

GREEN FOCUS

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www.cagreens.org

The true 'independents' Green Party candidates statewide offer clear choice at ballot for frustrated CA voters

By Cres Vellucci

There's no doubt – the Green Party candidates for local, state and congressional offices this November ARE the “independent candidates” that, according to polls, voters have been clamoring to vote into office.

In all, 34 candidates are running for office under the Green Party banner on Nov. 2, including seven for CA Executive Offices – notably Laura Wells for Governor; five for the Assembly; one for U.S. Senate and five Greens for the House of Representatives.

Three Greens are running for Mayor, five more for city councils or board of supervisors, four for school board and four more for rent boards and other local offices.

Greens really are the “independents” on the ballot. They are not beholden to big corporate special interests, like Democrats and Republicans are... Greens are “independent” of that money.

Laura Wells, who was the largest-ever Green vote getter when she previously ran for state Controller, is focusing on the positive, unlike her gubernatorial opponents.

“Wealthy interests have rigged the game to enrich themselves while bankrupting the rest of us,” said Wells, a financial analyst. “It’s time to change the game... California was once a golden state. We can be again.”

She notes the GOP and Democratic parties are “Titanic” parties with big money influencing their every move. “We (Greens) are outlining a workable path to a positive future.”

Meanwhile, other Green state candidates include Jimi Castillo, running for Lt. Governor. He is the first Native American to run for the office in California.

Two other Green statewide ballot

choices – Secretary of State candidate Ann Menasche and Attorney General candidate Peter Allen – are lawyers who have spent decades working for social justice, civil rights and “environmental sanity,” as Menasche puts it.

“I am running for Secretary of State because I have witnessed how corporate domination of elections has increasingly undermined the hopes and dreams of ordinary Californians (but) I firmly believe that we the people can take our state back by fixing the way we run elections,” said Menasche, who promises to crack down on corporate crime from the big oil companies to sub-prime lenders.

Allen, who has represented ratepayers against large utilities, has worked on major securities and environmental litigation, including cases relating to the savings and loan scandal and Exxon Valdez oil disaster.

“The cost (of the death penalty) is too high. Neither our wallets nor our souls can afford to keep paying or this pointless process,” Allen said.

Charles “Kit” Crittenden says he’ll be an “activist” treasurer, supporting the investment in renewable energy and institute a levy an oil severance tax.

Controller candidate Ross Frankel, who has worked as an elementary school teacher and socially progressive campaigns, says he will bring “fairness and reasonableness to our state’s tax structure” and reform the state Legislature.

Insurance Commissioner candidate, a former high school teacher and political activist, is advocating the removal of funds from “any insurance company doing business with any nation that has a nuclear weapons arsenal, including Israel.”

U.S. Senate candidate Duane Roberts would make education a priority, work for single payer healthcare and dump nuclear power.

Congress is being manipulated by Wall Street billionaires who control health in-

urance companies, he said, adding: “By driving private insurers out of business, we’ll save hundreds of billions of dollars each year – money that can guarantee everybody has access to high quality health care.”

Green Congressional candidates are just as steadfast.

Carol Wolman (1st CD) says she doesn’t “respect” politicians and is concerned about the environmental future of the planet; Ben Emery (4th CD) has been saying what voters have been stating for years: “Both (major) parties have been corrupted and cannot legislate in the public’s interest; Dave Heller (9th CD) is a big environmentalist who says “there is an urgent need to reverse the carbon loading of our atmosphere; Jeremy Cloward (10th CD) is running to solidly address the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, “single payer health care, education...I’m

willing to address them for a more just and equal society; and Eric Petersen (17 CD) “favor(s) leaving Iraq and Afghanistan as soon as possible, health care for all and reasonable immigration policies.”

Green Assembly candidates would forever change the face of the Legislature if elected.

Jack Lindblad (39th AD) said he’s running to “advance the ethical and moral imperatives of the Green New Deal”; Linda Piera-Avila (41 AD) would work for “ecological balance” in the state; Cynthia Santiago (51 AD) would work for environmental “justice” and low income communities; Lisa Green (53 AD) supports legalizing cannabis for sale and healing the environment; and Jane Rands (72nd AD) says she will work tirelessly for bringing healthcare to all through single payer legislation.



Laura Wells



Peter Allen



Ross Frankel



Jimi Castillo



Kit Crittenden



Bill Balderston



Ann Menasche



Duane Roberts

Big Green Party elections set for mayor, supervisor

While Green Party candidates run for state and federal offices, it's home – on a local level – where Greens win. This Nov. 2 is no different.

The highest profile local races involve Richmond Mayor Gayle McLaughlin – the highest Green officeholder in the state, and Dan Hamburg – former member of Congress and 1998 Green candidate for Governor now running for Supervisor in Mendocino County.

Both races are key to Green Party presence and power in the state.

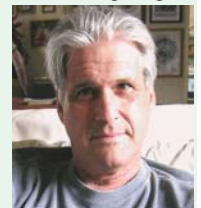
In Gayle's case (www.mayorgayle.net), she could use volunteers to help gain another four years to push her progressive agenda. Tackling, and winning a \$144 million agreement, over Chevron has created some enemies in the corporate community, who are taking aim at McLaughlin.

She has a number of other accomplishments, including helping Richmond to a balanced budget (one of the few cities in the state to say so) and noting that Richmond is ranked No. 1 in solar watts per capita in the Bay Area – all part of the Green Party agenda.

“We cannot wait forever. If change is not coming from D.C. or Sacramento, we must, as Mahatma Gandhi said: ‘Be the change you want to see,’” she said.

Hamburg (www.votehamburg5.org) is also in a fight. Although the race is supposed to be non-partisan, the local Democratic Party machine said it would be willing to back Hamburg only if he would register as a Democrat. Dan refused, instead turned their offer on its head by recruiting many Democrats and independents to work on his campaign.

“I will continue (a) progressive tradition,” said Hamburg, who is promising to keep Mendocino the No. 1 County for “off-the-grid” homes, and nationwide leader in solar, wind and non-fossilized energy production. He is a strong supporter of a ban on all federal oil and gas lease sales, and attempts by the U.S. Navy to use the coast for weapons testing.



Profiles of Green Party Candidates on Nov. 2 Ballot

GOVERNOR

Laura Wells
www.LauraWells.org

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Jimi Castillo
www.jimicastillo.org

SECRETARY OF STATE

Ann Menasche
www.voteann.org

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Peter Allen
www.peterallenforag.com

TREASURER

Charles 'Kit' Crittenden
www.crittendenforstatetreasurer.com
ccrittenden@csun.edu

CONTROLLER

Ross Frankel
www.electross.com
rdfrankel@earthlink.net

INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

Bill Balderston
www.healthforall2010.net
BBalderston@earthlink.net

U.S. SENATE:

Duane Roberts
www.voteforduane.wordpress.com

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

Carol Wolman, MD (1st CD)
www.CarolWolmanforCongress.com
carol_for_congress@hughes.net
Ben Emery (4th CD)
www.benemery.org
makuahineaina@yahoo.com
Dave Heller (9th CD)
www.gotoheller.org
MrPlutoat@aol.com
Jeremy Cloward (10th CD)
www.jeremycloward.com
Eric Peterson (17th CD)
eric939@redshift.com

STATE ASSEMBLY:

John Paul 'Jack' Lindblad (39th AD)
http://lindbladforassembly.blogspot.com/
jlindblad@gmail.com
Linda Piera-Avila (41st AD)
lindap_a@verizon.net
Cynthia Santiago (51st AD)
www.newmenu.org/CYNTHIASANTIAGO
miss.cynthia.santiago@gmail.com
Lisa Ann Green (53rd AD)
www.votellisagreen.net
lisagreena53@gmail.com
Jane Rands (72nd AD)
www.JaneRandsforAssembly.com

MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL:

