By Cres Vellucci

When California Green Party voters – as many as 138,000 of them – go to the polls Feb. 5 to choose their 2008 Presidential nominee, they will find something that voters in the Democratic and Republican parties are lacking – a real choice. Because, not only does the Green Party provide a very real alternative for all voters to the generally corporate-controlled candidates of the Dems and GOP, it also offers a variety of candidates for Green Party voters to consider.

In fact, this Presidential Primary for Greens portends to be the most diverse, if not competitive ever, according to veteran Green Party members. Those on the ballot in California include, in alphabetical order, Jared Ball, Jesse Johnson Jr., Cynthia McKinney, Kent Mesplay, Ralph Nader and Kat Swift.

Complete bios, statements and photos are on Pages 8-11 inside. While all candidates, declared or not, are opposed to the war in Iraq and want U.S. troops home now, support universal single payer healthcare and fair and clean elections, and want to fight global warming immediately, there are differences in their styles and their backgrounds, including:

* There are two women (McKinney and Swift), one Black (McKinney), and four men, including one Black (Ball) and another with Native American heritage (Johnson). One candidate has never registered with a political party (Nader), and another is a former elected Democratic Congressperson, who just recently re-registered Green (McKinney).

* Candidates include hip-hop scholar, professor and radio host Ball, actor/producer/union organizer Johnson, politician McKinney, environmental engineer Mesplay, consumer advocate legend and former Green presidential candidate Nader, the oldest candidate at 73, and the youngest candidate (not 35 until later in 2008), Swift, a Texas organizer.

The Green Party will hold primaries in four states on February 5, including California. The Green Party has vowed to achieve 51 ballot lines in 2008 in all the states and the District of Columbia, and has committed party resources for this purpose. Greens currently have ballot access in 21 states (including DC) http://www.gp.org/statelist.shtml.

"This promises to be the most competitive presidential primary on record for the Green Party of California. And it comes at a time in our state and nation’s history when voters and an opportunity to elect a President who will make a real difference in truly ending the war in Iraq now, protecting our planet now and providing universal, single-payer health care for all now,” the GPCA said.

The nomination will be decided by about 800 delegates from state parties who will gather at the Green Party national convention in Chicago, Illinois, July 10-13.

Come Hear The Candidates Debate!

Sunday, January 13, 2008 2 PM
Herbst Theater - Veteran Memorial Bldg
401 Van Ness (opposite City Hall)
San Francisco
Hosted by Cindy Sheehan and Matt Gonzalez
$15 - $25 donation at the door
Pelosi to tell all of us what happened and federal lawmakers, to urge Rep. leadership, including elected state Democrats, who were briefed and what she did – if anything – in 2002 when she was given a “virtual tour” of the CIA’s torture program.

According to reports this past weekend, the CIA said there were no objections raised by members of Congress, including at least two dems, who were briefed and given a virtual tour of the CIA’s torture program, including the use of the illegal and controversial water-boarding technique.

“We are asking the Democratic state leadership, including elected state and federal lawmakers, to urge Rep. Pelosi to tell all of us what happened and exactly what she did – if anything – in 2002 when she was given a “virtual tour” of the CIA’s torture program,” said Cres Vellucci, a Vietnam veteran and member of the GPCA Veterans Caucus.

While the Democratic Party leadership, including Pelosi, have maintained they are opposed to the Iraq war, and torture, and blame the Republican Party and the Bush Administration, the Green Party has insisted both of the major parties are complicit in the continuing killing in Iraq.

“That Democratic Party lawmakers are being briefed about torture, and then tacitly agreeing with it is one more example that voters in California are being misled when they are being told the Democratic Party is the answer to ending this war.

“The complicity of Democrats in CIA torture is not necessarily a surprise to us. The Green Party of California has been opposed to the war before it even started, and our candidates for local, state and federal office have insisted they are the true anti-war alternative choice for voters, not the Democratic Party,” added Vellucci.

“We are asking the Democratic state leadership, including elected state and federal lawmakers, to urge Rep. Pelosi to tell all of us what happened...
By David Cobb

Despite the best efforts of Democratic Party leaders in Congress, the citizen’s movement demanding that the Bush regime be held accountable for their high crimes and misdemeanors against the people of the United States continues to grow.

Notwithstanding the conspicuous refusal of the corporate media to cover the growing movement for Impeachment, Congressman Dennis Kucinich introduced impeachment resolution HR 333 on to the House Floor. This resolution calls for the Impeachment of Dick Cheney. It is worth observing that every single one of the charges against Dick Cheney can also be made against George Bush.

The first Article of Impeachment accuses Cheney of “purposely manipulating the intelligence process to deceive the citizens and the Congress of the United States by fabricating a threat of Iraqi weapons of mass destruction to justify the use of the United States armed forces against the nation of Iraq in a manner damaging to our national security.”

To date, over 3,300 United States military personnel have been killed as a result of these lies, and over 650,000 Iraqi citizens have died. Of course, this does not count the millions horribly maimed and wounded. The war has already cost well over $500 billion, greatly increasing our federal debt and made us much less secure as a country.

The second Article of Impeachment accuses Cheney of “actively and systematically deceiving the citizens and the Congress of the United States about an alleged threat of Iraqi weapons of mass destruction.”

Prior to the March 2003 invasion of Iraq, the CIA fully informed Dick Cheney that no legitimate evidence existed regarding weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. In addition, Cheney intentionally lied about an alleged relationship between Iraq and al-Qaida that he knew did not exist. Cheney pressured the intelligence community to change their findings to deceive the people, Congress and the media.

The third Article of Impeachment accuses Cheney of “openly threatening aggression against the Republic of Iran, absent any real threat to the United States, and has done so with the United States’ proven capability to carry out such threats, thus undermining the national security interests of the United States.”

As a result of this courageous act (and the failure of Democratic Majority Leader Nancy Pelosi’s attempt to kill it), the resolution will now go to the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives.

The lies of George Bush and Dick Cheney about Iraq ties to al-Qaida are on videotape and in writing. Indeed, they continue to insinuate the lie. Their claims about Iraqi weapons have been shown in every detail to have been, not mistakes, but lies. Their threats to Iran are on videotape.

And these are not the only videotaped Bush lies. Bush lied when he claimed he had not been warned about seriousness of Hurricane Katrina on videotape. Bush lied about illegal spying (and later confessed to it) on videotape.

The Supreme Court has ruled Bush and Cheney’s system of detentions are unconstitutional, yet they continue to ignore these rulings. Bush, Cheney and their staffs openly advocate torture, and U.S. torture is documented by victims, witnesses and public photographs.

Bush and Cheney both defend themselves with claims of “executive privilege.” Nixon tried that defense, too. It didn’t work for him then, and it shouldn’t work for the Bush regime now.

It is astounding that the Democrats in control of Congress do not understand that removing the threat of impeachment is what empowers the White House to ignore subpoenas. And that the threat of impeaching the White House for its stonewalling would break down that wall even before we reached impeachment.

