

**General Meeting – February 9, 2011****John Nachbar - City Manager of Culver City****President's Message:**

In December, my school board colleagues elected me to be their Vice President. Then in January, this club voted

allow me the pleasure of being the 2011 President. Both actions, along with recent decisions by President Obama and Governor Brown, have caused me to spend the past two months thinking about leadership and those steps that great leaders take during times as tough as those now.

Being a leader might mean making difficult decisions in the name of long-term progress. This past month, Jerry Brown announced that he was cutting redevelopment agencies to focus property tax spending on cities, schools, and other local government agencies. He decided that he was going to propose a special election in June to keep current elevated sales tax levels for an extended period of time to keep California away from bankruptcy. Finally, he proposed cuts to a number of popular social programs to address the state's structural deficit.

Californians, including many Democrats, have questioned the decisions that the governor made. But no one can question his resolve in

solving the budget disaster here and now rather than continuing to borrow, postpone and budget with gimmicks, as was the norm with our former governor. Making difficult decisions is often unpopular, but leaders don't decide based on polling.

Being a leader might mean being a moderate visionary. Some people see vision as the antithesis of moderation. However, President Obama has shown time and time again that he is willing and able to take revolutionary steps in creating a better future for this country, all while balancing the various needs of a politically-divided federal government. In December, the President was able to lift the ban on gays and lesbians serving openly and honorably in the armed forces. This was a bold step, difficult to accomplish by any standard. However, Obama's shrewd movements, building support from all corners of the debate, led to a decisive vote.

Last week's state of the union address showed his continued push for such visionary action as deleting all business tax loopholes, so that all segments of society pay their fair share, and creating real reform in education through race to the top. It is easy to push one's ideology on others, but creating lasting coalitions to support massive change is real leadership.

(see **President**, Page 2)

Monthly General Membership Meeting:

**7:00 PM Wednesday,
February 9, 2011**

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!

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.

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)
Hoping to take lessons from President Obama, Governor Brown and others, I proudly take over as President of the Culver City Democratic Club. I hope to build on the immense progress that my predecessor, Ronnie Jayne, has made. I hope to challenge each and every member to own this club and our success. I hope to build more avenues for activism. And I hope to continue in our goal of progressive policy throughout the city, state, and country.

This month offers us all three chances to begin on this path. At our monthly membership meeting on Wednesday, February 9th, we will welcome City Manager John Nachbar to speak about the direction in which our community is headed, especially in the wake of the continually disastrous budget news out of Sacramento. Then on Saturday, February 12th, I would be honored if you would join me as we install the new board of the Culver City Democratic Club, in a program that will honor two wonderful leaders in our community: County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas and the late, great Sally Gardner. Finally, on Friday, February 25th, we will host our first "Happy Hour," an opportunity for us to meet informally and better get to know our democratic neighbors.

As we begin a new year, it is always a great opportunity to reflect on our personal responsibility in the creation of a better country and

community. I challenge everyone in this organization to consider the wonderful example of those leaders pushing through during the most difficult times our country has seen in at least 70 years, and redouble our efforts in building a better future. I know that we can do it together.

Karlo Silbiger

Results from January's Meeting

At our General Club Meeting on Wednesday, January 12 the Club conducted its annual election of Club officers, the approval of the Annual Budget, and a forum/endorsement vote for the LA County Community College Board.

In the officer election the slate of officers that had been recommended by the Nominating Committee was elected without any opposition and so our new officers are: Karlo Silbiger, President; Bill Wynn, First VP; Meghan Sahli-Wells, Second VP; Eric Fine, Treasurer; Sylvia Moore, Recording Secretary; Lee Welinsky, Corresponding Secretary; Diane Rosenberg, Membership Secretary.

In the Community College Board endorsements there was some opposition for Seat 1 and Seat 5 while Seats 3 and 7 had only one Democratic candidate in the running. After the forum the Club held the first ballot and endorsed the following: Mona Field, Seat 1; Steven Veres, Seat 3; Miguel Santiago, Seat 7; while neither candidate for Seat 5

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.

reached the 60% threshold for endorsement.

A second ballot was held for Seat 5 but again neither candidate reached the 60% threshold for endorsement.

Wind Down With Your Fellow Democrats

Come join your Democratic friends and neighbors for some conversation and libations on Friday, February 25 at Kay 'N Dave's, 9341 Culver Blvd., in Culver City.

The Happy Hour gathering will start at 5 PM. This is a perfect time to bring some friends and get to know your fellow Club members in a relaxing and fun environment. For further information please call Karlo at (310) 202-7255 or email President@CCDemClub.Org

Help Get the Word Out

On Tuesday, February 15 please help us prepare our endorsement cards for the College Board elections. We will be meeting at 6 PM at Denny's Restaurant (Overland & Jefferson). Come order dinner and help us address the cards we'll be sending to let Democrats in Culver City know about our endorsements.

