

721 Retirees Played Active Role at CDP Convention

By Myran Cotton
Political Sub-Committee Chair

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I'm proud to report on the California Democratic Party convention held in San Francisco from May 31 to June 2, 2019. It was truly uplifting and full of excitement.

We had 14 presidential candidates who attended. They were U.S. Senators Cory Booker, Kirsten Gillibrand, Kamala Harris, Amy Klobuchar, Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren; U.S. Representatives Tulsi Gabbard and Eric Swalwell; former U.S. Representatives John Delaney and Beto O'Rourke; Governor Jay Inslee, former Governor John Hickenlooper, Mayor Pete Buttigieg and the Honorable Julian Castro.

Each candidate had their own unique messages, but what stood out was that "Democrats are the party for the people."

Major issues discussed were affordable health care, Social Security, education, and growing the economy. Democrats are proud to be the party that created Social



Members of SEIU 721 Retirees Committee welcome Rusty Hicks, the chair of the California Democratic Party. Hicks previously served as head of the L.A. Federation of Labor.

Security, one of the nation's most successful and effective programs. Without Social Security, nearly half of America's seniors would be living way below poverty.

We also had elections for chair of the California Democratic Party. The candidates were: Lenore Albert, Kimberly Ellis, Rusty Hicks, Mike Katz-Lacabe, Daraka

Larimore-Hall, Rita Ramirez and Mike Saifie.

The candidates spoke at every venue, trying to reach the over 3,000 delegates who attended. The front-runner and SEIU 721-endorsed candidate, Los Angeles Federation of Labor President Rusty Hicks, won by a large margin.

He vowed that he would bring this party together and invited all the other candidates to participate in the process.

"As CDP Chair, my top priority is working with our party's leaders and activists to create a stronger, more inclusive, more transparent party to advance progressive priorities here in California and to take back the White House in 2020," said Hicks.

"I'm thrilled to have Ada, Kimberly and Michael work with me to write this new chapter in our party's history.

"I encourage the fullest possible participation of our committee and to disseminate the message, platform, and philosophy," he added.

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Congratulations Cary & Yolanda!



The SEIU 721 Retirees Committee extends best wishes to our members, Cary Eatmon and Yolanda Toure, who united in holy matrimony in 2019. Yolanda is chair of the Health Sub-Committee and Cary is a member of the Communications Sub-Committee.

LAAAC Summit On Aging Shares Great Info

By Daniel & Bernadette Burke

We appreciated the opportunity provided by SEIU 721 Retiree Committee to participate, along with other members from our Committee, in the Summit which focused on the theme: "Pathways to Progress: Advancing an Aging Agenda."

LAAAC is the Los Angeles Aging Advocacy Coalition whose mission is "to advocate for, preserve, protect and enrich the quality of life for older persons, their families and caregivers in Los Angeles County by forging joint advocacy efforts to influence fiscal and public policy in the field of aging...building a statewide movement to transform the system of care so that all



Daniel and Bernadette Burke

Californians can age with dignity, choice, and independence."

The keynote address was given by the Honorable Adrin Nazarian, California

State Assembly District 46. As the chair of the Aging and Long Term Care Committee, he provided an update on the issues concerning aging that our legislators in Sacramento are considering.

During the day, we heard from three panels consisting of experts in the field of aging. Subjects included: Pathways to Progress: State & Local Initiatives, California State Demographics, The Role of Intergenerational Equity and Fostering Joy-LA Programs Lighting Paths to a Brighter Future.

It was clear that the Summit provided a wealth of information and resources that can enable us as a collective voice to make a difference for older adults in our state.

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"Join an officially chartering club or grassroots organization and please get out and vote!"

Political Subcommittee also hosted the meeting for June, our theme was "June-teenth," the oldest known celebration commemorating the ending of slavery in the United States.

President Abraham Lincoln issued

the executive order on January 1, 1863. It changed the federal legal status of more than 3.5 million enslaved African Americans in the designated areas of the South from slave to free. But it took two years, dating back to 1865, it was on June 19th that the Union soldiers, led by Major General Gordon Granger, landed at Galveston, Texas with news that the war had ended and that the enslaved were now free.

Union soldiers enforced the Emancipation Proclamation and freed all remain-

ing slaves in Texas on June 19, 1865. This day is an opportunity for people to celebrate freedom and equal rights in the United States.

Our very special guest speaker for the meeting, Ted Lange, is an American actor, director, and screenwriter best known for his role as the bartender, Isaac Washington, in the TV series "The Love Boat." Lange captivated the audience with a presentation about Blacks who made significant contributions to American history.

Retiree Committee Members *Enjoy Life!*



We enjoy ourselves, whether at the monthly meetings or on an outing to Catalina Island!

Retiree Committee Members *Make a Difference!*

721 retirees are committed to uplifting, educating and working for the betterment of all members in every way that they can. Here are scenes of members' activities in 2019.



Above, committee members shared information on Harriet Tubman, Ida B. Wells-Barnett, Angela Davis and A. Phillip Randolph during Black History Month in Feb. 2019.



Above, committee members confer with Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian.



At left and above, committee members greet actor Ted Lange, who made a presentation at the June 2019 monthly meeting.



At right, committee members listen to information on elder abuse at the April 2019 monthly meeting.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- February 11, 10 a.m. Retirees Committee Meeting
Black History Month
1545 Wilshire Blvd., Auditorium
Los Angeles, CA
- March 10, 10 a.m. Retirees Committee Meeting
Women's History Month
1545 Wilshire Blvd., Auditorium
Los Angeles, CA
- April 14, 10 a.m. Retirees Committee Meeting
1545 Wilshire Blvd., Auditorium
Los Angeles, CA

Share upcoming events with any Communications Sub-Committee member or email to Retirees@seiu721.org

SEIU Retirees Committee Newsletter

Produced quarterly by the Communications Sub-Committee

Committee Chair Charley Mims
Committee Liaison Gloria Aguilar


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Cora Jackson-Fossett, Samuel James, Betty Nasir, Vye Peterson, Robby Rivera, Gerald Smith Sr., Mary Smith, Jean Sweeny and Kerrie Thomas.



DO YOU RECIEVE SSI? DON'T MISS OUT ON FOOD BENEFITS!

Beginning June 1, 2019 SSI recipients may be eligible
for CalFresh Food benefits.
(There is no change to SSI/SSP)



 800-510-2020