Author: David Cobb was the Green Party candidate for President in 2004, and a regular columnist with the.. Eureka Times-Standard.
Green Focus Newspaper of the GPCA Page 4

Green Party Networks With National Latino Congreso

By Alfonso Garcia, Jan Holle and Wil Yeager

A group of Greens from the Los Angeles County Council staffed a table at the 29th Annual National Latino Congreso from October 5 - 9, 2007, at the downtown Los Angeles Sheraton Hotel, sponsored by MAPA, the Mexican American Political Association, a Co-Convening Organization of the Congreso, whose president, Nativio Lopez, is a member of the Green Party of Los Angeles County Council. The Congreso was convened by 8 major progressive Latino Organizations, including MALDEF, LULAC, the Hispanic Federation and the Southwest Voter Registration Education Project. Though the Congreso participants were overwhelmingly progressive Democratic with a constant presence of Greens and Green Party values. The Congreso agenda was better than most Green Party Conferences, for example; the Sunday, October 7th agenda was: “Saving The Globe for Our Children and Grandchildren: Strategies on Climate Change, Energy Alternatives, Urban Greening, and Public Health.” The evening ended with a Climate Change Dinner in the ballroom that had clips from Leonardo DiCaprio’s movie “The 11th Hour” playing while “A” list Latino Democratic politicians spoke from the dais. The website for the National Latino Congreso 2007, with all its informative Workshops, Plenary Sessions and adopted Resolutions is located at the site: www.latinocongreso.org. Be sure to put The Congreso on your calendar for 2008!

Attendee’s at the Congreso included those from all parts of the US, Africa, Europe, South America and the Caribbean Islands, with whom we all had a chance to talk and exchange ideas. Some participants came as individuals, while others represented groups. One notable group was building a low income housing without accepting federal money. But the surprise was that this small core group of people have been building homes for over 20 years with public notice of their heroic efforts. This small group travels around the nation constructing homes, a wonderful act of kindness, mostly at their own expense.

On Saturday morning, the Minutemen, mostly white anti-immigrant group, were turned back at the downtown Los Angeles Sheraton Hotel in a protest holding up signs stating that the Congreso’s purpose was to promote illegal immigration; needless to say, they were holding up the American flag as a symbol of their misplaced patriotism. The Minutemen are gacabacho blaming the Mexicans for their economic insecurity. Gachachos need to blame someone, first they blamed the American Indians, Blacks, Mexicans, Jews, Irish, Italians, Iraqis, and other Europeans, but now it’s the Mexicans turning again. The Minutemen were not well received by members of the Congreso, but were met with non-violence, yet firm dismissal of their racist intents by majority of Latinos present.

It was wonderful to meet people running for public offices from governor to city council in other states. Most of these people had very little money, but felt that their part of the nation needed a new kind of leadership. Most of the people at the Conference knew very little or nothing of the Green Party. We did our best as Greens to change that. Once informed of the Green Party, they indicated that both the current parties have nothing to offer them. The Democrats and Republicans talk the talk but do nothing after they are elected.

Another observation was the fact that the Congreso was not dominated by males, as many female were active planners, speakers and participants. The people attending the Congreso did not give us the impression they were there to become rich and famous. They were people who apparently, only wanted their lives to account for something. To make a difference. And in our private discussions during the conference, we Greens felt that each day they work towards the goal of improving the sustainable humane condition of their communities is a day that we stand in solidarity together. To the extent that we can continue to offer opportunities to lead with visions, and allow these progressive latino people to lead in their own way, we feel that we can add vitality to the party and help create a better world for all of us – unto the 7th generation and beyond. The large tabling area had a wide variety of themes, from Cuba to Kashmir, attracting hordes. Our Green Party table drew visitors by a collection of buttons with catchy sayings. We were kept busy dispensing Green Literature, chatting with people from many states, and signing them up on our outreach list. While most of the Congreso attendees had never heard of the Green Party before, they all did by the end of the Congreso, thanks to our tabling efforts and the Green Party bookmarks passed out at the escalators. Congreso participants were very favorable to the Green Party and many seeds were planted that will hopefully grow into members, locals, candidates and progressive cultural change. We lay down this challenge to you: spread the word of Green Party sustainability widely through all diverse interest groups, whether they are united by race, religion, commercial interest, or whatever venue or space you may find them.

By Patrick Meighan, LA Green and Screen Writer

About a year ago I was sitting in a jail cell in downtown L.A. Like several other Los Angeles Greens, I’d come to jail voluntarily (with a few hundred of my closest friends), arrested, zip-cuffed, processed and held. All in support of L.A.’s hotel workers, who were demanding revolutionary things like health care, workers, who were demanding rights for hotel workers, who were demanding revolution in the entertainment industry, and beyond.

Cut to: a year later. And once again, I’m an L.A. Green out there, fighting alongside L.A.’s workers against unchecked corporate greed. Only this time I’m one of the workers, and the union is mine: the WGA (Writer’s Guild of America). And you know, walking the streets of L.A., day after day, toting a picket sign... well, it’s kind of like being back in jail. Sure, the setting is different. And the tactics are different. But the homeless guy pee? That’s just the same.

What the hell am I doing??

Personally, I blame the Green Party. For the fun I’m in. More on that later. First, a brief primer on what this fight is about: the internet. Okay, here’s one a little less brief: traditionally, a writer’s payment comes in two parts – X and Y. X is the initial upfront money when he/she writes something, and Y is an additional, deferred payment when the studio/network re-broadcasts that show and makes extra money on it. In show biz lingo, we call Y a “residual.” That’s how it’s worked for years. But now (and increasingly in the future), studios are skipping that re-broadcast (i.e., withholding the writer’s Y) and, instead, making money with their re-runs on the internet. And here’s what they pay the writer when they re-run something on the internet: $0.00.

No residuals. No Y. No fair.

So the writers decided to be silly and politely ask for a few cents more than the $0.00 they’re currently being paid out of the studios’ internet revenues. The studios responded by telling the writers to go pound sand.

So here we are. Fighting our fight.

But ultimately, of course, this fight is larger than the WGA. This fight affects all of Los Angeles’s workers. ‘Cause, see, if they can break my (middle class) union, they’ll keep on going, right through every other union in the entertainment industry, and beyond. Heck, if they can, they’ll go back in time and bust the Lolipop Guild. With the unions broken, and workers divided, we can say goodbye to L.A.’s already-shrinking middle class. We can even say goodbye to L.A.’s working class. We’ll all be working poor. With sub-standard, non-union lollipops.

L.A.’s workers know that. That’s why the WGA’s gotten support from workers across the city: actors, teamsters, longshoremen, security guards, and, yes, hotel workers. That’s right, a contingent from the hotel workers union (HERE Local 11) came to the latest WGA march. When I thanked them for coming out, they looked me over and said, “Hey, you’re the man who smelled like homeless guy pee!” Sigh.

Anyhow, like I said above, I kinda blame the Green Party for this mess I’m in. I mean, I’m just a pasty-skinned Patrick Meighan is a WGA member, a writer on the FX TV show, ‘Family Guy,’ and a proud Los Angeles Green.
California Green Campaigns and Candidates Working Group, Green Party candidates and campaigns workers were schooled in innovative strategies – including the use of focused, cable-television advertising – to compete against corporate financed Republican and Democratic Party candidates at a Campaign School at UCLA in late August.

