



EMPOWERED VOICES

Women Democrats of Sacramento County

Issue 7 – Seventh Edition

January – March 2025

Women Democrats Mission

The Mission of Women Democrats of Sacramento County (Women Democrats) is to impact social change by redefining the role of women in politics while advocating for equity, justice, and economic advancement.

Our Goals are to:

- Promote and expand the role of women in politics and their engagement in the political process.
- Facilitate understanding of, and engagement in, issues that concern and affect women through support, advocacy and ongoing educational programs.
- Maintain cooperative relations and coordinate activities with other community and Democratic Party organizations.
- Initiate and advocate for legislation that improves the civil, social, economic and political status of women and other underrepresented groups.
- Uphold the principles of the Democratic Party.
- Work to expand the Democratic Party electorate and elect qualified Democrats to local, state and national office.

Message FROM THE PRESIDENT

Ms. Sandra Hazel

In times of turmoil, it is more important than ever to stay grounded and united. The many challenges we are facing as a country are real, but so is our resilience. Stay informed; stay kind, and stay strong!



For those of you who are actively protesting, making phone calls to your elected officials, writing postcards for critical elections or donating money to organizations dedicated to challenging the relentless illegal actions coming from the White House--we see you and we thank you for your energy, passion and unwavering commitment.

As a reminder – don't forget to take care of yourself. Self-care is not selfish; it is essential. Take time to rest, reflect, and recharge so you can face each day with clarity and strength. Together, even in uncertainty, we can push forward with hope and purpose.

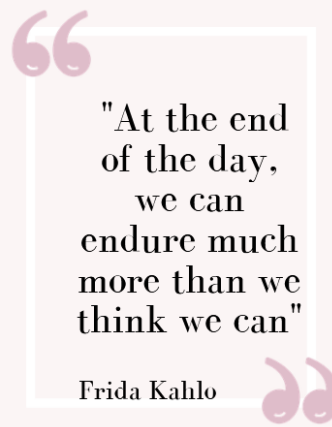
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Women Democrats of Sacramento County
P.O. Box 161944 ■ Sacramento, CA 95814

www.sacramentowomendems.org



Meet the Executive Committee of the Women Democrats

The Women Democrats elected officers, directors and members-at-large are committed to enhancing the cause of democracy within the County of Sacramento and beyond. They are hardworking volunteers and share a passion to enhance the organization and mission of the Women Democrats.

Officers

President – Sandra Hazel
Vice President – Debbie Richardson
Treasurer – Julie Chapman
Secretary – Dawn Basciano

Directors

Ariane Lyon, Fundraising Director
Brenda Borge, Political Affairs Director
Sue Litsey, Membership Director

Members at Large

Delores Roberts
Linda Reed
Eric Wiesenthal

Newsletter Committee

Debbie Richardson, Editor-in-Chief
Teresa Hernandez, Contributing Writer

A special thank you to The Honorable [Maggie Krell](#), California State Assemblymember (AD 6), for conducting the installation of the Executive Board!

As Deputy Attorney General, Maggie Krell developed a breakthrough legal theory that dismantled the largest on-line sex trafficking operation in the nation. She received a career achievement award from the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children for her work helping survivors. Maggie Krell was recruited by Planned Parenthood as its Chief Legal Counsel to push back against the Trump White House's assault on reproductive freedom. And Maggie Krell served as a pro-bono lawyer along the border, reuniting mothers and children who had been forcibly separated and detained hundreds of miles apart.

The Women Dems has an email box for the purpose of hearing from you. If you have any questions, suggestions, concerns or would like to be invited to any of our meetings, please feel free to notify us at: sacramentowomendems@gmail.com.

Top photo from L-R: The Honorable Maggie Krell, California Assemblymember; WDSC Executive Board Members: L-R: Sandra Hazel, Debbie Richardson, Julie Chapman, Eric Wiesenthal, Dawn Basciano, Sue Litsey.
Thank you to our members and event attendees!



**WOMEN DEMOCRATS
OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY**

Will, or Should Former Vice President Kamala Harris Run for Governor of California in 2026?

by Teresa Hernandez



According to sources close to her, former Vice President Kamala Harris is seriously considering running for Governor of California in 2026. She has indicated that she will make a decision by the end of this summer. "I am staying in this fight," she repeated to allies in phone calls and at private gatherings. "Her name recognition, her favorables, her ability to run a successful campaign would have the impact of clearing the field on the Democratic side," State Attorney General Rob Bonta said in an interview with Politico.

