INSIDE

POSITIONS Pg. 3 AVAILABLE POETRY-PARK-"6-7 STEP-ROSES Pg.8 POLITICS Pg.9 RELIGION



Council's Corporate Charter

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Happy New Year! VII Professionals to Direct Venice

by John Haag

At its December 12th meeting the Venice Town Council re-affirmed its intention to incorporate and elected a slate of seven volunteers to be its Board of Directors. They are: Pat McCartney, President; Don Tollefsen, Vice President of Membership; Joan Cory, Vice President of Communications; Ed McQueeney, Treasurer; Cheri Leslie, Secretary; Moe Stavnezer and Will Rabbe, Members -at-Large.

These seven, who for the next year will lead the defense of our community against money-minded developers and like-minded politicians, include two attorneys, an architectural manager, a redevelopment manager, a cafe owner, a pharmacist and a writer. That seems like a pretty professional line-up and maybe the more effective because of it.

One hopes so, especially in light of the Council's intent to challenge the Environmental Impact Report submitted for the Playa Vista project, which threatens us with a deluge of traffic, not to mention apartment-seekers and sewage.

I cannot help but cast a jaundiced eye at some aspects of the new Town Council's eight-page charter. (There is some difference of opinion whether or not the charter has been adopted.) The Council is now highly structured. President McCartney will chair every Council and Board of Directors meeting until next December, imprinting his personality on every meeting for the next year.

I like Pat. His motives seem to me admirable, but it's going to be his Town Council and people will respond accordingly. Even with incorporation and its requirement for a Board of Directors the chair could be rotated, but that's not what the new charter says. Nor is there any provision for recall.

Despite the requirements of incorporation, which are anti-democratic, vesting all decisionmaking power in the Board, the Council could have adopted whatever procedures it liked for everyday operation. There's the rub: these professional people, used to the tight structures of managing and lawyering, chose tight structure all the way. Apparently they feel comfortable with corporate hierarchy. I just hope it works for them--and for us, because we need the Town Council.

Tiny Tim Politics

BY CAROL FONDILLER

The end of the year is always the dregs. I feel as if I'm deluged with the lists of the best the worst the most the least.

If I watch television I get this sort of post Christmas ready made gemutlikheit squeezed and smeared all over the air waves, leaving big oily stains on my brain.

Then I read in every newspaper magazine etc., I pick up, some writers coy cute new years resolution and some times sports figures, performers artificial heart recipients, former hostages, also have the bad breeding to tell me their new years resolutions,

Sentiment Vozes From Urifice As I write this, the syrupy tinny heer of Christmas sentiments are still oozing from every media orifice.

And now is the peak time for what I call "Tiny Tim" journalism. I take it for granted that most people have read or seen Dicken's "Christmas Carol" where crippled little Tiny Tim in spite of the fact he was crippled, weak and hungry always cried "God Bless us every one"

CONINUED TO PAGELO

Why incorporate? The only reasons I've heard are purely defensive: so Council officers cannot be sued individually by disappointed developers or other persons unknown. Has it happened in all the years of resistance in Venice? Not once. So one suspects some other reason, too, such as the familiarity of the corporate model serving the function of a security blanket. But times do change. Counter suits are more common, and the activists of the new Town Council may have more to lose than their predecessors.

From a comment of Pat's I gather that he thinks the old Town Council declined because of lack of structure. Not so. It was structured adequately to perform its work. It declined, in my opinion, because it came to represent only the most radical segment of the Venice community and no one else. There's no danger of that happening to the new Council.

The Council charter makes voting membership open to anyone who lives, works, owns property, or uses public facilities in Venice. Whatever for? Beach-goers don't need the Town Council to represent them. Would we try to join their

organizations in their communities? As for absentee property-owners, they have their own organizations and often money enough to buy politicians without our help. I'd much rather see Council membership open only to Venice residents, property owners or not, except on a case-by-case basis by majority vote of the Council.

I joined the Venice Town Council in hopes that it would further the interests of Venice residents, including myself. So far I think it has. I hope, despite the pitfalls of rigid structure, that it will continue to do so.

If you care about the survival of our community, join the Venice Town Council. Membership is \$10.00 a year or five hours work for the Council. (That comes out to only \$2 an hour. Oh, well.)

> For information call 392-7095.



KCRW Stonewalls Sun City Connection

November's Beachhead printed an article outlining the anti-apartheid efforts of the Coalition for Peace With Justice at Santa Monica College. As stated, a major goal was to air a panel discussion about Sun City on the college's station, KCRW. The broad aim of the discussion is to inform our community of this particularly deceitful "happy face" of racism: a Las Vegas style Sin-City which dangles \$ million+ fees to American entertainers. Perhaps the most important acceptors of this blood money have been Ray Charles and Frank Sinatra. KCRW itself becomes part of the discussion because it has produced and repeatedly aired four-hour tributes to both Charles and Sinatra with no serious discussion of their activities supporting South Africa.

Charles has sloughed off his acts as "playing for Black people there, back in 1979." This was more than a bit selfserving. In October, 1982, Ray Charles played before the typical Sun City audiences: wealthy white males of South Africa on their weekend holidays with attractive black prostitutes. This is precisely what motivated the tremendous gathering of American entertainers who say "We Won't play Sun City" on the recent hit record. What we demand of KCRW is a serious discussion of what Sun City really means to South Africa and the America it's trying to keep as a supporter, as well as the boycott on performing there called by the United Nations, by the "Sun City" record, and by over 500 prominent entertainers worldwide.

KCRW has stonewalled it. After scores of phone calls to the station regarding the Thanksgiving repeat special on Ray Charles, written requests to the SMC official supposedly in charge of the station, over 500 signatures of students on a petition gathered during Peace Week, several phone and in person calls to the station trying to get a meeting, Ruth Hirschman, KCRW's general manager, refuses to even discuss the issue. Rather, she and the student paper, the Corsair, launched attacks on both the Coalition and activists within it.

The Coalition for Peace With Justice has not asked KCRW to stop playing the records of Sinatra, Charles, et. al. KCRW has the right to produce tributes to any and all supporters of that system. We do feel that the activities of these artists are to be compared to performances in Nazi Germany just before World War II. There is a holocaust of human suffering in South Africa today, and to cater to it or to ignore it is to become party to it. We must not remain silent while this holocaust exists; we are obliged to speak out against this crime against humanity. The immediate issue becomes convincing KCRW to open up their airways for this vital discussion. We're asking Beachhead readers to keep up with the situation and let this valuable community station know your ideas on the matter.

Since completing the above article, we've learned that Reverend James Lawson, president of Los Angeles Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), has been invited to discuss South Africa on KCRW on December 26 and on January 24, 1986. This response to our campaign ignores the directly relevant issue of Sun City and KCRW and is no substitute for the broad panel proposed. Indeed, Reverend Lawson's appearance will probably be used to gloss up KCRW's image and to oppose this organized effort by SMC students. Nevertheless, we view this as a victory for public pressure and an encouragement for more of the same. Congradulations to all of us and right on!

By the time this article appears, the December 26, 1985 broadcast by Reverend Lawson will have taken place. We urge readers to call and telephone in questions during Reverend Lawson's second appearance on January 24, 1986, at 1:30 in the afternoon.

> - Roswell Page Coalition for Peace With Justice

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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. We welcome and take responsibility for publishing contributions exactly as the contributors submit them, although the opinions expressed by the contributors are not necessarily, endorsed by the Collective staff. The Beachhead encourages anyone to submit news stories, articles, letters, photos, poetry, graphics or other material of interest to the Venice community. We ask that writing be limited to 1200-1500 words. The volunteer staff reserves the right to make all decisions collectively on material published. There is no editor of the Beachhead. The Collective is an open group and welcomes interested Venice people's participation. Printing is financed by ad donations. To submit material, include your name & phone no. Anonymous material will not be published, 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.



GOOD NEWS!

Ron & Michele have re-opened the Sea n' Shore in the Venice Village. Now with pink and white decor, the restaurant offers a menu with something for everyone. Speciality of the house-"Moules Frites"is a plate of mussels which have been steamed in beer, served with french fries. The mussels are specially flown in from Prince Edward Island, Canada. Another great dish-"Filet of Calamari"-comes with a delicious caper sauce. To accompany your meal, select one of the 14 Belgian Gourmet Beers in stock. As Ron says: "If you've never tried a Belgian beer, then you've never had a beer!" His beers have an alcoholic content of up to 25%.

You can sit on the front patio and watch the movement on the boardwalk, or in the secluded garden behind the restaurant. with its trees and ornamental pool

Sean' Shore Cafe, in the Venice Village, 205 Ocean Front Walk (North of Rose Avenue), Venice, CA 90291 Phone: (213) 392-5201





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Be Bop with the BRACH HIMAID

February





very so often, The BEACHHEAD Collective undergoes a metamorphosis. Times of renewal and change are part of this paper. It seems to work for the paper and the community—and this one of those times.

