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PHONES: 396-0811 or 399-8685

The Battle for Lincoln Boulevard

by John Davis

An important hearing regarding the widening of Lincoln Blvd. to accommodate the anticipated traffic generated by the Playa Vista project. The Coastal Commission staff is recommending denial of the project, but the commissioners have overridden staff recommendations in the past. See box to the right for hearing information.

If the interested people of Venice really want to make a difference they will appear as a mighty group at the Coastal Commission meeting on January 8 and demand the Commission DENY an application by Caltrans to widen Lincoln Blvd. into what is called by Caltrans a Super Capacity Highway. Playa Vista will not survive without this massive intrusion of asphalt into our fair home of Venice.

To many of us Venice is our home. It is a unique coastal community and many of us who live here are willing to use the force of law to protect our home. In fact sometimes there is no other choice.

First, in order to take action when you see a violation of conservation laws, you must understand the nature of the violation and report it to the proper sector of government.

In 1972 the U.S. Government produced the The Coastal Zone Management Act. Latter the Clean Water Act, and the Water Pollution were all passed. These acts all have the force of law.

The California Coastal Act, a State Act, was required by the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act. This is how California complies with federal law.

I propose to the readers who would like to empower themselves to first examine the California Coastal Act. If you have a computer you can download the Act from the internet, at <http://www.coastal.ca.gov/ccatc.html>.

You should then call the Long Beach Coastal Commission and ask them to be placed on the interested persons list for any Coastal Development Permits issued by the City of Los Angeles in Venice. Then if you disagree with the City regarding the legal status of a development you can appeal that development to the California Coastal Commission to determine if it complies with the law. Call 562-590-5071, ask to speak to the Planner for Venice and state that you wish to be placed on the interested persons list for any development proposed for Venice.

To get this far, you really need to read through the California Coastal Act to see what it says. Most of it is written in such a way that you don't have to be a lawyer to understand it.

Since the Playa Vista Project was begun almost a decade ago, thousands of interested persons have empowered themselves by reading the Coastal Act and have today practically saved all of the wetlands West of Lincoln (State Highway One) and another important wetland, Area C, near Culver and Route 90.

If we do not mobilize and allow this irresponsible and illegal road widening to occur, life in Venice as we know it will be over. Our community would be encircled by unmoving gridlock idling and spewing greenhouse gases into our atmosphere and hurry along rising seal level. Greenhouse gases are not what we want. Venice is a low lying Coastal Community and we do not want to have to row boats to get from our home to the coffee shop.

—continued on page 4

More lanes on Lincoln, More traffic through Venice

**Coastal Commission
hearing:
9am, Wednesday,
Jan. 8**

**Radisson LAX
6225 W. Century Blvd.
Case number 501-450.**

For more information, call the Coastal Commission at 562-590-5071 or on the day of the hearing, 310-670-9000 (Radisson Hotel).



Ibrahim by Diane Butler - part of the Circle of Color art show at Sponto Gallery, 7 Dudley Avenue, through Jan. 3. After that, see them on the west side of the Boardwalk at Dudley.

The Venice Census – LOOK – WE'RE STILL HERE

By Jim Smith

It may come as a surprise to those who constantly lament that the good-old-days in Venice are gone for good. Actually, our community has not become a haven for the rich, and it's as racially and ethnically diverse as ever.

The U.S. Census Bureau doesn't make it exactly easy to find the information you seek about a particular community. I was shocked to discover that the City of Venice is not officially recognized by the Feds (or Mayor Hahn, for that matter). The closest approximation for census data is the zipcode 90291. This information does not include those sections of old Venice that are south of Washington Blvd. and in a different zipcode. Many people in the south prefer to think of themselves as living in Marina del Rey for some inexplicable reason. Anyway, the vast majority of undisputed Venice lies in 90291. The following figures are for 90291:

Median household income:

Venice:	\$45,769
L.A. County:	\$42,189
California:	\$47,493

Of course, median means that half the household incomes are above that figure, and half are below.

In terms of rich people, there are 2,905 Venice households - out of 15,518 - with an annual income of \$100,000 or more. This is 18.7 percent of all the households in Venice. The comparable percentages for L.A. County and California are 15.1 and 17.3.

At the other end of the scale, there are 4,114 Venetians (13.2 percent) living in poverty. This includes 793 children. 17.8 percent of all Venice

children live in poverty! The figures for L.A. County are 17.9 (individuals) and 24.2 (children). In all of California, nearly five million people live in poverty (14.2 percent of the state) and 1,705,797 children (19 percent).

Housing:

Venetians are overwhelmingly renters. This is why the affordable housing crisis has hit so hard in Venice. There are 16,233 housing units in 90291. Of these, 4.6 are vacant. How odd that we have twice as many vacant housing units in Venice as there are homeless people. Seems like a "matching" service is needed.

Owner-occupied housing: 28.3 percent
Renter-occupied housing: 71.7 percent

Of the tenants who occupy the 11,107 units, 17.8 percent of them pay more than half of their household income for rent! There ought to be a law - a rent-control law! An astounding half of all renters pay more than 25 percent of their entire income for a roof over their heads. That doesn't include utilities. It's no wonder that so many Venetians have had to move into their cars or out on the streets. At press time, Congress had not bothered to extend unemployment benefits for the millions who are victims of the latest economic recession. Maybe our landlords will have pity and lower their rents.

Commuting to work:

Venetians use their cars less to get to work than others. There are 3,634 of us - 19.9 percent - who don't drive to work. This is better than the 14.6 percent for L.A. County and 13.7 percent statewide. Our secret is that more than twice as

—continued on page 4

LETTERS

The collective staff of the



BEACHHEAD COLLECTIVE:

A Clover, Pano Douvos, Fast Eddie, Carol Fondiller, Peggy Lee Kennedy, Maryjane, Screaming Mimi, Vessy Mink, Calvin Moss, Lydia Poncé, Jim Smith, Alice Stek, Suzy Williams

The FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD is published monthly by the Beachhead Collective as a vehicle for the people of Venice to communicate their ideas and opinions to the community at large.

The Beachhead encourages anyone to submit news stories, articles, letters, photos, poetry or graphics of interest to the Venice community. The staff reserves the right to make all decisions collectively on material published. There is no editor on the Beachhead. The printing is financed by ads and donations.

To submit material, include your name and telephone number. Anonymous material will not be printed, but your name will be withheld on request. If return of material is desired, a stamped self-addressed envelope is required. No payment is made for material used. Mail to: P.O. Box 644, Venice, CA90294 or Email: <Beachhead@freevenice.org>. Web: <www.freevenice.org>. Copyright 2003

Los Angeles, a besieged place with long, short, medium, multi-colored rats racing anytime-or-where, but especially when you're out there, trying to cross the street.

Pretending the heavy trucks, bursting your ears open, roaring by alongside the rows of polluting robots, are not armored war tanks, the miles and miles of freeways just employed as temporary stopgaps are not really isolating us in this war city, each from the other to make General Motors and the oil and gas monopolies rich in the preparation for coming nuclear war!

-Jennie Katz

I don't have too much money right now, but I figure I could help out with this small sum. If 100 people each have \$5.00, you'd have the \$500.00 for the printing bill. I want to be able to say that I contribute to free speech, the drive for peace, and the only real advocacy journalism (except for the S.M. Mirror) in L.A.

-Lynne Bronstein

IT IS NOT A WAR...IT IS BLATANT AGGRESSION...

