

# The Canyon Crier

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## 63RD CCEA ANNUAL MEETING SET FOR MARCH 15TH

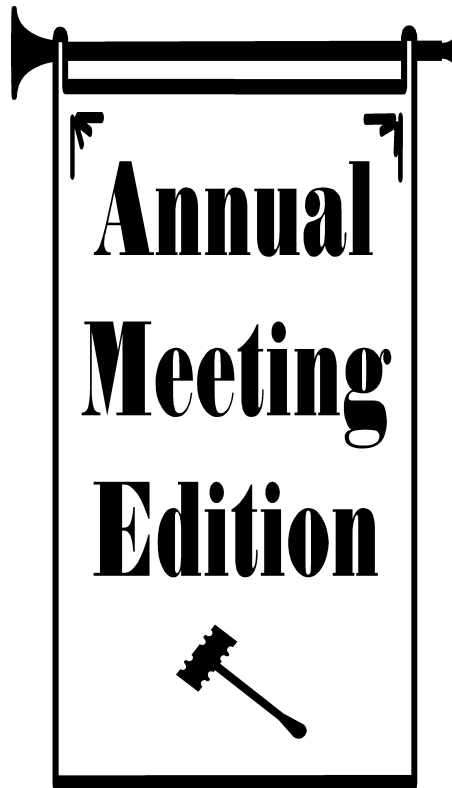
The 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Chevy Chase Estates Association is set for Wednesday, March 15, 2000, at the Chevy Chase Country Club.

The evening will start with a half-hour social from 7:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. From 7:30 p.m. to approximately 8:15 p.m., we will conduct the business portion of the meeting, including the President's report, the Treasurer's report, election of Directors.

### Mayor Bremberg To Address Canyon Residents

Our very own Ginger Bremberg, who is currently Mayor of Glendale, will address Canyon residents. Ginger will give us an update on important City issues facing all Canyon residents. Hot topics this year include the Glendale 2010 Strategic Plan, the upcoming City Council decision about power deregulation and current developments which could impact the

ability of developers to build in hillside areas such as our Canyon.



### Election of Directors

The following CCEA Directors, whose terms will expire in March 2000, will stand for re-election by the mem-

bership at the Annual Meeting on March 15<sup>th</sup>:

Carole Dougherty  
Michael Rosenfeld  
Diane Hedrick

Any CCEA member may run for an open Director position by submitting a resume and a petition signed by 10 CCEA members. Resumes and petitions should be sent to:

Jerry Briggs  
CCEA President  
3021 Hollywell Place  
Glendale, CA 91206

If you have any questions about CCEA's election process, please call Jerry at 956-7547.

### Come One, Come All

The Annual Meeting is a great opportunity for you to meet with your CCEA Board of Directors, discuss issues which are important to you and have a say in the future of the Canyon. See you there!





# President's Message

by Jerry Briggs

**A**s we enter the new millennium, your homeowners association continues to remain strong and active, with an existing dues-paying membership of 435 members, continuing our record as the oldest and largest homeowners association in California.

## Canyon Round-Up

Last October, CCEA held its second Canyon Roundup and Barbecue at the Chevy Chase Country Club. More than 125 members and guests attended and enjoyed the Western barbecue, entertainment and dancing.

Aside from being a lot of fun, CCEA parties are a great opportunity to meet new neighbors and visit with old friends. Watch for details this summer. CCEA is planning to hold another Canyon party in the fall of 2000. Invitations will be sent to all CCEA members.

## Community Support

During the past year, CCEA supported community activities by making donations to important organizations which benefit all of us, including the Chevy Chase Garden Club, the Chevy Chase Library, and Volunteers Organized in Conserving the Environment (VOICE), a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving hillside and wilderness areas in Glendale.

## Building Restrictions

During the past year, CCEA successfully protested several requests for height and set-back variances on Canyon properties, ensuring that all houses in the Canyon comply with building restrictions. An El Tovar fiasco will not happen in our Canyon!

## Mini-Mart Update

Last year, we reported that the owners of St. George Mini-Mart had applied for a zoning change from residential to commercial in order to sell gasoline. CCEA and numerous residents, concerned about this potentially and environmentally unsound use of the property, convinced the City to require the mini-Mart owners to complete an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on the proposed zoning change. The owners of the property have missed the City's deadline for an EIR and it appears that the zoning change request has been abandoned.

Additionally, many residents have expressed concern to CCEA about the appearance and condition of the Mini-Mart. In 1999, the owners of the property were cited by the City for violations of City codes. At the insistence of CCEA, the City has pursued this matter, and it now appears that the Mini-Mart owners are beginning to correct code violations relating to signage, painting, and general maintenance and upkeep.

