

GREEN SCENE

San Luis Obispo County Greens * Santa Barbara County Greens * Ventura County Greens

The Greening of Santa Barbara: A Report

It was one year ago that the Santa Barbara Greens decided that it was time to become a true political party-----to elect greens to public office and pursue a Green legislative agenda. We have yet to elect a Green to public office, but Dave Wass has taken the first step towards that goal. He got himself appointed to a county committee (the County Natural Resource Advisory), a first step towards running for public office. And, of course, we gave a series of forums to bring our main issues to the public---Public Transportation, Health Care for All, Low-Income Housing, Living Wage, and Water Supply Issues.

But all this activity did pay off. The Green Party joined a dozen other groups to co-sponsor, work for, and eventually pass a city ordinance to establish a fair wage plan for the employees of private companies working under city contracts of \$15,000 or more. And along the way, while politicking and attending meetings of every description, we discovered two more issues-----the need for a city ordinance to promote the city financing and control of local election campaigns and the need for the city to assert more restraint over commercial development on the North Side.

Now that we have a selection of vital local issues to promote, we need the curious, the energetic, and the committed amongst you to get involved by phoning either Bud Boothe at 688-7610, Sandy Stites at 965-7771, or Dave Wass at 683-0705.

WE NEED YOU !

PLEASE GET INVOLVED!

WE NEED

Progressive people with ideas and the will to put them in action:

Speakers

People to help with tabling

Website mavens

People to do phone outreach



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

San Luis Obispo

See contact information on page 5

Santa Barbara

Sunday, April 23: Earthday at the Courthouse Sunken Gardens 10:00 am. -5:30 p.m.. Stop by our booth!

Wed, May 10: Illegal Immigration Issues: A Public Forum at the Faulkner Gallery, SIB. Central Library, 7:00 p.m.

Sat, May 27: General Green Party Meeting - open to all Green Party members and interested parties: 2p.m.Townley Room, S. B. Central Library

Thurs, June 15: MacGregor Eddy to be sentenced. Demonstration in solidarity planned. See Page 5.

Sat, June 24: General Green Party Meeting - open to all Green Party members and interested parties: 2p.m.,Townley Room, S. B. Central Library

Ventura

Wed, April 19 - "How Hemp Can Save the World" presentation and movie at the Underground Cafe in Ventura, 3367 Telegraph Road, from 7-9pm. We will show the movie "The Emperor of Hemp" and have a presentation from Matthew Huijgen, president and CEO of HempWorld, Inc. For more information, Hal Chirpin - 805-746-3472.

Sat/Sun, April 29-30 - The Ventura County Greens will be hosting the GPCA Spring 2006 state plenary at Moorpark College all weekend.

Wed, May 10 - monthly Green Party of Ventura west county meeting at the E.P. Foster library, 7-9pm.

Thur., May 18 - monthly Green Party of Ventura east county meeting at Moorpark College Student Center, 7-8pm.

Wed, June 14 - monthly Green Party of Ventura west county meeting at the E.P. Foster library, 7-9pm.

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Problems In The Middle East

Bud Boothe

Most students of U.S. foreign policy post-World War II believe that it has gotten progressively worse. The area of the world in which the U. S. foreign policy is at its worst is the Middle East.

The Middle East has been a hot bed of wars and atrocities since before the birth of Christ. Most of these have been religious in nature, including the Christian Crusades.

Our modern day problems have evolved from a horrendous decision by the major victorious powers of WWII, namely the United States, Soviet Union (now Russia), Great Britain, and France. There is no question that Nazi Germany slaughtered millions of non-combatants most of whom were

Jews. As compensation, the great powers took a portion of the Palestinian Mandate and created the State of Israel. This area included inhabitants who were followers of three of the major religions of the world – Muslims, Jews, and Christians. Many of the Muslim inhabitants were forcibly evicted from their homes, and ended up in refugee camps in Lebanon and Jordan.