Bruce Delgado (Marina Mayor)
bdelgado61@gmail.com
Don Macleay (Oakland Mayor)
www.macleay4mayor.org
Gayle McLaughlin (Richmond Mayor)
www.mayorgayle.net
Dave Meserve (Arcata City Council)
davemeserve@gmail.com
Jasper Kingeter (Berkeley City Council-1)
Stewart Jones (Berkeley City Council-8)
Jon Mann (Santa Monica City Council)
net_democracy@yahoo.com

COUNTY BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Richard David Boyle (San Bernardino)
boylewriter@aol.com

HEALTHCARE DISTRICT BOARD:

Robert Deutsch (Alameda)

RENT BOARD:

Lisa Stephens (Berkeley)
greenlissastephens@gmail.com
Jesse Townley (Berkeley)
j102@mindspring.com
Pam Webster (Berkeley)
pamelawebster6@gmail.com

SCHOOL BOARD:

Gary Blenner
(Center Joint Unified School District - Sac)
Blenner4centerschoolboard.com
Joe Navarro (Hollister)
poetajoe@yahoo.com
Paul Franklin (Santa Cruz)
paul@paulfranklin.us

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Dan Hamburg (Mendocino)
www.votehamburg5.org

GOVERNOR:

LAURA WELLS
www.laurawells.org
info@laurawells.org



"California has been a golden state of opportunities in education, health care, environment and jobs. But something has gone terribly wrong. Wealthy interests have rigged the game to enrich themselves while bankrupting the rest of us. It's time to *change the game*. We must — and we can."

That's Laura Wells, a candidate for the Green Party nomination for Governor, who says it is time for a campaign that delivers real solutions the other two parties won't.

One of the most critical matters, she explains, is that "neither the Democrats nor the Republicans are talking about what *really* needs to be done. Both avoid tackling the parts of Prop 13 that give huge breaks to corporate landowners and keep the state's finances tied up in knots. Neither offers a viable way to support our collapsing education system, revitalize the job market, to build a clean and green energy future."

Wells, a professional systems manager, was the largest-ever Green vote getter in her run for state controller.

"We are presenting voters with viable solutions. The two 'Titanic parties' are not...we're outlining a workable path to a positive future.

"Our party is different. The 'Titanic parties' are mired in big-money influence. We're building an independent, grassroots alternative increasingly capable of taking them on.

"Our campaign will show how we can invest in California's infrastructure and its future."

She says it is possible to build, together, solutions that work for *all*.

"The disparity between the super-rich and the rest of us is growing. While average Californians struggle to make ends meet in a climate of scarce jobs and decimated public services, the wealthiest citizens of our state contribute far less in taxes on their millions and billions than they did 20 to 30 years ago.

"Back in 1978, Proposition 13 was cleverly crafted to give some homeowners a break on property taxes while sneaking in *huge* benefits to giant corporate landowners and preventing the state from passing reasonable budgets. It was the first of many measures that have robbed our state of needed funding."

LT. GOVERNOR

JIMI CASTILLO
www.jimicastillo.org
ltgov@jimicastillo.org



Jimi Castillo is the first Native American to run for the office of Lieutenant Governor in California.

He is a respected Native American spiritual leader whose tribal ancestry is Tongva, the original people of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties, and Acjachemen, the original people of the South Orange and North San Diego counties.

Issues of great interest to Castillo as a Green Party candidate are the creation of "a greater awareness of the rights of all indigenous peoples worldwide, and the support of full self-government on all Indian reservations." The candidate also lists as a priority, "reform of the criminal justice system."

As a mentor for the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation at the Herman G. Stark Youth Correctional Facility, Castillo has acquired useful knowledge of the criminal justice system.

His extensive experience with the process of mentoring and counseling has increased with his association with the Southeast Area Counseling Center in Santa Fe Springs, California, where he also functioned as a member of the Board of Directors.

Castillo still donates a great deal of time to UCLA's annual Graduation Powwow and Youth Leadership Conference and the UCLA Native American Student Association.

Other important issues of concern to Castillo include establishment of more affordable and accessible education; assurance that California residents are provided a clean, safe supply of drinking water and that our existing surface and groundwater are protected from pollution; preservation of our oceans with their enormous diversity of life and function; protection of children's rights; and maintenance and implementation of a standard of excellence in public land management to ensure the future quality of the environment.

Born and raised in Whittier, California, Castillo, 67, is a Pipe Keeper and Sun Dancer for the People, member of the statewide Bear Clan Society, and actively helps plan and staff UCLA's Graduation Powwow and Youth Leadership Conference.

SECRETARY OF STATE

ANN MENASCHE
www.VoteAnn.org
info@voteann.org 619-702-5856



Ann Menasche, who has devoted most of her life to working for economic and social justice, civil rights, environmental sanity and peace, has 30 years of litigation experience in civil rights and public interest law and is a longtime activist in the peace, disability rights, and gay rights movements.

"I am running for Secretary of State because I have witnessed how corporate domination of elections has increasingly undermined the hopes and dreams of ordinary Californians (but I firmly believe that we the people can take our state back by fixing the way we run elections," said Menasche.

"We can institute publicly funded elections, free equal media access for all candidates, free candidate statements in Voter Handbooks, instant runoff voting (IRV), proportionate representation and other democratic reforms that allow the voices of non-corporate and third-party candidates to be heard," she added.

Menasche said she will "insist on corporate accountability and crack down on corporate crime.

She would significantly reduce signature requirements for initiatives and require signatures be obtained by volunteer signature gatherers.

Menasche would institute instant runoff voting (IRV) for single seat elections, proportional representation for electing state legislators to allow representation of the full range of views of voters, same day registration, paid time off work to vote, full access to people with disabilities to vote independently and ensuring every vote counts — any technology utilized must be fully auditable and accessible to the public.

Finally, Menasche would crack down on corporate crime, from Enron to the sub-prime mortgage lenders.

"Large corporations have defrauded consumers, endangered health and safety, spoiled the environment and violated the law with impunity. Big business must be held accountable for their actions."

Menasche, a key organizer of large pro-choice demonstrations in San Francisco, is an attorney advocating and litigating for disability rights.

ATTORNEY GENERAL

PETER ALLEN
www.peterallenforag.com
info@peterallenforag.com



Peter Allen, Green Party candidate for California Attorney General, has extensive experience in energy and environmental law, and has been a prosecutor, administrative law judge and consumer advocate.

Allen wants to maintain moratoriums on new nuclear power plants and offshore oil drilling.

Elimination of the death penalty is also very essential for Allen.

"The cost to California of its labyrinthine efforts to kill some citizens is far too high," he says. "Neither our wallets nor our souls can afford to keep paying for this wasteful and pointless process," he said.

He also supports the legalization of drugs, particularly marijuana, noting: "Prohibition of alcohol was a dismal failure; it led to the rise of organized crime in the U.S."

He favors protection against government encroachment into private matters, including "one's choice of (consenting adult) marriage partners, abortion (consistent with Roe v. Wade's approach), and one's home, data, and body."

Allen has worked major securities and environmental litigation, including cases relating to the savings and loan crisis and the Exxon Valdez oil spill. He worked in the San Diego City Attorney's office as a prosecutor, and representing the City and its residents on utility issues before the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC).

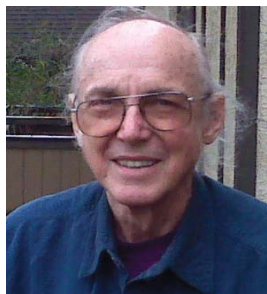
Allen was a staff attorney with TURN, representing residential and small business utility ratepayers. He joined the CPUC as a staff attorney and administrative law judge, working on energy, telecommunications, and environmental issues, including the California energy crisis.

Allen will protect the environment and public health by encouraging the use of renewable energy sources, reducing greenhouse gases and other pollutants, supporting usable and affordable public transit; encouraging healthy and sustainable agricultural practices; ensuring that California's tax structure and corporate laws are consistent with California's values and policy goals; supporting affordable and high quality public education and protecting Californians against street and white-collar crime.

