



LOCAL NEWS...

CLUB CONVENTION

I hope you were able to make it to this fantastic convention on Sept. 8th! It was certainly worth the admission fee (only \$20) (even with the “jerky” playback of the film *SiCKO*)!

Mike Lumpkin announced his candidacy for the 52nd congressional district. Mike is a US Navy SEAL Commander (Ret.) and should provide a real challenge for Duncan Hunter Jr. and any other Republican candidates. It sure would be sweet

See Local News on page 2.

East County Democratic Club

Serving El Cajon, Rancho San Diego, Jamul, Lakeside, and outlying San Diego County since 1965

OFFICERS:

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| President | Raymond Lutz |
| 1 st Vice President | Tom Lamb (Tent.) |
| 2 nd Vice President | Karen Marie Otter |
| Treasurer | Rosalie Star |
| Secretary | (Open) |

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

| | |
|--------------|-------------------|
| Membership | Kristy Mundt |
| Outreach | Tom & Kathy Lamb |
| Refreshments | Bonnie Rawson |
| Book Club | Jon Scanlon |
| Newsletter | Madeline McDowell |
| Publicity | (Open) |

CONTACT:

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Telephone | 619-820-5321 |
| Email | info@ecdcweb.org |
| Mailing Address: | PO Box 252 El Cajon, CA 92022 |

MEETING LOCATION:

Rancho San Diego Library
11555 Via Rancho San Diego
El Cajon, CA 92019
(Unless otherwise noted!)

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL
CAMPAIGN COMING UP!**

UPCOMING EVENTS

OKTOBERFEST

ECDC is cooperating with the La Mesa-Foothills Democratic Club and the Santee Democratic Club in staffing the booth at the La Mesa Oktoberfest, October 5-7. Lori Kern-Greenberg is coordinating the event. Please contact Lori at 619-469-0856 to reserve your 2-hour shift. The event is located in downtown La Mesa in a corner booth.

STOP BLACKWATER EVENT

Also on Oct. 6-7, we are supporting a very important Stop Blackwater event in Potrero. including an encampment and educational programs, followed by a rally and gathering at the gate. Protesters are coming from all points to participate. Don't miss this experience of a lifetime! WE NEED YOUR HELP TO ADD TO THE CRITICAL MASS OPPOSING BLACKWATER!

The event will start on Saturday, Oct 6th with a hike to the Hauser Canyon conducted by the Sierra Club from 9am-2pm. Then, at the Potrero Regional Park, educational sessions will be held until 5pm. From 7-9, the event moves to the “rally site,” (a ranch only a mile from the valley targeted for destruction by Blackwater) for evening sessions from 7-9, including music and spoken word. Participants may optionally camp or RV at the Potrero Regional campground or use other lodging.

On Sunday, Oct. 7th, the main event will occur at the rally site, gathering at noon. Keynote speakers (TBA) and Congressman Bob Filner (confirmed) will speak. Telephonic connections will be made with similar events at the Blackwater North site in illinois and the headquarters of Blackwater in North Carolina.

Then, we will march to the gates of the site and to a point with a view of

See Events on page 2.

SCHEDULE

Sunday Protest (noon - 1pm):

Antiwar protest: at the corner of El Cajon Blvd and Baltimore, La Mesa. (EVERY SUNDAY)

05-07 Oct 2007 (Fri-Sun)

La Mesa Oktoberfest

(11am-11pm; Sun: noon-6pm)
Volunteer for this fun event!
Downtown La Mesa

06-07 Oct 2007 (Sat-Sun)

Stop Blackwater Encampment and Protest, Potrero County

Park and private property near the Blackwater West Gate. (See details in this issue.)

21 Oct 2007 (Sun) 2-5 pm

ECDC Meeting:

Candidate Recruitfest!

Help us find viable candidates for the plethora of seats available in our local government.
RSD Library.

