



Election Insight 2009

The Newsletter of the Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter
San Benito, Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties

Loma Prieta Chapter Recommends Candidates in 14 Races for the Nov. 3, 2009 General Election

By Ann Schneider, Political committee co-chair.

How do we know if a candidate is truly green? If they currently hold office, we can track actual voting records. Otherwise it can be difficult to know. What Political Committee volunteers do each calendar year is ask our Chapter Leadership to tell us which are the most important environmental issues happening throughout our three county region. For the 2009 General Election, we were looking for questions for City Council and for Water and Sanitary Districts.

Volunteers who serve on the Conservation Committee sub-committees like Global Warming, Sustainable Land use, Wetlands and Zero Waste provided questions for each race. We also ask members of the Chapter Executive Committee as well as our Political Committee Forum for issues they think are important.

These questions are then compiled into the 2009 City Council and District Questionnaire. If you would like to see the questions asked of

each candidate please visit our website at <http://lomaprieta.sierraclub.org/politics/training.html>

This year's questions included asking the candidate for their past record on environmental actions, what they think are the major environmental issues facing their community and what will be the main issues they want to work on should they be elected. We also ask them where they get environmental information from as this can help the chapter figure out what we have to do to educate elected officials on critical environmental issues.

Then we go into "issue specific" questions that include questions that ask what the candidate will do to: slow climate change, reduce greenhouse gases, implement green building, purchase sustainably harvested lumber, would they include climate change criteria into General Plan updates, reduce the use of toxic pesticides and fertilizers (integrated pest management programs), achieving zero waste to landfills by 2020 and im-

plementing bans on single use products like bags (plastic and or paper) and polystyrene take out food packaging, green purchasing. We also asked their positions on housing and growth issues, on Grand Boulevard actions, high-speed rail and on water supply and conservation issues.

Of special interest this year to our Parks volunteers was what would the candidate as a city council member do if the State of California closed many of our State Parks. In other words what would they do to ensure that all people have access to nature and the opportunity to exercise and relax in nature?

We asked if they supported voluntary fundraising and campaign spending limits. This gives us a heads up on where they may lead their city in supporting or opposing the Fair Election Ballot Proposition in 2010. If this issue is important to you then let us know as a number of our members are working to pass this proposition.

Each endorsement team also creates city or district specific questions for the written questionnaire and for the oral interviews. And finally, we ask each candidate to provide a copy of their Ballot Statement to see if they care enough about the environment to include it in the one message that gets to all the voters.

The Sierra Club process is not an easy one for any candidate. We ask difficult questions and we are looking for candidates who will take a strong leadership role in passing local environmental action even in difficult budget years. We hope that you will use our recommendations to help you choose whom to vote for in your city council and district elections. And if your city is not holding an election this time around, pass this newsletter off to a friend or family member who lives in a community that is having an election.

For more information, visit: <http://lomaprieta.sierraclub.org/politics/endorsements.html>

Thank You to our Political Endorsement Volunteers!

By John Cordes, Political Committee Co-Chair

The Chapter's Political Committee thanks its many volunteers for their dedicated work in the fall 2009 general elections endorsements. We appreciate your efforts to identify and promote environmental candidates at local, city and regional levels of government. Our volunteers' efforts include researching endorsement issues, generating interview questions, reading the candidates' returned questionnaires, interviewing the candidates, deliberating on endorsement recommendations and for some composing the write-up presented to the Executive Committee for approval. All together, our volunteers covered over 15 races!

Our special thanks to our invaluable team leaders for all the work they contributed, to our veteran team members, to our new team members, to the interview hosts and to those who participated in more than one race. We had a great turnout of 23 new volunteers and 20 returning veterans this fall.

Our returning veteran team leaders were Ann Schneider, Deepika Gajaria, Diane Allen, Diane Gleason, Gladwyn d'Souza, John Cordes, Ken King, Melissa Hippard, Seamus Murphy and Stephanie Reyes. Special thanks to Mike Ferreira and Bill Collins for being our newest team leaders.

Our returning veteran team members are Ann Schneider, Ann Ng, Bonnie McClure, Cynthia Denry, Ginny Laibl, Ken King, Lisane Drouin, Mary McVey-Gill, Mike McCord, Paul Wendt, Seamus Murphy, Terry Trumbull, and Trixie Johnson.