Later, in the 1967 war between Israel and the countries of Egypt, Jordan, and Syria, Israel captured the Sinai portion of Egypt, the West Bank, Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights portion of Syria. Israel not only built Israeli settlements in these captured territories in contravention of the Geneva International Accords on

captured territories, but has savaged the Palestinians who live in the West Bank and Gaza.

These actions have turned the whole Arab world and other Middle Eastern countries against Israel, but also made the United States, which backs and finances Israel, the most hated country in the world.

Add to that our on-going confrontation with Iran, and now our illegal war with Iraq, and the killing of many thousands of innocent Iraqis – with no end in sight.

Until we have a change in government that will correct our insane foreign policy vis-à-vis

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the Middle East – and I don't see either the Democrats or Republicans willing to do that, the United States will continue to spend its fortune and good will in a non-winning criminal endeavor. The foregoing outlines how our foreign policy has gone astray. While I don't speak for the Green Party, I have to believe that the following is in line with which a majority of thinking Greens would concur.

First: Get out of Iraq as soon as ships and planes could evacuate our troops.

Second, vis-à-vis the Palestinian problem: quit backing Israeli domination of the Palestinian people by no longer funding the Israeli illegal occupation and military presence in Gas, West Bank and Golan Heights of Syria.

We, along with the rest of the world, could demand the following:

1) Israeli complete evacuation of the above areas

2) Palestinians drop their demand for the right of return to their property within pre-1967 Israel.

3) West Jerusalem would be the capitol of Israel, East Jerusalem would be the capitol of Palestine, and the old city part of Jerusalem would be internationalized and under the administration of the United Nations, with open access to all peoples of the world.

A nuclear free Middle East should be a goal, but it can only be obtained when the nuclear powers and non-signers of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty adhere to Article VI of that treaty, and eliminate all nuclear weapons in the world.

In



THE GREEN PARTY'S TEN KEY VALUES -VALUE #1: ECOLOGICAL WISDOM

By Christine L. Davis

Ecological Wisdom: The first of the Green Party's Ten Key Values. A lot of Americans look at those concerned with ecology as leftover hippies, sandal-wearers or people who run around with picket signs in front of swamps that big businesses want to turn into high rises. But the philosophy behind this value goes far beyond the stereotype of those concerned with the health of our planet Earth.

How do we get past the rhetoric and bring home to each and every American how vital it is that we start paying attention to ecology? It starts by defining what that word means.

According to Merriam-Webster's On-Line Dictionary (<http://www.m-w.com/dictionary/ecology>), "ecology is defined as:

1: branch of science concerned with the interrelationship of organisms and their environments

2: the totality or pattern of relations between organisms and their environment

And again, those are merely official definitions that most people can't relate to. The interrelationships of organisms and their environments," it says. To the human race that means how we interact with our environment: the grass, trees, dirt and air around us. The things we do that could potentially cause harm to our planet such as driving cars that emit noxious gases into the atmosphere, or throwing candy bar wrappers on the ground, or leaving dog droppings in the park where you dog did its business instead of picking it up.

Do you recycle your bottles and cans from beer, water and soda? Did you know there's a big recycling plant right here in Simi Valley on Easy Street where you get paid for bringing in anything and everything that's recyclable? You can recycle your aluminum cans, any

plastics and glass, and get paid for it! This helps keep these products from sitting around in landfills and further polluting this planet of ours.

If you smoke, do you just throw your cigarette butts to the ground after you're done with it? Do you toss your filthy soapy mop water out in your backyard once you're done mopping the kitchen? It is very understandable that not everyone can afford the new hybrid cars to help reduce exhaust emissions, but there are things that even the poorest families can do to keep Earth livable, to keep the planet healthy. Remember, it was here

Take time out of your busy life to contemplate this sphere floating in space, and the fact that it sustains your life and d the lives of those you love.

first. We came on the scene and have been using the natural resources we found here for thousands of years.