What we'd like to have happen, right now, is a kind of changing of the guard. Not the institution, the guard. If you enjoy the Beachhead with all its faults and foibles, because it has something to say from a humane point of view, we'd like to get to know you. If you have some commitment to Venice and alternative media and don't mind working as part of a group, we'd just love to have you work and play with us!

How we operate as a collective is described in Moe's article first printed a year ago. Not much has changed except the distribution is more difficult because fewer people are involved in "spreading the word."

Please join us at our first meeting this month, Sunday, January 12th at 11:00 am. We meet in a large room above the Fox (Venice) International Theater at 620 Lincoln Blvd. We look forward to meeting you and having you as part of a truly unique community resource.

Exclusive

Beachhead Secrets Exposed

MOE STAVNEZER

This is the Beachhead's 16th year of publishing.
Yet, it seems, there are many of you out there without
the vaguest notion of how it's done. So, into the breach
I come trutting with this public interest story about
the way we, the Collective, operate (subtitled, Everything You Always Wanted To Know About the Beachhead
But Didn't Care Enough About To Ask.).

An excellent example of Beachhead policy was on display in our Special Election Issue last month. There, on one page, you could find Sandy Blixton urging a vote for the Peace & Freedom Party candidate for Congress while, on another page, I urged a vote for Mcl Levine! Moral: rarely does the Beachhead take a collective editorial position. The basic instinct of this, and the previous, collective is to air the many and diverse views of people in the community who take the time to write articles. We are unabashedly a bit left of center as a group (The right has plenty of money to get its views known.). But that does not mean that we have the same politics - - far from it. We may lean in the same direction but quite different winds have bent us. Collectives, past and present. have generally agreed to disagree on any number of subjects and to refrain from shoving one position down the throat of other collective members. That sometimes means hefty arguments, hurt feelings, and bruised egos -- but all of that comes with the territory.

Anyone can join this madness. The Beachhead meets three Saturdays a month - - omitting the first Saturday of the month - - in a spacious room above the Fox Theater, generously given us by Rol Murrow. We begin at 11 am and go until the tasks for each meeting have been completed, sometimes in the late afternoon. In order to bring a measure of sanity and consistency into the organized chaos that typifics the collective, we met some years ago to establish a regular routine for each of the meetings. During the first and second meetings we read articles and poetry and accept (the vast majority) or reject them. On the second Saturday, our most gruefling meeting in my opinion, we also assign accepted articles to pages in the paper and also invent the headlines for the articles. (Generally, if an author wants a particular headline we accept it, unless, of course, we all think it's unacceptable for one reason or another.) Also, generally speaking, we do not accept articles that are racist, sexist, or just plain very poorly written. Neither, generally, do we publish right-wing stuff.

A couple of years ago we began to have the headlines done professionally, instead of press-typing them the day of paste-up — the ritual that takes place on the third Saturday. This has freed us from the tedium of press-typing each headline the day of paste-up, but also robs us of a certain amount of creative spontaneity (another compromise). The creation of headlines in this manner illustrates another ongoing debate—the funky vs. neat argument. The last few collectives have made room for both extremes in this debate—people who insist that the way the paper looks

("So what if the headline is crooked!") is unimportant,

to those who feel that the way it looks ("The god-



damned headlines are all crooked!") is all important. For the most part, the centrists have carried the day in this debate -- we try to make the paper look as good as we can, realizing that each of us has varying talents concerning layout and different eyes where art is concerned.

The same is true in typing the articles. Contrary to popular myth, the Beachhead does not have a quota of typos for each article. About 90% of all the articles are typed by members of the Collective who, as you may have noticed, have different levels of skill at the keyboard. We have discovered that a good typewriter (IBM Selectrics are wonderful.) makes a whole bunch of difference as far as reproduction is concerned. Manual typewriters are especially bad, mainly because the type is uneven and seems to "break up" during the printing process. If you want to write an article and don't have a good typewriter, don't be discouraged . . . if the article is accepted we'd rather type it than have it come out unreadable in the paper.

We've been going to the same printer for about as long as anyone can remember -- Glendale Precision Rotary Press. It's not a union press (for which we are sometimes criticized) but they print a number of alternative papers, and have resisted police harrassment over the Beachhead and other publications. We like our printer and our printer likes us.

Collective members do a lot more than put the paper together. We are all responsible for some distribution each month -- we get lots of help from the community with this job, thank goodness. We are also responsible for getting the ads that keep the paper going, a job that none of us likes a whole lot but one that is absolutely essential - since there don't seem to be any sugar daddies or mommies willing to support us. When we do a fund raiser (usually once a year) all of us also share the responsibility for that as well. Needless to say, the Collective is a busy bunch and appreciates all the help we can get in any aspect of "doing" the Beachhead.

Oh yes, an important point not yet mentioned concerns editing articles. We do NOT edit original articles submitted to us. If an article needs editing we return it to the author for revision. We do edit press releases or canned articles (those that are xeroxed and have obviously been sent to a number of publications). There are good and bad consequences of this policy and the Beachhead has felt that the good outwelgts the bad both in terms of work involved in editing and, more important, in allowing people to say their piece the way they'd like to have it said, without the imposition of our writing skills or values. I think that the policy has served the paper and the community quite well.

So there you are, the skinny about the Beachhead. But you're not going to get away without a pitch. If you can afford a few pieces of gold, piease toss them our way. The Beachhead operates from month to month with very little cushion in our bank account. If you'd like to write, draw, take photos (one of our weakest areas), help distribute the paper, or join the Collective all we can say is DO IT. Our number and address are on the masthead and we'd just love to hear from you

Now You Too Can Support The Beachhead!

The Beachhead needs help! I know, what else is new?

Well, Moe is quitting. Everyone that reads this paper knows about Moe. What you don't know is how much work Moe does that doesn't end up in print. My good friend, the execrable Mustafa, said, "Moe's the franchise, man."

Moe isn't the franchise. He never was.

Neither was Arnold. It was never Arnold and his secretaries. That was a non-Beachheaders fantasy. Carol Fondiller was considered the franchise at one time. Although as she says, no one ever called her that. John Haag wasn't the Franchise either. These folks have(or will) come and go. We need Carol's stilted views, Moe's Coastal Connections and Arnold's well, history. But the Beachhead continues to survive almost like it has a life of its own. We the collective are simply its caretakers. Many of us are also contributors. But the FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD continues with or without us individually.

What the BEACHHEAD needs is US collectively. BEACHHEAD chores somehow get done. Every issue. Somehow there's always been enough energy to put the paper out. But our energy sources are getting low.

Carol's making noises about leaving the collective again. It can be a necessary parting. She'dil be back.

We need folks. We need energy, ideas, help and WORK. You can't replace Moe but we can replace the energy ('course that'll take about 27 people).

Anyway, you don't even have to come to a meeting. There's lots of things you can do from your home, room or cell. Call us, the number's on the Masthead.

If you can, come to a meeting. We meet three(3) Sundays a month. That's all-Really! Our first meeting is Sunday, January 12th. We meet in the studio above the FOX INTER-NATIONAL THEATRE. Yes, the space is donated.

Everything about the Beachhead is volunteer. If you want to help, see your name in print, contribute and channel your energies come to a meeting.

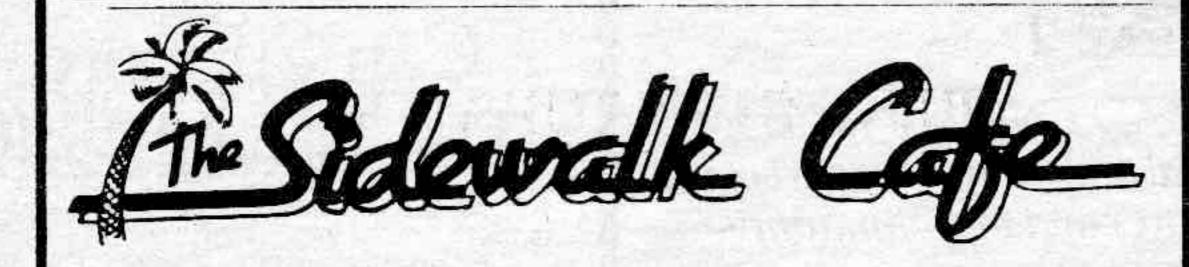
You don't even have to be real familiar with Venice. I wasn't when I came. I've been in Venice less than 5 years and I've been a Beachhead staffer for more than 4 years. You just gotta' love this crazy paper.

