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Published by Chuck Hains & Sally Beer

ACT Kicks off the 2016 Elections with a Mock Iowa Caucus



Monday, February 1, 6:30 p.m.

(The same night as Iowa's Caucuses)

at

Mijares Restaurant

145 Palmetto Drive, Pasadena
(enter from Pasadena Avenue)



MIJARES
Mexican Restaurant

Delicious Taco Bar • (No Host Bar) • \$25 • Election Hoopla • Fun and Festivities

Come and vote for your favorite candidate.

We had so much fun when we did our first Mock Iowa Caucus in 2008, that we wanted to do it again. We can watch the real Iowa Caucus on TV while we enjoy the taco bar. Then our Moderator will kick off our Mock Caucus and let the fun begin. (Any ACT and/or ADC member from 2007 or 2008 can participate. New members may join ACT or ADC for the \$25 cost for the event.) Watch for an e-vite to reserve your spot -- however, reservations are not required. Feel free just to show up, bring friends and pay at the door or pay online at ACTPasadena.org.

Note: This is a combined ACT General Membership and ADC Meeting / Mock Iowa Caucus (we are deviating from our regular Thursday meeting day because we want to have the mock caucus on the same day the real caucus is happening.) We also will be voting on 2016-17 officers for ACT and the Arroyo Democratic Club

Historic Note: In our 2008 Mock Iowa Caucus, Hillary Clinton received 20 votes; John Edwards, 20 votes; Dennis Kucinich, 14 votes; and Barack Obama, 12 votes.

Seems like a long time ago, doesn't it?

Skipper Rostker

We were saddened by the death of Skipper Rostker on December 7. Skipper was a champion for human rights and a friend to all. He was born in Kenosha, Wisconsin in 1919, attended Arizona University, Northwestern and – 40 years later – earned his degree at Cal State LA. He served in the US Navy on an amphibious attack transport, the USS Dickens in WWII.



He and his wife Pat, who predeceased him, lived in Pasadena for over 50 years. They were part of the lawsuit to force integration of the Pasadena School District, decided by the US Supreme Court in favor of the community in 1970. Skipper was a life-long Democrat who worked on numerous campaigns and was Secretary for the State Democratic Party for many years. He was still picketing against the war at age 92.

We won't forget him and his old fire engine. We extend our sympathy to his four children and four grandchildren. They have suggested that any memorial contribution be made to the political party of the donor's choice.



Democratic Pre-Endorsement Conference

Our local Democratic Pre-Endorsement Conference will be held on Saturday, January 30, beginning at 12:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the Altadena Public Library, 600 E. Mariposa Street, Altadena. (Please park on Mariposa, rather than in the Library parking lot.) Absentee balloting is possible for delegates unable to attend their local meeting.

Check www.cadem.org/endorsements for more information and for the time and location of other regional conferences.

Author! Author!

Congratulations to Jeanne Gleason Register, ACT Co-Chair, Pasadena Area NWPC leader, and “retired” educator, on the recent publication of her book of historical fiction, “*Acadian Passage*.” Jeanne’s dynamic tale of romance and struggle set against the background of the British expulsion of French settlers from Acadia (the *grand derangement*) was inspired by her and her relatives’ research into their Acadian ancestry.

“*Acadian Passage*” vividly describes that land and the Acadian people and their flight to safety. It is an exciting story that illuminates a period of history that is unfamiliar to many of us – and makes us hunger for more knowledge of that time and place.

We enthusiastically recommend Jeanne’s novel. You won’t be able to put it down.



Welcome New & Returning ACT Members:

Pablo Alvarado, Pasadena
Patricia Guzman, Pasadena
Greta Pruitt, La Crescenta

Special Thanks to Our Sustaining Members

Richard & Nancy Esbenshade, Pasa.
Jim Haight, Pasadena
Judy Johnson, Pasadena
Kris Ockershauer-Dunn, Pasadena

And really special thanks to Our Benefactors

Susan & John Caldwell, San Marino

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

Mary Naff, La Canada

Wonderings and Wanderings

By Inman Moore

A Hard Look at Our Homeland



In March of 1946 I returned to the United States after many months in the South Pacific serving in the Navy during World War II. When I walked off the ship at Terminal Island I wanted to get down and kiss the ground. I was that happy to be back home. I love America. I know what the poet meant when he said:

Breathes there the man with soul so dead
Who never to himself has said,
"This is my own my native land."

