



# El Cerrito Democratic Club

## June 2024 Newsletter

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ECDC  
PO Box 192  
El Cerrito CA 94530

Newsletter Editor: William Ktsanes

# 1. El Cerrito Democratic Club General Information

The El Cerrito Democratic Club (“ECDC”) provides a forum for area residents to discuss and take action on issues and campaigns of local, national, and international importance. Our General Membership Meetings are open to all and held on the fourth Tuesday of each month except October and December, when we typically have our annual dinner and holiday party.

Our monthly General Membership Meetings are generally in a hybrid format accessible both in person at Hana Gardens Senior Apartments (10860 San Pablo Avenue, next to El Cerrito City Hall) and remotely via Zoom (<http://tinyurl.com/ECDCMonthlyMembershipMeeting>). For monthly calendar invites and reminders for ECDC General Membership Meetings, you are invited to download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/join/tZUpOCvqDkpEtH10GiVZ7NcegZqDI\\_tJeMI/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGpqjwiHdKXsxGCRpwcBo\\_CXe3wpnpei7d1zU\\_CChZpNS31M-V4I5ZWL8z6](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/tZUpOCvqDkpEtH10GiVZ7NcegZqDI_tJeMI/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGpqjwiHdKXsxGCRpwcBo_CXe3wpnpei7d1zU_CChZpNS31M-V4I5ZWL8z6)

For those of us who’ve been able to come to Hana Gardens, it’s been wonderful to be in community and gather in person. Whether you join us in person or by Zoom, I encourage you to come a few minutes early to mix-and-mingle with fellow ECDC members.

The El Cerrito Democratic Club and its activities are supported by volunteers and the annual dues of members. Please see the “Membership Renewal Reminder and Instructions” section towards the end of this newsletter for directions on how to join the ECDC or renew your membership.

El Cerrito Democratic Club executive board officer elections occur annually each January. Special thanks to our 2024 volunteer officers:

## El Cerrito Democratic Club Officers (2024)

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| ● President – Champagne Brown                    | ● VP Membership – Neil Tsutsui        |
| ● Past President – Greg Lyman                    | ● VP Programs – Ruthie Abelson Olivas |
| ● Executive Vice President –<br>Carolyn Wysinger | ● VP Publications – William Ktsanes   |
| ● VP Media – Madeline Kronenberg                 | ● VP Records – Leslie Reckler         |
|  | ● VP Treasurer – Ed Crowley           |

The specific duties of officer positions are described in section “VII. Officers” of the Bylaws posted on the ECDC website at <https://ecdclub.org/club-documents/>.

If you’re interested in participating more actively in the ECDC, please consider volunteering with the Club and joining the Executive Board.

*Help is always greatly appreciated!*

- William Ktsanes, VP Publications

## 2. Information and Zoom Link for the Tuesday, June 25th General Membership Meeting

Our General Membership Meetings are generally in a hybrid format, accessible both in person at Hana Gardens Senior Apartments (10860 San Pablo Avenue, next to El Cerrito City Hall) and via Zoom.

To join the monthly ECDC General Membership Meetings via Zoom, please use this link:

<http://tinyurl.com/ECDCMonthlyMembershipMeeting>

Zoom Meeting ID: 814 7976 2385; Zoom Passcode: c5fQKR

Dial In by Phone: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 408 638 0968;

Meeting ID: 814 7976 2385; Phone Passcode: 920761

Please note that the Passcode is different if you dial in by phone rather than join through Zoom.

### June Meeting Agenda (Tentative)

6:20 pm – Assemble and Mingle, Zoom Logins

6:30 pm – Call to Order

6:31 pm – Approve June 2024 Agenda (**Action Item**)

6:33 pm – Approve Minutes from the May 2024 Membership Meeting (**Action Item**)

6:35 pm – Officer Reports: Membership (Neil Tsutsui), Finance (Ed Crowley),  
Website (Madeline Kronenberg), Publications (William Ktsanes) and  
Records (Lesie Reckler)

6:40 pm – Democratic Party of Contra Costa County (DPCCC) Report

6:45 pm – June Program: **TBA** (30-Minute Presentation/15-Minute Q&A)

