If you are interested in attending, please send an email to: siskiyoudems@gmail.com to request a digital meeting invitation.

The Grassroots Committee meets the first Tuesday of the month (North County) and the second Tuesday of the month (South County). The Central Committee meets the second Wednesday of the month.

Your Democratic Central Committee of Siskiyou County (DCCSC):

Officers: Alice Rogers – Chair, Abigail Van Alyn- Vice Chair, Katherine Shelton – Secretary, Robin Richards – Treasurer; Members: Neldena Anderson, Rick Green, Ann Herfindahl, Al Lugo, Larry Marks, Christine Balletta, Dolly Verrue, and Karen Zeigler. For more information, visit our website: siskiyoudemocrats.org or Facebook page: [SiskiyouCountyDemocrats](https://www.facebook.com/SiskiyouCountyDemocrats). Send mail and donations to: DCCSC, Post Office Box 4, Mt. Shasta, CA 96067.