America is where I was born. I have never entertained the idea of moving to another country. Visit? Yes! But not to permanently move there. I truly have a love affair with America as many of you do. But we make a great mistake when we think that we are perfect and everyone in the world wants to live in America. Obviously there are many people in the world who have fled to America because of certain circumstances. My Irish ancestors came to America because of harsh circumstances. But most people want to live in the country where they were born. Many look favorably upon America, but don't want to permanently live in America.

We Americans often think we are the best in everything. But this, in fact, is not true. At present we are not at the top in several categories. Our educational system ranks 14th in the countries of the world, and we rank 37th in providing healthcare. We do have the unenviable situation of ranking first in the world in prison population with 2.2 million people incarcerated. We also rank first in military spending. Our military budget of 581 billion (2014 figures) is larger than the military budget of most of the other larger countries

combined. Russia, for example, has a military budget of 70 billion. China's military budget is 129 billion.

All of this is by way of saying that we may be spending in the wrong places. When the war hawks keep wanting us to spend more on the military and less on the programs that make a nation great, we should realize what really makes a nation great. Otherwise we may find ourselves spending all our money on protection and leaving none for the things that truly make a nation great and worth protecting. There continues to be great resistance to funding a full healthcare program for our great nation. Full Medicare for all should be our objective. Nothing less is worthy of our great nation. Social Security continues to be attacked. Scare talks of Social Security going broke are designed to frighten people into opposing it. Social Security is not broke and doesn't have to ever be broke unless we want it to fail.

Here is my wish list and don't tell me we can't accomplish these things if we truly set our minds and efforts to it. It is ridiculous to keep fighting to lower taxes when so many things need to be funded, such as better road, rail, and air transportation, better schools, and better healthcare.

So, as we begin a new year, here is my wish list. It could happen!!!

- Give Peace a chance. It is easy to go to war, but peace is so much superior. Why not have a Secretary of Peace.
- Increased support for the rights of women, including abortion.
- Acceptance of gays into all aspects of society as well as people of all races and colors.
- Revamp the process by which a person becomes a United States Citizen.
- Take climate change seriously. Why should the findings of science be discarded?

Continued on page 10

Political Notes

by Jon Fuhrman



Friday, Jan. 8.

Rules, rules, rules. They say the devil is in the details, and that may be especially true this year when looking at the detailed rules for the Republican Presidential race.

We're only three weeks away from the Iowa caucuses, a month from New Hampshire, and then South Carolina, Nevada and finally SuperTuesday on March 1, when 13 more states have primaries or caucuses. All of these, on the surface, have to adhere to proportional representation rules, which, one would think, would lead to a relatively fractured delegate count. However, as one digs into the variety of different rules each state has adopted, a fascinating picture starts to emerge.

Much of the detail here is gleaned from a super-wonk site called FHQ, or Frontloading HQ, maintained by Josh Putnam, a Univ. of Georgia lecturer in political science ([www.front-](http://www.frontloading.blogspot.com)

[loading.blogspot.com](http://www.frontloading.blogspot.com)). He has a deep analysis of each state's unique approach to their primary or caucus. One of the most interesting quirks is how states have set different minimum thresholds for delegate eligibility. Many of these rules were set in 2014 or early 2015, when no one really contemplated the potential for a dozen active candidates.

Iowa, for example, starts the process on Monday, February 1st (and don't forget to join us for **ACT's own Mock Caucus that Monday at Mijares**, where we'll tally preferences for the Democratic candidates and watch the Iowa results while snacking at their excellent taco bar). Iowa delegate allocation is dependent on the state-wide caucus tallies, but candidates need to get at least 3.3% of the vote to qualify for any delegates. That seems like a reasonable threshold, eliminating candidates unlikely to go anywhere but giving at least 1 delegate to as many as 9 candidates. As a result, no candidate is likely to get a majority within that state (I'll tell you later why that's important).

New Hampshire is next, on Feb. 9. Now things get tougher – their threshold is 10%. Based on the latest poll, only 3 candidates – Trump, Cruz and Rubio – would qualify for any delegates. Based on their rounding rules, Trump would get well over a majority of the delegates.

