



General Meeting — 7p.m. Wednesday, April 10, 2019 Veterans Memorial Building, 4117 Overland Avenue Meeting program: How more good jobs can help save the only planet we have — The Green New Deal

President's Message by Pete Rockwell

If all goes according to plan we will have three speakers on climate change and the environment for the April 10 membership meeting.

Dr. David Haake is a leader in the Sierra Club and is active in the effort to expand the number of communities in the Clean Power Alliance (CPA).

RL Miller is a climate blogger, chair of the California Democratic Party's Environmental Caucus, speaker at Netroots Nation and founder of Climate Hawks Vote.

John Kerin works with the Sunrise Movement—a group of young people who are organizing to convince lawmakers to support the Green New Deal.

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Members will vote on changes to the Club's bylaws at the April meeting. The most urgent of the suggested changes (which has the unanimous support of the Executive Board) would put the Club in compliance with the endorsement calendar for the California Democratic Party. The change is necessary because the California presidential primary will be held in March of 2020 instead of June. Our bylaws can be amended by a 2/3 vote of the members who are eligible to vote and who are present at a regular or special meeting of the Club. The intent to amend the bylaws has to be published in this newsletter.

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I've proposed an additional bylaws change that appears to be controversial among members of the Executive Board. This change would add the words "committee members shall

serve no longer than the elected officers, but may be re-appointed by the subsequent President" to **Article VIII Committees**. My reasons for suggesting this bylaws change are as follows (stay with me, this will take a bit of explanation).

In **Article VI Duties of Officers**, the bylaws currently state "Subject to the approval of the Executive Board, the President shall have the authority to create committees to carry out the purposes of the Club and to appoint members in good standing to serve as members of such committees. The President shall be responsible for the functioning of all such committees."

In **Article VIII Committees** the bylaws state "The Committees of this Club shall consist of those created by the President as the need arises, subject to the approval of a majority of the Executive Board."

In **Article VII Executive Board** the bylaws state "The elective officers of the Club together with the immediate past President, the chairpersons of all active standing committees, and the chairpersons of all Ad Hoc committees shall constitute the Executive Board."

When I agreed to run for president of the Club I had read these bylaws. I believed (and I still believe) that when they were written they were meant to give the president the authority to create and staff his or her own Ad Hoc committees.

Past presidents of the Club Amy and Darryl Cherness believe that in spite of the fact that I had not appointed any committee members when I first took

(See **President's Message** on page 4)

Membership Meeting:
**7:00 PM Wednesday,
April 10, 2019**
6:45 PM — Refreshments
Veterans Memorial Building
4117 Overland Avenue
Corner of Overland Ave.
and Culver Blvd.

**Sponsors for
April meeting:
Herb, Diane and Andy
Rosenberg.
Remembering our
beloved son and brother
Mark Stuart Rosenberg
who passed away
April 28, 1999.**

**Important issues to
be voted on at our
general meeting
April 10:**

- **Bylaws changes
(see President's
Message)**
- **Whether to endorse
Jackie Goldberg for
LA School Board
runoff election**

Di's Corner: by Diane Rosenberg

Update on Herb Rosenberg: There is no way to "Sugarcoat" this. Unfortunately things have turned for the worst. Herb has had a seizure and was transported to Southern California Hospital at Culver City (formerly Brotman's). This was Wednesday, March 21. While waiting for a room they decided to transfer him to Cedars Sinai Medical Center. They ran a series of tests including an MRI with contrast. The doctors called and told Andy and me that they found a lesion inside the brain on his

right side. They consulted with several other doctors and concluded that this lesion is a tumor—an aggressive one.

While visiting Herb on March 23 the doctor showed Andy and me the MRI images of Herb's brain. It showed a large tumor, which is inoperable, due to its location and his age. Right now he's resting comfortably, unresponsive, but he knows we are there and whoever is around him.

If any of our members want to call me they can. Herb is now at Marina Pointe. Andy and I want to thank members who have called and have gone to see Herb.



Darryl Chernes speaks at the dedication of the Judge Harold I. Chernes Memorial Parkway, located across the street from the Veterans Memorial Building "In Remembrance of his Dedicated Service at the Culver City Courthouse from 1975-1995." Judge Chernes was a past president of the Culver City Democratic Club and the namesake and a recipient of the Harold and Trudy Chernes Active Democrat Award.

The Story of Denim Day

On April 24, 2019, millions of people all over the world will wear denim in support of survivors of sexual violence.

