

# VENICE

## Voter Guide

Candidate Forum  
September 6, 2007  
at 6 PM  
Come meet  
the candidates!



Neighborhood  
Election  
September 16, 2007  
Venice High School  
10AM - 5PM

Find Solutions  
To Community  
Problems

Up to \$50,000 Available  
for Community Projects

**Neighborhood councils** are official advisory bodies whose operations are supported and funded by the City of Los Angeles. A neighborhood council can be an effective and credible voice for the entire community, helping to bring City Services to its stakeholders, set priorities for neighborhood improvement projects, influence land use policy and hold our elected officials accountable at all levels of government.

### Candidate Forum:

Westminster Elementary School  
1010 Abbot Kinney Blvd (Auditorium)  
Thursday, September 6, 2007 (6-9 PM)  
**come meet the candidates!**

### Election:

Venice High School, 13000 Venice Blvd  
Sunday, September 16 (10 AM to 5 PM)  
**vote to show your support!**




More Info at [VeniceNC.org](http://VeniceNC.org)  
or call 310-606-2015 (phone/fax)  
or email: [elections@grvnc.org](mailto:elections@grvnc.org)



# registered CANDIDATES

## Candidate for President

Above all else, the VNC President provides leadership to the Board of Officers and Venice community and coordinates directly or indirectly the many activities of the Board as a whole. The President also chairs the Stakeholder, Board of Officers and Administrative Committee meetings. In addition, the President appoints chairs of the ad hoc committees and acts as chief liaison with Los Angeles City and other government agencies for delivery of Community Impact Statements and other correspondence.


| Mike Newhouse  | Statement   | Declaración en español  |
|--|---|---|
|  | <p>As a long time Venetian, attorney, and current VNC Community Officer, I would like to use my community experience, management style, and ability to build coalitions to preserve Venice’s heart and soul; our cultural, economic, and artistic diversity. As President, I will focus on five core goals: 1. Keep Neighborhoods Diverse. In Venice, millionaires live next to "starving artists," and modern homes are next to 1920’s craftsmen. Let’s preserve that diversity. 2. Keep Businesses Local. Venice is about unique and locally owned businesses. Let’s preserve this feel by continuing to support and expand Venice Unchained and 1st Fridays on Abbot Kinney. 3. Keep Cleaning Up Our Beach and Streets. This year, we worked to clean up Rose Avenue, and initiate a pilot recycling program on the Boardwalk. But, we must do more to curb runoff and expand trash and recyclable collection. 4. Create A Comprehensive Parking and Traffic Solution. Let’s create more public parking, increase bus and shuttle routes, and encourage walking and biking. 5. Increase Stakeholder Participation. The VNC must double our efforts to involve stakeholders and listen to issues important to our community. I appreciate your consideration, and please e-mail me with questions at <a href="mailto:mike@mikeandruthie.com">mike@mikeandruthie.com</a>. Thank you.</p> | <p>Como residente de mucho tiempo de Venecia, abogado, y Oficial actual de la Comunidad de VNC, me gustaria usar mi experiencia con la comunidad, estilo de administracion, y habilidad de construir coaliciones para preservar el corazon y alma de Venecia, nuestra diversidad cultural, economica, y artistica. Como Presidente, me enfocaré en cinco metas centrales, 1. Mantener Diversidad en el Vecindario. En Venecia, los millonarios viven al lado de los “artistas hambrientos,” y casas modernas estan al lado a casas artesanas de 1920. Conservemos esa diversidad. 2. Mantener los Negocios Locales. Venecia se compone de negocios locales unicos. Conservemos este ambiente apoyando y expandiendo Venecia Desencadenada y los Primeros Viernes en Abbot Kinney. 3. Continuar Limpiando Nuestra Playa y Calles. Este año, trabajamos limpiando la Avenida Rose, e iniciamos un programa piloto de reciclaje en la tarima marítima. Pero, debemos hacer mas para limitar derrames y expandir la colección de basura y materia reciclable. 4. Crear una Solución Comprensiva de Estacionamiento y Tránsito. Creemos más estacionamiento público, incrementemos rutas de autobús y transbordo, y fomentemos el caminar y montar en bicicleta. 5. Incrementar la Participacion de los Interesados. El VNC debe de duplicar sus esfuerzos para involucrar los interesados y escuchar los asuntos importantes para nuestra comunidad. Aprecio su consideración, y si tiene alguna pregunta por favor escribame al correo electronico <a href="mailto:mike@mikeandruthie.com">mike@mikeandruthie.com</a> . Gracias.</p> |