07 Nov 2007 (Wed) 6:30-9 pm

John Dean

Lecture and book signing.
La Mesa Community Center

11 Nov 2007 (Sun)

Current Events Theater presents *American Blackout*, recounting the voter disenfranchisement in the 2004 presidential election. Election integrity group Psephos will moderate the discussion after the film. RSD Library

05 Dec 2007 (Wed) 6:30-9 pm

Holiday Party!

Keynote: Marti Emerald

This is a combined meeting with La Mesa-Foothills, Santee, and East County Democratic Clubs.
La Mesa Community Center



LOCAL NEWS (Cont.)

to have a representative who is not a neo-con extremist and religious-right apologist.

Raymond Lutz did a presentation on Blackwater which was extremely well attended with perhaps 100 people. He'll be repeating the presentation at the upcoming "Stop Blackwater" event, in case you missed it.

Perhaps the high point of the event was the mock debate among presidential candidates, with the results as follows:

| | |
|-----------------|-------|
| Hillary Clinton | 25.4% |
| John Edwards | 21.6% |
| Barack Obama | 15.8% |
| Dennis Kucinich | 13.7% |
| Al Gore | 13.7% |
| Bill Richardson | 8.9% |

POTRERO PLANNING GROUP

Although five of the six remaining planning group members are up for recall in the December 11th elections and they've reconsidered and approved the proposal by Blackwater USA to build an 824-acre training camp, they continue to attempt to be relevant by having Blackwater representative Brian Bonfiglio answer questions of the public at the Potrero Planning Group meeting on September 13th.

In the last issue of the *East County Progressive*, we reported that Bonfiglio cited a schedule conflict and could not attend our Paramilitary Training Camps Forum due to a prior commitment (although we found out later that he was in town and attempted to sabotage our meeting, suggesting to at least one of our speakers that they not attend the meeting and have a beer with him in Coronado instead.)

You can watch the entire meeting on line at the CitizensOversight.org website.

Brian confirmed at this meeting that the firm Greystone Ltd, based in Barbados and that deals in interna-

tional mercenary army operations, is indeed a part of the Blackwater family of companies.

The meeting was mostly uneventful, with a few opponents speaking out against a room full of Blackwater supporters.

GO TEAM UPDATE

The GO Team had a training session on September 15th and 13 new precinct leaders were trained. In this issue of the *East County Progressive* you will find a sidebar about the GO Team which we will update every month. Please consider participating if you have not already received your training!

FILM and ECDC MEETING

On September 16th, we screened the film *Zeitgeist* and a club meeting at the Rancho San Diego Library. We had a fairly healthy attendance, with quite a number of guests who were specifically interested in the film.

Nearly two hours in length, we did not have time to fully complete the video. Most of the positive feedback from the viewers was about the first part of the three-part film which considered the story of Christ and other mythical figures with respect to astronomical facts.

The major components of these myths (miraculous virgin birth on Dec. 25th, star and three wise men, twelve followers or disciples, crucifixion, and resurrection after three days) are not unique to Christianity, but were common to many earlier figures, such as Horus of Egypt, Mithra, Krishna, etc.

It turns out that these elements are actually more likely teaching the major astrological facts. and relate to the worship of our sun. The birth-death-resurrection sequence has to do with the winter solstice and the seasons resulting from the slight tip in the rotational axis of the earth. Ancient man conceptualized this as a battle between day and night. As the sunrise moves further and further south, the days get shorter and finally, on Dec. 22 or so, the sun seems to stop in the sky for three days. This is

EVENTS (Cont.)

the valley, completing the even by about 3 or 4pm.

CANDIDATE RECRUITFEST

The Eastern Regional Caucus (ERC) in cooperation with the ECDC is conducting a *Candidate Recruitfest* on October 21st, at the Rancho San Diego Library, from 2pm to 5pm. We call on all Democrats to attend this meeting and find out what seats are available in upcoming elections! Many seats go uncontested each year, filled by default by Republican extremists, and this must stop! Please come and throw your hat into the ring!

