

News 'n' Views

by and for members of the Hubert Humphrey Democratic Club

Volume 6 Issue 11

November, 2005

HHDC General Membership Meeting

Monday, November 21

Cerritos Park East (Note change of venue)

13234 E. 166th Street

Cerritos, CA

6:30 refreshments 7:00 Movie

Program: Richard Alonzo, UAW Region 5 Vice-Chair

**Topic: Wall-Mart: The High Cost of Low Prices
Movie (Admission is free)**



Master of Ceremonies **Alon Barlevy** & Cerritos City Council member **Laura Lee** welcome guests to our **HHDC Gala** with **Stephanie Miller**.

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My President's Report

By Alon Barlevy

By all measures, we had a very successful fundraiser last month. The event has helped establish us as a very strong and dedicated group in the region. We had many elected officials come to our event, in recognition and support of our cause. Even Republicans, such as Former Cerritos Mayor Grace Hu, showed up to our event !! The keynote speaker, Stephanie Miller, did a fantastic job of entertaining the guests with her usual humor that has made her a very famous radio personality. The timing of the event, the evening before the indictment of Lewis "Scooter" Libby gave Miller plenty to talk about.

Father Charlie Ara, former club president, opened the event with a great invocation in memory of the Late Rosa Parks, the 2,006 service personnel who lost their lives in Iraq, and the 246 service personnel who lost their lives in Afghanistan. (As of this writing, the counts are 2,049 in Iraq and 247 in Afghanistan).

The event was also a great success as far as the bottom line is concerned. We made a profit of approximately \$4000. I would hereby like to thank all those who made the event a great success: event chair Cecil Goff, newsletter editor Larry Caballero, club secretary Denise Stabile, treasurer Mike Stabile, program chair Muhammad Amin, and at-large E-Board member Joseph Cho. I would further like to thank Beverly Porter, Yolanda Salazar, and Peggy Lee for their hard work at the registration table.

I hope you will make plans to come to our screening of the movie "Wal * Mart: The High Cost of Low Prices" on November 21 at the Cerritos Park East. The film plays at theaters with an admission price of \$7, but we will show it for free, with a discussion headed up by UAW Region 5 Vice Chair, Richard Alonzo, following the movie. In the spirit of "Fair and Balanced", we also invited Wal-Mart officials to come and give their perspective, but **they declined**. (That decision was made at the company headquarters in Bentonville, Arkansas).

Report on Politics in Israel

A few months ago, Al Franken had an Israeli woman on his show who gave the opinion that we are lucky that here in America the debate is between the Left and the Right. In Israel, the debate is between the Right and the Far Right.

I went to Israel in September on family business, but just like here at home, I could not stop myself from talking politics over there. I was there a month after the Israeli pullout from Gaza, so that was the main topic of conversation there. Just like the guest on the Al Franken show said, the debate was indeed between the Right and the Far Right.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, a Right Wing politician who built the settlements in Gaza, made the decision that in order to improve Israel's image abroad and Israel's position in future negotiations on the status of bigger and more important settlements in the West Bank, Israel should leave Gaza. This did not sit well with the Far Right which was afraid of the "slippery slope", that if Israel would withdraw from some settlements, it would be compelled to withdraw from all settlements.

