



Active Democrat

General Meeting – February 10, 2010 City Council Candidate Forum & Endorsement Vote



President's Letter:

The events of the last few weeks have left me with my head spinning! From the election of conservative Scott Brown to

Ted Kennedy's former Senatorial seat, to the Supreme Court decision on corporate personhood, to the rhetorical ping-ponging of President Obama – I'm exhausted!

The "Tea Party" members are a hodge-podge – a mix of states' rights activists, small government/cut taxes enthusiasts, "Independents" and others who are sick and tired of waiting a whole year for massive governmental change from its wasteful spending on war and financial industry bail-outs – But who appeared to be just fine patiently sitting through 8 years of Bush Administration wasteful spending on war and financial industry bail-outs. They came out in droves to vote against Martha Coakley, a terrific Attorney-General, but a less-than-stellar candidate for Senate.

Then the fair election process got hit by the Supreme Court decision (Again, 5-4. Keep these numbers in mind any time someone tells you it makes no difference who gets elected President!) that expands the concept of corporate personhood – giving

corporations carte-blanche "speech" in terms of unlimited ability to spend money on mass-media campaigns. Is there any remaining question why we need publicly financed elections?!

Then I watched President Obama's State of the Union Address. I thought it was pretty terrific – except for his statements about energy. It started out fine – encouraging the U.S. to be in the forefront of green renewable energy. Then he mentioned augmenting this with nuclear power and "clean coal technology". Hmm.....

Oh yeah, and by the way, ... Happy New Year! I'm sorry I'm so uncharacteristically negative-sounding. It's just been a tough few weeks for Progressives.

However, I'm heartened by President Obama's statements at the Republican Congressional Retreat a few days ago. It was great to see this televised give-and-take between the President and Republican legislators – and delightful to again hear the Obama we know, love and elected. There he was, ... speaking without notes, answering the tough questions, rattling off statistics disproving Republican talking-points and standing up for the people. This is the Democrat and advocate we need to see and hear more often.

(see **President**, Page 2)

Monthly General Membership Meeting:
7:00 PM Wednesday, February 10, 2010
6:45 PM – Refreshments
Rotunda Room
Veterans Memorial Building
4117 Overland Avenue
Corner of Overland Ave. and Culver Blvd.

What's Inside?
President's Message (cont.) – Pg. 2
Officer Installation and Awards Luncheon – Pg. 2
City Council Candidate Statements – Pg. 2 & 3
Di's Corner – Pg. 2
Club Notes
Renew your membership!
Please use the form on page 4 to supply your renewal information.
Electronic Newsletter:
Submit your email address to 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: Show your support for ending the war in Afghanistan every other Friday 5:30 – 6:30 PM across from the Culver Hotel
Next vigils on 2/12 and 2/26.

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

(**President** from page 1)

So, I end this message with a quote: "The people don't want a phony Democrat. If it's a choice between a genuine Republican, and a Republican in Democratic clothing, the people will choose the genuine article, every time; that is, they will take a Republican before they will a phony Democrat, and I don't want any phony Democratic candidates in this campaign." — President Harry Truman – May 17, 1952. This quote is just as true today, as in 1952 – coincidentally the year of our Club's founding.

Genuinely hopefully yours,
Ronnie Jayne, President

Officer Installation and Awards Luncheon

Come join us in welcoming our incoming Club officers for 2010 and thanking our outgoing officers of 2009 at our luncheon on Saturday, February 20 at 11:30 AM. The luncheon will be held at the Courtyard by Marriott, 6333 Bristol Parkway, Culver City.

We will be honoring Congresswoman Diane Watson as Elected Leader of the Year and awarding Greg Valtierra the Trudy Cherness Democrat of the Year.

Tickets are \$35 in advance and \$40 at the door. For more information contact Bill Wynn at (310) 253-9046

City Council Candidate Statements

Jeff Cooper:
THE RIGHT CHOICE, RIGHT NOW!!

What will they say about Culver City in 2040? I will say Culver City's leaders chose long term gains over

easy answers and that our decisions ensured Culver City's economic viability. The result - our community thrived!

To ensure that ideal, I will:

- Bring greater accountability to Culver City.
- Expand Culver City's economic base.
- Preserve Culver City's high standard of living.
- Promote projects that create walkable neighborhoods and business districts.
- Enhance revenue by motivating responsible businesses to locate in Culver City.
- Maintain police and fire services at current levels.
- Support redevelopment which revitalizes Culver City while protecting neighborhoods.
- Advocate public-private partnerships to sustain our parks and community programs.

I have resided in Culver City for over 20 years with my wife, Rafia, and our two daughters. My community experience includes:

Culver City Parks, Recreation & Community Services Commissioner - 1999-2009
Culver City Exchange Club – Past President/Current Board Member
Friends of the Culver City Dog Park - Founding Board Member
Culver City Senior Center - Volunteer - Home Delivered Meal Program
Culver City Friends of the Library – Volunteer & Member
Community Emergency Response Team - Member
KaBoom Park Build Day - Logistics Committee Co-Chair

FOR OUR GREAT CITY, I
RESPECTFULLY ASK FOR YOUR

VOTE ON APRIL 13.

Please visit
www.cooperforcouncil.com.

Scott Malsin:

The past four years have been filled with exciting change for Culver City. I'm proud of the progress we've made. Our accomplishments since 2006 include:

- \$50 million in State funding for our Expo Line Station
- The exciting renovation of Westfield Culver City
- A thriving downtown
- Forward-thinking programs to "green" Culver City
- Innovative efforts to reduce traffic
- New fire engines, communications equipment, and a computer-aided dispatch system for Fire and Police
- New playgrounds, park improvements, and community-based grants

We must continue to:

- Attract new businesses
- Foster more pedestrian-friendly neighborhoods
- Carefully manage our financial resources
- Maintain our high-quality city services
- Improve our streets and other infrastructure
- Make Culver City a community attractive to seniors and young families alike

I'm proud to have earned the support and confidence of so many residents and hope you agree with me that Culver City is heading in the right direction.