memphis slim for THE COLLECTIVE



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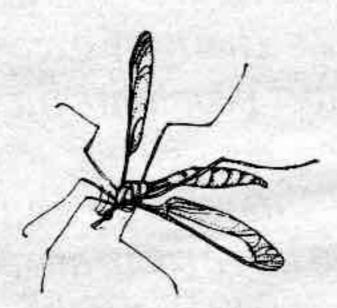
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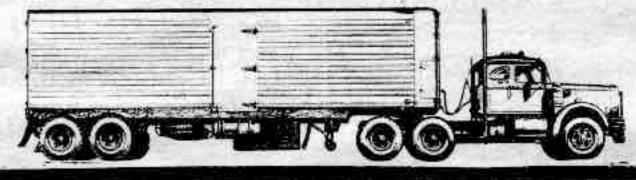
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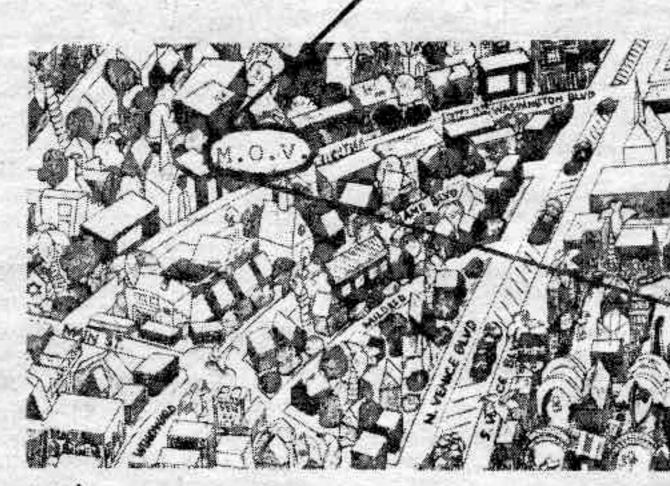
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No

BY CAROL FONDILLER

What happens when a developer sticks an office building on a lot on the Ocean Front Walk and no one rents it? Why, you sell the building, not the mad, to an out of town buyer. Then you go into partnership with someone else and build another building on another lot you own. At least, this is how it seems Werner Sharf is going about utilizing the undeveloped property he owns. Actually Haskins built on land Sharf owns, a replica of a building known as the old Venice Bathouse. Somehow, it looked different when one saw the architects drawing - but of course, the Architect took no notice of the Ocean Front Walk, or alleys or any other details - so when it was built, the Bathouse came out squabby looking with it's cheap phony genteel quattrocento aspirations sprawling brownishly on the Ocean Front Walk.

It is a replica of the old Bathouse which is a replica of some Dogerey or other in Venice Italy. For two years this building stood empty (Rumor has it, that the Bathouse will be occupied in January of this year).

Recently, the partnerhsip of Sharf Waldman and Fields, known as Venice Park Association Development, has decided to build on four contiguous lots between Park Avenue and Brooks.

I was at a meeting held at Galper and Balden, architectural landscape offices ahat overlooked the lot in question.

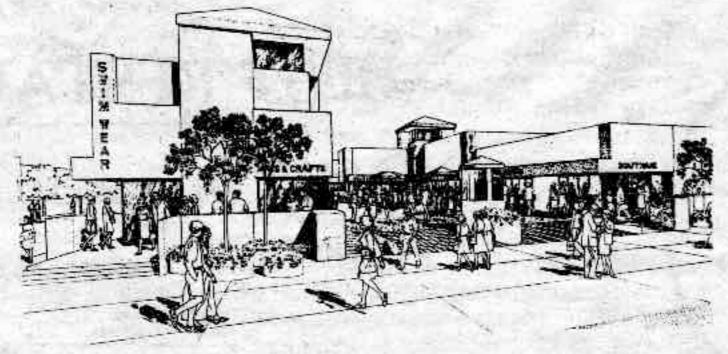
Mike Dieden Represented the builders to the ten skeptical residents at Park Avenue and environs.

According to the Architectural drawings the project looks like a Southern California "50's" moderne Orange County Shopping Mall. On the flyers handed out by Venice Park Association Development herin after known as V-PAD, stated that the lot would be open from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. The building would be 17 feet in height and go up to 33 feet in height. When questioned Mike Dieden said the brief differences were for variation. The V-PAD flyer also stated that it would not generate increased traffic.

The lot has been used for the past 10 years for open air vending and at a hearing to get a conditional use permit for vending, Cleo Balden said it had a park like atmosphere. If this project goes thru, there will be no Park on Park.

At the Zoning Administration hearing, Curt Simon sent in a letter of support and Phil Bubar president of the Venice Chamber of Commerce, supported the Park Ave. Shopping Mall and prophisied a renaissance in the community.

Park On Park



Steve Blanchard owner of a business on Sunset that has no change of use permit and who has carved out four illegal parking spheres on a walk street that one can only get to by driving down the Ocean Front Walk, said "Venice was the filthiest, most infamous beach in the world". He said about 18 million people a year come to the beach. Then he said that people didn't come to the beach for fear of being mugged or beaten. He blamed lack of "progress", i.e., development on "a few people" who lobby against development. He also proceeded to blame the vacant lots, sandy beaches and pagodas for crime, drugs etc.

Now, one must remember that Phil Bubar is president of the Chamber of Commerce. So, when he speaks of the good of the community we must ask ourselves what community? Well it's right up there in the title - COMMERCE and what is defined as good for commerce is noe necessarily good for the residents in the community, or the tax payers of greater Los Angeles who use the beach. Sharf and other developers and this Venice Chamber of Commerce were not stopped by anti development forces, all of Venice would resemble the bootlegging, illegal units-more units than parking that goes on in the penninsula area of Venice, and most likely areas of beach would be blacktopped so that developers wouldn't have to provide parking.

At the zoning administration hearing, there was talk of landscaping i.e. potted plants, security guards 24 hours a day with lights on at night. When one asked Mide Didien who I thought was an engineer or architect about the 33 feet high turrets-he stated that the turrets could be used for office spaces or watch towers for the security guards-quite a variation from architectural decoration one heard at the neighborhood meeting. I found out Mike was not an architect, but a "Professional Facilitator" - what is a "professional facilitator"? Is it a towel person in a bagnio? A "grease man" with a degree? A Flak Catcher with a degree? I gather he's sort of like a mercenary a hired gun who hires himself out to those developers who

choose not to be visable to the people in the community that their developments would affect. In other words another layer of professionals who do nothing but facilitate for people and corporations and others who can afford their professional services, to deal with community people.

But back to Park Ave. There was a suggestion that when the parking spaces 54 of them weren't being used by the tenants fo the building the residents could use the parking places. It reminded me of how 20 people rent a small apartment and sleep in shifts. There are some people who seem to feel that like the Bathouse is a fine project, and we are lucky that it's not more, and there should be no complaints. Now, I'm not what I call a "light'n air" person i.e. complaining that the building is the lot in front me is going to cut off my view and my light and air. No, I take no such Yuppish stand as that, althought living between two apartment houses as I do, I can't see anything except blank walls and lights shinning on me at night, I feel a certain sympathy but I don't think that this is a fine project on a good building I think it will generate more traffic without sufficient parking, I do not think lights at night make for neighborhood "ambiance", I see no benefits for the community - as one Park Ave. resident said, she wouldn't object to it there were low income housing or if some of the shops catered to the needs of the locals, not just "T shirts and day glow plastic sandals". What is on the lot now are open air vendors, sort of put up the tents and fold them after dark, no lights, only a trailer that is used as an office. What is being proposed and from what this "Professional Facilitator" implies is that the lots will be pricey, and there will be restaurants, so the proposed open air mall will have tables and chairs for the restaurants. At the hearing it was also pointed out not every one got notices of the hearing. It would be nice if V-PAD donated some double sided viewing benches to replace the ones that were neglected by the city since prop. 13 and taken away at the behest of certain business people or put in a little super market, shoe repair shop or stationery store but it's doubtful whether that would happen. After all Sharf and his partners have driven up the land values so much that one can't afford to provide for the necessities, one can only sell shlock or luxuries.

No need to go to a bannana republic, we live in one.

FREE VENICE!

NOTICE!! ENVIRONMENTAL Report on Park Ave. Lot Jan. 14th. Tuesday at City Hall;8:30AM 200 North Spring St.; Room 561-A 5th Floor To look at documents,ask for appoinment at the Zoning Administration Room 600,City Hall. The Project # is C.D.P.85-023. For Info: (213) 485-3851. Donald Crisp, Hearing Officer.

Roses and Thorns

By Patrick McCartney

Happy New Year, Venice. Here we go-shady side of the Eighties. Are you ready? Have you ever been?

NOw's the time for fresh beginnings. A time to make new resolutions or to renew an old resolve. And it's a time, too, to regret neglected, crumpled resolutions that never made it past last year's Ides of March.

New Year's is a time to look back, too. Memories quicken around the holidays, especially as the years pile up and accelerate until past New Years seem like a row of Bott's Dots receding at 60 miles per hour through the rearview mirror.

New Year's is a time, in short, to stop and smell the roses. Go to the Rose Parade, or one of the other barely disguised pagan rituals crafted to guarantee the sun's return.

In the spirit if the season then,
I have a short list of bouquets to
bestow--some with a few thorns.

ROSES FOR VENICE--A fragrant bouquet is due Venice for the past year. Look at the signs. An active Town Council, an active Chamber. The Beyond Baroque Center regained federal money. The yuppies managed to get four more



paddle tennis courts. Things are happening in our Bohemia by the Bay.

