

Inside

Pier Pressure.....page 3  
 No Address.....3  
 Stinky Union.....5  
 Regroove.....6  
 Rebirth.....6  
 Bummer Bills.....8  
 Bits & Pieces.....8  
 Poetry Review.....9

# FREE VENICE

SINCE 1968

# BEACHHEAD

CHER MAY WAH

July, 1987, No. 211, P.O. Box 504, Venice, California 90294  
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Happy 83rd B-Day, Venice

July 19th Festival  
 Name  
 That Felon



Exemptions!

..Exemptions!

...Exemptions!

## What Russell Hath Wrought

By Malcolm Tent

Since 1969, Pat Russell has represented us in L.A. City Hall. While she has accomplished little for the residents of the Sixth District, she's made a load of sweet deals for her major campaign contributors—deals that may be impossible to stop now.

Ms. Russell is a very smart, legal-minded politician. In 1974, she pushed through citywide zoning plans. Coincidentally, the site where Howard Hughes Center is to rise was zoned for "limited" industry—a fuzzy zoning classification with no maximum height limit.

The City that year also began a new growth policy, called the Neighborhood Protection Ordinance. This law attempts to concentrate all future High intensity development into 40 or so Centers around the City. Three of those approved Centers are on the westside: the Howard Hughes Center, Playa Vista and the combined Westchester/LAX Northside/Century Blvd./Continental City Center.

Early this year, when Ms. Russell knew she was in political trouble, she offered voters temporary moratoriums on some of the more offensive developments. Huge apartment and condo complexes going up along Centinela Ave were put on hold as were mini-malls in Marina Del Rey. And residents of the Westchester Bluffs to the West of Lincoln Blvd. were told to expect a halt to building on the tops and vertical face of the bluffs.

Since we gave Ms. Russell her walking papers on June 2, you'd expect Pat to act like a lame duck, vacationing or otherwise sitting out the rest of her term. Wrong. She's been downtown every day rushing her supporters' projects through:

John Tunney, the ex-U.S. Senator, got OKs for two mini-malls his firm, Cloverleaf Group, is building, one on Lincoln Blvd. where two night clubs used to be, the other among the industrial buildings on Del Rey Ave. one block East of Lincoln Blvd;

A mini-mall at Washington Blvd. and Glencoe St. was OKed by Russell. The law firm of Manatt, Phelps, Rothenberg and Phillips represented the developers at the City Council:

'Russell' Continued on Page 10. 11.

## Taking Credit

by Carol Fondiller

It seems so long ago. In reality, it was only last month, June to be exact. I'm asking your kind indulgence as the actors in the 18th century used to say. I'm using the Beachhead as a journal. I find personal journals of obscure people who lived through "interesting times" sometimes more interesting than the volumes written by historians who only talk about wars and leave out the weather and what ordinary people thought about. I see a future historian - him, her - now scanning the screen in the early 30's of the next century. I'm writing for that person who is curious enough to tough out the irrepressible quirkiness of the Free Venice Beachhead. I see that person reading of the struggles of people to keep their community a community. A score of squabbles to be settled, intergroup gripes, women's liberation, vegetarianism, etc. What I'm writing about now is history. The history of June 1987.

Mr., Mrs. Ms., Miss Future Person, peering at your computer screen or micro-thingo. I know that you are interested in a relatively obscure dot on the "i" of history, but I have to write this down, and please remember - this is my version.

Through a campaign that combined all the elements of a good epic or a trashy novel, i.e. power, greed, violence, around the campaign of a City Councilmanic District, it's my recollection of how a relatively obscure woman with the help of her community ousted the entrenched Councilperson who had professionals and money on her side.

It's in my self-interest to set the record straight with my version of what happened, because some of the credit for changing history belongs to me. I assume that you've gone through the L.A. Times. Is that still around? I'm dead, I know, in the early 30's of the next century, but something in me denies I will be nothing, and I see my spirit as a naughty breeze lifting up the skirts of the future.

I'm chauvinistic enough to visualize a human biped, skeleton inside the body, the orifices and protuberances still functioning to wee-wee, poo-poo, and procreate. Eyes, ears, etc. are still recognizable to your late 20th century human.

'Credit' Continued on Page 10.

On July 19, Hands Off the Americas, a coalition of groups and individuals who oppose the U.S.'s government's policy in Central America, will present a second annual day of politics and culture in celebration of the Nicaraguan Revolution. The event, which takes place at Fairfax High School (corner of Melrose and Fairfax Avenues) from noon to 6 p.m., also honors and celebrates people's struggles around the world. The celebration is a benefit for the Let Nicaragua Live! Pledge Campaign of Southern California, which is part of a national and international effort to give direct financial aid to the people of Nicaragua. The Southern California Pledge Campaign begins its third year on July 19.

In Nicaragua, July 19 marks the eighth anniversary of the Nicaraguan Revolution. Eight years ago on that date, Anastasio Somoza fled the country in the face of a popular insurrection led by the FSLN, which said, "Basta!" (Enough!) to the injustice and corruption of years of dictatorship.

This year, continuing their revolution despite the pressure of U.S.-backed terrorism, Nicaraguans have adopted a new constitution, guaranteeing its citizens not only broad rights of life and liberty, but also specific rights to such things as food, employment, health care, and education.

The summer of 1987 also marks the bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution, which does not guarantee such rights. Indeed, at its inception, the U.S. Constitution was a "flawed" document, as Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall recently commented. The Bill of Rights was adopted only after a strenuous struggle to secure, in the face of a strong central government, the rights of people to speak, publish, worship, assemble, be tried fairly, and be secure at home against government intrusion. Blacks were still slaves in the "original intent" of the Founding Fathers and only secured their political freedom at the end of the Civil War. Women were denied the right to vote until they demanded, fought for, and won it.

'Felon' Continued

on Page 11.



Look Dick!  
 See Jane Organize!  
 Workbook Cpf

# Letters

Dear Free Venice Beachhead:

I want to express my appreciation of your publication, particularly the June 1987 issue No. 210, especially Carol Fondiller's article "Right to the Throat." I am glad that the violent assaults she has endured have not shut her up. Just as we cheer for Ruth Galanter, we cheer for Carol Fondiller.

It is important to remember that the attack on Ruth Galanter, just as the attacks on Carol Fondiller and any attack on any woman anywhere, is of itself a political act, because violence against women is always a political act, motivated by a deeply rooted misogyny in our cultures. Violence against women is calculated to keep us under, shut us up. It is sexual politics in action. The greek myth of Philomela expresses the paradigm of violence against women used as a tool to bring about their silence. Philomela is raped by her brother-in-law Tereus, who immediately cuts out her tongue (no, this grotesquery did not originate in the World According to Garp. It is a universal.) and imprisons her in a stone tower. Unable to speak her story, Philomela weaves it into a tapestry, and has it secretly delivered to her sister, Procne. Procne deciphers the tale, finds and frees philomela. The sisters then serve Tereus' young son to the unsuspecting father at dinner, baked in a pie.

Obviously, it is now women's choice either to perpetuate or to subvert the tradition of dominance, violence and revenge. This part of our story has yet to be decided, but the first part of our story is happening now. We must be open to receive our sisters' messages. We must never stop our ears to their stories. They cannot shut us up, and we must not shut ourselves off. The first step towards radical change is to speak out. Ruth and Carol have done that. The second step is to hear, and that is up to us.

In Solidarity,

Pamela P. Bleisch.

# YOU DID IT!

An analysis of the final vote totals for the June election for L.A. City Council shows that Ruth Galanter defeated 17-year incumbent Pat Russell because of a heavy Westside vote that went overwhelmingly for Galanter.

Area	Gal.	%	Rus.	%	(Turnout)
Venice	5,946	81.5	1,351	18.5	(37.6%)
M. Vista	4,299	67.5	2,067	32.5	(29.6%)
W'chster	6,728	73.4	2,444	26.6	(45.5)
Playa DR	1,281	66.0	659	34.0	(34.3)
Crenshaw	4,967	32.5	10,324	67.5	(38.8)
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,221</b>	<b>58.0</b>	<b>16,845</b>	<b>42.0</b>	<b>(37.8%)</b>



Kelly Ball, memphis slim, Kathy Sullivan, Carol Fondiller, Kate Keeling, Diane Nickerson, Patrick McCartney, Victor Wightman, Malcolm Tent and Deborah Heiser-Kowsky

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.

**Thanks to the Humanist Building Collective for their generous donation.**  
-The Beachhead Collective.

# Addresslessness

Dear Editors,

I dearly wish you all would stop making Mayor Bradley the scapegoat of the combined Federal/State/County nonresponsiveness to the legal rights of the homeless. And being now myself homeless DIRECTLY DUE TO disregards of MY rights at law, I'm indeed competent to speak to the issues.

The word "Tort" comes from the word 'torture', and I plan to file at court a Tort Action, not to the issue of homelessness, but rather, to the more important issue of addresslessness, to argue that the present general relief system of one month of adequate vouchers, followed by G.R. in an amount inadequate to retain an address, constitutes a Tort, to which the remedies of law should be A) Elimination of the present vouchers in favor of vouchers acceptable by any landlord, including, should I soon become one, myself, and B) Facilitation of capacity for me to have an address, even if it be nothing more than a lockable Post Office Box securely rooted to a one ton block of

concrete, at a vacant lot, thus ending my being unlawfully disenfranchised as a voter, in violation of my Federal Civil Rights to vote, a right hard won by the efforts of Dr. Martin Luther King, et al. In other words, as a black, Mayor Bradley can certainly understand where I'm coming from, for the like powerless of the homeless will most assuredly continue, as long as said disenfranchisement continues, concurrently excluding them from the peer-jury-roster rolls. Thus, on my pending civil-disobedience action, as delineated in appended photocopies, it will be utterly impossible for me to get a jury having a homeless person on it. Hence if not acquitted, I will of course appeal...

