

ITAA August Monthly Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Lee Anderton, Michele Harbour, Jackie Marshall, Glenda Miranda, Cindy Bordelon, Ann Bradford, Jim Perry, Eileen Hollowell, Laurie Soloff, Cheryl Whited, Connie Holderman, Amy Gosla, Karen MacDonald, Linda Coit, Melvina Strijdonk, Ann Brehm-Moline, Kenneth Proper, Deb Campbell, David Lippincott, Nancy Gutierrez, Sally Simmons, Steven Bleicher, William Yohey, Linda Block, Bets Craig, Isabel Hiserodt, Kim Otero, Stephen Shear, Susan Matheson, Ray Smith, Andrea Hoag, Michelle Flores, Elaine Omar, Debra Schaeffer, Devon Sloan, Carol Bradley, Judith Randall, Roberta Latham, Deborah King, Joe Smith, Jeanne Hardie, Sharlyn Olson, Rachel Rulmyr, Diane Luber, Robbin Miller, Karen Harris, Thea Chalow, Misty Atkins, Jan Counts, Dana Offerman

The following new members introduced themselves on the call: Karen MacDonald, Andrea Hoag, Debra Schaeffer, and Steven Bleicher.

Announcement: Catalina Foothills School District (CFSD) #16 House Party: Sally Simmons is having a house party on September 12 for CFSD Students First with the following three nonpartisan candidates running for the Governing Board: Jacquelyn Davoli, Eileen Jackson, and Tom Logue. For more information about CFSD 16, go to <https://www.cfsdstudentsfirst.org>. If you would like to attend, you can reach Sally at sallybob75@comcast.net. The event will be at Sally's house from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. If you would like to attend, please send an email to Sally and she'll provide you with the address.

Canvassing Opportunity in Swing States: Progressive Turnout Project (PTP) is launching a flexible paid door-knocking program to potential voters who are able to travel to a swing state (AZ, GA, MI, NC, PA & WI) and help on the ground for days, a week or longer. PTP is canvassing in Phoenix and areas outside of Tucson. You can make \$250 per day to offset your travel expenses. If you would like to sign up, here's the link: <https://www.mobilize.us/ptp/event/646817/>.

Letters to the Editor: ITAA's Letters to the Editor team has published 133 Letters to the Editor so far this year. To join the Letters to the Editor team, please email Jackie Marshall at Jacolyn@comcast.net.

Pro-Democracy Table at the Oro Valley Public Library: Mel Strijdonk is one of eight volunteers who will be sharing pro-democracy materials at the Oro Valley Public Library on a trial basis in August, with a goal of rolling this effort out before the general election in November. This project is the Pro-Democracy Voter Information Project LD17. If you have any questions, please reach out to Mel at astrijdonk@msn.com.

Guest Speaker: Nancy Gutierrez - Arizona State House - Legislative District 18

Nancy Gutierrez is a Democrat running for reelection (uncontested) for the Arizona State House in Legislative District 18. Nancy serves as the Minority Whip in the Arizona State House of Representatives. She was elected in 2022. She serves on the Education and Appropriations Committees. She moved to Tucson in 2007 and has taught at the Tucson Unified School District since 2013. She advocates for public education, protection of voting rights, reproductive freedom, and regulation of groundwater in Arizona. Nancy believes that Democrats have a good chance to flip the Arizona Legislature in 2024. The Abortion Access Amendment and Kamala Harris being on the ballot will hopefully increase voter engagement and turnout.

Nancy is a member of the Arizona Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee (ADLCC), which is the only organization in Arizona whose sole purpose is to elect Democrats to the State House and

Senate. For more information and to donate, go to <https://adlcc.com>. The ADLCC recruits, trains, and supports legislative candidates by vetting, selecting, and managing award-winning direct mail & digital consultants; providing comprehensive legal services; investing in high-quality polling and opposition research; and connecting local and national donors to the most competitive legislative races. Currently, there are 31 Republicans and 29 Democrats in the Arizona House and 16 Republicans and 14 Democrats in the Senate. The Arizona legislature is close to being “flipped” and door-knocking, phone banking and donations to the ADLCC will go a long way to turning the legislature blue.

Nancy’s key messages are: 1) we need to reiterate how safe and clean our elections are and protect voting rights; 2) we need to protect bodily autonomy, IVF, birth control, abortion; 3) we need to regulate and protect groundwater in Arizona; and 4) we need to protect public education and regulate the use of school vouchers in Arizona which is adversely impacting the budget since there is no cap on this spending.