The entire media, including the Internet, insists on convincing the American people that the attack on Iraq is necessary and must be fulfilled, because of the "evil plans of Saddam Hussein, a monster who wants to destroy the earth."

More than 150 countries and more than five billion people around the world know that this is a blatant lie and reject this aggression. The members of the UN, like "Pilatus," wash their dirty hands, knowing that if they show any opposition, their respective governments which they represent will lose the economic aid from the USA and they will lose their luxuries, limousine service and diplomatic privileges in Washington.

The real issue here is that the aggression toward Iraq and the ousting of Hussein, will restore the credibility to the Republican Supreme Court, showing to the Nation that they made the correct decision in the Florida Am-Bush election.

It is incredible how people lie and make up stories only to satisfy their greed and egos. Now the helpless people Iraq, who look up daily to the skies waiting for God to help their misery, will receive bombs instead, to add up to their disgrace.

I want to ask the Republicans: Would you be happy to kill or maim thousands of innocent human lives, in exchange for thousands of votes which will guarantee another term for the Bush-Cheney partnership? Why not, instead of bombs, we HELP them and each time they look up to the skies they see that USA and England are dropping food and medicines??? That way the people of Iraq will get rid of Hussein by themselves and the Bush-Cheney Family could continue in power for another term. Unluckily my peaceful ideas do not work with the interests of the arrogant and inhumane leaders of the world, who consider that oil, money, ego, greed and power...not human lives...are the main and only priority.

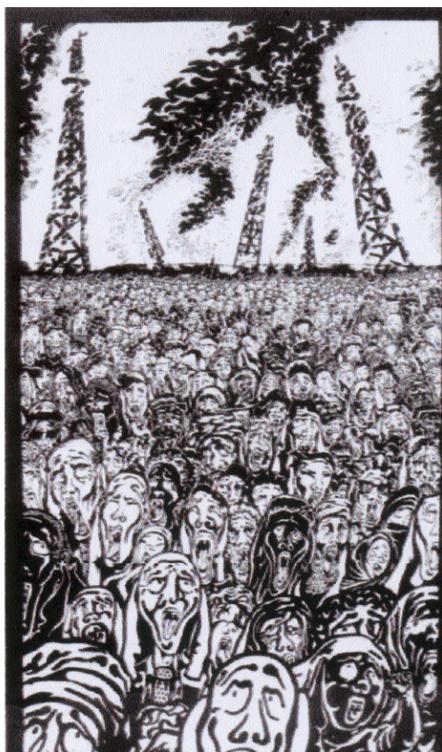
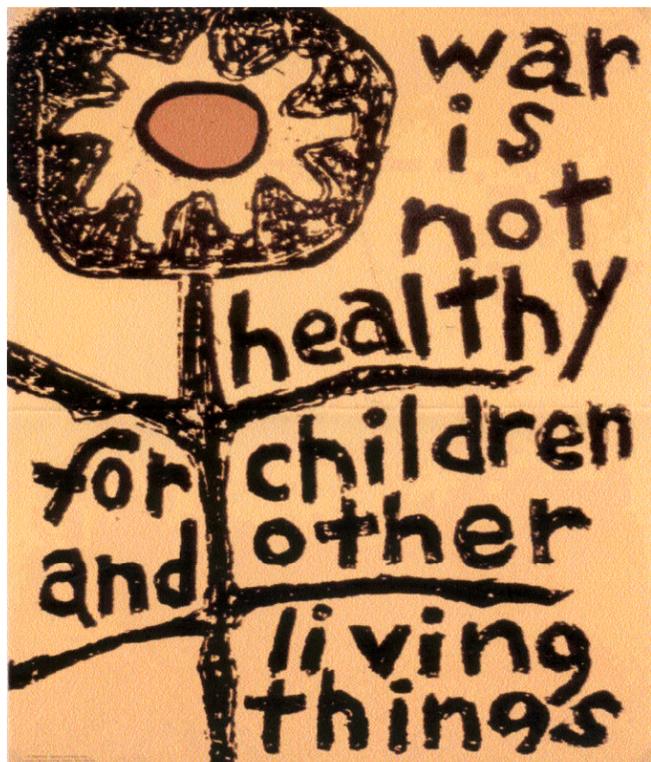
-Jose Crow Rodriguez



Venetian legend Anna Haag relaxes with a cup of tea and the Beachhead at a local Venice hangout, the HOT.

The HOT cafe at 1715 Pacific Avenue is one of more than 100 locations in Venice that stock the Free Venice Beachhead.

If your favorite restaurant, coffee house or store is out of Beachheads, give us a call at 396-0811 or email us at <Beachhead@freevenice.org>.



We get letters – The Anti-War Poster Exhibit

A recent letter informs of the presence of an exhibit at Bergamont Station. The exhibit title is *The Anti-War Show - The Price of Intervention from Korea to Iraq*. We encourage you to attend.

If for no other reason than our letter states --As citizens, we are ultimately responsible for the actions that are taken by the Government in our name.

Does this say it all, or not? Anyway, while you mull that one over we refer you to Mary Sutton at 323-653-4662 or email: <cspg@politicalgraphics.org>. Or check out the Beachheads' calendar section - for exhibit time and specific accessory goody details.

Venetian Phil Chamberlain has passionately campaigned for general and complete disarmament (GCD) most of his adult life.

Author, nature lover and former Beachhead writer, Phil is now living in Arcata, but in poor health.

There will be a party for him here in Venice soon. Call 306-7330 for more information.

If you'd like to contact Phil, his email address is demilitarization@yahoo.com and check out his website at <<http://www.geocities.com/demilitarization>>.



The Beachhead needs you

Dear friend and reader,

If you believe that Venice needs a newspaper that tells the truth about what's going on in our beloved town, then we need your support.

The Free Venice Beachhead disappeared back in the mid-1990s but last June, we gathered together some veterans and some newcomers and began publishing again. You're holding in your hands our eighth monthly edition of the paper.

The goals and ideals that led to the founding of the Beachhead in 1968 are still our goals and ideals. We want to inform and mobilize our community to threats and opportunities. We love both the idea and the reality of Venice.

The Free Venice Beachhead is, as always, put together by a volunteer collective (see page two for our names). However, our printer likes to be paid for its work.

We have some modest goals. We'd like to print more pages every month. We'd like to print at least 10,000 copies. Currently, at 7,000 copies we can't supply all the locations that want to carry the Beachhead. With your support, the Beachhead will be able to print more copies and expand distribution.

We love our hometown advertisers. But the Beachhead has never survived solely on advertising. We are primarily a reader-supported institution. You might say we're the Venice version of the Pacifica network and radio station KPFK. As you know, the Beachhead and KPFK are among the few publications or broadcasters that are not corporately owned.

That's where you come in. We'd like you to become a Beachhead Sustainer. We'll only bother you once a year for your hundred bucks. Or if you prefer, send us \$50 now, and we'll hound you for the remaining \$50 in six months.

Here's what you'll get by becoming a Beachhead Sustainer (in addition to the satisfaction of helping the Beachhead survive and grow).

- We'll list the names of Sustainers in each and every Beachhead (unless you tell us to withhold your name).
- If you like, we'll mail you a copy of the Beachhead so you can avoid waiting in line to get one.
- We'll give you a big discount on the price of admission at Beachhead events.
- We'll give you a free business-card-size advertisement in the Beachhead once a year.
- While supplies last, you have your choice of a classic Randy Brook poster with a bird's-eye view of the Boardwalk, or a CD from a recent Beachhead concert.

