



# Active Democrat

General Meeting – January 14, 2009

## Endorsement for LA Community College Board & Election of Club Officers for 2009



President's Message:

### Thanks for the Memories

It seems almost impossible but the end of my second term as your Club President has

arrived. By this time next month another lucky soul will be the author of the President's message for the newsletter.

During my three years as a Club officer (including my term as First Vice President) I've had the pleasure of working with dedicated, committed and enthusiastic Democrats of all ages and backgrounds. I've had the opportunity to get to know my fellow officers and board members and appreciate their various talents and skills. I've also seen how Democrats can eagerly step in to volunteer for a task and take on challenges with no more compensation than a pat on the back and some cookies, and sometimes there weren't even any cookies.

I wish I could say that being President was all fun and games but you know that would be untrue. Sometimes our club has taken positions or made resolutions that were ignored or disregarded. Other times we've supported candidates or taken positions on ballot measures only to see the other side prevail.

However, I'd say that our club has won more than it's lost and we know "we can't win them all" despite how much we might like to. Hardest for me have been the times when there was no way to make everyone happy. Of course, in politics it's rare that everyone will be satisfied with a given result. It goes with the territory.

There will continue to be some challenges for the club. First, is how to revitalize our aging membership. We haven't yet found a successful formula for consistently bringing in younger members. While we still have a fairly large base of members compared to many clubs around the state we must continue to work on attracting members below the age of 65.

Another challenge is making sure we are providing enough opportunities for members to contribute in ways that are meaningful for them. We have tried organizing a variety of political actions, events, and tasks. Some efforts have been more successful than others and we've had numerous members participate. Nevertheless, I remain convinced that there are more of you out there who would like to get more involved if only we found the right venue for you.

(see "President" page 2)

Monthly General Membership Meeting:

**7:00 PM Wednesday,  
January 14, 2009**

6:45 PM – Refreshments  
Rotunda Room

Veterans Memorial Building  
4117 Overland Avenue  
Corner of Overland Ave. and  
Culver Blvd.

#### What's Inside?

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#### Club Notes

**Renew your membership!** We are now accepting payment for dues for 2009. Please use the form on page 4 to supply your renewal information.

#### **Electronic Newsletter:**

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

#### **Join the Culver City Peace Vigil:**

Protest the Iraq war every Friday 5:30 – 6:30 PM across from the Culver Hotel.

#### **January Meeting Sponsor:**

Herb and Diane Rosenberg

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

## Members to Make Key Decisions at January's Meeting

At this month's meeting our members will be voting on several key items. First will be the election of club officers. The Nominating Committee has compiled a slate of veteran and new officers for all of us to vote on. I probably don't have to remind you that the officers of the Club are vitally important in keeping our Club running, making sure we fulfill the mission of the Club, and keeping the Club solvent. At every event sponsored by our club one or more of the officers is always there to pitch in and make it happen.

At the January meeting we will also be voting to approve the Club's budget for 2009. The proposed budget was presented at December's meeting but now it must be approved by the members. As specified by our Club's constitution, the Executive Board does not need to seek additional approval to make expenditures that were listed in the approved budget. Therefore, having an accurate and complete budget is important to ensure efficient operation of the Club. Make sure you get your chance to provide input on the final approved budget.

Last, but definitely not least, we will be voting to make endorsements for the Los Angeles

Community College Board of Trustees. Trustees are elected every two years to serve four year terms. The Trustees provide the leadership and oversight needed to ensure that our local community colleges are providing the services for and meeting the needs of the students and of the communities the colleges serve. As you can see we need your participation in this month's meeting to make it successful. I hope you can take time from your busy schedule to spend the evening with us.

## Karen Bass to be Honored at the Officer Installation and Awards Luncheon

On Saturday, February 21, the Club will be hosting its annual Officer Installation and Award Luncheon. You will have the chance to enjoy a fine meal and welcome in the new Club leadership and thank the outgoing officers and committee chairs for their hard work this past year. Also, per Club tradition, the Trudy Cherness Award for Democrat of the Year will be presented at the meeting.

Additionally, this year the Executive Board has decided to present an award for the Elected Leader of the Year. This first award will be presented to our representative in the California Assembly and the current Speaker of the Assembly, Karen Bass. There may be one or two

## Seeking Submissions

We would like your articles and letters to the editor. Let your voice be heard! Submissions will be published as space allows. Submissions may be edited for length.

The Club's Executive Board reserves the right to determine suitability of submissions for inclusion in the newsletter.

other surprises at the luncheon as well so it's sure to be an event you won't want to miss. Further, details on the time and location will be coming shortly so please reserve a spot in your calendar for Saturday, February 21.

## President (cont. from page 1)

Finally, I'd like to see an expansion of the leadership potential in the club. The change in standing committees that was recently approved is a step in the right direction. However, all too often the same set of individuals has been called upon to take the lead in the club. That may be the way it will always be but I hope more can be done to change this.

Looking forward I'm positive that your incoming officers will work hard for the Club and will continue the tradition of civic engagement that is the hallmark of this club. I've been very lucky to have been backed by a very committed set of officers and board members.

Thank you for all the support you've given me and the confidence you've shown in having me serve as your President two terms in a row. I look forward to working with the incoming board as Immediate Past President. Serving as President has been rewarding for me and definitely a learning experience. I hope you will all continue to work enthusiastically with your new board and continue making a difference for our community.