Currently, there are several democratic and less than a handful of republican candidates who have filed to run for Governor. However, according to early polls, Harris' run for Governor would be hurdle-free, as she would be ahead of the game with her name recognition, and a coveted mailing list.

Harris would need to consider the difficult challenges with which California is currently faced such as the budget deficit, climate change, high gas prices, utility rates, housing and homelessness, and natural disasters. Republican opponents would likely run on a campaign making the notion that nothing would change, as her policies and positions are similar to that of Governor Newsom's. According to the Sacramento Bee, she would need to offer a platform with a real plan specifically addressing each issue.

During the Presidential campaign against Donald Trump, former V.P. Harris proved that she could remain calm and seemingly unruffled by his personal and offensive remarks. Her ability to ignore the bait and remain civil and respectful in these situations, can aid in ensuring that Californians are kept safe from potential threats from the Trump administration.

Furthermore, it would be remarkable, if former Vice President Harris were elected as governor, as in addition to making an inroad of being the first woman of color to serve as Vice President of the United States, she would once again go down in history as the first Black female governor in our United States of America.

My bet is that she will be California's next Governor.

...



First, on the National Level, Congress has introduced a bill called the S.A.V.E. Act. This bill will heavily impact female voters' ability to register to vote due to the language of the bill and the restrictions on what is required as proof of citizenship.

Our Ask - Please take a moment and call your Representative and demand a "NO" vote on this bill. Below is a link to find your Representative and their office phone #. Please use the Washington DC office number to ensure that your message is logged and counted.

Message from Brennan Center for Justice:

Do you know where your birth certificate is? Millions of Americans don't. Yet House Republicans are fast-tracking a sweeping voter restriction bill called the SAVE Act, which would require every American to provide a document like a passport or birth certificate to register or re-register to vote.

The consequences of this draconian bill? **Twenty-one million American citizens could be blocked from registering to vote**, simply because they don't have ready access to the required documents.

Champions of democracy stood strong last year, and the SAVE Act failed to become law. But a new landscape in Washington means that members of Congress may not stand up to protect your freedom to vote. We can't let the SAVE Act slip through the cracks.

[Click here to call your members of Congress.](#) Make sure to let them know the SAVE Act could block over 21 million American citizens from voting.

Second, Assemblymember DeMaio submitted Assembly Bill (AB) 25, the California Voter ID and Election Integrity Act of 2025, which also seeks to disrupt citizens' ability to register to vote. This bill is currently pending discussion in the Elections Committee. Our goal is to make sure this bill fails in the Committee and it is not brought to the floor.

Our Ask - Please take a moment and call your Assembly Representative and demand a "NO" vote on this bill. Below is a link to find your Assembly Representative and their office phone number.

[Find Your California Representatives](#)



Sacramento Women Democrats Speakers Series 2025

What is the Women Democrats Speakers Series?

Remarkable leaders and agents of change within the community participate in the Women Democrats Speakers Series to discuss thought-provoking topics, meet members and answer questions. The Coordinator of our Speakers Series is **Debbie Richardson**, Women Democrats Vice President.

The Speakers Series for **February** had attendees on the edge of their seats with guest speakers Lee Miller and Rosanna Herber, SMUD Board President. [Lee Miller](#), a veteran community advocate, currently serves on the Sacramento County Office of Education's Personnel Commission and she was a former commissioner on the Vineyard Community Planning Advisory Council (CPAC) and the Sacramento Adult & Aging CPAC. Lee spoke regarding the process and procedures of voting for representatives who are elected by Assembly District Election Meetings (ADEMS) to represent their fellow Democrats on the California Democratic Party State Central Committee. These representatives are referred to as Assembly District delegates or as ADEM delegates.

Board President, [Director Rosanna Herber](#), Ward 4, of the Sacramento Municipality Utilities District (SMUD), shared information and insight regarding SMUD's programs and initiatives. Rosanna Herber was first elected to the SMUD Board of Directors in 2018 and represents Ward 4, which includes Curtis Park, Land Park, Greenhaven, Pocket, Walnut Grove and parts of Elk Grove. Rosanna was part of the Climate Change Ad Hoc Committee that wrote the Climate Emergency Declaration. Rosanna has dedicated 20 years of her career working at SMUD in varying capacities.