THORNS FOR VENICE--Life is painful and then you die. The peaceful Westside has been slated by "higher powers" as the City's next Downtown. Higher powers in this instance stand a lot lower than angels, but a bit higher than our Councilwoman--Summa, Koll-Garrett, Continental, Tooley.

ANOTHER THORN FOR VENICE--Venice
Boulevard, warmly known as the Pat
Russell Parkway, hasn't resembled a
bombed-out runway for years by
accident. Repairs or resurfacing have
been in the City's five year plan lots
of times, but --ney!--what could be
done? The local Chamber was surprised
to learn that the City even had
responsibility for the neglected condition. But we can all thank reelection
politics. Next year, I understand,
the City will find the money to repave
the Pat Russell Parkway.

ROSES FOR L.A. -- The City Council's vote to offer Los Angeles as a shelter for Central American refugees comes as a welcome surprise during the Holiday season. Another candle in the dark-ness.

OLD RESOLUTIONS--I forget what I resolved last year. But this year I'm going to approach it differently. Modest goals. Realistic goals. Ambitious, but attainable goals.

NEW RESOLUTIONS--I'll resolve to vote for Jesse Jackson again. Even if Reagan convinces Congress to make the presidency patrilineal.

I vow to smoke even less pot and work even harder. (Old reliable.)
I've got to resolve to date less and enjoy it more.

This year I'm finally going to learn the value of money and explain it to my creditors

CROWN OF THORNS--DEFENESTRATION IN VENICE--Midnight parking ticket sweeps. Towing scams. Parking a car at the beach tends to aggravate a person's nervous condition. It can be unhealthy, too. One scamster described in last month's Beachhead told the wrong person it was alright to park before having him towed. He either fell, or was tossed, from his third-floor perch.

Peninsula Parking A Step Forward

by MERI ALBRIGHT

Breathes a Venetian numbed so dead Who never, in a rage, has said This situation's pretty stark, My kingdom for a place to park!

Its been a long time since parking was easy in Venice. There's almost no place in Venice where the number of parking spaces has anything to do with the number of cars looking for spaces. The problem is worst, naturally, nearest the beach.

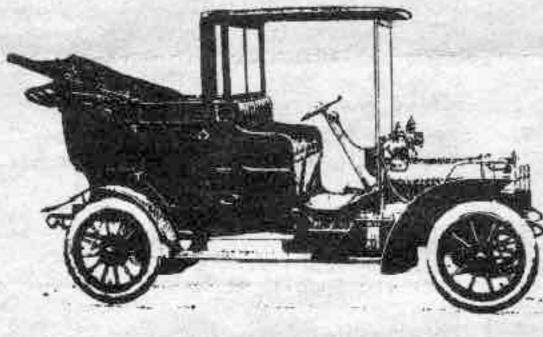
Over the years, the Venice Town Council and a lot of concerned folks have worked on neighborhood plans and coastal plans in an effort to hold the line. The Coastal Commission, whose job includes protecting access to the beach and other coastal resource areas, has imposed parking guidelines far more stringent than the City's, adding some parking and some limits on the development that will be allowed.

One thing the Coastal Commission did was to require the City of LA to do something about parking problems in the Venice Peninsula. The Peninsula beach is owned and maintained by all of us, but it doesn't get nearly as much use as the main part of Venice Beach because it is really hard to get there. East of the Peninsula is Ballona Lagoon, the small but functioning wetland at the mouth of the Canals. The Lagoon, also known as Grand Canal, has been threatened over the years with dredging to become another marina and filling to become foundations for houses along its edges. The Coastal Commission has also made some efforts at insisting on protection for the Lagoon. However, the lots along the edge of the lagoon are legal lots, which means it is well nigh impossible to prevent development unless the public buys the

part of the Peninsula where people used to park until the City posted the lots; using the lagoon side of Pacific Ave. to add parking by creating parking bays off Pacific wherever there is enough space; adding parking in a City owned lot on the east side of the lagoon and building a footbridge at Galleon street; and adding a footbridge toward the south end of the Peninsula (essentially replacing the one torn down a few years ago) so beach visitors can park in the visitor parking required by the Coastal Commission as part of the Silver Strand development permit. The Conservancy also recommended making Pacific one way, which means the traffic will move more smoothly, and it is possible to increase the parking more than if the street is left two way.

Alas, a new crop of Peninsula residents attended the second meeting. Their reaction was a demand for more time to organize their opposition. What are they opposed to? For starters, parking. Can you believe it? Venetians opposed to parking. Well, they said, we don't want any visitors. If we have to have visitors let them park Somewhere Else. Where else, you ask? The Venice median strip (already being developed for parking); inland (that's the problem, everyone is already inland; they want to go to the beach); farther up in Venice, where all the rest of the Venetians live.

This proposal is unique in several ways: First, it adds parking places in Venice! Second, it protects the lagoon from any kind of interference and allows development of a footpath along the edge. Third, it puts the parking away from people's homes. Fourth, it can be done.



'Aw, It's just a car"

property as a protective buffer for the lagoon.

For several years now, the City and the Coastal Commission have gone back and forth over how to provide adequate parking for visitors to the Peninsula beach--which would ease the burden on the neighborhoods farther north by distributing the visitors more evenly -- and how to save the lagoon from being squeezed by development. The City submitted a Local Coastal Plan (LCP) which the Commission said was okay if certain conditions were met. In order for the plan to become binding, the City has to agree to the conditions suggested by the Coastal Commission or come up with some other way to deal with the issues covered by those conditions. Back and forth we go

At last, however, a step forward!
Last spring, Councilwoman Pat Russell asked the State Coastal Conservancy to try and solve the problem. The Conservancy is a state agency that works on improving access to beaches and also does a lot of work restoring wetlands and helping local nonprofit groups monitor natural resources.

In June, Mrs. Russell and the Conservancy held a public meeting to listen to community concerns and discuss how to approach the problem. It was agreed that the operating principles would be to add visitor parking, protect the lagoon, and respect the privacy of residents in their homes.

The Conservancy's proposal was unveiled at a public meeting in November. It involves moving development from the lots along the lagoon to the City-owned lots in the interior

Well, you say, so the Conservancy figured out how it can be done. What happens now? That depends a lot on Mrs. Russell. The Conservancy gave her its recommendations, but the City will have to do several things to make the plan work. First, they have to get moving so that the lots along the lagoon don't all have coastal permits attached to them which raises the cost to the city of acquiring those lots. Second they have to go through all the required procedures for amend-ing the city land use plans. Third, they have to go back to the Coastal Commission.

If the City moves forward, the Coastal Conservancy can also provide funds to help with restoration of the lagoon. The Conservancy has already said though that what makes the lagoon eligible for this funding is that restoration would be done in conjunction with improving beach access by adding the parking.

The Venice Town Council will get a run-through of the Conservancy's recommendations at its next meeting, Thursday January 9 at the Old Venice City Hall.

Mrs. Russell will sponsor another public meeting, probably sometime in January. City staff will be there to answer questions. Expect the folks opposed to parking to show up too-- with more, and more vocal, people.

The real issue for Venice is can we get moving fast enough to save the lagoon and bring in the parking?

Happy New Year!

A Sad Song— For Rosie

I didn't know her last name.
I didn't know her past fame.
But, I remember Rosie—on the beach.

Pulling at her cartful, Smiling with her heart full, Picking up our beer cans—within reach.

It was early Monday morning, Suddenly -- WITHOUT WARNING "Old Rosie was run down right in the street!"

The sirens came a'blaring, Locals passed by staring, And said, "Good-bye" —to Rosie— in the street.

In the street—Stinking street
When a truck and woman meet
There is death—Instant death
Where there once was life and breath . . .

In the street—O'er the street
Lay her tin cans at her feet,
Some whole-wheat bread, her faithful cart,
A deck of cards—a broken heart . . .

I did not know her last name.
I did not know her past fame.
But, I remember Rosie—on the beach

Pulling at her cartful, Smiling with her heart full, At all her friends—who miss her—on the beach.

Love,

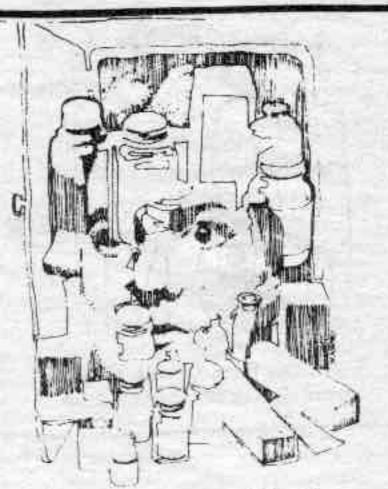
Tina Corcoran











Bird/cr

Peace and Freedom Campaign 86

For several months now the efforts of the Santa Monica-Venice Chapter of the Peace and Freedom Party have gone into projects having much wider scope than our own community. The work of the Big Mountain Support Group based at our office, has extended throughout the county and beyond.

