



General Meeting on Zoom — 7p.m. Wednesday, January 13, 2020

Program: analysis of November 3 election

President’s Message by Pete Rockwell

New Club officers will be elected in January

January meeting Program

At 7 p.m. on Wednesday, January 13, join former Club president Karlo Silbiger and a panel of political activists to discuss lessons from the 2020 election at the local, state, and national level.

My last “President’s Message”

I’ve served two terms as Club president and have decided not to run again. I’d like to thank the Club members for giving me the honor to serve as president. I still intend to be active in the Club, but I’m looking forward to having only the single job of working on this newsletter.

The nominating committee will place the following candidates’ names in nomination at the general meeting on January 13:

- President Jeff Schwartz
- First Vice President Freddy Puza
- Second Vice President Jeanna Harris
- Corresponding Secretary Cynthia Hart
- Recording Secretary Shannon Theus
- Treasurer Eric Fine
- Membership Secretary..... Diane Rosenberg

Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the January meeting, with the consent of the nominee. If more than one candidate is nominated for any office, the Club will hold an online election the week of the meeting.

Podcast recommendations

If you don’t know what a podcast is, it can best be described as a recording of a radio talk show that you listen to on your phone whenever you want to.

I’d like to recommend a podcast. It’s called [Pod Save America](#), and it’s four guys who used to work for President Obama, led by his former head speechwriter. It’s the podcast I’ve been listening to the

most since 2017. I was at a meetup organized by [Indivisible](#) in Santa Monica, and most of the people there were extremely upset that Trump had recently been elected President. A woman recommended the podcast and I started listening to it. It usually comes out twice a week.

I also like [Rumble with Michael Moore](#). This is Michael Moore the Oscar-winning documentary maker. He started the podcast just about a year ago, and he puts out a podcast whenever he has something to say, which is a lot. Usually he puts out at least two a week.

Former Senator Al Franken also has a [podcast](#). Today I heard him interview D. Taylor, who works for the international union that includes the Las Vegas Culinary Workers local. Culinary workers who have been laid off went to swing states to help Biden, and are now trying to get Jon Ossoff and Raphael Warnock

elected to the Senate from Georgia.

Trump-proofing the Presidency

We’d like to try something a bit different for the next newsletter. I’d like members to send in letters or articles telling how they would Trump-proof the Presidency, using legal, political or other non-violent means to see that we never have anyone like Trump in the White House again.

Or, if any future President tries to ignore the law, is there anything we can do now to be better prepared?

After President Nixon resigned in 1974, Congress passed a number of laws meant to prevent actions like some Nixon had taken in office. It may be time for some new laws—a reform effort like what was attempted after Watergate. The Presidency needs new guardrails. Email submissions to pete_rockwell@hotmail.com


LA County DA George Gascón: Justice with safety and humanity

(There follows an excerpt from George Gascón’s December 7 [press release](#))

“It is time to change course and implement a system of justice that will enhance our safety and humanity,” said Los Angeles County District Attorney George Gascón at his oath-taking on December 7. “Today we are confronting the lie that stripping entire communities of their liberties somehow made us safer—and we are doing it with science, research, and data.” Here is the plan:

End use of money bail
The DA’s office will no longer request cash bail for any misdemeanor, non-serious or non-violent felony offense.

(See Gascón on [page 7](#))



**LA District Attorney
George Gascón**

Looking forward:

School board member Kelly Kent

While 2020 has been so absolutely heart-wrenching and the greatest test of leadership there has been in a lifetime, there have been some wins.



Thank you Culver City Democratic Club for your support. It was *most certainly* one of the determining factors in our decisive, progressive win on the school board. In addition to my re-election, I was also appointed to be on the board of Local Progress, a national organization that supports local elected progressives in passing truly ground-breaking policies. I am so honored to be able to expand Local Progress' work in supporting governing board members throughout this state and nation.

With these new beginnings, what about my leadership will be the same and what leaves will I be turning over?

I will continue to be led and inspired by the activists and organizers who are fighting for their families every single day in this community. I will continue to see us all on a spectrum on our way towards authentically centering folks of color, and towards the righting and

re-imagining all of our institutions to be racially just and inclusive. But I also have come to understand that pissing certain people off is a measure of success and that making others uncomfortable is precisely part of the work. So, in this next term I am committed to leading without any ambiguity about the direction in which we're headed. We don't have the time or luxury of gently bringing every single one of us along with full philosophical buy-in. In lieu of buy-in, we work with commitments. I will still make space for reflection, listening to every voice and especially those that are traditionally marginalized. But I have learned that being resolute is the only way forward. My intention is to fight to bring the assets of the historically erased into every classroom, to inspire most to join me, and to trust that the rest will either come along or take a step back for the time being.