JOHN DEAN

Converted Republican John Dean of Watergate fame will be speaking at the La Mesa Community Center on November 7th 6:30pm. Seating will be limited to the first 350 people, and book signing before and after his talk. Books available on site! Note: \$10 donation requested.

AMERICAN BLACKOUT

Current Events Theater will screen the film *American Blackout* on Sunday, October 21st at 2pm. Please help set up at 1pm and gather for refreshments at 1:30. This film recounts voter disenfranchisement at the 2004 elections, primarily against black voters. Election integrity group Psephos will moderate the discussion after the film.

HOLIDAY PARTY

Marti Emerald, candidate for San Diego City Council and former TV personality will keynote at our Holiday Party on December 5th. We join with the other clubs in the area for a huge get-together! Potluck. Held at the La Mesa Community Center from 6:30 to 9pm. Mark your calendars!



LOCAL NEWS (Cont.)

located right under the southern crux constellation, the cross. Then, the sun starts to move again, being resurrected.

Thus, the sun is crucified on the cross, is dead for three days, and then is resurrected. The location of the winter solstice sunrise is pointed out by the star Sirius lining up with the three stars of Orion's belt, known as the "Three Kings". Therefore the "Three Kings" followed the star of Sirius to point out the location of the birth of the sun. Of course, they didn't really celebrate the dominion of day over night until the days started to get longer than the nights, the Spring equinox, or "Easter." The twelve followers of Christ the sun, are really just symbols for the twelve constellations of the zodiac.

GO Team Update

Looking for a way to make a huge difference? The "Grassroots Organizing Team" is the most important single contribution you can make!

You simply volunteer to be the contact person for your home precinct, and contact other Democrats in your area, by walking, mailing, or phoning. After a short training, you will be ready to improve the voter participation right in your own neighborhood.

Contact Arlene Howe at 619-464-0369 or ajlhowe@aol.com to schedule a personal training.

VITAL STATISTICS

(whole region)

| | |
|---------------------|------------|
| Total Precincts | 760 |
| GO Team Members | 72 |
| Precincts Coverage* | 66 8.6% |
| <i>In El Cajon:</i> | |
| Total Pop. (approx) | 95,000 |
| Registered Voters | 36,500 38% |
| Democrats | 11,700 32% |
| Republicans | 15,970 44% |
| Decline-To-States | 7,029 19% |

ONLY 4270 votes from parity!

(More info in future issues!)

**you can help here!* ☺

There is quite a bit more in this startling and convincing view of these stories. The film goes on to review the myths of 9/11 and the Federal Reserve Bank, which is no more *Federal* than Federal Express. (Copies of the video are available.)

MEETING

After the film the ECDC conducted a general meeting. Candidates Mike Lumpkin and Jim Hester, both running for the 52nd congressional district made introductory speeches.

Then, we had speakers represent the major presidential candidates, with representatives present for John Edwards and Al Gore.

A straw-poll was conducted with the results as follows:

| | |
|------------------|-------|
| Hillary Clinton: | 31.5% |
| John Edwards: | 31.5% |
| Dennis Kucinich | 25% |
| Barack Obama | 6.25% |
| Bill Richardson | 6.25% |
| Chris Dodd | 0% |
| Joe Biden | 0% |
| Al Gore | 56% * |

** Separate question: Should Gore enter the race?*

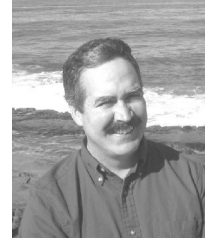
The club will be conducting similar straw polls at each meeting prior to the primary elections. Please come and support your candidate!

The club also discussed the schedule and decided to participate in the Holiday Party with the La Mesa and Santee clubs like we did last year.

A new committee was formed to support the *East County Progressive* newsletter, which was unanimously supported as a tremendous improvement to East County politics. The committee will be chaired by Madeline McDowell. At this point, we are looking for people who can contribute written material, follow stories, and report on events. Candidates are invited to make regular contributions to the publication.



