





MOJAVE DESERT DEMOCRATIC CLUB

 **DATE** SATURDAY
APRIL 25, 2009

 **TIME** 8:30 AM- BREAKFAST
9:00 AM- MEETING BEGINS

 **PLACE** Quigley's Restaurant
2841 Lenwood Road
Near Factory Merchant's Mall

 **PROGRAM**

Discussion of the State Democratic Convention to be held on April 24th through 26th at Sacramento. Discussion of the recent "tea parties" and why this should help democrats. Discussion of problems with progress on the new hospital project and how we can help to speed things up. Discussion of grand jury actions regarding dubious county property developer corporate behavior and the association with questionable behavior of the County Board of Supervisors. Importance of community service provided by club members to the sick, the poor, the disabled. The Democratic Party supports not just the lucky and the strong, but also the less fortunate.

MOJAVE DESERT DEMOCRATIC CLUB

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Time flies and we are amazed to find that this monthly club newsletter, published eleven times a year, has just reached it's three year anniversary of regular publication. Prior to that, we had some excellent newsletters, but published intermittently. It has been an exciting and fun ride over this period as we have seen the club grow in membership and influence.

Last month's club meeting was well attended and full of excitement with some new faces.

The Dana Park chili-cookoff event was very successful, as it is every year, with the club operating a booth manned by Carmen Hernandez, Bill Lansville and Charles Waybright. Voters were registered and signed up to receive this newsletter; literature was distributed.

The recent "tea parties" are a classic study in irony. A genuine grass roots phenomenon, these middle class tax protesters, while stating that they are against high taxes, were in fact, protesting high taxes on the middle class. We agree with them on that point. Years/decades of Republican economics with the emphasis on massive tax cuts and subsidies for the wealthy and for large corporations have created a tax shortfall which had to be made up by higher taxes on the middle class. In essence, the tax burden has been shifted onto the backs of the already struggling middle class.

These higher middle class taxes may take the form of increases in income taxes, sales taxes, real estate taxes, car taxes, school/road/water district taxes, fees, etc. The anger of middle class taxpayers over being overtaxed, while already reeling from the effects of the current economic collapse, was exacerbated by Schwarzenegger's recent increase in the already-high sales tax. As any economist can tell you, sales taxes are regressive, i.e. they hit the poor and middle class much harder than the wealthy. Recent tax increases similar to Schwarzenegger's have taken place all across the country as states, counties and municipalities try to compensate for their shrinking revenues.

Ironically, the Republican politicians who caused this unfair taxation are now seeking to exploit this populist anger for political gain. It's the same old story. Republican politicians, through their grossly unfair policies, create frustration and anger, which they then use to coast to electoral victory after victory. The voters who are being screwed by the Republicans are the very same brainwashed fools who troop to the polls, by the millions, to vote Republican. It is our task, to convince these tax protesters that the Democrats, not the Republicans are their true friends and sign them up.