Our new endorsement team members were Bob & Carolyn Crow, Brian Foley, Brian Schmidt, Bruce Hodges, Bruce Paton, Cathrine Cox, Carol Weiss, Cecily Harrison, Dana Kimsey, Flavia Franco, George Halet, John Lynch, Laura Peterhans, Marianna Raymond, Peter Fairchild, Robert Fairbank, Ruth Stoner, Steve Freer, and Sue Chow. Special thanks to new activist Sue Chow who recruited high school students to serve on our interview teams for the first time. We hope to engage more young people each year. The student interviewers were Jessica Yu, Joseph Pak, and Dillon Rak. Our generous hosts were Ann Ng, Carol Weiss, Gladwyn d'Souza, John Lynch, Judy Kaufman, Ken King, and Stephanie Reyes. My apologies if we missed any names.

Special thanks to Ann Schneider for being the newsletter coordinator. In addition to all her work on the interviews, Ann took on the huge job of putting together this newsletter. Special thanks to Rob Rennie for being the endorsement team coordinator again this year.

The Political Committee will have a celebration and thank you party on Tuesday Nov 3rd, 2009. On that occasion our new team leaders will be recognized with a beautiful and practical Sierra Club steel water bottle. Congratulations to all our volunteers for their incredible work!

If you want to help elect green candidates, join us by contacting John Cordes at political@lomaprieta.sierraclub.org or Ann Schneider at Ann.Schneider@lomaprieta.sierraclub.org

CLIP AND SAVE GUIDE

Environmental Candidates for the 2009 General Election

Recommendations are in alphabetical order
Incumbents (I)

County of San Mateo City Council Races

Belmont

Coralin Feierbach
Warren Lieberman
Dave Warden

Brisbane

Michael Barnes (I)
Clarke Conway (I)
Cliff Lentz

Burlingame

Cathy Baylock (I)
Michael Brownrigg
Ann Keighran (I)

Foster City

Linda Haskin Gologorsky

Half Moon Bay

Dan Handler
Sofia Freer
Deborah Ruddock

Millbrae

Nadia Holober

Redwood City

- No Recommendations

San Mateo

Brandt Gotte (I)
Fred Hannson (I)
David Lim

South San Francisco

- See the website <http://lomaprieta.sierraclub.org/politics/endorsements.html>

Coastside Community Water District

James Johnson
Jerry Donovan

Granada Sanitary District

Gael Erickson (I)
Ric Lohman (I)
Leonard Woren (I)

County of Santa Clara

City Council Races

Cupertino

Mahesh Nihalani
Marty Miller
Daniel Nguyen

Palo Alto

Larry Klein (I)
Karen Holman
Gail Price
Brian Steen

Sunnyvale

Christopher Moylan (I)
James Griffith

Hey, My Town Is Holding an Election, Why Isn't it Listed Here?

By Ann Schneider

The Political Committee would love to interview candidates in every race held in San Benito, Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties but we have two main reasons why we can't or won't. The main reason we can't do every race is a shortage of volunteers. Endorsement decisions are made entirely by volunteers and we always need more Team Leaders than we have and more Team Members to fill out our endorsement teams.

The second reason we don't conduct our endorsement process is when an election is non-competitive. What does "non-competitive" mean? It means when number of candidates

who qualified to run in that election are equal to or less than the number of seats in that election. Since we never have as many volunteers as we can use, we generally skip non-competitive races as the candidates are either going to win their election or will be appointed by the existing Council whether we like the candidate or not. If we had more volunteers, we would like to have a team meet with candidates to talk to them about what is important to our members. This is always a future goal for us.

So think about helping us next year. We will be starting early endorsements for incumbents with excellent environmental voting records in December. Contact us and we can help you get involved.

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To join the Sierra Club

Contact the Chapter office. Annual dues are \$39, of which \$1 is for the *Loma Prieta*. Membership is not tax-deductible.

Subscription/mail problems

Please report to the Chapter office.

Submissions

The *Loma Prieta* encourages members to submit news, stories, reviews and letters. See the submission guidelines at lomapieta.sierraclub.org/newsletter.html. You can contact the editorial board by e-mail at newsletter@lomapieta.sierraclub.org or by mail or fax to the Chapter office.

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Listings must be submitted to the Chapter one month prior to publication.

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Contact Ad Manager (see below). Deadline for ad space is due two months prior to publication.

