



The Official Publication of ACT
P. O. Box 40074, (626) 795-2798

Volume 42
Number 1
January, 2014

Published by Chuck Hains & Sally Beer

First ACT Meeting for 2014, New Officers Elected

We elected new officers for 2014 at our January meeting. Linda Centell will be our new Co-Chair. She will serve for the 2014-2015 years. She joins Felicia Williams and Anthony Portantino who each are serving their second year as Co-Chair. Ed Washatka was elected Treasurer and Barbara Paul was elected Recording Secretary. Beth Gertmenian will continue as Corresponding Secretary. Thanks to all. (Note that the Treasurer and Secretaries serve both ACT and the Arroyo Democratic Club.)

Thanks also to Bill Hackett and Tim Wendler who have agreed to continue as President and Vice-President of ADC, respectively.

We welcome several new committee leaders: Susan Kane and Ralph Hurtado have agreed to co-lead the new Issues Committee, Dale Gronemeier will head the Outreach Committee, Monica Hubbard will join in leading the Program Committee, and Marilee Marshall will head up the Research Committee (hopefully with a Co-Chair to help with the considerable labor involved in that job).

We will publish a complete list of Officers and committee members in the February *Phoenix*. If you are willing to serve on an ACT Committee (thus becoming a Steering Committee member), please contact Jon Fuhrman at 626-795-5255 or jon_fuhrman@charter.net.

2014 Steering Committee Schedule

We will publish the 2014 schedule in the February *Phoenix*.

In the meantime, remember that we have gone back to the old first Thursday of the month schedule for all future Steering Committee meetings.

As always all members are welcome and urged to attend Steering Committee meetings.

Check *ThePhoenix* Calendar and our website at <http://www.ACTPasadena.org> for meeting locations.

Wanted! Vacation photos of you... Please send your high-resolution pics to Chuck at Hains27@SBCGlobal.net.

By-laws Approved

Also at the January meeting, the membership voted to approve the proposed changes to the ACT By-laws and the Steering Committee voted to approve the Standing Rule. The chief impact is that we will now be able to take positions on non-ballot issues.



ACT-NAACP Forum on Police Oversight Planned

At the direction of the Steering Committee, the Outreach Committee and the Program Committee are planning a public forum on the issue of Increased Oversight of the Pasadena Police Department that will be co-sponsored by the Pasadena NAACP and possibly another organization. The forum will take place in either late February or March of this year. Anthony Portantino has agreed to be the moderator. We are in the process of selecting pro and con speakers and a location for the forum.



Outreach Committee

The next Outreach Committee meeting will be January 20, 7:30 p.m., at John McLean's house, 224 E. Howard, in Pasadena.

We will be discussing outreach to the Latino and LGBT communities as well as the joint ACT-NAACP forum. ACT members who have been active in the Outreach Committee are John McLean, Dale Gronemeier, Skip Hick-ambottom, Jon Fuhrman, and Carolyn Carlburg; the meetings are open to any ACT members who wish to attend. For further information on the committee's work or to otherwise communicate on outreach topics, you can contact the Committee Chair, Dale Gronemeier, at dlg@dgronemeier.com.



Harry Double



We are sorry to note the death of Harry Double who succumbed to Parkinson's disease at age 94. Harry came to California with his family as a child. He served in the Army Air Force in the Pacific in WWII mostly with the 33rd Fighter Squadron, earning 5 Campaign Stars. Back in Pasadena he met and married Barbara and became an electrical contractor. Barbara preceded him in death after 64 years of marriage. They were long-time ACT members.

To his friends and family and all who knew him, Harry was "the best of the best" and a man who could fix anything. Our deepest sympathy goes to all of them.

Condolences

We extend our sympathy to ACT members Lena Kennedy and John Kennedy and their family on the death of their mother, Leola Sudduth Kennedy on January 2.



Condolences

Our sympathy goes to ACT stalwarts Wendy Soltes and her son, Elliot Cuite on the death of their mother and grandmother, Fritzie Soltes, on New Year's Eve.



February Phoenix Deadline

The deadline for the February *Phoenix* will be Sunday, February 9. As always, send items to Chuck Hains at Hains27@SBCGlobal.net. Mailing preparation will likely be on Thursday, February 13 at a location to be decided.

