

REPORT ON THE HUDDLE ON SATURDAY MARCH 11TH AT THE SCRIBNERS

Thanks to all of you who attended the “HUDDLE” last Saturday. Below is a brief summary:

Our goal was to follow-up on our February 4th meeting in a way that gave people more time to discuss issues as well as an incentive and opportunity to write letters and postcards. This worked and was fun to boot.

Seventeen people attended with some arriving at 10 in the morning and others coming by all through the day. Most stayed an hour or more. Available were a computer and printer, pens, paper, blank postcards, snacks, sample letters and stamps. Over the course of the day a dozen or so letters and more than 75 postcards were written, addressed, stamped and left here ready to mail. Most were written to Congressmen McClintock and Ryan (at his home address) as well as Ami Bera in Sacramento, Plus a bunch to Trump that will be mailed on tomorrow on March 15th. A number of people took materials home to write more from there. Three people contributed to the Billboard project we are sponsoring on Highway 99 in Congressman La Malfa’s District. We are meeting to finalize the first billboard this coming Tuesday in Oroville. It should be up on May 1. People will have paid their taxes on April 15th except those like Trump who don’t pay at all. Tentatively the billboard will say “Should Billionaires pay taxes? or just working people like you”? A new message either on the same board or at a new location will go up on June 1. We will have more details later including the number of cars that pass each location monthly.

On Saturday, as people wrote card and letters there were lively and extended political discussions around the table. Many revolved around the importance of unity within the Democratic Party between Progressives and other Democrats. We also discussed the details of various bills pending in Congress and what more we can do to expand our numbers and awareness between now and 2018.

One of the suggestions discussed was encouraging each of us to reach out to like-minded family and friends in other Congressional Districts. If we can “flip” 24 Districts that elected a Republican in 2016 to elect a Democrat in 2018, we can take over the House of Representatives. This so called person-to-person “ripple effect” is what turned one woman’s idea for the women’s march into a wave that spread across the country. If each person can involve a few others who can involve a few more from their circle, we can make a huge impact in turning things around in 2018.

In the meantime, we will continue to “resist” the wholesale destruction by Bannon, Trump and the Republicans of just about everything we care about.

Thanks to all for your continued commitment to this effort.

Jerry and Penny