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DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS

Deadline Issue
November 23 for Jan/Feb 2010

SANTA MATEO COUNTY

Belmont

Feierbach, Leiberman and Warden for Belmont City Council

By Gladwyn d'Souza

Coralin Feierbach: Has a proven environmental record over 30 years in Belmont primarily in open space protection. She actively supported Measure F and is currently trying to change zoning to protect parks. She has taken the lead to form a Green Committee and work its recommendations into the General Plan. Coralin continues to be a strong vote for recycling and conservation on the council. Our concern is in the area of gradualism toward Transit Oriented Development and an aesthetic standard for compact development that borders on exclusion. Coralin's ideas for slow streets, neighborhood electric vehicles, elimination of plastic bags, jobs based housing, etc are all positive and frequently new and refreshing.



Coralin Feierbach

Warren Lieberman:

He is an extra-ordinarily strong voice for walkable communities and transit-oriented development. He favors a process approach to signing the Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement (MCPA) involving the whole council. Unfortunately the process approach is tempered with financial constraints for enacting low energy systems like grey water, zero waste, and complete streets. Normal governance allows toxic services to have an unfair competitive advantage over low energy systems by externalizing the pollution cost. However Warren's ideas for a compact walkable city with plazas and walkways is clearly a major low energy element necessary for how cities must evolve and for this reason we endorse him.



Warren Lieberman

Dave Warden has a

proven environmental record in enabling hybrids, recycling and most important beginning a discussion of tier rate pricing for city services. He supported open space with Measure F. He was one of the first to broach tiered rates to promote more conservation in garbage collection. Our concern is in the area of gradualism toward Transit Oriented Development and an aesthetic standard for compact development that borders on exclusion. Dave's enthusiasm for Green Building standards, green incentives, water saving systems and support for the MCPA are all great and we look forward to working with him.



Dave Warden

Brisbane

Lentz, Barnes and Clarke are best for Brisbane

By Seamus Murphy

Cliff Lentz served as a member of the Brisbane Open Space and Ecology Committee and as a Planning Commissioner, he helped craft the city's green building ordinance. As a City Council member, he will work to ensure that the Bay lands development is planned in a way that will help reduce



Cliff Lentz

greenhouse gas emissions and provide expanded access to open space that is connected to San Bruno Mountain. For more information about Mr. Lentz, please visit www.cliff4council.com.

Michael Barnes has served for eight years on the City Council. Through his work on the Council and his service on a variety of local and regional committees, he's helped provide Brisbane with a green building ordinance, initiate the Brisbane's Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee, establish a senior shuttle after local bus service was cancelled and encourage the purchase and preservation of 50 acres of open space. In addition, he is a leader in the effort to replace a 500 acre brownfield site with new, accessible open space and mixed-use, transit oriented development.

Through his service on the City Council, incumbent **Clarke Conway** has helped establish permanent funding for open space preservation and initiated the formation of Brisbane's Open Space and Ecology Committee. He has worked to ensure that developments proposed in Brisbane help reduce greenhouse gas emissions through the inclusion of alternative sources of energy like solar and wind.

Burlingame

Burlingame Endorsements

By Stephanie Reyes

The Sierra Club recommends three candidates for the three City Council seats in Burlingame: Ann Keighran, Cathy Baylock, and Michael Brownrigg.

Mayor Ann Keighran

brings a high level of knowledge about environmental issues to the Council. She has creative ideas for taking best practices in sustainability from other cities and applying them in Burlingame – for example, Berkeley's solar power incentive program and Millbrae's ban on Styrofoam food containers. She is committed to partnering with another local city to hire a part-time Sustainability Coordinator to manage environmental initiatives in Burlingame



Ann Keighran

Endorsed by the Club in previous election cycles, incumbent **Cathy Baylock** has shown consistent support for sustainable land-use planning, with a focus on bringing the Downtown Specific Plan to fruition. She is a passionate advocate for bicycle paths, bringing in more than \$300,000 in grants for bikeways in Burlingame. Most recently, she played an active role on the city's Green Ribbon Task Force.



Cathy Baylock

Planning Commissioner **Michael Brownrigg** is making sustainability a highlight of his campaign. He served as a founding member of Burlingame's Green Ribbon Task Force and considers promoting green building his highest priority as a Council member. On the Planning Commission, he championed mixed-use, higher density development for the city's North End plan. If elected, he will bring a new level of environmental leadership to the Council.



Michael Brownrigg

Foster City

Linda Haskin Gologorsky for Council

By Diane Gleason

In Foster City, there are 2 city council seats open for the fall election. The interview team voted to endorse **Linda Haskin Gologorsky**. Ms. Gologorsky has been very involved in Foster City at

the grassroots level. Over the last 30 years, Linda she has organized different groups that have improved sustainability in Foster City. One was the protection of parks and open space; wildlife; land, air and water quality. The other group focused on improvement of construction and building practices, facilities, and quality of life.



