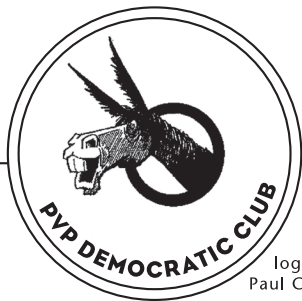


Palos Verdes Peninsula  
Democratic Club  
Founded 1952



**April 2010  
Newsletter**

**P.O. Box 2234, Rolling Hills Est. CA 90274  
Visit Us on the Web at [www.pvpdemocrats.org](http://www.pvpdemocrats.org)  
"One of the oldest Democratic Clubs in California"**

**COMING EVENTS**

**APRIL MEETING:**

**NEW DAY AND TIME:** Saturday, April 10, 3-6 p.m.

**NEW PLACE:** UFCW Local 770 Labor Auditorium, 25949 Belle Porte Ave., Harbor City

**TOPIC:** Statewide candidates forum

**MAY MEETING:**

**SAVE THE DATE:** Sunday, May 16, 3-5 p.m.

**PACIFIC UNITARIAN CHURCH,** 5621 Montemalaga Drive, RPV

**TOPIC:** How PVP local governments function and how we can play a role

**PVP Club Joins with Other Local Clubs for Statewide Candidates Forum**

In lieu of our regular monthly meeting, our club is joining with other South Bay/Long Beach-area Democratic clubs to present a candidates forum on Saturday, April 10, from 3-6 p.m.

The forum will be held at the UFCW Local 770 Labor Auditorium at 25949 Belle Porte Ave. (two blocks south of the intersection with Pacific Coast Highway) in Harbor City. (see map) Admission is free and open to the public. Carpooling is available and is described below.

The forum will feature Democrats running for statewide offices appearing on the June 8 ballot. It will be the only chance voters in the South Bay/Long Beach area will have to see nearly all Democrats running for statewide office gathering at one location to discuss their campaigns.

Each candidate will be given time to speak and then will answer questions submitted by members of the audience.

Democrats running for statewide office who were confirmed to attend at press time include Secretary of State Debra Bowen; state attorney general candidates Pedro Nava, Alberto Torrico, Ted Lieu, Chris Kelly and Rocky Delgadillo; state insurance commissioner candidates Hector De La Torre and Dave Jones; and superintendent of public instruction candidates Gloria Romero and Tom Torlakson. Lieutenant governor candidates Janice Hahn and Gavin Newsom were maybes.

In addition to the candidates, sponsoring Democratic clubs will have information tables onsite to encourage voters to get involved and to vote on June 8. As many as 12 area Democratic clubs – including our club – plus the

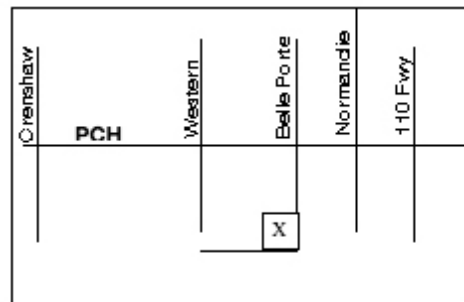
Torrance-based Democratic Action Center are co-sponsoring the event.

The South Bay/Long Beach candidates forum is being presented in tandem with a second forum sponsored by Westside-area Democratic clubs scheduled earlier that afternoon. That forum will be held at the Culver City Veterans Memorial Auditorium, 4117 Overland Ave., Culver City, beginning at noon. The candidates will stop there and then continue on to our forum.

Any of our members interested in carpooling to the candidates forum should meet behind the Wachovia Bank building at the corner of Hawthorne Boulevard and Silver Spur Road on the Peninsula Center parking lot. Look for Dick and Barbara Trakas and their van in the lot between the bank and the PV Bicycle Center. They'll help everyone organize into carpools. The carpools will depart the parking lot at 2:15 p.m.

If you're interested in volunteering at the candidates forum, please contact Kay Cooperman Jue at [pvedem@yahoo.com](mailto:pvedem@yahoo.com).

For more information about the candidates forum, visit [www.socaldems.org](http://www.socaldems.org). Hope to see you there!



UFCW Local 770 Labor Auditorium, 25949 Belle Porte Ave., Harbor City

**Inside This Month's Issue:**

**April Membership Meeting Announcement** - Page 1

**March Meeting Report**  
Page 2

**New Bylaws Include Operational Changes** - Page 3

**PVPDC on Facebook** - Page 3

**Progressive Email News**  
Hans Grellmann - Page 3

### Invitation for Submissions

The PVP Democratic Club Board invites members to contribute to the monthly newsletter. We accept submissions in the form of opinion pieces, reviews of books of interest to our members, reports of conferences on Democratic issues, etc. We welcome any and all such input, so don't be shy, if you have something to say, our newsletter could be your forum!

