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**General Meeting – Wednesday, January 14, 2015**  
**Community College Board Candidates Forum**  
**and Club Officer Elections**

**1st Vice-President's Message:**



Dear Democrats,  
 Wishing you a  
 Happy and  
 Prosperous 2015!

I encourage you to come to our next General Meeting on Jan. 14, which will feature a candidates forum and endorsement vote for the Community College Board of Trustees, Seats 1, 3, 5 and 7. All registered Democrats for each seat's race have been invited to participate, so please spread the word and come with your questions for the candidates. Also at January's meeting, the membership will vote for our club's 2015 Executive Board: President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Treasurer, Membership, Corresponding Secretary and Recording Secretary. You can see bios of the Executive Board candidates and the Community College Board candidates in this newsletter.

Now, a few words about education, since that is this month's theme. I am the product of a public school education (except for a two-year stint at USC's Annenberg School for Communication). I am very proud of that. I owe my ability to read, write, calculate and think critically to the teachers that imparted their knowledge and wisdom so that I could thrive as a well-rounded

citizen. Many of us owe our success, in part, to our school teachers, and to that great, enlightened idea of universal, public education.

So it is with great alarm and sadness that I see public education, in general, and teachers, in particular, be disrespected and disparaged by certain elements in this country who see children as cogs to be exploited for profit, rather than as people to be molded into well-rounded citizens. America cannot thrive, innovate or compete adequately on the world stage without a well-educated citizenry, who can think - not just consume. Teachers should be given the same amount of esteem as doctors, lawyers and business people, and should be paid accordingly. Our public primary and secondary schools must be supported, and uplifted. Children from low-income families deserve a world-class education just as much as those from affluent families. Our public community colleges and universities should be funded well to the point where tuition is either free or inexpensive. And finally, America should not be afraid - or too arrogant - to consider educational methodologies from other countries (for e.g., I recommend reading the book, "Finnish Lessons" by Dr. Pasi Sahlberg). Let's start truly treating a quality public education as a right for everyone.

Monthly General Membership Meeting:

**7:00 PM Wednesday,  
 January 14, 2015**

6:45 PM – Refreshments

Rotunda Room

Veterans Memorial Building

4117 Overland Avenue

Corner of Overland Ave. and  
 Culver Blvd.

**What's Inside?**

**Club Officer Candidate  
 Nominations - Page 2 & 3**

**Club Officer Candidate Floor  
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**Democratic Candidates for  
 the LACCD Board of  
 Directors - Page 3**

**Di's Corner - Page 2**

**Club Notes**

**January Meeting Sponsors:**  
**Ronnie Jayne** celebrating  
 Bernie Solomon's (her father)  
 birthday.

**Diane & Herb Rosenberg**  
 celebrating their 49th wedding  
 anniversary.

**Renew your membership!** Please use the form on page 4 or to renew online click "Join/Renew" on our web site.

**Electronic Newsletter:**

Submit your email address to [Info@CulverCityDemocraticClub.com](mailto:Info@CulverCityDemocraticClub.com) and ask to get the newsletter by email! Save a tree and save our club the postage!

**Comments expressed in the Newsletter are the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily represent the position of the Culver City Democratic Club.**

## Club Officer Candidate Nominations

At the December meeting the Club's Nominating Committee announced the committee's nominations for the Club officers for 2015. Here are the nominations: President - Sylvia Moore; First VP - Khin Khin Gyi; Second VP - Amy Cherness; Treasurer - Eric Fine; Recording Secretary - Patricia Levinson; Corresponding Secretary - Stephen Murray; Membership Secretary - Diane Rosenberg.

Here are the statements from the nominated Club officer candidates:

### President - Sylvia Moore:

Sylvia Moore is a blogger and activist who writes about politics and universal health care. A member of the CCDC since 2008, she has served as Recording Secretary, Second Vice President

and First Vice President. She created and administers the club's Facebook and Meetup.com pages. Sylvia is currently a California Democratic Party delegate and runs a monthly social club for liberals on Meetup.com called LA Progressive Friends.