If we can't be bold and uppity now, then when?!

A message from new school board member Paula Amezola de Herrera

I am humbled by the support I received from our community. I am going to govern in community and will continue to engage with my constituents as I begin to serve as your elected school board member.



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

Di's Corner:

by Diane Rosenberg

Medical update on Club member Charlotte Gunter: Charlotte is getting much better with her arm. It has taken time for the healing. She still does her exercises. We speak almost every day.



The Club wants to thank Culver City Councilmember (and Club member) Daniel Lee for delivering a eulogy at the end of our December 9 general meeting for our former Club president Bill Wynn, who recently passed away. The Club adjourned the meeting in memory of Bill Wynn.



You must be a current Club member to vote on Club officers in January

How to Join the Culver City Democratic Club online

1. Go to the Club's website (CulverCityDemocraticClub.com)
2. Click on the Join / Renew button:



3. This will take you to the Actblue website

Join or Renew Your Culver City Democratic Club Membership!

The Culver City Democratic Club provides an important resource for local Democrats. Your support helps us sponsor events, advocate for Democratic candidates and promote Democratic values. Please take this opportunity and donate today. Member - \$30; Student Member - \$20; Supporting Member - \$75; Sustaining Member - \$125; Lifetime Member - \$500.

Donate via Apple Pay

We noticed that you have Apple Pay®. It's the easiest way to donate.

Your contribution will benefit Culver City Democratic Club (CA).

\$20	\$30	\$45
\$75	\$125	\$500

Other amount

Make it monthly!

Yes, count me in for 12 months

No, donate once

4. Join the Culver City Democratic Club for a \$30 Donation!
For more information on becoming a member of the Culver City Democratic Club, call Diane Rosenberg at (310) 398-5328

CCDC endorses candidates for ADEMs

At our December meeting the Club heard brief talks by a number of members who are running for ADEMs in January. Also, the Club voted to have an online election so that Club members could vote on whether to endorse any of the ADEMs candidates who were present at the meeting. We set up a vote on ElectionBuddy.com so that members who were not at the meeting could also vote.

The vote resulted in endorsements of twelve candidates. The candidates the Club endorsed are listed below in alphabetical order by gender. All the candidates on the ballot were Club members. If you click on the candidate's name it links to their web page.

[Elina Antoniou](#)

[Naomi Goldman](#)

[Cynthia Hart](#)

[Leah Pressman](#)

[Michele Reed](#)

[Shannon "Ziggy" Theus](#)

[Greg Bartlett](#)

[Will Herrera](#)

[Herman D. Jones II](#)

[Wayne Liebman](#)

[Patrick MacFarlane](#)

[Freddy Puza](#)

All the candidates the Club endorsed are running on the slate called FORWARD 54. Here's a link to their [Facebook page](#).

ADEM elections in January

By Tom Camarella,

How important are the ADEM (Assembly District Election Meeting) elections this month? Why are the California electeds being raided by the Democratic Party and Biden right now? Why are the progressive laws in California being copied by the rest of the nation? Is it by chance? NO. It's because we have been electing progressive and assertive people as candidates and as delegates up and down the state for 14 years.

I took on the important task of electing progressive and aggressive Democratic delegates for ADEM elections in 2005. Since then there have been eleven elections, and our progressive slate has won all but five positions, equaling a winning percentage of over 95 percent (the best percentage in Southern California). The 54th Assembly District has elected me to the Executive Board of the California Democratic Party for several terms.

Our elected delegates and I have pushed for more progressive candidates and laws. That's why we have the great electeds and laws that most of the Democrats around the country wish they had, and why we're being raided for national leadership by national Democrats and

copying our laws such as the Crown Act.

I want to congratulate our CCDC for turning our Club into such a fabulous progressive club and electing progressive Delegates to the CDP. You, our Club members, have consistently pushed California into a relative progressive state in the last 15 years so that the Democrats across the nation looks to us to get us out of the current mess that the Republicans have left us with.

Now, because we have Greg Bartlett and excellent progressive candidates who will continue to carry this progressive torch, I'm retiring to allow new progressive young blood to continue our winning positions.

I strongly urge you to help Greg and our current progressive candidates on the Forward 54th Slate to win their elections in January. The election this January will be totally different, i.e. virtual, due to Covid 19 and we all must register in advance to vote. They'll need every vote to make sure we get the people's best progressives and make this state even better for all of us.

I plead that you request a ballot NOW, and vote in the January ADEM elections.

