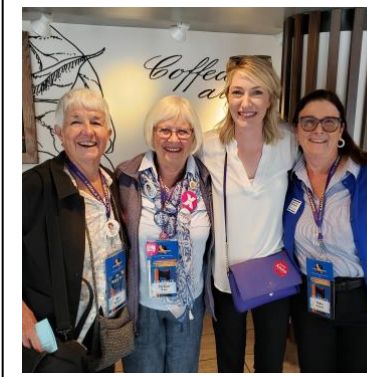


Siskiyou Democrats Grassroots News

Issue #7 – July 2019



The California Democrats 2019 State Convention!

This issue is devoted to the happenings at the California Democrats 2019 State Convention. Above left: our Democratic Congressional candidate, Audrey Denney, with three of your Siskiyou County Delegates – who ran into her at the coffee bar. Center: The conference theme - Blue Wave Rolling - is very appropriate for our rockin' California Democratic Party. Above right, your Siskiyou County Democratic Convention delegates with AOC: from left, Katherine Shelton, Carolyn Miller, Robin Richards, AOC, Ann Herfindahl, and Alice Rogers. Sad to say, AOC is – you guessed it – a cardboard cutout.

What's Happening

DCCSC Grassroots Committee Meetings

Tuesday, July 2, 2019: Yreka YMCA or

Tuesday, July 9, 2019: Mt. Shasta Library

Meetings begin at 6:00pm, with the same agenda for both meetings. Everyone is welcome! Join us and get involved.

Democratic Central Committee Meeting

Wednesday, July 10, 2019 6:00pm to 7:30pm

Siskiyou Family YMCA, Yreka

All DCCSC meetings are open to the public, and you are encouraged to attend. We meet on the second Wednesday of each month from 6:00pm to 7:30pm, alternating between Mt. Shasta and Yreka.

Next Issue

We're focusing this issue on the state Democratic Convention and will resume our discussion of the key issues for our Congressional district next time. The August issue will focus on "Food Production and Climate Change" and will feature information about what some local farmers and ranchers are doing to address it.

Get Involved!

Reminder: Audrey Denney & now Elizabeth Betancourt will be in the Mt. Shasta Parade July 4th!

Please join us and wear your Audrey t-shirt.

(If you don't have a shirt, we will have a free one - if you march!)

Meet at about 11am around Sheldon & B streets

July 4 to 6 – Mt. Shasta July 4th Celebration

We'd like 100 supporters walking with Audrey - in her t-shirts! We will have them available **free of charge to marchers**. We also have a booth to promote Democrats Audrey and Elizabeth and need your help keeping it lively during four-hour shifts. See below for more.

August 7 to 11 – Siskiyou Golden Fair

We will again have our Siskiyou Democrats booth at the county fair. Come join your friends and support the Democratic candidates!

You'll receive a separate email to sign up for a shift.

You can also volunteer for either of these events by sending an email to siskiyoudems@gmail.com.

SPECIAL ELECTION ALERT! We will have another set of special elections to fill the Assembly District 1 seat vacated by Brian Dahle when he was elected as the Senator for District 1. Elizabeth Betancourt, a great candidate from Shasta County is running, and the primary is AUGUST 27th! Meet her at the 4th of July parade!

Blue Wave Rolling...

CADEM Convention Overview & Our New Chair

Held at the San Francisco Moscone Center, the three-day Organizing Convention was packed with all things democratic! The focus of the convention this year was on the election of a new CA Democratic Party Chair and Regional Coordinators for the California State Democratic Party (CADEM) and on a preview of the presidential primary (coming up in March 2020). *(Note: The Endorsing Convention will be held in November 2019. At that time, CADEM will decide on the Democratic candidates they will endorse as a state party.)*

Seven candidates ran for the Chair position. Rusty Hicks, who leads the Los Angeles Federation of Labor serving 300+ unions, was elected with 57% of the vote. As part of his campaign Rusty visited all 58 counties, including Siskiyou - meeting with representatives of the DCCSC at the Mt. Shasta Black Bear in February, and we found him to be very personable and well organized. We feel he will do a great job leading the California Democratic Party. *(see page 5 for a web link to his First 100 Days commitments.)*



Rusty Hicks, an Afghanistan war veteran, addresses the CADEM Rural Caucus and talks about issues we face in our outlying areas.

Comments from Your Siskiyou County Delegates

Carolyn Miller... unity, good spirits and support!

My most lasting impression of the 2019 Democratic Convention is the overwhelming spirit of unity, good spirits and mutual support among the delegates. Having heard 6 minutes from each of 14 of the 20+ candidates running for president, I will feel proud and enthusiastic supporting almost any of the candidates.

That has nothing to do with contrast to the horrific behavior and policies of the current White House occupant. Rather, what is most inspiring is the breadth and depth of our Democratic bench in the 2020 presidential campaign. We have an awesome group of candidates. The lengthy process toward nomination and the geographic territory being covered simultaneously by these candidates is giving all Americans an important view of Democratic values, our specific plans and pragmatic approaches and a positive vision for the future of this country and the world.