### First Vice-President - Khin Khin Gyi:

As a board member of Citizens Coalition for a Safe Community and as a neurologist, I have worked tirelessly to inform the residents of Culver City and LA County about the adverse health effects of chemicals produced in the course of oil extraction. As a member of the Angeles chapter of the Sierra Club, I have worked to defend our right to clean air, water and land use over the right of corporations seeking profits at the expense of our health. I would be honored to receive your vote for the position of first vice president and will be bringing a collaborative coalition to work to

achieve our common vision and shared mission.

### Second Vice-President - Amy Cherness:

No statement submitted.

### Treasurer - Eric Fine:

Eric Fine served as Student Body President of Santa Monica College in the Spring of 1985. He was also President of the Hillel Club from 1983-1984 and Vice-President of the Santa Monica College branch of Americans for Democratic Action club from 1984-1985. Eric graduated from the University of Nevada at Las Vegas in 1988 with a Bachelors degree in business management. Eric, now owns and manages property and lives in Beverly Hills. Eric is also active with Medical Marijuana groups and marijuana legalization groups

### Recording Secretary - Patricia Levinson:

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as the Recording Secretary to the CCDC. I welcome the challenge to fully participate in our efforts to pursue a democratic majority in our electoral processes.

Although retired after 38 years in Los Angeles County educational settings, including education administration, I grew up in Culver City. My previous and current commitments include working with CC educational and health organizations and working on local political campaigns.

### Corresponding Secretary - Stephen Murray:

No statement submitted for this office.

[See Club Officers, Page 3]

### **Di's Corner:** By Diane Rosenberg

The City of Culver City will host the 10th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration on Saturday January 17, 2015, 11:00am-4:00pm at the Culver City Senior Center 4095 Overland Avenue.. The theme will be "Injustice Anywhere is a Threat to Justice Everywhere". The movie "Freedom Summer" will be screened at 2:00pm. The first 100 people will get a free Commemorative t-shirt. The event is Free and all are welcome. For more information visit <http://www.culvercity.org/> or call 310-253-6675.

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On December 3, Herb and I took off for the biggest adventure of our lifetime, flying to Norway.

We landed in Amsterdam and then from Bergen, Norway. we boarded a Norwegian ship that would take us to 32 ports along the west coast of Norway above the polar cap. We traveled to many islands and fjords. In all we traveled 2,000 miles up the entire coast of the country. After the ship voyage we spent time in Kirkenes and Oslo. We thoroughly enjoyed our experience and made friends.

[**Club Officers** from Page 2]

**Membership Secretary - Diane Rosenberg:**

I first became membership chair in 1996. In 2000-2004 I was a delegate to the 47th A.D. In that time 2002-2003 I was President of this club.

I went back to being membership chair in 2003. For eleven years I have held this position with the Club. I thoroughly enjoy being chair and a board member of the club.

In 2015 I would very much like to serve again as membership chair.

**Club Officer Candidate Floor Nomination**

Our Club constitution allows a candidate to run from the floor for a Club officer position without a nomination from the Club's Nominating Committee. Stephen Murray has announced his intention to run from the floor for the office of First Vice-President. Here is his statement for that office.

**First Vice-President - Stephen Murray** (from the floor):

The Clubs 1st VP runs the exec board meeting, performs outreach and fills in for the President. I will work to increase our community engagement, reach out to non-member voters, ally with like-minded groups and

ensure we have the money needed for endorsement cards. If given the opportunity, I would be honored to serve as your 1st VP.

