

# La Jolla Democratic Club *June, 2013*

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



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

## June Meeting will be the 3rd Sunday

Sunday, June 23, 2013

**NOTE NEW DATE!!!!**

(so we don't interfere with Father's Day)  
Community Room, AMC Theaters La Jolla 12  
8657 Villa La Jolla Drive, 92037



**Bill Lerach, America's greatest anti-corporate lawyer, will speak:**

**How Tort Reform Threatens the Financial Future of America**

Also, John Hartley, former San Diego councilman and leader of the drive to put a clean elections initiative on the 2016 ballot, will show "Road to Clean Elections" video (narrated by Bill Moyers). Read more on page 2.

Also, you'll hear an update on the Casady's law case vs. AIG et al.



IMPORTANT NOTE: We're already at 400 ppm of Co2. The *Nation Magazine* says, "It's Not Warming, It's Dying." Nancy Casady recommends we all watch the "Do the Math" video by Bill McKibben (350.org). It's compelling! It's a must! Take the time to check it out at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UWVzXWzXWUw>

*Action is possible on any item contained in this newsletter.*

## **Speaker: Bill Lerach**

William Shannon Lerach (Bill Lerach), attorney and resident of La Jolla, specialized in class-action lawsuits. Over his 30-year career he obtained \$45 billion in fraud judgements and settlements for millions of shareholders, small and large. The \$7.12 billion he obtained in the case against Enron is currently the largest sum ever recovered in a group of securities class-action lawsuits in U.S. history.

In 2007 he pleaded guilty to obstruction of justice charges and served 18 months in jail for paying plaintiffs in his law suits. He is no longer allowed to practice law but is in demand as a consultant to corporations and has been asked to teach at the University of California.

His wife, Michelle, also an attorney, prosecuted a class-action lawsuit on behalf of female garment workers in the Mariana Islands who were being abused as "indentured servants" by U.S. companies. She got them a \$20 million settlement. She is active in the Girl's Think Tank in San Diego, a progressive women's group.



## **The Clean Elections Initiative**

The San Diego Clean Elections Initiative is being sponsored by Neighborhoods for Clean Elections, a grass roots coalition that is aiming to place the Clean Elections Initiative on the 2016 ballot.

The Initiative is modeled after Clean Elections laws already on the books in several cities and states. Maine and Arizona have Clean Elections for state candidates. Portland and Albuquerque have implanted Clean Elections for local candidates.

In San Diego, a "Clean" candidate would be required to collect \$5 from 500 voters in his or her district to qualify for funding: and those proceeds would go into the city's Clean Elections fund.

Candidates would be funded, based upon a formula linked to population, which would currently provide approximately \$90,000 in a primary and \$135,000 in a general election.

Clean Elections is a voluntary system - candidates who do not wish to opt-in may still choose to run under existing rules, collecting funds from private contributors and spending their own funds.

"With a Clean Elections system, candidates can spend their time knocking on doors and meeting the voters they wish to serve," Holberg said. "They won't spend all of their time catering to the donor class. We will get candidates who owe their election to their constituency, the voters, instead of their contributors. What a welcome relief."

For more information, contact John Harley at 619-299-8870 or [hartley2k@aol.com](mailto:hartley2k@aol.com)

(Excerpt from La Jolla Village News, September 30, 2010)

**2013 Officers for the La Jolla Democratic Club:**

President - Derek Casady  
Secretary - Michelle Marzullo  
Treasurer - Nancy Casady  
VP of Communication - Carolyn Shadle  
VP-at-large - Jim Evans  
VP-at-large - Suzie Ditmars  
VP-at-large - Michael Thomason  
VP Democratic Professional Club Focus Group - Roger Quesada  
Webmaster - Ann Kennedy



**The News, In Verse...**

***The Four Heros***

*Four little girls had to give up their lives.*

*Four mothers wished they'd never been wives.*

*What price we pay to support the Klan?*

*Can't we do better? I think we can.*

JLMeyer



**Join us for the 2013 Summertime Farmer's Market Voter Drive!** The La Jolla Democratic Club invites volunteers to help in one-hour shifts to register voters and get the word out about our club. We will host a site on three Sundays from 9am to 1pm, on **June 9, July 21, and August 18**. at the ***Open Aire Market*** at the La Jolla Elementary School. It is located on the corner of Girard and Genter in the Village of La Jolla. Volunteer for at least one hour (or more if you can). Please contact Michelle to sign up at 858-750-3747 or [michelle.marzullo@gmail.com](mailto:michelle.marzullo@gmail.com).