**NOTE: All candidates are listed in a randomly determined order.**

**Candidate Forum:**  
 Thursday, September 6 at 6 PM  
**Election Day:**  
 Sunday, September 16 – 10 AM to 5 PM  
**Venice High School Auditorium**  
 13000 Venice Blvd., Venice CA 90066

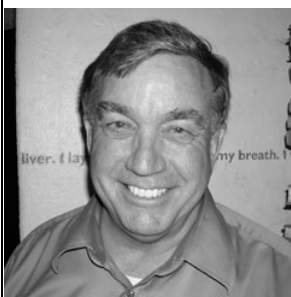
## Candidate for Vice President

This officer assumes the duties of the President when the President is unavailable and works closely with the President to perform other duties as required. The Vice President chairs the Neighborhood Committee, acts as chief liaison with other Neighborhood Councils and maintains oversight of standing and ad hoc committees.

| Linda Lucks   | Statement  |
|---|--|
|  | <p>I am an experienced, progressive, fair-minded community leader with a broad interest in and respect for Venice, our Specific Plan and the diversity of our stakeholders. Since moving to Venice in 1970, in addition to raising a family, I have been active in local and statewide politics, involved with and passionate about and supportive of community based organizations and issues concerning development and maintaining the quality of life and character of Venice. Two years ago I was elected as a member of the VNC where I serve as chair of the Ocean Front Walk Committee. Since an appointment by the Mayor last year, I serve as President of the City of Los Angeles Board of Neighborhood Commissioners, where the “best practices” of the 89 existing neighborhood councils have been revelatory. This new knowledge guides my efforts to work on a team dedicated to building a fair and balanced Venice Neighborhood Council. If you elect me Vice President of VNC, it will be my responsibility to create a Neighborhood Committee whose members truly reflect the best interests of the areas they represent and the community as a whole. To meet that challenge, I need your vote and your participation, once elected.</p> |


## Candidate for Secretary

Responsible for producing accurate minutes of Stakeholder, Board of Officers and Administrative Committee meetings and for submitting the minutes for public posting. Maintains all public records of the Neighborhood Council and receives, logs and refers all submissions and correspondence to the Venice Neighborhood Council.