The school, also made available for anti-war, fair trade, immigrant rights and other social justice activists, included workshops on Paid (and unpaid) Campaign Advertising: How to Buy Effective TV and Radio Spots on a Small Budget, Fundraising, Campaign Strategy, Media Relations, IRV, Voter Registration, Election Procedures, Getting Elected and Governing as a Community College Board Trustee and Challenges and Opportunities of Special Elections.

According to Warner Bloomberg, CCWG co-coordinator who coordinated the session, “Candidate training is one of the CCWG’s missions. We were able to plan and present the workshops in Los Angeles because local Greens volunteered for host responsibilities. We hope to hold the next candidate training workshops and strategy meetings in March of 2008. It takes about four months to plan these programs, so we’re looking for a host, and place to hold the meetings as soon as possible.”

Those in attendance also agreed, added Bloomberg, that the CCWG should create a statewide voter registration database to assist GPCA candidates. The database provides candidates with vital contact information about available Greens in their election districts, as well as basic information about the voter makeup in that voter area.

In his presentation to potential and current GPCA candidates in attendance, recent Congressional candidate Daniel Brezenoff (37th District/Long Beach) advised the workshop that although his campaign began from ground zero, “we eventually had people making phone calls for me from around the state, and even around the country. The volunteers, and I always could have used more, were great.”

Brezenoff also suggested that the Greens should have “soft money,” and possibly start a political action group to encourage those supporting progressive candidates. “We have a need to do this especially in districts where we have a chance to win, or to get media coverage,” he said.

“Overall, a lot of things went right in my campaign, although it was a Special Election and we only had a few months,” he said. “Overall, I discovered that when you run for office, people will stop what they’re doing, led by a union-busting negotiator with soft college-boy hands, and write with soft college-boy hands, and the other side is a band of corporate megaiths with insane power and wealth, led by a union-busting negotiator who sits on a throne of human skulls. Any sane person in my situation would pack it in. But, dammit, I’m a Green. The Greens fight more corporate megaiths before 9am than most people do all day.”

If I ever wanna show my face at the next plenary, I have no choice but to do what every other California Green does, every day of their Green lives: wake up, fight for what’s right (no matter the obstacles or how powerful the opposition), go to sleep. Repeat. Again and again, until the sun burns out. So great, thanks, fellow Californians. On account of your stupid example of courage and tirelessness, I’m now forced to hit the picket line every morning at 5:30, wave a sign, and never back down until one of two things happen: a) the corporate megaith puts stop trying to roll-back the wages and benefits that L.A.’s workers have fought for for b) I finally get that pony I’ve still got my fingers crossed for option b).
SACRAMENTO – California Greens continued to help anti-war activists pressure state Democratic Party congressional lawmakers to make good on a 2006 election year promises to bring state military personnel home by ending the Iraq War, but who so far continue to fund the war instead of stop it.

All across the state, those opposed to the war are visiting offices of Democrats, demanding they not vote to further war funding in September. Instead of a sympathetic year, people opposed to the war are being arrested.

“The death toll in Iraq, for U.S. and Iraqi civilians, continues to climb and all Democrats can do is claim to be opposed to the it, while funding it,” said Daniel Brezenoff, Green Party in the 37th District Special Election. He added that the Green Party opposed the Iraq War since before it began, unlike the Democratic and Republican parties.

Greens were among those at a demonstration last week at the offices of Orange County Rep. Loretta Sanchez (D-Santa Ana) in Garden Grove. Six people were arrested at the protest after Sanchez refused to sign a pledge to not further fund the war. Sanchez – after saying she was opposed to the war – said she would still vote for more defense monies for the war because there was $2.1 billion for California to build the C-17 Globemaster, a military aircraft.

Tuesday, Greens were among those who organized a People’s Town Hall in Sacramento in front of the office of Rep. Doris Matsui (D), and other registered Greens were participating or supporting a hunger strike at the San Francisco home of Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D).

Greens also arranged a visit to the office of Rep. Henry Waxman (D-L.A.), where the lawmaker said he did not believe there was enough “evidence” of fraud and deception about the war to warrant impeachment proceedings against Pres. George Bush and Vice-President Dick Cheney.

And, in the San Francisco area, 2006 Green Party congressional candidate (14th CD) Carol Brouillet was arrested along with Daniel Ellsberg and others at Lawrence Livermore Nuclear Weapons Lab in a peace protest memorializing the 62nd anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima.

“The war on terror is a fraud. Our best hope is non-violent, widespread opposition to the threats to the constitution and our civil rights, and the world, and for Congress to begin impeachment proceedings to halt (the war) and reverse the policies of the past several years,” said Brouillet.

From Orange County to Oakland, Sacramento and Hollywood Boulevard: Greens all over the state of California have been pushing for impeachment of President George w. Bush, Vice President Dick Cheney and an immediate withdrawal of troops from Iraq complete with war reparations to the citizens and government of that country. In addition, as noted on other pages of this paper, Greens are standing up daily for the right of all people to live a sustainable life, complete with the freedoms we have taken for granted far too long. Please consider joining the party. See back page for details.
After an extensive amount of re- 
search into intentional communities 
and organic farming, I discovered 
WWOOF-USA (the USA chapter of 
World Wide Opportunities on Organic 
Farms) and, upon joining, received a 
directory of approximately 500 farms 
that provide room and board opportu-
nities in exchange for work.

After looking into several in Cali-
ifornia, Utah, New Mexico and the 
northeastern United States region, I fi-
nally chose Upper Meadows Farm in 
Montague, New Jersey, about 70 miles 
northwest of Manhattan, near the Dela-
ware River where New Jersey meets 

I arrived the day after Labor Day. 
Farmer Leonard Pollara greeted me af-
ter he finished tending to the cows, a 
 somewhat bucolic task following the 
slaughter of his three pigs earlier in the 
afternoon. 

Following a brief description of the 
farm operation and a tour of the office 
and “guest house,” Leonard returned to 
his own house next door. I was left to 
assess my “quarters” and what had actu-
ally committed to for the next 2-1/2 
months of my life. And, I wondered... 
what was he thinking about a 43-year 
old (most likely gay) man from Holly-
wood, California on his farm in New 
York and Pennsylvania.

I've been asked to return, which I 
planned to do after spending some 
time in Manhattan with friends for the 
holiday season. Despite the difficulties, 
I've concluded it is important to sup-
port this type of food production. Pro-
viding fresh, healthy produce to people, 
while educating them about what is 
involved in the process is so important 
in this day and age of petroleum depen-
dent industrial food, and the resources 
required for its refrigeration and trans-
port.

Whether or not you believe in the 
concept of peak oil and its potential 
implications, it is now more imperative 
than ever that people become engaged 
with local farmers and community sup-
ported agriculture in terms of knowing 
what their food is, and from whom and 
where it originates.

This type of food consumption is 
no longer limited to actual health bene-
fits. We now must consider the environ-
mental and economic imperatives. Our 
very lives depend on it, both now and 
well into the future.

For more information about these op-
portunities, visit www.wwoof-usa.org
The ballot is the bullet. It is my intention to use my presidential campaign to galvanize the non-voting Marginalized Millions to seize the ballot of the Green Party toward true empowerment. The Green Party, too, must seize this moment of national malaise and disillusion to come out of the morass of being a repository for disgruntled Democrats and open the Party’s doors to the non-voting millions so as to actively and powerfully challenge the status quo and become an effective force in the nation at this critical moment. I believe that I can be the catalyst the Green Party can use for this necessary transition.

