

# The Platform

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Metropolitan Greater Oakland Democratic Club

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## President's Message, Sept. 2007

Greetings!

As your new president, I want to thank you for electing me to chair MGO this year, which is such an exciting one for those of us involved in political life. We face a challenge—and an opportunity—in the next 16 months, as we face not one, not two, but THREE elections to work on!

I am pleased to work with a particularly fine board this year. We welcome new and “recycled” board members Ralph Kanz, Terry Sandoval, Greg Chan, Guy Bryant, and Dan Kalb this year; along with them are returning board members Robert Warwick, Steve Statler, Jean Brown, Marcus Johnson, Wayne Nishioka, and former president Gary Sirbu, who will provide continuity and wise counsel.

Together this group brings with them years of experience and expertise working on governmental ethics, women's issues, climate change, election reform, local political matters, and more.

Over the summer, old and new board members have gathered for a retreat, and will reconvene for another board meeting to get us prepared for



fall. Therefore, if you have a suggestion to make (or complaints to register!) now is the time to contact me or other board members with your ideas and suggestions.

MGO watchers sometimes question whether MGO has become too radically progressive or has moved to being too conservative in its middle years (we celebrate the club's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year). My answer to that is this: MGO, like the Democratic Party, is a big tent. We have room for those who are on the very progressive ends of the political spectrum as well as those who would characterize themselves as moderates. We need to stay together, continue our dialogue, and make what is best for Oakland, for California and for our nation the test of the positions we take as a club. I think we are enriched by having different points of view representing many colors of the political spectrum. It is my pledge to you that we will respect all voices, although we may not always side with the one YOU favor.

Please give the club the benefit of YOUR support, time, and interest this year—we need all the help we can muster to address the important issues we face.

Sincerely, Judy Cox, President

## Important Sept.-Oct. Dates

**Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday**, at 7:00 pm, Alameda County Central Committee, 300 Estudillo Ave., San Leandro. More info at <http://www.acdems.org/>

**Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday**, at 7:00 pm, City of Alameda Democratic Club (CADC) at Alameda Hospital 2070 Clinton Avenue, Conference Room "C" (1st Floor), Alameda. [www.alameda-demo.org](http://www.alameda-demo.org)

**Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>, Monday**, at 7:00 pm, TriValley Democratic Club IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Pkwy, Dublin; <http://www.trivalleydems.com/>

**Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>, Thursday**, at 6:00pm, Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club (WDRC) Membership Meeting, 390 27th Street, Oakland. <http://www.wellstoneclub.org/>

### MGO General Meeting

**Inclusionary Zoning, Condo Conversion and Affordable Housing Strategies, featuring members of the City of Oakland Blue Ribbon Commission**

**Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>, Thursday**, 7:30pm to 9:30pm, Piedmont Gardens Retirement Community, (Sky Room) 110 - 41<sup>st</sup> Street, Oakland. <http://www.mgoclub.org>

**Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>, Monday**, MGO Executive Board meeting at Piedmont Gardens. [www.mgoclub.org](http://www.mgoclub.org)

**Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday**, Castro Valley Democratic Club, 7:00PM at the Faith Lutheran Church 20080 Redwood Rd. Graydon Room; <http://www.ebdir.net/cvdemost/>

**Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>, Thursday**, at 7:00pm, DEMOS Democratic Club, Westminster Hills Church, 27287 Patrick Avenue, Hayward; <http://www.haywarddemos.org/>

**Oct. 11<sup>th</sup>, Thursday**, at 5:30 pm John George Democratic Club First annual JG Social Justice Award Reception; Zazoo's, 15 Embarcadero W, Oakland, <http://www.jgdc.org/>

**Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>, Friday** at Noon, Alameda County Democratic Lawyers Club, next meeting, Luncheon featuring Assembly Member Mary Hayashi (Dist. 18); RSVP by email to Steve Tidrick, Pres., [club@demlawyers.org](mailto:club@demlawyers.org); Zazoo's, 15 Embarcadero W, Oakland; <http://www.demlawyers.org/>

**Every Thursday**, 7:00PM, Cal Berkeley Democrats, Berkeley Campus, 170 Barrows Hall Berkeley; <http://www.caldems.com/>