Linda Haskin Gologorsky

Ms. Gologorsky believes that higher densities are not an issue if planned well. When the city considers high-density projects it needs to consider the job and housing balance, transportation, services, shopping and recreation. Projects need to be aesthetically pleasing, include landscapes, and transportation alternatives must be supported. Too often projects are approved in isolation without looking at it from a city-wide perspective.

San Mateo County is planning to address the use of toxic pesticides and Linda is looking forward to their action plan to reduce their use. Linda Haskin Gologorsky would bring a fresh perspective and an environmental voice to the Foster City city council.

Half Moon Bay

Vote for Ruddock, Freer and Handler

By Ken King

Deborah Ruddock,

a former three-term Half Moon Bay Council member, works for the Coastal Conservancy and fully supports Sierra Club positions regarding climate change, green building, transportation and open space. Ms. Ruddock sponsored Half Moon Bay's Measure D (1% annual growth limit) and Measure G (the bluff-top protection ordinance), and now pledge to lead the city toward a sustainable future shows that Debbie is an effective environmental advocate.



Deborah Ruddock

Sofia Freer,

a retired high school chemistry teacher, is a Cool Cities team leader and Half Moon Bay Parks and Recreation Commissioner who passionately advocates for sustainable practices and preservation of open space within Half Moon Bay. Freer's civic involvement and advocacy for parks and sustainable programs should make voters confident that she shares their concern for preserving their beautiful city



Sofia Freer

Dan Handler is a Fair Trade organic coffee

wholesaler who practices sustainability in his business (he even drives a 40-year old vehicle run on used vegetable oil). Handler believes that we should all live within our means. Given Half Moon Bay's enormous debt, Dan is the kind of practical leader the city needs if it is to move ahead. Please vote for all three of these candidates.



Dan Handler

Millbrae

Nadia Holober for Millbrae City Council

By John Cordes

The Sierra Club is proud to endorse **Nadia Holober** for one of the two open seats on the

Millbrae city council. Nadia has a proven track record of working to protect the environment. Nadia served on the city council from 1999-2007 before being termed out. Nadia was on the City Council in 2006 when the city began piloting the 1st "waste grease" power plant in California. Nadia wants to continue to expand and improve the grease collection system as part of reducing waste and promoting green energy sources. In another example of environmental leadership, Millbrae banned polystyrene takeout containers during Nadia's prior term, which only a few cities have done. Millbrae has eliminated disposable plastic water bottles from use in city offices as well. Millbrae is already at 67% waste diversion rates and aiming higher. While Nadia was mayor, Millbrae signed up to be a Cool City.



Nadia Holober

Going forward, Nadia wants to help Millbrae implement its Climate Action Plan and supports increasing density and development near the new Caltrain/Bart intermodal center. Please vote for Nadia Holober.

Redwood City

No Strong Environmental Leaders running for Redwood City Council

By Melissa Hippard

No endorsements were made in the Redwood City city council race this year. A team of five people interviewed the five candidates running for council, including one incumbent. While all five clearly have a strong commitment to serving their community none of the candidates demonstrated strong and consistent leadership on environmental issues. An endorsement from the Sierra Club is intended to send a clear message that the candidate has a record of environmental action and an agenda for positive environmental change. We appreciated each candidate's thoughtful responses and unanimous support for transit-oriented development and the need to take climate change seriously. We were also pleased with strong commitments to ensure protection of existing parks and some creative ideas on how to expand parklands within the city. With three seats open, at least two new people will have an opportunity to build their legacy. We look forward to engaging with the successful candidates and working together to create a sustainable and vibrant Redwood City.

San Mateo

Gotte, Hansson and Lim for San Mateo

By John Cordes

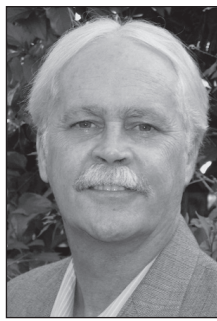
The Sierra club is proud to endorse current Mayor and Sierra club member Brandt Gotte, council member and Sierra Club member Fred Hansson, and David Lim for San Mateo City Council. There are 3 open seats and these are the 3 candidates we want to win.