Alice Rogers... a great learning opportunity!

Alice Rogers (left) poses with Maxine Waters. On the right is Alice's daughter, Cary, who is also active in politics.

Attending the convention was rewarding and a great learning opportunity for me. Friday at the Chair's meeting we were able to connect with active Democrats from our district and around the state. There were presentations on Voter Engagement, The Earned Income Tax Credit, The Anti-Recidivism Coalition and more. We also had a training session on Messaging, Digital Communications and Growing Your Organization. So many impressive leaders there!

Starting on Saturday and continuing through Sunday, we heard from many California politicians, including all of our Statewide elected officials, and 14 of the Democratic candidates for President. While I did not agree with everything that each candidate spoke about, I heard many great ideas and was inspired by the candidates. These candidates are smart and qualified. My biggest takeaway was that whichever candidates makes it through the Primary, our Country will be in good hands and every one of them will be so much better for this Country than the current occupant of the White House.

Robin Richards... inspiring to be with so many passionate democrats! What a great time in SF! The convention was well organized & well attended – over 3200 democrats were there. All had a cause or a candidate to support by carrying signs and marching. And, we all had a common goal – electing a democratic president!

Ann Herfindahl... politics is messy!

I was taken back initially by the comment, “we are just messy” by newly elected chair of the CA Dem Committee, Rusty Hicks. As I reflected on his words I realized that in the Democratic Party when you bring together such diversity and differences of opinions, that is what makes the Democrats so good for our Democracy. From now on, I will embrace messiness in my politics.

Katherine Shelton...unforgettable experience!

This was my first convention, I wasn't really sure what to expect. But when I went to register and get my delegate badge and I saw the masses of people from all over the state, and all of the volunteers lobbying for their individual causes (environmental groups, civil rights groups, healthcare advocates, labor unions) I was overwhelmed. It was energizing to see so many people working so hard to improve our lives. Of course, it's exciting to see the Presidential candidates and hear speeches from our famous politicians, but being among all of the thousands of people who are doing the important work made me realize that these big personalities are just navigating on top of a current created by volunteers and protesters and advocates and non-profits. Seeing all of these passionate people makes you realize how essential all of our individual efforts really are. It was definitely an unforgettable experience.

From Climate Change to Housing, Everyone had a Cause!

The Convention is all about we the people, our messages, and our causes. Statewide elected officials from Governor to Superintendent of Schools came to inform and inspire us, as did 14 of the presidential candidates. California's move up in the primaries makes us a hot ticket! And there were numerous demonstrations for a variety of causes. It was great to see the diversity, collegiality and enthusiasm.

At right, the audience greets US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi with posters featuring Rosie the Riveter with Nancy's face superimposed. The Speaker outlined the positive changes that have been made since we took over the House in January 2019 and also received quite a few "Impeach" chants from the delegates.



At left, there was music and dancing as the SF sex workers make a plea for decriminalization of their trade. Definitely an unusual and entertaining demo!



The controversy over the "super delegates" and the accusation of an unfair 2016 democratic presidential primary prompted the demonstration at right, particularly from some of the Bernie supporters. Below, a "Green New Deal" sign, one of many.



Who's Who in the Democratic Party

Speaking of Democrats...

The speakers at the CADEM 2019 Convention read like a Who's Who list of the CA and US Democratic Party. The organizers did a great job of making sure the speakers were timed (generally 7 minutes) and that music played when the time was up, just like the Oscars! Here's a partial list of who we saw:

SF Locals:

Willie Brown, Former SF Mayor
London Breed, SF Mayor

CA State Officials:

Gavin Newsom, Governor
Eleni Kounalakis, Lt. Governor
Toni Atkins, CA Senate Speaker
Xavier Becerra, CA Attorney General
Betty Yee, CA State Controller
Fiona Ma, CA State Treasurer
Alex Padilla, Secretary of State
Ricardo Lara, Insurance Commissioner
Tony Thurmond, Sup. of Schools

Presidential Candidates:

Kamala Harris, US Senator
Beto O'Rourke
Elizabeth Warren, US Senator
Kirsten Gillibrand, US Senator
Tulsi Gabbard, US Senator
Pete Buttigieg, Mayor South Bend
Eric Swalwell, US Congressman
Amy Klobuchar, US Senator
John Hickenlooper, CO Governor
Jay Inslee, WA Governor
Cory Booker, US Senator
Bernie Sanders, US Senator
Julian Castro
John Delaney