7:30 pm – City of El Cerrito WorldOne 4th of July Celebration ECDC Booth Signups:

*At Least Two Volunteers Needed for Each Shift!*

- 10 am-12 pm - Setup - (Filled; 0 of 2 Needed)
- 12-2 pm (2 of 2 Needed)
- 2-4 pm (2 of 2 Needed)
- 4-6 pm - Teardown - (2 of 2 Needed)

7:40 pm – Announcements (**please limit each to 2 minutes**)

7:50 pm – Good of the Order

7:55 pm – Adjourn

*\* Please send calendar events to the Executive Board in advance for possible discussion at the General Membership Meeting and publication in the monthly newsletter.*

- Champagne Brown, ECDC President

### 3. Minutes from the May 28th General Membership Meeting

El Cerrito Democratic Club  
General Membership Meeting Minutes

May 28, 2024

(in person at Hana Gardens, 10860 San Pablo Ave, El Cerrito; and via Zoom)

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#### **Call to Order**

President Brown called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

#### **Approve May 2024 Agenda**

On the motion of Ktsanes and the second of Tsutsui the agenda was approved unanimously.

#### **Approve Minutes from the April 2024 Membership Meeting**

On the motion of Lyman and the second of Tsutsui, the minutes were unanimously approved with the following submitted correction: The Roosevelt Dinner is on August 7th and not the 9th.

#### **Officer Reports:**

**Membership (Neil Tsutsui)** 111 members.

- Deadline for renewal or to join as a member in good standing is June 8th for the July endorsement meeting. Bylaws state that people must be in good standing 45 days prior in order to participate in endorsements).
- If you are not receiving the newsletter in your email, please check your SPAM folder.

**Finance (Ed Crowley)** Absent. Report was submitted prior to the meeting.

- Cash balance is \$4,654.72.
- Since the last meeting, we received a couple membership renewals and spent \$3,000 on charitable contributions.
- We're under budget on dues received, which I'm told is expected since people tend to renew closer to endorsements.
- Expense-wise, we're over budget on only one expense, Annual Dinner Printing, and that's only because the receipt for 2023's expenses was submitted during 2024.

**Media (Madeline Kronenberg)**

No Report

**Publications (William Ktsanes)**

Asked ECDC members, friends and supporters to submit potential newsletter articles and announcements regarding local issues and events of interest.



## **Records (Leslie Reckler)**

No Report

## **Wysinger (EVP)**

Wysinger and Quinto will represent our district at the DNC.

## **Democratic Party of Contra Costa County (DPCCC) Report (Brown)**

- Juneteenth Resolution passed.
- The ECDC will review bylaws to ensure they are in compliance with DPCCC and CADEMS.
- The El Cerrito Democratic Club endorsed Jesse Arreguin for SD 7. Arreguin was officially endorsed by the state party.

## **(Nye)**

- The Roosevelt Dinner is on August 7th. It is the club's largest fundraiser.
  - \* Clarification from William Ktsanes: There is a DPCCC "VIP Reception" honoring Congresswoman Barbara Lee on Wednesday, August 7th which precedes the DPCCC's Roosevelt Annual Awards Dinner on Friday, August 9th.
- President of Kensington Club Kath Delaney was elected to be a delegate. Harpreet Sandhu (Garamendi) came first in his district.
- Biden won overwhelmingly.
- California gets 20 seats. Most liberal delegation in America. There were 35 sponsoring organizations of which 21 were unions.
- Bylaw changes were sent in from DPCCC.
- Certain propositions that will appear on the November ballot were endorsed.

## **May Program: Kristin B. Connelly, Contra Costa County Clerk-Recorder and Registrar of Voters**

- The March 2024 Primary election had a 37% turnout - just a hair above the state average.
- About 20 voters got incorrect sample ballots.
- Extremely accurate compared to a Mendocino printer who was decertified due to errors in ballot mailings.
- The November ballot is estimated to be a six-card ballot, the longest ballot since 2016. It could become a 7-card ballot, which affects many things including postage.
- There have been briefings and training on foreign national threats.
- Very good department. Very good training. Very experienced staff.
- Most voters come through Motor Voter, and the rate of registered voters is high. The trick is to turn registrants into consistent voters.
- August 9th is the closing for candidates. If the incumbent is not running, five days is added.
- Sample ballots will mail October 7th. 29 days from election day.
- Youth turnout: 2104-2018 the youth turnout grew from 14% to 30%, but declined in 2022.