TREASURER

KIT CRITTENDEN

www.crittendenforstatetreasurer.com
ccrittenden@csun.edu



Charles "Kit" Crittenden would be an "activist" treasurer.

"I would support the investing in renewable energy sources rather than oil and gas. California is the only one of the 22 major oil-producing states not to levy an oil severance tax," he said.

"Such a tax could be a major source of revenue in this recession and used to promote renewable energy by state funding of enterprises developing solar and wind power," said Crittenden.

He also would insist corporations should be required to pay their fair share of taxes could subsidize crucial state services.

"This simple act would also help prevent the accumulation of massive concentrations of wealth which enable rich corporations and individuals to dominate government and undermine democracy," he said.

Crittenden said he supports single-payer health care because it would promote social justice.

"Non-violence and respect for diversity would be advanced by investing in organizations that promote peace and justice...these values also dictate divestment from nations and groups that practice intolerance and violence. Police programs teaching respect for all races, ethnicities, and sexual preferences could be a major factor in reducing police brutality," he noted.

"Of particular concern to me as a longtime CSU professor is adequately funding education," he said.

"A democratic citizenry must be informed, and schooling teaches respect for all traditions, democratic values, and the capacity to think critically.

"Supporting prisons instead of education is exactly backwards: enabling citizens to contribute to society, instead of punishing them for violations against it, should have the priority in a democracy," he said.

Author of "Language, Reality and Mind: A Defense of Everyday Thought," Crittenden is writing about democratic political theory, integrating responsible citizenship and activism into a free, peaceful, and environmentally sensitive society.

CONTROLLER

ROSS FRANKEL

www.electcross.com
electcross2010@earthlink.net



Ross Frankel has been a public school elementary teacher, and worked with almost a dozen political, environmental, and socially progressive campaigns such as the Big Green Initiative and No on Proposition 8.

"Something has gone wrong," he proclaims. "As my fellow Green Party Candidate for Governor Laura Wells has stated, the 'disparity of wealth and income is growing.' As a candidate for your state Controller, I will be in a position to advocate for positive reforms in all of these areas."

Frankel describes himself as a pragmatic, fiscally prudent, and political aisle-crossing Green. He is less concerned with political party or machines than he is with a legislative proposal's estimated costs, ethics, intentions, legality, and side effects.

"First, bring fairness and reasonableness to our state's tax structures to, one, improve and favor California's businesses, labor, communities and environment and, two, improve and update Proposition 13-era property tax laws.

"Second, reform state government process and focus; and reform California's Legislature," he said.

Frankel notes: "I propose critically needed reforms to the California State Usage Tax (which is currently applied to most retail goods when these goods are used in California, in lieu of a sales tax."

He favors raising the Usage Tax rate on all goods and services produced involving minimum wages, environmental laws and business laws that do not equal/exceed California's laws.

Frankel wants to split Proposition 13-related tax codes between homes and businesses, but keep its maximum tax rate of 1 percent of the assessed value; use the most recent 10-year basis average for all property assessed values; and use up to a five- or 10-year basis to transition incrementally from the existing tax calculations to the revised tax basis. He's in favor of dropping the 2/3rds vote requirement for budgets and tax increases.

INSURANCE

COMMISSIONER

BILL BALDERSTON
bbalderston@earthlink.net



Bill Balderston is running for Insurance Commissioner not only because of his commitment to a single-payer health care system, but also because of his anger and frustration at the corporate exploitation of basic needs for working people.

Balderston is a savvy, long-time political activist in the San Francisco East Bay. For more than 20 years, he has taught high school English and Social Studies in East Oakland, and has served in the political leadership of his union—the Oakland Education Association.

Balderston: "We should advocate removing funds from ANY insurance company doing business with ANY nation (in the Middle East) that has a nuclear weapons arsenal—including Israel."

Balderston believes the Democratic nominee will likely be Dave Jones, a left-liberal politician with a good labor record, but the candidate warns, "The critical focus must not be on him as an individual, but on his party, which has continually served corporate interests."

Balderston's program begins with a total rejection of the current commissioner's practice in hiring former insurance corporation employees/executives as 'investigators' of the doings of their former employers." Moreover, he wants to expand requirements to "open the financial books of ALL insurance companies doing business in California."

Balderston advocates changing existing legislation from 70 percent to 95 percent of premium dollars to be devoted to patient care and instituting graduated taxation of insurance company profits made from the time premiums are paid until the monies are used to pay providers.

"More importantly," Balderston says, "is to use this campaign to demand insurance companies should have no role in the health care system in California and nationally. Not only must we continue to expose the exploitative profits, but the whole narrowing of options for patients."

Balderston supports single-payer automobile insurance.

U.S. SENATE

DUANE ROBERTS

www.voteforduane.org
info@voteforduane.org



Duane Roberts is a community activist from Anaheim who has been involved in issues ranging from fighting police brutality, defending the rights of undocumented workers, and holding public officials accountable for their actions.

For starters, Roberts believes the so-called "health care reform" bill simply confirms that Congress is being manipulated by Wall Street billionaires who control health insurance companies.

"By driving private insurers out of business, we'll save hundreds of billions of dollars each year — money that can guarantee everybody has access to high quality health care," he said.

Nuclear power is another issue that Obama and Congress are promoting. But Roberts will have none of it.

"Not only do nuclear plants require billions in taxpayer subsidies for them to become commercially viable, but all aspects of their operations involve potentially harmful — if not deadly — impacts upon the environment.

"We could achieve better results fighting global warming by encouraging energy conservation, promoting mass transit, and further developing clean and safe sources of power, such as solar."

As a US Senator, Roberts would put education on top as a priority, although Democrat and Republican Party politicians repeatedly argue there is little if any money available to pay for education.

"Yet when President Obama goes to Congress and demands it give him more money to bomb other countries, Congress coughs up every dollar he wants," Roberts said.

"By immediately withdrawing all U.S. troops, private mercenaries, and contractors from Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and elsewhere, we can upgrade K-12 education and guarantee every qualified student in the United States, regardless of immigration status, can obtain a tuition-free education at a public college, university, or technical trade school of their choosing," Roberts charged.

U.S. HOUSE (1st District)

CAROL WOLMAN

www.carolwolmanforcongress.org
cwolman@mcn.org



Carol Wolman, a founder of the New Broom Coalition and co-chair of Impeach Bush-Cheney, is gravely concerned about the future of life on our small planet.

"I share the Native American commitment to leave a good home for the seventh generation hence."

Wolman does not respect elected officials, specifically those who represent note voters, but special interests. The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, healthcare and Wall Street are obvious examples.

"I do not respect our elected officials. We the People elect them to be public servants. They have sold their souls to the masters of war, and they are selling the people down the river...escalating costly, cruel, illegal occupations of other countries, letting health insurance companies and Big Pharma dictate health care legislation, bailing out Wall Street and bankrupting Main Street.

"We must unite as a people—white, black, brown, red and yellow. My platform, of the Longhouse Coalition, is designed to...(restore) the Constitution. It re-establishes justice and freedom at home, and respect for other nations abroad. It takes care of our people and our land.

"It brings harmony among Americans, by giving reparations to groups that have been harmed by the dominant culture, while providing sufficiently for all. It contains specific proposals for bringing about world peace, including converting to a peacetime, sustainable economy at home. It treats the land and the people as sacred."

Wolman, an M.D., is a consultant to American Indian Child Welfare. She has lived and worked along the Mendocino coast with her husband and children for 30 years. She has been involved in peace work since the 1950s as a member of Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy, Physicians for Social Responsibility, among others.

She is also co-founder and President, Northern California Physicians for Social Responsibility; founder, with John Lewallen, Nuclear Peace Action Group; and founder/co-chair-Impeach Bush-Cheney.



