



Chair's Report for E-Board in Long Beach

Dear Fellow Rural Caucus Members,

I am very sorry I cannot be with you at E-Board, but know that I am there in spirit. I thank Susan Rowe for chairing our Rural Caucus meeting. Secretary Spencer Dayton for making sure everything runs smoothly, our Regional Chairs for sharing their insights into the Midterms, Dolly Verrue, Lowell Young and Greg Harnage for volunteering to help with check-in, and all of you in Long Beach for all that you do.

Top of mind of course are the fires. The terrible sadness continues to grow in Paradise. I am heartened by all the emails and posts on Facebook about delivering contributions for evacuees, donations of time and money, and helping feed our heroic firefighters.

Loree Monroe let me know about two Go-Fund-Me requests, one from Caucus member Justin Meyers: <https://www.gofundme.com/camp-fire-help-disabled-survivor> and the other from a great member of the community, Jim Hanson: <https://www.gofundme.com/tumjm-help-for-the-henson-family>.

Audrey Denny has invited everyone to post additional fundraisers related to the Camp Fire on her Facebook Page.

Loree and our Region 1E Director Bill Monroe are taking shifts in a shelter. Big shout outs go to Diane Kenyon, Lupita Arim-Law, Spencer Dayton, Ruthee Goldkorn, and Amy Champ for their generosity ... as well as to all those that I just have not heard from personally.

“The love in the air is thicker than the smoke.” That is our mantra.

I am honored to co-sign the following resolution with Chairman Eric Bauman:

RESOLUTION California Firestorms

WHEREAS the California Democratic Party is shocked and saddened by the most recent firestorms in Butte, Ventura, and Los Angeles Counties and as many of the residents of Paradise, Malibu, and Thousand Oaks are now homeless and without their beloved community infrastructure; and WHEREAS the Camp Fire fatalities are the most recorded in California history with many people still unaccounted for; and

WHEREAS we know that the warming of our planet is making these disasters the new “un-normal” and that blame by the Trump administration on our forest plan is wrong, untimely and callous; and THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party through our communications and field staff will respond to the tragedies with information on aid and shelter and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, these disasters demonstrate the heroic values and actions of our emergency responders, health care workers, good Samaritans, brave Californians and we commend them and stand by them.

Authors: Eric C. Bauman, Chair, Joy Sterling, Rural Caucus Chair

This resolution underscores that the CDP is the party of California. We are the party of compassion.

You should each feel very proud of our accomplishments in the Midterms. By all accounts, rural Democrats are more organized and more effective than ever. Thanks to Chairman Bauman, we have rural specific messaging and a great Rural Constituency Organizer in Patty Hughes. Thanks to you and your tremendous efforts, we delivered on the Blue Wave.

It may seem like a nicety, but we need to take the time to thank our friends and neighbors for their

involvement and make sure we keep them engaged. We have much to accomplish ahead. Now is no time to disband. On the contrary, we need to follow through with grass roots organizing, be consistent every single day and deliver for our rural communities.

You have *my* thanks. I personally, very deeply thank each of you for the amazing organization we are building in our rural communities.

My family joins me in wishing you and yours a very Happy Thanksgiving.

With all my very best, Joy

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