| Joe Murphy  | Statement  | Declaración en español   |
|---|--|--|
|  | <p>Summary: * May 2004 move from Seattle, Washington to Venice, California. * Notre Dame (Engineering Science &amp; Liberal Arts degrees) 1959-1964 * Vietnam Veteran (officer in-country) 1965-1966 * Cornell Law School (JD - Local Government &amp; Land Use/Planning emphasis) 1966-1969 * Washington State Attorney 1970-present * Seattle Political Activity (urban design advocate/city council candidate/Human Rights Commission) 1970-1984 * Conflict Resolution Service (mediation instruction/practice/mentor) 1982-1992 * VNC Elections Committee/Bylaws Committee 2005-2006 * VNC Admin Committee &amp; Chair Rules &amp; Elections Committee 2006-2007<br/>                     Mediation Experience: focus on divorce &amp; custody mediation, substantial experience in developing/conducting mediation trainings &amp; authorship of associated manuals: * Divorce and Parenting Mediation Training: 40-hour CLE approved practicum with manual provided to judges &amp; attorneys &amp; mental health professionals &amp; others interested in acquiring mediation skills – became the normative practicum standard for mediation trainings in Seattle/King County mediation forums. * Conflict Resolution: A System’s Approach: graduate-level course co-taught as adjunct faculty in the Whole Systems Design program at Antioch University in Seattle, including design &amp; production of course manual: Mediation in the Context of Conflict Management in Organizations. VNC Board Interests: urban design (affordable housing, at-risk youth &amp; education) &amp; development of a pool of local mediators joedmurphyvnc@ca.rr.com</p> | <p>Resumen: Mayo- 2004 mude de Seattle, Washington a Venice, California. * Notre Dame (ciencia ingeniería y artes liberales) 1959-64 * Veterano Vietnam (oficial en-pais) 1965–66 * Cornell Escuela (JD - gobierno local y énfasis utilización/planeamiento de Tierras) 1966 –69. * Abogado Estado Washington 1970–presente. * Actividades Políticas Seattle (Diseño Urbano, candidato consilio ciudad, comisión derechos humanos) 1970–84 * Servicio Resolucion Conflictos (meditacion instruccion/practica/mentor) 1982-92. VNC Comité ordenanzas municipales/Comité elecciones 2005-06. VNC Comité administrative y Chair Comité regules &amp; elecciones) 2006-07. Experiencia de la mediación: foco – mediación divorcio/custodia, experiencia substancial en desarrollo/conduciento mediación, entrenamiento, autor de manuales asociados: Entrenamiento mediación de Divorcio/Parenting: 40-horas practicum CLE-aprovadas, manual proporcionado a jueces, abogados, profesionales de salud mentales, y otros interesados en adquirir habilidades mediación. Se convirtió estándar normativo del practicum para los entrenamientos mediación en foros mediación de Seattle/ King County. Resolución del conflicto: Acercamiento de sistema: curso del graduar-nivel co-enseñado como facultad adjunto en programa entero del diseño sistemas en la universidad de Antioch, Seattle, incluyendo diseño y producción de curso manual Mediación en Contexto de Conflicto en Organizaciones. VNC Mesa Directiva de Intereses: diseño urbano, at-risk youth y desarrollo de un conjunto mediadores profesionales con opcion liderar conflictos locales. joedmurphyvnc@ca.rr.com</p> |



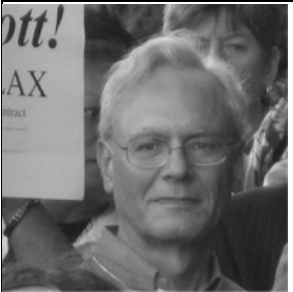
## Candidate for Treasurer

Chairs the Budget and Finance Committee, oversees the finances of the Neighborhood Council to assure total compliance with all DONE and Los Angeles City requirements and submits financial reports to the Board of Officers at every regular meeting.

| Paul Christensen  | Statement  |
|---|--|
|  | <p><i>none submitted at time of printing</i></p> |


## Candidates for Community Outreach Officer

Responsible for increasing participation in Neighborhood Council activities. This officer chairs the Community Outreach and Events Planning Committee and organizes quarterly stakeholder meetings and special events.