MAYOR (Oakland)

DON MACLEAY

www.macleay4mayor.org
candidate.macleay4mayor.org

Don Lachlan Macleay is a longtime environmentalist and labor activist, and he's running for mayor of Oakland because he says he wants to support and empower people in his community.

"As mayor, I will be hands on, and a tireless advocate for the basic rights and well-being of people in our city.

I will create a transparent government, and accountability," said Macleay, a machinist by trade who worked on environmentally-sound projects in Central America. He will seek community solutions to social issues.

"I will also commit resources to grassroots organizations, those people who are improving the lives of citizens in our communities daily," said Macleay, who was a project director for Earth Island Institute.

Leaving the machinist trade because of a crippling injury, Macleay strongly believes in the right to orga-

nize - he worked to organize fellow plastic workers into a union in Canada, and a shop steward in Albany, CA. He is also multilingual, speaking Spanish and French along with a passable German and Italian and even Chinese, after working in those countries.

But Macleay says he's seen firsthand single payer health insurance in Canada, elections using Proportional Representation in Mexico, Nicaragua, Germany and Italy, saw high quality rapid transit in Montreal, Europe and Mexico. He wants to bring that vision to Oakland.

Green Party analysis of Nov. 2 Ballot propositions

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following synopsis of analysis of the propositions on the November ballot are NOT the official Green Party of California's recommendations. - other than Prop. 19, which GPCA voted to support last May. The final GPC recommendations were made after press time for GREEN FOCUS, and may be found at www.cagreens.org.

**prop 19
YES**

LEGALIZE MARIJUANA.
Submitted by Joan Strasser: This proposition is very explicit in stating how marijuana will be legalized for personal use, cultivation and purchase. Less explicit in stating how it will be legalized for commercial production, taxation and purchase by wholesalers and retailers.

We are among those who see it as a beginning, however imperfect, however risky, of a long overdue correction of years of unjust prohibition of a drug far less harmful than alcohol or nicotine.

Particularly pernicious are present California laws. Arrest rates for marijuana possession are increasing in California. More than 60,000 arrests in 2008 are triple the number of arrests in 1990. The criminal conviction that seems like a traffic ticket is in reality far more serious, creating an easily retrievable permanent record that precludes the convicted from obtaining financial aid for education, bank loans, rentals, or employment.

This especially impacts the African-American community, as the arrest rate for young black men for small amounts of marijuana is three times the rate for young white men in many of California's largest counties. Blacks make up 7 percent of the state population, yet comprise (nearly half) of people in prisons for marijuana charges (although studies show blacks use "pot" less than whites).

RECOMMENDATION: YES

**prop 20
prop 27
NO
CONSENSUS**

PROP. 20. CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING (from Legislature to Citizens Commission,

which under Prop. 11 has authority to draw state districts).

PROP. 27. REPEAL OF CITIZEN REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (returns control to draw state legislature and other districts to Legislature from of Citizen Commission - repealing Prop. 11).

Submitted by Jim Stauffer and Tim Smith (YES on Prop. 20 and NO on Prop. 27) and Mike Rubin (NO on Prop. 20 and YES on Prop. 27)

There is no final consensus from Green Party analysts about these two propositions.

Jim Stauffer writes that while the Green Party continues to believe Proportional Representation (PR), where only one person represents an entire district, is preferred, it has so far been a "futile" battle to achieve "fairness."

"I believe the Green Party needs to consider (more) than its own self-interest... Prop. 20 will be an incremental improvement in an antiquated and inadequate electoral system," he said.

Likewise, Stauffer argues a NO vote for Prop. 27. "Neighborhoods and communities of interest are not as well protected" under Prop. 27, he says, noting that the Legislature cannot be trusted to draw its own lines.

Tim Smith also suggests a YES vote on Prop 20 because "(it) may not be perfect because of perceived (PR) deficiencies, but after 200 years of gerrymandering, it's time to focus on reforming if not eliminating this insidiously undemocratic practice."

And, Smith says Prop. 27, is meant to "confuse and confound the voting public," and should get a NO vote.

However, Mike Rubin reminds Green voters that the party rejected Prop. 11, which created the Citizen Commission in 2008, and that a NO on Prop. 20 and YES on Prop. 27 would be consistent with that determination.

"Creating a redistricting process with unelected, unknown, faceless people chosen by a Kafka-esque process is moving away from accountability," the Green Party wrote in 2008.

"The Green Party continues to favor (PR) as a real method for more choices and more participation," said Rubin, calling Prop. 11 (Citizen Commission) a "fiasco" that would worsen if Prop. 20 passes. He added that Prop. 27 deserves a YES

RECOMMENDATIONS: Yes and NO re: analysts

**prop 21
YES**

ESTABLISHES \$18 Annual Vehicle License Surcharge to Fund State Parks/ Wildlife Programs.

Submitted by Lindsay Vurek:

The Green Party doesn't usually support flat type taxes since they tend to affect the poor disproportionately. However, this tax is modest and on cars, which are a major source of environmental degradation. We have reservations: Greens dislike special dedicated "carve out" taxes. **RECOMMENDATION: YES with reservations**

**prop 22
NO**

LOCAL GOVERNMENT. Prohibits state from taking funds or borrowing from transportation, redevelopment or local government projects.

Submitted by Bert Heuer:

For Greens and Progressives this proposition appears to be a good thing: local levels of government are presumably more responsive to local issues therefore this will lead to more grassroots control of the purse.

And there is no doubt that the state government has been somewhat high-handed recently in its approach to struggling cities and counties.

But, each election cycle leaves our state "lawmakers" with less room to move when managing the state's affairs... there is more partisanship, more backroom deal making and more bad government.

However, this proposition is just one more example of "budgeting by ballot-box." Let's try not to manage our budget piece-meal or by whatever bill of goods "Big Money" can sell to the voters.

RECOMMENDATION: NO

**prop 23
NO**

SUSPENSION OF AIR POLLUTION CONTROL LAWS, specifically AB 32 the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006.

Submitted by Eb Gendel: Prop 23 does not merely suspend

AB23, it essentially kills it. With unemployment in California at around the 12% level, it is very unlikely for it to get down to 5.5% for the foreseeable future.

By linking the reduction of greenhouse gasses with unemployment, the supporters of Prop 23 are relying on scaring people who are already in a vulnerable position or are sympathetic with the plight of the unemployed.

What good are jobs if we live in an unhealthy environment and continue on the road to global warming and its catastrophic impact? It is imperative that we move from a fossil fuel economy to clean, green one and that is what AB32 mandates.

Currently, the bulk, \$1.4 million, of the funding for Prop 23 comes from out of state with another \$700K from in-state, \$300K of that coming from Occidental Petroleum.

RECOMMENDATION: NO

**prop 24
YES**

CUT CORPORATE TAX BREAKS.

Submitted by Jeanne Rosenmeier:

California has a structural deficit which makes it difficult and painful to balance state revenue with its expenditures. Taxes paid by individuals, both income and sales taxes, have been raised. Meanwhile, corporate taxes were reduced by the three items this initiative seeks to reverse.

The official corporate tax rate is 8.64%, but according to the California Budget Project the average rate paid by corporations in 2006 (the most recent year available) was only 5.2% due to loopholes and accelerated write-offs. The actual rate paid by corporations has been declining steadily since 1987. Prop 24 would reverse (that).

RECOMMENDATION: YES

Submitted by Bert Heuer: We are being asked should large multi-state corporations - who already do not contribute their fair share, who already pay lower rates than the average working family or small business owner - get still more favorable tax treatment from Sacramento? Nobody likes paying taxes. But everyone has to kick in their fair share no matter how many State Senators money can buy.

RECOMMENDATION: YES

**prop 25
YES**

STATE BUDGET. Lowers legislative vote for adopting state budget from 2/3 to simple majority.