Wonderings and Wanderings

By Inman Moore



A Lingering Stain

Over the years America has made great progress in our race relations. We are one of the most diverse nations in the world. Residing within our borders are American citizens who come from many different racial backgrounds, plus many immigrants who are not yet citizens. You can walk into a McDonald's in Pasadena and often hear people conversing in several different languages.

Much of the time we do very well in our plural society. But ever and anon racism again raises its ugly head in our beloved America. A recent instance is the statement of 67 year old Phil Robertson in an interview with GQ Magazine. Robertson, who grew up in the South, is one of the cast members of "Duck Dynasty," a program that appears on the A&E Television Network. Robertson said "I never with my eyes saw the mistreatment of any black person. Not once. Where we lived was all farmers. The blacks worked for the farmers. I hoed cotton with them. I'm with the blacks because we're white trash. We're going across the field. They're singing and happy. I never heard one of them, one black person, say, 'I tell you what: these doggone white people' — not a word!. ...Pre-entitlement, pre-welfare, you say: 'Were they happy?' They were godly; they were happy; no one was singing the blues."

I read those words with amazement. I also grew up in the briar patches and cotton fields of Mississippi. I went to school, including college, in Mississippi, and I can tell you there was tremendous mistreatment. Blacks rode in the back of the bus. They could not eat in the restaurants. They could not stay at a motel or hotel. They could not vote. In referring to

blacks in those days the word used was "colored." Many whites used the "N" word. I was a pastor in Mississippi during those days, serving a church in Biloxi. A beautiful sand beach right out in front of our church stretched for 21 miles west. Not one inch of that beach was available to a black person. The schools and churches were all segregated.

The blacks knew very well the problem of speaking out against the system. Those that did paid a price. Medgar Evers spoke out and paid the price. He was assassinated in June of 1963. As for singing the blues which Robertson spoke about, where does he think the whole musical genre of blues music came from? Of course they were singing the blues.

The fifties and the sixties were quite dangerous. A young black teenager from Chicago named Emmett Till was visiting a cousin in Mississippi. He had the temerity to whistle at a white girl. The next you heard of Till his badly beaten body was floating down the river. The White Citizen's Councils were in control of Mississippi. They had elected one of their own as Governor. Governor Ross Barnett's battle cry was "segregation yesterday, segregation today, segregation forever!" The White Citizens Councils were like the Ku Klux Klan without robes and they had much more power and influence. Anyone, black or white, who spoke favorably about integration, was ostracized—often losing their job or their business.

Phil Robertson is simply echoing the words of the White Citizen's Councils when they would say: "No one is mistreating our colored folks. All this talk of mistreatment is coming from Time Magazine, the Washington Post, and the New York Times. Everybody down here in the South is quite happy." When I read of Robertson recently mouthing such untruths, it brought back bitter memories of a Southern Society gone astray.

continued on page seven

Political Notes

by Jon Fuhrman



Tuesday, January 14.

This month we'll talk money -- both the federal and state budgets for the upcoming fiscal year have been unveiled, and both contain modestly good news.

On the federal side, perhaps the best news is that we actually have a budget. For the first time in several years, Congress is on the way to enacting an actual appropriations bill for the whole government, as opposed to continuing resolutions that simply carry forward the prior year with some degree of across-the-board cuts -- or "sequesters", as they are now known. Those cuts were particularly poor policy, hitting worthy and unworthy programs equally hard.

Furthermore, the federal budget numbers actually are up a bit from last year, moderating the impact of the sequesterations somewhat,

while still trying to reduce the annual deficit. The final numbers were about half-way between the hard-core House proposal and the more lenient Senate proposal, which actually is where you might expect a compromise budget to end up. Better still, the Senate leadership forestalled any new "cultural" riders, such as attempts by conservatives further to restrict access to abortion or contraceptive planning. Democrats had to make some concessions; for example, new funding for universal pre-schools, one of the President's key initiatives, was cut back, although last year's cuts to Head Start were mostly restored, so on balance there was some movement towards the President's goal. Most critically, the extension of unemployment benefits was left out of the overall budget deal, so Dems will have to continue that fight next month when Congress returns.

