

Robert Hertzog to Speak on "Fake News"

Robert Hertzog was born in Easton, Pennsylvania and raised in Akron, Ohio. He served in the US Air Force from 1954 to 1974 retiring as a Master Sergeant. After retirement, he attended North Texas State University earning a BA in Communication and and MA in Social Science. After that he attended the University of Iowa where he earned a PhD in Communication Research. From 1982 to 1986 he taught at the University of Maine, Presque Isle Campus and from 1987 to 2000 at the University of Indiana, East Campus in Richmond, Indiana. He retired from teaching full-time in 2000 but continues to teach online classes for Miami (of Ohio) University. He moved to Tucson in May of 2016. He occupies his free time playing duplicate bridge and golfing, both of which he does with some passion!

The Democrats of Oro Valley Membership Drives Begins

It is time to join or renew your DOV Membership for 2017; A Year of Resistance. As Democrats, we face great challenges in the months ahead. We must be active participants and we must be energized to promote our agenda. DOV provides excellent guest speakers, candidate forums, important topical issues, a monthly newsletter, and timely and updated email information. **YOUR LOCAL DEMOCRATIC CLUB** is the place to work together to provide education on issues, locally, statewide and nationally. Dues are still only \$20. Please make your checks out to "DOV" and pay Chris or Evelyn at our monthly Democrats of Oro Valley General meeting or mail them to The Democrats of Oro Valley, PO Box 68186, Oro Valley, AZ 85737. Thank you for your support.

What's Happening at the Democrats of Oro Valley?

For those who attended the January meeting, you saw a new and resurgent level of activity at DOV. This is the result of the depression, fear, frustration and/or anger that many if not all of us felt on November 9, 2016. The question on everyone's mind was "How could this happen?" After the painful reality sunk in, the next question was "How do we fix it?" And then "How do we keep it from happening again?"

Last month we sent post cards to Senators McCain and Flake on very specific issues, a process we will repeat this month with, hopefully, a little more organization. Coincidentally, there is a national effort to get as many people as possible to send post cards to President Trump (that's hard to write!) to arrive on March 15, the Ides of March, expressing dissatisfaction with his policies.

We asked the membership what was important to them at both the Federal and State level. Numerous responses were received and the top three Federal items were 1) assure entitlement benefits (the subject of this months post card campaign), 2) the environment and 3) protecting voting rights. At the State level they were 1) preserving and funding public education (the focus of March's speaker), 2) protecting voting rights and 3) balancing revenue and expenses. These topics will provide guidance for the Leadership Committee in selecting programs throughout the remainder of the year.

Needless to say, the knee jerk reactions of our current President will cause some last minute changes to programs throughout the year, but the goal is to be timely and relevant. If you are not on the DOV email list, please provide us with your email address, it is the quickest and cheapest way of keeping you informed of significant issues.

Two more quick items. First, the club has the responsibility to pick up trash on a section of La Cholla south of Overton. Our next scheduled time to do this is during the month of March and it is a great opportunity to spend a beautiful Saturday morning picking up trash and visiting with like minded Democrats. Kurt Ohlrich heads this project up and will provide specifics at Monday's meeting.

Second is the LD11 Spring Picnic on May 6 at the Sun City Activity Center. This years theme is "Growing the Grassroots" which is a key to our success moving forward. Syndicated Arizona Daily Star satirical cartoonist David Fitzsimmons is the keynote speaker. Mark your calendar and plan on being there, remember this is the major fund raiser for LD11. See your there!

It's time again to pay your DOV dues, still only \$20!

Why the Republicans Think We Need the Wall

The Secretary of Homeland Security has already paid a visit to the border, spending time with those whose job it is to keep the border secure. That is a good thing. He also spent time discussing “the wall”, an idea too ridiculous to die. Donald Trump continues to rant about the wall and how he is going to get Mexico to pay for it. Why is it that we continue to pursue something that will have no significant impact on cross border traffic? Because the candidate promised he would and the President is going to follow through, good idea or bad. Every penny that we spend on the wall is money that could be used elsewhere to effect real change.

This project gives credence to the old saying, if we do not learn from history, we are doomed to repeat it. Over 500 years ago the Chinese built a wall almost 4,000 miles long to protect the empire from an invasion by the Mongolians. It didn't work. Over fifty years ago the Russians built a wall across Berlin to keep the Communists in, it didn't work. So why do we think the Great Wall of Trump will fare any better? I don't think anyone expects it to succeed. But if it gets built, in whole or in part, it is something that is real. You can see it, touch it and believe that it will protect us from the flood of illegal immigrants coming across our southern border. Nothing could be further from the truth. What it will be is the physical legacy of the narcissistic, megalomaniac that has become the President of the United States.

This wall will have everyone watching the front door while the back door remains wide open and our immigration problem continues. It is known that almost forty percent of the persons in this country illegally are visa overstays. People who entered the country legally and when their visa expired, chose not to return to their county of origin. Every penny spent on the wall would be better spent on improving our method of monitoring those who overstay their welcome and inform them, politely, that it is time to go home no matter how much they like it here. The more focus we have on the wall, the less we are aware of the wide open back door.

The thing that the DHS Secretary was told by the Border Patrol agents was to hire more people for Customs and Border Protection to monitor traffic through legal ports of entry. Most of the illegal drugs coming into the country arrive through the legal ports of entry. If you can make it cheap enough, ship enough so a significant amount gets through and sell it at a high price, business is good. Do we have a border problem? Absolutely! Is the wall going to fix it? Not hardly.

Keep the pressure on the government to spend money where it has at least a chance of doing some good. The Great Wall of Trump will be an expensive failure!

Brian Bickel, DOV Newsletter Editor

OPPORTUNITIES, PLEASE BE GENEROUS.

HELP OUR LOCAL FOOD BANK

Please bring a donation of non-perishable food to our monthly meetings.

If everyone brings only one or two items it will add up to a significant contribution!

The Dems of Oro Valley care about the well-being of our less fortunate friends.

SUPPORT OUR TROOPS!

Thanks to all of you who support our brave troops.

Please bring any of these items to DOV for distribution to disabled veterans: deodorant, shaving items, toothpaste, tooth brushes, pocket novels and paper back puzzle books.

Please – no candy.

March meeting

Monday
March 13, 2017
7 pm • OV Library

**Dustin Williams
Pima County
Superintendent**

Speaking on Education

Come early at 6:45 and socialize! Meet new friends!