Submitted by Bill Balderston:

This measure is also rooted in the state budget process fiasco, but is at best a half-way measure. Unlike the proposed California Democracy Act (which did not make the ballot), Prop 25 ONLY removes the two-thirds requirement for passage of the state budget without addressing the supermajority for revenues. If Prop. 25 passes, we're not sure if a movement to overturn the 2/3 requirement for raising revenues will actually be able to develop, and since that monumental revenue hurdle has arguably been the biggest single factor in destroying California's public sphere over the past 30 years, we're lukewarm in the extreme regarding our degree of support for Prop. 25.

RECOMMENDATION: YES with very strong reservations

**prop 26
NO**

TAXES. Increases to 2/3 from simple majority, vote required for the Legislature to adopt state levies and charges, with limited exceptions. Requires 2/3 vote of the public for local levies and charges, with limited exceptions.

Submitted by Bill Balderston:

If Prop 25 is only a half-way measure, Prop 26 would be a big step backwards, extending the two-thirds requirement to all government fees and other income measures not currently requiring it. This clearly is an attempt by the right-populist, Jarvisite forces (the president of the CA Chamber of Commerce is a proponent) to hit back at Props 24 and 25 and continue the anti-tax momentum, with no discussion on upward or downward redistribution of resources. Likely, all unions and community-based organizations will oppose this regressive item. The Green Party does not at all agree with proponents of this measure, that a minority of just 34% should be allowed to have veto power over the very strong majority of 66%.

RECOMMENDATION: NO

3 Greens are Redistricting Commission semi-finalists

By Mike Feinstein

Three Greens are among the 120 semi-finalists – culled from 30,000 people originally considered – to be members of a Citizens Redistricting Commission, created in 2008 by California voters when they approved Prop. 11.

The commission will redraw new district lines for California's State Legislative and Board of Equalization districts. It will consist of 14 members: five Democrats, five Republicans and four who are registered neither.

All 120 semi-finalists are being interviewed this fall at open public meetings. Of the 120, 40 were required to be Democrat, 40 Republican and 40 registered neither. It is from this latter group that Greens are being considered.

TERESA ESPANA



España, of Fresno, is an adjunct faculty member in art history, appreciation and education at

State Center Community College District, working at the Fresno City College, Madera and Clovis campuses and teaching on-line. She is a member of the city of Fresno's Historic Preservation Commission and former department chief at Fresno Metropolitan Museum of Art and Science. España has been registered Green since 1992 when a graduate student at the UC Santa Barbara, where she earned a Masters in History of Art and Architecture. Before that she received a Bachelors of Arts in Political Science and Art from CSU Fresno.

STUART FLASHMAN



Flashman is an Oakland attorney who specializes in environmental, land use and elections

law. In his solo practice he represents private individuals, and community, environmental, and other public interest groups during administrative pro-

cesses and in litigation.

Flashman currently serves on the Rockbridge Community Planning Council in Oakland. Previously he served as a member of Board of Directors of the East Bay Municipal Utility District and as past president of the Board, a member of the Board of Trustees of the Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District and as past president of the Board, a member of the Board of Directors of the Association of California Water Agencies and a member of the Emeryville City Council. Flashman has A.B. and Sc.M. (biology) degrees from Brown University and a Ph.D. in biochemistry & molecular biology from Harvard.

VYLMA ORTIZ



An attorney in California since 1997, Ortiz, of Berkeley, began her career as a deputy public defender

in Santa Clara and San Francisco Counties.

She has served as California director of YouthBuild USA's Criminal Justice Advocacy Project, assisting low-income and at-risk youth in changing their lives through learning construction and other life skills.

She was Director of the East Bay Community Foundation's Disproportionate Confinement Initiative to assist Alameda and Contra Costa County's juvenile system stakeholders in addressing disproportionality found within their system.

She also served on the steering committee of the California Coalition for Civil Rights.

Fluent in Spanish and the mother to two young boys, Ortiz has a B.A. in Political Science/International Relations from the UC Santa Barbara and a Juris Doctor from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law.

Final Selection Process

The Applicant Review Panel established by Prop.11 must narrow the applicant pool to 60: 20 Democrats, 20 Republicans and 20 registered neither. At that point, the Majority and Minority Leaders in the California Senate and Assembly may each remove two applicants from each pool.

This means that there may be as many as eight removed from each of the three pools, leaving a minimum of at least 12 names in each of the three pools. From these there will be a random drawing by no later

than November 20 to select the first eight members of the Commission, who will select the final six members of the commission from among those applicants who remain in the Applicant Pool, by no later than December 31.

For approval of any Redistricting proposal it would then take at least three votes from the largest and second-largest parties' members and three from the "other" pool.

Greens on redistricting

The Green Party of California originally opposed Prop. 1, believing there are advantages in taking redistricting away from politicians that benefit from it. However, the party felt drawing electoral districts is a profoundly political act and there could be a loss of accountability for the final product when voters could not 'vote out' legislators who crafted it.

There was the concern that under Prop.11, no member from any of California's other ballot-qualified parties would be on the Commission in the end, and that the four non-Democrat/non-Republicans would all be awarded to 'decline-to-state' voters, understating the role of the state's smaller, independent parties in the democratic process.

Dems, GOP game Prop. 11?

This was especially possible because Democrat and Republican legislators could simply choose to eliminate all applicants other than from their parties.

There was concern the commission would be responsible for redrawing the state legislative districts, but state legislature would still be responsible for drawing US Congressional districts.

But perhaps the biggest concern of the Green Party was that the real problem with representation is not how districts are drawn, but the use of single-member, winner-take-all legislative districts in the first place, and that 'reforms' that would only tinker with the present system would be distractions to real reform.

Instead of redistricting, the Green Party supports multi-member districts with proportional representation.

That being said, the three Greens still in contention come from diverse and impressive backgrounds and would bring important values and perspectives to the Prop. 11 implementation process.

(The author is a former Green Party Mayor/City Councilmember of Santa Monica)

The Ten Key Values of the Green Party

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 workplace democracy, and establish basic security for all and a fair distribution of wealth and income.

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.

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.

Los Diez Valores Fundamentales del Partido Verde

Sabiduría Ecológica—Debemos actuar en la sociedad humana con el entendimiento de que somos parte de la naturaleza, y aprender a vivir dentro de los límites económicos y de los recursos del planeta.

Democracia de Bases—Elaboración de sistemas participatorios que nos alienten a controlar las decisiones que nos afectan la vida.

Justicia Social—Creación de un sistema que promueva la igualdad y la dignidad de todas las personas.

No Violencia—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.

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.

GREEN FOCUS FALL 2010

SUBMISSIONS/INQUIRIES www.cagreens.org/greenfocus

gfsubs@cagreens.org Green Focus, PO Box 2828, Sacramento, CA 95812

CONTRIBUTORS: Bill Balderston, Michael Borenstein, Michael Feinstein, Ely Gendel, Kendra Gonzalez, Bert Heuer, Sheila Laracy, Jeanne Rosenmeier, Mike Rubin, Tim Smith, Jim Stauffer, Joan Strasser, Cres Vellucci, Lindsay Vurek

U.S. HOUSE (17th District)

ERIC PETERSEN
eric939@redshift.com



Eric Petersen's involvement in the Green Party began with the Nader campaign in 2000, and that battle - says the member of Veterans for Peace - showed him the world would be a much different (and better) place if the Green Party presidential candidate had won.

"I am still convinced that if Nader had won we would now have national health care and would never have been even close to Afghanistan or Iraq."

Eric notes that in his district, the incumbent sometimes votes progressive, but is "fate less than a ball of fire."

"You never hear about him in any sort of leadership role in Congress, and he mostly stays away from his constituents. He doesn't listen to the people."

Petersen says that won't happen on his watch should he win the election in November in the 17th Congressional District.

"We need real leadership in this district, and I'm ready to provide it. My intent is to bring some life back to the 17th District."