## Country Club Still In Limbo

The Chevy Chase Country Club's lease on the golf course property expired in January 2000. Many residents have contacted CCEA with concerns about the future of the property.

CCEA has been advised that the land is currently for sale and there are several potential buyers, including a group of club members as well as several golf club operators. For the moment, the club's lease has been temporarily extended and normal club operations and activities are continuing.

## CCEA Directory

CCEA is very proud of the Glendale Directory we published

and mailed to all members in January. From all reports, our efforts have produced the only truly comprehensive directory of City and related government services.

## Power Deregulation

Last June, more than 100 Canyon residents attended CCEA's special Canyon meeting to discuss the potential effects of power industry deregulation on the quality of your electric service – and cost of your power bills. The City Council is expected to vote on the issue in March.

## CCEA Works For You

CCEA's mission is to protect and preserve the Canyon for current and future generations. Whether we're fighting to keep our library open, objecting to zoning changes which could bring unsightly development to our Canyon, or helping members get action from City departments, your CCEA Board of Directors works hard to stay on top of Canyon issues and is firmly committed to maintaining Chevy Chase Canyon's standing as one of Glendale's premiere residential areas.

On behalf of all the members of your homeowners association, CCEA extends its sincere thanks to the many volunteers whose ongoing efforts are vital to help maintain our quality of life in the Canyon.

CCEA is always interested in hearing members' comments and suggestions. Please feel free to call CCEA President Jerry Briggs at 956-7547.





## Power Deregulation: Time to Decide

The City of Glendale is required by law to determine by the end of March 2000 whether to deregulate power distribution. Deregulation would allow other power companies to compete with Glendale Water and Power in offering power to Glendale residents and companies.

The City Council's decision could impact your individual power bills as well as the level of service you receive from your power company.

All Glendale residents have received information on deregulation in their recent service bills. Additionally, CCEA will have brochures at the Annual Meeting

describing the advantages and disadvantages of deregulation.

If you have questions or concerns about deregulation, you may also contact Glendale Water and Power at 543-3300.



## Will Deregulation Save You Money?

by Michael Gebel

If the city of Glendale decides to allow you and me to purchase electricity from someone other than Glendale Water & Power (GWP), you will have some choices. Everyone loves choices, right? Well, what choices do you have? At this point, not so many. If the City Council voted today to allow access to competitive power generating companies, you would probably have a hard time signing up with one; and even if you did, you might not save any money.

Bernie Palk, head of GWP, told me that it is not clear whether we will save money by switching to a competitor of GWP; but don't take my word for it — call Bernie at 548-2107.

So why wouldn't we save money in a deregulated market? Well, to be honest, we eventually would, but not until we pay the price of savings. The problem is that the huge costs of putting up one's own power lines would give even Bill Gates pause for thought, not to mention the eyesore that three or four sets of power lines running through your neighborhood would present. To avoid these problems, in 1996, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ordered that the then-regulated

electrical utilities open access to their electrical transmission lines, effectively opening the door to a competitive market for the actual generation of the power that travels across those lines. So companies that could generate electricity started thinking, "Great, we can sell electricity cheaper than GWP, and we can send it through GWP's lines to the homeowners of Glendale."

Unfortunately, though, GWP had to pay to put up those lines and build a power plant and Southern California Edison had to pay to put up bigger lines and build bigger power plants. And the cost of building and maintaining the huge system that powers your household can be quite high. So California decided to have *you* pay for those costs. The debt incurred from building the power grid that currently serves you has to be paid by you regardless of whether you switch to a new power generating company. This debt — known as the *stranded cost* — is currently reflected on your electric bill.

So the real question is, how long will we all have to pay the stranded cost? And will they increase or decrease as a result of deregulation?

So why haven't you received a call (during dinner, naturally) from Electricity Is Us, Inc. asking you to switch over to their company? For two basic reasons: first, California has structured deregulation to allow municipal utilities (like GWP) to decide whether to allow you, the customer, to have access to other power providers before 2002; second, the high stranded costs have made competitors shy away from selling electricity to residential customers in California.

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) will tell you that these stranded costs are a good thing. You could always try to contact CPUC (505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102; 415-703-2782) and ask them to explain their position. Just remember what Joe Friday would say: "The facts, just the facts ma'am."

For more information on deregulation, visit the CPUC's website. Go to [www.cpuc.ca.gov](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov) and click on "Electric Restructuring Information."



## **We Want to Hear What You Think!**

*The Canyon Crier* is published  
for Chevy Chase Estates Asso-  
ciation members.

If you have any comments or  
suggestions, or would like to  
submit an article to *The Canyon  
Crier*, please contact Michael  
Rosenfeld at 240-0070.

