

# La Jolla Democratic Club

Jan., 2011



[www.lajollademocrats.org](http://www.lajollademocrats.org)

Derek Casady, President, 858-457-0246 . Nancy Casady, Treasurer  
Ann Kennedy, Webmaster . Carolyn Shadle, Newsletter Editor

## January Meeting - the 3rd Sunday

Sunday, January 15, 2012  
2:00-4:00 p.m.

Community Room, AMC Theaters La Jolla 12  
8657 Villa La Jolla Drive, 92037

### Religion and Politics: Fire and Water?

How did we get from the “no religious test” of the Founders to Eisenhower’s “underGod”? And then from that Cold War innovation to today’s pious rhetoric? And what does it mean?

The speaker will be Dr. Robert B. Tapp, Professor Emeritus of Humanities, Religious Studies, and South Asian Studies at University of Minnesota.

See details on page 2.

### 2012 DUES Are Due The cost is the same!!

\$20 per individual, \$30 per couple, \$50 for sustaining membership, \$100 for patron , and \$5 for students.

Membership is on a calendar basis, so pay NOW for 2012. See the form on the last page.

Receive the monthly newsletter, help cover meetings costs and help get Democrats elected!

Please fill out the membership form on page 7 and submit it with your check.

### Grassroots Organizing (GO Teams)

Hundreds of volunteers serving as part of the Grassroots Organizing Team connect with voters for better voter turnout.

We are currently adding new precinct leaders and data support volunteers for the 2012 elections. The SD County Democrats provide training, support, and all the materials you'll need to talk to fellow Democrats or to provide data support.

Training is available on the first Saturday of every month, 10-11:30 a.m. For information or to register contact 858-277-3367 or contact [goteam@sddemocrats.org](mailto:goteam@sddemocrats.org).

## **Topic: Religion and Politics: Fire and Water?**



**Abstract:** How did we get from the “no religious test” of the Founders to Eisenhower’s “underGod”? And then from that Cold War innovation to today’s pious rhetoric? More importantly, what does it mean? The various religions of today’s citizens differ on women’s rights, on family planning, on consensual sexuality, on environmental sustainability, on cloning, on stem-cell research, on capital punishment and on many other ethical issues that must have rational and realistic discussion in public education -- and decision in the public arena. Can we get both political parties to

recognize this?

**Speaker:** Robert B. Tapp, Ph.D.

- Professor Emeritus of Humanities, Religious Studies, and South Asian Studies at University of Minnesota
- Dean & Faculty Chair Emeritus of The Humanist Institute, New York City
- Co-organizer of the SDSU sponsored 2011 conference *Toward a Reasonable World: The Heritage of Western Humanism, Skepticism, and Freethought*
- Horace Mann Humanist Educator Award, American Humanist Assn (2005)
- Founding and Continuing Faculty, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, University of Minnesota

See <http://web.me.com/rtapp4/> for full curriculum vitae, publications, and presentations.

"You know the difference between God and Newt Gingrich? God doesn't think he's Newt Gingrich." —Jay Leno



Are corporations really citizens??

**Congratulations to Nancy Casady, LJDC Treasurer and President of the Alliance for Nuclear Responsibility Board for her efforts and those of many. As a result, Rochelle Becker, the Alliance's Executive Director, reports:**

## **JUDGE REJECTS PG&E'S BID FOR NUKE RELICENSING DOLLARS**

Nearly two years after the Alliance for Nuclear Responsibility (A4NR) filed to oppose PG&E's premature request for license renewal funding for its Diablo Canyon nuclear plant, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has ruled, granting the Alliance's motion to dismiss the application. The case hinged on the need for PG&E to complete the advanced seismic studies recommended by the California Energy Commission (CEC) under AB 1632 (Blakeslee-SLO).

"PG&E has known all along what our state expected them to do, and has flaunted those orders, wasting time and money in the process," adds Rochelle Becker, A4NR's executive director, who is pleased with the ruling. "We'd already known by now whether the seismic footing at the Diablo Canyon site was secure. Instead, it took the unavoidable public scrutiny that arose after PG&E's San Bruno explosion and the Fukushima meltdowns to shed light on their inaction."

Throughout the proceedings, A4NR built its case on the failed history of the CPUC in exerting proper regulatory oversight in seismic matters at California's nuclear reactors. Notes A4NR outreach coordinator David Weisman, "When the CPUC granted PG&E their original funding permit in 1967, nobody checked or verified the seismic assertions made by PG&E or the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), and as a result, ratepayers later forked over billions of dollars for costly seismic retrofit blunders at the reactors. We can't afford that again."

At one point in the multi-year proceeding, The Utility Reform Network (TURN) and the Division of Ratepayer Advocates (DRA) at the CPUC proposed a settlement agreement, which would have reduced slightly the dollar amount requested by PG&E. A4NR protested the settlement. "What good is it to save the ratepayers \$5 million on the relicensing cost if it removes the need for PG&E to complete the seismic studies? In the wake of Fukushima and our nearly bankrupt state budget, relying on nuclear energy for another 20 years without a full knowledge of the seismic risks is a sure path to economic catastrophe."

PG&E had countered with a request to simply "suspend" the proceeding indefinitely, but the administrative law judge disagreed, stating, "With a final seismic studies report expected in December 2015, there is no reason to keep this proceeding open. PG&E would have us suspend this proceeding until it completes its advanced seismic studies, but offers no substantial reason to suspend rather than close this proceeding." A4NR's Becker concludes, "This step by Judge Barnett shows consumers that the CPUC is making strides to protect ratepayers in post-San Bruno, post-Fukushima world. We can now focus on making sure the seismic studies are well designed and independently peer reviewed at every step of the way."

