



Don Meredith

Featured Speaker

Lieutenant Don Meredith is a 35-year veteran of the Glendale Police Department. In 1973, Don was appointed as a Reserve Police Officer and as a fulltime Police Officer in 1974. As a police officer, Don was assigned in Patrol, Personnel-Training Bureau, Air Support, Special Enforcement Detail and the Detective Bureau until his promotion to Sergeant in 1982.

As a Sergeant, Don was assigned to Patrol, Narcotics-Major Violators Unit, Auto Theft and Gang Units. While serving as the Auto Theft Unit Sergeant, Don conceived and drafted legislation that re-wrote the statutes on vehicle theft and increased penalties. Assemblyman Pat Nolan carried the legislation which became known as the, “Omnibus Auto Theft Act of 1989.”

Because of his expertise and extensive knowledge of gangs, gang activity and youth issues, in 1988, Don was asked to develop a plan for dealing with escalating gang violence in Glendale and subsequently create and supervise the Gang Unit. The Unit was quickly recognized for their ability to solve cases, and worked closely with LAPD,

(Continued on page 5)

Special Election — The results are in - Apathy wins!

— By Elissa Jackson

In the Special Election held on August 21st for the 37th Congressional District a dismal 8.6% of voters made the effort to vote. For weeks the local papers have said it was a done deal. What was embarrassing, was an editorial in the Press –Telegram on election day stating that “*The Republican*

Party wasted no time or money in this campaign, and the result is a candidate few people know . . .”

In elections with a low voter turnout, it is not over until the last vote is counted. Registration doesn’t matter; it is who is more effective at getting out the vote. If republicans had a high voter turn out it would be possible to snatch victory from under their noses. The problem is how to turn out a republican base that is fed up with their own Party, and, with politics in general?

Laura Richardson won easily with 14,105 votes. Republican candidate, John Kanaley received 5,309 votes. That is just over 10% of the 52,213 registered Republicans in the district. Think! *Had only 30% of registered republicans turn out to vote John Kanaley could have won!*

In less than a year Laura Richardson went from Long Beach City Council Member to the California State Assembly for the 55th AD to United State Congresswoman. In her race to

get as far ahead as she could as fast as she could, she has cost the taxpayers a special election in Long Beach to replace her on the City Council. And now, as she is being sworn in as Congresswoman on September 4, 2007, the Governor must call a special election to replace her in the Assembly ***after having served only eight months***, the taxpayers again will be picking up the tab.

Numbers don’t lie. *Laura Richardson* is a financial disaster! Richardson spent \$15,000 redecorating her City Council office ***after winning the primary for State Assembly!*** The Special Election for the 6th District City Council seat she left cost Long Beach taxpayers \$139,000. Now, we add to that the cost of a special election to replace her in the 55th Assembly District! Her disregard for Long Beach taxpayers’ money is unprecedented! Imagine what she will do in Washington!

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From the President's Desk—

*“We the people of the United States,
in order to form a more perfect union,
establish justice, insure domestic tranquility,
provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare,
and secure the blessings of liberty
to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish
this Constitution for the United States of America.”*

Greetings all,

As the campaign climate warms, now is not the time to endorse a candidate. Now is the time to endorse issues and plans. Now is the time to advise the candidates out there asking for your hard-earned dollars and precious volunteer time that actions speak louder than words. Formerly, when we used the term “talking heads,” it was in reference to anchor reporters on the news networks. Now, “talking heads” are candidates for elected office – highly-compensated elected positions. All the candidates are trying to do is get you to send them dollars and nod along with their rhetoric.

We, the voting public, can no longer be dashboard bobble-head dolls for the usual politicians to collect; we must demand action from these folks. And in demanding action from the candidates, we also must act.

As an activist in my small community in Sunland, California, I monitor the concerns presented to my homeowners’ association, neighborhood council, city council, and on various internet blogs. I participate in those discussions by asking questions when I am in need of information, and allow those who have dedicated their time to a local concern to educate me. Then I start independent research on the issue that has attracted my attention and something that I feel is worth my time. Don’t get me wrong about worthy issues: what is worthy to one may not be to another. I do not fault those issues to which I do not dedicate my time – there is plenty going on that I miss, despite my best efforts. I acknowledge that there are local issues about which my learning curve would be so overwhelming, that I place my focus elsewhere. That does not mean that I ignore the issue either. I watch. I read. I listen. I donate energy and sometimes dollars but sit on the periphery and endorse those who are better suited to challenge.