Democrats in the Arizona House have videos of key issues on Instagram and will be working to share a compilation of these videos to help folks with their door-knocking efforts.

You can reach Nancy at nancyforaz@gmail.com or for legislative issues, at ngutierrez@azleg.gov.

Guest Speaker: Isabel Histerodt

Isabel Histerodt is Indivisible’s new Battleground Manager who will be coordinating the on-ground effort for the "No Friend of Ours" campaign against Juan Ciscomani. Isabel is also the Youth Outreach Coordinator for Civic Engagement Beyond Voting (CEBV). The “No Friends of Ours” campaign is looking for volunteers to help with filming a video ad in Tucson on August 8 at 2 p.m. If you would like to volunteer to help with this campaign, please reach out to Isabel at Isabel@indivisible.org.

Indivisible is planning some Kamela Harris pop-up events in Tucson and will reimburse organizers \$200 for supplies for these events, such as “fun stuff” for small parties in support of Harris. If you are interested in the Neighbor 2 Neighbor (N2N) program, which is similar to canvassing, please contact Isabel at https://indivisibleproject.formstack.com/forms/neighbor_to_neighbor_az.

Isabel mentioned the CEBV Youth Outreach coordination program, where they have run three voter registration drives in high schools. Youth want to hear from other youth on voter registration and civics. CEBV has had a lot of success with this program and it provides professional development opportunities for high school students.

Postcard Update

ITAA is rolling out a new Register to Vote postcard campaign with Field Team 6 this month. Field Team 6 continues to be a valuable partner for ITAA and will help us with this effort. This new postcard campaign will focus on Project 2025 and will reach out to unregistered male and female voters who live in and Pima and Maricopa Counties.

Progressive Turnout Project Postcards to Swing States are now taking sign-ups for postcards again. They had so many orders that they weren’t taking orders for a period of time so they could catch up. If you sign up, allow 3-4 weeks to receive delivery for orders of 500 or fewer postcards. So far this year, their volunteers have signed up for 20.8 million postcards. Postcards to Swing States recently expanded their goal to 36 million postcards to help elect Kamala Harris, along with Democrats up and

down the ballot across the country, including in key Senate and US House races. To sign up, go to <https://www.turnoutpac.org/postcards/>.

Text Banking

Text banking is one of the most effective ways to reach as many voters and potential voters as possible. You are provided with specific “canned” responses. The people you text to don’t know who you are. Field Team 6 has sent 2.3 million texts to Independent and Democratic voters with a 3% click-through rate to a voter registration page. National Indivisible and Arizona Indivisible will do a text banking campaign in September. Here’s a link to sign up for Arizona Weekly Virtual Phonebank with the Arizona Democratic Party: <https://events.democrats.org/event/612966/>. If you would like additional information on text banking, please reach out to Joe Smith at jocko3484@gmail.com or (407) 928-5722.

Treasurer’s Report

As of July 20, 2024, ITAA had Distributed (restricted) Funds of \$4,443.28, Non-Distributed (not restricted) Funds of \$600.81 minus expenses of \$140 and \$120 in income. If you would like to donate to ITAA, you can email Jeane Hardie at ferrebeed001@gmail.com for more information.

Get Out The Vote Car Parade in October

Arizona Indivisible is planning to have a Get Out The Vote one-hour car parade in Tucson in the October 12-15 timeframe. They need a lead volunteer for this event, as well as people to plan the parade route, organize the event on social media, recruit volunteers, purchase supplies, and set up the event on Mobilize. Other Indivisible members will be there to help as needed. If you would like to lead or volunteer for this event, please contact Dana Offerman at indivisibletucson@gmail.com.

Election Integrity

For the general election in November, party observers and activists are needed at: 1) Vote centers- either as a poll worker or as a poll observer; 2) Recorder's office-to view early ballot procedures and curing of ballots and watching the provisional/conditional ballot curing from Election Day; and 3) Elections Department to perform logic and accuracy test ahead of the election, view machine tabulation process, ballot duplication, ballot adjudication, audit (hand count) after the election. Observers must be from recognized parties in Arizona (Democrats, Republicans, Libertarians, Green, No Label) and are all invited to observe the election process from beginning to end.

If you would like to get connected to volunteer as a party observer for the November election please send Misty Mellor an email at mistymellor@gmail.com.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on Monday, September 9, 2024, at 3:30 p.m. Our Guest Speakers will be Cathy Sigmon from Civic Engagement Beyond Voting (CEBV) and Pima County Recorder Gabriella Cazares-Kelly.