



Active Democrat

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General Meeting – December 14, 2011

Holiday Party & Silent Auction

Also 2012 Club Budget & Nominating Committee Report



President's Message:

Happy holidays from the Executive Board of the Culver City Democratic Club. We hope that you spend a lot of quality time with family and friends, eat a lot of good food, sing a lot of good songs, and get a lot of good presents. You deserve it!

However, we also hope that you take a few moments during this holiday season to think about what we can each do to make our club, our community, and our country just a little bit better in 2012. This coming year will bring both challenges and incredible opportunities. Not only will we work to re-elect the President and deliver Democratic majorities in both houses of Congress, but we will finally have a real opportunity (thanks to redistricting) to have 2/3 Democratic control in both houses of the legislature. It will certainly be a new year's miracle if we no longer have to wait while the Republicans hold our state hostage during the budget process.

Locally, we will be electing three (and possibly four) members to our city council in April and watching as a school board made up of all relative newbies attempt to address the major challenges facing our schools. This is an exciting time to be an activist because so many important societal struggles are taking place right in front of our eyes. It would be unconscionable to sit back and let others direct the progress, we need to each play our role to ensure that our values are front and center.

At our December meeting, we have decided to attempt to address both of the above holiday responsibilities. We will enjoy each other's company with refreshments, conversation, and holiday music. It is always one of my favorite meetings because I get to converse with long time friends, it really bring out the family nature of our club.

However, we will also address our need to re-evaluate our work in the coming year to address deficiencies in our communal activism. We will have a silent auction with amazing gifts that will both help our club raise

(See **President**, Page 2)

Monthly General Membership Meeting:
7:00 PM Wednesday, December 14, 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) needed revenue and help our members find wonderful Culver City businesses to support. We will bring in local charitable organizations to share with us about the work that they are doing and the ways that each of us can support them. During the current recession, one of the hardest hit segments of our society has been our non-profits. They are hurting and the important work that they do is sometimes not getting done. They need our support.

Finally, we will be setting up the reorganization of our club for next year. My year as President is coming to an end and we will be bringing in new leaders to move our club forward. Being involved in your community, specifically organizations that promote good elected officials and informed citizens, as we do, is essential to a high-functioning community. We need your involvement. We need your activism. Make a commitment in the new year to

work with the Culver City Democratic Club to make a difference in our community.

Happy holidays.

Christmas 2011 -- Birth of a New Tradition by Elaine Pounds

As the holidays approach, the giant Asian factories are kicking into high gear to provide North American with monstrous piles of cheaply produced goods -- merchandise that has been produced at the expense of Canadian/American labor. This year will be different. This year North Americans will give the gift of genuine concern for others. There is no longer an excuse that, at gift giving time, nothing can be found that is produced by American hands. Yes, there is!

It's time to think outside the box, people. Who says a gift needs to fit in a shirt box, wrapped in Chinese produced wrapping paper? Everyone -- yes EVERYONE gets their hair cut. How about gift certificates from your local hair salon or barber?

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.

Gym membership? It's appropriate for all ages who are thinking about some health improvement.

Who wouldn't appreciate getting their car detailed? Small, locally owned detail shops and car washes would love to sell you a gift certificate or a book of gift certificates.

Are you one of those extravagant givers who think nothing of plunking down the \$\$\$\$ on a Chinese made flat-screen? Perhaps that grateful gift receiver would like his driveway sealed, or lawn mowed for the summer, or driveway plowed all winter, or games at the local golf course.

There are a bazillion owner-run restaurants -- all offering gift certificates. And, if your intended isn't the fancy eatery sort, what about a half dozen breakfasts at the local breakfast joint. Remember, folks this isn't about big National chains -- this is about supporting your home town businesses with their financial lives on the line to keep their doors open.

How many people couldn't use an oil change for their car, truck or motorcycle, done at a shop run by the American working guy?

Thinking about a heartfelt gift for mom? Mom would LOVE the services of a local cleaning lady for a day.

My computer could use a tune-up, and I KNOW I can find some young guy who is struggling to get his repair business up and running.

(See **New Tradition**, Page 3)

Di's Corner: By Diane Rosenberg

The election on Nov. 8, 2011 for the Culver City School Board. Two club members, Laura Chardiet and Nancy Goldberg, won. We congratulate both of them. The Swearing In/Reorganization will be held on Tuesday Dec. 13 at 6:00pm at Linwood E. Howe Elementary School.