I hope that I have made my case to convince you that it is about time for you all to lay off the mayor, and instead "address" the issues of addresslessness, if you will be so kind, compassionate, and intelligent.

Jon Hilldale

Happy Birthday, Venice.

# Apology

Dear Readers, In the April 1987 Beachhead in the article 'Ruth Galanter,' Moe Stavnezer mistakenly referred to an aide who worked for ex-Councilwoman Pat Russell as Sharon Shapiro.

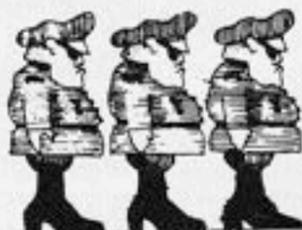
Moe Stavnezer meant Sharon Kaplan. Sharon Shapiro has been active in Venice politics for 15 years. She is the founder of The Venice Playgroup, a parent-controlled cooperative.

Sharon Shapiro has never supported or worked for Ms. Russell, nor is she in any way connected with Summa Corporation.

In the recent Councilmanic campaign, Ms. Shapiro supported Ruth Galanter.

The Beachhead apologizes and regrets any inconvenience or distress our mistake may have caused Ms. Sharon Shapiro.

Sincerely, The Free Venice Beachhead Collective.



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## What is FAIR?

by Jeff Cohen

FAIR is a media watch organization offering constructive criticism in an effort to correct media imbalance. We advocate for media access on behalf of those constituencies in our society that do not have the wealth to purchase their own TV stations or daily newspapers. We scrutinize media practices that slight public interest, peace and minority viewpoints.

All of us who founded FAIR have media backgrounds. Our sympathies are with the working press. We do not view reporters, editors and producers as our enemy. Nor do we hunt for conspiracies. The villain we see is not a person or group, but a historical trend: the increasing concentration of the American media in fewer and fewer corporate hands.

FAIR was launched in mid-1986 at a time when the major media were bending distinctly rightward. Big media businesses were being absorbed by even bigger ones, with dangerous implications for those viewpoints already underrepresented. Well-financed rightwing groups like the misnamed Accuracy in Media (AIM) were harassing journalists who uncovered unpleasant truths about poverty, inequality, government corruption or US military and nuclear policy.

FAIR came into being to offer a different kind of media criticism — fully in keeping with the First Amendment. We do not work to prevent the airing of viewpoints with which we disagree. Our approach is to work for the inclusion of new viewpoints, not the exclusion of old ones. We seek to invigorate free speech by striving for a more pluralistic media.

We are dismayed that leaders of public interest movements generally do not speak for themselves in the major media. A graphic example: the nuclear freeze cam-

paign. Arguably the biggest grassroots movement of the decade, the Freeze won virtually every time its proposal was on a ballot. Yet when the Freeze was discussed on national TV or in national publications, the leaders of the movement rarely got to speak for themselves. Instead they were spoken for by politicians and former leaders of the defense establishment.

More recently FAIR spearheaded a broad-based campaign to stimulate debate over the issues raised by ABC-TV's "Amerika" miniseries; FAIR did not call for censorship, sponsor boycotts, or engage in personal attacks. We believe this campaign generated one of the healthiest discussions ever on the Cold War and the media's role in it.

But unfortunately ABC stuck with old familiar policies. On its *Viewpoint* special following the miniseries, Ted Koppel introduced, as "Amerika" critics, Jeanne Kirkpatrick and Ted Turner. Kirkpatrick refused to criticize the show and Turner, while forthright in his criticism, was rebuked by Koppel for not having seen the whole miniseries.

ABC knew several articulate critics who had suffered through all 14 1/2 hours of "Amerika" and were fully versed in the show's history. None were invited as panelists.

FAIR seeks to break this pattern of exclusion by dialoging with media programmers, reporters and editors. In a democratic society, news and responsible opinion should extend beyond the perspectives of government and corporate elites.

Help FAIR expose and challenge media bias. Join our national TV and print media monitoring network. Send us clips, tips, censored stories, suggestions, criticism, even your "letters to the editor" the media refused to print... FAIR seeks student interns and other volunteers to augment its research efforts... FAIR has no corporate sponsors; we welcome donations.

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## Pier Pressure

By Joan Del Monte

There have always been people who wanted to destroy the Venice Fishing Pier.

The main problem was that the place remained stubbornly prole. It was the one place I know of where the multi-ethnicity which Venice loudly claims actually existed. Japanese families came with small children, put them down in sleeping bags, and fished all night. Blacks walked over from Oakwood with plastic buckets and fishing poles. Whites came from Milwood and North Beach with folding plastic chairs. People came to just stand contemplating the surf. There was a silence about the place, a lack of threat. Yet it lacked—well, it was not chic. You would never see the fishing pier featured behind a fashion layout, like you do the windsurfers and the roller skaters. The pier used industrial materials, but it used them industrially. It could never be a witty architectural statement; Frank Gehry would despair. The whole place lacked a certain cachet.

The other problem was that there was absolutely no way to make a buck on it. Other than a parking concession and a small bait shop, there was nobody with a vested interest in getting the pier operating again, as there was on the Santa Monica Pier. The County owns the bait shop and the only real movement toward reopening the pier has come from them.

The comparison with the Santa Monica pier damage in the storms three years ago is interesting. Then, newspapers carried reams of copy, committees were formed, studies were made and people wrung their hands and talked about the disappearance of the character of Santa Monica. Eventually the SM pier got fixed, if only in truncated form.

Well, the Venice fishing pier has been closed now since February. It's only 22 years old, but the County Department of Beaches says it's so dangerous you not only can't

walk on it; you can't even walk UNDER the damn thing. "We're talking really dangerous," says Mary Gray of Deane Dana's office, "not minor damage."

The Venice pier's problem is that it falls into a crack between government bodies. The primary responsibility for repairing it belongs to the State of California; the secondary responsibility is shared by the City and the County jointly. This is an admirable arrangement for everybody to play "It's not my job".

Mary Gray says she has had numerous calls from individuals, plus calls from the Venice Civic Union and the Venice Action Committee. Gray, who says she has a personal interest in the pier—her uncles used to fish there—says "We have been bugging the State, but it does not appear the pier will be in service before the end of summer, and at this point I tell everybody who calls we're trying for the end of the year but we don't even know about that." Mind you, nobody's even talking about money yet.

My son, who grew up in Venice Beach before it was regularly on the 6 o'clock news, used to fish on the pier. He never caught a fish, to my knowledge, except one rock cod, which promptly shot spines into his hand, necessitating an emergency run to the Kaiser plan. But when we left Venice to live for a year in Europe he fished the Arno and the Danube and the Mediterranean. He was fishing in the mocha colored canals in Amsterdam and the local bank manager came out and spent his lunch hour fishing too. It's a lot easier cashing a foreign check when your son fishes with the bank manager. Just goes to show you never know where things are going to lead. My son is an adult now, but he has left me with a closet full of fishing equipment and unabiding affection for that pier.

The pier is in need of some pressure to get it repaired. The place to start is with Assemblywoman Gwen Moore, since the pier is in her district, which is everything south of Venice Blvd., and since the State seems to be the bottleneck. The fishermen used to have an admirable network—sometimes you'd walk on the pier and there would be nobody there; sometimes it would be shoulder to shoulder because the fish were running and they all knew it. Maybe what's needed is the people in that network in a fashion layout.

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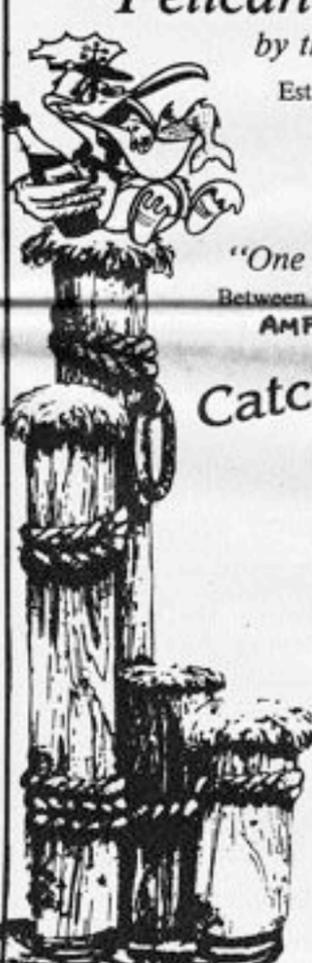
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# Unravelling the Stinkiest Union

The first time I entered this union hall, I sat for 20 minutes while the chairperson read off lists mourning dead members and their families. But what can be said about a (labor) union which has ridded itself of membership meetings? A public (!) (employee) union which does not let it's members know who their stewards are?

★ NEWS ITEM: An unprecedented vote took place June 20 in LA's 2nd largest school employees union. Only 2 of Local 99's incumbents secured a majority of votes cast. For the crucial position of Sec.-Treas. in this Service Employees Union, Wm. Price III, an incumbent pulled in 900 votes. Ed E. Johnson, a first-time challenging, truckdriver scored 819, Jules Kimmett a veteran custodian came in with 214 while 40 'blanks' were noted as well. Price received but 45% of the total, his opponents gathered 52%.

### 3-Way Splits

Similar 3-way splits took place in 3 out of 5 top executive offices, with but one latina recording secretary gaining anything over 51% of the vote. The stage sets therefore as to just WHO? will represent the "classified" employees of this AFL-CIO unit? Not only the upcoming '87-'88 schoolyear, but four years hence are at stake. An answer to this question should effect relations between all the 'non-teaching' workforce of the LA Unified School Dist., the LA Community College Dist., as well as two smaller districts in the area (Lynwood and Torrance).

TEAMSTERS: More than 10 years ago in Wisconsin, before a similar election result occurred in Local 699 of the Teamsters, the "International" stepped in and shut it down. Putting Milwaukee and Chicago officials of their own choice into office, they wined and dined local stewards, introducing them to an assortment of reputed "gangster-types" at a suburban hotel outside of Madison.