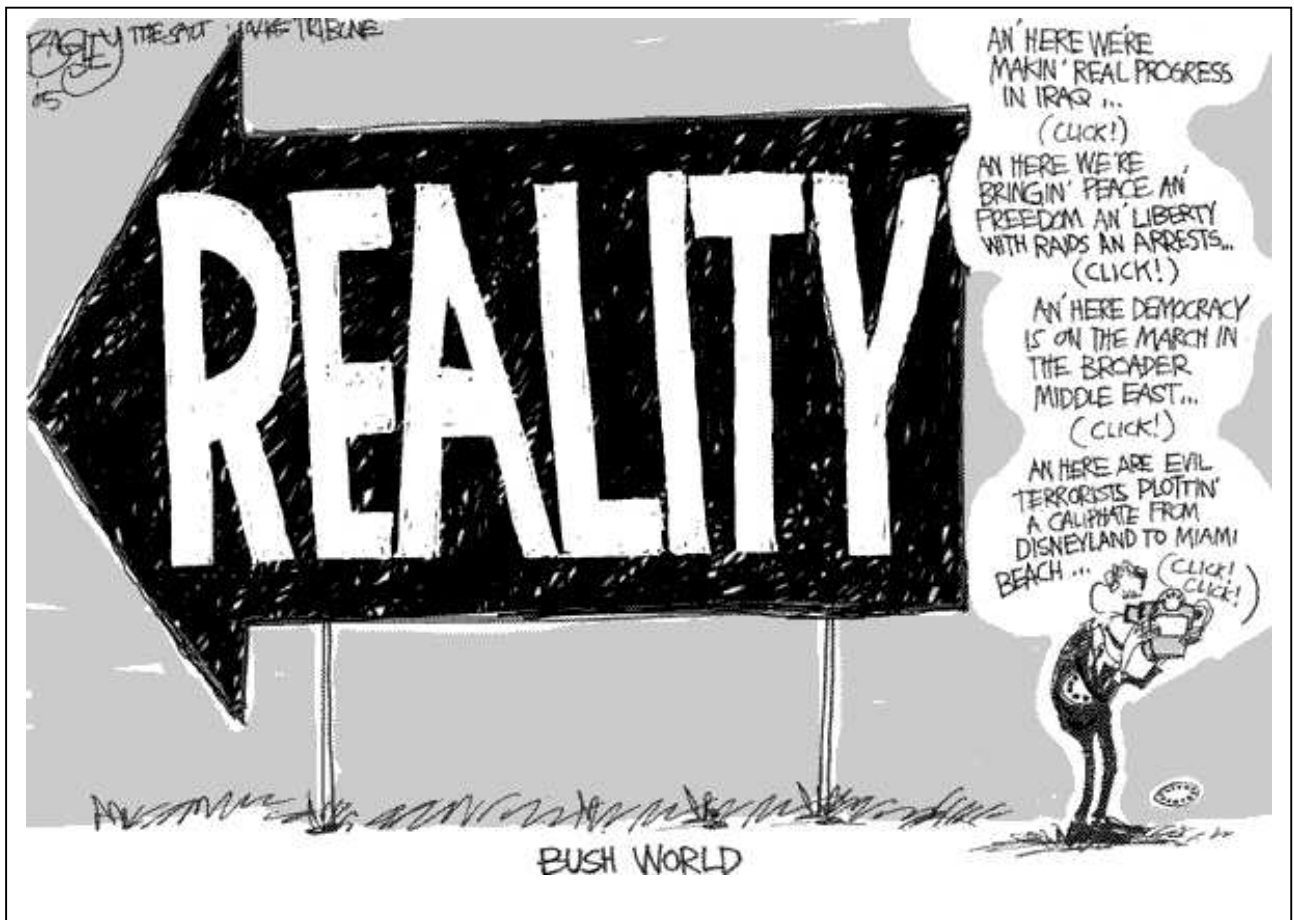
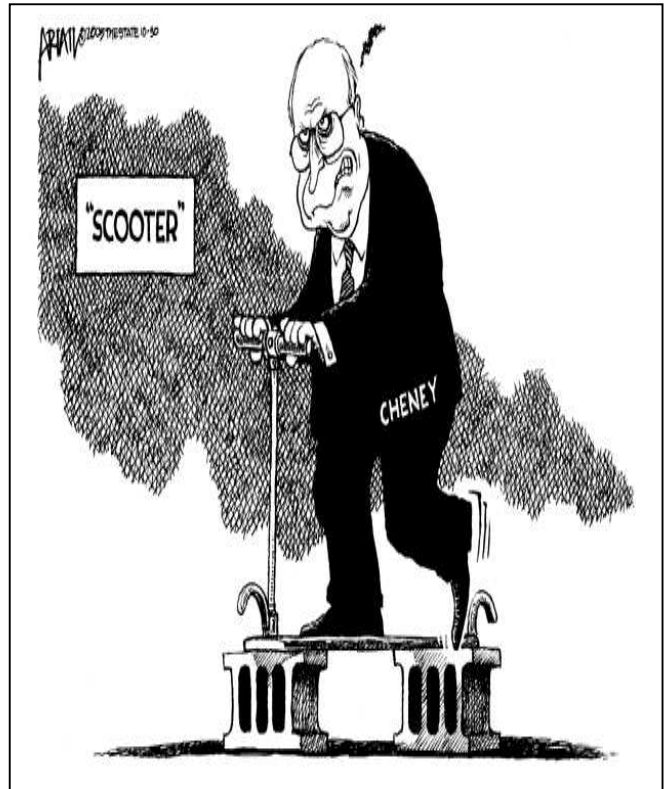
Just like here at home, the Far Right over there was very organized in terms of getting protesters and erecting signs all over Israel against the withdrawal. Overnight, car antennas with orange ribbons filled the Israeli streets, where the orange ribbon was a symbol of solidarity with the Gazan settlers who would have to be evacuated.

