Your support and appreciation of our DoR newsletter has kept it pluggin’ along all these many years. Now the newsletter itself needs your support. (No, it’s not about money!) Webmaster and editor Jeanne Melaugh will not be able to continue her work on both the newsletter and our website, which now draws about a thousand page views every month.

Though your DoR board members have traditionally done this communications work, it need not continue to be so. Any one of you would undoubtedly do a great job picking up one or more of these important duties—with or without board membership—so we’re sending out this urgent plea. Please step up to help!

The newsletter goes out electronically every two months, with occasional election editions if need be. The website is regularly updated with announcements and calendars. The newsletter/website duties could be split among two or three people. Over the years several templates have been used for the newsletter. You can pick one yourself if you’d like. The stories are often written by others with subject expertise, so the editor would not have to write all the copy her/himself. If you only want to do the layout that can be arranged! Jeanne will work with any enthusiastic volunteers to help with the transition as long as she is able.

Please let us hear from you so our popular newsletter can still hit your inboxes every other month! Contact Katha at kathah7@msn.net to throw your much-needed hat into the ring for one or more of these critical duties so we can keep on truckin.’ Let the circle be unbroken…

---

**Important dates for the November 6, 2018, General Election**

- **September 27–October 16**: State Voter Information Guide mailing
- **October 8**: Vote-by-Mail ballot mailing begins. You may request a Vote-by-Mail ballot online at [www.sos.ca.gov/elections/](http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/).
- **October 22**: close of voter registration
- **October 23–November 6**: 15-day conditional voter registration (CVR)
- **October 30**: last day to request Vote-by-Mail ballot
- **November 6: Election Day** (7 a.m.– 8 p.m.). Find your polling location and your precinct number on the back of your sample ballot. Bring your precinct number to the polling location. Vote-by-Mail ballots must be postmarked on or before this date.
I am grateful to the callers who contact legislators about important legislation and issues. Legislators are required to record those calls—they really make a difference. To see how, check Congressman Mark DeSaulnier’s newsletter where he reports the numbers of calls about various issues. I’m grateful to marchers, canvassers, and sign-makers, and all who attend our events in support of our candidates and to learn about the state of our city, county, state, and nation. Our candidates are energized by your enthusiasm.

And, I’m grateful to our candidates themselves who have taken that great leap into the noble profession of politics. Yes, it is noble. Yes, our candidates are people of integrity, they are intelligent, they are fearlessly committed to preservation and improvement of government at all levels, and they are exemplary representatives of our community. They are dedicated to that old phrase, “truth, justice, and the American way.”

So, thank you to all who are contributing to our common goal—restoration of a government for which we can be proud and that works tirelessly for the common good. Keep up the good work, or join us in our various endeavors. We have a great deal to offer.

See our candidates’ endorsements on page 8 and VOTE!

Thank you,

Katha Hartley

President Katha Hartley’s Message

More than anything, as we start the end of this political campaign that will culminate in probably the most important vote in memory, I am grateful. I am grateful for the amazing work that is being done by the Democrats of Rossmoor. I am grateful for the volunteers who text and write to Democrats in California and in other states to make sure that they vote.

Getting out the vote is everything this year. As Tom Friedman of the New York Times says, “I have only one thought for this election: Get power. Get a lever of power that can curb Trump. Run for the House or the Senate as a Democrat; register to vote as a Democrat; help someone else register to vote as a Democrat; send money to a Democrat; canvass for a Democrat; drive someone to the polls to vote for a Democrat. Democrats are never going to win the news cycle from Trump. He’s an attention-grabbing genius. But they can, and must, out-organize him, out-run him, out-register him and out-vote him. Nothing else matters now.”

I am grateful to the volunteers who register those important voters, who travel near and far to set up tables, answer questions, help people prepare to exercise their most important, equalizing right—voting. I am grateful to donors who are silently sending campaign funds to our candidates who need the funds to fight the good fight in their commercials, ads, events, and staffing.

Visit www.democratsOFrossmoor.org for more information
What You Can Do

Help **Flip the House**.
Contribute to Josh Harder (running in District 10 next door to us) at [www.harderforcongress.com](http://www.harderforcongress.com).