Less than one year later, Frank Fitzimmons (ex-International President accused of "mob influence") felt confident (?) enough to "lift" the trusteeship, once again entertaining elections for local officers. In the meanwhile, Fitzimmons had been forced to pay \$20,000 in connection to a successful court action taken by a new rank and file group of Wisconsin unionists naming themselves: "Teamsters for Democracy".

### BACKGROUND: WHO?

"Local 99" technically represents NON-"teacher" workers. Employees daily providing a physical structure for students, providing food, clean-up and supplies. In addition there are a large number of direct teacher's aides and (student-contact), transportation services (busdrivers and assistants), Truckdrivers, mechanics, gardeners, cafeteria workers and typists for instance all get lumped into this one big, public service organization.

### First Glimpse=Big Gap!

Glancing quickly, one might come away impressed with the advances "mental" laborers have made over time. In fact, THIS union has had the "right to bargain a contract" for less than 10 years. The "right to strike" was granted roughly 2 years ago. And the "right to be fired at will" persists fairly unabated 'til the present. Both the candidate for president as well as vice-president on Kimmett's (pro-democratic) slate for instance were fired by school administrators prior to their running for elections this June.

Teachers vs. "Non"-Teachers A deeper look at Local 99 reveals a wider rift actually increasing over the years between (bargaining by) teachers (through their UTLA and AFT unions) and the much less-celebrated, bargaining (?) efforts put forth by this large, yet quite weak, sister-union Local #99.

★ NEWS ITEM: A busdriver was summoned to headquarters for posting information on the union's bulletin board which concerned the potential firing of one union business representative. School dist. management demanded if the driver was a steward. The driver's own union representative replied correctly: "Yes, this driver is a steward (and he therefore has the right) to post such a notice." One moment later, the Sec.-Treas. of this same union burst into the office (apparently listening behind the door) and contradicted both of them: "No, this driver is NOT a steward!" The dist. manager responded with a broad grin. Shortly thereafter, the driver was terminated.

Firings vs. Tenure: The Untouchables It is common that busdrivers, garage attendants or teachers' aides be fired, laid-off, or cut-back severely in hours paid. The tenure and relative sanctity of teachers' contracts (with accompanying benefits) stands by glaring contrast. Where twisted reasons and clever excuses abound as to disciplinary actions taken against "classified" workers (who pose little resistance normally), it is common to expect a similarly aggrieved teacher with rapid attorney assistance. Successful union representation through the much more powerfully situated UTLA and AFT teachers' unions helps prevent similar situations to begin with. Lists of dismissed and suspended employees (from classified ranks) pile higher through the approving hands of Board of Education members. Two separate classes of workers almost emerge: the "touchables" versus the "untouchables".

Wage differences: Half a Piece Better Than None? Rumor claims hourly wages for school busdrivers are high. How well known that the majority of busdrivers work part time and on split shifts? For every well-paid mechanic, there are oodles of lesser-paid custodians. For each dist. truckdriver come more teacher's aides existing on lower pay and fewer hours of work. None of this even addresses the larger issue of WHY "classified" workers wages approach but HALF of teacher's salaries?

### POWERLESSNESS sp. E-D-U-C-A-T-I-O-N

Perhaps the problem lies in the educational system itself? As a young, argumentative student in the late 60's/early 70's I became etched with the feeling many individuals in this society seem powerless to control forces they/we/ourselves have created. I still remember as a college student I was told what I could and what I could not study. If I wanted to learn to play music for example, I was told the requirement to march in football half-time shows each year was mandatory.

As teachers, discussions and activity surrounding real dissent meant loss of job, loss of tenure and future blackbelling as did occur with many anti-Vietnam war professors. As researchers on campus, government monies for military intelligence (oxymoron?) proved intractable and ever-effusive...whether or not desired by the taxpayer. In Madison, Wisconsin, it went so far as to snatch the life of one young university researcher\* trapped in a bombed army-math research center in 1971 (\*Robert Fassnacht).

### Teachers as Police Force

How is it that under-represented "classified" workers end up supporting the clear inequalities which surround them inside the school system? It may seem too dramatic to describe a teacher as the average child's first "police force", but if teachers are not so, who is? Perhaps it is exactly this "teacher force" which stands in the way of progressive gains to the very "support ranks" that "classified" workers comprise? A kind of "dead weight" sitting atop service-employee workers in their daily labors assisting children's education.

Teachers customarily adopt authoritative postures, heaping discipline upon work assignment with reward "grades" for "good behavior". This is terribly reflective of a district administration which pays classified workers substandardly for work well done. And though the rhetoric of America's "constitution and democracy" gets piled in multiple-choice doses of quiz and essay... "mandatory schoolyears" and "fixed bureaucratic tracks" roll by, forming one practically NO-alternative choice (to "public education") as it stands.

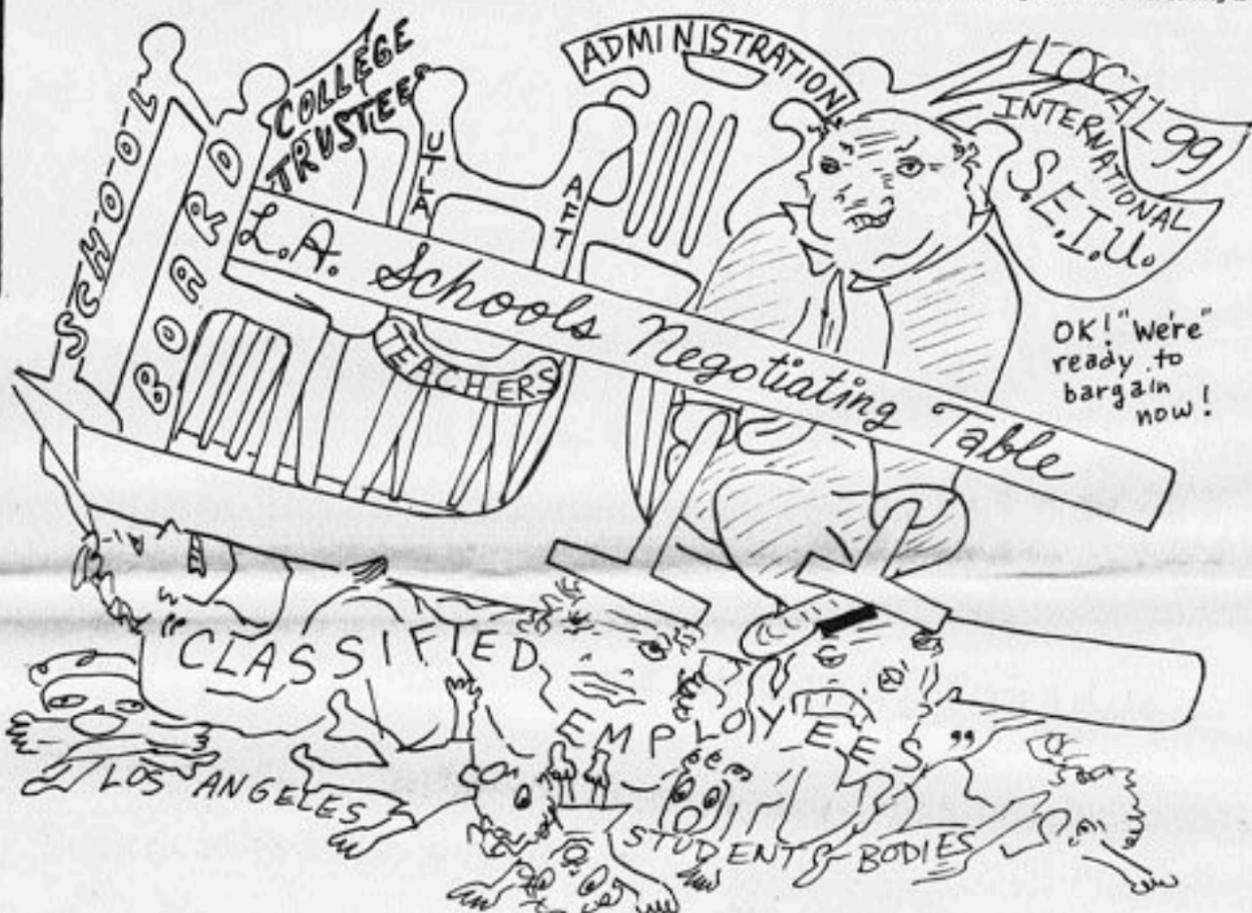
But the school system itself has become "right wing" on it's own. This is the same LAUSD which only recently reacted (20 years after the so-called "sexual revolution of the 60's) to discover the condom, beginning to effectuate birth control information clinics at 31 highschool sites. The LAUSD which regularly treats parents, citizens, and employees alike as dogs during downtown (public?) headquarter meetings (monday afternoons). The same LAUSD which ordered inner-city kids into year-round schools while leaving it's more affluent areas to summer vacations. They would build no more schools PERIOD! The same LAUSD erecting "Taj Mahal Palace" offices downtown with electronic scoring boards for Board of Trustees' votes while college enrollments plummeted.

The largely minority, relatively underpaid workforce legally represented by Local 99 smack dab in the middle of all this reactionaryism poses problems specifically if unionization were to seriously address such ongoing issues. Thus the politics of authoritarianism came to a head.

TEAMSTERS: Because the per-capita dues allotment sent to the International branch of the Teamsters approximated one fourth of the intake of local dues money, I got the distinct impression that Teamsters' locals held far greater autonomy from their international than do AFL-CIO local unions. At least in Wisconsin 1975.