Thank you in advance from the Collective for helping to keep a free press alive and well in Venice!

Count me in as a Beachhead Sustainer!

Here's my \$100 check. Here's \$50. Bill me again in six months for the other \$50.

Send me the Poster; CD. Please mail me the Beachhead every month.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City, Zip: _____

Email: _____

Clip and mail to: Beachhead, POB 644, Venice, CA 90294



We're still here

– continued from page 1

many of us work at home - 8 percent! Unfortunately, the census bureau doesn't say how many work nude, in their underwear or with a coat and tie. More research is needed.

On the other hand, the figures show that we Venetians do not take advantage of carpooling or public transportation, even though we have one of the best bus systems in the area.

Here's the figures:

percent	Venice	L.A. Cty.	Calif.
Drive alone	72.6	70.4	71.8
Car pool	7.5	15.1	14.5
Public transportation	5.7	6.6	5.1
Walk	3.1	2.9	2.9
Other (bike, skate, etc.)	3.1	1.6	1.9
Work at home	8.0	3.5	3.8

Ethnicity:

Overall, Venice is holding on to its diversity. Here are the figures for 2000 and 1990:

1990

Total	32,299	
Am. Ind.	215	0.66%
Asian/Pac. Isl	1,013	3.13%
Black	3,131	9.66%
Latino	8,914	27.51%
Other	4,752	14.67%
White	14,374	44.37%

2000

Total	31,018	
Am. Ind.	295	0.95%
Asian/Pac. Isl	1,147	3.70%
Black	2,087	6.73%
Latino	7,834	25.26%
Other	3,694	11.91%
White	14,182	45.72%
Haw./Pac. Isl	48	0.15%
2+ races	1,731	5.58%

In 2000, the Census Bureau began allowing people to identify with more than one ethnic origin. In Venice, 1,731 people did so. The Bureau also split the Asian/Pacific Island category into two: Asians and Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders.

The biggest change in the past 10 years is the decline in African-Americans and Latinos in total numbers and percentage. While part of this may be attributed to some choosing the "two or more races" identity, most of the decline is more likely related to rising property values and rents as well as being aggressively pushed out of the neighborhood by new affluent.

Venice has changed, but slowly. It still retains its character as a working class (artist class?), diverse and relatively low-income ocean-side community. How many other beach communities in California can say the same?

TOO POOR TO LIVE HERE

By Carol Fondiller

(To the tune of Woody Guthrie's "So Long, it's been good to know you.")

Chorus:

Too poor, too poor to live here
 Too poor, too poor to live here
 Too poor, too poor to live here
 The land speculators are grabbin, my home
 So I got to leave Venice and roam.

I used to live in the trailer court
 With friends and buddies I used to consort
 The rent was cheap and the air was free
 But they say that sunshine is too good for me.

Cause I'm . . . chorus

I had a pad on the Howland Canal
 The place was good for my morale
 As I was feedin' the ducks one day
 A big bulldozer tried to chase me away.

I used to live in a house by the sea
 But the Master Plan had no plans for me
 Gold over people - the master's choice.
 Our councilmen heed the master's voice

Cause I'm . . . chorus.

They're gonna have a parking lot
 And where you live there'll be a yacht
 I'm too poor to live by the sea
 That's what the system is tryin' to tell me.

Cause I'm . . . chorus

But hell no, we're gonna stay here
 Hell no, we're gonna stay here
 Hell no, we're gonna stay here
 We're gonna stay here and we're gonna fight
 For a Free Venice that is our right.

Study says protesting is good for you

Group protests, or "collective action", may have health benefits for participants, according to research by British psychologists.

A study by Dr. John Drury, a lecturer in social psychology at the University of Sussex, suggests that group protesting and demonstrating is good for people's health because it encourages a sense of empowerment, mutual support and unity.

"Many published activist accounts refer to feelings of encouragement and confidence emerging from experiences of collective action," said Drury.

"It's similar when people come out to welcome home a winning football team, go to London's Trafalgar Square on New Year's Eve or go to a rave. They have a sense of community - but with protest, people have the addition of a sense of changing the world."

The study involved more than 40 in-depth interviews with activists and protesters from a variety of backgrounds. Participants described more than 160 experiences of collective action, including traditional marches, fox hunting sabotages, anti-capitalist street parties, environmental direct action and industrial mass pickets.

"The main factors contributing to a sense of empowerment were the realization of the collective identity, the sense of movement potential, unity and mutual support within a crowd," explained Drury.

He found that the protesters experienced events as joyous occasions, almost without exception, and that they felt a deep sense of happiness and even euphoria at being involved. Simply recounting events in interviews brought a smile to their faces, Drury added.

Even when demonstrations involved violent clashes with the police, protesters tended to feel good if they thought they had won the battle. If the police were seen as the victors, less experienced demonstrators had negative feelings, while veterans were able to put events into context and deal with their emotions.

Over the last few years, psychologists have become more interested in how psychological and physical good health can be improved by positive experiences, which improve the speed of physical recovery, the ability to cope with stress and a reduction in pain, anxiety and depression.

"The take-home message from this research, therefore, might be that people should get more involved in campaigns, struggles and social movements," said Drury. "Not only in the wider interest of social change, but also for their own personal good."

Distributed by Portside:
www.yahogroups.com/group/Portside

–continued from page one: Battle for Lincoln Blvd.

The Grass Roots Venice Neighborhood Council Conservation Committee approved a recommendation to the Board of Directors to not widen Lincoln which would invite yet more gridlock and choking smog.

The Conservation Committee has made a grass roots alternative proposal not to widen Lincoln, but to place an elevated light rail system with outboard bicycle paths from Santa Monica to LAX. The proposal would allow increased access to the Venice Coastal Zone for recreation and protect small businesses on Lincoln Blvd. It would prevent unnecessary new emissions of greenhouse gases.

So, it is time to fight for your home and your neighborhood. Show up at the Coastal Commission in January and say no to a Super Capacity Highway on Lincoln and say yes to the elevated light rail and bike path envisioned by the GRVNC Conservation Committee.

Imagine being able to ride to Santa Monica or the Airport on a bicycle over the grid locked SUV traffic below. Imagine gliding along in a new train to go downtown and being able to use that commute time for productive purposes instead of horn honking and cursing traffic.

I hope to see people that really care about Venice to show up at the Coastal Commission Meeting in January in full force.

To be kept informed about conservation issues in Venice you may contact me at the email below. Also, I urge you to support the Airport Marina Regional Group of the Sierra Club, the Ballona Wetlands Land Trust and the GRVNC Conservation Committee.

Send your request to be placed on the Venice Conservation email list to - VeniceConservation@Beachsites.Com.

John Davis is Chairperson of the GRVNC Conservation Committee.



Movie Review: From The Ashes...The Storyteller

By Peggy Lee Kennedy

From The Ashes...The Storyteller, winner of the Hollywood Underground Film Festival, was shown December 13-19 at Santa Monica's Laemmle Theatre. The movie is a collection of narratives and dramatic reenactment featuring Ron Taylor as "the Storyteller," directed by Christine Schanes, and filmed and edited by legendary cinematographer Baird Bryant. Ron Taylor and Christine Schanes belong to Children Helping Poor and Homeless People, which provides weekly meals in Venice.