The Left had nothing. A grassroots effort started to counter the Right's Orange Ribbon. First there was a question of what color to make the Left's Ribbon. Initially, the thought was to make it green, but that would not have resonated with the Israeli public, as green is the color that Hamas uses (because it is the color of Islam). The Left's ribbons were eventually blue. However, because of lack of organization, the number of orange ribbons far outnumbered the number of blue ribbons.

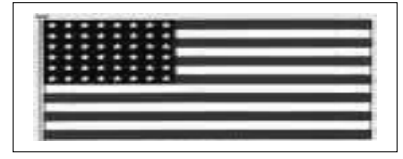
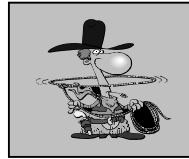
Just like reports here of cars with Kerry bumper stickers being vandalized, there were reports there of broken antennas that had blue ribbons. This intimidated enough people to exacerbate the disproportion of orange ribbons to blue ribbons, even though the majority of the Israeli public supported the Israeli pullout.

Such is the state of Israeli politics - very similar to American politics: The Right is far more organized, and is able to make a lot of noise to give the appearance that they are the overwhelming majority, and then squeak by to win elections.

Our President is a Liar!



The Caballero Roundup



Stephanie Miller Captivates Cerritos!

What a great time all of us had at our HHDC fundraiser to *Take Back California* with 1150 AM Progressive Talk Radio host Stephanie Miller. Not only did our club make some money, but we were thoroughly captivated by Stephanie's humor. Several of our guests were not familiar with her or 1150 AM, but by the end of the evening, everyone was looking forward to the next morning so they could listen to her.

Her impersonations of Arnold, Arriana, and Susan Estrich were to die for, and her bashing of Bush, Arnold, and well, Republicans in general, were appreciated by all. Even a Republican or two were seen chuckling at Stephanie's humor.

Of course, the evening would not have been a tremendous success without our table sponsors so we would like to take this opportunity to thank them.

Elected Officials: Steve Croft, Lakewood city council; Laura Lee, Cerritos city council; Tony Mendoza, Artesia city council and 56 AD candidate; and Mark Pulido, ABC School Board.

Groups and Organizations: AFSCME Local 3090, Los Cerritos Community News, Lucy & Joseph Cho Foundation, Sal Flores with *We Elc U Strategies*, Singh & Kaur Foundation, Mary Lou Landes with Tri-City Medical Center, Diana Needham with Prudential California Realty, *Men on the Move*, Mark Twain Democratic Club, and UAW Region 5.

The **Program Committee** did an outstanding job. We thank Cecil Goff—Chairman, and members Muhammad Amin, Alon Barlevy, Larry Caballero, Joseph Cho, and Denise Stabile.



Program Committee members Joseph Cho, Mike & Denise Stabile, Cecil Goff, & HHDC President Alon Barlevy,



Stephanie Miller with admirers Cecil Goff, Assembly member Betty Karnette, Larry Caballero, & Joseph Cho.

DEMS Took Back California on November 8!

HHDC Thanks You!