### POWERLESSNESS sp. P-U-T-S-C-H

By '80-'81, just 2 quick years following the introduction of massive bussing within the school district, the "head" of Local 99 was under severe fire. With working conditions worsening to



Still the "PR" network of mass media (especially newspaper) would still paint this workforce of "educators" as "liberals", "idealists" eager to work with children albeit in a "low-paying arena"! With "step" increases and "boosts" of salary for further college credits however...teachers reach a close par in salary levels with the very police officers first considered here! So what happens to classified Local 99'ers?

### POWERLESSNESS sp. W-O-R-K-I-N-G

Moving whole hog into the working world, it has been less than surprising to learn that there is no such animal as a "fair reimbursement for labor." Textbooks may spew such propaganda and TV commercials may slide past ugly truths with aspirin, but pure and simple working people get fucked. Furthermore, the working person shall get fucked for what OTHERS want done. If anything, authoritarian and docile-promoting educational settings have been nothing less than early warnings to workplace racism! So what does all this have to do with Local 99?

### POWERLESSNESS sp. L-O-C-A-L 9-9

Well, Local 99 like all well-behaved unions representing fundamentally "sound" workforces is an ironic key to smothering one potentially explosive, yet absolutely necessary pillar of "educational labor". It is maybe not surprising that this largely black and urban grouping of employees, given extra oomph with the sudden influx of busdrivers in the years of 'integration' (1978) should be pressure-cooking with contradiction by now.

After all, the actual LA local though large in and of itself, has been affiliated with the "parent" international S.E.I.U. based in Wash. D.C. It sends close to half of it's dues monies (nearly one million dollars per year) to this fat and over-administrative bureaucracy. Considering the stagnation over years with respect to winning the bargaining rights of public service employees coupled with the obvious nature of this particular "company union"'s mentality during the "meet and confer" years prior to 1977, Local 99 staggers the imagination for it's weakness.

Throwing in the salt of anti-black plus hierarchy-racism emanating from the tops of school district administrative quarters, the LA city schools and community colleges have truly crunched their union's leadership in a real "cooker". Naturally, union "officials" have responded in their own (what could only be described as) "unique ways".

busdrivers during the "bus-stop" backlash the years following '78, Howard Friedman (Sec.-Treas. of the local) attempted to alter recorded minutes of one general membership meeting (a la Richard Nixon's Watergate tapes). Friedman worked to put a lid on the constant, smoldering, membership pressure and dissatisfaction with district management.

After 2 more years of trumped-up firings of union officials and members, phoney trials engineered through the union's rubber-stamp executive board, and finally rumored threats made on Friedman's life, Friedman bowed out of running for re-election. Before he stepped down however, he gressed the skids for a successor...one Wm. Price III. Mr. Price was supposedly an ex-busdriver who unlike Friedman, was black. And in a pitifully attended election, the strategy worked. Price was "elected" Sec.-Treas. in '83 by about 8% of the membership!

Worse than the straw election however, was the "putsch" on the local's constitution and bylaws prepared by Friedman beforehand, carried out by Price and "sanctioned" by the ever-present (yet ever-invisible) "international". With only about 6% of the union's members returning these "election envelopes", Friedman, Price and Moran (99's employee/president) declared in '81 that the union's old bylaws were null and void.

They discontinued meetings for members, discontinued voting for members, discontinued elections of representatives and/or issues by dues-paying members. These union "officials" never carried authorization to carry out this 'election' in the first place. Yet they made doubly sure no opportunity for opposition could take place afterwards by simply closing down the union hall period.

These same officials then worked more diligently with compliant district management in order to fire militants and/or dissidents, putting 2 union members (Jules Kimmett and Victor Wightman) in jail themselves. Their "crime" (dismissed before trial by the city attorney) was to have supposedly interfered with the 'orderly' process of Local 99's latest (illegal) elections!

★ NEWS ITEM: A custodian on Jules Kimmett's latest election slate qualified himself to run for the position of "trustee". He was quickly told he had been disqualified for ballot placement. Asking the referee why?, the arbitrator pointed to Dan Johnson (an incumbent and another candidate for trustee) saying: "That man sitting there told me you had no intention of running." (!) Despite verbal protests in addition to written ones, the custodian's name never showed on ballots.

# You Can Have Your Cake

By Jann A. Carver

Too good to be true? Then, you might want to ask yourself, "Why?"

Most of our life operates on automatic pilot, and the pilot is our subconscious mind -- that is, we unconsciously create our reality. When we walked or rode a bicycle for the first time, we gave the process our full attention, then turned the job over to our subconscious mind. Likewise, early in life -- often with our first breath -- we consciously decided what is the "truth" about ourselves and others, and now we merrily or miserably go along, for the rest of our lives, proving we are right. As long as we like our results, it's merry; however, when we have our cake, but someone else is eating it, then we want to find the specific belief that's creating our unwanted results.

How does one "remember" or "get at" the culprit blocking our joy and aliveness? One simple, but powerful method is a technique called Rebirthing or

**Conscious Breathing.** Under the guidance of a trained rebirther, one may release tensions held in the body, stuck emotions and thoughts stored in the subconscious mind -- long forgotten by the conscious mind.

As one breathes during the Rebirthing process, anything held in the body that blocks, constricts, inhibits, or suppresses joy and aliveness may be brought up for the purpose of release and healing - whatever comes up is on its way out.

How many of us have thought "life/our body is painful; it's not safe to be alive; I don't want to be here; it's more fun to escape;" etc.? Through Rebirthing one can experience the ease, pleasure and safety we were meant to have while being totally present and fully alive in our physical bodies.

My choice: it's fun to be alive -- life is an abundant smorgasbord with all my favorite dishes.

# Ash Grove Regrooves

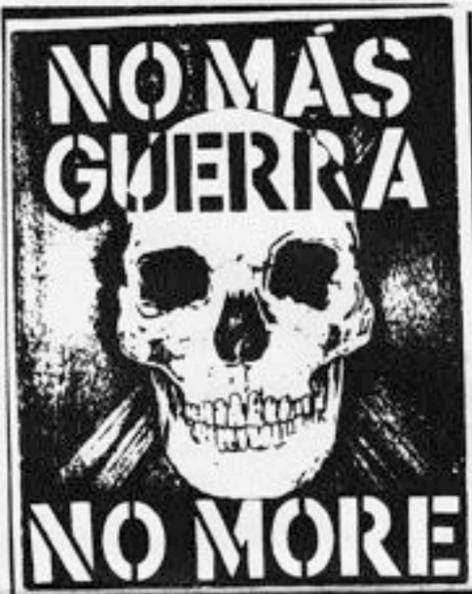
In 1958 longtime Venice resident Ed Pearl, then a 21 year old kid with neither money nor experience started a night club in Los Angeles that became a mecca for the emerging folk and rock musicians of the 1960's, and a focal point for the progressive cultural and political forces that shaped the times. Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, Lenny Bruce, Phil Ochs, Linda Ronstadt, Jackson Browne, Kris Kristopherson, Taj Mahal, and dozens of others all played there--both before and after they became celebrities -- and all agree they got a good part of their start there.

The night club was called, "The Ash Grove". It was open for 15 years during which Ed operated the club and promoted many of the great folk and rock acts of the 60's and 70's.

Since those days (the Ash Grove shut its doors in 1973) Ed has done a lot of cultural-political work in Venice and in Los Angeles. He has worked with KPFF for years and is continuously producing cultural events. Most recent activities include Peace in the Americas, July 86, which emphasized Nueva Cancion; Art Against Apartheid which played to over 25,000 high school students in Los Angeles County, Gil Scott Heron, Inti Illimani, and many more.

Ed is, at present, heavy into advanced plans to reopen the Ash Grove. It is a concept, he believes whose time has returned. Negotiations for a suitable building in Hollywood have begun and Ed is receiving calls from lots of interested people encouraging him in his idea and asking how they might help. He has significant investment support but will accept none, as they say. Good Luck Ed. It would be great to see the Ash Grove rise again.

A. Springer



Shock Battalion, No Más Guerra



## YOU DONT KNOW ME

## MATTHEW 20: 1-16

FIXED %  
BALANCE = TOTAL NET DEBT =  
2.0 X PERSONAL INCOME  
(LOW INFLATION)  
(LOW UNEMPLOYMENT)

CONSTANT PERCENTAGE  
INCOME RAISES



DISEQUILIBRIUM  
DEBT  
(INFLATION)

TOTAL NET DEBT

(USB&A SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS, 1969-1977)

COLLASPE = TOTAL NET DEBT  
= 2.5 X PERSONAL INCOME  
(LOW INFLATION)  
(HI UNEMPLOYMENT)