Eleven days later is South Carolina. They handle the proportionality requirement differently, by allocating candidates by Congressional district as well as by state-wide totals. But under their rules, the winner in each Congressional district gets all the delegates, and the winner state-wide gets all the at-large delegates. So if Donald Trump, as predicted by the latest South Carolina poll and the latest national polls, gets 1 vote more than Ted Cruz in each Congressional District and state-wide, he wins all 50 delegates – quite a

haul. Three days later, the Nevada caucuses go back to Iowa-type rules, with a 3.3% threshold and most likely a broad distribution of delegates.

Then, a week after that, we have 13 states acting on SuperTuesday. Although proportional allocation is still the rule, thresholds now really start to have a critical impact. Four states – Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee and Texas – use a 20% threshold. Right now, based on national polls, only Trump is polling above 20%, although Cruz would likely achieve that in his home state of Texas. If only one candidate exceeds the threshold, that candidate wins all the delegates. Arkansas, Massachusetts and Oklahoma use a 15% threshold, likely splitting delegates between Trump and Cruz, but eliminating all the other candidates. Alaska uses a 13% threshold, and Minnesota uses 10%.

Thus, it becomes harder and harder for lesser candidates to win delegates, even if they're going up from 5% to 8% to perhaps even over 10%. Yet the in-

centive to stay in the race – particularly for Bush and Rubio to hang around until the Florida and Ohio winner-take-all primaries on March 15 – is so great, and the cost to keep going for just another three or four weeks so modest, that there won't be much pressure to pull out of the race in February, even if they do terribly in Iowa and New Hampshire. Perversely, that decreases the odds of cracking these threshold percentages for anyone except Donald Trump, and possibly Ted Cruz.

If the voting roughly follows the latest national polling (which admittedly could change sharply), Trump would end up on March 2 with about 400 delegates, Ted Cruz with 220, about 100 unpledged delegates from states

that chose not to do preference polls (Colorado, North Dakota, Wyoming), and another 60 delegates scattered among all the other candidates. That would constitute a commanding lead for Trump, including a majority of delegates in 9 states.(1237 delegates are needed for the nomination.)

But there's more, because those pesky rules add a further wrinkle. Each National Convention drafts the rules for the next cycle, both the rules for delegate selection and the rules for how the next convention operates. The delegate selection rules can be amended and tweaked over the 4 years between conven-

tions, and they have been, but the convention rules can be changed only at the next convention. In 2012, as a way of helping Mitt Romney fend off challengers to his presumptive re-nomination and reelection in 2016, the convention changed the requirements for having one's name placed in nomination at the convention. The old rules said a candidate needed a plurality of delegates in 5 states to qualify. For 2016, they changed the rule to a

majority of delegates from 8 states.

When this rule was changed, no one ever dreamed that there would be a dozen active candidates. Even if one or two establishment candidates emerge to challenge Trump and Cruz, it is unlikely, with many states using proportional or congressional-district based allocations, that one of them could get a majority of the delegates in 8 states (even when the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa are counted as state delegations).

The bottom line of all this is that it seems nearly impossible for three candidates to qualify to have their names placed in nomina-



tion at the Republican convention, and there is an excellent possibility that, even without a majority of the delegates, Donald Trump could be the only candidate who meets the requirements to have his name placed in nomination. (This explains why the Cruz campaign has been paying unusual attention to the conventions scheduled in March for the District of Columbia, Guam, Virgin Islands and American Samoa; winning majorities in two or three of those conventions would gain a trivial number of votes but could make the difference in getting his name on the first ballot in the convention.)

It is true that the convention could change the rules, but that requires a majority vote. And while a majority might not like having Trump as their only nominated candidate, there is no guarantee that a majority could agree on an alternative rule. By definition, any alternative would let some candidates in (like Cruz) but not let in others; how low should the threshold go? Thus, even after the primaries and caucuses are over, the GOP could continue to see a bitter intra-party struggle.

Many commentators have predicted that as the actual caucuses and primaries get closer, we would see more rational decision-making (at least from their perspective) come to the fore. But we're only 23 days away from Iowa, and I fail to see any signs of that happening. Ted Cruz and Donald Trump continue, not just to lead, but to dominate the pack. The non-Trump/Cruz bloc seems hopelessly splintered. Cruz seems to have a bit of a lead in Iowa, Trump a more comfortable lead in New Hampshire. Cruz, however, is starting to come under determined assault.