**Support** Democrat Rebecca Bauer-Kahan, who is running for State Assembly to defeat Republican Catharine Baker.
- Contribute to Bauer-Kahan’s campaign. Send checks to PO Box 335, Orinda, CA 94563
- Go door-to-door or phone for Rebecca. Sign up at [www.rebeccabauerkahan.com](http://www.rebeccabauerkahan.com).

**Donate** $5, $10, or more to our endorsed Walnut Creek City Council candidates.
- Iman Novin at [www.novin2018.nationbuilder.com](http://www.novin2018.nationbuilder.com)
- Spencer Dress at [www.spencerdress.com](http://www.spencerdress.com)

**Attend Write2Blue** to write postcards on behalf of candidates.
Join Tricia Spiegel in Multipurpose Room 3 at 1 p.m. on September 4 and at 2 p.m. on September 18 and October 2

**Flip Red to Blue** to recruit volunteers and to Get Out the Vote (GOTV).
- For more info on Susan Lewis and texting, see the page 10 interview.
- See page 4 for details on dates, times, and locations.

**Commit to Flip Blue** to text or phone on behalf of candidates and to GOTV.
- Contact Emily Blanck at emilyblanck@comcast.net or Diana Doughtie at ddoughtie16@gmail.com.
- See page 4 for details on dates, times, and locations.

**Join Swing Left** and work in the field to flip District 10.
Email Rose Holmes at roseholmes2016@gmail.com to volunteer.

**Contribute** to Democratic House candidates in swing districts across the U.S.
Visit [www.swingleft.org/district-funds](http://www.swingleft.org/district-funds) for information on swing candidates and choose one.

Help Chuck Schumer’s and the Democratic Party’s effort to **gain a majority in the U.S. Senate** (two more seats).
Contribute to Senate Majority PAC at [www.senatemajority.com](http://www.senatemajority.com/).
Help Recruit Volunteers and Get Out The Vote

Call Democrats in key CA Congressional Districts:
• CA 4 (flip McClintock to Morse)
• CA10 (flip Denham to Harder)
• CA 21 (flip Valadao to Cox)
• CA 22 (flip Nunes to Janz).

Wednesdays, September 5–October 31
Weekends, October 20–21, 27–28, and November 3–4
Monday, November 5
Tuesday, November 6, Election Day

Bring your phone and laptop/iPad. Training will be provided.

For Wednesdays: RSVP to Diana at ddoughtie16@gmail.com or 510-541-9807
For weekends and November 5–6: RSVP/sign up at www.committoflipblue.com/events

Commit to Flip Blue is hosting these phonebanks. Making calls is a priority. However, to text across U.S., any day from home, or during the above times, contact Susan at stlewis@amihome.com. We use a website (not the phone’s texting app or number), selecting (not typing) pre-written texts to send initial texts and to respond. See an interview about texting with Susan on page 10.

“At the bottom of all the tributes paid to democracy is the little man, walking into the little booth, with a little pencil, making a little cross on a little bit of paper — no amount of rhetoric or voluminous discussion can possibly diminish the overwhelming importance of that point.” — Winston Churchill

Write2Blue (75 of us now) has done such incredible work, all with amazing dog/flag VOTE postcards (see page 9). We have completed over 6,000 hand-written cards for Andrew Janz (challenging Devin Nunes) and have about 1,000 left to do. We will shortly have completed 1,000 cards for Rebecca Bauer-Kahan (challenging Catherine Baker for Assembly). Join us in Gateway MPR 3 from 1–3 p.m., September 4, and 2–4 p.m., September 18 and October 2.

— Tricia Spiegel

Visit www.democratsOFrossmoor.org for more information
On Thursday, September 13, DoR will host a candidates’ night in the Event Center with social time/town square at 6 p.m. and candidates at 7 p.m.

Confirmed to attend is Eleni Kounalakis, who is running for California Lieutenant Governor. The position was most previously held by Gavin Newsom, who is running for California Governor. Kounalakis is a former ambassador to Hungary and a senior advisor for the Albright Stoneridge Group. During the 2016 election cycle, she was a fundraiser for Hillary Clinton's 2016 presidential campaign and part of Clinton's foreign policy advisory team.

