



# Ranch Democrats

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## Meeting Minutes

May 27, 2026

6:30 PM - 7:00 PM meet and greet

7:00PM - 9:00 PM meeting

The Rienda Plunge Great Room  
31720 Williams Way  
Rancho Mission Viejo, CA 92694

### 1. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order by: Gary Kephart, President
- Time: 7:02 PM

### 2. Pledge of Allegiance

### 3. Introductions

- New members were invited to introduce themselves

### 4. Announce Quorum

### 5. Adoption of Consent Items

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of General Meeting minutes from previous meeting
- Consent items were approved by the voting membership

### 6. Speaker: Josh Newman, candidate for CA Superintendent of Public Instruction

### 7. New Business

- None

## 8. Officer Reports

- Chair Gary Kephart
  - Looking for input on speakers moving forward
  - Issues and elections
  - Please email [chair@ranchdemocrats.org](mailto:chair@ranchdemocrats.org)
- Vice Chair Mike Baker
  - Not in attendance
- Secretary Michele Lynch
  - Minutes are on the website. Please let me know if you'd prefer a paper copy.
- Treasurer Herb Richter
  - [Financial Report](#)
  - Checking account total at \$230.03 with pending deposits of \$124.84
  - Need to book October and November rooms
  - Maintaining frugality for now
  - At current level, will have about \$500 moving into the new year
  - Renewal process for memberships will begin in October for 2027
  - Mailing list = 143 Voting members = 24
    - Must attend two meetings in last 6 months to be a voting member

## 9. Committee Reports

- Membership Committee: Chair Anita Alverson
  - Spread the word about the club so we can bring in more paid members
  - Ice cream social with Katrina Foley generated a lot of membership interest
- Programs: Gary Kephart
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- Field Team: Samuel Penrod
  - Gary talked to Samuel about using PDI to obtain listing of democrats in the area; not for the election or the whole precinct, just a few streets; help generate membership by introducing self and the club
  - No material to hand out but if interested, reach out to [secretary@ranchdemocratss.org](mailto:secretary@ranchdemocratss.org)
- Communications: Herb Richter
  - Trying to live stream our meetings for people who can't attend in person. Just a view, no interaction. Will also put up on website under blogs.
  - Monday 8 am weekly emails also include information that may be of interest so keep an eye out. Please reach out with any ideas to [treasurer@ranchdemocrats.org](mailto:treasurer@ranchdemocrats.org)
  - Website contains agenda, meeting minutes, financial reports under Documents. Also look at calendar for events.

## 10. Announcements

- The June General meeting will be held on June 24, 2026, at 7:00pm, at Rienda Plunge Great Room, 31720 Williams Way, Rancho Mission Viejo, CA 92694
- Contact Anita for information about campaigning for various candidates
- Be sure to vote and place your ballot in the box (not mail)

## **11. Adjournment**

- Meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm

## **Signature**

- Secretary: Michele Lynch
- Date: May 27, 2026