Although *From The Ashes* is categorized as a documentary, it more closely resembles an artistic performance by Ron Taylor. The stories he tells are about famous and not so famous people in American history, including five generations of Ron Taylor's family.

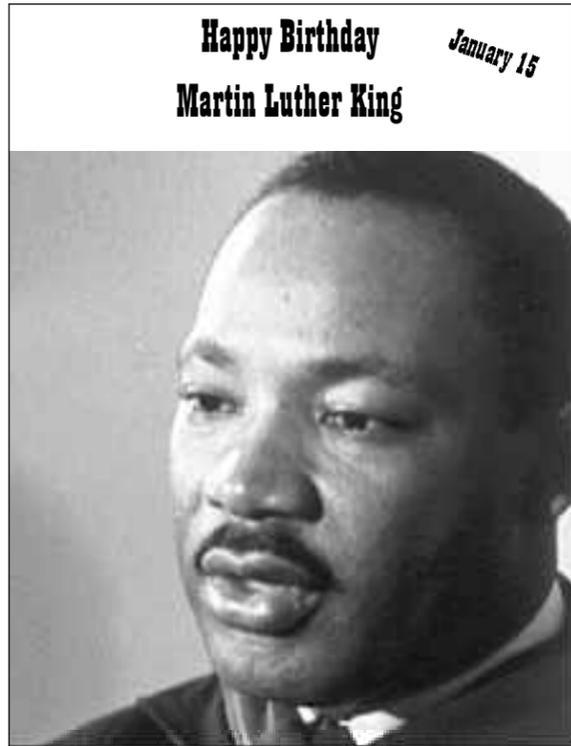
The movie is a mixed bag of interesting and amusing facts, like why Jesse James was buried face down in his grave by his brother Frank and how President Abraham Lincoln was homeless. One of these stories portrays the complete lack of understanding that politicians have for the needs of the people...as the crowd is chanting to free a Black man unjustly sentenced to death in the

state of Texas, "Free Leotis! Free Leotis!" Preston Smith (the man running for Governor) responds by saying, "Frijoles for everyone!"

Through his family stories, Ron presents us with a humanized version of how sharecroppers lived, the power and fear generated by the KKK, the sadness of how we treat our mentally ill, the pain of alcoholism, and not being able to deal with an unforgiving system. Even though some of the stories are somber, they remind us that these things exist in families and that these social issues affect us all.

Ron Taylor's stories reveal how history lives through family stories. The movie awakens memories of stories we all have in our family and encourages us to not lose them. Ron Taylor bases his stories in a theme of powerful social consciousness. He inspires us to have a "revolution of one" that is tied to our history. I highly recommend seeing the movie more than once in order to get the deeper message embedded in each story.

Just in case you missed it, you can order a copy of the movie from Labor of Love Productions, Inc. by calling 310-280-3131.



Happy Birthday
Martin Luther King
January 15

"We must demonstrate, teach and preach until the very foundations of our nation are shaken."

"I knew I would never again raise my voice against the violence of the oppressed in the ghettos without having first spoken clearly to the greatest purveyor of violence in the world today, my own government."

"True peace is not merely the absence of tension; it is the presence of justice."

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Hijas de Juarez



To pay homage to the 320+ women of Juarez, Mexico who have been abducted, raped and murdered, SPARC is hosting the Hijas de Juarez exhibition. The exhibit brings together artists who are working with their own interpretations of the issue and represent a beginning point for dialogue, personal investigation and speculation for the general public to reflect and act upon.

Through January 18 2003 at SPARC Gallery, 685 Venice Blvd. 310-822-9560

The Law End Force Human

by Calvin

Pirate Tanker Rams Rocks on Venice Beach

Flying the skull and crossbones the renegade tanker Capsicum Mistress, piloted by its Captain and owner Casper Capasium has been intentionally grounded on Venice Beach California. The rusted hull of the tramp tanker moaned and twisted as it broke open, spilling millions



Sher-ruff of Venice

of gallons of raw hot pepper concentrated extract into the surf. Pasha Peperonia a Corsican national who is thought to be the captain's girlfriend was seen jumping off the bow of the ship. A local surfer Randy Waterwalrus rescued her from the foamy peppery milkshake that was frothing around the ship. Captain C. Capasium dove from the bridge into a large breaking wave and body surfed into a local bar on the Venice Beach boardwalk. Captain Capasium drank two large bottles of hot sauce and then turned himself in to the Sheriff. Sobbing, he admitted to being an international capsicum smuggler. He also confessed to having been the cause of thousands of good people around the world crying their eyeballs out after having been sprayed by his illicit product. The Captain offered to make restitution and promised never to have anything to do with concentrated pepper extract in the future.

His scruffy crewmembers had taken to the lifeboats or jumped into the foamy peppery broth, swimming to the beach. Pasha

Peperonia then began singing the ancient pirate ballad (Port Royal) yo ho ho lets snort some pure capsicum. The ships crew's noses and eyeballs where a brilliant moist red from the long nights spent in the captain's cabin snorting pure capsicum extract. As the surf pounded the rocks off Venice Beach a moist cloud of pepper spray and salt water vapours drifted up Windward Ave. A prison bus full of Arab-looking detainees heading towards the INS detention center on an island near San Pedro. The eyes of the driver of the prison bus started to tear and the guard in the back of the bus started to weep. On the other side of the globe the hot pepper crops are ripening in the fields and a new capsicum extract is being distilled. A voice from the back of the bus screamed.

Cry baby cry

is a poem

THE LATER DAY TRANSUBSTANTIATION OF BLESSED OLIVER CROMWELL

By Fast Eddie

As I myself was only in the near vicinity
for only the briefest while
and, on the best of my knowledge, no one else
still left physically alive saw it at all
unless they were in Rehnquistedor error, with,
I hasten to add, doubting Thomas
for once staunchly on the right side
I must confess my sources
may eventually be remaindered
as extremely difficult to be believed
yet the simple bottom line is

Rough and ready Oliver rode over to Ireland
on a ship
with a rather large contingent of well-armed,
chivalrous knights
and their serving men
promptly conquered the whole stupid bloody
Irish
who had
nowhere to be found amongst them
not one single lively gun

Left
their eyeballs
to the crows
meanwhile switched all the rents and mort-
gages
to himself
left
an appropriate number
of dukes, barons and earls
to collect, and collect, and collect

and then, with all his goodly and great busi-
ness done,
promptly sailed back home to England
looking very optimistically forward
to any and all
newly affordable fun

Hit the upper Thames beaches hard
whereupon an instantaneous quorum of
Williams,
Shakespeare, the Conqueror, and the constant

All agreeably declared
Once oh so poor Oliver
To be rich, rich, rich
Rich in benefits, rich in blessings,
Rich in jewels and gold and
Thrones, and crowns and
Mortar, stone and bricks

And calm and cool Blessed Oliver
He said he minded it not
All to his mind merely
A magical little of this,
A touch of pre-ordination,
And a mysterious little of that.

