



Message From President Nancy De Luna



As the Lincoln Club of Coachella Valley ends the successful 2007-2008 season, some significant election dates are before us. This is a Presidential election cycle, there is considerable attention being paid to the process and if we didn't need further justification, aren't we glad we're Republicans and can conduct our Presidential nomination process with dignity and accord. June 3rd is our primary election and across the desert we have many fine Republican candidates for various local, state and national offices. Our objective has been to introduce you to office holders, candidates and public officials whose position or candidacy has or will affect our party's success and will shape our community and lives; in particular, this year's Gala speaker, Leonard Leo, Executive Vice President of the Federalist Society in Washington, DC. It is absolutely essential that we, as good Lincoln Club members and Republicans, support our local candidates and participate in that process by casting our votes for the Republicans of our choice. It's an exciting time in history and each vote makes a crucial difference. We must energize the electorate and "get out the vote." None of the elections are a "slam dunk" for our side. Each race will be bitterly contested. The Coachella Valley is being flooded with new residents and unfortunately we must presume they are not yet all Republicans. We're working on that. Plans are underway for our Lincoln Club's Election Night party on November 4th, which will again be held at the Rancho Las Palmas Hotel in Rancho Mirage.

Mark your calendars, this party promises to be the best yet. I remain confident that we will be celebrating Senator McCain's Presidential victory. Your club remains strong and viable,

but membership remains the cornerstone of everything we do. We need new members to provide the strength essential to keeping the Coachella Valley "Republican Country." In that connection, we are instituting a membership drive, incentivizing our current membership. Any Lincoln Club member who recruits a new member will receive a \$50 reduction in his/her annual dues for the upcoming year. The Reagan Forum is growing and attracting many young adults who are interested in shaping the future of the Coachella Valley and California. I encourage you to refer potential members (under 40 years of age) to them, as this, too, is an enormously exciting group.

As part of our annual Lincoln Club/Reagan Forum "Pasta & Politics" dinner celebrating President Lincoln's birthday, we introduced our inaugural "Sprit of Lincoln" Award. This annual award will be given to an individual who most embodies the spirit of Lincoln in outstanding community and/or public service with a commitment to excellence in politics. Our first deserving recipient was Lt. Gen Herb Temple. He sets the standards high for future recipients.



You will note several changes have taken place during this past season. We have moved our meeting location to Desert Willow Golf Course in Palm Desert. Responding to requests from members, we have moved to a more geographically

central location to accommodate our western valley members.

Our annual Gala will return next year to the Ritz-Carlton and promises to be a wonderful evening.

As always, seeing you and sharing our time together is a wonderful experience for me. Have a wonderful and productive summer. I look forward to our new fall/winter season with great anticipation.



Nancy DeLuna became the Lincoln President this past year and is to be congratulated in putting together a vibrant and informative program. Nancy has been our program Chairman for the past ten years. She brings with her an extensive background in political campaigns, advance work and event management, serving on both President Bush's campaigns and is assisting in Sen. McCain's Presidential Campaign. Nancy has participated in and chaired numerous local, county and statewide campaigns. Nancy was a delegate to the Republican National Convention in Philadelphia in 2000 and did advance work for the subsequent Presidential inauguration in Washington. At the last CRP summer convention in Indian Wells she was in charge of all volunteer participation.

Nancy also serves as Trustee Emeritus for an education foundation in the Los Angeles area and has done considerable consulting work for various Educational institutions, some in connection with the Cal State campus in Palm Desert.

Nancy was appointed as an Architectural Review Commissioner for the City of Palm Desert and does Government Relations for Palm Desert Development Company and Lincoln Club member Dan Horn.

We are excited to introduce three new board members: **Dr. Mark Sofonio**, **Bill Powers** and **Dr. Priscilla H Porter** who have been members of the Coachella Valley Lincoln Club for a number of years.

