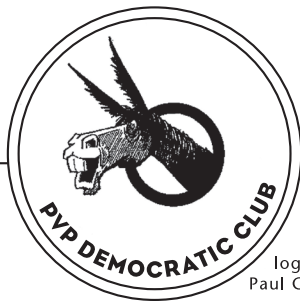


Palos Verdes Peninsula
Democratic Club
Founded 1952



logo by
Paul Conrad

February 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

February Membership Meeting - Feb 15th

2:30 PM at the Peninsula Library

March Membership Meeting

*March 15th - 2:30 pm
Peninsula Library - Speaker TBD*

PVPDC President Kay Cooperman Jue and outgoing President Tony Hale



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February Meeting Notice **Sunday February 15th, 2:30 at the Peninsula Library**

Assemblyman Ted Lieu will be the guest speaker at the next Palos Verdes Peninsula Democratic Club meeting . He will deal with the status of the California budget crisis when he addresses us at 2:30 PM on Sunday, Feb. 15th in the meeting room of the Peninsula Library.

Assemblyman Lieu is chair of the powerful Assembly Rules Committee, which plays a vital role in the everyday business of the Assembly, including assigning legislation to committees and overseeing Assembly members' budgets and personnel matters. He is the former chair of the Banking and Finance Committee and has been an

outspoken proponent of mortgage and foreclosure relief as a solution to the state's budget crises, Lieu will bring us up to date on the state's dire financial picture.

Four Democrats who are running for seats on the Los Angeles Community College District Board of Trustees will also speak to us. The election is March 3rd.

2009 Membership Notice

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

Please send your dues in today!

President's Message

Hello fellow Democrats! I want to welcome you to a new year for our club, for our country and the world! With President Obama in the White House, a new energy is palpable everywhere -- even here on the Republican-dominated Palos Verdes Peninsula!

Your new board and I are hoping to harness that optimism and enthusiasm as we plan club activities for 2009. We are in the process of tossing around program ideas for our monthly meetings and would love to hear from you. If there is a topic you'd like to explore, please tell us! If you know someone who has something interesting to say, please tell us!

I'd like to introduce myself briefly to those of you who don't know me. I've been a member of this club since 2004, joining shortly after moving to PVE from Manhattan Beach. I am a lifelong Democrat and have been interested in politics all my life. I wasn't able to be personally active in politics because of conflict-of-interest issues until I left the news business in 1994. I now have my own part-time public relations business.

I have worked on numerous campaigns, I have served on this club's board, I've been involved in our Assembly District organization, I have been and will continue to be a delegate to the state Democratic Convention and currently, I serve as Assemblywoman Bonnie Lowenthal's alternate on the L. A. County Democratic Central Committee.

I am honored to add the presidency of this club to that list and look forward to getting to know all of you and working together toward an exciting year of learning, political activism and camaraderie.

My e-mail address is pvedem@yahoo.com. Please don't hesitate to contact me!

Review of January Meeting

Members of the Palos Verdes Peninsula Democratic Club gathered at the home of

Teresa Savo on January 18th for the annual



JANUARY MEETING: Front Row: Carole Moeller, Barbara Dye, Kay Cooperman Jue, Hans Grellmann, Shuja Oberoi **BACK ROW:** Teresa Savo, Jerry Parker, Ruth McGrew, Gerry D'Sena, Mary Meade, Barbara Trakas (almost hidden), Dick Trakas

membership-renewal meeting. Members renewed memberships and elected the new board.

Teresa's garden was a perfect setting on a beautiful day during which club members enjoyed great food and refreshments. The mood of the group was jubilant as members anticipated the upcoming Obama inauguration.

Hans Grellmann, speaking on behalf of the board, presented outgoing president Tony Hale with an engraved plaque stating the years of his service and the appropriate gavel. The club thanked Tony for his service and looks forward to his continued involvement in club activities.

