



Active Democrat

General Meeting – January 13, 2010

How to Live in an Environmentally Sustainable Way & Club Officer Elections



President's Letter:

A new year,
... a new
decade, ... No
old Y2K
fears, ... but
some change.
And I don't
just mean the
change from

saying "Two thousand nine" to
"Twenty ten" – which will take me
a while to master.

Elected officials are being termed-
out left and right – Literally! We
have a great opportunity to elect
strong Democrats on a City,
regional and State level. We will be
presented with petitions and future
propositions on the issues of CA
Majority Rule, marriage equality,
open primaries and bond measures,
among others. Participate, and let
your voice be heard!

Culver City stood out among other
cities by voting overwhelmingly in
favor of a parcel tax measure (EE)
to support our schools. This only
happened because many hard-
working citizens volunteered to get
the job done to help our students.
How about you?! Participate, and
let your voice be heard!

We will be having 3 elections this
year in Culver City – April City

Council race, June Primary and
November General Election. Every
one of these elections will be
preceded by discussions and
endorsement meetings by your
Culver City Democratic Club.
Participate, and let your voice be
heard!

I suppose you're sensing my theme,
by now. If there's anything we've
learned from this past year – from
the wacky "birthers" to the Tea
Partiers – it's that those who show
up and speak up can influence
opinions and policies. The majority
of Americans polled about health
care want a strong public option, yet
the fervent minority voice scared
just enough Senators to vote against
it. This can work for our side, too!
So, one more time, ... Participate,
and let your voice be heard!

We want to see and hear you at our
meetings. We have many ways in
which you can participate. Just ask
us, and we'll be more than glad to
match your skill and interest. As
always, we welcome your ideas.

I hope you've had a great holiday
season! I wish you a Happy &
Healthy New Year, filled with
renewed energy.

Ronnie Jayne, President

Monthly General Membership Meeting:

**7:00 PM Wednesday,
January 13, 2010**

6:45 PM – Refreshments

Rotunda Room

Veterans Memorial Building

4117 Overland Avenue

Corner of Overland Ave. and
Culver Blvd.

What's Inside?

2: **Panel Discussion on
Sustainable Living**

2: **Board Recommends Position
on Cell Tower**

3: **Nominating Committee
Recommends Candidates**

2: **Di's Corner**

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.
The next Peace Vigil will be on
1/15/10.

January Meeting Sponsors:

Diane and Herb 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.**

Panel Discussion on Sustainable Living

At our January meeting our club will be hosting several speakers for the topic of how to live in an environmentally sustainable way. We will have representatives from various organizations including Transition Culver City, Ballona Creek Renaissance and organizers of the Culver City Unified School District school gardens initiative.

Transition Culver City is part of Transition US a nonprofit organization that provides inspiration, encouragement, support, networking, and training for Transition Initiatives across the United States. Transition US works in partnership with the Transition Network, a UK based organization that supports the international Transition Movement as a whole.

The Transition Movement is a vibrant, grassroots movement that seeks to build community resilience in the face of such challenges as peak oil, climate change and the economic crisis. It represents one of the most promising ways of engaging people in strengthening their communities against the effects of these challenges, resulting in a life that is more abundant, fulfilling, equitable and socially connected.

Ballona Creek Renaissance (BCR) is a non-profit organization

based in Culver City. Its purpose is to improve Ballona Creek and the community's use of it in several ways:

- Water quality
- Ecosystems
- Recreation
- Arts
- Attractiveness and amenities

In addition, BCR seeks to provide educational and service opportunities for students and community members to learn more about our environment and how we can work together to make it better, step by step.

Culver City Unified School District's school gardens initiative is supported by various members of our community including Ben Ford, chef-owner of Ford's Filling Station, and Akasha Richmond, chef-owner of Akasha, both restaurants in Culver City. The initiative is hoping to use connections in the food industry to help make the initiative as sustainable and financially painless as possible. They've secured soil, seed and supplies from local farms and nurseries, and food and refreshments for the volunteers from several local restaurants.

The initiatives supporters are hoping to be able to tap Alice Waters for an Edible Schoolyard (ESY) certification. Waters' ESY

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.

program is known for her implementation of seed-to-table gardens within the Berkeley school district, and has recently gone national, helping schools throughout the country execute curriculum-based gardens and locally sourced school lunch programs.

Board Recommends Position on Cell Tower

At the December 19 meeting of the CCDC Executive Board a presentation was made to the Board by Bryan Tjomsland on the issue of a proposed cell tower at 5680 Sawtelle Blvd. Bryan discussed the concerns shared by many in the neighborhood surrounding the proposed site. The concerns include the visual blight, radiation exposure, and the close proximity of the location to a school and many homes.

After hearing the concerns the Board voted and passed a recommendation that the Club take a position opposing the construction of the cell tower at that location at the next general meeting. In addition the Board voted that the Club membership and the CCUSD School Board be notified of the recommendation. For more information on the issue on the web see www.stopsawtelletower@gmail.com

Di's Corner: By Diane Rosenberg

We want to wish David Weisman a speedy recovery.