Dr. Mark Vincent Sofonio was raised right here in the Desert. He successfully completed the accelerated U.C.R./U.C.L.A. program with Magna Cum Laude honors. Then served an internship and General Surgery residency at the University of Hawaii. Completing his Plastic Surgery Residency training at the Medical College of Ohio.

Mark is Board Certified by the American Board of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. He has published and lectured extensively in the field of cosmetic and reconstructive surgery. He is a member of numerous professional organizations including the American Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons, the California Society of Plastic Surgeons, the American Burn Association, the American College of Surgeons, and the American Society of Laser Medicine and Surgery. Currently he is the Section Chief of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at Eisenhower Medical Center in Rancho Mirage.

Dr. Priscilla H. Porter is Professor Emeritus and former Co-Director of the Center for History-Social Science Education at California State University, Dominguez Hills. Awarded the prestigious Hilda Taba Award by the California Council for the Social Studies, Priscilla is a former elementary school teacher, a former Orange County Teacher of the Year, and the senior author of *Reflections*, the new Harcourt School Publishers K-6 Social Studies program written for California and used throughout the Coachella Valley. Currently, Dr. Porter is the Director of the Priscilla and Charles Porter History-Social Science Resource Room at the Palm Desert Campus of California State University San Bernardino.



Bill Powers has been in the business of banking since 1964, he joined First Community Bank of the Desert (now Pacific Western Bank) in October 1993, as President and Chief Executive Officer.

Prior to moving to the desert in 1986, Powers had a 21-year career with Bank of America, during which time he supervised as many as 30 Branch Offices, including the Los Angeles region.

Powers' professional goal was to build First Community Bank into "The Bank for the Coachella Valley." Now with the completion of the mergers and name change to Pacific Western Bank, Bill has accomplished that goal. "I believe in the community and the people who live here. The best way I know how to give back to the community is through excellent service; I extend that philosophy in both my professional and personal life", said Powers.

Youth & Government

A program for high school students designed to give them a hands-on experience learning about State Government. During the program, students will debate ideas, write a Legislative Bill, argue a court case, and meet new people from across the state. Students have an opportunity to run for elected offices and apply for other leadership positions. The 90 YMCA's who participate in Youth & Government meet for 2 weekend conferences for training and elect officers. In February all 2,000 students take over the State Capitol buildings and Court rooms for the 5 day Model Legislature and Court.

The Lincoln Club Members assist in sponsoring students for this program that is open to high school sophomores, juniors and seniors.

1st Republican HQ

April 5th was a momentous day for Valley Republicans as we enjoyed the grand opening of the **first permanent Republican Headquarters** in the desert, located at 74-390 Highway 111, Suite A in Palm Desert, The opening was well attended that supporters and TV media were squeezing in to watch the festivities. In addition to DRCC Chairman Bob Olsson, our elected officials Congresswoman Mary Bono Mack, Assemblyman John Benoit, Palm Desert City Councilmember Cindy Finerty and numerous Republican candidates for office filled the Headquarters. In addition to candidate and officeholder's support, the headquarters will be the nexus for the **get out the vote phone** and precinct walking efforts. The phone number is **320-1938**. Please pay a visit to Bob and the other volunteers and offer your support. Your time as well as financial donations are crucial to the efforts. Please stop by or give Bob a call and get involved. If you have working office equipment or furniture you no longer need, it's all valuable to us. **We need your help!** Every phone call made, doorbell rung and dollar contributed will make the difference. See you there, soon and often!

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Scholarships for our essay winners are provided by you, the members. They are presented annual at one of our luncheon program. Each year a topic is chosen and given to each of the local participating high schools; such as the topic; **"Should the phrase "under God" be removed from the Pledge of Allegiance?** Outstanding essays were received. Thought provoking statements coming from our youth makes it very difficult for the committee to choose a winner. We consider each essay as a winning essay. If you are interested in this program, let the office know **Our youth needs our support.**