Register to vote for your representatives to the California Democratic Party convention

Instead of the controlled chaos of prior years' ADEM elections, we will vote safer at home by mail this time. But first you have to register no later than January 11, 2021 in order to get a ballot. But why wait? The State Party has made it really easy to register online! (If you have a problem registering online you may call (916) 442-5707, or email adem@cadem.org.)

Just go to [this link](#), then enter:

- Your name (as registered to vote)
- Your address (as registered to vote)
- Your date of birth
- Your email address
- Your mobile phone number

You will then be challenged to prove that you are not a robot by clicking on all the boxes that have pictures of traffic lights or some such nonsense. Click on "Register to Vote in an Adems Election."

What's next? This is the important part. You should receive an email confirming your registration and giving you a code number. *Don't lose that number!* Your ballot is not valid without it.

Your Scantron ballot will be mailed to you and must be received by the CDP by January 27, 2021.

That's if all goes well. But what if it doesn't? Say, for example, the name and address you enter doesn't exactly match your voter registration? Then contact the party at adem@cadem.org and it can all be straightened out.

Thank you for participating! Happy New Year!



January 11, 2021, is the deadline to register to receive a ballot for the

ADEMS Election

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Those unable to register online may call (916) 442-5707

Or email adem@cadem.org

New Year's message from Culver City Vice Mayor Daniel Lee

It is my hope that in the coming year we, as members of the Democratic party, demand more of our party leaders and elected officials. Specifically, I hope that we can absorb

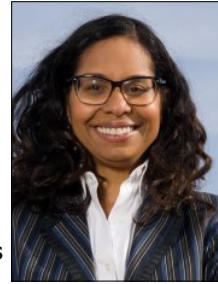
the hard lessons of the Covid-19 pandemic and work towards a single payer healthcare system in California. Responsive and affordable healthcare should not be a privilege of the few. Healthcare is a human right.



Excerpts from Assemblymember Sydney Kamlager's inaugural remarks

In 2021, let's be about it! Let's move beyond rhetoric and privilege and focus on creating a just future for *all of us*.

This new year, I am introducing a legislative package that is bold and unapologetic. I am leading our state legislators' Los Angeles County delegation with a focus on infrastructure and the future. I am leaning into the hard and important work that uncovers the bigotry of



inequity and reveals how sustainable just economies can be.

I am hoping that you will join me in these efforts and lend your voice to the work that needs to be done. I hope you will continue to reflect on how you can be a better partner,

neighbor and global citizen, and how together, we can bend the arc of history towards meaningful justice.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Club Website is www.culvercitydemocraticclub.com

Follow us on Twitter @CulvCityDemClub
and Instagram CulverCityDemClub

January 11, 2021

Deadline to register to receive a ballot for ADEMS Election

[\[link to register\]](#)

Those unable to register online may call (916) 442-5707

Or email adem@cadem.org

January 13, 2021

CCDC General Meeting via Zoom

Election of Club Officers for 2021

Adoption of Club Budget for 2021

(Members with email addresses receive the link automatically
Others are welcome to RSVP to CulverCityDemClub@gmail.com)

7:00 PM

January 24, 2021

Kidscoopmedia Special Election Candidate Forum

5:00 PM

January 27, 2021

ADEMS Ballots must be received by State Party

Deadline: 5:00 PM

February 10, 2021

CCDC General Meeting via Zoom

Installation of Club Officers for 2021

(Members with email addresses receive the link automatically
Others are welcome to RSVP to CulverCityDemClub@gmail.com)

7:00 PM

March 2, 2021

State Senate District 30 Special Primary Election

May 4, 2021

Runoff (if needed) for State Senate District 30

Dates of

General Meetings in 2021

Please note that all meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Also, they all begin at 7 p.m. **EXCEPT** the one on September 8, which begins after sundown to avoid a conflict with Rosh Hashanah

January 13, 2020

February 10, 2020

March 10, 2020

April 14, 2020

May 12, 2020

June 9, 2020

July 14, 2020

August 11, 2020

September 8, 2020

October 13, 2020

November 10, 2020

December 8, 2020

A message from Culver City Mayor Alex Fisch



In December, our City Clerk administered the California oath of office to me and I became the Mayor of the City of Culver City. It's a largely ceremonial role, but I will do my best to represent our city well.

Yesterday, I won a contested election for a seat on the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) Regional Council. The Regional Council is far from ceremonial—it is the 86-member body that governs SCAG, which is the largest metropolitan planning organization in the United States, coordinating transportation and housing policy among jurisdictions representing 19 million people. I will do my best to represent the Westside cities well, and illuminate the processes of this obscure but important institution.