With our slide show, "In Defense of Sacred Land", we've given numerous presentations to inform people and involve them in the plight of 10,000 Navajos facing forced relocation from their ancestral land in Arizona. We're still collecting supplies (winter clothing and staple foods) and urging people to write to their representatives and to Senators Cranston and Wilson, asking them to oppose appropriations for relocation and to support repeal of Public Law 93-531, which authorized the relocation.

Our efforts have been effective enough that the Big Mountain legal office in Flagstaff has asked our group to coordinate support work in Southern California. Radio Station KPFK has been very supportive, but we've yet to break into the other media. We're now organizing delegations to meet with the Senators and Congress members during their holiday recess.

The Campaign '86 Committee of the PFP State Central Committee has also been based at our office. (We now have the only Peace and Freedom Party office anywhere.) The Committee has mailed thousands of appeals to party members throughout the state urging them to become candidates in 1986 or to help with campaigns. We've also invited some 200 peace, environmental and other groups to run their own candidates on the PFP ticket.

It now appears that we will have a complete slate of seven statewide candidates, as we

normally do, and more local candidates than ever before. The work of getting signatures to qualify those candidates for the ballot will be going on as you read this.

The deadline for petitions with signatures in lieu of filing fees is February 5th. Filing fees for candidates are hundreds of dollars each. so the collection of signatures in place of the fees is essential for our relatively low-income candidates. Any eligible voter can sign our petitions, provided she is registered PFP or willing to register PFP for that purpose.

Our chapter will be circulating petitions for candidates for Congress, Assembly, State Senate and State Controller. If you would be willing to sign our petitions or help circulate them, please call us at 396-3555.

For us, there are exciting times ahead. More and more people are ready for a political alternative to the Demopublican party and we are trying to provide it. Chapter candidates will emphasize ecology, peace, non-violence, feminist values, decentralization, appropriate technology and limits to industrial growth. We hope to set an example for revitalizing the Peace and Freedom Party--of which I will write another time.

The Chapter meets this month on Sunday, January 5th, and Sunday, January 19th, beginning at 7:30 p.m. at our office, 1354 W. Washington Blvd., Venice. If you'd like to get involved in our ambitious experiment, please come to a meeting or call 396-3555. The whole range of political effort from phoning to leafleting to mailing is waiting for you to take it up--and nobody said you to come to a meeting in order to do it.

Cons by Pros

A few issues ago, the Beachhead ran a letter from Jim Prickett about anti-semitism. I thought Jim was right on target with the thrust of his arguement, but don't agree with him on one point.

Jim's definition of anti-semitism had "two basic components: The first is that Jews have enormous economic and political power. The second is that Jewish economic and political power is at the root of the problems other citizens face." I believe that these notions are only part of the truth, only the part that gets discussed.

My experience (which includes talking with other Jews and a reasonable amount of reading) leads me to a different definition. I think that the roots of anti-semitism are religious and cultural, and that the economic/political rationale has been used as a smokescreen for other, darker reasons for hating Jews.

Many Christians are still taught that the Jews killed Christ. Now, how would you feel about a people that killed your god? When, a mere twenty years ago, I was in the Air Force I met people from the mid-west & south who had never seen a Jew before and who, only half in jest, said that they expected to see horns of some variety adorning my head.

I didn't worship the same god (in fact I killed him), didn't celebrate the same holidays, my churches were called by this funny name of synoguoge or may be Temple, and I had to learn this strange sounding language that I knew I'd never use. I was different, I was not Christian.

The particular form this hatred has taken depended on the culture in which it found itself. At some times Jews, like other non-Christians, were killed or run out of the country. In some they were scape-goated for the ills of the society. In the U.S., which has been fairly intolerant of non-Christians from its earliest times, we were treated with various drgrees of contempt.

It's always easy to dislike people different from oursleves, and religious differences have certainly been known to be a virulent form of that dislike. Religion is also an easy way to transmit that dislike through the normal church communications network.

Basically, I don't feel that any form of racism is rational. I'm really uncertain as to whether is can be so neatly deifined as Jim stated. And I can tell you that at the very few times I've experienced this race hatred it's had very little to do with money or power. ###############

N. Shore Community Forum/CPF

By Moe Stavnezer

A few months ago I bought a map of the world to tack onto my wall (I won't go into the reasons for this purchase, trust me). It's in the kitchen so I look at it quite often.

At first the map seemed just fine, like any ole Rand McNally map ought to look. In a short time I began to feel that there was something a bit out of kilter with the map. But what was it?

After dinner with a friend, we somehow got to looking for places on the map and then began to talk about the map itself. What was odd about the damned thing? First we noticed that China & Russia were repeated at both ends of the map makeach country look much larger than they are. Then we noticed that the northern hemisphere appeared out of proportion with the southern hemispherewere Greenland, Canada and the U.S. really that large? Then Olga read Rand McNally's fine print at the bottom.

Wanna talk about cultural biases? This map shows Greenland as slightly larger than South America when, in fact, Greenland is merely a ninth the size of the South American continent! So, of course, the U.S. and Canada, conspicuously in the middle of the map, appear much larger than they are. I wonder if the Europeans or Africans have the same view of the world?

Dogs! Once a subject I studiously avoided, having seen many a meeting or discussion become almost as smelly as the turds in question, has now become, you'll pardon the pun, one of my pet peeves.

I walk a lot in Venice. It's one of the great joys of living here. Bening able to walk to my friend's homes, to the beach, or just around the neighborhood. In the past couple of years much of that joy has become an ordeal for me. You see, I'm afraid of dogs. They intimidate me, they scare the hell out of me when, during a nice peaceful walk on a quiet, pretty street, one of them comes crashing against a fence, growling and barking and snarling. Like I'm a criminal, an intruder or something like that. Some of them are big enough to come partially over the fence so that those angry teeth may be only inches from my face. I'm not ashamed to say that the viciousness of these animals is frightening and provokes me to anger, cursing and wishing I had some kind

"CONS" continued on page 10



"Hi. I'm here to talk to you from the XYZ Corporation.

"I'm happy to tell you that in 3 easy steps we're going to make your neighborhood a cleaner, happier place to live."



"Step 1: You're evicted."

I only write love poems.

- By Julia Stein

I never write political poems. When I write about a boy tortured, other people call it that, the people who try not to look at the boy, the bayonet going into his calf, the nails placed under his fingernails, these people don't want to look, they don't want to know, they say the boy's calf is political, his nails are political, when I write, "the boy lives in exile for nine years, he has grown to be a man," they say, "Political poetry, bad art, propagandistic," a thousand reasons not to look, I want to look, I never want to forget the dead, the tortured, I say, the calf is human flesh, the fingernails are human nails, I want healing,

FROM THE HALLS OF MONTEZUMA TO THE SHORES OF TRIPOLI

was the Marine hymn we kids sang in school singing a relief from boring classes we believed America the beautiful sweet land of liberty we believed the Marines protected us from the Halls of Montezuma to the shores of Tripoli

I only write love poems.

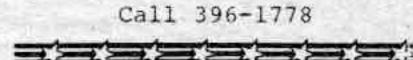
I collect the names of massacres in Salvador the Simpul river twice hundreds of refugees caught between the Honduran and Salvadorean armies in a pincher children shot to death in the foam my country paid for this sweet land of liberty more U.S. aid to Salvador and Guatemala napalm white posphorus helicopters a litany of death I list the massacres in Guatemala Panzos, Nebaj, the Spanish embassy when the peasants had a peaceful sit-in at the Spanish Embassy the Guatemalan government machine gunned the Embassy burned it down killed all the people even the Spanish consul a Mexican TV crew filmed it headlines all over the world the U.S. press ignored it Guatemale a mountain of skulls more U.S. aid more skulls not this, I say, remembering when I was a kid singing the Marine humn how I so believed it not this in Guatemala the President orders death squads to split open the bellies of pregnant women not this oh noooooo not in my name not in my name

NOBODY

It was Nobody.

Don't be concerned. It was on a sad road the refugees walked. They walked out of Guatemala, the country of genocide, on a camino triste, a sad road, into Mexico, a country that didn't want them. On the sad road there was a pregnant woman and her husband No room at the inn, no manger, no wise men. Only a pregnant woman. Don't be concerned. The woman gave birth. In no-man's land. She named the baby Nobody, Nada. Don't be concerned about the baby Nobody, born Nobdy. Nobody died a few day's later, and on Nobody's grave there was no marker. Nada. It was on a sad road. Don't be concerned.

PHOTOGRAPHER



Christmas in Review Two Weeks To Be Nice

By Diane Nickerson

A few weeks ago I was sitting around the house, thinking about Christmas, or less specifically, the then approaching "holiday season". At first I shuddered somewhat despairingly, and then I decided to think about it later. Later has come and gone (only to come again, tho', depending on what you're waiting for), and think about it I did.

At this point I feel obligated to mention that I am not particularly religious in a traditional sense. Yes, at one point, I was baptized and even became a member of my church. However, I long ago abandoned participation in any organized religion and have just recently begun to come to terms with my own personal beliefs as to what's what in regards to religion.