Bow down, pray
Remember the wisdom of staying alive
To see another day
And oh, take that Iraq.

the song of the secret police

By Stuart Z. Perkoff

our times are fast
they're crowded
we're crushed
we're lost

mirrors are broken
i.d. cards torn
faces are stolen
disguises are worn

no order! all chaos!
all turmoil! no peace!
but we can rely on the secret police!

man's own face repels him
he doesn't know his name
but he knows that someone
is scoring the game

in the black of the nite
in the uniform terror
wrong is judged! right is right!
this hell is no error

there's a plan
we can see it
even man
cannot flee it

no order! all chaos!
all turmoil! no peace!
but we can rely on the secret police!

man destroys himself with power
he is desperate, confused
minute by minute, hour by hour
he sees his offerings refused

each failure is another crime he carries
of millions on millions on millions of crimes
he lies to himself in his stories
but these ARE criminal times

no order! all chaos!
all turmoil! no peace!
but we can rely on the secret police!

The Lovers' Tree

By Vessy Mink

Life is full of beauty...

The way the lights at night turn snowy bushes
into Christmas trees

The electric blue Chicago lit up sky.

The way it brightly shines with ancient moon
eye.

The same old Christmas movie every year

Time is passing quickly, now is here.

And in my family's home is where I sleep

A couple times a year so bitter sweet.

Sacred paths we all have lived a thousand
years

Echoes of a love so crisp so far and yet so near.

Without love I shall not breathe...

For to take a breath at all is love filled energy.

Not wanting anymore than time can give

I am the night wind billowing.

The stream is steadfast, flowing time

A steady rhythm and a fearless climb

Up the highest mountain tops we scale

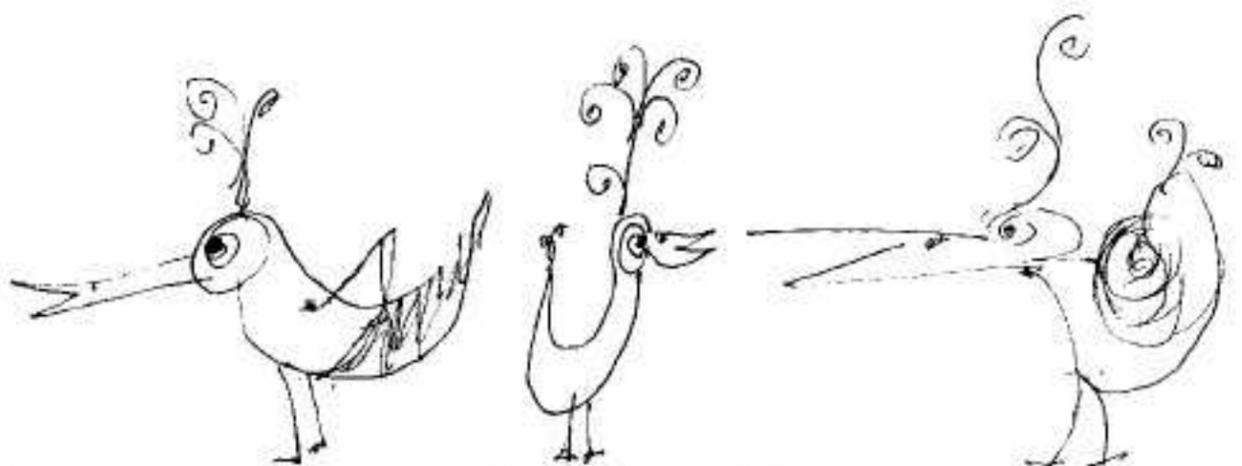
To be right where we are upon this trail.

And the redwoods they are calling me...

To wish upon the shooting stars that fall for
thee.

True is the song that sings its melody to sleep

Intertwining wonder, such is the lovers' tree.



Grass Roots Venice Neighborhood Council – THE LACK OF PROGRESS REPORT

By Alice Stek
District 7 representative

What has Grass Roots Venice (GRVNC), our new neighborhood council, accomplished so far? A review of the conduct of the Board meeting from this Progressive Candidate's perspective will illustrate the problems we encounter in accomplishing our objectives as set out in our platform. Thanks to a minority of the Board, at the last GRVNC Board meeting, a year of work by the Voting Methods Committee was dismissed in 10 minutes.

At the last full Board meeting on November 25, the most important issue on the agenda was the discussion of the best voting methods for our new council.

By way of background: at the November 2001 GRVNC meeting, the attendees approved instant runoff and cumulative voting for use in GRVNC election races where applicable. In the weeks following this meeting, several members opposed to these more democratic voting methods privately approached acting president Tisha Bedrosian and requested a recall vote. She agreed with their request and the voting methods were subjected to a recall vote at the next GRVNC meeting December 2001. This vote resulted in a tie, which was

broken by Ms. Bedrosian, who voted against implementing instant runoff and cumulative voting methods, leaving GRVNC with the familiar, but not very democratic, plurality voting system.

In part as a response to this maneuvering on the part of the Bedrosian/Rose Avenue Working Group team, the Progressive Candidates formed their platform and slate. At that December GRVNC meeting, the Voting Methods Committee was created to study the various possible voting methods and to make a presentation for a later discussion by the Board.

The Voting Methods Committee was open to all interested participants and met regularly over the course of the next 10 months at open meetings. The committee decided which criteria are most important for an organization such as GRVNC, studied various methods, ranked them according to the established criteria, and prepared an extensive, well-documented report (available on the GRVNC website at: http://www.grassrootsvenice.org/Reports/voting_method_rep_102902.html#fn2). The committee found that instant runoff voting is the most appropriate method for single-seat elections, such as for GRVNC officers, and cumulative voting for multiple-seat elections, such as the GRVNC at-large positions. Both of these methods are quite simple and can be easily explained to the voters. Instant runoff voting allows voters to rank their choices and was recently adopted by San Francisco for city elections. If your first choice wins the majority, this candidate is elected. If your first choice is eliminated as receiving the least votes, your vote is applied to your second choice, and if necessary, the same is done for your third choice. This encourages sincere voting and avoids the current familiar "lesser of two evils" voting strategy. (Example: with IRV, your vote for Nader would have helped elect Gore if he was your second choice.) With cumulative voting, you can "spend" your votes among the candidates as you see fit. For example, in the GRVNC at-large race you can designate your 7 votes to 7 candidates or use them all to support one (or 2 or 3 or 4...) candidates. This encourages minority representation.

At the November 2002 Board meeting, the Voting Methods Committee presented their report, and recommended approval by the Board to send to the general membership for approval, as required by the GRVNC bylaws. Unfortunately the meeting agenda was filled with other items, and the chair conducted the meeting (perhaps this was due to inexperience and intervention by some members rather than

intentional) so as not to allow adequate time for discussion.

Voting Methods Committee member Jason Parry made a valiant attempt at an abbreviated presentation, and was rudely interrupted by several Board members opposed to the proposed changes, including untrue statements regarding the committee's alleged bias and predetermined decisions. Several Board members claimed they lacked the intelligence to understand the proposed voting methods. (It works for George Bush, why not for us?) More ominously, the District Representative for Oakwood implied that these methods were too difficult for her intellectually impaired constituents, and even brought a constituent to represent this view at the meeting.

A 2/3 vote of the Board is required to send bylaws amendments to the general membership for approval. Eight Board members voted for the proposed methods: Sheila Bernard, Phyllis Des Verney, Greg Fitchitt, Yolanda Miranda, David Moring, Lydia Ponce, Alice Stek, Chris Wood; and five against: Chris Bedrosian, John Caldwell, Rick Feibusch, Barbara Gibson, Chris Williams. Tisha Bedrosian abstained. Bonnie Cheeseman, Mark Van Gessel, Elena Popp, Kelley Willis and

Laddie Williams were absent. Naomi Nightingale and DeDe Audet left the meeting before the vote but both spoke out against the proposed voting methods. The required two-thirds majority was not achieved, and 10 months of work by the Voting Methods Committee was negated. The remaining option is to submit a petition from GRVNC members to present the methods to the general membership.

