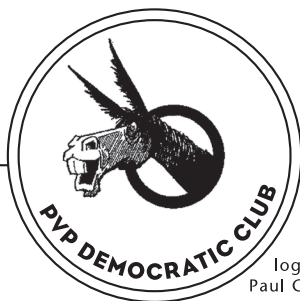


Palos Verdes Peninsula Democratic Club

Founded 1952



logo by
Paul Conrad

January 2009 Newsletter

P.O. Box 2234, Rolling Hills Est. Ca 90274
Visit Us on the Web at www.pvpdemocrats.org
"One of the oldest Democratic Clubs in California"

COMING EVENTS

*Janaury Membership Meeting
January 18th 2:30 PM*

AT THE home of Teresa Savo, 30266
Avenida de Calma, RPV 90275

PARTY! POTLUCK! Politics!

*February Membership
Meeting - Feb 18th*

*2:30 PM at the Peninsula
Library - TBD*

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January Meeting Notice -Sunday January 18, 2:30 at the home of Teresa Savo

We have a New Year, a New President, a New Administration, and a New Chance to make our political desires known. Let's make the most of these opportunities!!

The first 2009 meeting of the PVP Dem. Club will be held on January 18th, at 2:30 PM at the home of Teresa Savo, 30266 Avenida de Calma, RPV. The meeting will have lots of "special" things in its favor, so we hope you will plan to attend.

It will be a **PARTY**. It will be informal, in a home, with lots of food, lots of conversation and the chance to get to know one another. Some of it will be outside, so you may want to bring a coat.

It will be an **ELECTION**. A slate of officers will be presented to you for your approval. Each officer will be introduced, enabling you to put their names, faces, and responsibilities together for future reference. Some of these officers will probably explain to you how you can help them do their job, and we know that many of you want to become more active so this will be your chance.

It will be a **GAB FEST**. You will be given the opportunity to voice your own opinion on future goals for the club. Our club hopes to become a member run group where the ideas of members are solicited and put into action.

It will be a **FOOD FEAST**. We are asking all members attending to bring a food dish to share. Casserole dishes, pasta dishes, vegetable plates, and salads are preferred to desserts, because the holidays gave most of

us too many desserts. The club will furnish plates, utensils and drinks. You furnish the appetites.

PLEASE plan to come to the next meeting if at all possible. (And remember to bring your 2009 dues) We need you.

President's Report

It has been my honor to serve as your President.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your President. The Palos Verdes Peninsula Democratic Club is a great organization, and when compared to other Democratic Clubs, our club stands out as one of the most successful chartered organizations in our county.

Our club has three important purposes: to support a Democratic community on the Palos Verdes Peninsula, to conduct grassroots political activism (such as precinct operations, phone banking; financial support for candidates, voter registration, and voter outreach), and to educate our club members and rank and file voters on Democratic issues. Our club has done all the above, and I think our club members should be proud of that achievement.

Why I'm stepping down as President

I am stepping down as President, because after serving three years, I feel that keeping our club leadership fresh and open is important for our club's long term integrity. I want our club open to new leadership and talent, and I do not want to create an institution in the presidency that would prevent such participation.

I care deeply about our club, and I will remain an active member. I will continue to manage our local Democratic Headquarters in Torrance,

Club Officers for 2009

We've got a really great list of officers for the PVP Dem. Club for 2009. They are as follows—

Vice President/ Tabling Chair	Hans Grellmann
Corresponding Secretary	Sheila Papayans
Recording Secretary	Kay Jue
Treasurer	Jerry Parker
Membership Chair	Lynn McLeod
Membership Chair Asst.	Gerry D'Sena
Phone Tree Chair	Judy Pang
Phone Tree Asst.	Jim Hamilton
Publicity	Hilary Bloom
Hospitality	Teresa Savo
Newsletter Editor	Ruth McGrew
Newsletter Set-up Editor	Jocelyn Wilson
Newsletter Reporter	Diana Gdowski
Newsletter Reporter	Shuja Oberoi
Mailing Chairmen	Dick & Barbara Trakas

This is a list of wonderful people, who will be giving their time and energies to making our club an interesting and useful organization. If you read the list carefully though, you noticed that we have NO President. The job of the President is to see that all the above officers do their job. With such a good list, that shouldn't be too hard. Tony Hale has given many hours for three years to the welfare of the club. He is tired, and we can't blame him

The nomination committee has called about a dozen of our members, but none have agreed. If you feel qualified to be president, or even willing to learn to be qualified, please give one of the officers a call to talk about it. In the meantime the club will try to get along as best we can.

and that office will continue to support the political activities of the Palos Verdes Peninsula Democratic Club. I hope to continue to serve on the Executive Board of the California Democratic Party (if I'm reelected), and I will keep Palos Verdes Democrats in mind when making decisions in the Party.

