



## Next Meeting

Manhattan Bread & Bagel  
1808 N. Sepulveda Boulevard  
Manhattan Beach  
Wednesday, February 27, 7:30 PM  
The Program:  
Protecting our Local Environment  
Maria Hanscom—Ballona Wetlands

## President's Message

Remembering Steve Zucker . . .  
Politics is essentially about people. I like to think of our Democratic Party and the Beach Cities Democratic Club as organizations with good people who are serious about making things work for everyone – observing – watching for things that could be different.

This month we all experienced the sudden loss of Steve Zucker. And so, in this month, we dedicate this column to an exceptional person - our good friend, Steve.

Steve's son, Joshua, sent this brief biography:

Joel Steven "Steve" Zucker, 71, of Manhattan Beach, died February 2. He was born in Charleston, SC. Steve graduated from MIT and earned his PhD in Electrical Engineering at Stanford University.

An early pioneer in computer science, Steve worked at Fairchild, RAND, and UNIX-based startup Interactive Systems Corporation, among others, before ending his career with Sun Microsystems. In his retirement, he volunteered as a tax preparer through AARP, supported his local Democratic Club, and became a regular member of his local yoga studio.

He is survived by many who brought him joy, most especially: his loving wife

Moira; his brother Lenny; his children Joshua and Danielle; and his grandchildren, Julian, Russell, and Celeste.

Some of our members have shared their thoughts about Steve.

I've come to know Steve through my years in the Democratic Club.... As we say in Yiddish...HE WAS A MENSCH!!!!!!!  
*Monroe Weinstock*

So sad to hear this news. I really liked Steve and cannot imagine Moira without him. :(  
*Kathleen Paralusz*

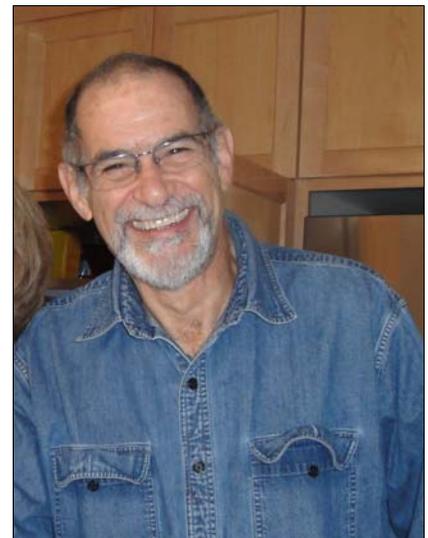
Steve, you truly were one of a kind. I will miss you so much.  
With love,  
*Edna*

Steve was one of those guys you could always depend on in his commitments to the BCDC. No fanfare, he helped to put out the BCDC newsletter with Moira month after month. He kept the membership list up-to-date. He just did everything well and I will miss him. We had some good times at his and Moira's home in Manhattan Beach for the old 53rd ADDC. It was pleasure knowing you Steve, God bless you!  
*Love, Teresa*

He was always there when we needed help. Never any hesitation on his part. He also was very supportive of Moira in getting out the newsletter. He was a good man.  
*Lori Geitmann*

I have only known Steve for a few years. We enjoyed the same Yoga classes. Steve quietly helped everyone before and after each class and made Yoga so much

more enjoyable. And before we all came in, he made sure that the air was set properly to everyone's enjoyment. He always put his mat down in the same place. On the Monday after he died, we put a blanket down in his place. At the end of class we remembered Steve as a very special member of the class. In the Club Steve's help was of immense support to all of us. He has kept very accurate and up-to-date records of our membership for years! And he made sure that our newsletter was distributed as soon as Moira finished it! Steve attended some meetings and walked his precinct on behalf of our local Democratic candidates. I appreciated his kindness and support. A really good guy - gone too soon! Monroe is right – a mensch!  
*Diane*



*Steve Zucker, our wonderful database manager and helper in so many ways. He will be deeply missed.*

## January Recap

### 1. Call to Order / Introductions

Club Vice President Mark Drabkin opened the meeting and welcomed members, guests and new members.

