

**Democrats of Greater Tucson (DGT)**  
**Newsletter May 2017**  
**P.O. Box 41573, Tucson AZ 85717**

- Sep 11      **Bruce Wheeler**, Why I'm running
- Sep 17      **Annual DGT Awards Luncheon** - <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/dgt2017>
- Sep 18      **Sen. Andrea Dalessandro** - Issues in the Legislature. **Daniel Hernandez** - Sunnyside override
- Sep 25      **Council Member Steve Kozachik** - City and campaign update
- Oct 2        **Billy Kovacs** - How Congress can assist in economic development
- Oct 9        **Kathy Hoffman** - Candidate for Super Intendant of Public Instruction
- Oct 16      **Dr. Randy Friese** - Candidacy and Legislative issues
- Oct 23      **January Contreras** - Candidate for Attorney General
- Oct 30      **Katie Hobbs** - Candidate for Secretary of State
- Nov 6        **Jim Love** - Candidate for LD 9 Senate

**Speakers may be rescheduled.      Please check [www.pimadems.org](http://www.pimadems.org) for current information:**

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DGT meets Monday's (except holidays) at 12:00 noon at DRAGON'S VIEW Restaurant, 400 N. Bonita, south of St. Mary's, between Freeway & Grande. TURN SOUTH AT FURR'S CAFETERIA. Lunch is \$10.00 cash (\$12.00 debit/credit) includes buffet, drink, tax, and tip.

Remember to pay your \$15 dues. You may turn in your dues at one of our luncheons, or you may mail your check to DGT,  
P.O. Box 41573, Tucson, AZ 85717.

**DEMOCRATS OF GREATER TUCSON MEMBERSHIP FORM** Date \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_ OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_

EMPLOYER \_\_\_\_\_ EMPLOYER \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail Address for Newsletter:**

\_\_\_\_\_ NEW EMAIL?    Y    N

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

DUES PAID (\$15/yr.) \_\_\_\_\_ (Payable to DGT)    CASH \_\_\_\_\_ CHECK \_\_\_\_\_

Paid for by Democrats of Greater Tucson, Jeremy Lasher, President. Steve Linder, Treasurer.  
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## A Message from our President

Tuesday morning, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001. I was 18 years old, working two jobs, and my girlfriend at the time had stayed over for the first time. I was an adult. I had the morning off, not expected at work until 2 that afternoon and I slept in till 8 am, a luxury I rarely get to this day.

I wandered down the hall to say hi to my grandmother. She had the TV on and a video of the world trade center engulfed in smoke was playing. I asked what movie she was watching, surprised as she usually didn't go in for action or disaster movies. The world began to drop away as she explained what we knew at that point. America was under attack, our President was unprepared, we had no idea what was really happening. I wasn't ready to be an adult.

Everyone I know remembers where they were that day, it is a cultural touchstone for the world, the day that the war on terror began. That day led to the PATRIOT ACT, it led to preemptive strikes, to "enhanced interrogation", to drone strikes, to an executive order allowing the murder of US Citizens, to the Arab Spring, and to the rise of overt racism in our Country.

On that day, everyone I knew could tell you who the enemy was. It didn't matter if you were a Democrat or Republican, if you were black or Latino, or white. The enemy had just flown planes into the heart of our greatest city and we had to do something about it. Hundreds of the children I graduated high school with the year before went down to a military recruiter that week. I went myself, a scared man child begging for the chance to stand up against an enemy he knew nothing about and still believing in the glory of war and America.

I was rejected from the Army for bad eyes and a bad knee that day. I tried the Navy and the Air Force in subsequent days to the same fate. I wasn't strong enough, couldn't see well enough, wasn't good enough to go fight our enemies overseas. I was angry and scared and didn't know what to do. It took me years to come to the realization that we have many enemies.

Today our enemy is at home. The fear that began to rise in September of 2001 has bred a hatred in our Nation. We have watched as demagogues and fascists win elections and use their power to hurt those we love. We don't need foreign terrorists to destroy our Country, one of our political Parties has seen fit to attempt it on their own.

We have millions afraid that they will be deported at any time, their family, their homes, their life stripped from them with no notice and no recourse. We have literal Nazis marching in the street and murdering those who dare to stand up. We have a President who absolves Arpaio of systematic racism and refusing to condemn the KKK.

16 years of fear and xenophobia have boiled over and it is our job to mop it up. We don't have the luxury of waving a flag and talking about how great America is. We don't have the crutch of pointing fingers at children playing in a bomb crater and calling them our enemy. We must stand up against the terror and the tyranny that we see taking hold in our Nation. We owe it to our children and our grandchildren that September 11<sup>th</sup> is not remembered as the day America began its fall. We owe it to them to ensure that Trump, and Ducey, and the Republican Party of today is a blip, a cautionary tale not to be repeated. Our eyes are good enough to see this enemy, our legs are good enough to stand against them, and together, we are strong enough to stop them.

Thank you,  
Jeremy Lasher – President of Democrats of Greater Tucson