Perhaps the most interesting thing about the budget and appropriations bill disputes is that, on the Democratic side, both negotiations were led by women. On the budget, it was Sen. Patty Murray from Washington who worked with Rep. Paul Ryan to craft the overall budget levels. The detailed appropriations decisions, which allocated the overall allowable funds among the various departments and agencies, and then among programs within those agencies, were made by Sen. Barbara Mikulski from Maryland, working with Rep. Harold Rogers from the House. Undoubtedly, behind the scenes, there was considerable consultation with Senate colleagues. But both Senators Murray and Mikulski pretty much seemed to be the final decision makers in the delicate negotiations with their House colleagues. Thus, after these many decades of working toward electing and empowering women, this year we saw an extraordinary and explicit demonstration of that political power. About time, one might say -- perhaps if more women had been in charge, we might

have had budgets and appropriations bills in the last several years as well.

Part of the reason we now seem able to reach agreements is that House Republicans clearly feel stung by the results of the October shutdown. No one wanted another shutdown, even if that meant accepting some compromise measure. But in addition to the bad political vibes from October, the improved economic outlook made the compromise figures far more palatable. The government is making remarkable progress toward eliminating the deficit. The latest figures from the October – December quarter showed dramatic improvement compared to last year -- the quarter's deficit shrank from nearly \$300 billion to under \$200 billion. If that level of improvement were to continue through the rest of the year, the deficit would likely be under \$200 billion for the entire year, a remarkable achievement well beyond President Obama's stated goals and far better than even recent forecasts had anticipated.

Here in California, we are seeing exactly the same phenomenon -- strong economic growth pushing revenues well beyond what was forecast only months ago, leading to a state budget with significantly more funding for local schools. In December, the state pulled in over \$2.5 billion more than anticipated by last summer's budget. The Governor's budget proposal restores about 1/3 of the funds that had been cut from local education since the 2007 - 2008 year. That would translate to an additional \$5 million for our own Pasadena Unified School District. That's certainly not a panacea, but it beats the \$5 - \$10 million in cuts the district suffered for several years running.

The Governor's budget is quite conservative.



He proposes using some of the new revenues to pay down existing debt and some for a rainy day fund to protect the state from swings in the economy. The state has become quite vulnerable to economic cycles. Over 70% of our state revenues come from personal income tax collections, and much of that is from the high-end taxpayers whose income derives disproportionately from capital gains, stock options, and real estate sales -- all of which can cycle wildly. However, in good times like these, those cycles are wildly up, and hence tax revenues soar as well. In fact, my guess is that revenue will continue to exceed last summer's forecasts, and we may well end the year with an additional \$5 to \$7 billion in revenue.

Curiously, an excess of revenue might lead to tougher fights in Sacramento than the lack of revenue did. Over the last few years, as we cut one program after another and slaughtered one sacred cow after another, we've built up quite a deficit in programmatic support. The courts are crying for additional funding to ensure prompt access to justice. Social services were axed, and the safety net is in desperate need of patching. Schools were traumatized, as was the higher education system. Prison realignment is burdening counties, the federal courts are unrelenting in demanding a fix for prison overpopulation, and cities lost all their redevelopment revenues. Everywhere they look, legislators can see legitimate, compelling, justifiable needs for increased funding. How do we balance those needs, ensure long-term stability, and provide for those times when the economy will expand less quickly, or even cool down?

That's going to be a tough call for the Legislature, with Gov. Brown notoriously tight-fisted.

Fortunately, budgets now need only a majority vote in each legislative house, which gives the leadership some room in building a consensus budget. However, the turnover in legislative leadership may complicate the dance.

In the Senate, Sen. Kevin De Leon seems to have the votes sewed up to succeed Sen. Darrell Steinberg as Majority Leader. De Leon is up for re-election in 2014, so he will have a full four years to lead the Senate. In the Assembly, Speaker John Perez is termed out this year. The speculation is that Assemblywoman Toni Atkins, who is currently Majority Leader and hails from the San Diego area, is most likely to succeed Perez as Speaker. Atkins was first elected in 2010, so she can serve one more term after this one. If she does succeed the Speaker, our own Assemblymember Chris Holden could rise from Majority Whip to Majority Leader, with a shot at becoming Speaker when Atkins terms out in 2016.

In any event, these new leaders may be looking to have a significant impact on budget decisions along with the current leadership. That transition could complicate negotiations from the Governor's perspective, so don't be surprised to see the Governor liberally use his veto pen if the Legislature tries to restore funding cuts too quickly or too aggressively.