- The Office of Elections has created a Tik Tok committee to try to capture the younger voters.
- They are using one-time grant money (\$2 million) to work on new outreach. Invest in “trust in elections” campaigns and young ambassadors.
- Often talk to youth about how close our elections are, and how much voting matters. Richmond and Antioch Council elections are used as examples.

### **Announcements**

Fourth of July Volunteers are wanted to staff the ECDC booth at the World One festival. There will be three shifts. Morning, afternoon and evening.

### **Good of the Order**

Quinto is hosting a fundraiser for Portia Middleton AD 7 Sacramento/Citrus Heights.

Stege Sanitary is holding a hearing on June 20th about raising sewer service rates.

<https://www.stegasan.org/stege-sanitary-district-proposed-increase-in-sewer-service-rates>

Buddy Akacic - does the club need to do more to nominate Janet Abelson to the Wall of Fame?

Group tour of the Veterans Building on June 13th. Contact Buddy.

### **Adjourn**

President Brown adjourned the meeting at 7:45 pm in honor of [Peggy Moore and Hope Woods](#), who recently passed away in a tragic car accident.

— Leslie Reckler, VP Records

## **4. June Program: TBA**

We have not yet confirmed our guest speaker and program for the Tuesday, June 25th General Membership Meeting. Once confirmed, we will send out an announcement and information via email.

***Please stay tuned!***

- William Ktsanes, VP Publications

## 5. City of El Cerrito OneWorld 4th of July Festival – *Call for Volunteers!*

You're invited to join the ECDC at the [2024 City of El Cerrito & WorldOne 4th of July Festival](#) on Thursday, July 4th from 11 am-5:30 pm at Cerrito Vista Park (950 Pomona Avenue in El Cerrito).

The El Cerrito Democratic Club is one of the Festival's sponsors and will have an information booth in the park. Please stop by to say "hello" and meet fellow Club members. Please, too, consider volunteering to help staff our booth and introduce the Club to festival attendees. With the 2024 elections approaching, volunteering is a great way to help bring visibility to our Club and the work we do, to be engaged in the community, and to meet new friends.

We are seeking at least two volunteers to help staff our ECDC booth during each of four shifts: 10 am-12 pm (setup), 12 pm-2 pm, 2 pm-4 pm, and 4 pm-6 pm (tear down). If you're able to volunteer, please let us know at the June General Membership Meeting or reach out to ECDC President Champagne Brown. *Your help is needed and much appreciated! **THANK YOU!***

**CITY of EL CERRITO** **Presents**

**worldOne**

**Free!**

**Festival**

**JULY 4** **Thursday 11a-5p**  
Cerrito Vista Park  
El Cerrito, CA

**Musical Ensembles**

- Lucien Balmer ~ Raga-infused Chamber
- Laurie Lewis ~ Soulful California Bluegrass
- The Big Takeover ~ Reggae
- Orchestra Gold ~ Psychedelic African Rock

**DJs**

José Ruíz ~ MundoMuzik  
Gregg McVicar ~ UnderCurrents  
MC worldOnelove  
Field Performers ~ rokapellas + floetries

Info & Volunteer online today!  
**worldOneradio.org**

**Wed. July 3** **5-7pm**  
DJworldOneLove  
**Shake Your Beauty**

glocal village vendors  
games + rides + food court

**f worldOnefestival**

**THE CITY OF EL CERRITO RECREATION**

**SIERRA NEVADA**

**amORista**

**MARIA-TINAVISION**

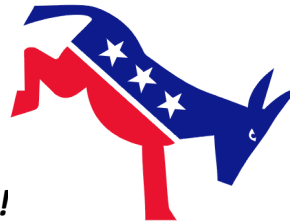
**26th Annual Festival Director Corey Mason**  
design: Maria-TinaVision & Corazon

The City of El Cerrito's Recreation Department hosted the first co-sponsored 4th of July Festival with WorldOne (<https://worldoneradio.org/>) in 1998. Since then – and as pictured below – the festival has grown into a fun-filled, world-class, hometown event featuring outstanding musical performances, family entertainment (such as rides and games), local nonprofit and civic organization information booths, arts and crafts vendors, and a food court with a variety of food stalls and trucks.