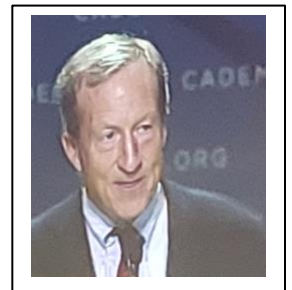
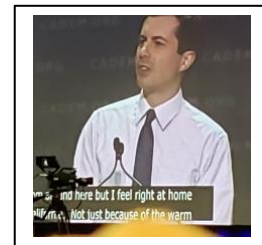
Others:

Tom Steyer, Need to Impeach
Katie Hill, Congresswoman
Joe Sanburg, Founder of Aspiration
Art Torres, Former CA State Senator
Alex Rooker, CADEM Vice Chair
Rusty Hicks, New CADEM Chair

With all of the abortion restriction laws being passed, women's issues were high on the list of delegates. The Women's Caucus was one of the best attended of the caucus meetings, and several presidential candidates presented. At left is one of the attendees holding a sign during Bernie Sanders general session speech on Sunday.



At right, just a few of the over 30 Democrats speaking at the Convention. From top left – Pete Buttigieg urged doing something “completely different”; Tom Steyer addressed the need for big, bold solutions to climate and economy; Kamala Harris promised to fight for the truth; Elizabeth Warren talked about the importance of a “plan for that”; and Xavier Becerra talked about the over 50 lawsuits he has prosecuted against the Trump administration – winning many of them.



*There were many more great speeches – too many to address here. The common theme: **We MUST elect a Democratic President!***



Resource of the Month: An Interactive Feature

A reminder: the *Siskiyou Democrats Grassroots News* invites readers to submit ideas for educational resources such as books, podcasts, and videos. We'll choose those that best align with the theme of our current issue. Send suggestions to: siskiyoudems@gmail.com.

July's Resource of the Month: Rusty Hicks, The First 100 Days <https://rustyhicks.org/media/the-first-100-days/>

In this declaration, Mr. Hicks outlines the state party reforms and programs he intends to address in his first months in office. These concern both the internal structure and operations of the state party organization and outreach to district committees and activists. Of particular interest to SisQ Dems, he's pledging much greater contact with and support for rural organizations and candidates. This is well worth a few minutes of your time.

Sample press coverage of the 2019 Democratic Convention

Politico.com gives a preview of the convention from a national perspective, highlighting expected party wrangling and "raucous convention floor demonstrations." (SisQ delegates came away with a very different view, and the party surprised many by electing a centrist chair).

<https://www.politico.com/story/2019/05/31/california-democrats-2020-election-convention-1349433>

This **SF Chronicle** focuses on the Dems' policy goals and resolutions:

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/politics/article/California-Democrats-endorse-14-policy-goals-13917566.php>

The **LA Times** focuses on the new CA party Chair Rusty Hicks—a great resource for his bio and goals:

<https://www.latimes.com/politics/la-pol-ca-california-democratic-party-leader-election-20190601-story.html>

The Washington Post offers wonkish details on presidential candidates' chances in all-important California:

https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/paloma/the-trailer/2019/06/02/the-trailer-no-lock-on-california-for-sen-kamala-harris-even-as-liberals-scramble-for-an-alternative-to-joe-biden/5cf16b301ad2e52231e8e8f7/?utm_term=.ea30b28a684a

Research Resources for Tracking LaMalfa's Votes and Actions (From Tom Laurent)

www.congress.gov

Search site by legislation and LaMalfa will display legislation the LaMala sponsored and cosponsored for the 116th Congress (2019-2020)

www.govtrack.us

Look up LaMalfa. This site will display the 2018 Report Card for LaMalfa. You can also track LaMalfa's voting record.

www.votesmart.org

This site analyses LaMalfa. It gives information on his Bio, Voting, Positions on Issues, Ratings on Issues, Speeches and Funding.

www.douglamalfa.org (website designed by Tom Laurent)

This site displays data on LaMalfa and Letters to the Editor and opinion pieces.

www.fec.gov (federal election finance data site)

Click on Campaign Finance Data; then Candidates, then all candidates, Type in Doug LaMalfa, then click on the > symbol at far right of the screen. This will display campaign years and click on 2018. Click on LaMalfa, Doug; click on Browse receipts which will show all single campaign donation by the contributor's name.

Your Democratic Central Committee of Siskiyou County (DCCSC):

Officers: Carolyn Miller - Chair, Alice Rogers – Vice Chair, Katherine Shelton – Secretary, Robin Richards – Treasurer
Members: Neldena Anderson, Kate Coggin, Rick Green, Ann Herfindahl, Al Lugo, Larry Marks, Bill McKillop, Karina Pollard, Maggie Robeson, Steve Robeson, Daniel Soltis, Abigail Van Alyn Booraem, Dolly Verrue, and Karen Zeigler. For more information on the DCCSC, visit our website: siskiyoudemocrats.org or our Facebook page: [SiskiyouCountyDemocrats](https://www.facebook.com/SiskiyouCountyDemocrats). Send mail and donations to: DCCSC, Post Office Box 4, Mt. Shasta, CA 96067.