But overusing is going to ultimately cost us dearly. We are lucky in Simi Valley that we still have a lot of trees, grass and parks, but that's not the case everywhere in the United States. Do you want your great-grandchildren to only know what trees were by having to go to a museum where they've preserved fossilized ones? Everything we do in our everyday lives impacts the world we live in and the planet we live on.

Ecological Wisdom is about using our planet's resources wisely. It is about realizing work with rather though we better that we need to what's around us than acting as as humans are than that which has supported our human existence for thousands of years.

There is so much we can do with today's advanced technology to help keep this planet from dying under our terrible care. If we had been hired as babysitters to care for the Earth as though it were a child, we would not only have been fired by the child's parents, but probably faced criminal charges for abuse and neglect. Because that is how the human race has treated Earth. It's

time we start taking our job of babysitting seriously and realize that the Earth will provide for us and give us a place to live happily as long as we take good care of it.

I have seen advertisements on television for a new car fuel called Ethanol 85. According to the ad, cars are already running on this fuel, which burns much cleaner than our traditional gasoline. Coming from the farmlands of Iowa, I know that utilizing Ethanol 85, which is made from corn, would also be a tremendous help for those farmers who are facing the prospect of losing their farmlands, many of which have been in their families for generations. Once again our farmers will be able to grow crops at a profit. Crops that will in turn be used for this new fuel; new fuel that will slowly begin to replace gasoline. This reduces our dependence on foreign oil and keeps our air cleaner. After all, you do still want to be able to breathe fifty years from now. Don't you?

This is merely an introduction to the first of the Green Party's Ten Key Values; a way for Americans to see how it applies to their everyday lives. Thinking first and foremost about what each and every one of you do on a daily basis, and how that affects the land and air around us, is the first step you can take toward living wisely and with respect for nature – the very nature that gives us the ability to live, work and play for an entire lifespan. What is the next step after that? Growing beyond you and your household to your community; to the city or town you live in, to the farm or ranch you call home. Moving beyond just paying attention to local issues to learning about your county, your state and the United States of America, and what you can do that impacts all of these arenas..

You may not believe that the decision you make to recycle your water bottle rather than throwing it in the garbage makes any difference on a global scale. But if you, all of your neighbors, and fifty percent of the people across this country did that, the affect on the environment would be phenomenal. Take time out of your busy life to contemplate this sphere floating in space, and the fact that it sustains your life and the lives of those you love. And treat it as you would treat the one you love most: with respect, with intelligence and with wisdom. Be ecologically wise. Be



Bioneers: An Oasis In The Desert

By David Kirk

For the past sixteen years, people from all walks of life have gathered in October at the annual Bioneers Conference to discuss the one passion they have in common: the environment. Organized by the Collective Heritage Institute, a.k.a. Bioneers, this year's conference drew over 3,200 people to the Marin Center in San Rafael, CA for three days of speakers and workshops - approximately

50,000 more watched via live satellite feed at seventeen local gatherings across North America. This year's speakers included, among many others, Michael Ableman, Fritjof Capra, David Cobb, Jodie Evans, Lois Marie Gibbs; David Gottfried, Thom Hartmann; Tom Hayden; Bernice Johnson Reagon, Frances Moore Lappe, Stephen Marshall, David Orr, and John Todd. Some of the workshop topics included global warming, grassroots activism, green chemistry, sustainable food systems, art and social change,

indigenous cultures, feminism, sustainable city planning and building, non-violence, media reform, conservation biology, ecological design, cooperatives, and spirituality.

One workshop that will hit home for many Greens was called "Power Play: Innovative Anti-Corporate, Pro-Democracy Strategies," presented by David Cobb, Thom Hartmann, and

My spirit has been revitalized, and I feel full of energy and a new sense of hope for the future.