In contrast, the following presentation by the Parking Committee, which has been addressing the issue of parking problems in Venice for a couple of months, made a somewhat lengthy presentation without interruption.

Since certification by the City of Los Angeles in March and elections of the Board in June 2002, the Board has spent much time and effort on procedural issues and bylaws. Several committees, in particular the Conservation Committee, Voting Methods Committee, Land Use and Planning Committee and Parking Committee, have been meeting regularly, developing their agendas and preparing reports.

A General Membership meeting will be held in late February. Meeting announcements with agendas will be posted on the Grass Roots Venice website at www.grassrootsvenice.org.

Any Venice "stakeholder" (live, work, own property in Venice) who is at least 16 years old may register. You need not be a citizen or eligible to vote for state elections or have a green card to register, but you must be able to document stakeholder status. Register and have input into local government!

Contact us at Progressive Candidates: telephone 310-280-3411 or visit our website: <http://home.attbi.com/~venicecandidates> or via the link at www.freevenice.org.

See the Neighborhood Council in action

(All meetings are at 7pm and are open to the public.)

Jan. 20 – Land Use and Planning Committee, Boys and Girls Club, 2nd floor 2232 Lincoln Blvd.

Jan. 27 – Board meeting Venice High School cafeteria

Jan. 29 – Conservation Committee meeting Vera Davis Center, 610 California Ave.

Peace and Freedom in 2003? Perhaps in California

By Jim Smith

In recent months there has been a resurgence of progressive and left politics around the world. Lula da Silva and the Workers Party won the presidential election in Brazil. Socialist-oriented parties and candidates hold power in Venezuela and Ecuador. Soon, Californians may rock the world by putting a peace party on the ballot - and a party that was founded in Venice, at that!

California has been moving to the left for several years. The Republicans hold not a single statewide office. Whites no longer make up a majority of the state's residents, and the Golden State is at odds with the federal government on everything from medical marijuana, off-coast drilling to protecting our forests. Clearly, if radical politics can become a force anywhere in the U.S., it is in California.

The Peace and Freedom Party's obituary was written by many political pundits when it lost ballot status in 1996. Before then, P&F had run candidates such as Black Panther Eldridge Cleaver, Elizabeth Martinez, Dr. Benjamin Spock, and a number of Venetians including John Haag, Rick Davidson and Marge Buckley. In the last two years, the remnants of the party have been transformed into a new political movement whose membership base is largely made up of Californians of color.

Without much publicity, these new activists have signed up more than 30,000 new registrants and are closing in on the 78,000 required to qualify for the ballot. Party leaders say they need only 4,000 members statewide to achieve that goal by February. At the same time, they worry about the stringent enforcement of the California Secretary of State's policy of knocking people off the rolls if they have not voted in two elections and have moved. That policy affects P&F more than the Republicans or Democrats since P&F members tend to have lower incomes and are more likely renters. If P&F doesn't achieve the net gain of 4,000 by February, it will have to wait until October to qualify for the ballot.

"We need ballot status now," says P&F organizer and Venice Chapter Co-Chair Yolanda Miranda. "There are millions of working-class Democrats who feel they have been betrayed by their party but have no where to go," she says.

"We are building a socialist and democratic party that is militantly anti-racist and anti-war," says Miranda. "But we need ballot status to win credibility with many voters who are looking for a left-wing alternative to the Democrats."

Peace and Freedom describes itself as "...committed to socialism, democracy, ecology, feminism and racial equality."

It is the only California electoral party that says it is based on a particular class - the working class.

P&F believes there should be democratic, public ownership of essential industries and services such as electrical, water, transportation, communications and oil. P&F is in favor of legalizing marijuana and decriminalizing drug use.

The new Peace and Freedom Party has focused a lot of attention on building a presence in the community. "We are an everyday party, not just an election day party," says Miranda. In this regard, the Venice P&F chapter might be a model of grassroots community organizing by a political party. In less than two years, the chapter has initiated and helped to maintain weekly anti-war marches and rallies on the Venice Boardwalk (63 at last count); helped to restart this famous underground newspaper, the Free Venice Beachhead; campaigned for a monument to the Japanese-Venetians who were taken off to the camps in World War II; and initiated a slate of progressive candidates, including P&F, Greens and Democrats who won most of their elections for the new neighborhood council.

Miranda, who is co-chair of the Venice Chapter, says the party is working to establish chapters in communities and campuses around the state. "We're not sitting still and waiting to get on the ballot. There are too many problems right now, including homelessness, no health care, no affordable housing and criminalization of our youth. We need strong community chapters that can take on these issues, and also point a finger at the root cause, capitalism," she says.

Registration forms are available at libraries and post offices, or by calling 399-2215 or visiting www.peaceandfreedom.org. You'll have to check "other" and write in Peace and Freedom.



Fano

Swami X Interview

By Suzy Williams

Swami X, The Guru of the Boardwalk, has been entertaining and enlightening crowds on the beach for years. The Swami would stand on a bench, weaving, gesticulating and waving sheets of poetry, regaling and sometimes shocking listeners, commenting on current events and on personalities from Nixon to Zsa Zsa Gabor. His white hair and beard, distinctive features and authoritative yet melodious voice became a favorite and signature part of the community. And Swami's serious commentaries always ended with a good laugh.

Suzy Williams: Welcome, Swami X! First of all, how would you describe yourself?

Swami X: How would I describe myself?

SW: Would you say you were a comedian-philosopher, or what?

Swami: Well, I'm listed in Who's Who as "What the fuck is that?". The man whose mother is still suing his father for ill-founded and meaningless entry. The man who leaps from tall buildings into small moist boxes. Roman Polanski's spiritual advisor. Dr. Ruth's gynecologist. Ted Kennedy's lifeguard. Ronald Wilson Reagan (666)'s faithful Indian guide. Boy George II Bush's pornographer. The man who taught Charlie Manson leadership and sensitivity. Ed McMahon premature elocution and ejaculation.

SW: You taught him that?

Swami X: That took a long time. He wasn't the best student in the world, I'll tell you that. Adolf Hitler, I taught him small talk and tap dancing. Richard Nixon, comedy and bombing.

SW: Pleased to meet you. I think I guessed your name! Swami, where did you get your name, Swami X?

Swami X: Well, my Swami name is Sivananda. When I came out to the West Coast, for a couple of years, in the sixties I was sending materials into the underground papers as Swami Sivananda. But they kept calling me the wrong name, like Swami Swananundi, Swami Shoomoonrapu, Swami Valtarooni, so I just thought, OK, I'll just call myself Swami X. And then all the charlatans started coming over here, all these guys who were posing as Perfect Masters and trying to make a buck and fuck somebody's girlfriend. So I thought, well, I'll just drop out technically, unofficially and call myself X-Swami X.

SW: And then you strunked it back down to Swami X?

Swami X: Well, in the papers, they would err and call me Y Swami Y.

SW: Why, Swami, why?

Swami X: I realized that there's nothing you can do about the media. If you've ever had a personal story done on you, even if they mean well, they're going to screw the story up. If you're looking for truth in the media, it's a mission impossible.