Connie Sullivan, Newsletter Editor

### Report of March Meeting

By Connie Sullivan

Our March meeting focused on the June 8 ballot. We heard from four Democrats running for Superior Court judge and two Democrats running for our Congressional District seat. We also discussed Proposition 14, the open primary initiative. We're providing candidate Websites for your information.

#### Candidates for Superior Court Office No. 28

Mark Ameli told us he immigrated to the U.S. from Iran in 1966 and became a lifelong Democrat after Governor Ronald Reagan cut the University of California budget as his first official act. Mr. Ameli has 29 years of experience as an attorney and litigator and 15 years as an arbitrator and mediator. He summed up by saying that he has the judicial temperament, knowledge and compassion to be a judge in family court. [www.electmarkameli.com/](http://www.electmarkameli.com/)

Chris Garcia, who currently serves as Deputy Los Angeles City Attorney for identity theft and fraud, said he finds public sector legal work more rewarding than working in a private legal practice, which seemed to be "just fighting about money." Mr. Garcia serves voluntarily as a judge on the Los Angeles Superior Court as a crash settlement officer and as a member of the Superior Court's Dispute Resolution Services. [www.chrisgarcia2010.com/](http://www.chrisgarcia2010.com/)

Randy Hammock currently serves as the Superior Court Referee (since 2007) in Office 28. He is running to fill this position permanently. Mr. Hammock previously served as a temporary judge, mediator and arbitrator (voluntary basis) and volunteered as a Municipal Court judge from 1998-1999. [www.hammock4judge.com/](http://www.hammock4judge.com/)



Chris Garcia, candidate for Superior Court Judge, Office 28



Randy Hammock, candidate for Superior Court Judge, Office 28

#### Candidate for Superior Court Office No. 117

Patricia Vienna, has been an attorney for 24 years specializing in business litigation. She has volunteered as a judge in traffic and small claims courts. She said she understands that people who appear before judges feel intimidated, confused, and frightened and she likes to help them get their stories out so that the court can arrive at the truth. [www.ViennaforJudge.com](http://www.ViennaforJudge.com).

#### Candidates for Congress

Two Democrats running for the 46th Congressional District seat (currently held by Republican Dana Rohrabacher) spoke to our group.

Ken Arnold, a computer analyst from Fountain Valley, said it is time to retire Dana Rohrabacher; the district deserves someone who understands economics because we live in a complex world, someone who understands statistics, science, and technology, not someone who believes junk science. Mr. Arnold said he would use his technology



Ken Arnold, candidate for the 46th Congressional District

expertise to make government more efficient and effective. Mr. Arnold is a very active member of the Democratic Party in Orange County. [www.democracyforamerica.com/campaigns/3581-ken-arnold-for-congress](http://www.democracyforamerica.com/campaigns/3581-ken-arnold-for-congress)

Dr. Jay Shah is a retired physician who worked for many years in rehabilitation medicine at L.A. County Harbor/UCLA hospital. Before that he was a flight surgeon in the U.S. Air Force. He emphasized his belief in term limits as a way to guard against corruption by elected officials. He promised to serve only four terms in Congress if elected. [www.drjayshah4congress.com](http://www.drjayshah4congress.com)



Sergio Carrillo, Regional Director of Region 17 of the California Democratic Party,

#### Proposition 14

Sergio Carrillo, Regional Director of Region 17 of the California Democratic Party, which covers PVP, explained the party's opposition to Proposition 14, the Open Primaries ballot measure. The measure would institute a single primary for state and congressional elections, allowing voters to choose among all candidates, regardless of party affiliation. The two candidates garnering the highest vote tallies would run against each other in November. Backers believe an open primary would lead to the election of less politically extreme candidates.

continued from page 2

Sergio reported that the Court of Appeal issued a stay against the proposition, so as of the date of the meeting it was unclear whether it would appear on the ballot.

He said the party opposes the measure because candidates would not be required to designate their party affiliation on the ballot. Conceivably, two Republicans could be the only two candidates moving on to the November ballot.

## **New Club Bylaws Include Operational Changes**

**By Kay Cooperman Jue, President**

Club members attending last month's meeting at the Peninsula Center Library voted unanimously to adopt a new version of the club's bylaws that clarifies some language, consolidates certain sections and hopefully will streamline club operations.

The revision is the culmination of years of work by several different boards and led by current treasurer Jerry Parker.

As a result of the membership's adoption of the new bylaws, we'll see some changes in the way the club operates.

Most dramatic is establishment of a new fiscal year, which changes the dues and board-election cycles. Beginning next year, the club's fiscal year will run from July 1 through June 30. Previously, our fiscal year was from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31.

Board members who proposed the change felt that trying to form a nominating committee, recruit new board members and hold an election at the end of the year was proving difficult, especially during election years, when so many people's time and attention are focused on the November general election. The period also falls during the busy holiday season.