The Speakers Series for **March** was just as exceptional! We honored *Women's History Month* by inviting featured guest panelist [Diana Madoshi](#) who is on the Advisory Committee of the National Women's History Alliance (NWAH). NWAH's mission is to promote women's history and they are committed to the goals of education, empowerment, equality, and inclusion. Diana has dedicated her time to organizing events focused on women's issues. A founding member of the California Women Suffrage Centennial Committee, she helped promote statewide celebrations of women winning the vote. Known as a "go-to person" for getting things done, Diana continues to organize Women's History Month programs and provide service on nonprofit boards, including the League of Women Voters. She is a mother and grandmother and inspires her family and community to "plant seed" for future generations.



The Speaker Series for **April** will feature attorney [Giselle Garcia](#), an Organizer with NorCal Resist who will speak regarding immigration issues within the County of Sacramento, the impact the Trump administration and the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement has made upon our immigrants, and she will provide information regarding the awesome work that NorCal Resist is doing. Giselle is a first-generation Latina college and law school graduate striving to transform systems of power yielding oppressive influence over the lives of the marginalized. She is a community organizer and advocate for undocumented and incarcerated neighbors focused on the goal of achieving true autonomy for the disenfranchised.

■ ■ ■



Photo top row: Lee Miller, Rosanna Herber;
bottom row: Diana Madoshi, Giselle Garcia

Sacramento Women Dems in Action!



The Women Democrats will host a table at the upcoming **Earth Day** event on Sunday, April 27, 2025, from 11am-4pm at Southside Park (700 T Street) in Sacramento. This is a free, family-friendly event, with opportunities to learn and network about sustainability. We will have information to share about our club, events, mission and activities. It's a great way to gain new members! Contact us if you want to volunteer at our table!



EVENT HOSTED BY WOMEN DEMOCRATS
OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY

JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL ICE CREAM SOCIAL!

We are preparing for our annual Ice Cream Social at the Sierra 2 Center on Monday, July 28, 2025. It is an important fundraiser to help us elect candidates who support the values of the Women Dems. We are working on speakers and the silent auction and if you want to volunteer, please reach out to Arian Lyons Fundraising Director. The event will be green this year, thus no cellophane, disposable plastics—we will be recycling.

Here's what you can do to help:

1. Bring a bottle of wine or two to our upcoming in-person meetings on April 21 and May 19.
2. Go out and solicit items for the silent auction. The silent auction and ticket sales are our biggest fundraisers for this event. Ask friends, family, and businesses to donate items and services. Ask the owners of shops, jewelry and artwork stores, salons, restaurants, hotels, entertainment venues. Also, don't hesitate to solicit friends and family who own vacation homes who would allow us to auction a weekend get-away. Anything you think you might like to bid on.
3. Later, we may ask for supplies to make baskets for the silent auction.
4. Folks who are interested will be able to purchase sponsorships and individual tickets as they become available through Act Blue. Please also encourage your friends and associates to do the same.

Help us make this the most successful Ice Cream Social yet!

Donate
\$25 to **WOMEN DEMS**

2025

**Make a monthly donation
of only \$25 each month!**

DONATE THROUGH ACT BLUE

<https://secure.actblue.com/donate/25in2025>

**WOMEN DEMOCRATS
OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY**

Sandra Hazel
President

**WOMEN DEMOCRATS
OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY**

Donations will assist the activities and endorsed candidates by Women Dems!

Please join the
Women Democrats of Sacramento County

Not a Member? JOIN NOW!

General Membership - \$35 per year
Students and Seniors: \$30 per year
VIP Membership - \$50

Be a part of Sacramento's oldest political club!

**WOMEN DEMOCRATS
OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY**



WOMEN
DEMOCRATS



WOMEN DEMOCRATS OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY

General Meeting

APRIL 21, 2025 - 6:30 - 8PM

Meeting Location:

Sacramento City Teacher's Association

5300 Elvas Ave., Sacramento, CA 95819



Guest speaker

GISELLE GARCIA

NorCal Resist