San Mateo has been making great strides in addressing global warming with Brandt and Fred on the City Council. San Mateo already implemented baseline measurements for CO2 both as a community and for City facilities and operations. For City Operations, the near term aggressive goal is to reduce CO2 emissions below the 2006 base year by the end of 2009. The San Mateo city council has accepted the Sustainable Initiative Plan and is working aggressively on implementation, education and surveying potential paths to improvement for residential and commercial structures, and transportation to achieve it.

Brandt Gotte was the Chair and initiator (with assistance from the San Mateo Climate Action Committee) of the San Mateo Sustainability Committee. He was an active participant in the recent and ongoing negotiations and plans to transition to a new recycling and solid waste arrangement that will encourage

greater recycling, including simultaneous roll-out of commercial and multi-family residential recycling in 2010/11.

Fred Hansson is currently on the city council after serving on the planning commission. Fred also contributed to the process the City has made in addressing global warming. In addition, Fred supported Transit oriented development and mixed use in a number of recent projects in San Mateo. Fred worked actively to move city staff, council and planning commission perspective of the Lagoon from solely as a flood control basin to a habitat that is in need of protection and rehabilitation. On a personal level, Fred established Boy Scout troop service projects with the City of San Mateo. The scouts provide park cleanup, invasive plant removal and native tree plantings.



Brandt Gotte



Fred Hansson

David Lim is an attorney for the consumer and environmental protection division in Alameda. David's priorities for addressing San Mateo's climate change impacts are reducing traffic congestion in San Mateo by promoting development along the rail transit corridor and along El Camino Real. He would like to give individual homeowners and businesses more incentive to go green by updating our city codes to encourage reduction of each homeowner's CO2 footprint. David would encourage implementation of the Green Point Rated System for remodels as soon as possible. David has endorsements from Ca Senator Leland Yee, and Ca Assembly members Fiona Ma, Paul Fong, Jerry Hill, and Ted Lieu.



David Lim

South San Francisco

Visit the Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter Website for the recommendations for South San Francisco City Council. Go to <http://lomaprieta.sierraclub.org/politics/endorsements.html>

Sometime we just fall behind and this time we fell behind on scheduling interviews with candidates for the South San Francisco City Council. But the candidates really wanted to meet with us. The Chapter's Endorsement Team met with the Candidates on September 29th but the final approvals for endorsement recommendations could not be completed prior to the print deadline for this newsletter. So members in South San Francisco, we are sorry, but we ask that you please visit our website so you can learn about the environmental positions of your candidates.

Special Districts: Coastside Community Water District

Vote for James Johnson and Jerry Donovan

by Ken King

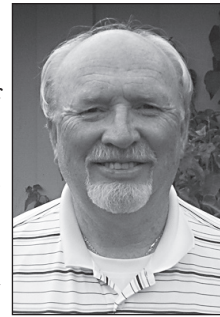
James Johnson was a Marin County Land Trust board member and stalwart environmental spokesman before moving to El Granada two years ago. Johnson points to the local water supply as increasingly dependent on water supplied by San Francisco P.U.C. (Hetch Hetchy), so that it will only be increasingly expensive going forward.



James Johnson

Johnson wants to accelerate recycling, and also roll out best practices in water conservation for residential and commercial users.

Jerry Donovan served twice on the Half Moon Bay city council, and also as a director for the Half Moon Bay Fire Protection District. Donovan is a supporter of water recycling and conservation and thinks CCWD should aggressively seek grants and apply for stimulus money to pay for the additional pipelines for recycled water distribution in order to stabilize costs for agriculture, horticulture, and golf courses.



Jerry Donovan

Please vote for James Johnson and Jerry Donovan for the Coastside Community Water District.

Granada Sanitary District Best Choice Erickson, Lohman and Woren

By Mike Ferreira

Gael Erickson has been a staunch advocate for environmental policies fully consistent with the Sierra Club's vision, and has been an innovator in terms of outreach to her constituents on environmental matters.



Gael Erickson

Ric Lohman has taken a strong leadership role in implementing tertiary recycled water treatment on the Coastside through his Joint Power Authority directorship at the Sewer Authority Mid-Coastside (SAM).



Ric Lohman

Leonard Woren's record on this board and others has shown consistent respect for environmental law and process, most notably the goals and policies of the California Coastal Act Local Coastal Program.



Leonard Woren

Please vote for Gael Erickson, Ric Lohman and Leonard Woren for the Granada Sanitary District.