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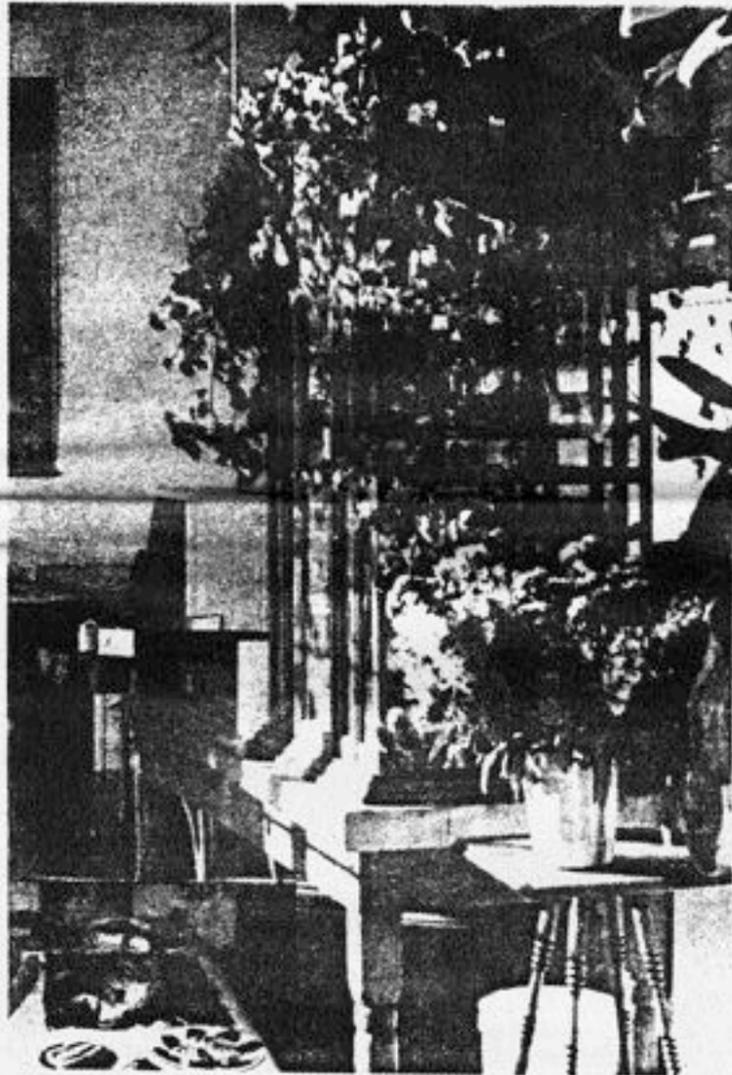
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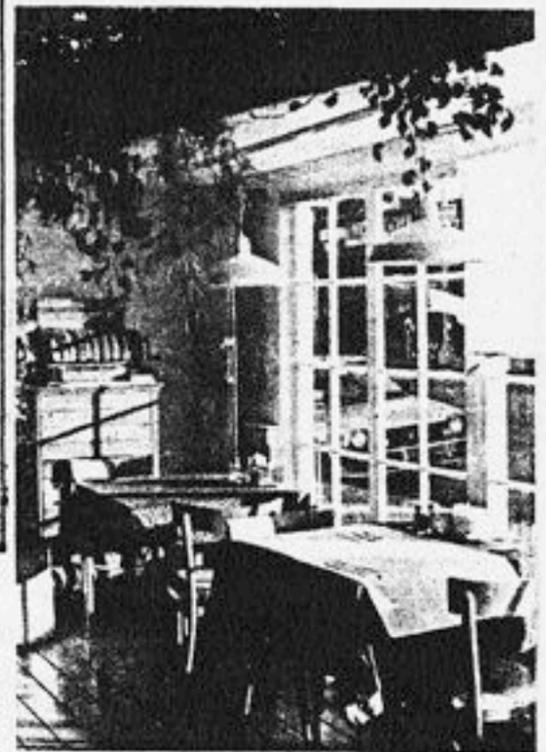


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# Bits and Pieces

by Geriatric Jack

## \$300 BILLION AIN'T ENOUGH THEY EVEN STEAL FROM THE POOR

A Federal District Court judge has ruled that the Defense Department "abdicated its statutory responsibility" by delaying for three years a program to open unused military structures to the homeless.

District Court for the District of Columbia, also assailed the Pentagon for spending most of the money appropriated for the program on military weapons and equipment.

The ruling in June on a lawsuit against the department brought by the National Coalition for the Homeless, ordered Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger and the Pentagon's military installations authorities to publish the necessary guidelines by Nov. 18.

President Rambo's own budget figures disclose that defense spending has increased 48% in the past seven years compared to 16% for non-defense spending. When Rambo took office in 1980 the federal debt stood at \$1 trillion. It is now pushing \$2.3 trillion. It took us about 200 years to get \$1 trillion in debt. It only took 7 years to get us in the hole for another \$1.3 trillion.

When that boy throws a party cost is no object. I know you didn't get invited to the party but you can bet you'll be invited to clean up the mess.

### HOW TO WIN HEARTS AND MINDS

While the price of weapons for the Contras was under discussion in the Iran-Contra hearings, I was concentrating on how my tax money was used to bring destruction to human beings in Nicaragua. A country with fewer people than the City of Los Angeles (3 million) does not pose a threat to me. Cuba has been under Castro for 25 years and is only 90 miles from the U.S.

Do you have nightmares about Castro taking us over?

Cost Rica called for another meeting of the Central American countries to discuss peace proposals. The meeting has been planned since January. At the last minute El Salvador and Honduras couldn't make it.

Guatemala's President accuses the U.S. of sabotaging this mini-summit.

A few weeks ago the contra military commanders barred human rights monitors from entering contra border camps. The monitors have charged that the military commanders hamper their investigations. So much for President Rambo's "Freedom Fighters."

### I WANT A FRIENDLY INVESTIGATION

The President and his Justice Dept. want to do away with independent counsels (once known as special prosecutors). Since the head of the Justice Dept. Ed Meese and other of President Rambo's true believers are being investigated by independent counsels I can understand their desire.

## MIX MEDIA

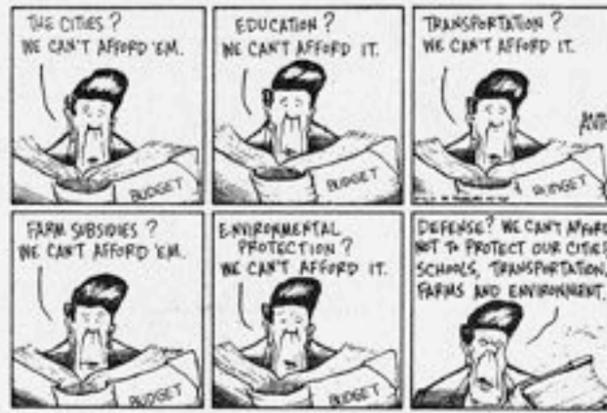
FOR SINGLE PEOPLE WHO WISH TO DATE SOMEONE FROM A DIFFERENT ETHNIC BACKGROUND.

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## MIX MEDIA

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NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_  
STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_



### THROW MORE RASCALS OUT

Two new City Council members get elected in L.A. and the speculator/developers are screaming even before the new members are sworn in.

97% of the House of Representatives seeking reelection won. Maybe if we got rid of a few of them just as we did on the L.A. City Council the rest might start doing their job.

Money may not be a big obstacle. Only 7 of the top 15 spenders in last years U.S. Senate races won.

### BIG BROTHER IN THE COMPUTER AGE

A federal advisory committee has tentatively endorsed a major expansion of a national computer database that would permit federal, state and local law enforcement agencies to exchange information on people who are suspected of a crime but have not been charged.

Law enforcement officials say the proposals would help fight crime. But civil libertarians, including California Rep. Don Edwards, a San Jose Democrat, said many of the proposals would pose a serious threat to privacy.

The panel also suggested that the database, the National Crime Information Center, should have electronic access to records of other government agencies, including the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Internal Revenue Service, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, the Social Security Administration, and the passport office of the State Dept.

### WHO'S LEFT TO READ ?

In the U.S. there are 23 million (13%) who are functionally illiterate. Another 35 million are only semi-literate meaning they read at the eighth grade level.

### MEMPHIS SLIM FOR PRESIDENT

I'm all for your platform for the Presidency but you didn't tell us about your sex life.

## Seven Wonders

### SEVEN WONDERS OF THE WORLD

1. People don't own things-- things own people.
2. A few billionaires control all governments.
3. Five billion wage slaves permit this.
4. Scarcity is created for PROFIT.
5. Environment is destroyed for PROFIT.
6. Wars and revolutions are started for PROFIT.
7. There would be no PROFIT in destruction if people worked without pay and gave products free of charge.

# Taking Your Initiative

By Malcolm Tent

Two bills prowling their way through the State Legislature would give Sacramento bureaucrats new ways to twist and delay citizen-induced change.

Much attention has been given lately by our legislators to reforming the current system. According to the Secretary-of-State's office, Californians have used the initiative process more than in any other state. Half of the initiatives ever proposed here occurred during the last 10 years. The number of initiatives qualifying for the ballot in the 1980s rose by 50% over the 1970s.

Those who want to change the system cite lengthy legal battles over unclear language as well as lack of "adequate" public debate on controversial issues.

Specifically, Assembly Bills 2291 (Killea) and 1331 (Speier) add two months delay for study by the State Attorney General and Secretary of State before proponents may circulate petitions. AB 2291 also lets the legislature add two more months to this wait, if politicians want more time to study the proposal.

Currently, our elected State officials are planning to double their own salaries, an action which is certain to arouse public ire.



'Union' Continued from Page 5

### BACK TO THE FUTURE

So 6 years later, one constitution and bylaws overturned, and one more sellout-union administration expired, district employees have turned out "en-lesse" (as opposed to "en masse") with a paltry 20% eligible voting this June. Where Price garnered 741 votes in 1983 with close to 600 votes in opposition, he picked up 159 more for himself by 1987. Yet nearly 450 additional votes turned out this time around to vote against the incumbent. The increase in total turnout then was clearly in an effort to remove Price.

### No Run-off?

The expected demand by pro-democratic candidate Kimmett to force a runoff in the top 3 executive positions was registered with election referee Gaylord Benz early Monday, June 22. There has been no written reply as of the date of this article. However, Benz, of the American Arbitration Association, who has been working closely with International figures regarding election guidelines has verbally predicted: no formal runoff election will take place!

Benz earlier displayed bias to Kimmett's campaign by disqualifying 4 of 7 candidates on his ticket. He claimed he was following "International procedure and authority." Meanwhile, local officials Price and Moran approved the unprecedented amount of \$13,000 to cover the costs of suddenly hiring Benz when the previous "election referee" Jack Blackburne unexpectedly withdrew April 25.

### Dissidence Rules

Although Price was quoted in the union's newsletter as claiming "It is unfortunate that the action of a small minority of people--two non-members and two members vying for the same office--have reflected badly on the reputation of the entire union," in his explanation for Blackburne's discomfort upon visiting the union hall, Blackburne may have stated things more accurately with his own words (quoted in the same article): "Based on my observation of the dissonance expressed at the meeting (a meeting to draw up election guidelines), conducting an orderly election in such a climate of suspicion and mistrust would require more time and effort than I am willing to devote to it."