Thomas Linzey, co-founder of the Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund. While discussion focused on corporate power, two different ways of framing the issue were discovered. David Cobb and Thom Hartmann framed the problem of corporations as a regulation problem: these institutions gained too much power and undermined the democratic system put in place by our forefathers. This, I feel, is more or less the Green perspective. Thomas Linzey recasts the issue by acknowledging that our government has always been one designed to exploit the masses for the

benefit of the elite – pointing out that from the beginning "We the People" meant the small percentage of white, land owning males. Whether through a system of slavery or powerful corporations, the elite have always ruled America. If one accepts this broader context, the issue becomes not simply reasserting our rights, but redefining our system of government. Greens having a hard time fighting corporate power could benefit from integrating lessons from Linzey and the CELDF.

We face many problems in the world today, and their constant barrage can suck our spirits dry. But going to Bioneers was like finding an oasis in the desert. My spirit has been revitalized, and I feel full of energy and a new sense of hope for the future. At the same time, I am even more convinced than I was before that the crisis of our Earth will be the test of my generation, if not humankind.

More info: www.bioneers.org

TIMELY FILMS AT FRIENDSHIP MANOR

Campus Greens, Veterans For Peace, and Hopedance co-sponsor films at Friendship Manor every Friday night at 7:30 p.m.

Friendship Manor is in the heart of Isla Vista, on the corner of El Colegio and Los Carneros. Films are shown upstairs in Jaimison Hall, near the library.

All are welcome. Suggested donation is \$3-\$5— or whatever you can afford.

Parking is in the field at the Manor Corner Parking Lot. The entrance is on the southeast corner of the empty lot at Camino Pescadero and El Colegio, on the east side of Friendship Manor. Do not park in the underground parking structure! Carpool if you can—or better yet, walk or bike to see the films.

Films to be shown this quarter include interviews with Studs Terkel, Cornel West, and more timely documentaries.

For more information, call Art Schwartz at 968-1965, or e-mail him at art.farm@cox.net

In addition. Friends of KPFK are invited to view Amy Goodman's Democracy Now each day, Monday through Friday at 4 P.M.. on the big screen TV in Jaimison Hall.

Vandenberg News

On October 8, 2005, during an anti-war demonstration, MacGregor Eddy, a Green Party member from Salinas, stepped across the painted "green line" at Vandenberg AFB. She carried a book by fellow Green Sanderson Beck which indicates that breaking international law in complicity with higher officials is no defense in accordance with the Nuremberg trials of high Nazi officials.

Ms. Eddy was repeatedly warned Oct. 8 that she would be detained and cited for trespassing unless she stepped back the painted line.

She refused to comply, saying later that she wanted to be arrested.

"I wanted the publicity to expose what's going on with this war. I wanted to be heard," she said.

U. S. Magistrate Rita Federman ruled in February that Eddy could not present a "defense of necessity" - that is, that she had felt compelled to violate the trespassing law because of a moral duty to protest a war she considers illegal.

"It's irrelevant what her motive was," Assistant U. S. Attorney Sharon McCaslin said. "It's whether she violated the law."

Magistrate Federman convicted Ms. Eddy, 56, on March 16 of misdemeanor trespassing.

"I'm disappointed," Eddy attorney Catherine Swysen said. "We have a principled person here who was on trial. She was protesting the war in Iraq."

Her sentencing will take place June 15, at 1:30 p.m.. At the Bankruptcy Court Building at State and Sola streets in Santa Barbara. She could face up to six months in prison and a \$5,000 fine.

A solidarity protest will be held at 12 noon in front of the court building. It is hoped that a large contingent of Santa Barbara Greens will be there to support her at sentencing.

In further news, the Southern California American Civil Liberties Union has expressed an interest in promulgating a civil suit against the Air Force at Vandenberg for arresting protesters on the Highway One right-of-way who are under a current ban and bar for previously trespassing on Base property.