Beyond a call for the immediate, unconditional and complete withdrawal of U.S. troops and war machinery from Iraq and Afghanistan, my platform focuses on the repeal of the “three-strikes” crime laws across the nation.

No other domestic issue is more urgent for black people, brown people, poor people. This Clinton-promulgated law (1994) and its progeny caused the doubling of America’s prison population in the ten years since passage. The result has been the incarceration of millions more at the expense of the families that were already struggling. Moreover, the result has been the mass incarceration of America, with five million more on parole or probation, with families representing millions more affected by their incarceration, and millions more locked up in places without community. In general, this mass incarceration—distinguishing the U.S. as the country with the highest incarceration rate in the world—has devastated black, brown and poor communities, further impoverishing them and strengthening familial foundations. In addition, the “three-strikes” crime laws overturned the 100-year-old juvenile justice system, allowing for the inhuman treatment of children.

My platform is... Full and free health care for everyone... Complete and free primary, secondary and higher education for everyone... Complete opening of the borders to workers of color who are often accompanied by the institution of a guaranteed minimum living wage of $25/hour for all workers... Creation of a base of free or low-cost, decent housing... a complete overhaul of the criminal justice system... and provide every human being the fundamental right to a decent place to live... Repeal of all laws that discriminate against or demean people on account of ethnicity, gender, nationality, sexuality, religion, age, or disability.
Biographical: Born 1959, West Virginia. Attended North Carolina School for the Arts, Marshall University and several other universities. Has worked on a seismographic ship, as an actor, a stage producer, a stand-up comic and country line dance instructor. He helped launch and headed Electric Workers Union in West Virginia in 2006. He was the first gubernatorial candidate in the history of West Virginia to secure his place on the general election ballot by winning in the primary election in 2002. Ran for US Senate in 2006.

Positions/Statement (provided by candidate/edited for length): I have not committed Treason, or High Crimes and Misdemeanors. I ran one of the most successful third party campaigns for Governor in 2004. I ran taking no contributions and spending no monies receiving about 2% against U.S. Sen. Robt. C Byrd in 2006. I was elected as State Party Chair later that year in 2006. I served as the first Mt Party delegate to the 2007 GPUS convention and cast our vote for the 2007 GPUS convention and cast our vote for Cynthia.

CYNTHIA MC KINNEY:
For more information: http://www.runcynthiainou.org/

Biographical: A six-term member of the House of Representative from Georgia. Cynthia McKinney made history when she became the first African American woman to represent Georgia in the United States House of Representatives in 1992. She was born in Atlanta, Fulton County, GA., March 17, 1959; graduated St. Joseph High School, A., University of Southern California, Los Angeles, Calif., 1978; attended Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Medford, Mass.; diplomat-ic fellow, Spellman College, Atlanta, Ga., 1984; faculty member, Clark At- lanta University and Agnes Scott Col- lege. Cynthia was a member of the Georgia state house of representatives, 1988-1992, and elected as a Democrat to Congress in 1992, 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000 and 2004. She was forced out by a re-districting battle forced her out in 2004, in a case that went all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, she won again in 2004. She re-registered in the Green Party in 2007.

Positions/Statement (provided by candidate/edited for length): While in Congress, from 1993 - 2003, Cynthia became known as the voice for the voiceless. She provided a seat at the table for people long left out of Geo- rgia’s political and economic main-stream. She supported candidates representing the people who had been politically marginalized. The result was more hope and more representation at the local level for black people and people of low wealth throughout the rural black belt of Georgia. Her pio-neering work on behalf of black farm-ers led to the United States Department of Agriculture admitting that it had, indeed, discriminated against black farmers for decades.

Cynthia McKinney proved herself a courageous voice for the voiceless, un-afraid to speak truth to power. Cynthia’s Power to the People Committee is working to put Cynthia on fifty-one ballot lines. Her positions included: Consistently opposed funding for bloated military and secret intelligence bud-gets; Introduced Articles of Impeachment for George Bush, Dick Cheney, and Conodolezza Rice; Introd-duced, championed, and passed in the U.S. House the Arms Trade Code of Conduct, prohibiting the sale of arms to known human rights abusers; Authored legislation to end the use of depleted uranium weapons; Passed legislation to extend health benefits for Vietnam War veterans still suffering the health effects from exposure to the defoliant Agent Orange; Challenged Pentagon Secre-tary Rumsfeld and Chairman Myers of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on the $2.3 trillion missing Pentagon money and on U.S.-sponsored war games taking place on September 11, 2001; Currently serves on (a) International Tribunal on Hurricane Katrina and Rita, (b) Brus-sel’s International Tribunal on the Iraq war by the Iraq Tribunal, (c) International Tribunal on Iraq’s alleged weapons of mass destruction, (d) is working with the Mannas-elian Peace Organization to criminal-ize war criminals, (e) is helping to redress murders of the Cabacar tribe. McKinney is a life long envi-ronmentalist and conservationist. She introduced articles of impeachment against President Bush as (H Res 1106), which makes three charges against Bush: manipulating intelligence and ly-ing to justify the war in Iraq, failing to uphold accountability and violating pri-vacy laws with his domestic spying program.

Despised by Republicans and Democrats alike: Cynthia McKinney, former Democrat-ic Congresswoman from Georgia, was voted out in a primary election, but not before in-troducing a bill in Congress to impeach George Bush and Dick Cheney for ‘high crimes.’

The second article also makes charges against Vice President Cheney for helping to “fix” the intelligence in order to justify the Iraq War, and against Secretary of State Conodolezza Rice for making false statements concern-ing the Iraqi alleged weapons of mass destruction program. Because McKinney waited until the final day of voting before her term end-ed to introduce the resolution, the reso-lution was largely symbolic.

Cynthia McKinney is a life long environmentalist and conservationist. She introduced articles of impeachment against President Bush as (H Res 1106), which makes three charges against Bush: manipulating intelligence and lying to justify the war in Iraq, failing to uphold accountability and violating privacy laws with his domestic spying program. Allow the survivors of the tragedy’s victims to sue those responsible for the attacks as well as participate in the Victims Compensation Fund. She introduced legislation to establish a national living wage and she also introduced legislation to repeal the Military Tribunals Act. Her signature environmental piece of legislation was the National Forest Protection and Restoration Act which would have provided much-needed jobs and revenues for the resto-ration and protection of America’s na-tive forests. McKinney successfully authorized the USDA disparity study that demonstrated USDA discrimina-tion against minority farmers. McKin-ney, like so many Americans, has long held Green values. McKinney is now proudly a Green. At the end of the 2006 legislative session, however, McKin-ney introduced articles of impeachment against President Bush as (H Res 1106), which makes three charges against Bush: manipulating intelligence and lying to justify the war in Iraq, failing to uphold accountability and violating privacy laws with his domestic spying program.
Positions/Statement (provided by candidate/edit for space): As an Air Quality Inspector in San Diego County, Dr. Kent Mesplay is concerned about the negative effects of global climate change. “The issue isn’t whether global warming is real or that it is influenced by human behavior,” Mesplay says, “but that the solutions, when enacted, threaten the quick, easy profits of our centralized, commercialized, subsidized political and energy power systems.” The main plank in Mesplay’s presidential platform is that sustainability is a security issue and that it is best enacted at a community level. In this view, governments, communities and citizens must rapidly learn to build sustainably and efficiently for better independence and basic security of water, food, and energy, to strengthen our core infrastructure. Renewable energy, local organic produce and improved health care delivery are Green issues.