One staple of Iowa politics has been support for the RFS – the Renewable Fuel Standard – which requires mixing ethanol into gasoline to reduce petroleum usage and pollutants. Much of that ethanol comes from Iowa corn, and directly or indirectly adds \$5 billion to the

state's economy. It was an article of faith that no candidate could win Iowa without paying homage to the RFS -- until Ted Cruz came along. Cruz, true to his conservative ideology, is an unabashed opponent of corporate subsidies, of which RFS is one of the biggest. Cruz seems to be backing off that absolute opposition a bit now, but he has been the main target of RFS supporters in Iowa.

Cruz's eligibility to run is also coming under sharper attack. It is undisputed that he was born in Canada, but his mother was an American citizen. However, that doesn't automatically make one a citizen. The statutory rules were quite clear: the citizen parent also had to have resided in the United States for at least 10 years, 5 of which had to have been after the citizen parent's 14th birthday. Typically, a citizen parent completes a Consular Report of Birth Abroad – an FS240 form – that documents both the birth of a child and that the parent meets the above requirements. No one has quite nailed down whether Sen. Cruz's mother actually met those requirements, and while there is no particular reason to think she did not, failing to provide explicit proof or documentation leaves room for speculation. I'm sure news bureaus are now frantically trying to trace Mrs. Cruz's whereabouts in the years prior to her marriage, but tracing people's whereabouts 45 and 50 years ago is no easy trick. Who knows where this will lead?

I think the attacks on Cruz will eat away at his support, just enough, to deprive him of a victory in Iowa. But even if Cruz wins, my sense is that Trump is firmly enough established that he will still prevail in New Hampshire, South Carolina and Nevada, and then sweep most of the primaries on Super-Tuesday. It will be Trump vs. Clinton, for a battle royale in the fall.

-- Jon Fuhrman

Pasadenans For A Livable Wage

The Pasadenans For A Livable Wage campaign continues with another hearing before the Economic Development and Technology (EDTech) Subcommittee of the City Council on Wednesday, January 27 at 6 p.m. ACT is a member of the community coalition that makes up the membership of the Pasadenans For A Livable Wage.

The four committee members, Tyron Hampton, District 1; Victor Gordo, Chair, District 5; Steve Madison, District 6, and Andy Wilson at this point seem to agree on raising the minimum wage in annual increments to \$15 per hour by 2020.

What they don't agree on are the details around exceptions for tipped workers, teenagers, small businesses, non-profit organizations, and wage enforcement. Also, there seems to be agreement on the need for some sort of metrics to measure the impact of the higher wages with the idea the increases might be postponed if there is an economic downturn.

The EDTech committee directed the City's economic development staff to report back on January 27, with details on a proposal that would support a \$15 minimum wage similar to the new LA County minimum wage ordinance starting with a \$0.50 per wage increase to \$10.50 on July 1, 2106. The committee also directed staff to research exemptions for tipped workers and lower starting wages for teenagers or "learners." For example, the LA County ordinance specifies that learners must be paid at 85% of the prevailing wage.

The EDTech committee is expected to discuss the city staff report at length at the January 27 meeting and then make a recommendation to the full city council for further action on the development of an ordinance.

Pasadenans For A Livable Wage is asking the following four items be included in the new ordinance:

- Raise the minimum wage in incremental steps to \$15 by 2020.
- Provide for cost of living allowances starting in 2022.
- Provide for wage enforcement to prevent wage theft.
- No exceptions to the wage increases for various employers or classes of workers.

The best social policy is a good job. Pasadena can be a leader in raising the wages and improving the lives of its low-income residents. To make that happen, we need ACT members to ACT. Please contact the Mayor and your city council representative and ask him/her to support the Pasadenans For A Livable Wage proposal.

Also, please attend the EDTech meeting in the Council Chambers to support the proposal with public comment.