Under the newly adopted bylaws, starting in 2011, the nominating committee will be formed in January and a slate of board candidates will be published in the March newsletter. Elections will be held at the May general membership meeting and the new board will be installed during what now will be the club's annual meeting in July.

These changes will take effect next year, and as a result, the dues all members paid for 2010 will extend through June 30, 2011. Also, current board members will serve through June 30, 2011. Dues for the 2011-2012 fiscal year will be

## **Join PVP Democratic Club on Facebook!**

**Don't forget – join us on Facebook and stay connected between monthly meetings and newsletters. Get the latest information about Democratic Party happenings and share your interests with others.**

**Go to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and follow the directions for signing up. Then do a search for "Palos Verdes Peninsula Democratic Club" and join!**

**To ensure your privacy, click on "settings" and then "privacy settings" and consider limiting access to most of your information to "only friends."**

collected beginning in July 2011.

Another change in the revised bylaws allows decline-to-state candidates running in non-partisan races – like local city council and school board elections – to bring their campaigns to club membership meetings. Previously, only registered Democrats were invited to address a membership meeting.

Board members who proposed this change felt it reflected the political reality of the Palos Verdes Peninsula. Those board members felt the club should be open to candidates who may be Democrats at heart but felt the need to be registered as decline-to-state voters to win local elections.

Finally, the new bylaws changed the quorum required for a vote during a general membership meeting to 10 club members plus 5 percent of

the full membership. Previously a quorum was 10 percent of the full membership. This change was suggested by the L.A. County Democratic Party parliamentarian as a way to protect the club from anyone trying to paralyze club business by grossly inflating the membership.

In the coming months, the board will work on finalizing a manual of operations. This is a new concept for our club and will serve as a blueprint for future boards. It will contain more detailed information, definitions and advice to help board members run the club. Because it is separate from the bylaws, it will be easier to amend as needed by future boards.

The club's bylaws will remain posted on our Website, [www.pvpdemocrats.org](http://www.pvpdemocrats.org).

## **Progressive Email News**

**by Hans Grellmann**

Members of the club executive board occasionally get a request to send some information to the full club membership. We have been reluctant to do this, because some people don't like to get inundated with emails.

There is a potential solution for this.

I have a group of nearly 200 people I send emails to on a regular basis, usually one or two each weekday when I'm in town. These emails include articles from non-mainstream online media (stuff you don't hear about in your newspaper or on TV). During election years such as this one I also send out information about candidates and about local political events.

If enough of our club members were to join my email group, then when our board gets a request to send out information, I could send it to the group. This way only those club members who have signed up will receive the information.

If you would like to join my email group, just send me a short email at [pvegrellmann@dslextrreme.com](mailto:pvegrellmann@dslextrreme.com).

# **PRIORITYONE**

## **PRINTING ★ COPYING ★ GRAPHICS**

**Phone (310) 831-8804 • FAX (310) 833-9598**

**E-mail - [priority1@earthlink.net](mailto:priority1@earthlink.net)**

**Website: [www.priorityoneprinting.com](http://www.priorityoneprinting.com)**

**Newsletter Printing Donated by PRIORITYONE**

Newsletter Editor: Connie Sullivan 310-378-1554  
 Phone Tree Chair: Judy Pang 310 375-5783  
 Membership Chair: Lynn McLeod 310 375-2103  
 Treasurer: Jerry Parker 310 377-7833  
 Corresponding Secretary: Sheila Papayans 310 373-7978  
 Recording Secretary: Mary Meade - 310 377-6108  
 2nd VP: Ron Smith  
 1st VP: Hans Grellmann 310 373-3066  
 President: Kay Cooperman Jue, pvedem@yahoo.com

**PVPDC Officers for 2010 Contact Info**

P.O. Box 2234,  
 Rolling Hills Est. Ca 90274



Palos Verdes Peninsula Democratic Club  
 Founded 1952

# Palos Verdes Peninsula Democratic Club

Founded in 1952 - One of the oldest and largest Democratic Clubs in California

As a member of the PVP Democratic Club, you can:

- Meet other Democrats
- Meet and get to know your elected officials, raise funds and work for candidates
- Attend special events and monthly meetings
- Hear speakers and discuss issues of local, state and national import

Please Send your membership form to P.O. Box 2234, Rolling Hills Est. Ca 90274

Name \_\_\_\_\_  I am a registered Democrat  
 Name\* \_\_\_\_\_  I am a registered Democrat

\* Fill in if Applying as a Family - 2 memberships

Residence Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

(If different from residence )

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

\*Select One:  Individual: \$ 20.00/Year  Family Membership \$30.00/Year  
 Young Adult \$10.00/Year

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_  Renewal  New Member

Please contact me to help in the following areas:

- Hospitality  Newsletter  Membership  Publicity  Correspondence  
 Voter Registration  Campaign Work  Website/Facebook  Phone Tree  
 I might offer my home for a meeting or social event