Local budgets will likely be similarly affected by the good economic times. But the need for catch-up funding may overtake the good news from Sacramento and lead to some tough decisions on local boards. In the Pasadena Unified School District, for example, teachers haven't had a raise for five years. So how much of the new funding from the state should go to increased salaries, and how much to restoring programmatic cuts -- like summer school, librarians, counselors, athletics and other after-school programs? Local schools, cities and counties will be grappling with these difficult trade-offs. Los Angeles County,

in particular, has some tough decisions, with the costs for prison realignment -- the transfer of prisoners from state prisons to county jails -- clearly exceeding the funding provided by the state, and the need for improving conditions within the county jails. Further, the County will be facing the retirement of two Supervisors -- ACT member Gloria Molina and Zev Yaroslavsky, both of whom have served for more than 20 years. And, of course, Sheriff Lee Baca is resigning after 12 years in office. Historically, Sheriffs have conveniently resigned a year or two before election, allowing the Supervisors to appoint an heir apparent who could then coast to election as an incumbent. There is no heir apparent within the Department, and the Supervisors may want to appoint as interim Sheriff someone who would not run for election. Or they might choose someone like Long Beach Police Chief Bob McDonnell, who already has endorsements from former DA Steve Cooley, the current DA Jackie Lacey, and LA City Police Chief Beck. Whatever the choice, the Sheriff's race may well be the highlight of this spring's elections.

Lastly, since we've been talking about money and budgets, let me offer a modest suggestion for the City of Pasadena. After attending the Rose Bowl game, and seeing parts of the BCS game, I started to think about how the city taxes Rose Bowl tickets. It turns out, according to Pasadena's Municipal Code Section 4.48.040, that we essentially levy a 5% tax on Rose Bowl tickets, which seems reasonable. But the code goes on to say that the tax may not exceed "a maximum tax of 50 cents per person admitted." Thus, we cap our admission tax at \$0.50 per person, even though the ticket prices were \$150 to \$180 for the Rose Bowl Game, and \$330 to \$375 for the BCS game. Fifty cents on a \$350 ticket -- seems like an undeserved bargain. If there were no cap on the admission tax, the city would have collected, just from the Rose Bowl and BCS

games, about another \$2.1 million in general fund revenues. Perhaps we ought to reconsider this code provision when budget time rolls around this spring.

-- Jon Fuhrman



Inman Moore, *continued from page three*

This lingering stain of racism is also presently seen by some TV and newspaper commentators who have defended Robertson, when he was temporarily suspended by the A&E Network, by saying that everyone should have freedom to express themselves without losing their job. Morris Dees of the Southern Poverty Law Center put it well when he said, "Robertson has every right to say hateful, offensive things wherever and whenever he wants. But there is no First Amendment right to have a TV show. There is no First Amendment right to be free from criticism."

A&E has reinstated Phil Robertson, and Duck Dynasty will continue to be shown because it is making money. But, if you look carefully, you will see it is somewhat stained by the lingering racism that still continues to haunt this great country of ours.

-- Inman Moore



League of Women Voters Pasadena Area

Thursday, February 6, 2014, 10 a.m.

Women's City Club, 160 N Oakland Ave.

"Hunger in America: Let Them Eat Cake?"

Cuts in the federal Food Stamp program will impact low-income families, programs serving the homeless, and local food banks. Speakers from Pasadena Unified School District, Union Station and Friends in Deed will discuss the local impacts of these cuts.

For additional information and to make a reservation call 626-798-0965, 10 a.m.–1 p.m., Monday–Friday, or e-mail office@lwv-pa.org.

ALEC vs. Our Civil Rights

The American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) is, among other things, the organization behind the new restrictive voter ID laws in a number of states. Under the guise of protecting us from "voter fraud" (which studies have shown to be virtually non-existent) ALEC has led the voter suppression charge that targets voting by the disabled, the elderly, minorities, students and women.

ALEC has evolved from an organization started in 1973. It masquerades as a think tank and has non-profit status as a 501(c) (3). Its members are international corporations and 1,800 plus legislators and state governors. Its financing comes from its corporate members – including Google, Facebook and Yelp. But mostly it comes from the Koch brothers – Charles and David.

