



San Mateo County Democratic Party

Chair's Letter

August 2019

Dear Democrats,

Gilroy, then El Paso and Dayton in 2 weekends. So many innocent lives lost.

I have a heavy heart and really nothing to say that hasn't already been said.

Call your Representative and your Senator, and demand gun control and additional funds for mental health treatment: (202) 224-3121.

Explore ways you can help lobby for gun control through Everytown for Gun Safety (<https://everytown.org/>) and the Brady Campaign (<https://www.bradyunited.org/>).

Hold your family and friends close, visit your house of worship, see a concert, go hiking, meditate, read, write, explore. Do whatever it is you need to do to maintain your grace and balance in this sometimes graceless and unbalanced world.

Read on for more things you should know.

November 2019 Endorsements Cycle in Full Swing

Our very committed Endorsements Committee, led by our amazing co-chairs Karen Maki and Brigid O'Farrell, have been hard at work since the beginning of the year updating our SMCDEMS endorsements process.

With updated policies in place, we welcome all Democratic candidates running in San Mateo County for local positions on the ballot in November 2019 to consider applying for SMCDEMS endorsement. Please find the questionnaire and more information here: <http://www.smcdems.org/endorsements>

SMCDEMS will be holding our first ever candidate orientation on August 8 at 6pm at IBEW Hall, 1701 Leslie Street in San Mateo. **At this event, the endorsements committee will be available to speak to candidates and potential candidates about our Central Committee, our endorsements**

process, review our questionnaire, and answer questions. Please RSVP to the Chair if you are a candidate interested in attending at chair@smcdems.org.

Please note that our body will be taking up the endorsements committee's recommendations at our September general meeting, which will be held on the MODIFIED DATE of Thursday, September 5 at our regular location, the TWU Hall, 1521 Rollins Road, Burlingame at 7:30pm.

SMCDEMS Voter Registration Training!

SMCDEMS' dedicated voter registration team, led by April Vargas, Nancy Calibjo, Gina Brunton and Mark Klein, is pleased to be hosting a Voter Registration Training event on August 18 from 1-4 pm at the Redwood Shores Library, 339 Marine Parkway in Redwood City. Due to limited capacity of just 20 attendees, we are offering this training to our "New Volunteers" first. For those who are unable to join this session, we will be scheduling other trainings at locations that are more convenient for you. April Vargas, Mark Klein and Nancy Calibjo are available to organize and lead the trainings. If you have a group of friends, family or club members who are interested in doing Voter Registration, they come to your home, office or public conference area. Just give us a date, time and location. Please RSVP to smcdemsvr@gmail.com.

2019 Club Chartering and Rechartering Is Complete!

We completed the 2019-2020 club renewal charter/rechartering cycle in July, led by stellar Clubs Liaison Chelsea Bonini, assisted by Controller Nancy Yarbrough and Recording Secretary Mitchell Oster.

For a complete list of clubs and how to join them, please check out this link:
<http://www.smcdems.org/clubs>

We are pleased to have these clubs back on board:

Coastside Democratic Club
DemFems of Silicon Valley
Hillsborough Democratic Club
North Peninsula Democratic Club
Peninsula Democratic Coalition
Peninsula Young Democrats
San Mateo County Democracy for America

Additionally, we are excited to have these clubs re-charter with us after some time away:

Filipino American Democratic Club of San Mateo County
Pacifica-Daly City Democratic Club

SMCDEMS Members Named to California Democratic Party Chair's Standing Committees!

Join me in congratulating District 2 Alternate and ADEM for AD 22 Sam Hindi and our Regional Director Hene Kelly for being appointed by Chair Rusty Hicks to the CDP's Finance Committee. Additionally, I was pleased to be appointed by Chair Hicks to a co-chairship for the CDP's Rules Committee. To learn more about California Democratic Party's Standing Committees, click here: <https://www.cadem.org/our-party/standing-committees>

These Standing Committees will be meeting for the first time at the upcoming August E-Board Meeting in San Jose from August 23-25, where regular executive board business will be conducted. Non e-board members can attend. If interested, reach out to the chair or any e-board member for more information (chair@smcdems.org).

2019 Membership Dues

Membership dues for all elected, alternate and associate members should have been paid in July for 2019-2020. Please visit our website at <http://www.smcdems.org/> and click on "Contribute" if you have yet to renew. **Members and alternates will not be able to vote at the August meeting if they are not current on their dues.**

August Meeting Preview

Our regular August meeting will take place on Thursday, August 15th at the Transport Workers Union Hall at 1521 Rollins Road in Burlingame. The meeting will start promptly at 7:30pm, following our social half hour at 7pm. We'll be looking at bylaws changes recently recommended by our bylaws committee, and taking up pending resolutions. All Democrats are invited. Please join us.

I remain available if you have any feedback on our SMCDEMS. You can reach me at chair@smcdems.org.

Sincerely,
Nicole Fernandez
Chair, SMCDEMS