SANTA CLARA COUNTY

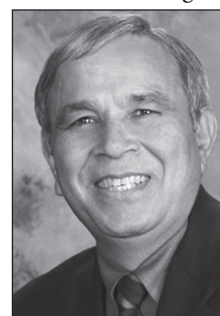
Cupertino

Nahalani, Miller and Nguyen Best for Cupertino

By Diane Gleason

In Cupertino there are 3 city council seats open for the fall election. Three of the 5 candidates interviewed are endorsed: Mahesh Nihalani, Marty Miller, and Daniel Nguyen.

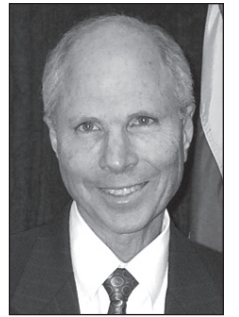
Mahesh Nihalani has an outstanding record of community involvement since moving to Cupertino 9 years ago, including 2 years on the Housing Commission where he supported inclusionary housing. He is supportive of environmental action, and believes that we must pursue a smart-growth strategy, especially along major transit corridors, to prevent sprawl devel-



Mahesh Nihalani

opment in outlying areas. Mr. Nihalani states that protecting the environment is a crucial function of local government. He wants the city to discourage developments that increase dependence on the automobile. Mr. Nihalani supports the Mayor's climate change pledge and will work with the city's Green Coordinator to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. His key objectives will be sustainability, bicycle/pedestrian access, exceptional design values, and compatibility with surrounding uses.

Marty Miller's specialty area is land use. He has been an active leader on opposing building restrictions that would limit high density and Smart Growth. As a Planning Commissioner he has supported smart growth, green building (LEED and Build It Green certifications for both new construction and remodeling), and the use of solar energy. He would work with Cupertino's Green Coordinator and supports the efforts by Cool Cities. He wants to revitalize the major commercial districts. Mr. Miller also wants to find ways to get people out of their cars. And, he has familiarity with grey water systems.



Marty Miller

Daniel Nguyen is just out of college but is well informed and abreast of Cupertino issues. He is on the Public Safety Commission and is working on the bike/walk to school program. He sees real problems that need action and is naturally environmentally aware and concerned. He recommends educating residents about water use, providing incentives for use of sustainable wood, but recognizes that with single-use bags, we have reached a point where education and outreach is not enough, and fully supports fees on bags and would like to extend that to take-out food packaging as well. Mr. Nguyen believes that the city should lead by example, as in using recycled materials even though they may be more expensive.



Daniel Nguyen

The Cupertino interview team feels that these three candidates, especially together, would lead Cupertino into a progressive environmental future.

Palo Alto

Klein, Holman, Price and Steen for Palo Alto

By Diane Allen

Larry Klein has advocated strongly on behalf of global warming initiatives during his four years on the Palo Alto City Council. He took the lead in making Palo Alto's Green Building Ordinance mandatory. This ordinance is now a model for other cities. Klein also led in the creation of Palo Alto's Climate Protection Plan and supported and voted for the Council's recent ban on plastic bags. He has pledged in his next term to work on further measures to reduce the city's carbon footprint, such as: reducing energy use in existing buildings, and substantially upgrading the city's bike lanes. Klein represents Palo Alto on the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency (BASWCA) and recognizes that water conservation is a priority. From his position on the National League of Cities steering committee for Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources, Klein can bring other cities' "best practices" to Palo Alto as well as helping spread our green message nation wide. Klein was one of the 9 co-founders of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District. For more information, see www.reelectlarryklein.com



Larry Klein

Gail Price is a professional land-use and transportation planner with 22 years experience in local and regional government. She has had experience with transit planning for the Valley Transportation Agency and the city of Sunnyvale. Price is well known locally for her tireless



Gail Price

work as an 8-year member of the Palo Alto School Board, where she supported funding for the Palo Alto Shuttle and advocated for bicycle safety and the Safe Routes to School Program. She also advocated for energy efficient practices and energy savings in new school buildings. Price recognizes that the major environmental issues facing Palo Alto, and the region, are global warming and water conservation. She has pledged to support healthy sustainable land use planning and practices, managed growth with balanced outcomes and green design, better local and regional transportation, and varied housing and strong retail centers to serve neighborhoods. Price is a proponent of "smart growth" and sustainability principles to encourage appropriate growth and density near transit corridors, additional mixed-use developments, and a variety of housing designs and options. For more information, see www.gailprice.org.

