

Newly Elected DPOC Chair Hits The Ground Running

In just six short weeks, [Henry Vandermeier](#), newly elected chair of the Democratic Party Orange County (DPOC), has covered a lot of ground. Under Henry's leadership, DPOC has been out in the community taking a visible stand on such important issues as [Fair Elections](#), [Immigration Reform](#) and [LGBT rights](#) in the Vietnamese community. A Council of Clubs initiative has been launched to work more closely with the many Democratic Clubs chartered throughout Orange County. And, a Strategic Plan designed by Henry has been adopted by DPOC to lead the party through the next two years.

The priorities of the Strategic Plan include:

- 1) Raising funds to support local candidates, voter registration and operational expenses
- 2) Implementing a well organized voter registration effort
- 3) Improving voter outreach and engagement
- 4) Developing a farm team of local Democratic candidates.

Henry assumed the reigns in January from outgoing Chairman, Frank Barbaro who served as the head of the party for the past 12 years. Henry was elected, in part, due to his many years of political activism in the county and for his extensive experience gained as President of the California Democratic Council (CDC)

Henry shared, "My time with the CDC gave me the opportunity to work with Central Committees and local Democratic clubs throughout the state and allowed me to see what works and what doesn't work. DPOC will be able to borrow best practices from these different organizations and implement them here in Orange County."

Various committees to support these priorities are currently being formed. Membership in committees including Communications, Finance, Outreach, Voter Registration, Environmental and Youth Advisory is open to any registered Orange County Democrat. [Send a note](#) if you'd like participate in any one of these DPOC committees.