To further its politically conservative corporate state view, ALEC develops model legislation (800+ bills) to be used to rewrite state laws in order to limit democratic participation, facilitate big money politics and override the federal government. ALEC's goals include privatizing education, repealing labor rights and limiting environmental protections. This ALEC-backed corporate agenda has reached state legislatures and gubernatorial offices throughout our country and has resulted in the passage of damaging legislation.

To learn more about ALEC and find suggestions for action check ALECexposed.org.



Thanks to Our Members for Additional Contributions to ACT's Political Account

Dr. Janice Nelson & Douglas Hayes,
Sierra Madre

Tom & Monica Hubbard, Altadena
Juan & Joanne Lara, Pasadena

**From
41st District
Assemblymember
Chris Holden**



Dear ACT Friends,

We begin 2014 with good news on the budget front. The state's finances continue to turn around and Governor Brown's recent budget proposal reflects that. He has proposed reinvesting in California's future while maintaining budget stability and creating a rainy day fund. That's good news for California and for the 41st Assembly District

This budget reverses the severe cuts experienced by our public schools and colleges during the recent recession. It means our local school districts will see increases in K-12 school funding by \$2,188 per student over last year. Our community colleges, such as Pasadena City College, Citrus, and Mt. San Antonio will also see a boost in funding that will allow them to restore much needed classes.

Both the UC and CSU continue to be high priorities because higher education is the engine that drives economic recovery in California. The Middle Class Scholarship program, enacted by the Legislature last year, will begin to phase in this year, offering some tuition and fee relief for families with incomes up to \$150,000.

I look forward to working with the Governor and members of both parties in crafting measures to make California a better place to live.

My staff and I are still working out details on legislation for 2014, but here are elements of a few bills we are considering.

I am continuing my efforts to halt the ex-

ploitation of children and young women in the sex trade. Almost 100,000 American children are exploited each year through prostitution and California is one of the top destinations. As a father and husband, I am committed to wiping out this scourge.

I am also working with the County of Los Angeles to ensure that under prison realignment, there is adequate planning and supervision of parolees when they are returned to LA County. My AB 1065 will give more notice to counties when offenders with serious mental disorders are being released in our area.

And I'm also working with our community colleges to forge a partnership with local high schools to allow improved access to community college classes and to prepare students for college-level courses.

I am looking forward to a very productive year and hope to see you at events throughout the district.

-- Chris Holden

Assemblyman. Holden represents some 420,000 people in the foothills communities of Altadena, Pasadena, South Pasadena, Sierra Madre, Monrovia, San Dimas, La Verne, Claremont, and Upland. He can be reached via his website at: www.asm.ca.gov/holden and fill out the contact form.



Welcome New and Returning ACT Members:

Robert Frampton, Pasadena

Special Thanks to Sustaining Members

Geoffrey Baum & Lisa Gallaway,
Pasadena

Tom & Monica Hubbard, Altadena

Juan & Joanne Lara, Pasadena

Janet Petersen, Glendale



From 25th District State Senator Carol Liu...



Sacramento Update

Greetings and best wishes for a healthy and happy New Year. The Legislature is back in session as of January 6 and there is already much afoot. The Governor presented his 2014/15 Budget with increased spending for education, pay down of school deferments and the state debt, and an increase in the state budget reserve. Even with revenues above prior projections, there is fairly broad commitment to keep spending increases modest.

Funding levels for K-12 will increase more than \$2,188 per student in 2014-15 as we work toward restoring the devastating cuts education has endured over the last five years. The budget also provides increases of \$142 million each for the UC and CSU systems predicated on a continued freeze on tuition and fees.

As author of the bill that created the Community College Student Success Task Force and co-author of subsequent implementing legislation, I was pleased to see \$200 million directed to student success programs in the community colleges. This includes \$100 million to close gaps in access and achievement in underrepresented student groups and \$100 million for expanded orientation, assessment, placement, counseling, and other education planning services for all matriculated students.