As corny as it sounds, let's just say I go along with the "Golden Rule" and really try to live it. Bearing this in mind, perhaps you can see how gruesome it was for me, trying to visualize myself surrounded by hordes of scowling, constipated-looking shoppers ready to beat each other up for a bargain or that perfect shade of cranberry sweater for Uncle Felix. What I deem the "yuppielook" has less to do with Reeboks and Volvos than it has to do with the set of the jaw, a permanent scowl and tightly knitted eyebrows (except, of course, when they recognize one another and can relax the jaw a little

in greeting). My mind was running rampent, thinking of aggressive, rude shoppers, snotty-nosed kids crammed up against me, old ladies with blue hair elbowing me in the gut for their position in line and be-



lieving it's o.k. because, after all, they're old! Even some of my friends, upon hearing the proposed title of this piece, told me (in no uncertain terms) that two weeks to be nice was entirely too optimistic! Give 'em 10 days, tops!

I had just about convinced myself to take the old man, the kid and whatever, and go and sit in the desert for those two weeks. But wait a minute. What about the "Golden Rule"? Aren't we supposed to get out there and make a difference? Aren't we going to put ourselves on the line sometimes in order to make a difference? I decided not to go down in defeat without even making an effort.

Besides, all that negativity was really bringing me down, down, down! I guess you could say I got the spirit!!?!

Actually, once I'd decided to stay and "fight", I realized how rediculous all my grief had been. Once I looked past society's crass commercialism, conspicuous consumption, etc., and remembered that people, in fact, were the part of the holidays I cherish the most, it was almost easy. (The suspension of disbelief did help alot, tho'.) I don't know how much of it had to do with my attitude, or the mood of the people on the whole, but I can't recall a recent Christmas past filled with as much cooperation, giving and appreciation. Even with all the commercialism abounding, consideration and even kindness seemed to prevail.

Maybe 1985 revived something in all of us. Alot of you who had "come of age" in the '60s, but had put peace (world peace, not "my piece") and world hunger on the "back-burner" seem to have pulled that trip out of the memory bank and are reconsidering it. Let's give it more thought. Not because it's trendy, because it's vital! Alot of us from the same era hung in there, went forward, and in one form or another continued with the struggle. Many of us are feeling renewed, stimulated and, going a bit out on a limb,

even positive again!

Can we join hands and go forward to peace in peace? Or do we really only have "two weeks to be nice"? I certainly hope not. What worries me, is that now that the "holiday season is over, many of the people who

season is over, many of the people who readily returned my smiles and wishes of good cheer just days ago have returned to scowling and/or their tunnel vision already.

1986, what's next? ■

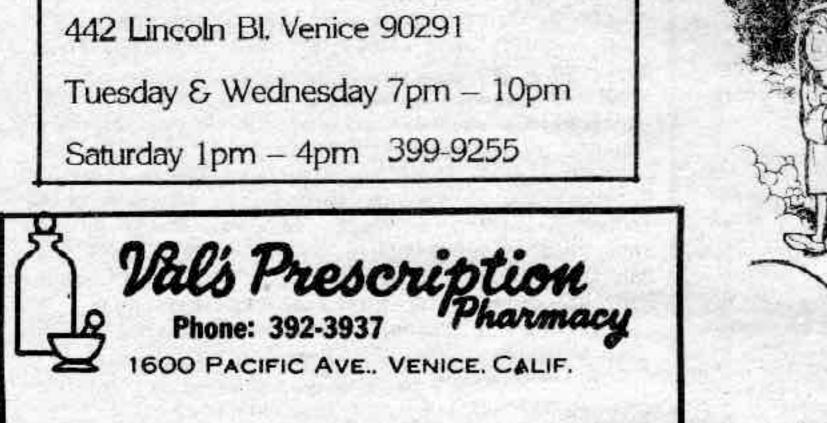
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CPF #96 P.6





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MEMBER: INDUSTRY FOUNDATION: A.S.I.D.

By Tim

American Reformed* Irish Druidism is the Party religion of existential, coastal California. It teaches only 5 principles for its lay followers, or Ovates.

The 5 pedals of the vervain flower, or the 5 points of an American flag's star, are reminders of these 5 principles.

Together they are called the Druid's Foot. We know this is a silly name, but it is 8,000 years old, so we are stuck with it.

The Druid's Foot

The 1st principle of American Reformed*
Irish Druidism is the 1st Amendment to the
American Constitution. Our most Holy
mantra and rosary is:

"The First Amendment-worship It, exer-

cise It, and defend It."

The 2nd AR*ID principle is the principle of regligious tolerance that is required of the First Amendment. Reformed* Druids even believe in religious duelism. Druidism can be a 2nd religion, to go

with your 2nd car, or 2nd spouse. To have 2 religions (1 just for parties!) is very California-style cool.

The 3rd principleis Good Luck for the Irish and honorary-Irish—Lucky for them, magic is Real!

Druidic Magic is mostly white Magic (soiled a bit), that has been practiced 8 thousand years. It is strictly local Magic, and there are a lot of things it

cannot do.

All Magic is just Natural phenomenon
that is not understood. All Magic can be

The 4th AR*ID principle is to treat
Law with Common sense. Fewer laws make
fewer law-breakers, and the same is true
of sins and sinners.

Druids do not believe anything done only in the head can be a sin. We differ from the sin-full religions by believing that rape is bad, but not lust; or murder, but not hate. Druids do not forgive bad acts, or care about bad thoughts.

The 5th and final AR*ID principle is that too many religious principles can get in the way of a good time. The 5th principle makes treating people nicely, and partying zealously, religious obligations.

So share a 5th with a friend for our 5th principle.

*NO HUMAN SACRIFICES

10

"Tiny Tim" Continued from page 1

and we were to think to ourselves "If this little tyke can bear his misery with such a smile (a tremulous one) and enjoy his pathetic little Christmas, how can I complain about my lot?" or "See how happy the simple folk are with just the bear bones of existence. We all should be grateful for what we have and thank you Charity People for visiting us once a year!" Well, cry me a facile tear! Tiny Tim Defined

Lemme see now, here's asn example of "Tiny Timism", evicted family living in car, car gets stolen, it's reported on the 6:00 news and within 15 minutes the family has a job, apartment, shoes for the kids a trip to Disney Land, etc. The news people smile, everyone sighs, everyone sees the happy ending, everyone's content except for the rest of the millions of people who live below the safety net.

Here's Tiny Tim thinking in all its charm: Phylis Shafly who claims since no one has ever make a pass at her in the workplace, there's no such thing as sexual harrasment, is sending "Freedom fighters Friendship" Kits to the contras fighting the Sandanistas in Nicaragua. The Kits contain breath mints and chewing gum.

Here's a real example of Christmas past, around mid December, the Los Angeles City Council

passed an ordinance that would permit reindeer to land on Los Angeles roof tops between dusk (Dec. 24) and dawn (Dec. 25). The ordinance passed 13-1.

The one councilman who voted against it was councilman Bernardi who claimed the ordinance was frivolous. "Scrooge! Scrooge!" reverberated on the airways. Bill Stout fo KCBS was particularly indignant.

Politicians vie for "Grinch" Award

The authors of the reindeer ordinance permit were Howard Finn and Hal Berensen, that jolly ol' elf. Hal was the author of an ordinance that would have evicted 1500 low income families so that his good friend and campaign contributor, Lance Robbins could tear down the apartment complex and rebuild a gated community for a "better class of people". This was in the Van Alden Northridge area. Berensens' buddy, Lance Robbins, has several cases of building neglect pending against him in court. At the 1st hearing at city council, the Van Alden Northridge mass removal ordinance passed, with Bernardi, one of the 4, voting against the Durban Removal (for more on this subject read my article "Durban Removal-L.A. Style" in the Free Venice Beachhead, Sept. '85) of the poor. Since then, the ordinance is in limbo in one of the many departments of the Los Angeles City beurocracy, ready to be revived at any moment. But remember, Bernardi was the only one who voted against this most likely unconstitutional and heartless ordinance.

Santa's other helper, Howard Finn has consistently voted for the interests of big business private development, and has tried to sabotage L.A.'s already weak rent control law.

So who is the real Scrooge or Grinch? Finn and Berensen, because of their talents for mawkish sentimentality come up smelling like a rose, by the way is there any follow-up ordinance regarding reindeer doo removal on the roofs? AB483 Landlord's Delight

Bernardi, who has doggedly and un-spectacularly worked on behalf of renters and low income people gets called a scrooge by the media, for sure, this story must get a "Tiny Tim" award. But wait, our council people aren't the only ones who can do Tiny Tim logic. Landlords can do it too. True, politicians were there to help. This instance was the hearing of a bill guaranteed to gut the laws of any rent control ordinance in the state. This bill AB483, was heard at Plummer Park in West Hollywood on Dec. 18. The hearing

Renters Caddy Irks Landlord

was held by the State Senate. It was authored by assemblyman Costa. The hearing was held to an overflow audience of about 400 people inside the hearing room and an equal number outside. Landlords testified how they have been living in squalor because the rents are so low, while tenants ride around in cadillacs.