SW: Oh, oh. Well, you can look at this typed-up interview before it goes to print, and see if you approve of it.

Swami X: Do whatever you want with it. But that would be my hesitation- that people would edit it so that it would be a misrepresentation.

SW: Well, alright. Now, what is your present state of mind?

Swami X: Well, I just had a fantastic breakfast that I'm still working on, and I could just drop dead right now and I'd be ahead of the game.

SW: Now, Swami, where are you from?

Swami X: Philadelphia. City of Brotherly Incest.

SW: (Laughs) So you went on a spiritual quest before you went on a comic quest?

Swami X: Well, the truth is that when I was twelve years of age, my mother separated from my father and a month later, we had to get rid of our dog, some new neighbors moved in and our dog started chewing up their dog, and I thought, "What is this? First my mother and then my dog?" and so I took a vow of silence. I would just say yes, no and I don't know. And I started carrying a Brazil nut, pointing it to people. It was my way of saying "Nuts to you". And this went on for three months, and then there was this party at our house with kids my age, about 8 of them and 4 or 5 adults, and then I started to talk and then I started to make jokes, and I'm doing pratfalls, and I'm doing word-play, and...that was my re-entry into humanity, and on a subjective, inner level I started wanting to be a comedian. And then after that, I started being obsessed with comics on the radio, and there was a comic at a local Burlesque house, around 1940, and I remember I nailed this guy on stage from the audience.

SW: At age fifteen you were funnier than the guy onstage.

Swami X: Well, I was getting over on him. Yes, my father was a cop, so they didn't arrest me, but the usher told me to be cool.

SW: So who did you listen to?

Swami X: Oh, Fred Allen, Jerry Lewis. Those great comedy shows. And the serials, like *I Love A Mystery*. As did Lenny Bruce, because we're the same age.

SW: Who are your favorite comics?

Swami X: Right now, David Cross. And his buddy, Bob Abernathy. And I love Redd Foxx. And Jackie Mason.

SW: He's still happening

Swami X: He's still doing his thing at 73 or 74.

SW: And Carlin?

Swami X: Yeah, I did his chart one time. He's positively brilliant. He writes all his own stuff. He's getting heavier and heavier.

SW: I felt when I saw him that he doesn't like people. The average Joe, he seems to hate. Letterman is another one like that.

Swami X: I don't think either one of them really do hate people. But that's the formula for their humor. Like Don Rickles. You say, "Man, this guy is obnoxious." But Don Rickles on a personal level is a very sweet guy.

SW: Now, Swami, what attracted you to Venice Beach?

Swami X: Well, you've heard about LSD. I broke with the ashram, and got a VW bus and identified with the hippies here. It was 1971. That was about the time Nixon spent all this bread to cut

off recalcitrant students around the country in the hot spots... Berkeley, Madison, and NYU... And my political contribution was to make people laugh, because if you make people laugh you can make them think.

SW: You were on the beach from about...

Swami X: '71 to about '84, and during and after that I went back and forth and did Washington Square in New York and I did Hyde Park in London for six months.

SW: Did you always prefer to play the streets?

Swami X: I would welcome a shot inside, in fact in Seattle and Portland I worked in bars and clubs. The freaks moved up there, in fact that was one of the highlights of my comedy career, getting encores from those people, just working off the top of my head. Yeah, I could work the inside, I could play the big rooms.

SW: But you didn't feel like working the Improv and all those places.

Swami X: I worked the Improv and The Comedy Store, but coming off the street I was a little raw language-wise.

SW: But you found the Venice audience to be the greatest audience in the world.

Swami X: Anybody who works inside, and then works the streets obviously must love people.... And Venice people at that time, especially ...are very special to me.

SW: Ah, yes, yes. What rituals or routines do you use to inspire yourself to perform?

Swami X: I used to pray every day that I would get laughs! I worked out a formula, an approach to going on, your attitude; the humility has to be there, the confidence has to be there and the love of the people has to be there. Because real confidence and real humility go together. People sometimes think they're opposites, but they're not opposite at all because real humility is based on confidence. To really be humble, you have to be very secure. Vulnerability is very tough. So if there's any ego there, the audience knows it in fifteen seconds. They feel where you are coming from.

To be continued...



Artist: Christine Carole Inman


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Brandishing the Food Not Bombs flag, Len Doucette – with Calvin Moss in the background – participated in Venice’s first FNB Peace Camp. Doucette is the founder of *Hard Times*, the first homeless paper in Los Angeles. The Food Not Bombs Peace Camp at the Venice-Santa Monica border is erected to oppose war and poverty.

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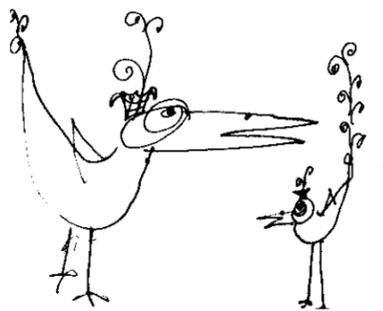
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**SADNESS –
 Co-Op closing its doors**

The Venice-Ocean Park Food Co-Op, which has served Venice for 27 years, is folding. Appeals went out to give it some financial help, and there were some responses. One illustrious Venetian donated \$5,000, but alas not enough funds were raised to float it through January. Anyone who'd like to help throw a party in early January to pay salaries to the lovable friend staff and pay grocery bills for the Co-Op, contact Suzy at 306-7330.

The Lovesick Lunatics
 Every Friday
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 8pm - 11pm
www.lovesicklunatics.com



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Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd.:

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Since 1969, Beyond Baroque has provided a free workshop program and gathering place for writers to develop their voice, find support, and build new communities. Bring copies of your work.

• **MONDAY NIGHT FICTION** - 8 PM

Workshop focuses on short shorts, stories, and novels. With Steve Pitkin and Matthew Byloos.

• **TUESDAY NIGHT CREATIVE NON-FICTION** - 8 pm.

Bring works of creative non-fiction, memoir, and prose.

Led by Cindy Bailey and Wayman Barnes.

• **WEDNESDAY NIGHT POETRY** - 8 PM

The West Coast's longest running, free workshop and a legendary gathering of poets.

THURSDAY NIGHT POETRY - 8 PM

First and last Thursdays of the month. Bring poems you're thinking about (yours or other poets'); with Jenny Factor and Jessica Goodheart.

THURSDAY ALT.SCREENPLAY - 8 PM

Documentary, narrative, art film scripts, actor readings. Non-commercial only. Moderated by Peter Coogan.

Every Sunday Night, 7:00 PM Open-Mic Poetry at Abbot's Habit (Abbot Kinney & California), Venice

Midnight Special Bookstore 1318 3rd Street, Santa Monica

FRIDAYS OPEN POETRY - Open readings every Friday night, 8 PM Sharp! Sign-up starts at 7:30 PM. Please be rehearsed and stay under the 5 minute time limit. Prizes every Friday.

POETRY WORKSHOP -- the 2nd Saturday of the month. Hosted by Elizabeth Pavone. Please come prepared with 5 copies of your poem.

COMMUNITY

Jan. 1 - Mar. 15, Winter Shelter at the Culver City Armory and the Veteran's Administration. Pick-up (and drop-off) sites:

• Venice - the corner of Westminster and Pacific at 5:30 PM,

• Santa Monica - OPCC at 1616 7th St, 6:15 PM and Step Up On Second at corner of 2nd & Arizona, 5:45 PM

Jan. 1 and Feb. 1, **CAR FREE DAY**- all day - make Venice a better place to live by parking those cars! Meet Jan. 1, 4 PM with your bike at the Venice Circle (Main & Windward) for a short group ride around Venice!