The Governor's budget also includes some increased spending for health and human services programs and for prisoner rehabilitation and re-entry. Those interested in more detail and in following the budget process, which will

include legislative hearings and the Governor's May Revise, can find more information at www.ebudget.ca.gov and www.dof.ca.gov. The Legislature must adopt the final budget by June 15, 2014,

As the second year of the two-year legislative session begins a new flock of bills will be introduced. I am proud to be authoring two bills that will bring us closer to universal early childhood education for all. SB 837, which I have jointly authored with President pro Tem, Senator Steinberg, would make transitional kindergarten available to all four-year-olds in California. Soon I will be introducing a bill to provide early childcare and education for ages zero to three.

The deadline for introducing new bills falls in mid-February. Any bills not enacted by the end of the year will die and a new two-year legislative session will begin next year. For those who wish to research and follow legislation, go to www.leginfo.ca.gov.

On the local front, I am pleased to announce my district representative Joyce Roys-Aguilera was recently selected to participate in the prestigious HOPE Leadership Institute 2014 session. The year-long program includes five, 3-4 day training sessions throughout California and concludes with a session in Washington D.C. The trainings cover advocacy, policy development, and community action. I am proud that a member of my staff was one of the 20 chosen out of 80 applications to hone her skills to serve our communities and the state.

-- Carol Liu

Sen. Liu represents about 930,000 people in the 25th Senate District, which includes Burbank, Glendale, Pasadena, La Cañada Flintridge, La Crescenta-Montrose, Altadena, San Marino, South Pasadena, Sierra Madre, Monrovia, Duarte, San Dimas, La Verne, Claremont, Glendora, and Upland.. Visit www.senate.ca.gov/LIU.

**From
43rd District
Assemblymember
Mike Gatto**



Greetings from
Sacramento!

**New in 2014:
Recycled Water at Carwashes**

A flurry of new laws took effect on January 1, 2014. I've written about some of them for the Phoenix, like AB 440, my legislation to give local governments the tools to clean-up contaminated toxic-waste sites, and AB 265, a bill I authored to help local governments create dog parks without facing unreasonable liability risks.

While I am proud of every piece of legislation I author that becomes law, one new law which took effect on January 1 is particularly meaningful to me. The idea came from my late father, Joe Gatto, who was on the forefront of things like organic farming and conservation, years before the modern environmental movement. He taught me to never take more than I needed, and to do everything possible to conserve resources for everyone. His pragmatic and common-sense approach to problem solving inspired AB 2230, a bill with the potential to save California millions of gallons of clean-drinking water. Enough water to meet the needs of tens of thousands of households each year.

Carwashes are among the biggest retail users of water. And unlike restaurants or schools or homes, the water used in carwashes is meant to get dirty. So it doesn't make sense to wash a dirt-encrusted Jeep with drinking water. That's the premise behind my Assembly Bill 2230, and idea my dad thought up that requires that 60% of the water in new carwashes

come from recycled sources.

We live in a time where everyone has changed our habits so as to conserve our state's precious resources. And water-recycling technology has advanced to such a point that there is little difference between the water it produces and the water that comes from a tap. Carwashes, by their very nature, can play an important role too. They can use the same water again and again. Filtration technology can remove the dirt and detergents and turn it into water that is just fine for rinsing or washing a car.

By this simple step, we can conserve water equivalent to what Pasadena uses in an entire year! And that water coming out of the tap will continue to be available for drinking or growing vegetables, especially when carwashes can easily and cheaply use the recycled variety.

Mike Gatto is the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee in the California State Assembly. He represents Burbank, Glendale, La Cañada Flintridge, La Crescenta, Montrose, and the Los Angeles neighborhoods of Atwater Village, East Hollywood, Franklin Hills, Hollywood Hills, Los Feliz, and Silver Lake. www.asm.ca.gov/gatto



Next San Gabriel Valley Democratic Women's Club Meeting

The Friday, February 14 meeting of the SG Valley Democratic Women's Club will feature Ron Garber of 'Organizing for Action' on Clean Energy Plans – including clean energy for the City of Pasadena. The meeting will be at 10 a.m. at the Altadena Public Library, 600 E. Mariposa Street, Altadena. (The SGVDW's Club meets on the second Friday of the month, September through June.)

Everyone (including men) is welcome and urged to attend. You do not need to be a club member.

CODEPINK. Join, support, donate, participate.

The world is falling down. ACT must take a far more activist role than just local politics. The two main problems are Endless Wars and now Climate Change. Every edition of the *Phoenix*, should contain something about Climate Change. In regard to Endless Wars, I suggest that ACT support, join, donate and participate in CODEPINK, perhaps form a group called **ACT Women for Peace**.