### 2. Prop 30 Impact and the State Budget – Controller John Chiang

John Chiang's title is "Controller," but a better description is "Chief Fiscal Officer." He sits on 82 Boards, and works on behalf of the people of California. John gave more information than I was able to capture, but here are some highlights: Proposition 30 provides an increase in the state income tax rates over a 7-year period of time. This tax increase will bring in \$6 Billion per year. It also includes a sales tax increase of .25 of 1% for 4 years: \$1 Billion per year.

Governor Brown just proposed a \$97.7B Budget; and the budget is creeping back up. John Chiang's job as Controller is to keep the state from going over its own fiscal cliff. In 2008-2009, CA went into recession. Between 2007 and 2010:

- 1.34M people lost their jobs
- 5.7% Unemployment in 2007 went up to 12.5% in 2010
- 600,000 jobs (less than half than those that were lost) have been recovered

John gave a very detailed overview of the 2007-2008 financial crisis in CA and in the U.S. (Bear Sterns, etc.). The Lehman bankruptcy was the largest in U.S. history. Former Governor Schwarzenegger borrowed \$22 Billion from emergency fire and earthquake funds. Our state budget consists of:



*California State Controller John Chiang, our January speaker*

- Education 52%
- Healthcare 29%
- Prisons 10%

John is focusing on reducing health care costs: CalPERS Health Insurance is one of the largest insurance companies in the country. They make 84% in profit. John has negotiated those rates down.

He said that America runs on borrowed money. Normally what we borrow is less than what we earn. Citizens in this environment are borrowing more. Student loan debt is crippling young graduates who are trying to find jobs with a decent [living] wage.

### 3. Minutes of November 28 Meeting

Minutes of the November 28<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved. \*Note: The Club did not meet in December due to the holidays.

### 4. Treasurer's Report

Edna provided the Treasurer's Report, including account totals, income and expenditures. Further details and balances will be available at the February meeting.

### 5. Resolutions

1. Gun Safety and Regulations: Ray Waters: Passed Unanimously
2. UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women: Lori Geittman: Passed Unanimously. Tony Hale will present to County.
3. Restoration of the Ballona Wetlands: Dency Nelson. Moved to the February meeting.

### 6. Report from Senator Ted Lieu's Office

Veronica Zendejas presented 5 bills that Ted Lieu has introduced in the CA State Senate; SB755 from 2012 (Safety Plans on School Campuses) was reintroduced. NOTE that February 22<sup>nd</sup> is the next deadline for submitting new bills; if members have bills that they want the Senator to introduce, please get the information to him before that deadline.

### 7. Report from LACDP

Lori Geittman gave an overview of the very long January County meeting. Lori and Diane Wallace will submit a request for a "Fair Use" policy to allow use of public facilities once a month for meetings.

### 8. 66<sup>th</sup> ADDC – Approval and Membership

The paperwork for establishing the 66<sup>th</sup> ADDC was submitted and approved, and the 2012 annual report was also submitted. A bank account was opened, and Al Shadbourne, the Treasurer and Rochelle Schneider, the Secretary, have access to the account.

*(Continued on page 3)*





Two candidates for Redondo Beach City Council: Jan Jeffries and Julian Stern

(Continued from page 2)

The purpose of the 66<sup>th</sup> ADDC is to:

- Motivate, educate and engage 66<sup>th</sup> AD Democrats to elect Democrats who are endorsed by the California Democratic Party;
- Support the recruitment of the best Democratic candidates for local and state offices and elect a Democrat to the California Assembly;
- Serve as a resource and support for area Democratic Clubs in the AD; and
- Support voter registration, voting, and precinct organization and work.

The measurable standards by which we evaluate our success are:

- Election of Democratic candidates to office and
- Increasing Democratic voter registration in the district.

We'd like to encourage everybody who wants to support Al Muratsuchi to join the ADDC. Membership is \$20 for an individual, and \$30 for a couple.

Our first meeting will be the Thursday after the CA State Convention, April 18<sup>th</sup>. We'll send out details as we determine a location, but please pencil in the date.

A 66<sup>th</sup> ADDC Dinner will be held in Sacramento on Saturday April 13<sup>th</sup>. Kathryn Campbell and Lisa Power will work together to find a suitable venue.

