

2011 President's Message

It was an honor to serve again as President of the Town Council. This year, we stressed the “unity” in ‘community.’

- With the addition of Councilmembers Dr. Young Suh and Harry Leon, we were able to increase our outreach and fellowship with the Korean and Armenian communities. These two gentlemen have been working very hard to bring all of our communities closer together.
- Together, we celebrated the La Crescenta Library's 1st birthday!
- The Council restructured its Land Use Committee and with the help of Co-Chairs Robert Thomas and Odalis Suarez, we held four Land Use Meetings in an effort to increase communication with residents and local businesses regarding Regional Planning issues and hearings. Robert led a subcommittee to work with County Planning regarding results of a 2010 survey about residential building codes and the Arroyos & Foothills Conservancy presented to the community to request support for County funding to purchase land at the top of Rosemont to preserve open space.
- We provided a forum for the Glendale Unified School District to present and discuss Measure S and the Open Campus Lunch issue at CV High.
- Robert Thomas and Paul Rabinov's dream of more bike racks to complement our new bike lanes on Foothill Blvd. became a reality.
- Dennis van Bremen and Todd Thornbury coordinated this year's Arbor Day celebration, honoring the 100th Birthday of the La Crescenta Woman's Club. A pink trumpet tree was planted in front of CV High School and we learned that if you have a really long extension cord, the neighbors across the street will give you the electricity so you can use your jackhammer instead of a shovel to dig a 30” deep hole. This is La Crescenta ☺
- After several years of planning and working with partners in the community, Robbyn Battles' dream of ASTER (Assisting Seniors Through Enhanced Resources) came to fruition. Within just a few months, the group grew so quickly, they outgrew the Library's Community Room and Steve Pierce helped them partner with local businesses to provide discounts for our Seniors.

- Several years ago while Steve Pierce was on Council, he vowed to make the Sheriff's Memorial a reality. He and Lisa Dutton shifted into high gear and fundraised to complete this 50 year old goal to honor Sheriff Deputy David Horr and Montrose Search and Rescue member Deputy Chuck Rea. They will never be forgotten and neither will their service on behalf our community.
- The Chamber, the VFW, the American Legion, the JROTC, Prom Plus and the Town Council have now joined forces to fundraise for the Memorial Wall at Two Strike Park, with Master fundraiser Steve Pierce is doing his magic again.
- Harry Leon led a very successful scholarship program benefitting 7 local high school seniors. Even before this year's scholarships were awarded, he began fundraising for next year and together with Danette Erickson, a Prayer Breakfast is coming in 2012.
- Robbyn Battles worked with Public Works and a long-awaited lighted crosswalk at Glenwood and Foothill was approved and should be here in early 2012.
- With the help of the Town Council's best friends, Frank & Nina Beyt, the 4th Annual CVTC Pancake breakfast was a huge success, with various school and community groups earning half of the ticket price for each ticket they sold. This is one of Council's favorite events as it includes food and talking with members of the community.
- With the help of the CV Water District and again, Steve Pierce, we now have a "Welcome to La Crescenta" sign at Encinal & Pennsylvania. When Steve makes a promise, his word is golden.
- This year's CVTC election saw Frank Beyt return to Council and newcomer Mike Claessens will also be joining us later tonight. I'm very sad we will be saying goodbye to our Vice President of two years, Steve Goldsworthy and Alternate Charly Shelton.
- Funding and plans for the dog park were approved this year and work on the first Los Angeles County owned and maintained dog park began on November 28th!

- After the earthquake and tsunami in Japan, CV CERT asked, “Are you Ready?” After the Great Shakeout in October, Paul and Lisa Dutton asked again, “Are You Ready?” And with the windstorms and power outages a few weeks ago, I think many of us seriously have to rethink our answer to that question.
- Those windstorms were not kind to the Military Banners along Foothill Blvd. and Danette and Frank worked quickly to have many of them removed due to wear or damage. Today in Iraq, there was a ceremony to mark the End of the Military Presence later this month. Together, let us pray and support our troops everywhere so they can come home very soon.
- There are still two more people here tonight that helped make this all possible. With the 2010 Census came redistricting and I felt a personal sense of panic at the thought that there was a possibility that we could be moved from the Fifth Supervisorial District. Luckily, we can all breathe a sigh of relief. Please thank Supervisor Antonovich and his Field Deputy, Sussy Nemer, for all that they do for our community. They are our encouragement, they field our complaints and give us help and resources whenever needed, and they support our Town Council and community at every turn. Please take a moment to thank them and show them our appreciation and gratitude.

Here’s to a great 2011 and an even better 2012 together!