| Scott McClain   | Statement   |
|---|---|
|   | <p>I have enjoyed living in the Venice/Marina area for the past 8 years, and I am truly excited to be an active member of this great community. I am a local artist, musician, and businessman, very much like you - and contributing to the community that supports me in these endeavors would bring me great satisfaction. I am passionate about living near the ocean, and promise to work for increased outreach and participation in beach cleanups, and environmental awareness events. I feel as if I am well suited to do this type of work.</p> <p>As the producer and promoter of the annual 4th of July Marinapalooza festival for the past 6 years, I already have an existing relationship with local environmental groups &amp; business owners in the area. I am proud to be considered as your community outreach officer, and truly believe that I can do this job well!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Please consider casting your vote for me! Sincerely, Scott S. McClain</p>   |
| Ivan Spiegel  | Statement   |
|  | <p>The job of the Outreach Officer is two-fold: to increase stakeholder awareness of the VNC activities and to organize the stakeholder meetings (Town Halls) and events. It's my belief that the first task cannot be accomplished by only using traditional marketing methods (postings, mailings, newspaper advertising, etc.), although I will continue to increase VNC visibility by using these resources. The most effective way to create participation is by making our meetings more "stakeholder friendly" and by AGENDIZING ITEMS THAT ARE OF REAL INTEREST TO OUR COMMUNITY. Why attend a meeting where you have limited speaking time while Board members pontificate endlessly. I have been working to turn this around during the past year and will continue to do so. This year's Town Halls have been very successful and we are currently developing the next one (November 10 on revisions to the Venice Community Plan).</p> <p>As in the past I will use my 40 years of producing experience to make these events an opportunity for stakeholders to discuss and be heard rather than be lectured to. I would like your support to continue my role on the VNC Board as a stakeholder advocate and ombudsman.</p>  |
| Marc Saltzberg  | Statement   |
|  | <p>As part of the Venice Neighborhood Council I'll concentrate on the local issues that made me an effective President of the West LA Democratic Club, an organization I managed through two years of explosive growth. And as Community Outreach Officer I'll bring stakeholders together to create greater involvement in the council's work and neighborhood activities. I'll use my abilities as a coalition builder to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Put together quality events and town halls that spotlight community issues while creating an environment that builds on stakeholder participation to enhance the council's effectiveness.</li> <li>2. Make stakeholder input the focus of our events and meetings. I'll ensure that the people who energize us, the stakeholders of Venice, have the opportunity to contribute... and that the VNC listens to and acts on their input. My experience with local media will help create the "buzz" that brings people out. Working closely with the council, I'll speak to community groups, letting Venice know how to access LA's city government.</li> <li>3. Seek out community partnerships to cooperatively address neighborhood issues such as development and the environment, traffic and parking, and homelessness and safety.</li> </ol> <p>Contact me at <a href="mailto:msinvenice-elections@yahoo.com">msinvenice-elections@yahoo.com</a> and vote for Marc Saltzberg, Community Outreach Officer, on September 16th.</p> |


## Candidate for Communications Officer

Oversees the maintenance and updating of the Neighborhood Council web site, responsible for email announcements to Stakeholders, on-time posting of all meeting notices and agendas pursuant to the Brown Act, posting of the minutes of meetings and responsible for maintaining and updating the Stakeholder database.

| Richard Myers   | Statement   |
|---|---|
|  | <p>As VNC Communications Officer I have improved our web site, established a community information phone number and created a regular email announcement that is both easy to read and informative. I have also worked with Jed Pauker of the Land Use committee to get information about development projects online for the community to review. Projects I have actively worked on include the police break room refurbishment and Rose Avenue street beautification. I also serve on the Overnight Parking, Rules and Elections and Budget Committees. I bring to this position organizational skill gained from 20 years as a software engineer and the ability to effectively maintain the membership database, web site, and other membership resources of our organization. I am a strong advocate for local quality of life issues and solicit input from all segments of our community. If elected I also hope to work with the Venice Chamber to facilitate a beach shuttle for Venice and get more people involved in the public safety efforts of our local police. Only by building strong mutually respectful working relationships among council members, stakeholders and city government will we be able to protect and enhance the Venice we love.</p> |


## Candidate for Land Use and Planning Chair

Chairs the Land Use and Planning Committee and is responsible for preparation and submission of all required reports to the Board of Officers. The Land Use and Planning Committee reviews, takes public input, reports on and makes recommendations for actions to the Board of Officers on any land use and planning issues affecting the Venice community.



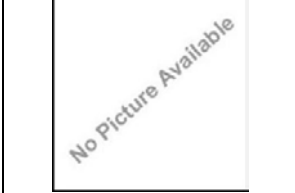


| Challis Macpherson   | Statement  |
|--|--|
|  | <p>VOTE for Challis Macpherson for CHAIR of VNC Land Use and Planning Committee (LUPC). A vote for me is a vote for Venice land use experience - approximately 26 years - Venice Town Council, Community Planning Advisory Committee (CPAC) which advised Councilmember Galanter on Venice land use issues, and currently Chair VNC's LUPC. Previous to that I served on the Free Venice Food Cooperative with Marvena Kennedy. I am one of the founders and serve on the board of PVJOBS, a jobs program for at risk individuals with a success rate of 90%+. I am a member of the Venice Mobility Action Committee, the Committee to initiate a MOU with city planning, Councilmember Rosendahl's Empowerment Congress, and the Westside Urban Forum. I am a homeowner in the Oxford Triangle &amp; have lived there since 1974. I have a BA in Fine Art from UCLA (1984).</p> |