-- In peace, Rochelle Becker

## **Support of Occupy / 99% Movement Resolution 11-11**

WHEREAS, the overwhelming influence of corporate interests on public policy and institutions - exacerbated by greed, mismanagement, and corruption - has caused catastrophic levels of income inequality, financial distress, environmental harm, climate crisis denial, and other injustices felt by the overwhelming majority of Americans, the 99%, and

WHEREAS, the wealthiest 1% of Americans, and their corporate interests have acquired a concentration of wealth and power that is unparalleled in the history of our nation, and this concentration of wealth and power in the hands of the few has resulted in tremendous economic and social instability that has most recently manifested itself in the "Occupy Wall Street" and "Occupy City" protests, and

WHEREAS, the Occupy protestors, particularly those who have advocated their cause using non-violent means, have served to focus attention on the inadequate regulation of the financial industry, the damage inflicted by the absurd and misguided obsession with deficit reduction and the pressing need to reverse three decades of accelerated income inequality, all goals that we fight for in the electoral arena; and

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the California Democratic Party stands with those protestors peacefully exercising their First Amendment rights to advance an agenda that results in adequate regulation of the financial industry and Wall Street speculators, reverses the catastrophic slide of income inequality and halts the implementation of austerity-driven economic policies that negatively impact the 99% and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the California Democratic Party supports the protestors' constitutional rights to free speech and peaceable assembly, and calls on public agencies to protect their rights fully and encourages California Democrats to support local occupy protests throughout the state as well as the movement encouraging individuals to transfer their funds to community banks and local credit unions.

Resolution Committee Substitute - Additional sponsors: State Party Controller Hilary Crosby, San Diego County Party, Jess Durfee, Michael Thaller, Sonoma County Democratic Party, Stephen Gale, Los Angeles County Party, Kess Kessler, Damian Carroll, DPSFV, Dr Michael McQuary

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**Adopted by the California Democratic Party**  
at its November 2011 Executive Board Meeting  
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Burlingame  
November 20, 2011



The REAL work of the OCCUPY movement is taking place all around the city and in small groups that meet every day at Civic Center Plaza at 5:30 and the General Assembly (which is anyone who shows up) each evening at 7 p.m.

Get updates on Occupy San Diego at [www.occupysd.org](http://www.occupysd.org)

For daily emails send a request to [occupysd-request@citizensoversight.org](mailto:occupysd-request@citizensoversight.org)



#### San Diego Women Support Occupy

You can sign up by clicking the following URL:

[http://groups.google.com/group/occupy-women-discussion/sub?\\_wS9tlBQAAAFArme8plI9cA1WbRBXXif39IRT-VKiWgPXly6Ya4H5EQ&hl=en](http://groups.google.com/group/occupy-women-discussion/sub?_wS9tlBQAAAFArme8plI9cA1WbRBXXif39IRT-VKiWgPXly6Ya4H5EQ&hl=en)

For more information, contact Stephanie Jennings  
[stjennings@ucsd.edu](mailto:stjennings@ucsd.edu)

#### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Transfer (all or part of your money) from one of the Big Banks to your local credit union.
- Consider the 10 ideas listed on the Contract for the American Dream. For the list and details about each go to [www.rebuildthedream.com](http://www.rebuildthedream.com)
- Support the initiative to **Tax Wall Street Speculation**. See the article on Club website at [www.lajollademocrats.org](http://www.lajollademocrats.org) (under “Tax Financial Transactions”). And see or contact [conor@pdamerica.org](mailto:conor@pdamerica.org) for further details. <http://c3190322.r22.cf0.rackcdn.com/FTT-flier-2up-rev2.pdf>
- Support the 99% Act to Rebuild the American Dream. (see the Infographic at <http://www.rebuildthedream.com/infographics/99act/>).



Derek Casady at Occupy SD, Civic Center Plaza

## Congressional Progressive Caucus launched the 99% Act on December 12, 2011

Click on MoveOn.org to see a video of the the Congressional Progressive Caucus's introduction of the RESTORE the American Dream for the 99% Act. To support the bill go to <http://rebuildthedream.com/blog/2011/12/14/congressional-progressprogressive-caucus-launches-99-act/>



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The 99% Act is the best bill seen in Washington in a long time. But it can be hard to remember the details or explain them to friends and family. An infographic spells out exactly how the 99% Act will help turn our economy around.

See it by clicking here:

<http://bit.ly/thXSPn>

"Many voters feel that Mitt Romney is out of touch with real Americans after he tried to make a bet with Rick Perry for \$10,000. When asked to comment, Mitt said, 'I'm sorry, but that's all I had in my pocket at the time.'" —Conan

"I'm not sure Rick Perry got it. Like when they asked him what he'd do about the West Bank, he said he'd bring back free checking." —Jay Leno

All 2012 club dues are due NOW. Please return the membership form. Thanks to all who have paid.

# ★La Jolla Democratic Club★

## Membership Form

Please print this form, fill in, and send with dues to:

**La Jolla Democratic Club  
P.O. Box 288 La Jolla, CA 92038**

LJDC Membership Annual Dues: **All yearly dues are due in January.**

\$20 Individual  \$30 Couple  \$50 Sustaining  \$100 Patron  
 \$5 Student

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Receive newsletter via email: yes / no

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Volunteer:**  Phone  Precinct Work  Host Meetings  Raise Funds  Serve on Board

Make your check payable to LJDC or La Jolla Democratic Club  
*Dues are not tax deductible.*

La Jolla Democratic Club  
PO Box 288  
La Jolla, CA 92038