Here is the contact information for Mayor Tornek and the City Council members:

Mayor Terry Tornek:

ttornek@cityofpasadena.net

District 1 (Tyron Hampton):

cbell@cityofpasadena.net

District 2 (M. McAustin):

mmcaustin@cityofpasadena.net

District 3 (John Kennedy):

ChristianCruz@cityofpasadena.net

District 4 (Gene Masuda):

nsullivan@cityofpasadena.net

District 5 (Victor Gordo):

vdelacuba@cityofpasadena.net

District 6 (Steve Madison):

smadison@cityofpasadena.net

District 7 (Andy Wilson):

awilson@cityofpasadena.net

-- Ed Washatka

From
Anthony Portantino



Dear Act Members,

The release of Governor Brown's latest budget this week has me excited to go back to Sacramento. During my entire six years in the Assembly it was height of the recession and severe budget cuts. It sure would be nice to have resources to compliment a policy agenda. Here are a few of the highlights of Brown's budget proposal:

An increase in school spending to \$10,591 per student. This is \$3600 more than the recession days.

\$1 billion to reduce emissions, funding for mass transit and incentives for zero-emission vehicles.

A\$65 per vehicle highway user fee to help generate money for road repairs. The user fee idea needs to serious consideration as the more Californians laudable end their reliance on gasoline, the less sales tax revenue is generated for road repairs and maintenance.

\$80 million for regional centers, services for the autistic and developmentally disabled, and increased direct payments for the blind elderly and disabled.

There are also negotiations going on to include a new school facilities bond. As the Chair of Pasadena City College Measure P Bond Oversight Committee and a public school parent I'm hoping that the legislature and the Governor quickly come together to agree on this proposed bond for Community Colleges and K-12 campuses. According to the Sacramento Bee, the Governor has expressed reservations about the current proposal on the table. It's very important for today's students to have great facilities and large statewide bonds like this spreads needed prevailing wage jobs throughout California.

Like I said, it's exciting times in the Capitol.

Independently, the State Senate proposed a \$2 billion package to end homelessness in California with a focus on Los Angeles County. Interestingly, our County Supervisor immediately criticized the plan. A coordinated statewide effort to end homeless has been a long-time coming. Imagine being on the streets during the recent El Niño and you can see why we need to collectively and seriously address mental health and homelessness.

Recently, Time Wendler and I were very pleased to support a sizable grant from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy to the Arroyos and Foothills Conservancy to help preserve Cottonwood Canyon in Pasadena. To learn more about the AFC and Cottonwood follow this link:

<http://arroyosfoothills.squarespace.com/cottonwood/>

Locally, it was quite a holiday with amazing weather and our terrific Rose Parade and Game. Mayor Tornek is right when he says that Pasadena owns New Year's Day. I had the chance to be just a dad on January 1. I took Bella to the parade and Sofia to the game on the glorious So Cal day. Very pleased to report that several local community floats won awards including the great community self-builts from South Pasadena, Sierra Madre, Burbank and La Cañada Flintridge.

Have a safe, happy and successful New Year!

-- Anthony

Anthony Portantino is the Chair of the PCC Bond Oversight Committee, a Visiting Fellow at USC, our former State Assemblymember and a two term past ACT Co-Chair.



Wanted: A Photo of you in a Special Place

Where have you been recently? (Either near or far.) Please share your photo with Chuck at hains27@sbcglobal.net for *ThePhoenix*.

From 25th District State Senator Carol Liu...



Sacramento Update

Happy New Year everyone! The Legislature is off to a quick start this year. I was pleased to join the Senate President Pro Tem, Kevin de León, and a bi-partisan coalition of Senators in presenting our plan to make \$2 billion available to cities for affordable housing, mental health and related services for the homeless. This will give cities tools to help the homeless instead of criminalizing them.

Senator de León and I are also introducing legislation authorizing pilot programs for delivering technical assistance to our counties and school districts as they carry out their plans to close the achievement gap in accordance with the Local Control Funding Formula. I also have a teacher professional development bill in the works as well as legislation to streamline the reimbursement process for School-Based Health Care Centers.

My bill to improve access to information about resources and delivery of state aging and long term care services will be up for hearing this month in the Senate Health Committee. I am cautiously optimistic that it will pass. I am also crafting a new bill to address long term care financing. With people living longer, it is estimated that 70 percent of those who are 65 years of age or older will require some form of long term services and supports, something many of them will not be able to afford.

Meanwhile, SB 675, my bill requiring greater and earlier involvement by caregivers in the hospital patient discharge process, went into effect on January 1. I am working with AARP,

the Hospital Association, and other stakeholders to make sure people are aware and take advantage of the law. I was honored to be recognized by AARP this month for my work on behalf of family caregivers. Sixty-five percent of older persons with long-term care needs rely exclusively on family and friends to provide assistance. The hope is that earlier engagement in the discharge planning process together with better information and support for caregivers will reduce hospital readmissions for the patients.