In case you missed it, here is what I said on Monday after being appointed mayor:

I kicked off my campaign to serve on this council more than three years ago because I believed that we live in a pivotal time in history. Unfortunately, history didn't waste much time to prove me right.

Over the next year, we will begin to immunize ourselves against COVID-19. As a city, we'll do all that we can to ensure that everyone in Culver City who wants to be vaccinated can be vaccinated as promptly as possible. And I encourage every person listening tonight to get the vaccine. I trust its safety and I personally signed up to be a subject in a clinical trial, and I know that Vice Mayor Lee is participating in a trial as well. The sooner we have widespread vaccination, the sooner we can get back to our full lives, and the fewer of our neighbors we will lose to the virus.

There are still hard months ahead. We are in the midst of a COVID surge on top of a surge, and if people travel and gather for the holidays, we'll have

another surge on top of that, even as our hospitals fill and our healthcare workers wear down. Please stay strong. Please do everything you can to overcome pandemic fatigue for just a bit longer. And please try to remember and respect the humanity of one another and of the public health professionals who are doing their best in face of a vacuum of federal leadership and financial support.

And please be charitable. While many professions and businesses are doing alright or even well, some segments of our community are facing profound housing and food insecurity. We as a council must remember that the real recovery in the months ahead must be the human recovery. Between 2.4 million and 5 million Americans are at risk of eviction just in January, and millions more will be at risk before the pandemic eases. As a city, we may be limited, but we must not let a weakness of imagination stop us from doing all we can to help our residents through to the end.

Even as the darkness of this winter gives way to a post-COVID dawn, many familiar challenges remain.

We need to shelter the unhoused. Every day that we allow this humanitarian disaster to continue, we risk that more people will forget the humanity of people who have nowhere to sleep but the streets. We must do everything we can to bring everyone in.

We need to work with our entire region to address the housing shortage, which, when amplified in city after city over the entire metro area, is intimately tied to rising homelessness.

We need to continue to expand transportation options—even as transit faces unprecedented challenges—so that people are not trapped in a car, away from family and friends, so that our children can breathe clean air, and so that we can curb the forty percent of California's greenhouse gas emissions that come from transportation.

We need to continue our cutting edge work to chart a just transition away from resource extraction in our backyards at the Inglewood Oil Field.

And we need to undertake the task of realizing a public safety regime that

makes everyone truly safe. While we have focused, and will continue to focus, on policing, we have to remember that antiracism is an affirmative and cross-cutting project. That means that we need to consider equity at every step in every topic that I've mentioned tonight. We also need to find ways to repair the community and restore trust in our city institutions after some of the harmful communications in this year's campaign, even as we see a general decline in public trust nationwide.

Congratulations, Council Member Vera, Council Member McMorris, and Council Member Eriksson. We have our work cut out for us. In addition to COVID recovery, and the challenges that I listed, I fear that we will find a tremendous mental health toll in our community from the events of the last year. The nation's splintered response to a pandemic also warrants analysis and planning, because this probably will not be the last pandemic for many of us. I'd like for us to consider forming a Public Health Committee. I know that we have a cornucopia of commissions, boards, and committees, but our community has a wealth of public health expertise in our residents. I would like to convene those experts to better identify and address significant public health challenges.

Finally, I want to take a moment to thank the voters. The failure of Measure B provides Culver City's tenants with a bit of certainty in uncertain times. The passage of Measure RE is a big deal for this city. Measure RE represents a major step toward long term financial stability and capacity to update public facilities and provide the services that residents demand. We would all be wise to remember that Measure RE received more votes than any council member in Culver City history.

It can be hard to interpret the will of the voters, but they have trusted each of us to make decisions based on the values that we publicly embraced in our campaigns. And they have told us, once again, that they want the city to continue providing the best basic municipal services possible, and to keep working toward the best possible Culver City that we can imagine.

Be Part of the Documentation of History



This is an old picture. The Dueling Dinos are now wearing face masks, as are all right-thinking individuals when they venture out in public.

We made history in 2020. Now let's make sure that it is never forgotten.

The History Department of the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History is asking for donations of artifacts to document the historic 2020 campaigns—both primaries and the general election. Of particular interest are the large numbers of candidates of color and women candidates in local, state, and federal elections.