Let's keep working together to keep Culver City strong.

Endorsements include:
Supervisors Ridley-Thomas and Yaroslavsky
Culver City Mayor Weissman
Culver City Councilmembers Armenta and O'Leary
CCUSD Board Members Gourley, Paspalis and Zeidman
2005 47th AD Democrat of the Year Sandra Davis

Website: www.vote4scott.org

Di's Corner: By Diane Rosenberg

We send get well wishes to David Weisman who is back in the hospital. We send condolences to his wife Ruth on the passing of her Mother.

The club sends their condolences to Amy Cherness and her brothers Mike & Rick Mervis on the passing of their Mother Sandy Mervis.

At our January's general meeting the membership by acclamation voted in the new executive board for 2010. And we congratulate them.

City Council Candidate

Statements (cont.)

Meghan Sahli-Wells:**Background**

I was raised in Culver City and feel fortunate to live here with my husband, our children, and my grandmother. A graduate of UCLA, I am a community organizer committed to improving Culver City's environment, schools, and transportation systems. I hope to continue serving the community as a Council Member, bringing people together through responsive leadership.

Community Leadership

- Member, Advisory Committee on Redevelopment
- Vice-Chair, Culver City Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee
- Co-founder, Neighborhood Action Network
- Co-founder, Downtown Neighborhood Association
- Steering Committee, Transition Culver City
- Member, Fiesta La Ballona Committee Green Team
- Member, Linwood Howe PTA and Booster Club

Priorities**• Safe and Vital Neighborhoods**

Strengthen services for seniors, youth, and people with disabilities
Support police and fire departments
Prioritize disaster preparedness
Protect Culver City animal services

• Responsible Development

Ensure that the development process includes neighborhood input
Enforce building height limit and

billboard ban

• Fiscal Health

Boost tax revenue by promoting and contracting with local businesses
Improve government efficiency
Decrease use of outside consultants

• Community Participation

Increase government transparency, communication, and community involvement

• Green City

Make Culver City a model of sustainability
Adopt best practices for resource conservation
Create safe walkways and bicycle-friendly streets

Vote Meghan Sahli-Wells!

www.vote4meghan.com
(310) 845-5831

Robert "Mr. Z" Zirgulis:

I'm running for office because I think the present city council is wasting our taxpayer money! The city has a \$6,000,000 deficit and is spending money like a drunken sailor on top heavy bureaucrats and personal and frivolous lawsuits.

Let me show you what I can do.

I want to bring innovative problem solving solutions to the budget crisis that threatens the viability of our city government. This includes collecting oil royalties and other income from supportive businesses.

Some of the issues I want to address are: Bureaucratic waste; Elimination of red light photo and photo radar speed traps; reducing sales taxes;

environmental green projects including using solar panels to reduce electricity expenses.

I strongly support our Police and Fire departments. I also want to encourage entrepreneurship and make Culver City a magnet for new businesses.

I would like to help the School District with grants and infrastructure improvements.

My academic qualifications include Master of Science in Business CSUN, Bachelor of Arts Public Service UCLA, and certificated Substitute Teacher for CCUSD.

I have lived and worked in Culver City since 1984.

Thanks for your support. For more information:

Contact me: zirgulisr@yahoo.com

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.

2010 Club Officers and Committee**Chairs:**

President: Ronnie Jayne

President@CCDemClub.Org

First Vice President: Karlo Silbiger

FirstVP@CCDemClub.Org

Second VP: Bill Wynn

SecondVP@CCDemClub.Org

Treasurer: Eric Fine

Treasurer@CCDemClub.Org

Recording Secretary: Sylvia

Moore

Corresponding Secretary: Lee

Welinsky

Membership Secretary: Diane

Rosenberg

Web Editor: Brian Pogue

Webmaster@CCDemClub.Org

Newsletter: Greg Valtierra

Renew Your Club Membership for 2010!

Our membership chair, Diane Rosenberg, will gladly accept your renewal for the coming 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, 2010.

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

Renew your membership!

Now collecting dues for 2010.
Dues for 2010 are due by
January 1, 2010. 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

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage Paid
Los Angeles, CA
Permit No. 517

February 10, 2010 - Meeting Program:

**City Council Candidate Forum
&
Endorsement Vote**

Upcoming Events

► **Wednesday, February 10**
**Monthly General Meeting:
City Council Candidate
Forum & Endorsement Vote**

7:00 PM at the Rotunda Room,
Veterans Memorial Building.
Public is welcome. Call Ronnie at
(310) 836-7557 or email
President@CCDemClub.Org

► **Saturday, February 20**
**2010 Officer Installation
and Awards Luncheon:**

11:30 AM at the Courtyard by
Marriott, 6333 Bristol Parkway,
Culver City. Honorees: Elected
Leader of the Year -
Congresswoman Diane Watson;
Trudy Cherness Democrat of the
Year – Greg Valtierra. All
members and the public are
welcome. Questions? Please call
Bill Wynn at 310-253-9046

► **Saturday, February 27**
Monthly Board Meeting:

9:00 AM at Rosenberg's home. All
members welcome. Call Karlo at
(310) 839-9793 or email
FirstVP@CCDemClub.Org

► **Wednesday, March 10**
**Monthly General Meeting:
June Ballot Measure &
Endorsement Vote**

7:00 PM at the Rotunda Room,
Veterans Memorial Building.
Public is welcome. Call Ronnie
at(310) 836-7557 or email
President@CCDemClub.Org

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 2010 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.