As I see the end of my term as President, there are many things I still wish could have been achieved. We need to continue amending our bylaws, so that our bylaws are flexible. Each board member will have different strengths, and the bylaws should allow those strengths to be effectively implemented. We still need to do better at outreach to all the communities and organizations on the peninsula, and find the influence to weigh in on local election more effectively. I also believe that we should consider a name change for our club. I think the name Club may turn off potential members from joining. A small change, such as the Palos Verdes Peninsula Democrats just might work better. That name gets to the point without

the baggage of Club, with all its cliquishness associations. But most of all, our club should continue with its successful formula.

Obama makes a big difference

Our club has new opportunities to exercise our political voice, now that we have a Democrat in the White House. We can begin to work proactively on the issues that matter most to us, with the difference of having a government that listens to our concerns. We can now change the method of our political activity from opposition to constructiveness. We are challenged to be more creative and decisive, and move our country in a better direction. We should not leave this job just to President Obama, we can all play a role in this process, and our club is a platform for your political voice to be heard.

Now let's make our club even better

Nothing our club has ever done has been the work of only one person; our club has been successful because we have worked as a team. That team works when people step forward and help. Each person only needs to play a small role (even the President), but together we can make our club even better. I invite each and every one of you to play a part in our club—it's your club and it's your Democratic Party, so let's make both the best they can be.

Thank you,
Tony Hale

2009 Membership Notice

IT'S TIME TO SEND IN YOUR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TO THE PVP DEMOCRATIC CLUB.

Our club policy is to have all memberships due in January except persons joining after October 1st of the previous year. Those persons are given a free membership for the following year.

There are several reasons for having all memberships due at the beginning of the year. First, we re-organize our phone tree in February. If members were renewing throughout the year, we would have to be continually re-organizing the phone tree. Second, we make up a membership list to give to all the officers, and if all memberships were not due at the same time, that would be difficult. Lastly, the membership chair would have to keep track of the membership due dates for each of our 250 plus members and notify them individually when their dues were due, and that would be a very time consuming job. Therefore, we ask you to please pay your membership renewal in January .

The most pleasant way of paying your dues is to attend our Membership Party, which is being held on January 18th, and pay your dues at that time. (There is information about the party in another article in this newsletter) There is a membership application form on the back of this newsletter. Fill it out and bring it with you to the party. If you don't attend the party, mail the completed application to the address listed at the top of the application. If you don't pay your membership in January, the Membership Chair will give you a reminder the first part of February. If the membership fee is not received by the end of February, your name will be dropped from the list, and that would make us very sad! We are working to win in battleground states by making phone calls to those areas, and sending volunteers to Nevada

to help our next door battleground state.

Recommended Reading

In each Newsletter we will plan to review a political book. Books give so much more information than one gets from the newspaper, magazines or TV commentators that if you are to be really well informed it is important to read books. Of course a short review can't give you much information, but hopefully it will awaken your desire to read the books. Below is a very short list of good Political Books. In future newsletters we will print other recommended books, and we will plan to review at least one book each month.

If any of our readers would like to submit a short review of a book they recommend, please send it to Diana Gdowski at d.gdowski@gte.net.

Short List

- Opposing the System* by Charles Reich
- March of Folly* by Barbara Tuckman
- Collapse* by Jered Diamond

was changed to a community room which was located in the Peninsula Center before it was remodeled. From that location meetings were transferred to the Meeting room of the Peninsula Library, where we now continue to meet.

In its 57 year history the club has had a total of 26 Presidents. Some served two or three years, others a single year. The names and

Tom Carvey	Ruth McGrew
Lee Goss	Bryan Stevens
Dorothy Corliss	Al Yano
Jeff Hare	Mary Meade
Jane Dietrich	Moira Zucker
Allan Jarabin	Jeff Youngren
Sandy Learman	Louann Kurnik
Margaret Blue	Moustafa Sesay
Marge Stevens	Adrian Tatum
Lillian Watson	Sheila Hoff
Jay Johnson	Jan Adams
Nancy Bradford	Kevin Biggers
Virginia Hughes	Tony Hale

number of precincts. Nelly and Jim Bertolina, Barbara Epstein, Carol and Ron Moeller and Judy Pang.