"I am in favor of leaving Iraq and Afghanistan as soon as possible, health care for all, reasonable immigration policies, active oversight of the Executive Branch (one of the jobs of Congress), and generally the Green Party agenda," said Petersen.

Eric previously served on the Salinas Traffic and Transportation Commission, beginning in November 1998. He was chair three terms.

He also was on the Transportation Agency for Monterey County Pedestrian-Bicycle Facilities Advisory Committee (since 2002), the Salinas Police-Community Advisory Committee (November 1996 to January 2008 and again from September 2009 to the present), the ad hoc Salinas Pedestrian-Bicycle Advisory Committee (January 1996 to the present).

He is a Life Member of the Sierra Club and Veterans for Peace. Eric spent 25 years with National Treasury Employees Union, and is currently a Retired Member.

U.S. HOUSE (9th District)

DAVE HELLER
www.newsmenu.org
mrplutocrat@aol.com

(no photo submitted)

Dave Heller, who has a degree in physics and another in architecture, has been demanding a substantive investigation into the events of September 11th for almost 9 years.

Heller believes the planet is on the precipice of environmental ca-

U.S. HOUSE (4th District)

BEN EMERY
www.benemery.org
benemery4congress@gmail.com



Ben Emery is running for Congress in the 4th District (Nevada City) against an entrenched ultra right-wing Tom McClintock (GOP) because he wants to give voters a real choice, and because, he says, our current system and government are broken.

"Both parties have been corrupted and cannot legislate in the public's interest. We have been split by partisan slogans and rhetoric but need to unite against corruption and unethical policies. We need people with the courage to stand up to big money and stand for the people with honesty and integrity," charges Emery.

"So many Americans are disillusioned with the two major parties and feel they don't have a choice...I want to be that choice by being the voice of the people and fighting for their interests," he said.

Emery, 40, lives in Nevada City with his wife and two children. He's a ranch manager - a modern one.

"A healthy active community is what creates the sense of belonging and I try to contribute as much as I can back to the community in which I live," said Emery, a youth softball and basketball coach.

Emery notes one of the biggest issues in the 2010 elections is the funding of campaigns, citing the decision earlier this year when the courts decided corporations can spend unlimited money in campaigns, marginalizing the "average Joe."

Among the policies Emery would support if elected are: public financing of campaigns, progressive campaign spending caps, instant runoff voting, a restructure of tax policies on the top 1 percent, break up companies that are too big to fail by enforcing Sherman Antitrust laws, promoting strong local economies and governmental agencies, protecting small business (small business's create 60 percent of American Jobs), infrastructure and development of Green technology, solvency of Medicare and Social Security, access and affordability of Health Insurance/Care and supporting efforts for the U.S. to build peace, not war.

lamity, and is an advocate of facilitating safe bikeways, funding public transportation, public education and universal health care. Education and health care should be a citizen's right, not commodities for corporate greed, he said.

"There is an urgent need to reverse the carbon loading of our atmosphere," said Heller.

"Deregulation is a giant failure. It has not only led to an unprecedented environmental disaster, but

U.S. HOUSE (10th District)

JEREMY CLOWARD
www.jeremycloward.com
craig@jeremycloward.com



Jeremy Cloward, Ph.D. (G - Pleasant Hill), is running for the seat now held by Rep. John Garamendi (D - Walnut Creek).

Cloward is campaigning to promote a more just and equal society.

"The issues that are important to all of us, such as single payer health care, education, and the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, need to be addressed by people and a party that are actually willing to address them," said Cloward.

"However, what has become clear is that the Democratic and Republican parties are not only unwilling, but unable to address any one of these issues in any meaningful way."

Cloward accepts no corporate contributions because of their control over politics today.

"This is a campaign that is run by the voters, for the voters. We openly reject corporate control over the political system which has benefited the few at the expense of the people," he said.

Cloward earned his B.A. in political science from CSU Chico, a California Teaching Credential in social science from Chapman University, an M.A. in political science from San Francisco State University, and a Ph.D. in political science from Claremont Graduate University.

Cloward is, or has been, a member of a number of non-profit organizations including the American Civil Liberties Union, Amnesty International, Doctors Without Borders, Human Rights Watch, the NAACP, the Native-American Rights Fund, United Farm Workers of America, and the United Nation's Children's Fund.

He is also, or has been, a member of a number of professional organizations, including the American Political Science Association, the California Part-Time Faculty Association, the Caucus for a New Political Science, and the National Education Association.

Cloward was born in San Francisco, and grew up in Pleasant Hill, where he currently lives with his wife and children.

a global economic disaster that has fallen on the backs of working people around the world. We can no longer allow corporate interests to run roughshod over our planet. They need to be held accountable.

"We need a global minimum wage and a strong pact of global workers' rights. Corporations should not be allowed to leverage labor in one country against the labor of another," Heller added.

When elected, he will not vote

Assembly (39th District)

JACK LINDBLAD
lindbladforassembly@blogspot.com
jplindblad@gmail.com



Jack Lindblad says that politics are "dominated by greed, militarism and narrow corporate representation by duopolist 'major parties.' This led humanity to ecological collapse and economic inequity. Social justice issues are inextricably tied to environmental justice and must be part of the environmental agenda."

"I want to advance ethical and moral imperatives of a Green New Deal to manage and adapt to multiple collapses, mitigate the most catastrophic effects of climate change, and shepherd a transformation to a renewable, net-zero-energy, relocalized, green-jobs, carbon-neutral, steady-state economy. Ongoing economic and social collapse was precipitated by a political culture steeped in pecuniary emulation, beholden to corporate interests, making government fail its social and ethical responsibilities," said Lindblad, an architect, small business-owner and social justice activist. He was the initiator of the Panorama City Neighborhood Council formation and member of the San Fernando Valley Economic Alliance Livable Communities Council. Lindblad received an astounding 8.06 percent of the vote in his 2008 run for Assembly - representing a constituency of voters topping 1,600 percent of the Green Party registered base. Lindblad is a proven "effective squeaky wheel" with successes in: advocacies for health-care patient rights; revitalizing District neighborhoods by authoring award-winning mixed-use, transit-friendly, pedestrian-oriented community plans; promoting relocalized water resources, energy, material goods and food production; ensuring healthcare is a right - guaranteeing quality universal single payer healthcare for all; banning corporatist lobbying and campaign spending by using public campaign financing; stopping immigration raids and deportation; reversing spending on prisons over education; promoting early childhood care, mentoring and sports to stop gang violence; sunseting regressive tax policy with a "split roll" amendment to Prop 13 and by a phased elimination of state tax on lower income workers.

for any money for any war. "The Pentagon budget is out of control and those monies need to be spent on decaying infrastructure, and the public good. We need to start building sustainable energy sources, wind, solar, tidal, geo-thermal and move as quickly as possible away from a carbon-based energy supply, that does not include building more nuclear power plants," said Heller.

Heller said the Democrats have been "complicit" with the Repub-

licans who are privatizing public assets and socializing the costs, adding that the U.S. needs to "eliminate" the Federal Reserve, hold the banking industry and the real estate industry accountable for their criminal negligence at best, and outright fraud in all likelihood.

"The leaders of the Bush administration should be held accountable for the two illegal, immoral wars which were started under fraudulent circumstances," he said.

Assembly (41st District)

LINDA PIERA-AVILA
www.linda-piera-avila.org
lindap_a@verizon.net



Santa Monica resident Linda Piera-Avila is running for the 41st Assembly seat.

Her top three priorities are to:

1) restore the state budget and our vital services by revising the tax code so corporations pay their fair share, including creating a split roll for property taxes;

2) promote a new "triple bottom line" taking into equal consideration environmental stewardship and social responsibility as well as economics;

3) support electoral reforms to expand the democratic process, like instant runoff voting, proportional representation and public financing of campaigns.

California has the opportunity to be at the forefront of a resilient green economy by transitioning to sustainable jobs. De-funding the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan would provide the economic stimulus for this effort. Congruent with this transition we need to ensure prompt compliance with AB 32, California's Global Warming Solutions Act which limits greenhouse gas emissions.