**San Diego Community Radio,**  
KNSJ, 89.1 FM is scheduled to go on air June 1, thanks to the efforts of *Activist San Diego*. Check out details at [KNSJ.org](http://KNSJ.org) and tune in. The antenna is in Descanso and may be able to reach one million listeners, mainly on car radios. This will replace the former KLSD station which was a voice for Progressives for a few years here in San Diego.



**“Committee for the City”**  
**Saturday, June 1, 9:30 a.m.**  
**“Dutch treat” brunch**  
Coco's Restaurant  
4280 Nobel Drive (between Costa Verde Blvd & Genesee Ave)  
San Diego, 92122  
Members of the LJDC as well as others invited from around the County to support democratic principles in San Diego government.

## Looking Back....



Twenty members of the La Jolla Democratic Club celebrated with fellow Democrats at the Roosevelt Dinner on April 14. Among those honored was Christine Forester, who has devoted herself to supporting Barack Obama and his agenda. When asked why she decided to get involved, she said, "I had to earn my right to bitch."



Above: Phyllis McGrath, Nancy Witt, Joan Dahlin  
Center top: Michael Thomason & Suzie Ditmars,  
Center lower: Gerry Senda, his date and Artie Zaragoza



Above top: Diana Goedhuys & Carolyn Shadle  
Above lower: Faye Girsh, Jo Brooks & Lawrence Zynda

**The Center for Policy Initiatives** (voice of the working people) sent a representative to the last general LJDC meeting to announce the San Diego budget hearing. Get updates on their website, <http://onlinecpi.org>.

## Looking forward....

**June-August** - LJDC staffing at the La Jolla Farmer's Market (See page 3)

**June 1** - "Committee for the City" organizational brunch (See page 3)

**June meeting** -NEW DATE - the 4th Sunday, June 23 ( avoid conflict with Father's Day)

**July** - dark (That means there is NO MEETING.) Even committed Democrats take a vacation!

**August 18** - Picnic and concert at the Cove (Watch for details)

**October 5** (all day) County Democratic Convention, Pala Casino Resort Hotel ([www.PalaCasino.org](http://www.PalaCasino.org)) (Watch for details)

## Food and GMO - Genetically Modified Organism - Update



MoveOn writes the following:

It's one of the most outrageous special interest provisions in years. Written anonymously, the "Monsanto Protection Act" allows corporations to sell genetically modified seeds even when federal courts have blocked them from doing so.

Think about that: We have a process for making sure that genetically modified seeds aren't sold, planted, and grown until we know that they don't pose a threat to other crops or to humans. The "Monsanto Protection Act" overrides that process. It lets Monsanto and others ignore a court order designed to protect other farmers, the environment, and

human health.

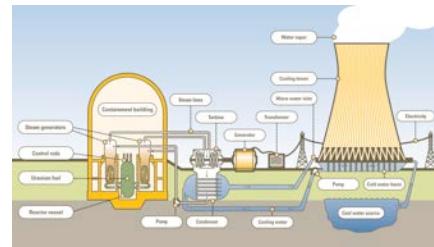
That's just wrong. And even worse, the "Monsanto Protection Act" was passed in secret, stuffed quietly into the budget bill that averted a government shutdown.

The amendment proposed by Jeff Merkely to opposed the Monsanto Protection Act did not pass the Senate.

Both California Senators did support giving states the right to label genetically engineered food. We are now looking forward to action on the new labeling bill proposed by California's Senator Box. Please let her know of your support at 619-239-3884.

## San Onofre Plant Update

A "damning" letter has been released showing that the utility was warned in 2004 about problems with the generator replacement in the Oceanside plant. That should have triggered a thorough Nuclear Regulatory Commission license review. Currently the Justice Department is being asked to investigate, and California's Public Utility Commission is deciding who should pay for replacement energy, repairs--if any, as well as the original cost of the faulty generators. Even an error-free nuclear power plant--which San Onofre is definitely NOT--should never be placed on a seismically-active coast within 50 miles of eight million people. Call the PUC and tell them so at 1-866-849-8390 (toll free).



## Beiser Fundraiser, hosted by the Casady's was a big success.



**Dues for 2013 are now due.**

Membership is on a calendar basis and is not prorated.

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

Today's Date \_\_\_\_\_

# ★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:

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

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

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

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

Receive newsletter via email: yes / no

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

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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.*

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La Jolla Democratic Club  
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La Jolla, CA 92038