In several preceding cases, it has been found that the government cannot ban protesters from prop-

erty that has access to the public, such as is the case on Route One which traverses Vandenberg. Over the years, peace activists have had to either go to court or threaten civil suits against the Air Force to exercise First Amendment rights to petition our government for redress of grievances.

In Peace,
Bud Boothe

Democracy is not something you believe in or a place to hang your hat, but it's something you do. You participate. If you stop doing it, democracy crumbles.

Abbie Hoffman

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Nuclear News**By Dorothy Holland**

Hardly a day goes by that the mass media doesn't mention the U.S. chastising other countries for wanting to produce nuclear bombs--especially North Korea and Iran. One of the arguments used in rebuttal by those states is that they have a right to possess nuclear plants that produce electricity, which is often touted as being "clean" energy, since it doesn't pollute the air like coal or oil.

However, this is what Dr. Helen Caldecott wrote in the September 2005 International Atomic Energy Agency Bulletin: "Nuclear power leaves a toxic legacy to all future generations, because it produces global warming gases, because it is far more expensive than any other form of electricity generation, and because it can trigger proliferation of nuclear weapons." And this doesn't even take into consideration the radioactive waste that will harm living organisms for thousands of years.

The U.S. government continues to ignore the last-mentioned danger. Last summer it announced that it plans to resume making plutonium 238 at Idaho National Laboratory, which is 100 miles west of, and upwind of, Grand Teton National Park and Jackson Hole. Plutonium 238 has no central role in nuclear arms but is valued for its steady heat, which can be turned into electricity. Nuclear batteries made of it power spacecraft that go where sunlight is too dim to energize solar cells. The announced purpose of producing plutonium 238 was "for national security" (it could be used to power compact spy satellites that would be

difficult to track, evade, or destroy). However, plutonium 238 is hundreds of times more radioactive than the kind of plutonium used in nuclear arms (plutonium 239). Medical experts agree that inhaling even a speck of it poses a serious risk of lung cancer.

The outlook for reducing nuclear weapons world-wide is equally gloomy. The Nuclear Test Ban Treaty has been ratified by 125 countries, but after nine years its prospects of entering into force

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are grim because of 11 holdout nations, including the U.S., India, Pakistan, North Korea, Vietnam, and Iran, whose support is essential.

A recent alarming revelation, so far largely ignored by the mass media, is the announcement in the Preventive Psychiatry Newsletter that the real reason the former Veterans Affairs Secretary, Anthony Principi, resigned was because he has been involved in a massive scandal covering up the fact that Gulf War syndrome is

caused by the use of depleted uranium by the U.S. military in the Gulf War.

And finally, the U.S. military strategy toward China involves not only nuclear but also global resources, particularly oil and water. In the Winter 2005-6 edition of Space Alert, Green Party activist Bruce Gagnon writes: "The U.S. is now attempting to 'manage' China's inevitable rise to great power status. The U.S. strategy is to exaggerate the level of China's present military buildup, to encircle China through the acquisition of military bases in the Asian-Pacific region, to establish anti-Chinese alliances, and to deploy Theatre Missile Defense systems near

China as a way to negate their existing force of 20 nuclear missiles...China is now the worlds' number-two consumer of oil, just behind the U.S...."



- *****
★ Green Scene wants you.....
 ★ To contribute your letters, ideas, opinions, complaints, photos
 ★ and drawings!!
 ★ If you want to write, please contact Sandy Stites, Sandyat-
 ★ ducks@earthlink.net, or call 884-8259.

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF THE COUNTY SPLIT

By David Wass

With just a few months to go before the June vote on the county split, it is time to point out an advantage to South County that remains as yet unmentioned in the public dialogue. The split would render much more secure South County's influence on any development on the Gaviota Coast and the preservation of the rich natural values that area is endowed with.