This campaign season, my focus is illegal immigration, and the enforcement of laws which already exist. We must tell the candidates that “talk is cheap.” “Jumping on the bandwagon” is all well and good, but what is the plan?

How can we, the legal American public, continue to condone the lack of action by our elected representatives against illegal immigration and how it is placing this wonderful country and our quality of life in peril?

How is it that illegal immigration can be ignored when we are pouring so many billions of dollars into homeland security?

The patriot act wants to know what books or videos I check out at my local library, and I was born in Los Angeles, California. But local elected officials develop “sanctuary” areas and will not screen suspects in criminal acts for verification of legal status.

In the hierarchy of laws of the United States, federal law is in place as a guideline for the states. How is it that states can then ignore or set-aside immigration laws and procedures, and enforcement of same? We are arrested/fined/jailed if we commit an infraction while driving a motor vehicle without proper documentation, e.g. a license to operate. In order to work and have a regular paycheck, I must show proof of legal status – a

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Executive Board

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Members are encouraged to submit articles and political material for publication in the SCRW&M newsletter.

SCRW&M reserves the right to accept, reject and edit letters and other editorial material.

Letters and editorial material must include the name, telephone number and address of the person making the submission.

SCRW&M does not return letters, photos, editorial material or other submissions.

Letters and editorial material may be mailed to: SCRW&M, Post Office Box 8609, Long Beach, CA 90808, or email to: meem.jackson@charter.net

All letters, photos and editorial material submitted shall become the property of SCRW&M and may be published in any format.



Website:

scrwm.org



Blog:

scrwm.wordpress.com

**DEADLINE FOR
OCTOBER 2007
NEWSLETTER
SUBMISSIONS:
SEPTEMBER 20, 2007.**

Bill's Bills

As this is written there are precious few bills still alive in the waning days of the legislature, and all in all that is a good thing, as this current crop of law-makers has racked up an abysmal record. And by the time you actually read this chances are that list will be smaller or non-existent, as the legislature will have adjourned for the year – HOORAY!

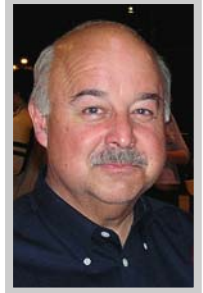
Of note though are three topics – the recently passed budget, re-districting reform and term-limit extensions.

The budget the finally was signed by the Governor is about the best Republicans could hope for – thanks mainly to 14 courageous Republicans in the Senate. Working off of concessions their Assembly GOP colleagues had already gotten, the Senators refused to vote for the budget until some very worthwhile reforms were added – reigning in Jerry Brown's reign of terror on local government planning being just one of them. Kudos to the Brave 14.

Reform – or at least changes – in the current redistricting method and term-limits law are still linked to each other, at least in the Governor's mind. He is still saying he won't support changing (and basically extending) term limits for current legislators unless the Democrats also support meaningful redistricting reform. The Democrats will agree to real redistricting reform right after I get my date with Halle Barre.

Gerrymandering is the Democrats' guarantee of unlimited power in Sacramento, and they will not cede that under any circumstances. Instead, they will call the Governor's bluff and hope he is not energized enough – in his new "post partisan" demeanor - to openly oppose something supported by every Democrat legislator. I've no prediction on his action.

And the Governor is still trying to socialize our health care here in California, but happily that looks like it will die a quiet death as the legislature adjourns. Who said there was no good news coming out of Sacramento?



William Saracino

..... *Bill Saracino*

Legislative Links

Federal Legislative Web Sites

US Senate: www.senate.gov
 US House of Representatives www.house.gov/
 Library of Congress www.loc.gov/

State Government Web Sites

State Institutions:

State of Alabama www.state.al.us
 State of Alaska www.state.ak.us
 State of Arizona www.state.az.us
 State of Arkansas www.state.ar.us
 State of California www.state.ca.us
 State of Colorado www.state.co.us
 State of Connecticut www.state.ct.us
 State of Delaware www.state.de.us
 State of Florida www.state.fl.us
 State of Georgia www.state.ga.us
 State of Hawaii'i www.state.hi.us
 State of Idaho www.state.id.us
 State of Illinois www.state.il.us
 State of Indiana www.state.in.us
 State of Iowa www.state.ia.us
 State of Kansas www.state.ks.us
 State of Kentucky www.state.ky.us
 State of Louisiana www.state.la.us
 State of Maine www.state.me.us
 State of Maryland www.state.md.us
 State of Massachusetts www.state.ma.us
 State of Michigan www.state.mi.us