Karen Holman has been a member of the Palo Alto Planning and Transportation Commission for the past eight years. "In reviewing projects in the urban area, I regularly address automobile trip reduction, including alternate transportation means such as shuttle, Eco Pass, TDM (traffic demand man-

agement) programs, adequate pedestrian and bicycle connectivity." She was a major proponent of the need for waste reduction in addition to recycling when the Environment Services Center was being proposed, which led to a Zero Waste Plan being adopted by the city. She strongly supports Green Building and limiting the excessive use of concrete. "Retention and construction of smaller, more affordable housing units rather than larger, market-rate housing units to the extent feasible" is one of her goals. Says Holman, "Affordability of housing is necessary for a sustainable community to house a work force and to reduce automobile trips." She supports open space preservation and urban recreation, appropriate and safe use of pesticides and fertilizers in public parks (as well as in our schools, which as she points out was implemented in the Healthy Schools Act), and tree maintenance: "Among the most important and visually appealing ways to reduce our carbon footprint is to maintain and supplement our tree canopy." For more information, see www.karenholman.org



Karen Holman

Brian Steen, former executive director of the Sempervirens Fund and the Big Sur Land Trust will bring parks and open space expertise to the City Council. Brian emphasizes: "My career has focused on California natural resource protection and management in both the public and non-profit sectors. The results I've achieved represent years of effective interpersonal communication with diverse stakeholders – landowners, commercial interests,

donors, professionals, governmental agencies, political and community leaders." Steen negotiated and funded over 18,000 acres of forest watershed lands in 95 conservation easement agreements and fee title purchases along the Big Sur coast and in the Santa Cruz mountains. He also completed California's first forest carbon-credit project to utilize the preservation of forest resources to fight global climate change. He supports Green Building and full implementation of the Palo Alto Climate Protection Plan. He is a proponent of the Integrated Pest Management Plan, the Zero Waste Plan, water conservation efforts, and the maintenance and expansion of parks and open space. Steen advocates improved access to the Baylands. He supports redevelopment, according to existing building code specs, of the city center and increased density along transportation corridors. For more information, see: www.briansteen.org/



Brian Steen

commercial buildings around the city. Chris voted in favor of adopting the Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement, and has supported a 40% reduction in residential solar permitting fees. He is also taking the lead to extend the Stevens Creek trail in Sunnyvale. He is currently serving on the VTA Policy Advisory Committee and the Lower Peninsula Flood Control and Watershed Advisory Committee. He continues to be a strong vote for the environmental community on the council, and is not afraid to take a stance on controversial issues for the best interest of the City as a whole.



Christopher Moylan

James Griffith is a candidate running for seat 3 for Sunnyvale City council. He has been an active member of the Sunnyvale Cool Cities team and has participated in several council meetings on numerous environmental issues in the past two years. Jim saw the necessity for a city Sustainability coordinator early on. Jim believes that the city needs to approach housing, land use and transportation issues head-on and create a citywide carbon audit to develop a climate action plan. The Sierra Club is proud to endorse a candidate who has a good sense of the environmental challenges that Sunnyvale faces and has the relevant background in tackling these issues.



James Griffith

Sunnyvale

Vote Moylan and Griffith for a Greener Sunnyvale

By Deepika Gajaria

The Sierra Club is pleased to endorse **Christopher Moylan** (Seat 1) for the Sunnyvale City Council, for the second time. Chris has a proven environmental record the past 4 years as a council member and has taken the lead to enforce tough LEED standards for

What You Can Do Besides Voting - A citizen's third duty

By Karen Maki

This issue of the Loma Prietan is all about the importance of electing officials who have good environmental track records and a strong desire to protect the environment.

However, our role doesn't stop with electing environmentally minded officials. Public officials deal with so many issues that they frequently need help determining how a particular bill would impact the environment. It's also important for them to realize that we care about a particular bill and issue — and we are watching.

Recently, the chapter helped educate our state legislators and their staff about AB1066. This legislation would increase the length of time that the logging industry would have to log a timber harvest plan — making it more difficult and expensive for state agencies to monitor the impact of logging on our water, wildlife, and carbon sequestration.

Our approach included multiple fronts:

1. Keeping in close contact with our Sierra Club California lobbyist in Sacramento to make sure we were accurately stating the Club's position and providing him feedback about the meetings,
2. Meeting with our legislators and their staff,
3. Sending a letter from the chapter to the leg-

4. Encouraging members to call their legislators
5. Sending a letter to our legislators thanking them for their vote

All legislators but one voted as we requested. Without good legislators in office, our requests would have fallen on deaf ears. Without our calls, legislators may not know we care.

