



Thanks to all your canvassing, phone banking, postcard writing, and texting, we flipped the House - and, finally, the United States is conducting hearings to investigate Donald Trump and hold him accountable.

Valley Grassroots for Democracy invites you to dive in and keep us moving forward. Here's how:

Our March Meeting brings you the opportunity to hear from Democratic candidates for the vacant seat on the L.A. City Council, and cast your ballot for which to endorse for the special election in June.

At our April Meeting, we'll hear from a Swing Left national organizer about strategies for 2020 and how you can get involved in defending the seats we've just won and expanding the blue wave.

Scroll down for details on all that, plus updates on VGFD's recent activities and other opportunities for action.

We're so glad to have your help in shaping local and national leadership. Thank you, and see you soon.

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[VGFD Leadership](#)



Meet the Candidates for District 12 Special Election

Saturday, March 16, 10:00 am
State Office Building Auditorium
6150 Van Nuys Blvd., Van Nuys, CA 91401

RSVP and join us as VGFD hosts a candidate forum for Democrats running in this year's special election to fill the vacant seat on the L.A. City Council, representing the northwest San Fernando Valley. As of this email, some candidates are still collecting the required number of signatures to qualify for the ballot. We expect seven Democratic candidates to hit that goal and participate in our forum (in alphabetical order): **Scott Abrams, Carlos Amador, Annie Cho, Jeff Daar, Brandii Grace, Loraine Lundquist, and Serena Oberstein.**

Candidates will have an opportunity to make a brief statement about their campaigns, and a set of pre-determined questions will be asked of each candidate. (Many thanks to club members who submitted proposed questions.) VGFD members present will then vote on which candidate to endorse. To be eligible to vote, you must be a member in good standing for at least the prior 60 days.

This forum is open to the public, so feel free to invite your friends and family. We have also invited members of SFV Indivisible to join us, so **be sure to RSVP so we're set up to accommodate everyone.**

RSVP



NOW is the time to start working on 2020!

Saturday, April 20th, 10:00 am
State Office Building Auditorium

At our April Meeting, we'll hear from national organizer **Steve Pierson of Swing Left** about strategies to defend the Dem seats we've just won, while also targeting Senate and state legislative races, especially in North Carolina, Ohio, Georgia, Texas, Michigan, Maine, Colorado, Arizona, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and (- take a breath! -) Florida. Not to mention the Presidency. We plan to use Swing Left's letter-writing kits to encourage those in target states to register to vote. This includes young people living in Democratic households who have not yet registered, and those who have moved to a target district and have not yet registered.

This is what democracy looks like - get involved!



During our February 16 meeting, together we wrote 100 postcards to thank first-time or infrequent voters in California CD-50 who voted in November 2018. Duncan Hunter (R) was just narrowly re-elected to this seat, and has since been indicted for campaign fraud, so it's especially important to make these voters feel like their voices were heard and to encourage them to continue voting. This postcard writing action was in partnership with FlipThe14, aka FlipTheWest: <https://www.flipthewest.com/>

We'll continue postcard-writing actions targeting voters in swing districts at various meetings throughout the year to get them engaged and keep the momentum growing.



Over 100 New Citizens Welcomed and Registered to Vote!

Valley Grassroots for Democracy members Matte Wicklin, Cindy Kalman, and Chris Long braved the cold, wind, and rain on February 20 to help the LA County Democratic Party register voters at the Naturalization Ceremony in downtown Los Angeles. It's such an inspiration to greet the new citizens as they burst out from the convention center, dressed in their finest, carrying flowers, flags, and certificates of citizenship. Families and friends crowd around them for hugs and cheers and photo opps (LACDP's cardboard celebrity is a big draw).

VGFD will continue to support voter registration drives in the coming months – stay tuned for more info, and join us!

Volunteer Opportunities with Valley Grassroots for Democracy

MEETINGS, PROJECTS AND CLUB EVENTS

We're always looking for ideas for meetings, projects and club events. Even crazy ideas are welcome!

Specifically, we need you for:

- 2020 campaign work
- planning meetings and political action
- speaking at meetings on a topic that interests you
- hosting a meeting
- social media updates
- publicity
- community outreach

If you have experience or want to enhance your skills, let us know. Contact Cindy Kalman by email at cindy.kalman@yahoo.com or speak to a board member in person.

NEXT MEETING: Saturday, March 16th, 10:00 am



State Office Building Auditorium

6150 Van Nuys Boulevard (entrance on Calvert Street, 2 blocks north of Oxnard Street)
Van Nuys, CA 91401

[Map/directions](#)

Street parking. *Be sure to check the meters!*

2019 MEETING SCHEDULE

Mark your calendar for the third Saturday of each month at 10:00 am.

January - NO meeting (Women's March)

February 16

March 16

April 20

May 18

June 15

July - NO meeting (Picnic)

August 17

September 21

October 19

November 16

December - NO meeting (Holiday Party)

BECOME A MEMBER OF VALLEY GRASSROOTS FOR DEMOCRACY

We have a busy year (or two) ahead. *We need **YOU** to make a commitment to take part!*

We've gotten off to a great start with very-well-attended events. Membership heading into 2019 is already higher than it's been in years. We've started working together on issues and taking action for elections of 2020!



Your membership -- only \$15 -- includes the summer picnic and holiday party... plus all the good stuff we and you will plan throughout the year to swell the Blue Wave, such as issues education, organized activities/actions, entree to political leaders, camaraderie with like-minded people, and more.

We know the way in California! Let's continue to show the way for the rest of the country!

Click [here](#) to join now.

JOIN NOW!
CLICK HERE to
Become a Member

Valley Grassroots meets on the third Saturday of each month at 10:00am. We meet at the State Building Auditorium, 6150 Van Nuys Blvd (at Calvert), Van Nuys ([map/directions](#)), one block north of the Van Nuys Orange Line stop. Ample metered street parking. The

auditorium entrance is on Calvert.



Valley Grassroots for Democracy

<http://www.vgfd.net/>

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This email was sent to matte_wicklin@msn.com. To stop receiving emails, [click here](#).
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