State of Minnesota www.state.mn.us
 State of Mississippi www.state.ms.us
 State of Missouri www.state.mo.us
 State of Montana www.state.mt.us
 State of Nebraska www.state.ne.us
 State of Nevada www.state.nv.us
 State of New Hampshire www.state.nh.us
 State of New Jersey www.state.nj.us
 State of New Mexico www.state.nm.us
 State of New York www.state.ny.us
 State of North Carolina www.state.nc.us
 State of North Dakota www.state.nd.us
 State of Ohio www.state.oh.us
 State of Oklahoma www.state.ok.us
 State of Oregon www.state.or.us
 State of Pennsylvania www.state.pa.us
 State of South Carolina www.state.sc.us
 State of South Dakota www.state.sd.us
 State of Tennessee www.state.tn.us
 State of Texas www.state.tx.us
 State of Utah www.state.ut.us
 State of Vermont www.state.vt.us
 State of Virginia www.state.va.us
 State of Washington www.state.wa.us
 State of West Virginia www.state.wv.us
 State of Wisconsin www.state.wi.us
 State of Wyoming www.state.wy.us
 District of Columbia www.dc.gov



Proposal to Change California's Method of Selecting Electors

— By *Eldon Quick*

Article II Section 1 paragraph 2 of the United States Constitution states – Each State shall appoint, in such Manner as the Legislature thereof may direct, a Number of Electors, equal to the whole Number of Senators and Representatives to which the State may be entitled in the Congress: but

no Senator or Representative, or Person holding an Office of Trust or Profit under the United States, shall be appointed an Elector.

It would appear that the founding fathers had several things in mind when they wrote the rules for electing a President and a Vice-President. One was to avoid a direct democratic election that would give a few populous states control over who could become President and Vice-President. Another was that since travel was difficult it would be impractical for a candidate to personally visit and get to know all the citizens, but it would not be impractical for the Legislatively appointed Electors to get to know the candidates and cast their votes as informed citizens.

In the early years it was easier and cheaper for a state legislature to simply appoint a slate of electors than to create a legislative framework for holding elections to determine the electors. But by 1812 it became obvious that allowing the Electors to be elected by the people was a preferable method. Two situations in which legislative choice has been used since the Civil War have both been because there was not enough time or money to prepare for an election. However, appointment by state legislature has a serious flaw, aside from its democratic deficit: legislatures can deadlock more easily than the electorate. In fact, this is precisely what happened in 1789, when New York failed to appoint any electors.

Another method for choosing electors is to divide the state up into electoral districts, and the voters of each district get to choose a single elector, much as states are presently divided into congressional districts for choosing representatives. The electoral districts cannot correspond with congressional districts, because there are two more electoral districts than congressional districts. As with congressional districts, however, this method can be subject to gerrymandering.

In the Maine Method, the votes for president are summed for each congressional district. The party winning each district elects one Presidential Elector. Then the vote is summed for the entire state. The party winning the statewide vote elects two

Presidential Electors. This is analogous to the election of the state's Representatives and Senators, and makes it possible that the state's electoral votes could be split between two or more candidates, in much the same way that the state's Congressional delegation can be split between parties.

Most states use a winner-take-all system, in which the candidate with the most votes in that state receives all of the state's electoral votes. This gives candidates an incentive to pay the most attention to states without a clear favorite. For example, California, Texas, and New York, in spite of having the largest populations, have in recent elections been considered safe for a particular party, and therefore candidates typically devote relatively few resources, in both time and money, to such states.

The primary proposal of this type is for states to implement a proportional vote system. Under such a system, electors would be selected in proportion to the votes cast for their candidate or party, rather than being selected to represent only the plurality vote. As an example, consider the 2000 election, in which the George W. Bush / Richard Cheney (Republican) and Albert Gore Jr. / Joseph Lieberman (Democrat) tickets were the primary contenders, with the Ralph Nader / Winona LaDuke (Green) ticket taking a small but noteworthy minority. In California, the approximate proportion of votes for these tickets was 41.65 percent Bush/Cheney, 53.45 percent Gore/Lieberman, and 3.82 percent Nader/LaDuke. Under the current system, all 55 electoral votes were for Gore/Lieberman. Under a simple proportional system, the votes might be distributed as 23 Bush/Cheney, 29 Gore/Lieberman, and 2 Nader/LaDuke with 1 left over (?).