Kent is a repeat presidential candidate. He acknowledges learning as he debated David Cobb and others during the last primary season, taking notes during each and every debate. One repeated theme that became evident to him on the campaign trail is that our democratic institutions aren’t so democratic. Mesplay’s second main plank is that electoral reform is critical to inspire confidence in voting. Kent says he works “to improve the manner in which we reach decisions as a government, how we select, elect and retain candidates to public office.” He supports public funding of campaigns, with automatic inclusion into debates for those ballot qualified candidates who, through ballot access, have at least a statistical chance of winning. “Better yet,” Kent says, “we ‘alts’ need fair, equal access to the public airwaves without having to run to raise expensive advertising money.” The current political system does not emphasize deep debate and the solutions that such open discussion brings. Dr. Mesplay encourages preferential voting, Instant Runoff Voting (I.R.V.) and other improvements to politics.

Peace is another important topic in Kent’s campaign. Trained in prosthetic research and design, with a doctorate in biomedical engineering from Northwestern University, Dr. Mesplay is convinced that his political advocacy for sensible solutions to human conflict will result in far fewer war-time amputations than he could treat in a lifetime. “It’s not important to just end the war in Iraq but to grapple with the issue of our national addiction to war,” Kent says, adding that he looks forward to returning to Chicago for the nominating convention, not far from where he once received V.A. funding. Kent is one of four Green presidential candidates to be on the ballot in Illinois. Optimistic, Kent believes our nation will take a leadership role in creating the conditions that will lead to diplomatic solutions to conflict. He also says “through improved communication and verification techniques the younger generations of today can help put an end to war, if their hearts are in it, so get out there and register Green!” His website is www.mesplay.org

ralph nader

Ralph contains his personal legacy of the ideals of democracy, civic duty, and participation for the public good, rather than dominance by the corporate powers. Known for his ethics, integrity and independence, Ralph is recognized worldwide for putting democracy to work.

Ralph’s mammoth legacy includes the effective national network of citizen reform groups that labor to preserve the safety and quality of life of all Americans, impacting civic skills, tax reform, pensions, aviation, regulation of atomic power, renewable energy, clean air and water, clean elections, food, medicine and auto safety, safety in the workplace, access to health care, civil rights, civil justice, Congressional ethics, campaign finance, discriminatory lending, the tobacco industry, corporate crime and reform, investor protection, corporate globalization, agribusiness and small farms, intellectual property, medicine prices abroad, freedom of information, and government procurement.

Ralph’s name recognition, media presence, organizational capacity, qualifications, and accomplishments make him a strong Green Party Presidential candidate, capable of taking on the corporatist duopoly and maximizing the voting power of the Green anti-war mandate.
CAT SWIFT:  
For more information:  
http://www.bexargreens.org/katforprez/ 

By Christopher Callhoun and Geri Silva 

A few years ago, the voters of California almost amended California’s draconian Three Strikes Law to apply to violent felonies. If not for the lies of Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and other politicians seeking to exploit the issue and the $10 million they poured into a last-minute blitz against Prop. 66, the law would have been amended in November 2004. The voters, who have spent the last 10 years behind bars for taking the DMV test for their cousin, would be free and wouldn’t miss any of his two sons’ lives. 

...Thomas M, who is serving 25-years-to-life for petty theft, would never have missed any more of his two years-to-life for petty theft, would have been able to come home. 

...and California would already be on its way to saving hundreds of millions of dollars wasted every year on senseless, unjust incarcerations.

We know the Green Party and other like-minded progressives haven’t given up the belief that justice works when we support Santos, Thimenti, and Kelly: FACTS hasn’t. We know justice is possible.

That’s why Families to Amend California’s Three Strikes Law (FACTS), and Santos, filed another initiative to amend California’s Three Strikes Law on October 20, 2007! This new initiative, The Three

FACTS Files the Three Strikes Reform Act of 2008

"strikes" to serious and/or violent felonies only. No longer will minor offenses be counted as strikes. All persons whose third strike was a non-serious, nonviolent offense would be able to apply for re-sentencing unless one or more of their priors include murder, rape or child molestation, or their third strike was a major drug trafficking offense, a felony sex offense or a weapons use offense. To read the measure, go to the FACTS website www.FACTS1.com. 

FACTS commissioned a recent poll among California’s likely general election voters. This poll shows that support for reform is as high as it has ever been – and that, since we have crafted a more strategic and thoughtful initiative, we can even withstand the vicious, deceptive attacks we know will come.

Here are some highlights from that poll:

* 68% of Californians would support this reform – even after hearing the toughest arguments against it, arguments based on the same things we heard in 2004.

* Fully 80% of voters say our new thinking – that, unlike the initiative in 2004, this one restricts resentencing to those who have never been convicted of murder, child molestation, or rape – is a very persuasive reason to vote for the measure.

Overcrowding at Chino Prison: Overcrowding is just one of the problems associated with the 3 Strikes Law. Wasted, futile lives are the worst part, as well as ton family life.

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Wanna Vote IRV for The California Green Primary?

While the only official Green Vote can be held this year via the ballot box in your local precinct, you can vote IRV here and mail your ballot to the Electoral Reform Working Group to aid in this Experimental Project. Please be part of this historical first. Vote Today and Send Us Your Ballot!

Part of the responsibilities of the Electoral Reform Working Group (ERWG) is to educate Party members about ranked ballot voting (sometimes called instant run-off voting). In single office or decision situations, the GPCA uses IRV with a single transferable vote (STV). That means if a person’s choice does not get elected or approved, their next preference is counted, instead. Or their third choice; or fourth choice. Until a candidate or proposal gets enough votes to meet the minimum for election or approval (e.g., 50% plus one for a majority to elect a candidate to office or a 2/3rds minimum for a GPCA administrative decision).

Below is a ballot listing the names of the candidates appearing on the February 5, 2008 GPCA presidential primary ballot. The GPCA is not allowed under current elections law to have a ranked choice ballot in its elections (it is trying to get that, eventually, through efforts to obtain Elections Code sections for the GPCA). The ERWG invites Green Party members to participate in a ranked ballot voting exercise to help us all understand how it works. We will report the results in the next Green Focus.

The results of this exercise will NOT have any effect on the selection of California delegates to the GPUS presidential nominating convention scheduled to be held in Chicago, Illinois July 10-13, 2008, and it will have no effect on how those delegates vote at that convention. Your participation in this exercise is ONLY for educational purposes (and fun)!