## Candidates for Fourteen Community Officers

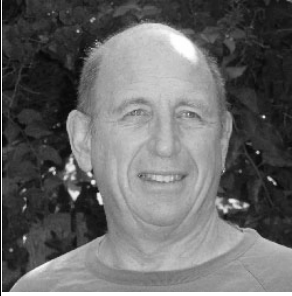



These fourteen officers are elected at-large. Each voter will be able to cast one vote from a ballot listing all candidates for Community Officer. The fourteen Community Officer candidates with the highest vote totals will be elected. Community Officers must serve on at least one standing committee and may serve on and/or chair other committees.

| Clarence Carter   | Statement   |
|---|---|
|  | <p>Now more then ever, Venice is a favorite place to live, film, develop, work and play. Although I welcome growth and change, I believe that the community should moderate it. It is the residents of Venice who are most affected by the traffic, lack of parking, crowds and increased cost of living. I will be a strong voice of reason, helping to manage changes. I welcome new businesses, but not at the expense of comfort or safety. We need more housing in Venice, but not at the expense of our distinct architectural culture. Venice loves local small business owners and that should never change. We should not flood our community with franchise businesses. Visitors are welcome in Venice. Criminals are not. I want our streets, homes, cars and residents safe from crime and speeding cars. Camping is great, but not on our neighborhood streets. I will push our state government to prevent non-resident RVs and Campers from camping on our streets. I want to make sure the Venice community continues to have the ear of the City Council of Los Angeles. It's time for action. Together we can make a positive difference.</p> |

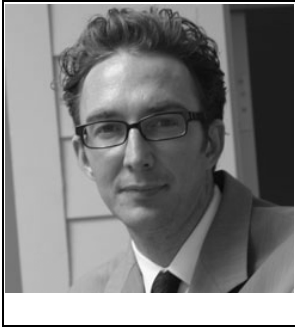



# Candidates for Fourteen Community Officers (continued)

| <b>Marc Castleman</b>   | <b>Statement</b>  |
|---|---|
|    | <p>My name is Marc Castleman and I have lived in the Oakwood neighborhood of Venice since 1999. I started my career as a public interest attorney ,working for the Fair Housing Institute, where we worked to ensure that all people had an equal oppourtunity to quality housing where ever they chose to live. This desire to assist all people has stayed with me my entire life and I am currently getting a Master's in Real Estate Development with a special emphasis on green and affoordable housing. I am confident that the knowledge I am gaining will be invaluable as we work to move Venice forward in a positive way. This is a very important time for Venice. We all know it is changing very quickly, and change can be good, but we need to make sure that the soul, identity and people of Venice remain. I love Venice and appreciate the joy it has brought to me over the last 8 years. I look forward to the oppourtunity to give back by working to help Venice evolve and continue to get even better.</p>   |
| <b>Erica Harms</b>  | <b>Statement</b>  |
|    | <p>My passion is helping communities grow, change, improve, and adapt. I have been a teacher with LAUSD for 10 years, a cancer survivor for 20, and a community builder all my life. I visited Venice Beach 10 years ago and immediately new this would someday be my home. I live in Oakwood, on one of the most colorful, diverse, problematic, and unique streets. I'm married to a wonderful first-generation immigrant of African decent. I don't observe diversity, I love, I embrace it, I live in it, and I understand its struggle and delicate balance. As a cancer survivor, I have actively campaigned on behalf of the American Cancer Society in Sacramento and Washington D.C. In addition, I was a union representative for my chapter of the LAUSD. I would like to bring those talents into building coalitions, reconciling differing agendas, and developing practical solutions for the future of Venice.<br/>ericaharms@mac.com</p>   |
| <b>Jeremy Stephan</b>   | <b>Statement</b>  |
|   | <p style="text-align: center;"><i>none submitted at time of printing</i></p>  |
| <b>Michael Eschger</b>  | <b>Statement</b>  |
|  | <p>I learnt about the existence of the Venice Neighborhood Council just a few days ago. Venice has been my home for the better part of 18 years. I love living here and decided to get involved. Becoming a part of the VNC seems an ideal opportunity to to give back to this community which is already a big part of my life. I have had my own company (construction, design and architecture) for over 20 years. Most of the experience I gained falls into the category of problem solving (of nearly all kinds ) and can be applied to help making Venice an even better place to live and work in. At the same time, I would like to work to keep Venice the unique place we all treasure. Here are some issues that I would like to address and get involved in: - Traffic Flow - Alternative transportation: less cars and more bicycles - Support green architecture and sustainable lifestyles - More people space (pocket parks, encouragement of outdoor dining, highlighting walk streets) - Support the local business community<br/>Venice is a special place settled with unique people lets keep it this way.</p>  |
| <b>Dexter O'Connell</b>   | <b>Statement</b>  |
|  | <p>My name is Dexter O'Connell. I've lived in Venice for all of my sixteen years. My campaign for the Venice Neighborhood Council has three planks: Pacification, Beautification, and Rehabilitation.<br/>Pacification: I pledge to be civil at all neighborhood council meetings. I will listen to all sides of issues confronting the council before coming to a decision, and I'll confront all issues with an open mind. Beautification: I will support every reasonable mural and public art project proposed. I pledge to never support any development that violates the Venice Specific Plan. Penmar Park has been my home away from home for half my life, and I will work to improve the appearance, quality, and program offerings of our public parks. Rehabilitation: There are certain streets in Venice that would not be terribly out of place in the third world, and I will work to get the potholes fixed and the streets repaired. Further, I propose that instead of a gated community, the MTA Yard is transformed into an overnight RV parking lot after 11 p.m. to eliminate the problem of campers clogging our residential streets. If you'd like to discuss my agenda with me, please e-mail dextervnc@mac.com .</p> |