## Di's Corner: By Diane Rosenberg

We are saddened by the loss of another club member Seymour Goldman who passed away Oct. 25, 2008. Seymour was past President of our club. Our condolences go out to his wife Lenore and family.

The club sends their condolences to club member Neil Rubenstein on the passing of his wife Toby.

## Report from the Nominating Committee

At our December meeting we did conduct a small amount of Club business. One item was the report from the Club's Nominating Committee, chaired by Darryl Cherness. The other members of the committee were Tom Camarella, Herb Rosenberg, Amy Cherness and Roger Maxwell. After talking with several potential nominees the committee has submitted the following slate for our 2009 officers:

- Ronnie Jayne, President
- Karlo Silbiger, First Vice President
- Roger Maxwell, Second Vice President
- Eric Fine, Treasurer
- Sally Gardner, Recording Secretary
- Lee Welinsky, Corresponding Secretary
- Diane Rosenberg, Membership Secretary

As specified in our constitution, other nominations for officers can be accepted from the floor during the January General Meeting. If there is a contested office there will be a vote by secret ballot for that office. Any uncontested offices can be accepted by the body with a vote by acclamation as long as there are no objections from the body.

## 47 Assembly District Delegate Election

Every two years the California Democratic Party (CDP) asks Democrats across the state to elect representatives from each assembly district to serve as delegates in the annual CDP convention and one representative to serve on the Executive Board of the CDP. Delegates can vote on items brought to the General Assembly at the convention. In the upcoming CDP convention the delegates will be voting who will serve as Chairman, Vice Chairs, Secretaries and other offices of the CDP. In addition delegates can be appointed to serve on any of the standing committees of the CDP such as Rules, Resolutions, Platform, etc. Each assembly district can select six men and six women to serve as delegates for a two year term.

The election for our assembly district will take place on Sunday, January 11 here in Culver City in the Garden Room of the Veterans Memorial Building, 4117 Overland Avenue. You must register between 3 – 5 PM that day in order to vote for the delegates. The meeting will begin promptly at 5 PM. Any registered Democrat residing in the assembly district is eligible to vote at the meeting. There is a \$5 fee for registering to help defray the costs of the elections but it can be waived by filling out a form for economic hardship.

Further, you don't need to stay for the whole meeting, you can register, vote and leave at any time as long as you're registered before 5 PM. We have had several members of our club serve as delegates currently, as well as in previous terms, and will have several of our members as candidates to be delegates this time as well. I hope you will come out and spend a few minutes to support our members and to make sure the 47 Assembly District has dedicated delegates to represent it at the convention.

## Proposed Budget for 2009 Presented

At the December meeting Eric Fine, Treasurer, distributed and discussed the proposed budget for the Club for 2009. A vote to approve the budget will be held at our January General meeting. If you'd like to receive an electronic copy of the proposed budget before January's meeting please contact Eric at [Treasurer@CCDemClub.Org](mailto:Treasurer@CCDemClub.Org) or call the President at (310) 204-1338.

### 2008 Club Officers and Committee

#### Chairs:

**President:** Greg Valtierra  
[President@CCDemClub.Org](mailto:President@CCDemClub.Org)  
**First Vice President:** Ronnie Jayne  
[FirstVP@CCDemClub.Org](mailto:FirstVP@CCDemClub.Org)  
**Second VP:** Laura Stuart  
[SecondVP@CCDemClub.Org](mailto:SecondVP@CCDemClub.Org)  
**Treasurer:** Eric Fine  
[Treasurer@CCDemClub.Org](mailto:Treasurer@CCDemClub.Org)  
**Recording Secretary:** Sally Gardner  
**Corresponding Secretary:** Lee Welinsky  
**Membership Secretary:** Diane Rosenberg

**Web Editor:** Brian Pogue  
[Webmaster@CCDemClub.Org](mailto:Webmaster@CCDemClub.Org)  
**Newsletter:** Greg Valtierra (Interim)  
**Publicity:** Karlo Silbiger

### Renew Your Club Membership for 2009!

Our membership chair, Diane Rosenberg, will gladly accept your renewal for next year. You can use the form on Page 4 to update any of your contact information and select the level of membership. Dues are due by January 1, 2009.

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

**Renew your membership!**

Now collecting dues for 2009. Dues for 2009 are due by January 1, 2009. 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.

**Upcoming Events**

► **Sunday, January 11**

**47 Assembly District Election Meeting:**

Registration 3-5 PM. Meeting begins at 5:00 PM sharp. Veterans Memorial Building, Garden Room. All registered Democrats welcome. You must register before 5 PM to be able to vote.

► **Saturday, January 24**

**Monthly Board Meeting:**

9:00 AM at Tom Camarella and Ronnie Jayne's home. All members welcome. Call Ronnie at (310) 836-7557 or email FirstVP@CCDemClub.Org

► **Wednesday, February 11**

**Monthly General Meeting: Endorsement for Special Election for 26th State Senate District**

7:00 PM at the Rotunda Room, Veterans Memorial Building. Public is welcome. Call Greg at (310) 204-1338 or email President@CCDemClub.Org

► **Saturday, February 21**

**Installation and Award Luncheon:**

Time and location TBD. See further details inside the newsletter All members welcome. Call Ronnie at (310) 836-7557 or email FirstVP@CCDemClub.Org

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

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January 14, 2009 - Meeting Program:  
**Endorsement for LA  
Community College Board  
& Election of Club Officers for  
2009**

**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

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

**Please renew for 2009 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.