



A MONTHLY LBDC NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2021 • ISSUE 1 •

FIVE MINUTES WITH GWEN MCNALLAN, OUR NEW PRESIDENT



Gwen and her English Cream Golden Retriever, Snoop Dogg

How long have you been a Democrat? My parents were both Republicans and the very first time I voted when I turned 18 I voted Republican. That was in 1986 and that was the last time.

What are the values you are passionate about? Youth and women's issues. I'm an advocate for a foster child in Orange County. Using my voice for others. I'm the middle child of 10, and we were 18 months apart so I really had to use my voice. Our chores were broken up by gender. I didn't want to clean house, I wanted to mow the lawn. And I wanted to go up to the boundary waters with my dad, not just watch the boys go. I later found out my voice changed things for my brothers and sisters at home

Any hobbies? I love to paint with acrylics --abstract art. I work out every day, spinning and using the Peloton. I do yoga to focus. I go a million miles a minute.

WHAT'S INSIDE

Meet the Man of a Quarter-Million Steps

Club Zoom Meeting Dates

10 Things You NEED to know about the OC Board of Supervisors

Name the Newsletter!

Tell us about Snoop Dogg. We have had him since he was a puppy; he's 10 now. He's such a wonderful dog, Glenn (my husband) and I love him so much. I was never much of a dog person, because I didn't grow up with one. I bought a dog for my kids, but it wasn't the same. Snoop Dogg is a love.







What's your favorite food? Italian. If I didn't know that I was Scandinavian, I would swear I was Italian. (Gwen was born in Dayton, Minnesota, just outside of St.Paul/Minneapolis.)

How long have you been part of the Laguna Beach Democratic Club? I had gone to a couple of meetings but never got serious until Trump got elected. I knew we had to get the House back. I went to every candidate meeting there was. There were eight Democrat House candidates. I decided Harley was the one. I spent all my energy getting Harley elected.

WHY WE NEED TO ELECT KATRINA FOLEY

10 Things You NEED to Know about the OC Board of Supervisors

With thanks to Ashleigh Aitken, our February 10 guest speaker, and Voice of OC

- 1 BOS oversees a county that's larger than 22 states.
- 2 Has a budget of almost \$7.6 BILLION 
- 3 BOS touches you, if you've ever... worried about a COVID vaccine, walked in a park, adopted a pet, dealt with a sheriff, had a tattoo, flown out of John Wayne Airport, gone to a farmer's market, obtained a marriage or death certificate 
- 4 Has fumbled its response to COVID 
- 5 Has let no-bid contracts 
- 6 Is slow to answer Freedom of Information requests
- 7 Has spent hundreds of thousands on PR agencies 
- 8 Has bickering Republicans vying for the same seat as Katrina
- 9 Comprised of four Republicans and one Democrat
- 10 Has a winnable seat for Katrina, IF we get out the vote. 

Man of a Quarter Million Steps Bob Hartman



It was election night, 2016. Bob Hartman, a Democrat, and his mother, a life-long Republican, were both astounded and dismayed as they watched the vote tallies that made Donald J. Trump president.

"I decided I could never sit on the sidelines again and allow what had occurred without doing something about it," Bob vowed. Up to then, he had never in his life been involved in a political campaign. Six months later, Bob changed that status in a big way.

"I read in the Indy about a campaign event for Harley Rouda, candidate for U.S. Representative. I went. It was a small gathering, maybe only 15-20 people. When Harley spoke, I thought to myself, 'Gee, he sounds like me. Realistic and someone I could really support.' That was the beginning of my political involvement."

Shortly thereafter, Bob did his first canvass -- in his old neighborhood in Laguna Niguel. Residents, many of whom he knew, were receptive. Bob and a canvassing partner knocked on 225 doors. But it was only the beginning. He went on to knock on several thousand more. At one point, Bob was canvassing every single day for Harley. "I have walked every neighborhood in Laguna Beach," Bob said. He became a legend in the Rouda campaign for his remarkable track record.

In one memorable experience during the primary in 2017, Bob was invited into the home by a woman leaving for an event for Rouda's Primary opponent. "We were told not to go into peoples' homes. But this woman said she wanted me to tell her and her husband, who was in a wheelchair, about Harley. "I couldn't pass up the chance to talk about Harley."

Since then, Bob, 73 in March, has been canvassing for Mayor Katrina Foley, who is running for Orange County Board of Supervisors. Bob has "walked and dropped" 1,000 doors in Corona Del Mar and Newport Beach. "It's been great. We're talking to Democrats and people with no political preference. People say they're going to vote for Katrina, they thank me, they offer me water."

(Continued on page 3)

(Man of a Quarter Million Steps Continued)

Canvassing a Good Experience

For those who have never campaigned for a candidate, Bob is reassuring.

“Most people are positive and appreciative. Even Republicans would say, ‘I appreciate what you’re doing but I’m voting Republican.’ Even if they are negative or even unkind, which is rare, I don’t let it impact me and I don’t let it stop me.”

Bob, a REALTOR®, did have a bit of door-knocking experience, but it was decades ago. As an agent, first starting out, he would canvass neighborhoods to find new clients. That experience compared to campaigning for candidates. “I believed in myself and that I could help people. The same is true for the candidates I canvass for. I know and fully embrace people who will help their communities and their districts, whether the campaign is for Congress or the Board of Supervisors.”

Bob has lived in Laguna Beach most of his life, starting in 1959 when his family moved here. He was recently elected to ADEM as a representative to the California Democratic Party.

If you would like to canvass for Katrina Foley, you’ll be provided with protective face wear, be trained and you can go with a buddy if you’d like. You can go to KatrinaFoley.com and sign up, or join other members of the Laguna Beach Democratic Club by contacting Mary Carter at MaryCarterLaguna@msn.com.

You can be the star of the next newsletter!

Editor is looking for Club Members with other remarkable campaign stories to profile email her at deborah@dgesoundings.com

March Zoom Meeting
Featuring Guest Speaker
Emerson T. Brooking
"Dealing with Disinformation"
March 3, 2020
7:00 PM

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Name the Newsletter!
Submit your proposed newsletter name to deborah@dgesoundings.com.
If your name is picked, you will receive a gift certificate to Laguna Beach Books. Judges will be the Board of the Club.

Upcoming Zoom Membership Meetings
"Every First Wednesday"

March 3, 2021
April 7, 2021
May 5, 2021
June 2, 2021

7:00 PM