Also during our first week in 2016, Governor Brown presented his 2016-2017 budget. Overall the Governor proposed a \$122.6 billion General Fund budget plan that makes significant increases in funding for education, health care and state infrastructure, while contributing to the state's Rainy Day Fund and paying down state debts and liabilities. He remains cautious about spending and the future economic stability of the state. Thus begins the six-month process of legislative hearings and ultimately, negotiations to enact a budget in June. You can find a summary of the budget and more detailed information on the process at <http://sbud.senate.ca.gov/budgetinformation>. Wishing you and your loved ones Health, Happiness and Peace in 2016.

Sen. Liu represents about 930,000 people in the 25th Senate District. Visit www.senate.ca.gov/LIU.



February Phoenix Deadline

The February *Phoenix* deadline will be Sunday, February 7. Please send items to Chuck Hains at hains27@sbcglobal.net on or before that date. Mailing preparation will be Thursday, February 11 at 7 p.m. at a location to be determined. (Mailers will receive a reminder via phone.)

Nestle Bottled Water under Fire

Per a Release dated Oct. 13, 2015, by The Center for Biological Diversity, it, joined by Courage Campaign Institute and Story of Stuff Project filed a lawsuit against the U.S. Forest Service. It claims the defendant has allowed Nestle to continue to bottle millions of gallons of water from San Bernardino National Forest with a permit that expired in 1988.

The release states: Nestle's four-mile pipeline siphons water from Strawberry Creek to bottling operations in Ontario, CA. In 2014 an estimated 28 Million gallons followed this route and were sold under Nestle's Arrowhead label. Last year 68,000 gallons per day were siphoned out. Reports indicate water levels at the Creek are at record lows. All of this in exchange for a \$524 payment every year to the Forest Service. The permit expired in 1988.

The Center for Biological Diversity stated "CA is in the middle of its worst drought in centuries, and the wildlife that rely on the Creek are seeing their precious water siphoned away every day."

Courage Campaign Institute stated "In the spring, we asked Nestle to do the right thing, and they threw it back in our faces, telling Californians they'd take more of our water if they could."

The release states the U.S. Forest Service has effectively been an enabler. The suit calls for an immediate shut down of the pipeline and a full permitting process be conducted including environmental reviews.

--Barbara Paul



Progressive Discussion Group

Friday Morning Progressive Discussion Group meets on every first and third Friday of the month, 9 a.m. at Dupar's Restaurant, 214 S. Lake Ave, in Pasadena..

Inman Moore, *continued from page three*

- Provide education free through the college level for all who want it and keep up their grades. If tiny Finland can do it, why can't we?
- Work hard to produce clean energy.
- Support for strong international labor unions.
- Provide easier access to proper housing facilities. We did it for our veterans. Why not all?
- Strive for more equitable income.
- A more equitable tax structure. It is ridiculous to run our country on less taxes with the lame excuse that politicians are crooks. Well, some business and professional people are also crooks. We don't discount business and professions because there are some "bad apples." Politicians are a noble profession and a great country deserves our financial support.
- Improvements to the healthcare act and quit the farcical act of "no money for improving the healthcare system."
- Work to get more people to vote including automatic registration of every person when they become 18 years of age.

So you may say all this is impossible. Well, I can dream can't I? And dreams can become a reality if we become serious about making America truly great.

-- Inman



ACT Coalition-Building & Outreach Committee Report

This month's report includes the Madison Elementary School Issue, CICOPP/Police Oversight, and the litigation over the McDade shooting Report. You can read Dale Grone-meier's report in this month's *on-line Phoenix* at ACTPasadena.org. The Steering Committee will schedule a program to address the Madison issue in the near future.