Jan. 8, 9 AM - **Widen Lincoln Blvd.?** California Coastal Commission Meeting, L.A.X. Radisson Hotel, 6225 West Century Blvd, Century & Sepulveda. For more information contact Earth Alert at 800-338-6980.

Jan. 14 7:30 - **SCIENCE IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST: "Deep Space One,"** presented by Robert M. Nelson, a research scientist at the Jet propulsion Laboratory and is the Project Scientist on Deep Space One, DS1. Midnight Special Bookstore 1318 3rd Street, Santa Monica.

Organizations

- Abbot Kinney Library - 501 S. Venice Blvd. 821-1769.
- Beyond Baroque - 681 Venice Blvd. <www.beyondbaroque.org>
- Grass Roots Venice Neighborhood Council - <www.grassrootsvenice.org> - 281-1943.
- Midnight Special Bookstore - 1318 3rd St. Promenade, Santa Monica - <www.msbooks.com> - 393-2923
- Venice Arts Mecca - 610 California Ave. 578-1745.
- Venice Community Housing Corporation - 399-4100 or <www.vchcorp.org>. 720 Rose Ave. Venice.
- Venice Family Clinic - 604 Rose Ave. 392-8636.
- Venice Health Center - 905 Venice Blvd. 392-8636.
- Venice Historical Society - POB 12844, Venice 90295 or <www.veniceofamerica.org>
- Venice-Ocean Park Food Co-Op. - 839 Brooks Ave.
- Venice Peace & Freedom Party - 399-2215 - <pfp@freevenice.org>.
- Venice Skills Center - 611 5th Ave. 392-4153.
- Vera Davis McClendon Center - 610 California Ave. - 305-1865.

Community

Events



FILM

Jan. 8, 8:00 PM - At Seven Dudley Cinema, two films by CRAIG BALDWIN: *Tribulation 99* and *Spectres of the Spectrum*. They are pseudo-documentary cybertext, a full-on ménage of satire, political fantasy, black comedy and crackpot paranoia. Sponto Gallery, 7 Dudley Ave, Venice 399-2078. Web: <www.81x.com/7dudley/cinema>, also contact Gerry Fialka 310-306-7330.

Feb. 5, 8:00 PM - Seven Dudley Cinema, another fine film by CRAIG BALDWIN: *Sonic Outlaws*, an unabashedly partisan view of the new technologies war between a corporate media marketplace and underground 'culture jammers.' And yes CRAIG BALDWIN will be present! Sponto Gallery, 7 Dudley Ave, Venice, CA 310 399 2078. <www.81x.com/7dudley/cinema>, also contact Gerry Fialka at 306-7330.

POLITICAL

• Jan. 4, Saturday, Noon-2pm - Venice Peace & Freedom Party meeting. 310-399-2215.

• Jan. 11, 11:00 AM - **Mass March and Rally to STOP THE WAR AGAINST IRAQ** beginning at Broadway & Olympic, downtown Los Angeles.. Rally at Temple & Broadway. More information at 399-2215.

• Starting in January! **THE UNIVERSITY OF VENICE**. Take the seven-week course: Class locations to be announced...Sponsored by Venice Peace and Freedom. Call 399-2215 for more information.

• Jan. 16, 7 PM - **WAGESLAVERY & CAPITALISM** - Jim Smith.

• Jan. 23, 7 PM - **THE WORLD SITUATION:** Focus on Middle East/Palestine - Dr. Manzar Foroohar.

• Every Wednesday, 6:30pm - Homeless issues - **Side by Side**. Community group on homeless issues for beach area. The Ken Edwards Center in Santa Monica.

• Every Sunday, 2pm - **Venice Peace Movement** march and rally - No new war, End mass detentions and attacks on our civil liberties - March starts at Rose & the Boardwalk, followed by an open-mic rally.



readings

• First Monday of the month, 6pm - Marshall McLuhan - Finnegans Wake Reading Club, Abbot Kinney Library, 501 Venice Blvd. 821-1769.

Midnight Special Bookstore 1318 3rd Street, Santa Monica

• Jan. 26, 2:00 PM -- bell hooks will read and discuss her new book, *ROCK MY SOUL: Black People and Self Esteem*.

• **SISTERHOOD READING GROUP** meets the 1st Thursday of every month to share thoughts and feelings on books written by women. Books are chosen by those participating each month. All books read are by women authors and cover a wide range of experience.

Jan. 18, 7:00 - **CALL TO ACTION:** Readings and Performances by Alicia Gaspar de Alba, Claudia Rodriguez, Erika Elizondo with Killsonic and Monica Barriga, Consuelo Flores, Raquel Salinas, Adriana Alba-Sanchez, and Jarocho Music - all at Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd. Venice. If you want to get more involved with this contact: The Coalition for Justice and Women's Rights in Ciudad Juarez at 323 661 0475 or coalition4justiceinjuarez@yahoo.com

• Sunday nights at Abbot's Habbit Coffee House. Open Mic.

THEATRE

Pacific Resident Theatre, 703 Venice Blvd.

BIG LOVE - By Charles L. Mee. Extended through Feb. 3

Friday & Saturday 8 PM - Sunday 3 PM
Call Box Office at 310 822 8392

ART

Jan. 3, 5-10 PM, **CLOSING OF THE CIRCLE OF COLOR**, the PARTY kicks-off with **BLACK SHOE POLISH**, featuring Gerry Fialka & Kyle Kowderuck. Followed by much drumming and merriment with Ibrahim and friends at Sponto Gallery, 7 Dudley Ave, Venice 399-2078.

Now through Jan. 18, 9 AM - 5 PM Monday through Friday, and January 12 noon to 4 PM. - **HIJAS DE JUAREZ**, End the Violence Against Women in Juarez exhibit at SPARC, 685 Venice Blvd, Venice 822-9560. See the exhibit's finale reading and performance, **CALL TO ACTION**, at Beyond Baroque (SPARC's neighbor) Jan. 18, 7-9 PM.

Jan. 11 - Feb. 15, **THE ANTI-WAR SHOW:** The Price of Intervention From Korea to Iraq, at Track 16 Gallery, Bergamont Station in Santa Monica. Curated by Carol Wells from the archives of the Center for the Study of Political Graphics <www.politicalgraphics>. The opening reception is Jan.11 from 6 to 9 PM, call 310-264-4678.

MUSIC

• Fridays @ **The Cows End:**
5-7pm - Chris Kuter
8-11pm - Lovesick Fridays featuring The Lovesick Lunatics and many more!
In Hamburger Square, Washington and Pacific.

• Jan. 7, 8:00 PM - **Suzy Williams and Nick Ariondo** with guest vibraphonist Kahlil Sabbagh, \$10.00 at Genghis Cohen, 740 North Fairfax Ave, info. 310-306-7330

• Jan. 23, **All Night** Starting at 7:30 PM - Multimedia Multifaceted Evening of Art, Word, Music, and Dance hosted by The Impressario at Club Mosaic (behind Warszawa Restaurant), 1414 Lincoln Blvd. Santa Monica

• Jan. 25, 8:30 PM - *Gracious* playing at 14 Below, 14th & Santa Monica Blvd.