Community based economics, the local food movement, food sovereignty, organic farming, and community supported agriculture programs and co-ops should be promoted wherever possible. Our state parks must stay open and accessible to all and doing so will also spur our economy.

Stemming the growing crime of human trafficking, protecting the rights of farmworkers and hotel workers, raising the minimum wage to a living wage, enacting single payer health care, amending the three strikes law to apply to violent felons only and pressuring the federal government to stop the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency's inhumane raids which tear families apart are Linda's top social justice issues.

"Piera-Avila said because of the "environmental and social crises of our time, the Green Party voice needs to be heard...that's why I'm running."

Assembly (51st District)

CYNTHIA SANTIAGO
new.menu.org/cynthia.santiago
miss.cynthia.santiago@gmail.com



Cynthia Santiago, 25, is a young law student and Green Party member since she first registered to vote.

Santiago has a strong background in raising youth activism through mentoring and leadership programs, prisoner education and resource programs, and environmental justice for low income communities.

"This election gives us a chance to show younger people that getting involved in Green politics is a natural extension of their activism. I've been a Green ever since I first registered to vote, and was a Green when elected Associated Student Body President at Santa Monica High School in 2002. Soon afterwards, I was included in a Los Angeles Weekly cover story on young Greens," she said.

Santiago sees a rare opening for the Green Party to take for the second time a state assembly seat. She says the circumstances are very similar to those when California Greens won their only state assembly race back in March 1999.

"My race offers a fantastic opportunity to build the Green Party," she said. "There is only the male Democratic incumbent and myself running. [We can] compete head-to-head with the Democrat, without the bug-a-boo of 'seeming to help the Republican win,' and to run a female challenger against a male incumbent." 2000 census results show 44 percent Latino in her district, with 32 percent African-American.

"This also gives us a chance to expand the Green Party in a district with a very different demographic than that in most districts in which Greens run—one reflective of the increasing diversity we can expect in California's future."

Santiago joined the Green Party because of its commitment to grassroots democracy.

She said the Green Party is an alternative to top-down politics and to corporate-controlled politicians. "The Green Party advocates for the rights of local people and communities to be heard and to shape their destinies for generations to come."

BERKELEY RENT BOARD

Jesse Townley (pictured below)
Lisa Stephens and Pam Webster
<http://berkeleytenantconvention.net/>



Three Greens are running on a progressive pro-tenant Rent Board slate in Berkeley, chosen by a 100 person convention of Ber-

Assembly (53rd District)

LISA GREEN
www.votelisagreen.net
lisagreen@votelisagreen.net



Lisa Green, 45, is a member of the Green Party of California and the current co-facilitator of the LA Greens.

She resigned from a 20-year corporate budgeting and finance career in 2008 to pursue her own artistic "organic and green" business. She is frequently found walking on Venice Beach boardwalk.

Lisa's former corporate career has given her a firm foundation to be an effective legislator for AD53.

She has spent 20 years in a variety of chaotic, fast-paced, challenging environments and has consistently found ways to build productive, healthy relationships, as well as developing methods that have measurable and attainable goals.

Green current creative and artistic endeavors use messages that educate, advocate and liberate thought while educating others about holistic sustainability (environmental, social and economic).

Her platform is about balance, and assisting in the transition to a holistic way of life, while recognizing the interconnectedness of our life and all systems.

Green's platform begins with universal single payer healthcare to provide coverage for all with a balanced, holistic approach.

She supports the full legalization and taxation of cannabis for sale to adults, as well as the production of industrial hemp.

She would work for environmental sustainability, including the regulation of greenhouse gas emissions, protection of the ocean and forests, clean air for our cities, and regional water planning and management.

Green said she would fight for reform of various aspects of the electoral system, such as Clean Money to give third-party candidates a fair chance, the elimination of corporate personhood, instant run-off voting and proportional representation.

She also supports the idea of a State Bank to infuse money into local banks and credit unions.

keley-ites and went through a screening interview that included representatives from the Greens, Berkeley Citizens Action, Peace & Freedom, Cal Dems, and other tenant activists and progressives.

All three Greens are incumbents. Stephens is the Chair of the Rent Board, Townley is Chair of the Safe & Sustainable Committee (seismic retrofits of unsafe apartment build-

Assembly (72d District)

JANE RANDS
www.janerandsforassembly.com
jane@janerandsforassembly.com



This is Jane Rands' second run for this office this year - she garnered more than five times the number of registered Green Party voters in the district in a special election earlier.

"My goals are to increase Green Party registration and increase awareness among all the electorate of the solutions the Green Party has to offer. Single payer healthcare for all Californians is at the top of my priority list.

"It is one of the best solutions to combat the skyrocketing cost of health insurance while insuring that all people have access to healthcare.

"Single payer is also good for small businesses that typically find it difficult to afford health insurance for their employees. Single payer also helps California businesses compete internationally, where some competing businesses in other countries have lower costs because universal healthcare is provided for their employees," she said.

Rands is also promoting a long-term solution to bring water to communities without harming the natural environment.

"Conservation should be the centerpiece of any state water plan - desalination plants, dams and a Peripheral Canal for imported water are energy inefficient, environmentally harmful and are not sustainable.

"Another imperative for our state is expanding and improving public transportation. Transportation funding priorities are backwards; public transportation being referred to as the alternative rather than the norm. To resolve the never-ending gridlock/road-widening cycle, state transportation money needs to go to public transportation instead of roads.

Also, Rands supports more funding to education - finding money from new funding sources, including closing prisons, modifying 3 strikes, decriminalizing marijuana, a 10 percent gas and oil extraction tax and removing tax breaks that allow the wealthiest Californians to effectively pay a lower tax rate than the poorest Californians.

ings, recycling, composting, encouraging solarization of apartment buildings, disaster preparedness for tenants) and Webster is the Chair of the Outreach committee, which spreads information about the Rent Board & its services to tenants & its efforts to bring some bit of economic justice to this recession-ridden country.

CITY COUNCIL RACES

ARCATA CITY COUNCIL

DAVE MESERVE
Facebook: Dave Meserve for Arcata City Council
Davemeserve@gmail.com

Dave Meserve is, in fact, a "blast from the past" when Greens ruled the Arcata City Council.

And he says he is running again for council, after serving from 2002-2006, because the city has failed to maintain leadership in both environmental and social justice. In 2004, the council had three Green members.

Now there are none.

"We need to go beyond sustainability to long term regional self sufficiency in energy, food,

transportation and jobs, repeal the unconstitutional anti-panhandling ordinance and provide access to emergency housing and basic services for the homeless. - and reject the fallacy of Corporate Personhood.

Arcata enjoys a proud history on the cutting edge of livable, prosperous, and progressive cities.

"I'm working to bring Arcata 'Back to the Future," said Meserve, a 61-year-old home designer and builder.



SANTAMONICA CITY COUNCIL

JON MANN
Net_democracy@yahoo.com

"My political philosophy is born of many conflicting ideals; it is a mixture of Green, Utopian Libertarian and Neo-Marxist Revisionist influences. (I take the best and disregard the rest)," said Mann, who acknowledges that he is making his 10th run for city council.

"I keep running to present an alternate model for participatory democracy that is truly populist and creative.

"And to implement an electronic town hall to restore government to the people and out of the control of special interests

"I was very involved in the Public Electronic Network, and founded the PEN Users Group, in 1989.

"I have since become disappointed and chagrined at how fellow Greens and members of the City Council have deliberately allowed a powerful tool for grassroots participatory democracy die of benign neglect in order to protect their power base."

"This reflects what I believe, not what it takes to get elected," said Jonn, who points out he is a card-carrying member of the ACLU, NAACP and environmental groups.