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Complete the ballot below listing the order of your preferences among the candidates (first choice “1”; second choice “2”; etc.) You can mark choices for all candidates, but you do not have to do so. Your last choice should be NOC for “No Other Candidate”. If you do not rank all candidates, NOC will be considered your last vote after the candidates you did rank. If you vote NOTA for “None of the Above”, that is your first and only ranking because you are saying that you do not approve or support or even reluctantly vote for any of the listed candidates. You can write in unlisted candidates; but, if you do so, you cannot use the NOTA option.

After you have completed your ballot, mail it to: ERWG IRV Project, c/o 867 North Fifth Street, San Jose, CA 95112-5021. To be counted, your ballot must be postmarked no later than February 5, 2008. Or, you can vote via the ballot page that can be found by going to the GPCA webpage set aside for this purpose at: http://cagreens.org/erwg/irvdemo/pres08.html In either case, you may vote only once!!!

**GPCA Ranked Choice Presidential Primary Demonstration Ballot**

Vote the order of your preferences among the candidates (first choice “1”; second choice “2”; etc.) Candidates Listed in Alphabetical Order of Last Name.

- Jared Ball
- Jesse Johnson
- Cynthia McKinney
- Kent Mesplay
- Ralph Nader
- Kat Swift
- Write in:
- Write in:
- Write in:
- No Other Choice
- None of the Above

NOTE: Persons who have announced that they are a candidate for the nomination of another national political party are not eligible to participate in the GPCA presidential preference primary election. Write in votes for any such candidate will not be counted – even for NOTA purposes. This follows rules adopted at the May 2007 San Francisco Plenary.

Your Name: ____________________________________
Residence County: ______________________________

You must be eligible to vote in the GPCA primary election or approved by your County GP as a local member in accordance with local special eligibility rules.

While “voting”, how about making a donation to the GPCA. We need financial help to support our candidates, help finance delegates to the national party convention, and helping all of our GPCA projects (including money for Green Focus). Write whatever amount you can and make your check payable to “Green Party of California”. Or use the electronic donation button that can be found at cagreens.org. And remember to cast your official ballot in the primary election on February 5th!

**Complete and Cut Out this Ballot and Mail to:**

Green IRV Project c/o
867 North Fifth Street,
San Jose, CA 95112-5021.
Let’s have an “Urban Policy Cau- cus” on urban sustainability, the “Drug War,” large school systems, immigration, the “War,” corporate lawyers, and the Republican “Party of Lincoln” became the “White Man’s Party” of die-hard segregationists.

America’s revolts in the name of liberty and sanctioned slavery. The French killed King Louis and crowned Emperor Napoleon. The Russians killed a Czar Nicholas in the name of socialism and consolidated his empire under a corporate state. I have great personal respect for Greens organizing this caucus, but I do not want Greens imitating race-obsessed Democrats and Republicans.

Black Power -- 1967

At the height of the civil rights struggle, Stokely Carmichael, a Howard University student, was regional director for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. He helped register voters and organize the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP). Lyndon Johnson, with typical “liberal” cowardice, refused to support the MFDP against the all-white, racist Mississippi delegation at the 1964 Democratic Convention. After two more years of “conservative” terror, Carmichael gave his first “Black Power” speech in Mississippi, urging black pride and independence.

MECHA -- 1969

The heroic struggle of César Chávez and the United Farm Workers by reaction from California’s “sleeping giant.” In 1969, standing founded César Chávez, rejecting namby-pamby liberal “assimilation and accommoda- tion” ideology. A MECHA leader at UCLA was a firebrand called Tony Vilar. When Vil- lar married the lovely Corina Raigosa he took the name Antonio Villaragosa. One lecture by Stokely Carmichael changed my life. For this young, naive, kid in “conservative” Virginia, Black Power was liberating in 1967.

“Hack Power” -- 2007

Today, I’m grieved to report that in Los Angeles, San Jose, San Francisco, and Oakland, those liberating slogans of my youth, co-opted by Democratic Party Machines, are used to rationalize evil by those promoting Black Latino race war and killers from “Your Black Mus- lim Bakery” who assassinated Oakland Post editor Chauncey Bailey in broad daylight.

Here’s the group dynamic. First, “differences” between “Us” and “Them” are widely exaggerated. Next, “difference” worship is declared a revo- lutionary end in itself. Symbolic proj- ects like naming lousy segregated institutions after Martin Luther King and César Chávez; expressing conspic- ious outrage over “offensive” words and symbols; and pretending Kwanzaa is a “tradition” that for centuries mas creates an illusion of “action.” Fail- ure generates calls for greater “unity” -- more separatism, conformity, and de- volution. “Leaders” tend to do this.

Political refugees come into our party with emotional baggage. People of color or fear Greens using “white privilege” to abuse us. We don’t trust our Euro- American brothers not to be forming a Lynch mob around the next corner. Isn’t that what white Clinton Democrats do when the going gets tough? So, we defend using the only tools we know:

Out of Iraq

The current key values are what the world needs now even if we don’t have them. My life sometimes has tried to tell me where to go, what to do, what to like, who to love, how to dance, vote, and worship because of the group I was born into 58 years ago. I hate this! I’ll bet a couple billion other people on this planet hate it, too. Everyone woman is my sister, Every man is my brother. Let’s be the change we want to see.

Major Reform Necessary in US Farm Bill

Congress needs to pass a Farm Bill that reforms the current system of sub- sidies payments to corporate agriculture. The current bill, which passed the House of Representatives, the Farm Bill Ex- tention Act 2007 (HR 2410) fails to even come close to that goal.

A comprehensive pol- icy that takes into consideration current realities: climate change, the increasing prices of petroleum fertilizers, the scar- city of water, vanishing bees, national obesity, and world hunger. The guiding principle, according to the Green Party, must be food security for our people and for all people on the earth. The primary goal of US farm policy should be to feed healthy food to our nation’s people. grown using sustainable method- s, while ensuring that all those in- volved receive living wages and safe working conditions. Unfortunately, Congress has other priorities.

To reach a comprehensive, long lasting solution, we will all have to understand this bill. Representative Ron Kind (D. WI) tried to do more in the previous Congress. His 2006 effort never got out of Congress Committee commanded by the most conservative of Republi- cans. Even with bipartisanship support, his amendment to this year’s bill was blocked by Speaker Nancy Pelosi for purely partisan considerations.

Although the current legislation ex- pires in September, the Farm Bill is stuck in the Senate and is not expected to move forward soon. The current im- passe finds Senate Majority Leader Sen. Harry Reid (D. NV), and Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R. KY) so far apart that they can’t even agree on which amendments will be considered on the Floor. Even if they do find an area where they can agree to disagree, it is very probable that President Bush will veto the measure if it contains any provision for the continuation of our current cotton subsidies.

Congress must deal with the ques- tion of subsidies this session because the US faces severe penalties from the World Trade Organization (WTO) if we do not. In 2003, Brazil went to the WTO with the complaint that US subsi- dies to cotton farmers artificially drove down world prices and harmed Brazil- ian ([f]armers. When the WTO ruled in Brazil’s favor recently, it opened the door for other countries to file millions of claims against the US.

Subsidies are no longer just a way to ensure that farmers can earn a living. They do not go to those who need them the most. Under the current structure, farmers receive 62% of all pay- ments. The ramifications go far beyond this.