It all began in 1992 when a young woman in Italy was raped by her driving instructor. He told her that he would kill her if she told. But she told. Years later, the Italian Supreme Court overturned the rapist's conviction because the young woman was wearing jeans at the time of the attack.

The next day the women of the Italian parliament wore jeans in solidarity with her. Women in other countries did the same, and so a tradition began of wearing jeans on Denim Day in April.

The moral of the story is: *Whatever we wear! Wherever we go! YES means YES and NO means NO!*

For more information go to:
www.denimdayinfo.org and
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/denimday

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 6

Representative Karen Bass
Town Hall Meeting

April 8

City Council Meeting

April 10

CCDC General Meeting

April 22

City Council Meeting

April 22

Earth Day

April 24

Denim Day

May 8

CCDC General Meeting

May 31

California Democratic Party
Convention

SAVE THE DATE

July 4, 2019

Club Picnic – Blanco Park

Impeachment is on the table — let it sit there awhile

Editorial by Pete Rockwell

Special Prosecutor Robert Mueller's investigation is over. What now?

Since even before Democrats took over the House, talk of impeaching Trump has been coming from every direction. Democrats talk about it because Trump is a disaster for the country. Republicans charge that impeaching Trump is the Democrats' first and only priority. (They're doing this to smear Democrats but there's no evidence it's working.)

Should Congress impeach Trump? Probably, but not until they do a thorough job of investigating him and his entire administration.

Democrats should continue to investigate Trump no matter whether they get the full Mueller report and no matter what's in it. They should subpoena Trump's tax records and any other documents they think will help unravel his financial doings. They should question witnesses to learn the details of what the administration has been up to in

secret. But they should not be in a rush to take a vote on impeachment.

It should go without saying that Trump has committed "high crimes and misdemeanors." Federal prosecutors have filed charges that implicate Trump in multiple felony violations of campaign finance law. He has openly obstructed justice in various ways, beginning with the firing of FBI Director James Comey over the Russia investigation. Trump's campaign staff, including his son, Donald Jr., conspired with Russia to win the 2016 election. It's hard to believe Trump Sr. didn't direct the conspiracy.

Imagine a phone call from an exasperated Charles Koch to his "employee" Mitch McConnell telling the Senate leader it's time for Trump to go. If that happens the Democrats may never get a chance to impeach Trump. The Koch brothers' plan may be to let Trump resign the presidency in exchange for pardons from President Mike Pence (pardons not just for Trump, but also for his relatives Don Jr., Ivanka, and

Jared Kushner).

Rank-and-file Democrats are on fire, and it's a fire that Trump started and is stoking on a daily basis. This is happening while the reputation of the Republican Party is at a low point not seen since Watergate. Even during Watergate there were Republicans, such as Barry Goldwater, who managed to save their personal reputations. Today's Republican Party is in a hole much deeper than Watergate, and they're still digging.

The best way to get rid of Trump is to vote him out of office. If Democrats impeach Donald Trump, Republicans in the Senate will vote to exonerate him.

The only way the Republican Party can save its reputation now is for the Senate to vote Trump out of office after the House impeaches him. But I don't think they will ever have the guts to do that.

The Republican Party and its billionaires are the problem that plagues our country. Donald Trump is just a symptom.

Book Review: *Democracy in Chains*, by Nancy MacLean

Democracy in Chains, published in 2017, is the true story of how Charles Koch (of the right-wing "libertarian" Koch Brothers) formed a partnership with an economist named James McGill Buchanan. Buchanan, a Nobel Prize-winning economist, had been developing a theory of economics that he called "public choice." Today, after several decades and massive infusions of Koch's almost limitless wealth, this theory is what most people on the extreme right mean when they call themselves "libertarian."

It turns out that one of the main sticking points in the Los Angeles teachers' strike, charter schools, was first invented (in a cruder form) by Buchanan in the 1950s when the state of Virginia was ordered by the federal courts to integrate its public schools after the Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court decision.

Rich white men had been running the state of Virginia without interference from the federal government since the end of Reconstruction. Working class

people of all colors had been largely denied the right to vote by a combination of anti-democratic laws like the poll tax, and segregation of black citizens from white citizens in schools, employment, public facilities and most other areas of life. Racial hatred was encouraged and used then (as it is still used today) to divide the working class as a way of keeping its members from forming groups, like labor unions and civil rights groups.