YUPPY PERIL

Assembyman Costa has a way with words also, he calls Santa Monica Rent Controls. "Radical Rent Control" and Los Angeles's rent controls "Reasonable Rent Control". Landlords testified about the "Yuppie Peril" that rent control was creating. Tenant groups testified that A-Rent Control has not stopped building in Santa Monica and that landlords are doing quite nicely because of "brokerage fees" that exchange hands before the tenants can rent the place. Bob Meyers, Santa Monica City Attorney, said they were going to deal with the abuses of that. Costa stated that AB 483 would "create certain stability in rental housing" and would "modify the 'Radical Rent Control' laws of Santa Monica and West Hollywood." In answer to the chant of "Yuppie Peril!" by landlord groups, tenant groups responded that rent control laws came in when gentrification has already begun.

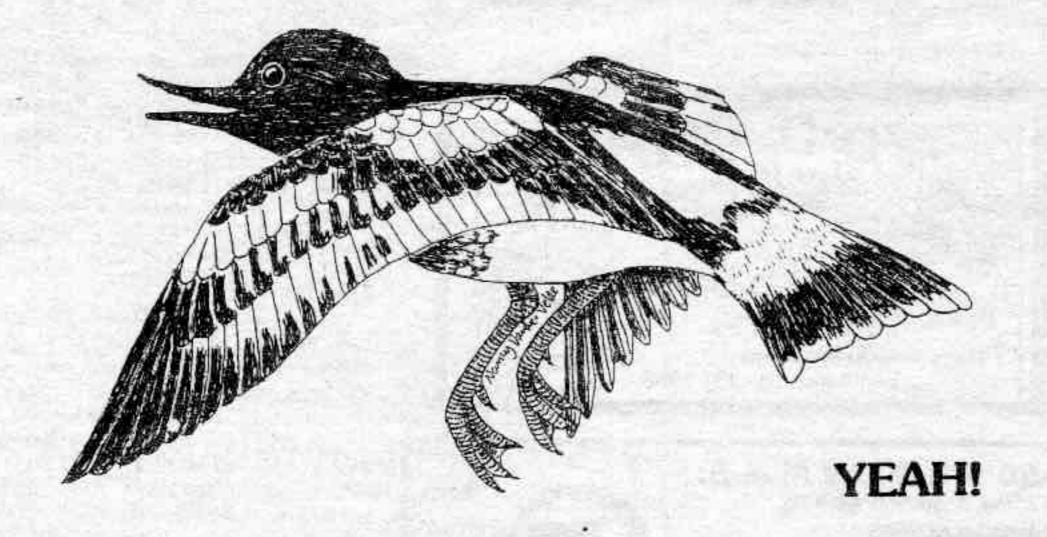
There were efforts by landlord groups to "bribe" tenants in vacancy decontrol buildings, tenant groups told stories of harrasments by landlords to get tenants to move.

Basically, AB 483 would pre-empt any local rent control laws and of course emasculate the strong ones. Los Angeles City Councilman Woo objected to the Costa bill because it would take away autonomy from the cities. This hearing was just a public hearing of the bill. Rentors, the Landlords use our money, our rent for groups that lobby to keep control out of the renters hands. As renters, we must realize that this is a "class" act and as renters we must lobby our assembly people and make sure that NO version of this harmful bill gets passed; or to paraphrase Tiny Tim, "Goddess help us every one!".

Matthew 20:1-16

KID!

Use a Gun



IT WON'T GET DONE

Boss Phil Says So

"Cons" Continued from page 8

of weapon to kill or injure the damned beasts. Instead, so far, I've adopted a "there-awtabe-a-law" way of thinking. Dogs can be trained to vount, to heel, to fetch, even to sing. All with the proper training. I have no doubt that they can also be trained to bark and snarl only at people who attempt to gain entrance to their domain and to leave people like me alone and at peace to take my strolls around town. All of this, of course, is up to dog owners who seem quite content, at present, to allow these animals to have far more freedom than they could ever accept from another human. Now I'm not a violent person, BUT if someone doesn't begin to take responsibility for calming these pets down, one of these days I'm gonna completely lose my cool. Yes indeed, folks, there may be no dog like a dead dog! ###########

Here I am at mid-life having, sadly, to learn to deal with death. 1984 was a particular horror for me. My father died and so did the fathers of three friends. On top of that 2 other people I knew died, one of whom was just about my age. So I could hardly wait for '84 to end, hoping it was just an anomoly, just one freaky year out of my life and that, surely, 1985 would bring some relief.

Instead, in some ways, its only gotten worse. So far in 85, two people i knew, both my age, have died and within the past month have learned that the mothers of two other friends have died.

It's awful, this death business. It spreads a pall over my world as soon as I learn about someone I've known being dead. It's so obviously final, so very related to my own mortality, so close to home, so unignorable. Worse than anything, there's not a damned thing I can do about them. I'm powerless, a most depressing human experience, with the knowledge that for all our alleged smarts and higher intelligence, there is absolutely nothing we can do about our ultimate fate but to accept it.

############

There's never been a peace march in this country like the one that will leave Los Angeles this March. Yes, there have been other marches, but none have involved so many people, so many preparations, so much contact with people or so much money.

5,000 people will leave L.A. heading cross the country to demand global nuclear disarmament. On the way they will pass through 15 states and 37 large cities and more than a thousand small towns where, in many cases, they will outmunber the local population. They will walk 3,235 miles at a clip of 15 miles each of the 255 days until they arrive at Washington DC next November. The walkers will reach some 65 million people along the way and many millions more through the media.

The logistics are epic in proportions. Three thousand tents, 3,825,000 meals, 1,000,000 showers, a 75-vehicle support cavalcade all at a cost of \$15 million. It will cost \$3,235 for each of the 5,000 marchers. The L.A. Times calls it "the largest, most ambitious demonstration in American history."

The march has lots of support, some of which is only luke warm because of contoversy surrounding the politics of Pro-Peace, the organization putting the whole thing together. The Alliance for Survival, Physician for Social Responsibilty (helen Caldicott's group), student groups representing more than 2 million students, Linus Pauling, England's Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament and many, many more are endorsers.

Walkers will have to make a very large commitment to take this walk, nine months is a long time. Each one is carefully screened for health reasons and ability to get along with other people (essential in an endeavor of this nature). Length of hair is not a criteria for participation. Neither is having a lot of money. While each marcher is asked to make a good faith effort to raise some of the money (all would be just peachy), people will not be refused only because they can't raise the dough.

ProPeace is effectively raising money, more than \$3 million in cash and equipment so far. Further, they are seeking sponsors for each marcher either partial or full.

Critics of the great march point to the simplistic slogan "Take them down" as too all-encompassing to have any effect while ignoring the many other political questions of disarmament. They also criticize the tight, "top down" structure of David Mixner's organization. Some also feel that there's too much media hoopla involved. But, almost no one (possibly execpting a Beachhead writer) dismisses the great potential of this march.

As one peace activist said, "There is a need for a dramatic event; the disarmament movement has not come up with any reecently as we plod along. We need something more."



Community Events

RELIGION

1st UNITARIAN CHURCH OF LOS ANGELES, 2936 W 3rd St, L.A. 389-1356, Sundays at 11 AM.

Jan 5: "Please Call Me Langston" scenes from a new play, directed by Frank Greenwood, about the life of Langston Hughes.

Jan 12: "Treading Water with 10,000 Fathoms
Benaeth Us" by Rev. Philip Zwerling
Jan 19: "What Are the U.S. and the Soviet Union
Fighting About?" by Sidney Lens

Jan 26: "The Destruction of the Entire Universe and Other Happy Thoughts for a Dunday Morning" by Harlan Ellison.

unitarian universalist society los angeles, west 3744 s. barrington (1 blk south of venice)

jan.5 "OTHER SONGS OUTSING ME" Dan O'Neill intern minister, Santa Monica

jan.12 "THE GREAT DEBATE"

Should we retain Rose Bird?

Attys.Godfrey Isaac v. William Lynch

jan. 19 "MARTIN LUTHER KING"S BIRTHDAY"

The Full Life Sandy Krueger, Minister
(9:30a.m. "SITAROUND" - discussion -)

jan. 26 "SHAKING THE FAMILY TREE"
Open Paths Center presentation

****** all sundays begin 11 am ******

THE CHURCH IN OCEAN PARK 235 Hill St. Santa Monica 399-1631 Sundays, 10AM
January 5th-Dr. S.R.Hearn, Psychologist and ZEN Priest-Openings for a New Year
January 12th-Jaime Flores of EL RESCATE; El Salvadoran War comes to S&M.
January 19th-Poet Michelle Clinton and Musician Anne Holmes. MLK Jr.'s Birthday remmebrance.
January 26th-INTEGRISM. Words by JIM CONN.