Tony, who is stepping down as club president after three years, thanked the club for its support and praised members for their hard work, especially during the past election. He will continue to be involved on the board as the official past president. He also described the work being done by the Democratic Action Center in Torrance, invited the club members to volunteer and spread the word to organization



about the resources the DAC offers.

Kay Cooperman Jue was nominated president and Barbara Dye second vice president in charge of programs. The entire slate of officers was approved unanimously.

They are as follows:

President – Kay Cooperman Jue
First Vice President – Hans Grellmann
Second Vice President – Barbara Dye
Recording Secretary – Mary Meade
Corresponding Secretary–Sheila Papayans
Treasurer – Jerry Parker
 Standing Committee chairs:
Membership – Lynn McLeod and assistant Gerry D’Sena
Publicity – Hilary Bloom
Website manager – Carole Moeller
Phone Tree – Judy Pang and assistant Jim Hamilton
Newsletter Editor – Ruth McGrew and assistants Jocelyn Wilson, Dianna Gdowski, and Shuja Oberoi.
Mailing – Dick and Barbara Trakas
Hospitality – Teresa Savo

Recommended Reading

Super Capitalism

By Robert Reich

The author thinks that when capitalism was a system of small businesses it was a very good economic system, but as it has grown into huge publicly owned corporations with thousands of "owners", he believes it has become so powerful that democracy is threatened.

Consumers want the lowest prices possible, and to provide low prices corporations must lower wages and costs. One of the ways of doing this is to outsource their work to other countries where they can get cheap labor and less regulations on working conditions. Corporation lobbyists work to prevent laws within the U.S. that would be beneficial to American workers and consumers because such laws might raise prices and hurt their competitiveness with other corporations.

Reich suggests some remedies. He thinks lobbying should be curtailed and elections should be publicly funded in order to lessen the power of lobbyists over legislators. He also believes that the designation of corporations as "people" with the same rights as individuals is wrong and suggests other ways of regulating and taxing them.

This is a very interesting and worthwhile book. I found it added a great deal to my political and economic understanding. The book can be found in the Peninsula Library.

Reviewed by Ruth McGrew

PVPDC Member Essay

The Generous Spirit

By Shuja Oberoi

A "generous spirit" is one where we glimpse some vision which is a part of a mosaic, a piece of tapestry of the creator who endowed his most storied creation with cognition, and enables us to model and shape the dimensional realm perceived as the world and glorified as Mother Earth. It is a virtue to be desired and cultivated.

Our country, the United States of America, is unique in the global scheme of things. God's grace shines upon us and we are blessed with every conceivable natural and human resource. With tenacious reliance on these ultimate strengths which have been given to our country, and emanating from a high moral springboard, President Obama in his inaugural address gave a call to each of us and to the nation and the world, to develop a generous spirit. He asked that as a nation we extend an even hand of cooperation and mutual respect that shall not go unheeded. At present, the out-of-the-ordinary political heretics will scoff, but they will be compelled to fall in line, to build the best for our people, and become a partner in taking the shared planet out of peril.

The President's exhortation to accept with our whole hearts and minds "our patch-work heritage" is a very somber challenge, since the financial sector is in the worst mess ever, our infrastructure is close to shambles, the school system needs immediate attention, health care is out of reach to most people and bordering on luxury for many, and investing an alternate, clean and renewable energy is a goal yet to be accepted if America does not want to lower its sights.

We are at the point of an historic junction, a moment to transcend the ordinary divisive cultural and political issues in favor of choices that engage statesmen to respond to higher callings in the domain of a national and international diplomacy. We should not under-rate debate and natural dissent, which is the very essence of a healthy and vibrant body politic.

A generous spirit, whether it be at a local level or in the highest forum, is an invitation to be inclusive, a characteristic that unleashes power which begets more power, leading to the achievement of goals of which we have never before dreamed.

All members are invited and encouraged to submit an essay. We would like to print one each month

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Don't forget to
renew your PVPDC
membership!

Palos Verdes Peninsula Democratic Club
 Founded 1952



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

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