**Democratic Candidates for the LA Community College District Board of Directors**

All Democratic candidates for the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) Board of Directors have been invited to the candidate forum at our next meeting and asked to submit a short statement: Here are the statements that were received in time for publication:

**Seat 1:**

**Maria "Sokie" Quintero:**

As a member to the LACCD Board of Trustees, my purpose will be to improve the educational outcomes of our students. As a trustee my purpose will be to advocate on behalf of students so that we can uphold and deliver on the promise of a quality education.

**Seat 5:**

**Scott Svonkin:**

Scott Svonkin is President of the Community College Board and a lifelong active Democrat. As a Community College leader, he is the only incumbent running and

the only candidate that has served on the Executive Board of the Party, County Committee and a delegate to State & National conventions.

**Seat 7:**

**Mike Fong:**

The LACCD has played an integral role in the lives of my family. My parents met at Los Angeles City College. I have attended classes at East Los Angeles College and Los Angeles City College. The quality instruction and education received at the community colleges helped prepare me for my education at UCLA. If elected as Trustee, my priorities would include improving the quality and access to educational opportunities, expanding workforce education and high growth sector training programs, and creating jobs.

**Joyce Burrell Garcia:**

**Platform:**

- Ensure inclusivity and equity within the LACCD in the face of shrinking budgets.
- Increase student success for all students with particular attention to historically underrepresented students.
- Expand the number and types of community partnerships within LACCD.
- Maintain and strengthen collaborative partnerships with K-12 schools.

**Renew Your Club Membership for 2015!**

Our membership chair, Diane Rosenberg, will gladly accept your renewal. You can use the form on Page 4 to update any of your contact information and select the level of membership OR click "Join/Renew" on our web site [CulverCityDemocraticClub.com](http://CulverCityDemocraticClub.com)

Dues are due by January 1, 2015

For questions please call Membership Secretary  
Diane Rosenberg at (310) 398-5328

"We never had it as rough as the kids have it today. Look at the price of a gallon of gas or a piece of real estate or a college education."

- Suze Orman

**Renew your membership!**

Now collecting dues for 2015.

Dues for 2015 are due by January 1, 2015. Current dues must be paid by renewing members before a vote to get a ballot at the general meeting. New and lapsed members must have paid dues at least 25 days in advance to vote at a meeting.

Culver City Democratic Club  
P.O. Box 4254  
Culver City, CA 90231-4254

**Wednesday, January 14, 2015 - Meeting Program:**

**Community College Board  
Candidates Forum  
and Club Officer Elections**

**Upcoming Events**

► **Wednesday, January 14**  
**Monthly General Meeting:  
College Board Candidate  
Forum & Club Officer  
Elections**

7:00 PM at the Rotunda Room,  
Veterans Memorial Building.  
Public is welcome. Call Sylvia at  
(323) 384-3457 or email  
FirstVP@CulverCityDemocraticCl  
ub.com

► **Sunday, January 25**  
**Monthly Board Meeting:**

9:30 AM at the Rosenberg's home.  
All members welcome. Call  
Sylvia at (323) 384-3457 or email  
FirstVP@CulverCityDemocraticCl  
ub.com

► **Wednesday, February 11**  
**Monthly General Meeting:**

7:00 PM at the Rotunda Room,  
Veterans Memorial Building.  
Public is welcome. Call Sylvia at  
(323) 384-3457 or email  
FirstVP@CulverCityDemocraticCl  
ub.com

Culver City Democratic Club  
**Application/Renewal Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I declare that all the individuals listed for membership are registered Democrats.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Dues: Dues may be waived for financial hardship

Member \$30

Student \$20

Supporting Member \$75

Sustaining Member \$125

Additional Contribution: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to:

**Culver City Democratic Club**

P.O. Box 4254, Culver City, CA 90231-4254

**OR** Click "Join/Renew" on our web site CulverCityDemocraticClub.com.

For questions please call Membership Secretary Diane Rosenberg at  
(310) 398-5328

**Please renew for 2015 if you haven't already done so.**

The dues period runs concurrent to the calendar year.

Renewals are due by January 1, of each year.