Locally, they seek objects pertaining to the Los Angeles District Attorney race, and Holly Mitchell's campaign for County Supervisor. For the Presidential election, they are interested in materials connected to Kamala Harris as the first woman elected VP, the Biden-Harris campaign, the Trump campaign, and the other candidates running in the primaries, as well as materials put out by PACs. If you have something that you think might be of interest to them that you would consider donating, please email a cell phone snap shot to Brent or Beth as listed below:

For 2-D items, such as bumper stickers, posters, campaign promotional items (i.e., Team Bernie softball card), campaign mailers, ads (especially those making outrageous claims), and any other material that showed the intensity of the campaigns, please send photos to Brent at briggs@nhm.org.

For 3-D items, such as lawn signs, hats (Make America Great Again; Build Back Better), political pins, T-shirts, mugs, bobble-heads, toys, dolls, sunglasses, etc. Objects used, worn, or made for political rallies, protests, or marches are especially welcome. What item(s) spoke to you during this year's unprecedented political and social upheaval? Please send photos to Beth at bwering@nhm.org.

They are also looking for materials related to the pandemic and the campaigns for social justice and police reform. If you have something of interest, please follow the same guidelines above.



Supervisor Holly Mitchell's New Year's Resolution

Exerpts from her inaugural [address](#)

"Equity will be at the center of all our work . . . to alleviate poverty and decriminalize childhood. I look forward to collaborating with the new anti-racism initiative created by the supervisors. My goal, as always, is to bring people in."



Joe Biden's New Year's Resolutions

(excerpt from his November victory [speech](#))

"To marshal the forces of decency and the forces of fairness. To marshal the forces of science and the forces of hope in the great battles of our time. The battle to control the virus. The battle to build prosperity. The battle to secure your family's healthcare. The battle to achieve racial justice and root out systemic racism in this country. The battle to save the climate. The battle to restore decency, defend democracy and give everybody in this country a fair shot.

On Monday, I will name a group of leading scientists and experts as transition advisors to help take the Biden-Harris COVID plan and convert it into an action blueprint that starts on January 20th, 2021. That plan will be built on a bedrock of science. It will be constructed out of compassion, empathy and concern.

I will spare no effort — or commitment — to turn this pandemic around.

(From Gascón on page 1)

Conviction Integrity Unit

The DA’s office will expand eligibility for conviction review.

Death Penalty

Going forward the DA’s office will not seek the death penalty.

Felony Charging Policy

The DA’s office will end use of sentencing enhancements and “three strikes” sentencing.

Resentencing

The DA’s office will carry out an unprecedented effort to resentence thousands of people in prison who received sentences inconsistent with the new guidelines. This effort will include input from victims and victim advocates. The *Amity Foundation* in partnership with the *Returning Home Well* initiative has promised to assist everyone resentenced.

Misdemeanor Charging Policy

The DA’s office will stop charging certain low-level offenses associated with poverty, addiction, mental illness, and homelessness, and will work instead to divert individuals into behavioral health services.

Youth Justice

The DA’s office will end the practice of transferring kids to adult court.

Victims

Enhanced services to victims are promised. This will include services to families of individuals killed by police.

Use of Force Review Board

The DA’s office will convene a “use of force review board” made up of policing experts, civil rights attorneys and community members.

Our new DA can’t make our reform dreams come true without our support. Let’s be there for him in this effort!

“We have it in our power to begin the world over again.”
—*Thomas Paine*

Kamala Harris’s New Year’s Resolutions

(Excerpt from her November 7 victory [speech](#))

No matter who you voted for, I will strive to be the vice president that Joe was to President Obama—loyal, honest and prepared. Waking up every day thinking of you and your families. Because now is when the real work begins.

The hard work. The necessary work. The good work. The essential work to save lives and beat this pandemic. To rebuild our economy so it works for working people. To root out systemic racism in our justice system and society. To combat the climate crisis. To unite our country and heal the soul of our nation.



The road ahead will not be easy, but America is ready. And so are Joe and I.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The nominating committee will place the following candidates’ names in nomination at the general meeting on January 13:

- President**Jeff Schwartz
- First Vice President**.....Freddy Puza
- Second Vice President**..... Jeanna Harris
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Control of the U.S. Senate will be decided January 5 in Georgia

Two Georgia Senate seats are possible for the Democrats in January!

Two Georgia Democrats for U.S. Senate: Jon Ossoff and Rev. Raphael Warnock

Both Georgia Senate seats are headed for a runoff election at the beginning of January. Joining with our Westside Dem HQ, we’ll be in the middle of it with opportunities for you to volunteer and donate to Flip the Senate Blue!!

Help Get Out The Vote!

<https://www.mobilize.us/crooked/?state=GA>

Donate to the Jon Ossoff and Raphael Warnock Senate campaigns:

<https://secure.actblue.com/donate/getmitch>