Thanks for gangster food and drinks,

Gratefully unhumble:

Victor Wightman

# Le Roi Jones/Amiri Baraka

By Sharon Stricker

Just came back from a most exciting event: a poetry performance by Amiri Baraka, LeRoi Jones at Cal State L.A.'s Student Union.

Exciting exciting that is the word that went through my head when he finished reading/performing/singing/humming/yelling/screaming/whispering/ beating his rhythm on the podium/tapping his brown-shoed toes.

This is poetry at its finest deliverance, poetry that is song that is sung that is delivered like a sermon/like a chant/like a spiritual/like Duke Ellington.

That blending of politics and music in:

"The Mind of the President"  
Mama Mama Mama  
Dat Dat Dat Dat Dat Dat  
Peepee Peepee Peepee  
Doodoo Doodoo Doodoo  
Kill

And he performed one of my favorites: "Wailer" for Bob Marley and Larry Neeley. He pointed out how it's important to notice that when certain musicians whose music is political start talking too much to the masses notice how they die off. Marley, Lennon, and I thought of my own poem, "This Too Shall Pass". Baraka makes me think political. Makes me aware of the sound of language and how the contribution of black poets in our time may be their gift of music, of rhythms, of sounds. Like in "Wailers". The repetition over and over again of the same word: wailers. We wailers. We wailers. Wailers. We wailers.

Like he did in the wonderful poem, "How to Beat Reagan" where he wanted to create:

anti-Reagan dances  
anti-Reagan songs  
anti-Reagan meals  
anti-Reagan cartons  
anti-Reagan agendas  
give anti-Reagan names to our pets  
anti-Reagan plays  
start an anti-Reagan craze

this is serious  
we need not be delirious

let us work together  
let us educate each other

create anti-Reagan hors d'oeuvres

look at the sun  
any useful stuff is anti-Reagan

on and on a poem of several pages wrapped around one word: anti-Reagan. And then he read:

"Dig"

"The best kept secret in politics is most of them motherfuckers be drunk."

And another poem: "Wise" or "Why's" which he's been writing for three years seems to be an epic history of the souls of black folk from Africa forward to the present. Each separate section is tuned to a piece of black music. The line I most remember: "Think of music as the only soul God could have."

Afterwards he told me his poems are coming out in two months in a book called **MUSIC**. I should have known. Morrow Bros. Publishing.

He is an impressive man. Scholarly looking with his tweed jacket and black satchel. Pepper and salt hair. Brown cocoa butter skin. Tan shirt, brown tie. Except when he got up to read he took out a notebook that would horrify. Blue cardboard covers overstuffed with too many curling papers ready to fall - held under wraps by a single rubber band. He kept slinging his satchel, full of more files and books. At times his luggage



9 to 5/CPF

led him as though he were pulled by a divining stick. He brought his chapbook: "In the Tradition" for Black Arthur Blythe I bought three. He autographed each of them. During those moments I had a

chance to tell him how much I liked "Wailers" and how I'd seen him perform it with two musicians on the tape, "Poetry in Motion." The best thing on that video I told him. He smiled widely, thanked me. Said how important it was for him to hear that. I knew then I liked him as a person, for he gave the response that I think all poets who really love writing will give. There is no greater reward than to hear your words have truly touched someone.

They did that to me today. They made me remember how silent I have been lately on this topic of politics. How many poems I have written in my head that are anti-Reagan but that I haven't had time to set down.

He made me aware that perhaps the reason they are not considered as important is because in working in a prison there is always that self-censoring oppression/repression/suppression. Could it be that prison has affected my politics through silence? It felt so uplifting to hear someone do an entire reading of what I consider wonderfully overt political poetry. And you have to hear it to appreciate it because he delivers it like a magician. He enchants you and wraps you into his mind and heart and movement. When you come back you feel liberated because he has sung over and over again just how you feel about Reagan in this moment in history. Such a relief, such a blessing to hear this dissent. To hear it not as gripe, not as rant, not as sniveling, not as cynicism, but as poetry.

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'Credit' Continued from Page 1.

If you're reading anything else relatively obscure as the Free Venice Beachhead, you must be fairly dedicated. I'll keep my explanations to a minimum for the future researcher. I'll assume if he/she's gone this far, that that person will know what I'm talking about and will know the difference between a Yuppie and a puppie. The L.A. Times was caught with its prognostications down. During the campaign, the Times latched onto a single phony issue to be pounded on again and again to the exclusion of any other issue: The danger of the Sixth District falling prey to "left-leaning lesser-known liberals" if Ruth Galanter were to be elected.

The Times found nothing questionable in Galanter's background, so they harked on the fact that she attended the same school as Assemblyman Tom Hayden. The Times ignored the fact that Galanter's campaign had refused several times the advances of Tom Hayden (his help was offered only when it seemed she had a chance of winning). Hayden spoke of expanding his political power base.

### Suck lemon, Citron!

At the election-night party at Galanter headquarters, representatives of Westchester's Homeowner groups, small business associations, environmentalists and other left-leaning, lesser-known liberals including Yours Truly from the "stridently liberal Free Venice Beachhead" awaited election returns. I hope you strangle on those quotes, Alan Citron.

When the returns started coming in, it looked like a landslide for Russell. Then at about 10:00 p.m. the odds evened and then started a steady reverse. Dared we believe it?

I was waiting outside the headquarters hugging everyone who came within my grasp: "We're winning, we're winning!" I went to the little storefront where the precinct returns were coming in, just a doorway away. I saw one of the lesser-known liberals, Arnold Springer, sitting outside. "We won, we won!" I babbled. "Look who just walked in," he replied. I looked inside, and I saw a group of four or five dark-suited men. Future historian, there's a phrase that you might not have heard because of its obscure political background. I didn't quite know what that phrase meant until June 2. That phrase is: "The Suits." When four or five of these dark-suited men had come in - hey, they'd backed the wrong horse and left the poor thing as she was still heading towards

the finish line - the quality of the air seemed to change. The Suits were here. The Big Boys. The Professionals. Tom Hayden, whose slide to political prominence was greased by the sweat of his wife's thighs, was slapping people on the back, shouting, "WE DID IT, WE DID IT!" "We did what, Motherfucker?" I said. I turned and spotted Michael Dieden, ex-campaign manager for Tom Hayden, and founder of the Venice Action Committee, an organization whose membership consists of developers, established artists, and investors.

The cold, clammy fingers of cooptation tightened around the back of my neck.

A friend of mine throws an annual bash at his home, very informal, bring your own food, in-toxicants, etc. Since he is active in community activities, and has worked hard for Galanter, it was like a victory celebration.

A huge basket of fancifully wrapped fruit dominated the assortment of honey casseroles and dips. An accompanying letter congratulating Ruth and wishing her a speedy recovery was prominently displayed. It was from one of The Suits. Galanter sent the fruit to the party to be shared by everyone. I hope that gesture is symbolic of the way Galanter intends to deal with the Sixth District.

The L.A. Times stopped quoting obscure pro-development factions who feared that the Sixth District would be ensnared in the web of the Venice Town Council if Galanter were elected. The Times also stopped equating a desire for clean air, a clean bay, and low-income housing with Communism.

One day while strolling along the Ocean Front Walk, I noticed flyers stapled to anything that didn't move. They read: "Take back our beach." Important information, a message from our Councilwoman-Elect, crime in the streets, etc., etc. The meeting was at the Pavillion and sponsored by the Venice Action Committee. Subsequent leaflets came out with the headline, "Venice Town Meeting" (an effort by VAC to coopt the Venice Town Council?), with no mention of who sponsored the meeting. About 75 people showed up for the meeting. A rock band was playing.

The beach police were presented with new bicycles, courtesy of Venice Action Committee - a smattering of polite applause. Jim Bickhart read a letter from Ruth Galanter. She praised the Neighborhood Watch Program, crediting them, the Police, and the Paramedics for saving her life. She encouraged grassroots participation and cooperation with the Police. Galanter went on to say that while crime must be stopped, an attack on the roots of crime must be mounted. The crowd broke into applause and cheered. The M.C. was a Ms. Gise. She wore a beige suit and her pumps were white. None of the male Suits of the V.A.C. were there, or at least none apparent. The crowd was mostly white with varying shades in between, with a sprinkling of blacks, Hispanics and Asians, casually dressed. The age range was 16 to 80. Street people, vendors, homeowners, skateboarders, were there. "We must take back the beach!" shrieked Ms. Gise. "From whom?" shouted someone from the crowd. Ms. Gise seemed at a temporary loss for words. "From pollution, darkness and fear!" she exclaimed. "We want a safer, cleaner, more beautiful beach." "For who?" yelled someone in the crowd. "For nice people!" She introduced Pat Milne, City Attorney. He started to talk about making a citizen's arrest when a man shouted: "I'd like the Police to make a citizen's arrest right now!" It seems he was one of the more vociferous members of the crowd, expressing some doubts about who the beach was to be taken for and away from. He expressed the thought that the beach would further exclude low-income people. This seemed to affront two young burly men who towered over the grey-haired man whose hair came to his shoulders. They told him to leave so that they could punch him out. When the man refused to comply, the two young men gave him an alternative. They would follow him home and punch him out. The long-haired man took this declaration as a threat. As this was going on, a man came up and talked about skateboarders dealing dope on the steps of his apartment. The skateboarders booed and hissed and demanded equal time to reply to these allegations. "Later, later!" said Ms. Gise. "She won't let you speak!" an audience member bellowed. "They'll turn off the mike!" ~~Who needs to go the movies when politics is so entertaining?~~ My sequences are out of whack at this point - forgive me, Beachhead readers and future historians.