As California now selects its Electors the votes of the big cities, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego so overwhelm the rest of the State that California is considered a safe Democrat State so no consideration need be given to the wishes and needs of the vast agricultural and thinly populated areas of the State. Also no consideration need be given to moderate and conservative points of view in the State.

By using a method similar to the Maine Method at least the rest of the State could have a voice in the selection of the Electors. This could very probably be the difference between the election of a Democrat or a Republican for President.

Announcements



Rick Montaine appointed Chair of the 2008 Nominating Committee

Members Michael A. Jackson and Elissa Jackson join Rick on this year's nominating committee.

Don Knabe, appointed to the President's Homeland Security Advisory Council

On August 28, 2007, Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe was appointed by President Bush to the Advisory Council.



Letter to the Editor

Re: (OPINION) "Bill of Goods" (Daily News, Aug 24, 2007)

Open message To the Governor and all elected officials of the State of California: Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice, shame on me. But for you to continuously rub our faces in this balderdash is absolute pomposity on your part and stupidity on mine and all of the voters who vote "yes" on any bond issues in this state.

— Louise Clarke Stone

Bill of Goods—State leaders fleece the public on transportation funds

"YES ON 1A STOPS OUR EXISTING GAS TAXES FROM BEING USED FOR OTHER PROJECTS."

That, jarring capital letters and all, is a direct quote from Proposition 1A, which California voters approved last fall along with four infrastructure bonds.

The argument for Proposition 1A also told us that the measure "closes the loophole in the law and ensures that the gas taxes you already pay are spent only on transportation projects benefiting California's 20 million drivers."

That was the line.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and the state's legislative leaders knew voters would be reluctant to approve \$40 billion in bonds, for fear that Sacramento would stop funding basic infrastructure needs from the general fund. Proposition 1A was designed to alleviate those fears, and it worked.

That is, it worked until state leaders signed off on a new budget plan this week that siphons \$1.3 billion, or 40 percent, of gas sales-tax funds away from transit projects.

So much for the lofty promises of Proposition 1A.

It turns out state leaders were able to seize on a technicality - gas taxes aren't the same thing as gas sales taxes - and funnel money away from transportation, just as they always have.

Never mind that that \$1.3 billion came from "spillover" gas-tax revenues - money generated when gas prices rise

faster than inflation. Under a 1971 law, spillover money is supposed to pay for public transit projects.

But with a little book-cooking and legalistic phrasing, the politicians were able to find a way around that law, as well as the plain assurances of Proposition 1A.

Now last year's infrastructure bonds are Sacramento's very justification for slashing desperately needed transit funding, reason that because bond revenue will help pay for congestion relief, they don't have to do their part.

"They're basically saying to us that since you got Proposition 1B money, you can use that money instead," explains Michael Turner, government-relations manager for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

The politicians The cuts will cost Los Angeles County about \$336 million. Without those funds, critical local transportation projects are in jeopardy. That includes widening the Golden State Freeway at the Orange County Line, bus operations and the Exposition Light Rail project, extending the Orange Line busway from Warner Center to Chatsworth,

The state's leaders have sold us a lie - once again. They get the money, and all we get to show for it is dismal, crumbling infrastructure.

Article Last Updated: 08/23/2007 08:22:35 PM PDT

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Featured Speaker — Don Meredith

LA Sheriffs Department and the District Attorney's Hardcore Gang Unit, handling thousands of cases. Don is qualified as a gang expert in both the California and Arizona Courts and the United States Federal Courts. Don was appointed to serve as a consultant to the California Department of Education and Department of Justice CADRE on gang and safe school issues, teaching classes throughout the State to school personnel, law enforcement personnel, and community leaders about gang intervention and enforcement strategies, as well as how to create safer schools.