Buchanan looked at politics and economics and saw that such groups are the best method working people have to defend themselves politically when oligarchs are in control of government. The state of Virginia was an entrenched oligarchy in the 1950s. When federal courts ordered Virginia to integrate its public schools, the oligarchs seized upon Buchanan's plan to give taxpayer money to citizens to use as a way to put students in private schools (which were allowed to stay segregated under the court order). The most extreme of the segregationists wanted

to shut down all the public schools in Virginia and give the school buildings to segregated private schools.

Democracy in Chains follows the partnership of Koch and Buchanan (who died in 2013) over the decades to the present day. The author calls her book "The deep history of the radical right's stealth plan for America."

It's the most frightening book I've ever read. I recommend it to all Democrats and others who believe in the need to protect our democracy from the likes of Donald Trump and the modern Republican Party.

I'd love to to organize a discussion group with people who have read this book. There's more on *Democracy in Chains* to be found in an interview that Ian Masters did recently with the author:

<https://soundcloud.com/user-830442635/stopping-the-koch-brothers-with-progressive-gains-in-red-states-nancy-maclean>

—Pete Rockwell

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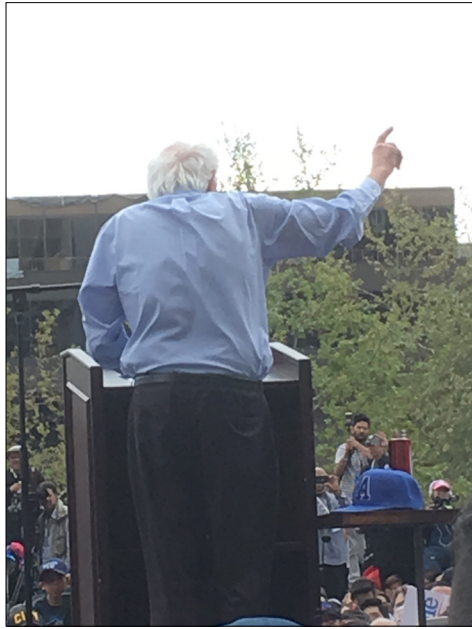
office, Amy continued to be chair of the committee on homelessness and Darryl continued to be chair of the bylaws committee.

If this were true it would give both of them a vote on the Executive Board even after I am no longer president of the Club (unless the committee on homelessness and the bylaws committees were ended by a majority vote of the Executive Board). In fact, at the Executive Board meeting on March 25 the committee on homelessness *was* ended by a vote of 5 to 4.

In the hope of ending the division on the Executive Board I did appoint Darryl Cherness chair of the bylaws committee at the March 13 membership meeting. I also appointed myself, Cynthia Hart, John Williams, Rebecca Williams, Khin Khin Gyi, and (at Darryl's urging at the Executive Board meeting) Diane Rosenberg to the bylaws committee.

I'm hoping that there will be a vote on this bylaws change at the April membership meeting, and that the change will be adopted. (A change in the bylaws takes a 2/3 majority vote by the members at a meeting.) I also hope this will end the divisive atmosphere on the Executive Board.

I would like to strongly urge all members of the Club to go to the website at <http://culvercitydemocraticclub.com/by-laws/> and read the Club bylaws. ☞



Bernie Sanders (left) speaks to 15,000 people in Grand Park on Saturday, March 23. CCDC First VP John Williams (right) on March 25 after finishing the LA Marathon 7th place in his age group (John was also at the Bernie Rally in Grand Park March 23).

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Veterans Memorial Building, 4117 Overland Avenue
Meeting program: How more good jobs can help
save the only planet we have: The Green New Deal

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

☐ Lifetime Member \$500

Additional Contribution: \$_____

Please make your check payable to:

Culver City Democratic Club

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

OR Click "Join/Renew" on our web site: CulverCityDemocraticClub.com

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

Please check here to receive the **paper** newsletter in the mail ☐

Please renew for 2019 if you haven't already done so.

The dues period runs concurrent to the calendar year.

Renewals are due by January 1st of each year. **NO REFUNDS.**

**Don't forget to renew
your membership in the
Culver City Democratic
Club for 2019.**

**You can fill out the form
on this page or you
can join online through
ActBlue at:**

[https://secure.actblue.com/
contribute/page/ccdcmembership](https://secure.actblue.com/contribute/page/ccdcmembership)

CCDC Website:

www.CulverCityDemocraticClub.com

Email:

CulverCityDemClub@gmail.com

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