Environmental attorney Rebecca Bauer-Kahan will also participate in candidates’ night. Democrat Bauer-Kahan is challenging incumbent Republican Catherine Baker for her District 16 Assembly seat, which includes Rossmoor. Baker is the only Republican in the Assembly’s Bay Area delegation.

Finally, Democratic field organizer Katie Jaycox will represent Democrat Josh Harder on candidates’ night. Harder is challenging Republican incumbent Jeff Denham, whose margin of victory over challenging Democrats has diminished in the past several election cycles. Harder is running for U.S. Congressional District 10, which is east of our own congressional district.

We also hope that the two Democrats who are running for nonpartisan positions on the Walnut Creek City Council, Iman Novin and Spencer Dress, will give brief statements.

We invited several other candidates who had scheduling conflicts. Xavier Becerra, Betty Yee, Kevin de León, and Tony Thurmond have asked if we have other appearance dates because they all want to return.

Don't Miss Our September 13 Candidates’ Night!

Come Get the Scoop on Real News!

Popular local political journalists Joe Garofoli and Carla Marinucci are returning to DoR to bring members up to speed on what’s what in local, state, and national politics. They have titled their presentation “Two Italians Talk Politics.”

Garofoli is the San Francisco Chronicle’s senior political writer. After reporting on politics for many years at the Chronicle, Marinucci is now POLITICO’s senior political reporter. DoR has enthusiastically welcomed both at past meetings and their presentations are articulate, lively, and thought provoking.

They will speak at the Thursday, September 27, general meeting in the Event Center. The social hour begins at 6 p.m. and their presentation begins at 7. Refreshments will be served.
October 3 — Vote with the League

This election, voters face long ballots and are being asked to weigh in on a wide variety of critical issues. Whether you vote early, by mail, or on Election Day, the League of Women Voters make your decisions easier.

A representative of the League of Women Voters of Diablo Valley will present the LWV of California's recommendations on seven of the statewide ballot measures on October 3, 4–6 p.m., in the Gateway Fireside Room.

October 11 — Dinner with the Stanford Club

Russia from the Inside Out

DoR is teaming up again with the Stanford Club of Rossmoor to jointly sponsor a dinner featuring former Russian Ambassador Michael McFaul, who served in that position during the Obama administration. McFaul wrote From Cold War to Hot Peace: An American Ambassador in Putin’s Russia, which was released to critical acclaim this year.

McFaul will give an historic context to U.S./Russian relations over past years and offer some much-needed clarity on the topic at a time when cable news talking heads dominate the 24-hour news cycle.

The McFaul event will be in the Event Center; the social hour will begin at 5:30 and the dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m. The number of tickets will be shared between the two clubs, so DoR's portion will only be sold to paid members of the club. The cut-off for payment for the $40 dinner, which will be catered by Scott's, is October 2. The sign-up form is below.

Democrats of Rossmoor/Stanford Club Dinner
Thursday, October 11, Event Center
5:30 p.m. Social Hour / 6:30 p.m. Dinner
Speaker: Michael McFaul, Obama’s ambassador to Russia

Dinner is $40 per person and features: hors d’oeuvres; green salad; a choice of grilled Atlantic salmon with lemon butter, breast of chicken with leek and lemon cream sauce, or vegetarian Wellington; with chocolate mousse and coffee or tea.

Reservations limited to paid members of the Democrats of Rossmoor Club

Make checks payable to the Stanford Club of Rossmoor. Send your check and this form to Kathy Krieger, 1150 Canyonwood Court, #5, Walnut Creek, CA 94595 by October 2.

Name(s)______________________ Phone:________
___________________________
Total amount $_______

For each person, circle one entrée: Salmon Chicken Vegetarian

Visit www.democratsOFrossmoor.org for more information
October 17 — General Meeting

Come Hear Popular Election Predictor David McCuan (We forgive him for predicting Hillary’s victory!)

Election predictor David McCuan returns to Rossmoor for the Wednesday, October 17, general meeting at the Event Center. McCuan will speak at 7 p.m. following the 6 p.m. social hour and town square. Refreshments will be served. His presentation is free and open to everyone, regardless of political affiliation.