Promoted to Lieutenant in 1992, Don served as a Watch Commander and as a Tactical Operations Squad Commander. In 1997, he was transferred to the Traffic Bureau as its commander, where he was also responsible for the Air Support Unit. After 7 years as the Traffic Bureau Commander, Don was asked to create and command the Community Services Bureau, incorporating the COPPS Unit, School Resource Officer Unit, Police

Athletic League, Students Training as Role Models, Explorers and the Downtown Policing Unit, where he currently serves. The creation of this bureau has resulted in a broader base of partnership with the community.

Don holds State of California teaching credentials for Community College and K-12 in the Administration of Justice and currently serves as an Adjunct Professor of Criminal Justice at Mount San Antonio College. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy, USC School of Public Administration-Delinquency Control Institute, USC School of Engineering Aviation Safety Management Program, University of Virginia - Public Administration Management Course, as well as numerous other law and Administration of Justices courses.

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors appointed Don as a member of the Los Angeles County Probation Commission, where he now serves as Second Vice-President.

Sign up as a SCRW&M member on “Meetup.com”

The number of members we have will make us more interesting to prospective members. Also you will receive automatic reminders of an approaching meeting and be able to RSVP.

Get on the Internet and search for or go to “Meetup.com”. Click on “Meetings by topic” then on the Left hand side click on “Politics & Activism”. Then on Right hand side click on “Republican Party”.

Enter your zip code and look for “Southern California Republican Women and Men (SCRWM)
Follow directions to sign up.

If you are already a member of SCRWM, we can guarantee your acceptance in the Meet up group.



Political Forum—August 11, 2007

— By Mary Morris

The August SCRW&M Forum was called to order at 11:30 by moderator Michael Lerew. First on the agenda was a discussion of government plans to enforce immigration laws, i.e., illegal immigrants—or employees with mismatched social security numbers—must be fired within 90 days or employers will be liable for a \$10,000 fine. Most members felt that employer claims that goods will be more costly without illegal immigrant labor will not be borne out, and comparisons were made with claims of the pre-Civil War South and its dependence on slave labor.

Michael then moved on to health care, and posed the following questions: are Americans entitled to health care? Should health care be subsidized? General response to both questions was “no;” however, some caveats were made: if people suffer from a government-caused illness there should be some assistance; some basic care should be provided to prevent disease—but fee for service should be the norm after that. It was concluded that this was a complex question, but that, in general, charity and welfare should be private as much as possible, and government should get out of the business of providing them.

Discussion shifted to the issue of the state budget, still unapproved due to GOP opposition a month after the deadline. It was pointed out that the primary resistance was due to Attorney General Jerry Brown’s stipulation that road-building projects be environment-friendly and not contribute to global warming. Democrats will not pass a law restraining Brown. Conversation was diverted to the issue of global warming—whether it is a scam, and if not, the need to prove that road-building projects contribute at all to it.

Several items came up for quick discussion: the closure of King-Drew Hospital and general agreement that it should be given over to a private company; term limits, and whether an upcoming initiative will actually lengthen, rather than shorten them (and a comment that

“we have term limits—we vote!”). Also discussed:

- Does talk radio have too much influence? Answer: no—and any fairness doctrine should apply to ALL media, including NBC and CBS.

- The collapse of the Minnesota bridge—was it terrorism? One member pointed out that the only Islamic Congressman is from Minneapolis, and that the “flying imams” were also from Minneapolis. There was divided opinion on this topic

- Do Caucasians owe a debt to any other Americans because of past injustices? General response: no—nor do individuals feel guilt over past wrongs.

Discussion ensued over the best issues for Republican candidates in upcoming elections. Tops on most lists was the immigration and border issue, followed closely by entitlement reform. Many members felt that the 2008 election will be a referendum on George Bush, and that Republicans need to show the good things that the president has done while presenting a strong Republican vision.

The final discussion topic focused on Iraq, and whether we are getting a clearer view on where things are going. General feeling, with some exceptions, was yes, we are getting the information, even though it is frequently necessary to consult several sources, including military networks where military families exchange information about the good things that are happening in Iraq and that are infrequently reported—such as infrastructure repair and building.

Come and join us each month to discuss these and other topics of critical interest to Republicans. The Forum precedes the monthly The Political Forum, a round table discussion of current topics, sets SCRW&M apart from other Republican organizations. Everyone is encouraged to participate in the discussion and debate of current issues.

Forum begins at 11:30am, prior to the monthly luncheon and adjourns at 12:55 pm.

Come Join the Fun!