Unfortunately, the bill passed both the assembly and the senate. However, the work done by us, our lobbyist, and other forest activists resulted in the bill being improved. The Club still opposes AB1066, but it is significantly better.

Thanks are due to Assembly Members Ruskin, Hill, Fong, Beall and Senators Simitian, Yee, and Alquist— who opposed the bill or abstained and to those of you who helped. We did what we could and so did they.

Next year we will undoubtedly be supporting good forest legislation and opposing poor legislation. If you would like to help, please contact Forest Protection Committee chair Karen Maki at 650-366-0577 or karen.maki@lomaprieta.sierraclub.org.

is, in which we want to interview candidates. We need your involvement to do that. Please save the date Tuesday Nov 3rd!

We will be sending out an Evite with all the details to our regular political volunteer list (lomap-political-comm-forum@lists.sierraclub.org)

If you want to join our political volunteer mailing list, please send a email to ann.schneider@lomaprieta.sierraclub.org or political@lomaprieta.sierraclub.org

Loma Prietans Participate in Sacramento Lobby Day

By Irvin Dawid, veteran Lobby Day chapter activist

Since 2001, Sierra Club California has organized a state lobby day to enlist the help of its committed activists from throughout California — and our chapter has always sent more than its fair share. This year, Lobby Day 'veterans' included: Cynthia Denny, wetlands chair and also a new, elected member of the Sierra Club California Executive Committee; Diane Allen, Conservation Chair and also a new, appointed member of the Sierra Club California Legislative Committee (CLC); Irvin Dawid, co-chair of the Sierra Club Bay Area Transportation Committee. Joining them were: John Cordes, Political Committee Co-Chair; Steve Quist of San Mateo; Jonathon Padilla of San Jose.

Unlike past years, we gathered in the state Capitol Building on Sunday, August 24, to begin our training by the capable Sierra Club California staff of Bill Magavern, Legislative Director; Jim Metropolis, Senior Lobbyist; and Michael Endicott our new contract Lobbyist. While Bill explained the intricacies of the building itself and the principles of 'how to lobby', it was Jim that had the hardest work — all four 'priority' bills that staff and the Legislative Committee had chosen were 'his' bills, i.e. bills that were assigned to him because they dealt with issues he covered: energy and parks. And Jim lived up to his reputation — doing a superb job of explaining what the bills were, how they worked, and why they are needed.

The energy bills, SB 14 (Simitian) and AB 64 (Krekorian) each dealt with requiring more renewable sources of power to be used by the state's utilities. Specifically, these sustainable sources should compose 33% of their energy 'portfolio' by the year 2020. Currently they average about 13%.

The park bills, SB 372 (Kehoe) and SB 679 (Wolk) each protect state parks from the type of 'non-park intrusions' seen recently such as the proposed power line to cut through Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, San Diego, the largest state park in California and a proposed toll road threat to San Onofre State Beach, San Diego.

The chapter activists were split into two teams for their assigned Lobby Day visits on Monday:

Irvin, Cynthia, Diane, and Jonathon were assigned to visit legislators who cover the chapter territory, including:

- Assemblyman Joe Coto, San Jose
- Assemblyman Ira Ruskin, Redwood City
- Senator Joe Simitian, Palo Alto
- Assemblyman Jerry Hill, San Mateo
- Assemblyman Jim Beall Jr., San Jose

John, Steve, and nearby Ventana Chapter activist, Nicole Charles of Monterey, were assigned:

- Assemblyman William Monning, Santa Cruz
- Senator Abel Maldonado Jr., San Luis Obispo through San Jose, Los Gatos
- Assemblywoman Anna Marie Caballero, Salinas, including San Benito County
- Assemblyman Sam Blakeslee, San Luis Obispo
- Assemblyman Paul Fong, Mtn. View
- Senator Elaine Alquist, Santa Clara

After the teams introduced themselves to the legislators or their staff, they tried to secure 'yes' votes on all four priority bills, or finds out what their concerns were so that our Sacramento staff could respond to them.

So how'd we do?
All four of our bills passed the legislature!

Governor Schwarzenegger will have to determine whether to sign, approve without signing, or veto these bills by Oct. 11.

Irvin Dawid is a chapter activist and veteran volunteer lobbyist. He co-chairs the Bay Area Transportation Committee and is former chair of Sierra Club California's Air Quality Committee.
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