In a similar manner, cotton farmers in sub-Saharan Africa have been forced off their farms and into cities where there is no work. Such dislocation is responsible for increased immigration at best and results in a new breeding ground for terrorism at worst. 

Closest to home, when US subvi- dized corn is exported to into Mexico under NAFTA, Mexican farmers are affected. Those farmers, with no longer the viable livelihood, are fleeing Mexico to find ways to feed their families. The end result is illegal immigration to the US.

It is clear that we need a major re-thinking of agriculture and trade policies. California’s so-called reformers in Congress have not the courage to do that. When asked about capping payments, Dorgan-Grassley amendment would do, Sen. Barbara Boxer was non-com- mittal and said that “We have our rice man is my brother. Let’s be the change we want to see.

Out of Iraq

Maybe this Congress will muddle through with a barely acceptable bill, one with Dorgan-Grassley. But it will still favor everything that is big: farms, agri-business, transportation costs, en- ergy use.

There is a natural affinity between the “Green for All” campaign and grassroots democratic goals of the Green Party and the needs of small farmers and rural communities. Fundamental change will happen when farmers and Greens align their efforts for a food policy that prioritizes a sus- tainable economy and benefits the health of our citizens, our land, and our farmers.
GREEN BREEZENOFF GETS 9 TIMES VOTER REGISTRATION IN CONGRESS RACE

By Cres Vellucci

LONG BEACH – Green Party congressional candidate Daniel Abraham Brzezenoff – who polled an astounding nine times the percentage of registered Greens in an August 31 District Special Election – said he will “keep a close eye” on winner Laura Richardson between now and the 2008 elections to see if she keeps her promises to voters.

Brzezenoff finished third in the race, garnering 5.41 percent (1,138 votes) of the vote. Only .61 percent of the voters in the District are registered Green, even fewer than the Libertarian Party. Brzezenoff’s final tally, though, put him into third, far ahead of the Libertarian candidate, Herb Peters, who had just 2.3 percent of the vote.

“I am disappointed with the low turnout, and I am disappointed I will not be represented by a more progressive leader,” said Brzezenoff, a clinical social worker, of Richardson, the Democratic Party candidate.

“Shesha led to oppose any and all new war funding, and we in the Green Party and the peace movement will hold her to that. I will help (by keeping) a close eye on her,” he added.

Brzezenoff also criticized Richardson for not being a “strong” critic of the Bush Administration.

“We...will push her to continue speaking out against failed Republican policies. We will also push her to speak against failed Democratic policies, and we certainly hope she will not lose her ability to speak truth to power if and when a Democrat enters the White House. We will pressure the Congresswoman to take up impeachment articles against the President and Vice President, do more to protect our environment and to call for repealing the Patriot Act. We do not expect (her) to follow the party line, but instead...remember that she must answer to her constituents at the polls in just 14 months,” said Brzezenoff.

While Brzezenoff said that the 8.4 percent district voter turnout reflected “apathy,” he noted that voters “do not feel they have good choices...even those who support third parties stay home because they believe candidates like me have little chance of winning in our current system.” He called upon Richardson to make her “first goal” increased participation of her district in “American political life,” and support instant run-off voting to help accomplish that.

Brzezenoff was sincere about his run, although the congressional race was a condensed one.

“I accept the election results with some disappointment and, yet, much gratitude. I am grateful for the support shown for Green ideas and grassroots democracy. I am grateful for the opportunity to speak the truth to my fellow citizens, and I am grateful for all the new friends, all the learning, all the service that took place. I am grateful to live in a democracy.

“I want to thank my supporters and staff. We ran a good race. We pushed important issues, built the Green Party and peace movement in this district and surrounding areas and we inspired many people to get more involved in political and community activities,” he said.

And, he stated again that he will continue to monitor the Democratic Party winner.

“I offer to her office my support and service. If there is any way I can help her to serve this district, I am ready and willing. One way I will help is to keep a close eye on her and to hold her feet to the proverbial fire on key issues, including the Iraq War. She has pledged to oppose any and all new war funding, and we in the Green Party and the peace movement will hold her to that. She has also pledged office hours in which constituents can visit with her without an appointment. I will be attending soon, and often.

“We will need help from this constituency. Eleven of twelve voters stayed home in this election and we ought to feel very concerned and disappointed about our level of commitment to and participation in our fragile democracy. Ms Richardson goes to Congress having the votes of approximately one of twenty constituents.

“Given the chance to voice the call for change, for justice, for real representation, voters instead expressed apathy and cynicism about our political system. There is no excuse for such low turnout at this critical time in history. People have asked me throughout the campaign: ‘What will you do for this district? Now I ask my fellow constituents: ‘What will you do?’” Brzezenoff said.
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Book Review

Thinking Points: Communicating Our American Values and Vision
George Lakoff, and the Rockridge Institute

I keep waiting to read a great book by George Lakoff on frames, reframing, or outlining arguments. And I continue to be disappointed.

George Lakoff first hit my personal radar screen in 2004 with an interview he did on KPFT Pacifica radio in Los Angeles on the topic of his new at that time book, “Don’t Think of an Elephant!” That book introduced the non-linguists in our midst to the concept of ‘frames,’ the conceptual frames of reference which are inherent in any complex equivalence that people might use. You are a rude dude! That is a complex equivalent. You is the subject, rude is the adjective and dude is the object.

Abortion is Murder is another complex equivalence. Or consider, No Justice, No Peace! Virtually any human proposition is a complex equivalence if it has a subject, a verb, adjective and object.

Unfortunately, George Lakoff, Phd. from the faculty of UC Berkeley doesn’t know how to communicate the real power of semantics to those of us who could use it most effectively to counter the specious arguments of neo-conservatives, right wing christians, the WTO crowd, and the Bircher-Black Helicopter, conspiracy theorists.

Case in Point. “Thinking Points,” is only 156 pages, but nowhere does it empower people with the methodology of being what another author has suggested we could become, “semantic magicians.” Lakoff, and his graduate student ghost writers, (god, let’s hope Lakoff didn’t write this book...) lay out a rehash of Lakoff’s grounding thesis that conservatives worship a ‘strict father’ image and the liberal progressives all had ‘nurturing fathers.’ That may be far less accurate, and a more simplistic view in real human experience than Lakoff would suggest. I know a few tough, young and middle aged lefties; both men and women, gay and straight, whose fathers where union men, or militarist’s that ‘wouldn’t give a inch’ and that is enough for me to know that Lakoff’s observations are far from universal. So, I sometimes think that ole George may have possibly been projecting all that from his own personal experiences or wanna be experiences.

That he got a Phd. out of the thesis with a book entitled, “Moral Politics,” complete with statistical analysis and all the rest, may or may not lend credibility to his thesis and his position in my opinion. Building a weak case on his arguments concerning the nurturing father, strict father concept, he does little more in this book than play with a couple of basic liberal and conservative motifs or postulate and statements and almost laughably suggests on page 125, (a bit late in the book for even simple suggestions like this)

"That is why someone attuned to politics can immediately understand or construct a ‘new’ argument as soon as a new issue surfaces...

This to me is a big tipoff that this book by Lakoff is either worthless by design, or worthless on its merits due to poor thinking or limited mental resources attuned to the effort. A real book on semantics should empower people to become magicians with words themselves so they don’t have to stand in awe of the ‘college boys’ that know all the tricks.

