

*"There is a cult of ignorance in the United States, and there has always been. The strain of anti-intellectualism has been a constant thread winding its way through our political and cultural life, nurtured by the false notion that democracy means that 'my ignorance is just as good as your knowledge.'"*

Isaac Asimov

## Alison Marciniak to Speak on the Request to Speak System

Marciniak began her career in politics with the Adios Arpaio campaign in 2012, an effort to defeat long term incumbent Maricopa County Sheriff, Joe Arpaio. After that she worked as a Field Organizer in the 2014 Ann Kirkpatrick congressional campaign at the Northwest Democratic Office in Oro Valley. After the 2014 campaign, she expanded her experience and spent a year working at the Arizona Capitol Times. During the 2016 election cycle, she was a Regional Field Director with the Arizona Democratic Party. She was recently hired as the Deputy Executive Director of the Arizona Advocacy Network and Foundation. Marciniak is originally from the Midwest, but was raised in Arizona. She currently lives in Phoenix with her dog Lola, whom many of you may remember from her time in the Oro Valley office!

## 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.

## An Important Message From the First Vice-Chair of LD11

### WHAT WILL DEMOCRATS DO NOW???



My brother, who recently retired to live on a lake in Virginia, came to Arizona just prior to the election. He wanted to show his support for my campaign in person. Pat and I were thrilled to have him with us to share the moment.

As Jon and I stood drinking coffee on the morning after, he absolutely put my feelings into words: "This feels like 9/11". Now, over a month later - as the reality of the unthinkable has begun to truly sink in, it still does feel like 9/11. This isn't merely sour grapes over losing an election, this is about our country taking a huge hit.

As we all watched reaction from around the country expressed in marches and protests, many of us felt the classic symptoms of loss: shock, denial, anger, etc. Pat and I went on a get-away cruise and every single non-American we met felt the same way. It seems that our election was felt world-wide.

So, what will we do now? Do we go deeper into shock, denial and anger? - or do we dig down and find even greater resolve to fight for what we believe is right. The newly elected officers of LD11 offer us a way to get beyond depression with a battle plan for the future.

We must stay engaged in the political process nationally, state wide and most importantly, locally. We must raise our voices in the state capital, city councils and school boards. We need to find and encourage people in our communities and social associations to join us and be heard. If we allow the "far right" to be the only voice people hear, we might never recover.

I believe that with a consistent and focused message, delivered at governing meeting after meeting, we will be heard. If we approach the next two years with a united effort and show up, not as an angry rabble, but as an organized party, we will attract attention and followers. We have a real opportunity to turn shock and anger into positive action.

Each of us must decide how much time and energy we can bring to these efforts. The important first step is to get started soon. I invite everyone to get to the next Democratic Club meeting in your area - become part of the conversation. Join us in being part of the solution! Who knows, you might actually enjoy yourself...

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

# The Democratic Party serves the people



Diego Rivera's op-ed on Dec. 22, "How the Democratic Party (blame Bernie) flunked the election," was meant to be a broadside against the Democratic Party, but remarkably the author only demonstrated how vulnerable and insecure the Republican Party has become. We are only a few weeks away from inauguration, yet Republicans can only talk about attacking Democrats. Why is this? Well, let's do a quick fact check:

Hilary Clinton won the national vote by 2.9 million people. Here in Pima County, we had a massive volunteer turnout, and she won by double digits. This margin of victory outstripped those of the last two presidential cycles. Without the outdated, historical, leftover electoral college, Trump would be back in New York right now (likely tweeting angrily at the latest episode of "Gilmore Girls") instead of in D.C. (tweeting angrily at "Saturday Night Live"). Republicans know how close they are to losing the slim plurality of voters that supported them, and they will continue these desperate attacks to distract us from their precarious position.

Democrats are not fragile, nor are we defenseless. Our primary was competitive — all good political races should be — but both sides unified in support of a progressive agenda. We've already begun engaging a new generation of party leaders. On the other hand, will Republicans be able to put their acrimonious reality-TVesque primary insults behind them, or will the back-biting continue?

The real strength behind the Democratic Party is that we still believe in people — you know, all the non-billionaires who make up most of this country and aren't in Trump's Cabinet. Democrats have always been the party that fights for the middle class, and we will keep promoting our core message of fair play and opportunity for all. It's up to us to insist that the rules not always be tilted in favor of the wealthiest individuals and corporations among us.

The Republican/Trump message is all about manipulating the rules to benefit yourself. This is an inherently divisive "me first" message that continues to be reflected in the fragmentation of the Republican Party itself.

Yes, we Democrats have work to do. And, yes, we're sticking together to make sure it gets done. The Republican Party has a much longer and much less certain road ahead.

**Jo Holt is a retired scientist and chair of the Pima County Democratic Party. Contact her**

## 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.*

## February meeting

Monday  
February 13, 2017  
7 pm • OV Library

**Speaker to be Determined**

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

**A Great Time Was Had by All at the Holiday Party!!!**