### 9. Candidates in local elections

Two Candidates for Redondo City

Council, Julian Stern and Jan Jeffries, attended and gave brief overviews of their backgrounds and priorities.

### 10. Announcements

In preparation for our review of the by-laws, the Executive Board has determined a need for a committee to develop an endorsement process for our club. If you would like to serve on this committee which might only have one or two meetings, please email Diane Wallace – [dmbarkwall@gmail.com](mailto:dmbarkwall@gmail.com).  
Lisa Power

### **Convention Volunteers Needed**

The annual convention of the California Democratic Party will be held this year, April 12-14, in Sacramento.

In order to facilitate a productive and thrilling convention for the 3,000 delegates, guests and press in attendance, we need to recruit an army of volunteers.

Volunteers are needed in several areas -- some assignments will require sitting while others may involve standing or acting as a runner. There will be opportunities for volunteers to attend General Session and hear out great speakers after their shifts!

Those interested in volunteering must complete the volunteer form by clicking the following link: <http://action.cadem.org/site/Calendar?id=100221&view=Detail>

All volunteers must attend a mandatory training for all convention volunteers on Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup>.

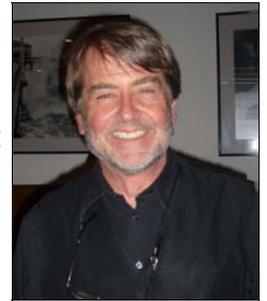
For more information, you can visit [cademconvention.org](http://cademconvention.org). As always, should you have any questions and/or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

*With infinite hope, peace and friendship,*

**SERGIO CARRILLO**  
Regional Director  
California Democratic Party  
Cell: (310) 748-6495  
[www.cadem.org](http://www.cadem.org)

## BEACH CITIES GREEN

By Dency Nelson



I don't know whether or not Steve Zucker felt as I do, that Climate Change is the greatest crisis that the Planet, thus the Nation, faces. That's why I do what I do, and why I write this column when my schedule allows.

But I do know that Steve was a kind and gentle man who vigorously promoted and advanced Democratic values, and only wanted what is best for all of humanity. So with that in mind, I dedicate this space, this month, to Steve Zucker. And I vow that I will spend the rest of my life to do whatever I can to make this a healthier and better Planet for all of us, and for those who will follow, and I will do that in honor of Steve. So, whenever I make a stand for a sustainable Planet, for a Planet that no longer promotes or builds power plants or energy systems that have the potential of altering the Planet's climate in ways that will shorten its life or create weather conditions that shorten the lives of its inhabitants, I will do it in honor of Steve Zucker and all of the good people of the Planet Earth.

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*Editor's Note: Indeed Steve did feel the same way about climate change, and spent a lot of time trying to convince the "deniers" that it was science, not opinion. So like Steve, always logical and passionate about the important things.*  
Moira Zucker

### **Local Muratsuchi Office**

We have heard that Al Muratsuchi will have his offices near Madrona Avenue and Torrance Boulevard, next to the Chamber of Commerce. Tentative Office opening is set for early evening March 7.

James McGreevy—310-320-1638  
Web Manager  
molraz@alumni.reed.edu  
Molra Zucke—310-546-7562  
Newsletter  
Edna Murphy—310-545-6292  
Treasurer  
Lisa Power—310-944-0265  
Secretary  
Mark Drabkin—213-787-5267  
Vice-President  
Diane Wallace—310-266-1241  
President  
P.O. Box 2192  
Redondo Beach, CA 90278

Beach Cities  
Democratic Club



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*Please Print*

*Beach Cities Democratic Club  
Membership Form*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

I (we) understand that only registered Democrats, or those intending to register, may join the club.

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Distribution of the club newsletter via e-mail saves money. Check this box *only* if you would like to receive it by US mail.

I volunteer to:

Telephone     Help with mailing     Hospitality     Write for newsletter

Register voters     Programs     Legislative     Membership     Other

Annual dues are \$25.00 per person or \$40.00 for two at the same address.

Please make checks payable to Beach Cities Democratic Club and mail to P.O. Box 2192, Redondo Beach, CA 90278

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