SCHOOL BOARD RACES

GARY BLENNER

Blenner4centerschoolboard.com
Gary@blenner4centerschoolboard.com
Center School District Board

Gary is an incumbent on the board (just outside Sacramento) and a high school teacher for the past 16 years.

He believes teaching is more than just test scores. He has endorsed the implementation of standards based curriculum designed to improve critical thinking skills in grades K-12, co-sponsored the "Green Schools Initiative", established as a cost saving measure to create energy efficient school, defended keeping K-3 class size reduction to the smallest student ratio possible.

Richard, a USC professor and screenwriter (nominated for an Oscar in 1987) as well as a former National Security Advisor for Rep. Pete McCloskey, is concerned about a myriad of problems on this board, including election fraud, big money from Indian gambling casinos to buy candidates, and that led to FPPC conviction and fines for violation of political reform act. He says that one of the colleges, Crafton Hills College, may lose accreditation in 2011. Richard wants to end outside consultants and lawyers which have led to teacher layoffs and reduced classes.

RICHARD DAVID BOYLE

Boylewriter@aol.com
www.teachersforchange.biz
County Board of Trustees/Gov (San Bernardino County)

Richard, a USC professor and screenwriter (nominated for an Oscar in 1987) as well as a former National Security Advisor for Rep. Pete McCloskey, is concerned about a myriad of problems on this board, including election fraud, big money from Indian gambling casinos to buy candidates, and that led to FPPC conviction and fines for violation of political reform act. He says that one of the colleges, Crafton Hills College, may lose accreditation in 2011. Richard wants to end outside consultants and lawyers which have led to teacher layoffs and reduced classes.

other low paying jobs before earning his GED, going to college and getting his teaching credential. He's organized parents and students against discriminatory Zero Tolerance policies at the local high school and taught family classes through the Latino Literacy Project. He's a public school supporter, and says there is more than test scores, wants to teach social sciences, history, art, PE and science, and assist students more where English is the second language and more libraries.

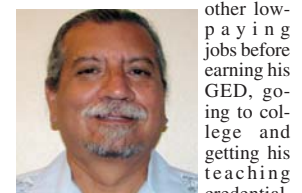
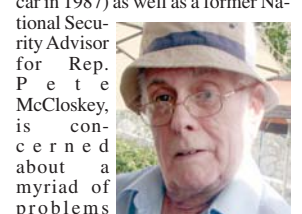
JOE NAVARRO

JoeNavarro4schoolboard.weebly.com
poetajoe@yahoo.com

A retired teacher, creative writer, poet, husband, father and grandfather, worked in factories and held

other low paying jobs before earning his GED, going to college and getting his teaching credential. He's organized parents and students against discriminatory Zero Tolerance policies at the local high school and taught family classes through the Latino Literacy Project. He's a public school supporter, and says there is more than test scores, wants to teach social sciences, history, art, PE and science, and assist students more where English is the second language and more libraries.

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Green Party of California
 Post Office Box 2828
 Sacramento, CA 95812

It's **EASY** to be **Green**. Register a friend or family member **TODAY!**

[*Tim Smith, longtime Green Party organizer, believes voters should be registered Green in much higher numbers than they are currently. His outline below explains how and why this should be done. **INSIDE this issue is a voter registration card to help voters get started***]

By **Tim Smith** (rioryon@aol.com)

Let's build a solid Green Base. The foundation for any viable political party consists of the constituent voters who are willing to register as members of that party, primarily because they agree with the values promoted and applied to public policy by that party's candidates.

At the core of that foundation are the volunteers and activists who run for office, others who support those candidates, and all who recruit more members.

After the original Green Party "founding" registration drive in 1991-92 in California and until 2003, GPCA registrations rose steadily from about 90,000 to a peak of just under 170,000 registered Greens. Since 2003-04, those registration figures have steadily declined, primarily because the Democrats successfully attacked the Greens.

There are, no doubt, a variety of causes for the decline, but one other reason is certainly the decline in the "tabling culture" that used to be quite prevalent among many Green locals — that is, active, local recruitment practices necessary to grow the party, and involve more Green activists and candidates in the political process.

At the GPCA General Assembly (GA) in Santa Clara last spring, the delegates discussed and debated a plan to re-invigorate, or "jump start", a new Green Party recruitment process. The Green Party should begin that process now.

Merced County Experience: When we began registering voters in Merced, in the 2nd week of March, there were 261 Registered Greens in Merced County. A group of us were there during initiative qualification work for 7 - 8 weeks, finishing in the first week of May.

The Merced County ROV's report of registration on the "15 day close" (May 24th) was 724 Registered Greens (**NEARLY TRIPLING the previous number of Greens in the county.**) The above numbers compare to a very static level of registered voters in Merced for other parties during that same period - the Dems grew only 8 voters; the Repubs declined 3 voters; Decline to State dropped 10 voters; Libertarians dropped 1 voter; American Independent (so-called) Party gained 20 voters; and P&F gained 1 voter.

In addition to the raw registration numbers we also collected about 25

to 30 names with contact info of newly registered Greens who expressed an interest in organizing a local, or at least attending a GP meeting, in Merced county.

The bottom line is that **Green values are alive and well** in the heartland of California's "right side" of the state, and hopefully we can soon translate those values into a vibrant political force in Merced county.

Personal Tips and Ideas: Registering voters with a desired party is not a science per se, but does require certain key ingredients, such as a friendly, enthusiastic attitude and approach; an ability to listen to the registrant's major interests and concerns; a knowledge of current political conditions vis a vis the GP's 10 Key Values and how those values translate into public policy. (I try to always have a copy of the 10 KVs handy to give out as necessary.) For instance, to someone formerly registered Republican, I emphasize Sustainability as Community Based Economics as small government and local control.)

One constant I always emphasize that registering to vote is another way of **ACTUALLY VOTING**; in this case not for a candidate, but for a set of values the voter wants the candidate(s) to implement, ie Peace; Jobs and Better Wages; Equal Rights; Protecting the Environment.

Since a majority of voters agree with those values, and since a majority of voters are "dissatisfied" with the Democrats' and the Republicans' willingness/ability to implement those values, I keep coming back to those values encouraging the voter to "**send a message**" to your **government with your Green registration.**

It also helps to have a working knowledge of what Greens have accomplished to reach those goals and values. For **Peace**, I point to Joska Fischer, former German Green Foreign Minister, who denied Bush's request that Germany become involved in Iraq;

For **Jobs and Better Wages**, I point to the 7-year Green majority in Sebastapol, which passed a Living Wage Ordinance when no one else in Sonoma county would, including the Democrats, and that led to a LWO being passed in Petaluma and the town of Sonoma, PLUS the Sebastapol Greens balanced the city budget, so that now Sebastapol is one of the few cities in the nation that is solvent!

For **Equal Rights**, what party, other than the Greens, can boast a better platform for justice on Gay Rights? And of course, everyone, including corporate America, is now trying to jump on the "Green" bandwagon when it comes to **energy independence and Environmental Protection.** But we were here first, and are the most steadfast.

Register Green today. And if you are already registered Green, contact friends, relatives and neighbors about doing the same.

YES! I want to help Green candidates. Enclosed is a contribution for:

\$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 Other _____

(please make checks payable to GPCA, PO Box 485, San Francisco, CA 94104)

YES! I'd like to become a sustainer of the Green Party of California.

I will contribute \$_____ per month.

I will contribute \$_____ per quarter.

(please include credit card information below)

YES! I would like to volunteer. Please pass my information on to local organizers!

The law requires we use our best efforts to collect and report the name, street address, occupation and name of employer of contributors. Contributions of \$100 or more must be returned if we do not have the above information on file. Contributions are not tax deductible. Other restrictions on the size and source of contributions may apply. Thank you for your cooperation. **R 2010 fall**

Name _____

Street address (if contribution \$100 or more) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone () _____ Work Phone () _____

Email _____

Occupation _____ Employer _____

Credit Card # _____ Expires _____

Signature _____