***Please come join us!***

***Please stop by and say "hello"!***

***Please volunteer at the ECDC booth!***



**Happy  
4th  
of July**



Photo by **City of El Cerrito**

- William Ktsanes, VP Publications



## 6. Stege Sanitary District and Proposed Rate Increases

One of my not-yet-done “to do’s” for this newsletter had been to write occasional articles highlighting the work of lesser-known elected offices. It’s safe to assume that many of us have seen candidates on our ballots running for offices that we know very little about. For a long time I had little idea what the Board of Equalization “equalized,” though I had a vague sense that it had something to do with taxes. For those of you who, like me, didn’t know:

In 1879, the California State Board of Equalization (BOE) was established under the California Constitution to regulate county assessment practices, equalize county assessment ratios, and assess properties of intercounty railroads. In subsequent constitutional and statutory amendments, the Board was directed to administer tax, fee, and appellate programs to support state and local government. Today, the BOE focuses on its Constitutional responsibilities: Property Tax, Alcoholic Beverage Tax, and Tax on Insurers. (<https://www.boe.ca.gov/info/about>)

About two years ago, I was encouraged by a local official to run for an open position on the Stege Sanitary District Board of Directors. When I shared that I had absolutely no experience or expertise in sanitary science, I was assured that it wasn’t necessary. I was skeptical – and wisely did not seek election to the Board – but the conversation did lead me to wonder “What DOES Stege do?” I assumed “S.T.E.G.E.” must be an acronym for something.

With a little help from Google and the [El Cerrito Historical Society](#), I’m a bit more informed now. Stege (pronounced “stē-gə”) was a farm town in unincorporated western Contra Costa County that was founded in 1876 by Wilhelmina “Minna” Quilfelt and her fourth husband, Richard Stege. It was subsequently annexed by the city of Richmond in 1912.

Quilfelt bought the land in 1853 from Victor Castro – a ranchero, businessman and civic leader.



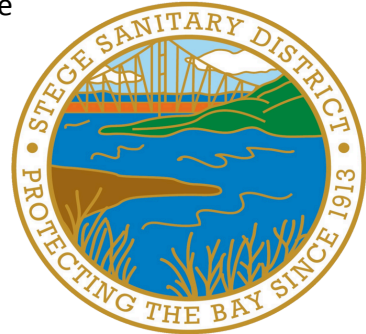
Stege Junction and streetcar at the intersection of San Pablo Avenue and Potrero Avenue, El Cerrito (1915) - Richmond Public Library Collection

Castro was one of Contra Costa County’s largest landowners, one of its first elected supervisors, and the founder of the San Francisco Bay’s first ferry business. He was also the land grantee of the Isla de la Yegua (Mare Island) and Rancho El Sobrante. His father Francisco Castro was the alcalde (mayor) of San Jose before California was annexed from Mexico in 1848 and was the land grantee of Rancho San Pablo.

Victor Castro married Luisa Martinez, whose father was the grantee of neighboring Rancho El Pinole. Point Isabel is named after their daughter Isabel.

Lots of familiar local names – *Castro, El Sobrante, San Pablo, Martinez, Pinole, Isabel...*

The **Stege Sanitary District** was formed in 1913 – four years before the City of El Cerrito was founded – to provide public health services to what was then a very lightly populated part of west Contra Costa County.



A century later, Stege operates and maintains 148 miles of sanitary sewers and two pumping stations serving over 35,000 residents in El Cerrito, Kensington and a portion of the Richmond Annex. Its mission is “to protect public health and the environment for the communities we serve through planning and operation of a safe, efficient, and economical wastewater collection system.” (<https://www.stegesand.org/our-mission>)

Perhaps, as I did, you’re wondering how the Stege Sanitary District differs from the East Bay Municipal Utilities District? (aka “East Bay MUD” or, as I write on a check every two months, “EBMUD”) The short answer is that Stege collects wastewater; East Bay MUD provides sewage treatment. Both are independent “special districts” with boundaries different from those of a single city or county. Stege’s “sewer service charges” cover the cost of operation, maintenance and capital improvements to the sewer system and are collected through the annual property tax bills issued by the County.