We always have a great time conversing while we work. Even if you have only a few minutes to spare your help will be greatly appreciated. All members and guests welcome. Call Karlo at (310) 202-7255 or email President@CCDemClub.Org

Di's Corner: By Diane Rosenberg

The Los Angeles Ceremonial Swearing-In of Congress Member Karen Bass was held on Sunday, January 30, 2011. The swearing in took place at the Robert F. Kennedy Community Schools Auditorium.

Swearing her in was Hon. Nancy Pelosi Member of the U.S. House of Representatives. Lee Welinsky attended along with several members of the club. Also in attendance were our Culver City Councilmembers, Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, Congresswoman Maxine Waters, Congresswoman Diane Watson, Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas and other dignitaries.



Meet John Nachbar

Mr. John Nachbar, City Manager for Culver City will be speaking at

our General Meeting on February 9 followed by a question and answer session.

In July of 2010 the City Council of Culver City appointed Mr. Nachbar as City Manager. Prior to joining Culver City's government Mr. Nachbar was City Manager for over ten years in Overland Park, Kansas which has approximately 170,000 residents. Mr. Nachbar also served as city manager in Albany, CA and Patterson, CA and as Deputy City Manager in Tuscon, AZ.

Mr. Nachbar has stated "... it is my goal to be both a resource and catalyst to preserve and where possible improve the excellent quality of the services our City provides."

According to the website Culver City Crossroads among other accomplishments Mr. Nachbar was responsible for opening the Overland Park Soccer Complex; building and financing the Overland Park Convention Center and Sheraton Overland Park

Hotel; and completing the redevelopment plan for Metcalf Corridor in Overland Park.

In responding to questions on the website Culver City Patch regarding the difference between Culver City and other cities he's worked in, Mr. Nachbar stated "Regardless of the size of the cities, there are always issues that are very important to the residents who live there--though there are some differences between Culver City and Overland Park. Overland Park is a suburban community in the midwest and is more spread out in terms of land area. Culver City is a bit more dense. But what sets it apart is the strong economic forces it enjoys."

Come to our General Meeting on Wednesday, February 9 and come prepared with your questions for Mr. Nachbar. We look forward to hearing firsthand the issues that are facing our Culver City government and how our City Manager is planning to address them.

Award Luncheon & Officer Installation

On Saturday, February 12 the Club will be hosting the annual Officer Installation and Award Luncheon at the Courtyard by Marriott, 6333 Bristol Parkway, Culver City. Festivities will begin at 11:30 AM.

Please join us in recognizing our honorees and welcoming our new and returning officers for 2011. At the luncheon we will be honoring our Elected Leader of the Year, Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas. The Club will also be honoring Sally Gardner as the Trudy Cherness Democrat of the Year.

The meal includes a choice of Chicken Piccata or a Grilled Vegetable Stack along with Garlic Mashed Potatoes, and the choice of Double Chocolate Fudge Cake or a Fruit Plate for dessert. Reserve your place for \$35 by sending in the previously mailed reservation form with your check or pay \$40 at the door. For more information please call Ronnie Jayne at (310) 836-7557.

" Men make history and not the other way around. In periods where there is no leadership, society stands still. Progress occurs when courageous, skillful leaders seize the opportunity to change things for the better."

- Harry S. Truman

Renew Your Club Membership for 2011!

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, 2011.

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

2011 Club Officers and Committee

Chairs:

President: Karlo Silbiger
President@CCDemClub.Org
First Vice President: Bill Wynn
FirstVP@CCDemClub.Org
Second VP: Meghan Sahli-Wells
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 membership!

Now collecting dues for 2011.
Dues for 2011 are due by
January 1, 2011. 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

► **Wednesday, February 9**
Monthly General Meeting:
Culver City Manager, John
Nachbar

7:00 PM at the Rotunda Room,
Veterans Memorial Building. Public
is welcome. Call Karlo at (310) 202-
7255 or email
President@CCDemClub.Org

► **Saturday, February 12**
Club Officer Installation and
Awards Luncheon

11:30 AM at Courtyard by Marriott,
Culver City. Honoring Elected Leader
of the Year, Mark Ridley-Thomas &
Democrat of the Year, Sally Gardner.
\$35 (\$40 at the door) Call Ronnie at
(310) 836-7557 or email
RonnieJayn@aol.com

► **Tuesday, February 15**
Endorsement Mailing Party:

6:00 PM at Denny's Restaurant
corner of Overland and Jefferson.
Help us get our endorsements out the
community. All members and guests
welcome. Call Karlo at (310) 202-
7255 or email
President@CCDemClub.Org

► **Sunday, February 20**
Monthly Board Meeting:

1:00 PM at the Camarella/Janye
home. All members welcome. Call
Bill at (310) 253-9046 or email
FirstVP@CCDemClub.Org

► **Friday, February 25**
Democratic Club Happy Hour

5 - 7 PM at Kay 'N Dave's
Restaurant, 9341 Culver Blvd. in
Culver City. Join us for some
socializing and winding down with
fellow Culver City Democrats. Call
Karlo at (310) 202-7255 or email
President@CCDemClub.Org

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

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February 9, 2011 - Meeting Program:
John Nachbar - City Manager
of Culver City

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 2011 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.