ACT Coalition-Building & Outreach Committee Report

Madison Elementary School Issue

We have for a long time agonized over what we saw as a lack of political organization in the Pasadena Latino community that accounts for the limited political representation of the Latino community in our local elected offices. There is now a grass-roots coalition fighting to represent the Latino community on the PUSD Madison Elementary School principal selection issue – CCEJAM, the Citizens Council for Equality and Justice at Madison. ACT member Esteban Lizardo (former PUSD Board member), ACT member Vannia de la Cuba (Victor Gordo's field rep), former ACT member Roberta Martinez, and new ACT member Pablo Alvarado (the head of the principal Pasadena organization fighting for immigrant rights in Pasadena, the Pasadena Jobs Center) were among the Latino leaders who sought an early resolution of the conflict, were rebuffed, and are now supporting CCEJAM's efforts. The principal supporters of the new Madison Principal are long-time adversaries of ACT Ramon Miramontes and Scott Phelps; Board Members who ACT has helped elect seem to presently be saying that newly-appointed Superintendent Brian McDonald should be supported and/or newly-appointed Principal Juan Ruelas should be given a chance.

CCEJAM's primary positions are (1) failing to give Madison the right to have a selection committee of site stakeholders who interviewed candidates and recommended 3 applicants for the Superintendent to choose from was racially and wealth discriminatory when other school selecting a new principal had that process, (2) the new principal has been an insensitive bull-in-a-china shop who has driven away 2/3 of Madison's teachers and alienated the community, and (3) the rationale that the new principal accomplished educational won-

ders at Roosevelt Elementary school is inaccurate.

Editor's Note: The Steering Committee will schedule a program to address the Madison issues at an upcoming Steering Committee meeting – both to educate ourselves and have a discussion on the issue.

CICOPP/Police Oversight

Consultant visits & related meetings: The City has retained excellent consultants to study oversight models and to help steer the Public Safety Committee and City Council through the process of adopting an Independent Police Auditor (IPA) – both are former Presidents of NACOLE (National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement) and both have hands-on experience doing police oversight in major cities such as San Jose and Seattle. They will be visiting Pasadena from Tuesday, January 26, through Thursday, January 28, to meet with stakeholders and to participate in public meetings. A 3-hour meeting with the Coalition for Civilian Oversight of the Pasadena Police (CICOPP) is scheduled for:

Wednesday, January 27, 1-3 p.m., All Saints Church, Scott Hall 5: Consultants meet with CICOPP

A number of ACT members will be participating. If any other members of the Steering Committee wish to participate in the 3-hour session with the City's consultants, let me know.

Open public meetings will be the following:

Tuesday, January 26, 6 p.m., Public Safety Committee meeting, City Hall Council Chambers

Thursday, January 28, 6 p.m., Northwest Commission meeting, Jackie Robinson Center

The road ahead on the IPA: We believe that

we now have a majority of the Board who will support an IPA. Skip Hickambottom and I have prepared a legal analysis supporting that the ACT Proposal for an IPA reporting to the Public Safety Committee. CICOPP is preparing a specific IPA proposal for Pasadena that it will release prior to the consultants' visit and which it will advocate for during their visit. We are aiming on getting the consultants' report prior to February 15, holding 2 more public meetings in late February to early March, and getting Public Safety Committee/City Council approval at a meeting in late March or early April. If this schedule is accomplished, it might result in an IPA being hired during the summer of this year.

The Public Records Act litigation over the McDade shooting OIR Group Report:

The release of the less-redacted OIR Group Report on December 2 was followed by a marathon 6-hour joint meeting of the Public Safety Committee and City Council on December 7 that included participation by the OIR Group authors in the meeting. Skip Hickambottom and I have generated 8 op-ed pieces that were published in Pasadena Now and the Pasadena Weekly; the Star News Editorial Board published its editorial reaffirming its support for the IPA because of the Report and because of Chief Sanchez's dismissive reaction to it.

The trial court has a hearing scheduled for January 14 on issuing a revised judgment in light of the Court of Appeals opinion requiring fewer redactions. We are preparing a motion for attorneys' fees for the reserved date of April 9. If we obtain attorneys fees, the first priority will be repaying costs and expenses (ACT's \$500 payment will fall in this category), including my firm's expenses on progressive coalitions (which includes the salary we have advanced for ACT member Kristen Green working through our office as a community organizer from June, 2015-May, 2016).

The remainder of any award will be donated back to CICOPP constituent organizations and other local progressive activity, which will include a donation to ACT if the recovery is sufficient.

-- Dale Gronemeier, Chair, ACT Coalition-
Building & Outreach Committee
dlg@dgronemeier.com



Want to run, or help someone else do so?