We thank the many volunteers who mailed, called, stapled, drove, walked, acted as precinct captains or helped at the tables.

Jan Adams, Gail and Terry Andrews, Ruben Arroyo, Diane Bassett, Judy Bayer, Feven Belay, January Blandford, Donald Bridges, Peter Burgis, John Clifford, John Confrey, Connie Cuttell, Steve Davidson, Denise De Venuto, Patricia Dilligan, Gregory Doty, Gerry D'Sena, Brannan Duffy, Barbara and John Dye, Gloria Engels, Paul Enox, Nilda Esteban, Michael Fitts, Louise Fleming, Mary Flynn, Chris Geduld, Barbara Gleghorn, Brenda Gyllenswan, PJ Hales, Madeline Hall, Rascha Hall, Sura Halote, Jim Hamilton, Sandra Hammersmark, Rick Hammond, Judy Herman, Elaine Herold, Laura Hines-Jurgens, Jim Hurley, Gail Hyland-Savage, Linda Jenson, Kay and Reggie Jue, Wanideh Khaleeli, Wendy Kingsbury, Marilyn Landau, Gloria Lee, Sandra Leonard, Marilou Lieman, Carolyn Liesy, Maureen and Joe Linkogle, Betty Lukas, Maxine Macha, Ann Mailander, Mary Malone, Frances Manning, Rex Masten, Jean McDonald, Ruth McGrew, Kathleen McLaren, Lynn McLeod, Karen Merickel, Robert Meyer, Patrick Michaels, Pam Mikkelsen, Judy Mitchell, Jane and Gary Moir, Mary Neiswender, Jordan Newell, Gail Ng, Shuja Oberoi, Sheila Papayans, Lynda Pearson, Joyce Pekich, Karin Petersen, Azad Rayyes, Pamela Reis, Lea Ann and Brooks Roddan, Al Sattler, Teresa Savo, Carmen Schaye, Christine Shoukri, Charles Sie, Brenda Snell, Joan Springer, Janet Switzer, Mardi Tobias, Doriane Tippet, Barbara and Richard Trakas, David Walsh, Arthur Wertheim, Bobby White, Scotty Wuerker, Rae Wyman, Suzanne and Terry Young.

In addition, a number of seniors from San Pedro High School helped with precinct walking on the east side of the hill in the last few weeks of the campaign.

Hans Grellmann

This month's selection:

A Power Governments Cannot Suppress

By Howard Zinn

This book is a major collection of essays on American history, race, class, justice, immigration, etc. Howard Zinn gives examples of how ordinary people have stood up to power and brought about change. He approaches U.S history from an active, engaged point of view, drawing upon untold histories to comment on the most controversial issues facing us today. The book doesn't need to be read in total at one time. It should serve as a reference book when one is interested in working in a particular area for change. The book should be on the shelf of all Democrats who want to make a difference in the politics of the nation, because it helps one gain an understanding of the issues and learn ways of affecting history.

order of serving of past presidents are —

Those of us active in the club now can be proud of its past history and an obligation to do our part in seeing that it continues to be a viable, active, club.

A Word of Thanks to Our Volunteers

The Palos Verdes Peninsula Democratic Club would like to thank all the volunteers who helped with the voter outreach effort in the cities of Palos Verdes Estates, Rancho Palos Verdes, Rolling Hills and Rolling Hills Estates. We gave special emphasis to the Debbie Cook campaign and we are disappointed that we did not succeed. However, we also supported the Obama, Lowenthal and Wright campaigns and are happy with the victories in those races. A special thanks to the Area Leaders, who each took leadership responsibility for a

A History of the Palos Verdes Peninsula Democratic Club

The Palos Verdes Peninsula Democratic Club was founded in 1952 by a small group of citizens living on the Peninsula. It has had monthly meetings since the first meeting fifty seven years ago.

At first the meetings were held in homes, with a pot luck supper at each meeting. As the membership grew the location of meetings

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Paul Conrad



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 & 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)

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ Zip _____ Cell _____

Email Address _____

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

Amount enclosed _____ Renewal New Member

I might be interested in helping in the following areas:

Hospitality Newsletter Membership Refreshments Publicity

Correspondence Voter Registration Campaign Work Website

I might offer my home for a meeting or social event Phone Tree