Stege is governed by a five-member elected Board of Directors – who, by the way, have a great deal of experience and expertise. Dr. Tessa Beach is an environmental planner and Chief of Planning and Environmental Services for the San Francisco District of the US Army Corps of Engineers. She was elected two years ago to fill the open seat I mentioned previously. Dr. Juliet Christian-Smith is an environmental scientist and expert in water, climate and sustainability issues who has served since 2018. Paul Gilbert-Snyder, who’s been a civil engineer for EBMUD for 21 years, has been a Stege Director since 2011. Beatrice O’Keefe is a virologist who has served since 1987. Dr. Dwight Merrill is a chemist who has served since 1998. (<https://www.stegesand.org/board-members>)



Dr. Tessa Beach



Dr. Juliet Christian-Smith



Paul Gilbert-Snyder



Beatrice O'Keefe



Dr. Dwight Merrill

Dwight Merrill is also an active member of the El Cerrito Democratic Club. At last month's ECDC General Membership Meeting, he shared that there will be a public hearing Thursday, June 20th to discuss proposed stepped increases in Stege fees that would begin July 1st. The flat rate for single-family residences would increase 2.6% over five years, from \$35.75 per month now to \$36.67 in 2028. For multifamily apartment units, the monthly flat rate would increase 11.8%, from \$24.74 now to \$27.66 in 2028. For nonresidential commercial and industrial properties, the monthly fee is metered and not a flat rate. It would increase 13.2%, from \$9.02 per 1,000 gallons now to \$10.21 in 2028.

At the June 20th public hearing the Stege Board of Directors will review and discuss the fees as well as the methodology used for calculating the proposed increases.

Public Hearing: Proposed Increase in Sewer Service Rates

Date and Time: Thursday, June 20th, 7:00 pm

Location: Stege Sanitary District Office, 7500 Schmidt Lane, El Cerrito CA 94530

If you have questions, comments or concerns about the proposed service rate increase, you may:

- Attend the Public Hearing on Thursday, June 20th at 7:00 pm
- Call the District office at (510) 524-4668
- Email the District at [staff@stegesd.org](mailto:staff@stegesd.org)
- Write a letter to Stege Sanitary District, 7500 Schmidt Lane, El Cerrito, CA 94530

Here's is a link to a "Notice of Public Hearing" with information provided by Stege:

<https://stegesd.specialdistrict.org/files/c1b90c130/PUBLIC+HEARING+NOTICE+-+2024+Sewer+Rate+Increase.pdf>



We encourage you to review Stege's request; attend the public hearing; share your questions, comments and concerns; and make your own determination about the proposed rate increases.

*Thank you, Dwight, for keeping us informed and up-to-date about Stege!*

- William Ktsanes, VP Publications

## 7. June is Pride Month – *Be a Beacon of Love!*

With over 200 parade contingents and exhibitors, and more than twenty community-run stages and venues, the San Francisco Pride Celebration is the largest gathering of the LGBTQAI+ community and allies in the nation.

Note: “LGBTQAI+” is an evolving acronym that stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning, asexual, intersex plus other terms such as fluid, non-binary and pansexual that people use to describe their diverse identities and experiences of gender and sexuality.

The first events resembling the modern San Francisco Pride parade and celebration were held in June 1970. Organized by the San Francisco Gay Liberation Front, a "Gay Liberation March" of about 20-30 people walked from Aquatic Park down Polk Street to the Civic Center on Saturday, June 27, 1970. The following Sunday afternoon approximately 200 people attended a "Christopher Street Liberation Day Gay-In" picnic in Golden Gate Park commemorating the first anniversary of the Stonewall riots (where patrons fought back against a police raid on the Stonewall Inn gay bar in New York City) and protesting against continued police harassment in San Francisco. The Golden Gate Park gathering was raided by San Francisco Police Department officers on horseback. Seven people were taken into custody but ultimately released without charges.