**CAMPAIGN WORKSHOP:
GETTING STARTED
SATURDAY JANUARY 16th,
8:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.**

HOW TO RAISE AND MANAGE THE MONEY NEEDED TO WIN

Calvary Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall
1050 Fremont Ave., South Pasadena
(park off El Centro)

Sponsored by NWPC & WISPPA, and many local elected officials & women's organizations

\$25 includes refreshments and handouts

For info and to register contact Betty Emirhanian, bemirhanian@msn.com,
323/254-7402

There are very few women sitting on our local city councils and boards. Many in the San Gabriel Valley have no, or very few, women. Los Angeles city council has 1 out of 15! We want to encourage pro-Choice progressive women to run, and then help them to win. It is also a great tool for those who want to help others put on a winning campaign. Candidates should encourage their current and future staff and volunteers to attend.

The workshop focuses on how to get started developing the resources needed to win, playing by the rules and staying legal. Please register in advance, but you can do so at the door, from 8:30am. Open to all.

It's Membership Renewal Time for ACT and the Arroyo Democratic Club

Your membership renewal letter will arrive in about a week. Please respond as soon as you are able or use the form below and mail your check c/o ACT/ADC, P. O. Box 40074, Pasadena, CA 91114-7074. Or you may renew online at www.ACTpasadena.org if you choose. ACT & ADC dues are still a bargain, especially if you join both organizations.



P.S. If you have any questions about your membership contact Executive Director Jon Fuhrman at jon_fuhrman@charter.net or 626 795-5255.

I'd like to join both groups for one low price! (Checks payable to ACT/ADC)

\$40 Single	\$70 Single Sustaining
\$25 Each additional member per household	\$90 Double Sustaining
\$15 Student or limited income	\$150 Patron
	\$275 Benefactor

I'd like to join ACT (Checks payable to ACT)

\$35 Single	\$60 Single Sustaining
\$20 Each additional member per household	\$85 Double Sustaining
\$15 Student or limited income	\$125 Patron
\$20 Gift Membership (NEW!)	\$275 Benefactor

I'd like to join the Arroyo Democratic Club (Checks payable to ADC)

\$35 Single	\$60 Single Sustaining
\$20 Each additional member per household	\$85 Double Sustaining
\$15 Student or limited income	\$125 Patron
	\$275 Benefactor

Extra Contribution

\$ _____ Political Account (for endorsed candidates and issues)

\$ _____ Operating Account (for organizational costs) \$ _____ **Total enclosed**

Name

Home Phone

Address

Office Phone

City

ZIP

Email address

Mail to ACT, P. O. Box 40074, Pasadena, CA 91114-7074



Calendar

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <p>Jan 15
Friday
9 a.m.</p> | <p>Progressive Discussion Group at Dupar's Restaurant, 214 S. Lake Ave., Pasadena. Contact Inman Moore at 626 795-2201 for details.</p> | <p>Jan 30
Saturday
12:30 p.m.</p> | <p>Local Democratic Pre-Endorsement Conference in the Community Room, Altadena Library, 600 E. Mariposa St.</p> |
| <p>Jan 16
Saturday
8:30 -12:15</p> | <p>Campaign Workshop at Calvary Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, 1050 Fremont Ave., South Pasadena. (Park off El Centro just east of Fremont.) \$25 per person. Contact Betty Emirhanian, 323 254-7402.</p> | <p>Feb 1
Monday
6:30 p.m.</p> | <p>Mock Iowa Caucus and ACT Steering Committee and ADC meeting at Mijares Restaurant, 145 Palmetto Drive, Pasadena (enter from Pasadena Ave.) \$25 per person.</p> |
| <p>Jan 19
Tuesday
7:30 p.m.</p> | <p>ACT Coalition Building & Outreach Committee meeting at Gronemeier & Associates' office, 1490 Colorado Blvd., Eagle Rock</p> | <p>Feb 5 & 19
Friday 9 am</p> | <p>Progressive Discussion Group. Details same as 1/15.</p> |
| | | <p>Feb 26-28
Fri.-Sunday</p> | <p>2016 California Democratic State Convention, San Jose Convention Center.</p> |
| | | <p>March 12-13
Sat.-Sunday</p> | <p>Research Committee endorsement interviews.</p> |



**P. O. Box 40074
Pasadena, California
91114-7074**