The Police declined to assist in a citizen's arrest of the two expensively dressed thugs who were harassing the grey-haired man. So much for the efficacy of citizen's arrests. One of the VAC pack called for a halt on drugs in Venice. "Stop the CIA and the Contras!" someone yelled out. I'm not saying that I'm objective but I think my style is an improvement of the pseudo-objective style of the Red-baiting L.A. Times.

I was angry and a little amused at VAC's effort to bulldoze in and try to take power from the people.

The purpose of this "meeting" was to gain acceptance and credibility as the responsible community group. However, their corporate structure, their dues rates, discouraged participation by all members of the community, and, F.H. and present-day Beachhead readers, that's why I'm writing this. Their candidate might have lost, but they're only too willing to take us over.

Well, back to the meeting. It seemed to peter out, if you'll pardon the expression, when people started complaining about "transients" and bums, whipping it out and whizzing on the oh-so-pristine corner of Speedway and Westminster or Brooks. When the rainy season comes along and reconstitutes everything, the drunken fumes of ghostly poets, ram-paging, lusting through long-gone nights, marking their turf... hell, it's a tradition.

And I've seen enough men in Ferraris and Porsches also get out of the car and do their thing on the corner of Westminster and Speedway.

As the meeting broke up, a man came up to me. He wasn't wearing a Suit. He introduced himself as the Executive Director of VAC. Is that a paying position, I asked. Yes, he said. I have never worked for a political organization that had more than one paying position.

By some movement of the stars and the planets, in spite of the near-death of our candidate, and I know this sounds corny and Stanlist-poster and Frank Capra, The People Won. We are the in-crowd. We have the power. We just have to keep watching for The Suits. I have the feeling when they say they want to work with you, what they mean is they want work on you.■

# Russell Nightmare

Continued from Page 1.

Ex-Russell aide Steve Afriat repped the builders of a nine unit apartment building oled on Centinela Ave. The owners, Western Capital Development gave Russell the legal maximum, \$1,000;

In Playa Del Rey, she gave a developer a 19 unit complex on land proposed for addition to the Del Rey Lagoon Park. Big contributors in the 1983 election Howard Hughes Properties performed engineering work for the project. Ex-Councilman and now lobbyist Art Snyder pleaded the developers' case before Russell's City Council;

Russell was able to delay one moratorium's approval until after she lost. This concerned the Westchester Bluffs--most of the land owned by major-backer Summa Corp. or Howard Hughes Realty (basically the same company). Her actions guaranteed developers the right to

build, as long as they followed "contemporary techniques for the development of hillside areas". Residents' concerns about bird nesting areas and paving over of open space were thrown out by our faithful Ms. Russell.

### PLAYA VISTA

What's wrong with Playa Vista? Everything! Summa Corp., the owners, admit in their environmental impact reports that the water table is only a few feet below the surface throughout most of this development. They admit that the area has a high potential for liquefaction during earthquakes--a la Mexico City.

Buildings at Playa Vista can be from 226 to 426 feet high--over 30 stories, however only on 30% of the area east of Lincoln and south of Ballona Creek. Don't relax. What if Summa built only on that 30%? They could go to that maximum height on every one. Ha Ha Ha!

Getting to and from Playa Vista will be next to impossible at rush hour. Every intersection along Lincoln Blvd. will be gridlocked--the developers admit that. And while there will be some 8,800 housing units--condos and apartments--there will only be enough homes for 42% of employees, tilting the westside jobs-housing imbalance even further out of whack.

Included will be some 7 million square feet of commercial and office space, 2400 hotel rooms or about 8 big hi-rise hotels.

You may wonder, how could the City Council approve such reckless land use? Simple. The Summa property was at the time LA County territory--not City--and in order to annex the 1000 acres of Playa Vista into the City, you had to have a "willing landowner/petitioner for annexation". If L.A. City didn't want Playa Vista, the County would have been willing to let Summa develop it much worse. Legally, because of bizarre County zoning, the 105 acres now used as a helicopter factory could be entirely built 13 stories tall--as one solid building totalling 59 million square feet.

### HOWARD HUGHES CENTER

The ten buildings here, each of which will tower over the nearby bluffs, take up about 30 % of the total area of the Center--the same standard for most of Playa Vista.

The Howard Hughes Center will employ 14,000 people when fully built, and only provide parking for 8770 of them. This doesn't include customers and guests at the one to three planned hotels. Buildings will range from eight to 21 stories, and have been designed in such a way that they will appear as one solid mass from a distance and from neighboring homes. While the developers have agreed not to operate heliports from their towers, buildings over 75 feet are required by law to have emergency helipads. The Hughes Center will range in Height from 140 to 376 feet.

Traffic gridlock will multiply on Sepulveda Blvd. and Centinela Ave. due to the Center, and smog levels along both roads will violate Federal and State safety standards.

Four earthquake faults pass within a mile of the Center. The site shares the high ground water levels of Playa Vista, and is likewise in a zone of possible liquefaction--like quicksanding--during earthquakes.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

# More Russelling

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

## CONTINENTAL CITY

This project has eight hi-rises, and the same amount of building space as the Howard Hughes Center, yet it's located on less than half the land area--29 acres. Its 3.1 million square feet of offices and hotel rooms will be 10 to 15 stories tall. Siting just South of the LAX South Runway, I can't help thinking this complex would make an easy target for planes.

Traffic near this Center is already gridlocked. The new Century Freeway just South of the Center has been forecast by traffic planners to be gridlocked from birth.

## LAX NORTHSIDE

This 4.5 million sq. feet of commercial and airport related business is on land which once was 3500 homes which were taken out because airport noise had made them unliveable. Traffic is the major problem here. City officials admit that the road system will be gridlocked, and that the connection to the San Diego Freeway won't work. So why do City officials keep pushing this development that will be impossible to get to? Because the city is going to make a mint off the land which it purchased cheap over 15 years ago.

## MARINA PLACE

This massive shopping mall and office project is in Culver City just East of the intersection of Lincoln and Washington Blvds. When they approved this mess, officials admitted traffic would be gridlocked here, too, but justified it by saying traffic would be insignificant when measured against the traffic generated by the other four big projects. Oh well.

## THE COASTAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

This is the law that allows developers to build even when traffic regularly gridlocks. The law's reasoning is so cockeyed I'm amazed the other members of the L.A. City Council didn't notice it when they approved it. The gist of it is basically that if you spread the traffic mess throughout the westside by allowing big projects everywhere, rather than concentrating it in a few areas such as Lincoln Blvd. and the airport area, you come out with better traffic. Sure.

And talk about mysterious--the second paragraph of the Coastal Plan designates much of the area south of Washington, East of Lincoln Blvd., West of the San Diego FWY and North of the Westchester Bluffs as an Employment Center. This includes all of Summa Corp.'s property, the Oxford Triangle and Del Rey communities and parts of Marina Del Rey. Designated in the plan as a second employment center is all of Westchester South of Manchester, an area developed now with several thousand homes. Hmm.

Pat Russell spent over \$500,000 on her bid to misrepresent us for another 4 years.

Most of the cash came from developers, law firms, land use consultants and big local Corporations such as GTE, Chevron, the Southern Pacific Railroad, Loyola Marymount University, Von's, Ralphs and Boys Markets and the L.A. Dodgers.

## MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS TO PAT RUSSELL

Western Capital Development.....\$1,000  
R & B Enterprises.....1,500  
(Owns Oakwood Garden Apartments)  
Summa Corporation.....500

The Kreshek family.....3,000  
Latham & Watkins-various employees.....5,150  
(Law firm representing Summa Corp. and Continental City.)  
Manatt, Phelps, Rothenberg & Phillips..1,100  
(Law firm representing various developers & Occidental Petroleum)  
Occidental Petroleum.....3,350  
(Got Ms. Russell's OK to drill for oil on Pacific Palisades Beach)  
Silver Strand Marina Association.....1,000  
(Seeks to dredge and concrete the Ballona Lagoon on the Marina Peninsula.)  
Pacific Lighting Corp.....1,000  
(Owns So. Cal. Gas Company)  
Alexander Haagen & family.....5,000  
(Building the new Crenshaw Mall. Also Chair of the L.A. Coliseum Commission)  
The J.H. Snyder Co.(Developers).....1,500  
Greene's Ready Mix Concrete Co.....1,000  
(Building cement plant in Westchester)  
The Voit Co.....(Developers).....2,000  
John Tunney..(Ex-U.S. Senator).....2,000  
John Kilroy.....2,000  
(Owns several office buildings)  
Art Snyder...(Ex-Councilman, now.....2,000  
developer lobbyist)  
Harlan Lee & Associates.....1,500  
(Venice developer)  
Gruen & Associates.....1,000  
TransAction Financial.....3,000  
(Owns Lincoln Place apartments)  
Watt Corp...(Developers).....2,000  
Robert E. Bayley Construction.....3,000  
Psomas and Associates.....1,500  
(Consultants to Summa Corp.)  
Bren Co..(Developers--owns Irvine ranch).600  
Continental Development Corp.....1,000  
(Building Continental City)  
Thomas Safran..(Venice developer).....500

## POLITICIANS WHO CONTRIBUTED:

Councilman Hal Bernson.....500  
Councilman Mike Woo.....500  
Councilwoman Joan Milke Flores.....500  
Councilman Zev Yaroslavsky.....500  
Councilwoman Joy Picus.....100  
Councilman John Ferraro.....500



'Felon' Continued from Page 1.

# JULY 19

## THE SECOND ANNUAL HANDS OFF THE AMERICAS FESTIVAL

A rally to support non-intervention and for self-determination everywhere. In celebration of Nicaragua's new constitution and the 8th anniversary of the revolution.



Sunday, July 19  
Noon to 6 P.M.

Fairfax High School\*  
7850 Melrose  
Los Angeles  
(corner Melrose and Fairfax)

Food and Beverages  
Art Exhibits

Donation: \$3.