## Candidates for Fourteen Community Officers (continued)


| Ira Koslow  | Statement   |
|---|---|
|    | <p>I am running for reelection to the Venice Neighborhood Council after a year in office. Having been a resident of Venice for 35 years I have seen the community go through incredible growth. From a deserted Ocean Front Walk to its current status as the largest tourist attraction in California and from an economically diverse population to a million dollar home community, we are witnessing all the benefits and problems that accompany such changes. I am a staunch supporter of the Venice Specific Plan and have fought for its strict application in all the issues that have come before the Council, sometimes as one of the lone voices in opposition to the findings of the LUPC or Council as a whole. Born and raised in New York, I went to Bronx High School of Science, C.C.N.Y. and then U.C.L.A. where I received Masters and C.Phil degrees in Economics. After teaching college level Economics for 4 years I changed career paths to become a manager in the music business. With the dramatic change in the music business I chose to change careers again and am now teaching high school mathematics at L.A.C.E.S., a public magnet school in Los Angeles.</p>   |
| Emily Elliott   | Statement   |
|    | <p>My name is Emily Elliott and I am running for Community Officer with the Venice Neighborhood Council. A native of Southern California, I started working in Venice in 1996 and quickly decided it would become my community. In 2003 my husband and I built a house across from US Island. We are raising our daughters here, surrounded by our Venice-proud neighbors, young and old. I will represent the growing family population by ensuring Venice retains the character and diversity that modern parents use to teach tolerance and self-expression to their children. Venice cannot avoid growth – it is so unusual yet distinguished, and has been discovered. But growth can be achieved by and should be granted to locally-owned businesses. Furthermore, traffic is at a tipping point; not only is it a nuisance, but public safety is at risk. Projects like the Ray Hotel, bringing an 800+ daily increase in car traffic, will not go unnoticed or unquestioned by me, nor will any project proposed without accommodation for parking. And finally, with all the visitors come responsibility. Let's keep Venice clean. For instance, I'd like to see garbage cans along Abbot Kinney. Give the public a chance; they will act responsibly.</p>   |
| Nadine Parkos   | Statement   |
|  | <p>Having served my first year as a Community Officer on the Venice Neighborhood Council (VNC), I am again seeking YOUR vote on election day – Sunday, September 16, 2007 – because I care about Venice's rich historical past as much as I care about its future. In addition to my regular duties as a Community Officer, I also served on two of the Council's Standing Committees – the Administrative Committee, helping to set the Agenda for our Board of Officers and Stakeholder meetings, and the Budget, Finance and Fundraising Committee, which oversees and administers all VNC financial matters. A Venice resident since 1993, I have lots of experience in both the private and nonprofit sectors and currently volunteer my time and talent to a number of Venice groups – the Venice Historical Society, the Friends of the Venice Library, the Venice Canals Foundation, and am President of the Venice Canals Association, the neighborhood association that has been proudly serving the Venice Canals community since 1976 and spearheaded the 1993 renovation and rehabilitation of our historic 1905 North Venice Canals. My goal as your Community Officer is to preserve and protect this unique community from becoming just another impersonal, over-developed, and crime-ridden beach resort community.</p> |
| Chris Saurin  | Statement   |
|  | <p>Hello, I would like to introduce myself. I am Chris Saurin of Venice Ca. I was born in the Westside in 1972 and raised in Venice. My family and I have long been established in Venice for over three generations; we are proud Venice residents as well as Venice proprietors. I have seen the community grow, splendor and thrive throughout the years and it brings absolute excitement and joy to me to know that we are a #1 community where people from all over the world come to visit! I have enjoyed the quaint and bohemian lifestyle that the community of Venice naturally offers. From the beach to the shops and restaurants there is no need to travel! You are already on vacation... in Venice Beach! Just get out there and enjoy it! I want nothing more than to be a part in making an absolute positive outreach to the community and to facilitate the needs and requests that people have in the community. I am motivated and ambitious in making a positive difference for the community of Venice and to give as much of myself to community as I can. I have ears to listen and I am ready</p>   |