McCuan is department chair of the political science department at Sonoma State University. He does research in two areas: state and local elections and the study of terrorism. McCuan teaches courses in both international and national politics, international security and terrorism, state and local politics, campaigns and elections, and political behavior.

McCuan was a Fulbright Teaching Scholar in 2009–2010 and worked in the Department of International Relations and European Studies at Masaryk University in the Czech Republic, where he taught courses in U.S. national security policy, terrorism, and U.S. foreign policy. McCuan is a popular commentator on radio and television and an entertaining speaker.
Please save the following list of the California and Contra Costa County Democratic Party or DoR endorsed candidates to either fill in your mail-in ballot or to take with you to the polls.

- State Governor: Gavin Newsom
- Secretary of State: Alex Padilla
- State Controller: Betty Yee
- State Treasurer: Fiona Ma
- Attorney General: Xavier Becarra
- State Insurance Commissioner: Ricardo Lara
- State Supt. of Public Instruction: Tony Thurmond
- State Board of Equalization, District 2: Malia Cohen
- U.S. House of Representatives, District 11: Mark DeSaulnier
- State Assembly, District 16: Rebecca Bauer-Kahan
- Contra Costa County Superintendent of Schools: Lynn Mackey
- Contra Costa County Auditor and Controller: Ayore Riaunda
- Two Walnut Creek City Councilmembers: Iman Novin and Spencer Dress

WE don’t want a Democratic Party win in 2018.
WE want a Democratic Party LANDSLIDE.
WE want the world to know that we have no place for racists, misogynists, pro-Russians, anti-allies, or corporate welfare deadbeats in our country.
WE want them ALL defeated!

Vote the whole Democratic Party ticket, top to bottom!

Visit www.votersedge.org/ca, enter your Zip code and address, and see your personal ballot with information about the candidates.

Visit www.democratsOFrossmoor.org for more information
We’ve Been Branded

If you haven’t noticed, we have been busily creating our own DoR brand. Shown below are the most recent additions: a vertical banner to carry, a retractable banner for display, business cards, and postcards. *Tote bags may be in our future.*
Meet Our DoR Text Leader, Susan Lewis

Q: Tell us about yourself.
A: During the school year I start off my weekdays as a volunteer tutor in a Berkeley public elementary school, in literacy and math. I’ve lived in Rossmoor 3 years, with my husband Rick. I enjoy swimming and exercising at the Fitness Center, movies at the Peacock, JD Robb mysteries, walks with friends, Ultra Chocolate Trader Joe’s ice cream, training new texters, and feeling the comradery of fellow texters.

Q: What got you started in being politically active?
A: As he did for many of us, Obama inspired me to feel hope and get involved after decades of inactivity. I felt a part of his collective “Yes we can”. I checked out his OFA website (then Obama for America, now it’s Organizing for Action) for local events. I started regularly going to phone banks to get out the vote, and to support the Affordable Care Act and Marriage Equality. When I moved to Rossmoor, I joined the OFA local chapter and met Sue Hamill. I joined the Democrats of Rossmoor and met Carol Weed. They both were and continue to be valuable advisors.

I co-hosted phone banks at Rossmoor through the 2016 election, then moved to weekly phone banks on topical issues and then began texting. All of us who participated enjoyed the texting experience more than phoning; plus we felt we reached more people and were able to make connections.

Q: How does texting work?
A: We do not use your phone’s texting app. Your own email and phone number are shielded from those you text. We use the nonprofit MoveOn website www.moveon.org, and the recipient receives the text from a number in their locale that belongs to MoveOn. And, once you are set up, you can do it on your own, when it’s convenient to you.

When you text, you send pre-written texts to a list of individuals. MoveOn provides the list and creates the initial, pre-written texts. We just push “send” to send them to an individual. MoveOn also provides pre-written texts for us to use when the text recipient replies. You choose the response that best suits and just push “send.” Because we are not typing messages, each of us can send out many texts in a short period of time.

I use MoveOn’s program for training as it’s the easiest to learn and I believe has the best strategy (U.S. House of Representatives, Senators, and key federal issues).