Environment

SIERRA CLUB, AIRPORT/MARINA GROUP, 641-4028, The regular meeting will take place Mon. Jan 13, Recreation Room of Burton Chase Park, Marina del Rey, 7:30pm, ROBERT SMITH will present a slide show on hiking in Maui.

men

LOS ANGELES MEN'S COLLECTIVE, P.O.Box 25836, Los Angeles 90025, 396-3655 Sunday Jan 5th: Potluck dinner & rap group on

Mothers and Sons, 7pm, 1440 S. Harvard, Santa Monica, \$4



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Politics

NICARAGUA POSTER EXHIBIT, So. California Library for Docial Studies & Research, 6120 S. Vermont (2 blocks south of Slausen) put together by Venice resident Carol Wells, Tues thru Sat, 11-4, thru the end of January, 759-6063

SEN. ALAN CRANSTON MODERATES DEBATE, "Is Pay Equity an Appropriate Method to Close the Wage Gap Between Male & Female Workers?" Mon. Jan 6, 7:30-9:30pm, Felicia Mahood Ctr. 11338 Santa Monica Bl. (2 blocks west of Sawtelle). The debate will feature individuals with experience in employee/employer relations; questions from the audience will be taken.

L.A. CITY COUNCIL HEARING ON DREDGING THE CANALS, Jan 31st at L.A. City Hall, call Councilwoman Pat Russell's office for time etc. 641-4717.

Resident & absentee landowners in the Canals will be assessed for part of the work and the City Council voted to spent \$500,000 on the project. Cementing the banks, displacement of ducks, public access & use are just some of the issues.

BIG MOUNTAIN SUPPORT GROUP-Save traditional Navajo culture in Arizona...we need people and supplies. Info:396-3555.

DISARMER'S HANDBOOK. 318 Pages. What everyone needs to know about weapons and war. Send \$5.95(includes handling) to RECON, P.O.BOX 14602, Philadelphia, PA. 19134.

SANTA MONICA DEMOCRATIC CLUB (CDC AF-FILIATE) meets the 3rd Thursday of the month at the SENIOR CITIZENS RECREATION CENTER, 1450 Ocean Ave. at 7:30 PM. Info: 453-5322.



PERFORMANCE

BEYOND BAROQUE Literary/Arts Center, 681 Venice Bl. 822-3006

Jan 10, Fri. 8:30pm, PAUL VANGELISTI, poet and author reads from a work in progress with many people taking part in the reading. \$5/\$3

Jan 12, Sun. 8pm, OPEN READING, Free

Jan 17, Fri. 8:30pm, JOHN THOMAS, a poet will read from his works. KEVIN KILLIAN a Bay area writer will read from her works. \$5/\$3

Jan 19, Sun 4pm. 11 part series BENEATH THE MYTHS: A Social History of Los Angeles begins. \$5 per lecture or \$33 for series. Call for info. Jan 24, Fri. 8:30pm, LISA BERNSTEIN, feminist editor and ELOISE KLEIN HEALY will read from their works. \$5/\$3.

Jan 31, Fri. 8:30pm, GARY INDIANA, fiction writer and JOHNGOSS, visual artist and writer read from their work. \$5/\$3.



TOWN COUNCIL

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 1986

Beyond Baroque Center

681 N. Venice Blvd. Starts 7:30

Ruth Galanter of the State Nature Conservancy has been invited to address Council members concerning the parking situation on the Peninsula.

The members will also be informed of recent Council actions, including the filing of a lawsuit against the City over the inadequancy of the EIR of Playa Vista.



SOCIAL

SANTA MONICA SINGLES DISCOVERY, SM Unitarian Church, 1260 15th St, S.M. 90404, 397-0028 Fri. Jan 10: Informal Singles get-together, 30+, discussion, dancing, refreshments, \$3, Forbes Hall 1721 Arizona, S.M. Fri Jan 24: Ditto Jan 10.

SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE SINGLES, 3172 Sawtelle Bl.#1 L.A. 90066, 398-4141 (Events held at WLA Traffic School, 2931 So. Sepulveda)

A social & educational organization where people who are concerned about many social & environmental problems can meet & interact with like-minded individuals. Every Wed & Sat, 7PM, Adults \$2 Free child-care, refreshments served.

Jan 4: "The Central American Refugees" presented by EL RESCATE

Jan 8: "The Role and History of the Guardian Angels" by DANNY LEWIS, L.A. City Chapter Leader of the Guradian Angels

Jan 11: "From Redbaiting to Terrorism: New Attacks
Upon Civil Rights, the Press, and the Sanctuary
Movement" by longtime ACLA activist FRANK WILKINSON.

Jan 17: "The Dynamics of Domestic Violence" by KAREN CONNELL of Sojourn Battered Women's Shelter

SINGLETARIANS, c/o Unitarian Community Church, 1721 Arizona, Santa Monica, 394-4318, Don \$3, Sun at 8PM

Jan 5: "Safe Sex" LAUREL QUINN M.A., M.F.C.C.

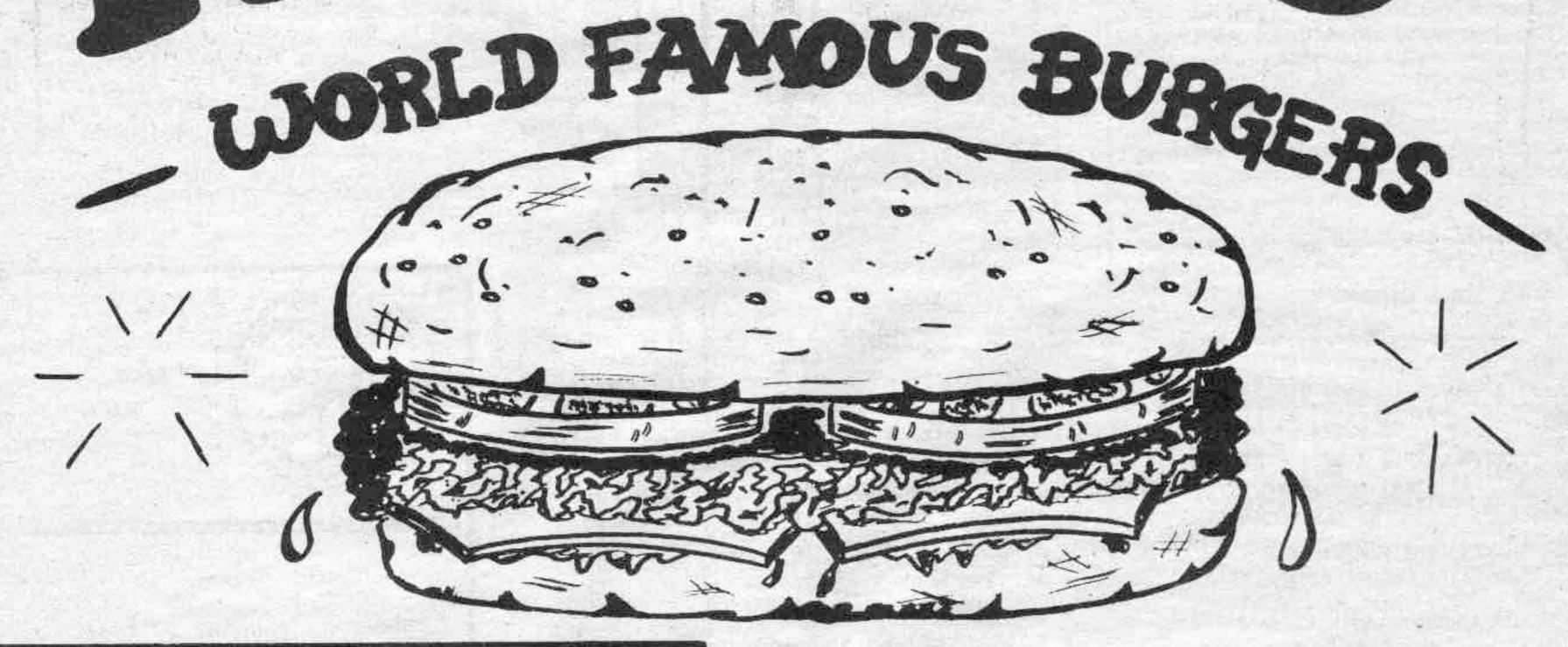
Jan 12: "Israel, Sicily, and Romania" by GALINA
MCVICKER

Jan 19: "Male Nurse? No, I Have Female Patients
Too" by DAVID PILGER, R.N.
Jan 26: "Close and Free" RUTH BRICE DASCHE, M.A.



Santa (Raymond Griswold) makes a surprise appearance to the delight of needy children in the community who were treated to a moring at the movies by the Venice Family Clinic and Tri-Star Pictures.

Photo: by Nanci Potenza



TWO GREAT DEALS

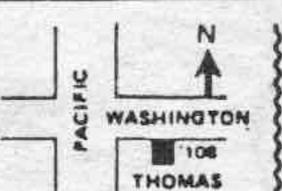
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