The club congratulates club member Herb Wesson upon his appointment to President of the L.A. City Council. He is the first African American to hold this post. We may add Herb is the most qualified person we know to take this post.

We thank Jim and Wanda Boulgarides for their generous donation to the club. We would like to wish both of them a good and healthy happy year for 2012.

Herb and I thank Ronnie Jayne, Tom and Karlo for taking care of the refreshments for the past few months while Herb was recuperating from his surgery. Herb is now well enough to take over the responsibilities.

Location Change for First 3 Meetings of 2012

Due to renovation at the Veterans Memorial Building the Club's meetings in **January, February, and March** will be held in the

**Dining/Community Room of the Senior Center,
4095 Overland Avenue
NW Corner of Overland and Culver
(Park in the Senior Center lot).**

(New Tradition from Page 2)

OK, you were looking for something more personal. Local crafts people spin their own wool and knit them into scarves. They make jewellery, and pottery and beautiful wooden boxes.

Plan your holiday outings at local, owner operated restaurants and leave your server a nice tip. And, how about going out to see a play or ballet at your hometown theatre.

Musicians need love too, so find a venue showcasing local bands.

Honestly, people, do you REALLY need to buy another ten thousand Chinese lights for the house? When you buy a five dollar string of lights, about fifty cents stays in the community. If you have those kinds of bucks to burn, leave the mailman, trash guy or babysitter a nice BIG tip.

You see, Christmas is no longer about draining North America's pockets so that China can build another glittering city. Christmas is now about caring about us, encouraging small businesses to keep plugging away to follow their dreams. And, when we care about our neighbors, we care about our communities, and the benefits come back to us in ways

we couldn't imagine. THIS is the new Christmas tradition.

Forward this to everyone on your mailing list -- post it to discussion groups -- throw up a post on Craigslist in the Rants and Raves section in your city -- send it to the editor of your local paper and radio stations, and TV news departments. This is a revolution of caring about each other, and isn't that what Christmas is about?

Club Nominating Committee Preparing List of Candidates

As specified by our Club's constitution the Nominating Committee is preparing a list of candidates to recommend for the officer positions we will be voting on at our January meeting. The committee is comprised of five members, two appointed and three elected. This year's committee is chaired by Roger Maxwell with Linda Childs, Amanda Copeland, Barbara Honig, and Margaret Lindgren filling out the rest of the committee. I'm sure Roger and his cohorts will do their utmost to find excellent candidates for us to consider at the election in January.

If you are interested in running for one of the Club's officer positions

please contact Roger or any of the committee members or any of our current officers.

Of course it is possible to run for a Club office without being recommended by the Nominating Committee. Any member in good standing that meets the qualifications of the offices can run for the position at the January meeting.

Support the Club at the Silent Auction

Once again we'll be celebrating the holidays with our Club's silent auction. The Club business will be kept to a very small minimum and the emphasis will be on socializing and picking up some nice items at the Silent Auction.

We will have a great variety of items to bid on and I'm sure you're bound to find something you'd like for yourself or perhaps something to give to someone close to you. There are always some great deals on movie tickets, theatre tickets, restaurants, etc.

Take some time out from the busy season and have some fun with us.

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 Club Membership for 2012!

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, 2012.

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

Renew your membership!

Now collecting dues for 2012.
Dues for 2012 are due by
January 1, 2012. 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

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December 14, 2011 - Meeting Program:

**Holiday Party &
Silent Auction**

**Also 2012 Club Budget & Nominating
Committee Report**

Upcoming Events

► **Wednesday, December 14**
**Monthly General Meeting:
Holiday Party & Silent
Auction**

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

► **Sunday, December 18**
Monthly Board Meeting:

9:00 AM at the Camarella/Jayne's
home. All members welcome.
Call Bill at (310) 253-9046 or
email FirstVP@CCDemClub.Org

► **Wednesday, January 11**
**Monthly General Meeting:
Club Officer Elections**

Location Change!

7:00 PM at the
Dining/Community Room, Culver
City Senior Center. Public is
welcome. Call Karlo at (310) 202-
7255 or email
President@CCDemClub.Org

► **Wednesday, February 8**
**Monthly General Meeting:
Location Change!**

7:00 PM at the
Dining/Community Room, Culver
City Senior Center. Public is
welcome.

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 2012 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.