What we now know as the San Francisco Pride Festival was held annually on the last weekend in June beginning in 1972, with the name changing and attendance growing over the years and a two-year COVID-necessitated hiatus in 2020 and 2021. The festival has evolved from a local act of resistance into an international celebration.

On Sunday, June 30th the San Francisco Pride Parade will again flow down Market Street, beginning at 10:30 am on Steuart Street near the Embarcadero and wrapping up around 4:00 pm at 8th Street near the Civic Center. The 2024 parade Celebrity Grand Marshall and main stage headline performer is Emmy, Grammy, and two-time Tony award winner Billy Porter. More information is available at <https://sfpride.org/> and <https://sfpride.org/parade>

*Special thanks to ECDC Executive Vice President and El Cerrito Mayor Pro Tem **Carolyn Wysinger** for all the social justice and community advocacy work she’s done as a past president and current board member of San Francisco Pride! (<https://sfpride.org/team>)*

- William Ktsanes, VP Publications





## 8. Future Events – *Mark Your Calendar!*

### **El Cerrito Democratic Club General Membership Meetings and Events**

**ECDC June General Membership Meeting** – 6:30 pm, Tuesday, June 25th  
(4th Tuesday of the month); hybrid format, in-person at Hana Gardens Senior Apartments  
(10860 San Pablo Avenue, next to El Cerrito City Hall) and remote via Zoom link  
<http://tinyurl.com/ECDCMonthlyMembershipMeeting>

**ECDC July General Membership Meeting** – 6:30 pm, Tuesday, July 23rd  
(4th Tuesday of the month); hybrid format, in-person at Hana Gardens Senior Apartments  
(10860 San Pablo Avenue, next to El Cerrito City Hall) and remote via Zoom link  
<http://tinyurl.com/ECDCMonthlyMembershipMeeting>

**ECDC Candidates Forum** – Time and Location TBD; Saturday, August 17th

**ECDC August General Membership Meeting** – 6:30 pm, Tuesday, August 27th  
(4th Tuesday of the month); hybrid format, in-person at Hana Gardens Senior Apartments  
(10860 San Pablo Avenue, next to El Cerrito City Hall) and remote via Zoom link  
<http://tinyurl.com/ECDCMonthlyMembershipMeeting>

**ECDC September General Membership Meeting** – 6:30 pm, Tuesday, September 23rd  
(4th Tuesday of the month); hybrid format, in-person at Hana Gardens Senior Apartments  
(10860 San Pablo Avenue, next to El Cerrito City Hall) and remote via Zoom link  
<http://tinyurl.com/ECDCMonthlyMembershipMeeting>

**ECDC Annual Dinner** – 72nd Annual Dinner; Time and Location TBD; Saturday, October 12th

**ECDC November General Membership Meeting** – 6:30 pm, Tuesday, November 25th  
(4th Tuesday of the month); hybrid format, in-person at Hana Gardens Senior Apartments  
(10860 San Pablo Avenue, next to El Cerrito City Hall) and remote via Zoom link  
<http://tinyurl.com/ECDCMonthlyMembershipMeeting>

**ECDC Holiday Party** – Time and Location TBD; Friday, December 6th

*\* There is no El Cerrito Democratic Club General Membership Meeting in October or December;  
ECDC's Annual Dinner is in October and its Holiday Party is in December.*

### **Other Community Events**

**El Cerrito Farmers Market** – 9:00 am-1:00 pm, every Tuesday and Saturday;  
since 1994; El Cerrito Plaza, 9000 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito, CA 94530;  
southwest corner parking lot between Trader Joe's and Wells Fargo Bank;  
<https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/7549/Contra-Costa-Certified-Farmers-Markets>



**Public Hearing: Proposed Increase in Sewer Service Rates** - 7:00 pm, Thursday, June 20th;  
Stege Sanitary District Office, 7500 Schmidt Lane, El Cerrito, CA 94530;  
<https://stegesd.specialdistrict.org/files/c1b90c130/PUBLIC+HEARING+NOTICE+-+2024+Sewer+Rate+Increase.pdf>