Q: How does one get started?
A: Email me at stlewis@amihome.com to set up a time to meet (preferably at the Gateway Clubhouse). The training takes 90 minutes and includes giving you a demo of it to confirm you want to do it; doing the set-up at the website you will use to text; and letting you have a bit of practice. Usually these meetings are just one on one, though sometimes I do two.

Yoni Landau, Founder, Rapid Resist: “Two weeks before the election, Rapid Resist used Hustle to text 157,499 unregistered black Alabamians and women on behalf of the NAACP Alabama. … We started texting at 1. By 6 pm Saturday, when we stopped [for the day], our volunteers had reached out to 77,000 folks on behalf of the NAACP Alabama. By Sunday, we’d reached nearly 160,000.”

Doug Jones won by 22,000 votes.
August 23 General Meeting
Mark DeSaulnier speaker
Estimated crowd 400

The DeSaulnier staff—and especially the Congressman—were amazed at the crowd and the enthusiasm of Rossmoor’s Democrats.

August 25 Special Event
Willy Brown, Jr., speaker
Estimated crowd 500+

Willie Brown, Jr., may mention in his Chronicle column: "Any candidate worth his salt needs to go to speak to the Democrats of Rossmoor!"

The Democrats of Rossmoor now have almost 800 members!
The Rossmoor Democrat  September–October 2018

INFORMATION STATEMENT: The Rossmoor Democrat, newsletter of the Democrats of Rossmoor, is distributed six times annually to members and others expressing interest in The Rossmoor Democrat. Paid for by the Democrats of Rossmoor, P.O. Box 2070, Walnut Creek, CA 94595. Not authorized by any candidate or candidate committee.

Upcoming Events

See page 4 for all Get Out The Vote calling and texting dates, times, and locations.

September 3 Labor Day

September 4 Book Club: Squeezed by Allisa Quart. Gateway MPR 3, 3 p.m.

September 4, Write2Blue: Gateway Multipurpose Room 3, 1–3 p.m.

September 10 Film: Get Me Roger Stone. Peacock Hall, 1 p.m. only

September 13 TGWD Candidates’ Night
   Event Center, 6–8 p.m. See page 5 for details.

September 18, Write2Blue: Gateway Multipurpose Room 3, 2–4 p.m.

September 27 General Meeting: Carla Marinucci and Joe Garofoli. Event Center, 6 p.m. social/town square; 7 p.m. speaker. See page 5 for details.

October 1 Book Club: From Cold War to Hot Peace by Michael McFaul. Gateway MPR 2, 3 p.m.

October 2, Write2Blue: Gateway Multipurpose Room 3, 2–4 p.m.

October 3, LWV Vote with the League: Gateway Fireside Room, 4–6 p.m. See page 6 for details.

October 8 Film: Get Me Roger Stone.
   Peacock Hall, 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.

October 11 Stanford Club Dinner: Michael McFaul. Event Center, 5:30 p.m. social; 6:30 p.m. dinner. See page 6 for details.

October 17 General Meeting: David McCuan on Election Predictions. Event Center, 6 p.m. social/town square; 7 p.m. speaker. See page 7 for details.

October 23 Film: Peacock Hall, Godfather I 2 p.m. and Godfather II 6 p.m.

November 4: Daylight Savings Time ends

November 6 Election: 7 a.m.–8 p.m. Election Watch Party: Event Center, 6–9 p.m.

Membership Dues

New memberships through the end of the year cost $10 per person. 2019 yearly dues will be $20.

Check One: [ ] New member  [ ] Returning member

Name(s) ____________________________________________________________ Date __________
Please print.
Address ____________________________________________________________

Phone __________________ Email __________________________

Are you a registered voter at this address? ______ As a Democrat? _______
(We need this information for the Democratic Party, Region Two)

Volunteer for any of the following? ___Voter registration ___Event set-up

On behalf of Democratic Party candidates & issues: ___Write cards/letters ___Phone ___Table

Place your check (made out to Democrats of Rossmoor) and this form in an envelope and:
   Leave it in the Democrats’ mailbox at Gateway during office hours,
   Mail it to Sue De Carlo, 901 Terra California Dr. #6, Walnut Creek, CA 94595,
   Or bring the form/check to the Membership Table at any meeting.

Visit www.democratsOFrossmoor.org for more information