



Newport Beach Women's Democratic Club

**Advocating for Democratic Values
in Newport Beach and neighboring communities**

PO Box 11761 | Newport Beach, CA 92658
NBWDC.org | Info@NBWDC.org | 949.423.6468
Facebook, Twitter, Instagram @NBWDC

CLUB MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, January 21, 2020

OASIS Senior Center Room #1 - 801 Narcissus Avenue, Corona del Mar

5:30: Check-In, Networking & Light Refreshments

- Admission (Cash, Check, Credit Card accepted)
 - Members: No charge
 - Guests: Free if you join; otherwise \$15 for Walk-in or \$10 with advance RSVP

6:00: Welcome: President Tara Steele

- Introductions
 - Dignitaries
 - New Members
 - First-Time Guests
- Upcoming Events
- Club Business/Annual Review - Tara Steele & Cate Hardesty
 - Officer Elections for 2020-2022 Term
 - Corresponding Secretary & Recording Secretary
 - Past Achievements & Upcoming Goals
 - NBWDC Committees ... how you can help

6:45: Speakers Program

- [Josh Newman](#), Candidate State Senate District 29
- [Ashleigh Aitken](#), Candidate OC Board of Supervisors, District 3

7:30: Closing Comments: Tara Steele

8:00: Adjourn Meeting



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SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



[Josh Newman](#), Candidate State Senate District 29

Josh Newman is a graduate of Yale University, former United States Army officer, community and veteran activist, successful businessman and entrepreneur, father, husband, and former State Senator for the 29th Senate district of California.

In 2016 Josh ran a '**bottom up**' campaign against the local political establishment and, despite long odds, got elected to the California Senate on the basis of a message of service, accountability, and common sense. In Sacramento, Josh was active, accessible, and accountable, unafraid to put people over politics and working families ahead of corporate interests.

Newman chaired the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs. He also sat on the Business & Professions, Health, Insurance, and Human Services Committees; he also served as Chair of the San Gabriel Valley Legislative Caucus, and as the **Senate's** representative to the state Workforce Investment Board and the Interstate Compact on Military Children & Families.

Throughout his tenure as the state senator representing the 16 cities of the 29th District, Josh focused on finding common-sense, practical solutions that helped improve the quality of life for California families. His legislation championed veteran services, mental health resources, public education, job creation, and transportation improvements.

In 2017, following the **Legislature's** approval of a comprehensive, long-term plan to repair and modernize California's aging, crumbling transportation infrastructure, and despite being just one of 81 state lawmakers voting for the proposal, Josh was singled out as the target of an intensive, hyper-partisan recall campaign. An alliance of ideological extremists and special interests from outside his district proceeded to raise millions from all over the state to fund a misleading signature-gathering campaign which nevertheless succeeded in triggering a recall vote and which ultimately resulted in **Josh's** recall from office in June of 2018.

Josh has been motivated by public service throughout his entire life, and in keeping with that commitment seeks re-**election to California's** 29th Senate District in November 2020.

Josh and his wife Darcy, a native of Orange County, reside in Fullerton with their daughter and four lovable rescue Chihuahuas.



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[Ashleigh Aitken](#), Candidate OC Board of Supervisors, District 3
Ashleigh is Of Counsel at Aitken * Aitken * Cohn, where she specializes in complex business litigation, class actions and major personal injury cases.

She was the 2015 president of the Orange County Bar Association, championing **veteran's rights and pro bono services for military and veteran families**, and 2016 President of the Orange County Bar Association Charitable Fund.

Prior to becoming a trial attorney, she was a civil litigator and a former federal prosecutor, where she tried criminal and civil cases in federal and state court, as well as before the 9th Circuit. Ashleigh is regularly recognized and featured in numerous law journals and publications. She has held leadership roles in several major legal organizations, including President of the Orange County Women Lawyers, Vice-President of the Celtic Bar Association, Vice-President of the Hispanic Bar Association, and has served on the boards of the Orange County Bar Foundation and the Consumer Attorneys of California. She was also named the Orange County Women Lawyers Attorney of the Year in 2011.

Ashleigh lives in Anaheim with her husband, attorney Michael Penn, their three children and an ark of animals.