From the President's Desk

(Continued from page 2)

birth certificate, passport, multiple photo id's, social security number, proof of education, background checks, undergo random drug testing, reveal any investment holdings which may conflict with my effectiveness or loyalty to my employer, comply with regular skill tests, and many other things which are too boring and numerous to cover here. Again, I was born and educated in the United States, have never lived outside of the United States, and annually report income as required by local and federal laws.

Tom Tancredo (R), Colorado, is the only candidate who has worked diligently on the issue of illegal immigration and has called out those elected officials who aspire to the Presidency of the United States but do not uphold the laws of this land. Again, I am not ready to endorse a candidate but I certainly have no problem defining the issues which are of great importance to me for now and 2008. What are yours?

Bring your ideas to the forum at the Smoke House on Saturday, September 8th. We as members of Southern California Republican Women & Men declare our willingness and ability to present and work for issues which are necessary "to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity" of these united states.

We cannot allow disbelief, disregard or misunderstanding to flourish. Freedom and democracy cannot be secured without parliamentary democracy within a clearly defined territory. Yet, that is exactly what the current European – and some American – political elites are attempting to eliminate. We are the "boots on the ground" at home; let us show folks what we are about and what we expect of our elected representatives.

. . . . Louise Clarke Stone

CONSTITUTION DAY

September 17, 2007



Membership

Membership dues provide the main source of funding for the Club's programs, including this newsletter. By increasing your membership level you can help our club grow. Patron, Golden and Eagle membership dues also help SCRW&M sponsor guests and send newsletters to potential members and other organizations.

Membership in Southern California Republican Women & Men is on a calendar year basis, January 1st through December 31st. Membership dues received after October 1st of a given year are credited for the balance of that year and as payment in full for the entire following year. Luncheon and special event tickets are available to members on a first come, first served basis and are subject to availability.

There are four SCRW&M membership classifications, Regular, Patron, Golden and Eagle. All SCRW&M members receive the club's newsletter.

SCRW&M Membership Application

The undersigned registered Republican does hereby submit this application for membership in *Southern California Republican Women & Men* for the Calendar year of 2007 as indicated below—

Name of Applicant as Registered (Please Print or Type) _____ (_____) _____
 Area Code Telephone Number

Registered Address: Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Signature of Applicant _____ E-mail Address _____ Name of Applicant's Sponsor _____

Date of Application ___/___/___ **New Membership** ___ **Membership Renewal** ___

Membership Level: ___ **Regular (\$25)** ___ **Patron (\$50)** ___ **Golden (\$75)** ___ **Eagle (\$100)**

Make check payable to: **SCRW&M** Mail to: SCRW&M, P. O. Box 7231, Van Nuys, CA 91409

Saturday, September 8, 2007

Don Meredith

Featured Speaker

THE SMOKE HOUSE

*Founded in 1946 at the corner of Pass & Riverside in Burbank.
The original restaurant seated 46 people, and was enjoyed by local
luminaries Bob Hope and Bing Crosby (among others) on its opening night.*

4420 West Lakeside Drive
Burbank, California 91505

Political Forum at 11:30am

Luncheon at 1:00pm

Members: \$25 Non-Members: \$40

Reservations by September 5, 2007

For Reservations

Call: Barbara Smith (323)849-7420

Or E-mail: scrwmreservations@juno.com

Mark Your Calendar for 2007!

September 17th—Constitution Day

October 13th Luncheon

Speaker—Larry Greenfield

November 10th Luncheon

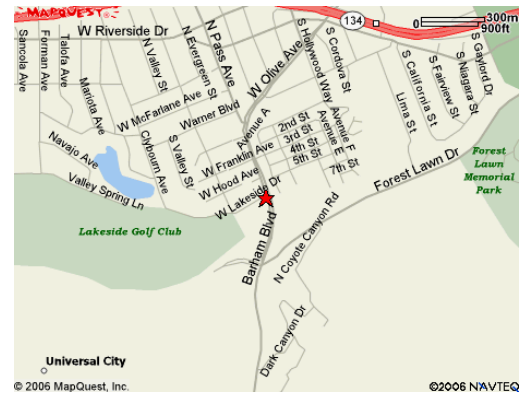
Speaker—Evan Sayet

December 8th Luncheon

Installation of Officers

January Luncheon

Speaker—Gary Aminoff



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