For more info:  
(213) 396-1134

### MUSIC:

Grupo Umbral  
Barbara Dane  
Sabia  
Armando Morales  
and The Salsa  
Allstars  
FIREHOSE  
Dave Lippman  
Formula 1 Band  
from Haiti  
Huayucaltia

### SPEAKERS:

Ramona Ripston  
Jackie Goldberg  
Vernon Bellecourt  
Karen Parker  
John Linder

### SPONSORS:

Nicaragua Task Force  
CISPES  
So. Ca. Interfaith  
Task Force on C.A.  
Friends of El Rescate  
Central Cultural  
Nicaraguense  
Sol Nica  
Let Nicaragua Live

Don't forget to attend the  
Cultural Celebration and  
Dance

Saturday, July 18  
7:30 P.M.

ACTWU Union Hall  
2501 So. Hill St.  
L.A.

Music by Calites  
Donation: \$8

Sponsored by the Nicaraguan  
Cultural Center

For more info:  
(213) 931-6731

Now, as the Nicaraguans press forward to establish their revolution and constitution, the U.S. is undergoing a profound national upheaval as evidence comes to light of how a group of government policy makers has worked covertly to violate U.S. law in an effort to destroy the Nicaraguan government.

At the July 19th celebration, John Linder, brother of Benjamin Linder, the young American engineer recently murdered by the contras, will be among the speakers. Others will include Orlando Moncada, Nicaraguan delegate to the O.A.S.; Karen Parker, an expert on constitutional law and the new Nicaraguan Constitution; Vernon Bellecourt, a Native American leader, who will speak on the Nicaraguan autonomy process; a speaker from the African National Congress, who will speak about the Freedom Charter, the blueprint for a free and democratic South Africa. Jackie Goldberg, a member of the L.A. Unified School Board, and Ramona Ripston, of People for the American Way, will serve as co-M.C.'s.

An exciting program of music and culture will also be offered, including appearances by Sabia, FIREHOSE, Armando Morales and His Salsa Allstars, Dave Lippman, Huayucaltia, Phranc, Barbara Dane, and Formula One Band from Haiti. In addition, a wide variety of political and community groups from Southern California will be present, offering information, literature and the opportunity for involvement. A unique attraction at this year's event will be a Contragate Carnival, with booths for audience participation in such uplifting pursuits as Pin-the-Crime-on-the-Official, Dunk-the-Scoundrel-of-your-Choice, and Name-that-Felon. Food, drink, and programs for children will also be available. So bring the whole family and spend an enjoyable mid-summer day of politics, music, poetry, games and culinary adventure.

For more information, call  
(213) 396-1134.

\*These school premises have been licensed pursuant to the provisions of Section 29379 of the Education Code of the State of California by El Rescate/Southern California Ecumenical Council from the Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles. The Board of Education does not sponsor or take responsibility, nor does it necessarily endorse any of the activities, statements, or opinions which may be expressed at this meeting or activity.

PROCEEDS TO "LET NICARAGUA LIVE"



# Community Events *Community Events*

The Beachhead welcomes notices of public meetings and entertainment for publication on the Community Events page. To have your event publicized, please mail your press release to us at P.O. Box 504, Venice 90294 by the third Sunday of the month. Late additions can be called in at 823-5092 no later than the following Wednesday.

COMMITTEE AGAINST RAND EXPANSION(C.A.R.E.)  
& ALLIANCE for SURVIVAL  
FRIDAY JULY 3 6 -7 p.m. DEMONSTRATION  
at Rand Corporation "FIREWORKS for PEACE"  
1700 MAIN st., SANTA MONICA

TUES-FRIDAY JULY 7,8,9,10  
CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION  
Hearing on RAND's proposed expansion plans  
BURTON CHACE PARK 13650 Mindanao Way, M.D.R.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6th HIROSHIMA DAY  
!! AM ! PM NUCLEAR WEAPONS TEST BAN  
KALLY RALLY RALLY RALLY  
RAND CORPORATION 1700 main st.

for more info.,CALL:451-1377,394-7795.  
8399-100

SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE SINGLES  
MON. JULY 6 at 7p.m.  
A VIDEO TAPE of a speech entitled  
"INTERVENTION and the STRUGGLE for PEACE"  
BY NOAM CHOMSKY, professor of linguistics at MIT

MONDAY, JULY 19 at 7:30 pm  
A VIDEOTAPE of a speech entitled "RETOOLING for  
PEACE and FULL EMPLOYMENT" Mr. MELMAN  
proposes a plan for a national PEACE PLATFORM  
for 1988  
These events will be held at the WESTWOOD Y.W.C.A.  
10936 SANTA MONICA BLVD., 4 BLOCKS EAST  
of the SAN DIEGO freeway DONATION \$3 for members  
\$4 for non-members. Children are welcome, and  
refreshments will be served at no charge.  
for more info, call:398-4141

SANTA MONICA SINGLES  
Informal singles get to gether, age 25+  
Stimulating conversation, dancing, refreshments  
July 24, 7:30 pm Donation \$5  
Unitarian Church, FORBES HALL, 1721  
Arizona Ave., SANTA MONICA info:3924713



VENICE  
TOWN  
COUNCIL

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
7:30pm Thur., July 9  
Beyond Baroque Center  
681 N. Venice Blvd.

#### AGENDA

1. City officials have identified four locations in Venice as potential replacements for downtown's homeless encampment. Town Council has invited City officials and homeless agency workers to discuss community views.
2. COMMITTEE REPORTS:  
Board of Directors (305-7149),  
Planning & Devel. (399-8922),  
Ocean Front Walk (396-1585),  
Airport Task Force (396-6774).

THE FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF L.A.  
"THE RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE"

THE FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF L.A.  
"THE RELIGIOUS BASIS of AMERICAN POLITICS"  
JULY 5 at 11 am

"NUCLEAR WEAPONS PRODUCED IN OUR OWN  
COMMUNITY"  
JULY 12 at 11 am

"HOMELESSNESS-THE CRITICAL ISSUE of the DAY"  
JULY 19th at 11 am

The 1st. Unitarian Church of L.A.  
2936 W.8th St. L.A., CA.

ALL ARE INVITED TO ATTEND -CHILD CARE  
AVAILABLE..THE SERVICE IS TRANSLATED into  
KOREAN and SPANISH. THE CHURCH IS WHEELCHAIR  
ACCESSIBLE.

## PERFORMANCE

Coming in July...  
the Los Angeles premiere of

# VIRGIN

an art performance about virgin birth

by Cheri Gaulke with Christine Papalexis

at The Church in Ocean Park, 235 Hill Street  
Fridays and Saturdays, July 17, 18, 24, 25  
at 8:00 p.m., \$7.00

Also showing...

OUR LADY OF L.A.

a videotape by Kathleen Forrest, Cheri Gaulke  
and Sue Maberry

For more information, call (213)662-3940



## POETRY

### BEYOND BAROQUE

Fiction Workshop conducted by JAMES KRUSCOE  
FREE to BEYOND BAROQUE members. \$30 for non-members  
Beginning JULY 5, 2-5pm, five classes every other  
week. 681 VENICE BLVD., INFO on admission requires  
INSTRUCTORS approval prior to enrollment  
for more info, call 822-3006

Open Reading Series 1st Sunday Eve. at 8pm  
(unless otherwise noted) JULY 5th

BEYOND BAROQUE Literary Arts Center  
681 Venice Blvd., in the OLD VENICE CITY HALL  
OPEN READINGS ARE FREE PUBLIC INVITED  
CALL: 8223006

The Church in Ocean Park  
235 Hill Street, Santa Monica

### CONTINUING GROUPS

AA Monday Evenings at 8 p.m.  
KUNG FU with Victor Walker  
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday at  
6 pm & Saturday at 8:30 am  
OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS  
Monday, Wednesday & Friday  
at 7:30 am & Saturday 10 am  
CISPES (WESTSIDE CHAPTER)  
2nd Saturdays at 10 am  
(call 396-6557 for info)  
COCAINE ANONYMOUS  
Meditation workshops o  
Thursdays, 7:30 to 8:30

## Poetry

One Week On Linda A.'s Venice Summer

Beachfront Home: August, '85

t-shirts 3 for 6 bones  
wheels on yr heels, baby,

perrier water 1.75 plus tax  
at The Sidewalk

And: these ladies wear no foam rubber  
on the inside track

we're going to roll out a  
flat one (pancake)

on the Pacific O.: matthew  
arnold is quoting "Dover

Beach": 'Ah, love, let us  
be true to one another!'

for this world hath no calm,  
jackie, this world whirleth

sea, sand, & stars: we must  
stop to peruse ANGST

O, please deliver us unto  
ennui

so we'll be cool & motley  
monsieur, mademoiselle:

that tedium will toast our  
drinks

with the special tonic  
Despair

rise, Daedalus, rise  
from the ashes

of bird Phoenix & throw  
stars—

cast brilliance into  
the muddy sky

rack the blackboard midnight  
with delicious lightning

moon us, zeus, moon us  
with pallas athena dance

& finger us with honey

Robert L. Greenfield

NATIONAL FOOD RELIEF STARVES OFF EMERGENCY!!

National Food Relief

... National Food Relief is a Venice-based  
Non-Profit Corporation serving Free Vege-  
tarian Dinners to the Homeless. We have been  
working for over one year in the community,  
at the Dudley Avenue Pagoda, in the evening.  
Fifty to one hundred people are served a simple  
nutritious Hot Dinner 5 nights a week. It is  
obvious that the first step in helpful rehab-  
ilitation, for the homeless, is proper diet, so  
that psychological, physiological, and emotional  
problems can be gradually reduced and eliminated.  
Right now we actually need a little community  
support for relocation on the boardwalk, and  
expansion of desperately needed services.

Thank You.

NATIONAL FOOD RELIEF INC.  
P.O. Box #1724  
Venice, CA 90294



by Jim Borgman, Cincinnati Enquirer, King Features Syndicate