**San Francisco Pride** – LGBTQIA+ events throughout the month of June, culminating with the San Francisco Pride Parade at 10:30 am on Sunday, June 30th; parade goes down Market Street starting at the Embarcadero and ending at the Pride celebration in the Civic Center;  
<https://sfpride.org/> and <https://sfpride.org/parade>



**2024 City of El Cerrito & WorldOne 4th of July Festival** –  
11:00 am-5:30 pm, Thursday, July 4th; Cerrito Vista Park,  
950 Pomona Ave, El Cerrito, CA 94530;  
<https://www.el-cerrito.org/702/July-4th-Festival>



**“Special VIP Reception” Honoring Congresswoman Barbara Lee** –  
6:00-9:00 pm, Wednesday, August 7th; Lafayette Library,  
3491 Mount Diablo Blvd, Lafayette, CA 94549; hosted by  
the Democratic Party of Contra Costa County (DPCCC)



– *followed two days later by* –

**Roosevelt Annual Awards Dinner** – 6:00-9:00 pm,  
Friday, August 9th; Rossmoor Event Center,  
1021 Stanley Dollar Drive, Walnut Creek, CA 94595;  
annual fundraiser for the Democratic Party of  
Contra Costa County (DPCCC)



Tickets available beginning June 22nd:

DPCCC August 7th “Special VIP Reception” Honoring Congresswoman Barbara Lee –  
<https://contracostadems.com/event/dpccc-2024-roosevelt-dinner-fundraiser/>

DPCCC August 9th Roosevelt Annual Awards Dinner –  
<https://contracostadems.com/event/dpccc-annual-awards-dinner/>

**2024 General Election** – Tuesday, November 5th

- William Ktsanes, VP Publications

## 9. Ballot Measure and Candidate Endorsement Deadlines

The El Cerrito Democratic Club hosts election year candidate forums and issues member-voted upon endorsements. Per the ECDC Standing Rules for Endorsements, to vote in the ECDC endorsement process you must be a paid member in good standing 45 days before the endorsement vote.

For the November 5, 2024 election, ECDC members will vote on endorsing ballot measures at the Tuesday, July 23, 2024 General Membership Meeting. To be eligible to vote on ballot measure endorsements, you must be a member in good standing with your membership fees paid as of June 8, 2024 (45 days before July 23rd).

Candidate endorsements will be voted upon by eligible ECDC members between August 17-19, 2024. To be eligible to vote on candidate endorsements, you must be a member in good standing with your membership fees paid as of July 5, 2024 (45 days before the Monday, August 19th closing date).

- William Ktsanes, VP Publications

## 10. Membership Renewal Reminder and Instructions

**REMINDER!** – ECDC memberships expired on September 30, 2023. If you have not already renewed for 2024, **now is the time to renew!**

You can do so online at: <https://ecdclub.org/join/>

Or by mailing a check to: ECDC Membership  
PO Box 192  
El Cerrito, CA 94530

Dues are \$5 for students, \$20 for individual members, and \$30 for two adults at the same address. The newsletter comes with membership and is delivered electronically by email.

The added cost for a printed, hard-copy, postal mailed newsletter is \$18 (in addition to dues).

Please make checks payable to “El Cerrito Democratic Club” and provide an email address for all individual members.

If you have membership questions, please email Neil Tsutsui at [membership.ecdc@gmail.com](mailto:membership.ecdc@gmail.com).

Thank you!

- Neil Tsutsui, VP Membership

## **11. Call for Newsletter Submissions**

The El Cerrito Democratic Club Newsletter is published eleven months a year (each month with the exception of a combined December-January issue) and in advance of the General Membership meetings. ECDC members, friends and supporters are invited to submit articles and announcements regarding local issues and events of interest. Submissions should be emailed to William Ktsanes at [wktsanes@gmail.com](mailto:wktsanes@gmail.com) for review and editing.

## **12. Link to the ECDC Website and Bylaws**

Periodically the Club updates our Bylaws. The bylaws were changed in October 2018 to meet DPCCC requirements; revisions were proposed and adopted during the January 2021, August 2022 and March 2023 ECDC meetings. The ECDC Bylaws are posted on the ECDC website at <https://ecdclub.org/club-documents/>.