# Candidates for Fourteen Community Officers (continued)

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>James Birkelund</b></p>   | <p><b>Statement</b></p>   |
|    | <p>I'm excited to run for election to the Venice Neighborhood Council. Venice is already a wonderful and dynamic neighborhood, but its also changing constantly, and I'd like to donate my public-service experience to help ensure those changes are positive. As an environmental attorney at a non-profit organization, called the Natural Resources Defense Council, I work on public-interest matters on a daily basis. My experience includes protecting parklands, saving endangered species, and working for better transportation systems. But I've yet to have the chance to focus on issues that directly affect the communities of Venice, where I live. If elected, my goal would be to listen to community concerns and, with that direction, take steps to maintain and, where possible, improve the quality of life for Venice residents.</p>   |
| <p><b>Rasheda Bailey</b></p>  | <p><b>Statement</b></p>   |
|    | <p>Venice allow me to introduce myself my name is Rasheda Bailey and I work in Venice while living on the Westside. I'm from Colorado been here for a short time. I love Venice and CA because of opportunities that exist in California. I'm a Mother and an entrepreneur who is creatively driven to help others around me especially the Youth. I have always been ambitious in life and particularly in education and the creative field. I co-owned a business in Denver, CO. I volunteered my time with many Non-Profit and Schools. I was on the board of 9To5 National Association for Working Women as well as being on the PAC committee of Denver's Dress For Success. I also volunteered my time with an grass roots organization called People United For Families. While Education and Families remain very important and close to my heart there are a lot of things and improvements that Venice needs and I would love to be involved in making Venice a better community and more connected. There are concerns with the quality of Education in the Schools, Lincoln Boulevard, speeding, resources, and I'd like to address those concerns with the city and the people who live in it.</p>   |
| <p><b>Aldis Browne</b></p>  | <p><b>Statement</b></p>   |
|  | <p>I am an art dealer devoted to community, art, business and the business of art. I've lived in Venice since 1986, served on the board of Venice's Chamber of Commerce for two years, co-founded the Venice Community Trust and have dealt in and collected works by Venice artists for four decades. With the "VCT" I organized an exhibition and raffle of both well established and "emerging" Venice artists, exhibited in Venice art, music and film programs of the Los Angeles Museum of Natural History, worked with the Venice Family Clinic in mounting an exhibit of Venetians Ed Moses and Andy Moses, and participated in cell phone film contests with Venice High School at the Other Venice Film Festival. I'm organizing the VCT's Art For One Million Trees, a 2008 V-SCAPE (Venice – Southern California Art, Performance and Education) arts festival and the VCT's Impressions of Venice exhibitions and events with "First Fridays" here this December. I've served on the Venice Sign Restoration Committee and co-founded the Venice Forum. If elected I intend to encourage public art projects and events, both to perpetuate Venice as the creative heart of LA and to present the arts to students as potential alternatives to destructiveness.</p> |
| <p><b>Carolyn Rios</b></p>  | <p><b>Statement</b></p>   |
|  | <p>I love Venice. I have lived in Oakwood for over 30 years. I know the issues, the people, the hopes, and the problems. We need to slow down the overbuilding that is quickly destroying what we love in Venice. Why have a Venice Specific Plan if it's not enforced? We need to balance the needs of small property owners and businesses with tenant concerns. Children need to feel safe and have activities. Our youth need activities, jobs, and job-training. We need community activities that encourage neighborliness. I organized the Oakwood Community BBQ, bringing a diverse group of Venice residents together with great food, outstanding music, and games. For 24 years, I taught at Phoenix, the Venice 'at-risk' high school. I have cared for your children. Working with a small staff, I learned to collaborate and find the common thread that keeps our goal in mind. I will apply this skill to the VNC. I am practical and progressive, while fair and reasonable. We need to find ways to bridge the gaps and find our common humanity. My vision for Venice is a neighborhood for ALL the people ALL the time, a thriving and safe and vibrant community.</p>   |