CODEPINK is a **women-initiated** grassroots peace and social justice movement working to end U.S. funded wars and occupations, to challenge militarism globally, and to redirect our resources into health care, education, green jobs and other life-affirming activities.

A global coalition of women's groups has been launched to bring hundreds of women to the Syrian Peace Talks in Switzerland as part of CODEPINK's new campaign initiative, **Women Lead to Peace**. The group calls for a ceasefire in Syria, more humanitarian aid delivery to the victims of the conflict, and the active participation of Syrian women in the peace talks scheduled to start on January 22, 2014.

The coalition is mobilizing a physical presence of hundreds of women—and male supporters—from all over the world to meet in Switzerland from January 20-22.

Women will arrive in Switzerland by January 20, 2014 to plan and learn from each other.

On January 21, a Summit will be held with testimonies from Syrian women and humanitarian aid workers, **testimonies from women from countries that made the transition from war to peace (such as Liberia, Ireland, Bosnia, Rwanda)** and testimonies from Arab women who have been leaders in non-violent struggles in countries such as Egypt and Tunisia

“After three years of fighting and over 100,000 deaths, it’s time for women to say **'Enough! It is men driving the violence and destruction. It's time for a ceasefire and there can be no peace without women at the table,**” says Jodie Evans, Co-Founder of CODEPINK, who is a key organizer of the campaign.

The coalition is inviting all peace-loving people to join, as organizations or individuals, and add their efforts to amplify the voices of women from Syria and beyond.

-- Grace Tiessen



Special Thanks to Our Patrons

Anita Pemstein, Pasadena

Charles & Eileen Read, Pasadena



ACTpasadena.org

For the online version of *ThePhoenix*, check the ACT web page, www.ACTpasadena.org. (Usually available soon after the mailed version arrives.) On the web page *ThePhoenix* is in color and it may have items that we didn't have room for in the print version.

NOTE: Bruce Wright, our web site manager, is eager to hear your suggestions for items to include on the web page. Contact Bruce at Brucewright@SBCGlobal.net.



Jan Feb

Calendar

- Jan 17
Friday
9 a.m. Discussion Group at CoCo's Restaurant, 77 N. Lake Ave., Pasa. Call Inman Moore for info at 626-795-2201.
- Jan 20
Monday
7:30 p.m. Outreach Committee meeting at the home of John McLean, 224 E. Howard St., Pasadena.
- Jan 29
Wednesday
7:30 p.m. UDH Meeting at the home of Karen Wingard, 737 Magnolia Ave., Pasadena.
- Feb 6
Thursday
10 a.m. Pasadena LWV meeting at the Women's City Club, 160 N. Oakland Ave., Pasadena. Program is Hunger in America.
- Feb 6
Thursday
7 p.m. ACT Steering Committee meeting/ADC meeting at the home of Marilee Marshall and Bruce Wright, 654 S. Madison Ave., Pasadena. Coffee at 7 p.m.; meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- Feb 7
Friday
Friday Morning Discussion Group. (Details same as 1/17.)
- Feb 9
Sunday eve
Phoenix deadline. Send items to Hains27@SBCGlobal.net.
- Feb 14
Friday
10 a.m. San Gabriel Valley Democratic Women's Club meeting at the Altadena Library, 600 E. Mariposa St., Alta.. Program: Clean Energy Plans. Everyone is welcome and urged to attend.
- Feb 21
Friday
Friday Morning Discussion Group. (Details same as 1/17.)



This is Henry Moon lounging at the White House in a vest made by his wife Bobbie. He somehow got an invitation to a reception there probably because of his steady donations to Democratic causes and his natural good luck. The vest is a silk "crazy quilt" depicting many math symbols and formulae.

Henry and Bobbie met as math majors 50 years ago at PCC.



Friday Morning Progressive Discussion Group

Friday Morning Progressive Discussion Group still meets on the first and third Fridays at **CoCo's Bakery Restaurant, 77 N. Lake Avenue, Pasadena** (west side of Lake, below Union) at **9 a.m.** (Check the Calendar on the back page for upcoming meetings.)

Check with Inman Moore at 626-795-2201 or in-man@pacbell.net for additional information.