From the President...



We've really made a lot of progress turning this area around, but our work is far from over. The

East County is still dominated by Republicans and extremist "evang-unethical" churches. But the tide has been turning, thanks primarily to Bush's policies and his pointless Iraq occupation.

Registrations of Democrats is almost 300% higher than Republicans. In La Mesa, there is only a 300 vote differential between D's and R's.

Alan Greenspan, the virtual god of the finance world stunned his followers by saying the obvious: The war in Iraq is primarily about oil. I understand that in his newly released book, he praises Clinton and castigates Bush for poor fiscal policy. Use that next time you face a "fiscally conservative" who still follows Bush.

Now, with Blackwater finally exposed for its poor performance in providing mercenary services in Iraq, we have an opportunity to capitalize on this progress. Our big event in Potrero will occur just after the appearance of Blackwater founder Erik Prince before Henry Waxman's oversight committee.

The North Carolina newspaper said that the primary opponent to Blackwater in this area was the "East County Democratic Club." Wow! Don't miss this opportunity to get involved!

We must continue to build the infrastructure of our club so that it can continue to grow and expand, and will not be overly reliant on any one person. To this end, if you can see that you might be able to help out in some fashion, please step forward!

-- Raymond Lutz, President. ☺

EAST COUNTY PROGRESSIVE

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ECDC
PO Box 252
El Cajon, CA 92022
www.ECDCweb.org

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

ECDC MEMBERSHIP FORM

(Don't miss any future issues!)

| | Single | Dual/Couple |
|----------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Student/Senior | <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 |
| General | <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$35 |
| Sustaining | <input type="checkbox"/> \$60 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 |
| Sponsoring | <input type="checkbox"/> \$125 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$200 |
| Patron | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$750 |

Newsletter Only \$12 (free otherwise).
 I am a Democrat
 I am not a Democrat but wish to join as
a non-voting Associate
 Please send newsletter as email (PDF).
 My name and address as shown on the
label is incorrect, see corrections --->
Occupation: _____
(Req'd for FPPC Reports)

COPs NEWS

Citizens' Oversight Projects, AKA "COPs" has been a very successful project so far! As a citizen in a democracy, it's your job to oversee the entire government! Too bad the job not helped by a lack of independent investigative journalists, and a government that is so large, it doesn't even know how big it is.

Instead, we are looking for citizens who can just go to local governmental meetings, usually once or twice a month. Having a citizens in the room changes these meetings from insiders robbing the piggy bank to respectable affairs.

This month, we have a new COP that has joined our ranks. Robin Brailsford has volunteered to follow the Jamul-Dulzura Planning Group and follow the Hwy-94 wid-

ening proposal. Thank you!

In March, the El Cajon City Council appointed a new representative to the Gillespie Field Development Council after John Gibson left the seat. You may know that John Gibson, VP of Hamann Company, has been involved in almost every questionable move by El Cajon in recent years, including the takeover of ECPAC by Christian Community Theater (CCT), the expansion of Shadow Mountain Church, and the use of the key downtown block for a church and Venture Christian high school.

With that said, the appointee was Jeff Hurley, the candidate with obvious conflict of interest in the airport area, and probably the hand-picked replacement by Gibson.

COPs continued to look into this issue and has made multiple requests for public information,

both with the City of El Cajon, and San Diego County. Finally, we discovered that Hurley had never submitted Form 700, the financial disclosure normally required within 30-days of taking office. After we put the pressure on in our last request of the City of El Cajon, Mr. Hurley resigned from his post on Sept. 17th.

El Cajon is starting to learn that you don't mess with the COPs.

Citizens' Oversight also produced a press release that called on the US Congress to pull the funding of Blackwater.

At this point, we are looking for a volunteer who is good at organizing and computer work to help track the public information requests we are making. Please contact Raymond at 619-820-5321.