# Candidates for Fourteen Community Officers (continued)

| Stewart Oscars  | Statement  |
|---|--|
|  | <p>Homeowner in Venice since 1995. Work: Carpenter, self-employed. My VNC related work: 1) Board member since early 2007. 2) Committees (2005 to present): * Co-chair of Overnight Parking District Committee. * Member VNC bylaws Committee. * Member Budget Committee. * Land Use and Planning Committee member. Venice is a wonderful place with diverse neighborhoods and desires. I view VNC as a facilitator to help stakeholders and neighborhoods meet their goals. This past year VNC grew as an organization in helping individuals and groups complete projects. I will continue to work with stakeholders to achieve more success. There are two issues very important to me: 1) Developers are besieging us with monster projects far exceeding our Venice Specific Plan parameters. When projects come before the Board, I will vote for strict adherence to VSP. Also I will only vote to elect LUPC members who will support maintaining VSP parameters. 2) Illegal overnight parking is a problem in Venice. I will continue my work on the OPD Committee to solve this problem. I believe we can have a Venice with room to breathe and live in safety. Thank you.</p> |



## *It's not too late to run as a write-in candidate!*

The write-in candidate-filing deadline is:

**Thursday, September 13, 2007, at 5 PM.**

Fax candidate-filing forms to 866-636-4441 (fax) or call the IEA, Jerry Kvasnicka, at 818-269-7759 for assistance.

## *Interested in participating on a committee?*

Nominations for the Land Use and Planning and Neighborhood Committees will open at the October 16, 2007, Board of Officers Meeting. For more information email [board@grvnc.org](mailto:board@grvnc.org) or leave a message at 310-606-2015.

More information can also be found at the web site:

[VeniceNC.org/Apply](http://VeniceNC.org/Apply) .

## *Recent accomplishments of your Venice Neighborhood Council include the following:*

- Sponsored the Oakwood Community Picnic & BBQ Cook-Off
- Participated in the mural restoration project for the Jaya & Endangered Species Murals of Emily Winters
- Participated in LA City Planning Director Gail Goldberg's informational community Walk-About of Venice
  - Participated in the removal of graffiti on the Windward Circle on the Mayor's Big Sunday event
  - Participated in LAPD's National Night Out at the Mar Vista Gardens
    - Hosted a Townhall Meeting on Big Waves & Tsunamis'
    - Co-sponsor of the Abbott Kinney 1st Friday's events
- Stakeholder staffed Land Use and Planning Committee advised on many building projects and related issues
  - Joined Venice Chamber of Commerce led project to create a Venice Beach Shuttle service

**Please Show Your Support by VOTING on September 16<sup>th</sup>**



**More Info at [VeniceNC.org](http://VeniceNC.org)  
or call 310-606-2015 (phone/fax)  
or email: [elections@grvnc.org](mailto:elections@grvnc.org)**