The victory by Brooks Firestone for the Third District supervisorial seat put North County property owners firmly in charge of the board of supervisors' agenda. The Firestone Outriders quickly, in "shock and awe" style, split the Planning and Development Department, splintered the Board of Architectural Review into three pieces, and waylaid the already weak oak ordinance--all to the advantage of property rights and development advocates. Very quickly the Gaviota Coast was on the chopping block, with a development friendly Board of Supervisors in charge. North County was in the cat bird seat with all the cards. The split was no longer needed by the out-riders. But, as you can see , the split now offers critical Advantages to South County.

The split would recognize and empower the already established distinct political and philosophical character of North and South County. Each could pursue its own destiny. North County could encourage the residential growth and oil field development that it craves and that could generate taxes to fund its increased social responsibilities. South County could follow its environment-centered destiny and play a leading role in confirming and maintaining the special character of the Gaviota Coast.

The thirty million dollar flow of surplus revenue from South to North County might be continued on some temporary basis to assist in providing needed social benefits to the needy in the Santa Maria Valley.

We take our chances as they come. Let's not miss this one.

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE COUNTY SPLIT

By Bud Boothe

The county split controversy should first be viewed dispassionately, that is, not, is it good or bad for me, or the constituency of which I am a part, but overall, is it a good or bad proposition.

Any political division, such as the splitting of Santa Barbara County is going to require an additional expenditure of funds. Every governmental agency will be doubled—two Boards of Supervisors, two sheriffs and their staffs, two planning departments, and so on.

There is no question that a larger proportion of funds intake comes from the south, while the larger outlays go north. Therefore, one would think that taxes would be reduced in the south, and increased in the north, if the split occurs. You can bet that taxes will be increased in the north, but don't even hope that taxes will decrease in the south.

***There is a case to be made for both sides of the debate:
Should proposition H2006 be passed?***

***The Green Party County Council of Santa Barbara
County could not come to a consensus on this issue.***

Accordingly, both sides are presenting their view here.

Environmental issues, understandably are of concern. As the Board of Supervisors is now constituted, three supervisors fall in the "builders and pavers" category and therefore do not view environmental

issues with proper concern. Only very small areas of the south county are under the control the county. The one area that is an issue is the Gaviota coast. I can't believe that commercial or home building in this area would follow a split, because there are a sufficiently large number of people in both north and south county who would vehemently oppose this happening.

There is no question that environmental quality would deteriorate in the north county if the split succeeds. Oil drilling and processing would be encouraged, and regulations would be relaxed to permit operations damaging to the environment. Oil spills have occurred numerous times in the past. Building expansion of productive farm land would continue at a rapidly increasing rate.

In every aspect, the county split is a bad idea which would only benefit a few power hungry people in north county.



We meet the 2nd and 4th Saturday at the Santa Main Barbara Library

40 East Anapamu Street,
at 2 P. M.

Dear Friends of the Green Party,

We appreciate you as a Green Scene reader, and as a registered Green Party voter. We would like to appreciate you as a member of our local party. We have a sliding scale for local membership:couples may join for \$35, fully employed or endowed, \$25, low income \$15, students, \$10. Some people donate \$50 or more as sponsors.

Paying dues is not the only way you can help the Green Party grow. Below are many suggestions of activities that are necessary if we are going to reach critical mass as we work for our Ten Key Values. Please specify the activities that, with your help, can enable us to reach our goals.

The Green Party of Santa Barbara county provides a core group for fundraising to get the word out, keeping its members informed.

Please clip (or copy) and mail _____

I would like to (re)join as a 2006 Green Party Member and support the Ten Key Values of the Green Team. I would also like to help with

Mailings

Media

Tabling

Internet Research

Newsletter

Outreach

Fundraising

Website maintenance

Programs

Meetings

Goals and Strategies

Earth Day

Other

The undersigned agrees with the Green values of harmony with nature, proactive peace, social justice, and grassroots democracy and herewith pays dues for 2006. Please make checks out to **Green Party of Santa Barbara**.

Name _____

Phone _____

e-mail _____

date _____

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