Our club fundraiser and gala would not have been possible without our supporters who attended. The HHDC thanks you for sharing the evening with us. Here are just a few of them.



Jim & Jean Snook



Diana Needham, Roberta Brown, & Lee and Mary Ann Tipton



Assembly member Rudy Bermudez



Dawn Bronsema & Dick O'Dell



Cerritos City Council Laura Lee



State Senator Alan Lowenthal



Anna Titus & ABC School Board Member Louise Dodson



P. Singh, 40th CD Candidate Florice Hoffman, & UAW Vice-Chair Richard Alonzo



Assembly member Judy Chu

Congratulations, George W. Bush

President Bush should be commended for finally accepting "full responsibility" for his blunders in managing the Katrina recovery effort. While he's in the mood to begin taking responsibility, we've offered 10 other issues for which he should also be held accountable:

- The launching of a war of choice against a country that had no WMD
- The approval of interrogation practices that led to torture at Abu Ghraib
- The failure to disclose the true cost of the Medicare prescription drug bill
- The tripling of global terrorist attacks
- The 6 million more uninsured Americans over the past four years
- The \$1.40 increase in the price of gas per gallon over the past four years
- The 7 percent decrease in real value of minimum wage over the past four years
- The 11 percent increase in poverty over the past four years
- The four straight years in which median household incomes have not increased
- The all-time high trade deficit, nearing \$700 billion

HHDC Enters the 21st Century!

Our HHDC Newsletter will now be available on your computer!

Please send your email to: Larry Caballero
email:

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We also are prepared to accept advertisements to be published monthly according to the following rates:

	1/8 page	\$20			
	1/4 page	\$35			
	1/2 page	\$65			
	full page	\$125			
Six Month Rate			Yearly Rate		
1/8 page	\$100		\$200		
1/4 page	\$175		\$350		
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It's About Who We Are As Americans

Score a big one for Bill Maher. His closing bit the other night:

"Mr. President, this job can't be fun for you any more. There's no more money to spend--you used up all of that. You can't start another war because you used up the army. And now, darn the luck, the rest of your term has become the Bush family nightmare: helping poor people.

Listen to your Mom. The cupboard's bare, the credit cards maxed out. No one's speaking to you.

Mission accomplished.

"Now it's time to do what you've always done best: lose interest and walk away. Like you did with your military service and the oil company and the baseball team. It's time. Time to move on and try the next fantasy job. How about cowboy or space man?

Now I know what you're saying: there's so many other things that you as President could involve yourself in.

Please don't.

I know, I know. There's a lot left to do. There's a war with Venezuela. Eliminating the sales tax on yachts. Turning the space program over to the church. And Social Security to Fannie Mae. Giving embryos the vote.

"But, Sir, none of that is going to happen now. Why? Because you govern like Billy Joel drives. You've performed so poorly I'm surprised that you haven't given yourself a medal. You're a catastrophe that walks like a man. Herbert Hoover was a shitty president, but even he never conceded an entire city to rising water and snakes.

"On your watch, we've lost almost all of our allies, the surplus, four airliners, two trade centers, a piece of the Pentagon and the City of New Orleans. Maybe you're just not lucky. I'm not saying you don't love this country. I'm just wondering how much worse it could be if you were on the other side.

"So, yes, God does speak to you. What he is saying is: 'Take a hint.' "



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PLEASE JOIN US!

Please fill out the information below and return it with your **annual dues** to HHDC Membership, 11245 183rd Street #136 Cerritos, CA 90703. Make your check payable to the Hubert Humphrey Democratic Club.

YEAR 2006 MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

NAME _____ SPOUSE _____ DATE _____

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Annual Dues are not tax deductible (please circle one)

Single membership \$20.00

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Senior (65 or older)

and Students \$10.00

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Please check here if you do **not** want your name, address, e-mail, and phone numbers released to other club members.

PLEASE VOLUNTEER!

- I am anxious to help all I can.
- I can help part-time. Please call me.
- Unable to help at this time.

**→ Come to our meeting at Cocos—Monday, November 21, ←
to learn the high cost we pay for low prices at Wal-Mart!**