It is to me interesting that the Democratic Party has adopted Lakoff as their poster boy for Newthought and Newspeak that will somehow bewail over the evil neo-cons with some new found semantic secrets of rhetoric.

A truly progressive effort would make every citizen a mental semantic giant and capable magician in the cause of progressive values.

Lakoff’s book, with the help of his apparent ghost writers, simply fails miserably to accomplish this goal. I will never read another book by George Lakoff again.

If however, you really do want to become a semantic magician, a person who could argue virtually any case or construct a point of view with the clarity of a high priced Washington attorney or the likes of the late William Kunstler, listen up.

In the world of cognitive psychology and neuro-semantics, a couple of men stand out as giants in their capacity to train other human beings in the incredible persuasive art of semantic framing, reframing, or refraining – or reframing which is possible by careful analysis of the panoply of sentences that invoke the complex equivalences’s as suggested in the opening paragraphs of this review.

Dr. Michael Hall, Phd. and Bobby Bodenhamer, D.Min have written a series of books that have not only made them world renowned experts on semantics, rhetoric, coaching and training, but provided a wonderful book entitled, Mindlines: Limes for Changing Minds, which will do everything that

one would look for in the Lakoff books. I challenge you to go to the following TinyURL and read for yourself: http://tinyurl.com/2x89w

Read all the reviews, then back go to the page on Amazon and might I suggest you buy the book and read it several times. I am now on my 7th reading and I can assure you that you will learn and master new concepts and linguistic skills with each reading. I promise you that if you read and master the 26 possible alternative semantic frames possible for any given human expression that you shall never be caught speechless again, under any circumstances. Get back to me if after reading the book three times you don’t agree. I will buy the book from you if it is in decent condition. This book is an adventure – live it and change your life.

Host(s) Sought For Spring 2008 Candidate Training Program and Strategy Meeting

The CCWG currently is seeking a host for a one-day candidate training program in March or April 2008. Local Green Party members will need to identify a weekend date and location for he program and provide volunteers for helping with the program. The CCWG will provide speakers and materials. The program will build on the March 2006 Candidates Basics program by focusing in greater detail on selected topics. The CCWG also is seeking a host for a day-long strategy meeting to be held after the February 5th election. If a single host group is willing, the candidate training workshops and the CCWG strategy meetings can be held on the same weekend.

For more information contact Warner Bloomer the CCWG Program Coordinator at (408) 295-9353 or warner@ccwg.org

CA Delegates to 2008 National Green Party Convention Now Available Online

In accordance with the charter enabling California delegates, we are announcing that the list of delegates from the Green Party of California to the 2008 National Presidential Nomination Convention can be viewed at the following webpage on: http://www.cagreens.org/delegates/conv08/
The Ten Key Values of the Green Party in English and Spanish

**Grassroots Democracy** - Develop participatory ways to control the decisions which affect our lives.

**Social Justice** - Create a system which promotes equality and dignity for all.

**Nonviolence** - Develop alternatives to current patterns of violence at all levels.

**Ecological Wisdom** - Operate our human society knowing we are a part of nature, and learn to live within the ecological and resource limits of the planet.

**Decentralization** - Move power and responsibility away from larger and more distant institutions toward individuals and communities, with the goal of a decentralized, democratic society.

**Community-Based Economics** - Redesign work to encourage employee ownership and have college level skills in writing, we and have college level skills in writing, we and have college level skills in writing, we...

**Sustainability** - Act not for the short range narrow interest of one country or group of people, but for the collective future of the entire planet.

**Feminism** - Replace the ethic of dominance and control with cooperative ways of relating to each other.

**Respect for Diversity** - Honor cultural, ethnic, racial, sexual, religious and spiritual diversity, reclaiming our country’s shared ideals, the dignity of the individual, democratic participation and liberty and justice for all.

**Personal and Global Responsibility** - Learn from and be of genuine assistance to grassroots groups in all parts of the world.

**Justice Social** - Creación de un sistema que promueva la igualdad y la dignidad de todas las personas.

**No Violence** - Encontrar alternativas para erradicar los patrones actuales de violencia a todo nivel, y al mismo tiempo eliminar la injusticia y sentido de impotencia que conducen a la misma.

**Descentralización** - Transferir el poder y la responsabilidad de instituciones grandes y lejanas a los individuos y comunidades, siendo la meta eventual una sociedad democrática y descentralizada.

**Sustainability** - Act not for the short range narrow interest of one country or group of people, but for the collective future of the entire planet.

**Sustainability** - Act not for the short range narrow interest of one country or group of people, but for the collective future of the entire planet.

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**Economía Basada en la Comunidad** - Rediseño de las estructuras de trabajo para fomentar la propiedad para los empleados y la democracia en el trabajo, al mismo tiempo que se establece una seguridad básica para todos y una distribución justa de la riqueza y los ingresos.

**Feminismo** - Sustituir la ética de dominación y control por la de relaciones de cooperación.

**Respeto por la Diversidad** - Respeto a la diversidad cultural, étnica, racial, sexual, religiosa y espiritual, volviendo a los ideales compartidos de nuestro país: la dignidad de cada persona, la participación democrática, y libertad y justicia para todos.

**Responsabilidad Personal y Global** - Debemos aprender de los grupos de base del resto del mundo y ser de verdadera ayuda para ellos.

**Sostenibilidad** - Pensar en términos del futuro colectivo del planeta entero, no en los estrechos intereses de corto plazo de un país o grupo de personas.

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**We are not Embarrassed To Admit It!**

We could use your help in producing this newspaper.

If you own a digital camera, enjoy going to Green Party events and have college level skills in writing, we may want to make you a roving correspondent for this paper.

**ALSO WANTED:**

- Graphic Artists
- Cartoonists

Contact either of the following people in email below, to find out how you can help.

Send email to ned.goudy@gmail.com or civillib@comcast.net

Don’t be shy! Get in touch today...

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**Be Mindful Unto The 7th Generation**

The Green Party Is Planning On A Sustainable Future for All

But We Need Your Help to Make It Happen

The Green Party of the State of California is working hard to promote candidates and provide financial support to campaigns on the local and regional level that we feel we have a chance of winning, or in which we feel we can make a spectacular showing in the media.

Further, we are improving our ability to speak truth to power, provide training programs for candidates and managers across the state and gaining media access through a viable network of spokespersons and a press agent for the party. To do this, and to fulfill our dreams of a permanent office in our state capital, we are looking for people who can step up and become Monthly Sustainers to the Green Party of CA. And as your added benefit, you will receive a free subscription to the GREEN FOCUS newspaper. We invite you to fill out the form below and help grow the party in a meaningful way. Today!

**Sustainers Receive Green Focus - Free**

**We Appreciate Your Support**

Mail To: Green Party of California
P.O Box 2828
Sacramento, CA 95812

☐ $5  ☐ $10  ☐ $25  ☐ $50  ☐ Other $

☐ Yes! I will proudly donate monthly to the Green Party of California

☐ $100 or more must by law be returned if we do not have this information on file. Contributions are not tax deductible. Other restrictions on sources of contributions may apply.

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State: __________________________

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