We are very unhappy with Cash 'n' Carry wanting to install a T-Mobile station on top of their building. That is located across the street from El Rincon Elementary School. And next to a residential neighborhood. We feel that their permit should not be granted.

Nominating Committee Recommends Candidates

At our December 9 general meeting, as required by our Club's constitution, the Nominating Committee announced its recommended slate of candidates for Club officers. The recommendation includes some returning officers and some new candidates. The candidates recommended by the committee are: Ronnie Jayne - President, Karlo Silbiger - First VP, Bill Wynn - 2nd VP, Eric Fine - Treasurer, Lee Welinsky - Corresponding Secretary, Sylvia Moore - Recording Secretary, and Diane Rosenberg - Membership Secretary. A candidate doesn't need to be recommended by the committee to run for an officer position. Any member in good standing can be nominated from the floor during our election meeting.

To help your decision on the officer election we've included the following short biographies from the recommended candidates:

President - Ronnie Jayne:

I am proud to have served as Club President for the past year. We've had the opportunity to present terrific informative programs to the Club -- on the topics of Healthcare, Diversity and Youth involvement, among others. Our Election Forums/Endorsement meetings have been enthusiastically well-attended. I hope to be able to serve the Club as President in 2010, and increase our membership and participation in Democratic issues and campaigns

First VP – Karlo Silbiger:

Karlo Silbiger has been a member of the Culver City Democratic Club since turning 18. He has been a board member since 2007 and 1st Vice President for the past year. In 2009, Karlo was elected as a delegate to the California Democratic Party, representing the 47th assembly

district. In addition to his work within the Democratic Party, Karlo is an elected Culver City School Board Member, a member of Assembly Speaker Karen Bass's Education Commission, and a public school government, economics, and music teacher in Venice.

Second VP – Bill Wynn:

Bill Wynn, is a native son of Camden, New Jersey. He's worked for over 20 years in various roles in the entertainment industry including a founder of Adventure One Records, producing 15 stage plays, and producing several films including his latest production "Skin". He's volunteered on the boards of numerous community organizations including the Black Filmmakers Foundation, the LA Film Festival, and our local MLK Celebration committee.

Treasurer – Eric Fine:

Eric Fine is a Beverly Hills High Graduate. He went on to be Student Body President of Santa Monica College in the Spring of 1985. He was also President of the Hillel Club from 1983-1984. Eric was also Vice-President of the Santa Monica College branch of Americans for Democratic Action club from 1984-1985. Eric then transferred to The University of Nevada at Las Vegas where he graduated from in 1988 with a Bachelors degree in business management. Eric, now owns and manages property and lives in Beverly Hills.

Eric get's the occasional part in commercials. He is also currently the Treasurer of the Westside Progressives. Eric is also active with Medical Marijuana groups and marijuana legalization groups.

Corresponding Secretary – Lee Welinsky:

I have had a rocky road with membership in the club for many years, but I was asked to be the first

Vice President in 1994 and I accepted. I became President in 1995, 1996 and 1997. I remained on the board in various capacities. My son Howard was President many years before when the club had young men such as Howard become presidents.

Recording Secretary – Sylvia Moore:

Sylvia Moore is a blogger/writer who spent several years as a newspaper reporter in central California. A lifelong Democrat, she belonged to Cal Berkeley Democrats while pursuing a history degree at the University of California, Berkeley. Since then, Sylvia has volunteered on behalf of healthcare and media reform. She is a member of and blogger for L.A. Media Reform, (<http://lamediareform.wordpress.com>) a local group of volunteers dedicated to helping people become citizen mediamakers and critical consumers of corporate mass media.

Membership Secretary – Diane Rosenberg:

I became Membership Chair in 1996 to 2002. From 2002 to 2003 I served as President and then came back to being Membership Chair. I have been Membership Chair up until the present time.

I would like to thank the General Membership for giving me the opportunity to serve the Club for another year.

2009 Club Officers and Committee

Chairs:

President: Ronnie Jayne
President@CCDemClub.Org
First Vice President: Karlo Silbiger
FirstVP@CCDemClub.Org
Second VP: Roger Maxwell
SecondVP@CCDemClub.Org
Treasurer: Eric Fine
Treasurer@CCDemClub.Org
Recording Secretary: Sally Gardner
Corresponding Secretary: Lee Welinsky
Membership Secretary: Diane Rosenberg

Web Editor: Brian Pogue
Webmaster@CCDemClub.Org
Newsletter: Greg Valtierra (Interim)

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

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January 13, 2010 - Meeting Program:
**How to Live in an Environmentally
Sustainable Way
& Club Officer Elections**

Upcoming Events

► **Wednesday, January 13**

Monthly General Meeting:

**How to Live in an
Environmentally
Sustainable Way
& Club Officer Elections**

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, January 23**

Monthly Board Meeting:

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

► **Wednesday, February 10**

**Democratic City Council
Candidate Forum**

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

► **Late February
Officer Installation
Luncheon**

Date/Time TBD, 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.