

COMMENT ON ECONOMICS:

The Crisis Gets Worse

Let me put it bluntly. The settlement of the debt ceiling crisis by our federal government means that we have all been screwed. And the worst part of that is that the Democratic Party (with some exceptions) from the President on down participated in this outrageous series of events.

The official unemployment rate has remained consistently over 9% since May of 2009 (and just under 9% in February and March of this year). By way of contrast, the unemployment rate was consistently under 5% throughout 2006 and even then too many people who wanted jobs did not have them. Job creation in July 2011 was not even large enough to include the arrival of new labor force members. Worse than that, the ratio of employment to total population reached a new low of 58.1%, down from 64.4% in January 2001. The official unemployment rate that includes part-time workers and people who have given up looking for jobs is over 16%. Undoubtedly, the real rate is larger than that, thus explaining the decreased ratio of employment.

Michael Moore tells us this economic decline for working people began with the defeat of the air traffic controllers union (PATCO) more than 30 years ago. Union membership has plummeted since then, but the tremendous reduction of taxes on the rich, that culminated in the Bush Administration's reductions in the early part of the 21st Century, led to a huge revenue decline of \$1.8 trillion between 2002 and 2009. Now many large corporations pay no taxes at all. The wealthy pay nowhere near their fair share. No wonder the national deficit has grown so alarmingly.



*by Maarten de Kadt,
Vice President,
CRDC*

*Next year's election
must end domination
of conservative
Republicans.*

While it appears that our rich nation is in crisis, it is a worldwide crisis largely manufactured by policymakers in the United States, as well as in Europe. They have made economic decisions to reduce taxes, but at the same time they continue to spend large sums of money, especially on war. In this moment of distress, our nation should be spending money to repair a decaying infrastructure of roads and bridges, electricity lines, public transportation, while at the same time, developing and paying for a new green infrastructure. The spending should start now, putting people to work. Revenue for these expenditures should be obtained by increasing taxes on the wealthy and

large corporations. The voices of the Tea Party and its fellow travelers that say "no new taxes" (really the mainstream of the Republican party along with some Democrats) misunderstand or purposely misstate the choices that our country faces:

1. Continue to line the pockets of the rich while the rest suffer, by keeping taxes on corporations and the wealthy low.
2. Slash government spending, rendering it unable to maintain the infrastructure or pay the health and welfare costs that workers over their working lives have already paid for (a continuation of the right wing policy known as "starve the beast"), OR:
3. Restore the revenue stream by re-creating a progressive tax system while responsibly spending money, to put people to work, on necessary projects.

These are social choices determined by public policy. Only 74% of US industrial capacity is being used, down from 84%

The CRDC Slate Endorsed By:
Congressman Jerrold Nadler,
City Council Speaker Christine C. Quinn,
State Senator Tom Duane,
Assembly Member Richard N. Gottfried

VOTE SEPTEMBER 13th

Civil Court District 3

Anthony Cannataro, Esq.

Judicial Delegate

**Steven Skyles-Mulligan,
Mae Doris Corrigan, Paul J. Groncki
Sandra M. Marsh, Judy Richheimer**

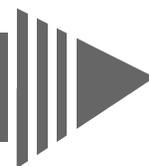
Alternate Judicial Delegate

**John R. Johnson, David A. Caraway
Donathan Salkaln, David Warren
Lydia R. Hummel, Leathe Vanadore**

in 1995. Clearly, the economic system has the ability to employ more people. Using or not using the available industrial capacity is a political choice; it is a choice made by the greedy grabbing more profits, at the expense of wages and benefits.

One has to wonder why almost 30,000,000 people who are unemployed, underemployed or who have just given up looking for jobs altogether, have not risen up in a unified loud protest, leading to votes against self-serving politicians. Some of our elected officials, to their credit, voted against the debt agreement (e.g. Nadler, Rangle, Serrano and Gillabrand — Schumer, unfortunately, voted in favor). Next year's election must end domination of conservative Republicans. But that will not happen without the concerted effort of many groups including political clubs like the Chelsea Reform Democratic Club working to improve ordinary people's lives.

Turn the page to read
about our Club's
Judicial Candidates!



Progressive Judicial Delegates for Progressive Judges

STEVEN SKYLES-MULLIGAN



Steven is President of the Chelsea Reform Democratic Club, a position he has held for seven years (2002–2007 and 2010–2011). In this role, he works to maximize the Club's effectiveness on three levels: policy, political and community. He does this, in part, by fostering fair, deep and open discussion among Club members and other community leaders and by empowering people to use their talents and follow their passions.

A resident of Chelsea for 16 years, Steven first moved to 10th Avenue when it was undeveloped and unfashionable. He is concerned that development in the neighborhood follows a measured approach that accommodates growth but does not squeeze out long-time residents. He is currently a member of Hudson Guild's Marketing Committee and the BRC Advisory Committee.

Steven believes judges should be keenly inquisitive, demonstrably progressive and engagingly articulate.

MAE DORIS CORRIGAN



As a member of CRDC, Doris has served as a Judicial Delegate on several occasions since the mid 1990s. She has also been a Democratic District Leader and President of CRDC, and edited CRDC's monthly newsletter for many years. She currently represents the 75th Assembly District on the Democratic State Committee. In this role, she works with the Democratic Party to make sure CRDC does all it can to help organize and get out the vote for elections.

A long-time community activist, Doris is a founding member of the Chelsea Waterside Park Association, which she has served as President and Vice President. She is also a member of Save Chelsea and was one of the activists behind the opening of the Chelsea Rec Center.

Doris believes judges should be progressive, and is particularly drawn to those with backgrounds in grassroots activism.

PAUL J. GRONCKI



Paul has been active in local political and community work since 1983. Over the past 25 years, Paul has served as a member of the New York County Democratic Committee, Chelsea District Leader, CRDC President, Campaign Manager, Judicial Convention Delegate, Election

Inspector, Community Board Representative and is currently CRDC Treasurer.

He has organized voter registration campaigns, managed political campaigns, and has been an advocate for human rights, including, but not limited to, housing, senior, sexual preference

and education rights. He has extensive volunteer leadership experience in our community. Paul has been a Board of Trustees member of Hudson Guild since 1997, He is also a docent for the Rubin Museum, a founder and current treasurer of Save Chelsea, and chairs the 100 W 16th Street Block Association.

Paul believes that our judges should be well qualified and selected on the basis of their judicial and legal competence and demeanor, not their political connections.

SANDRA M. MARSH



A practicing attorney for more than 30 years, Sandra currently works part-time as an Administrative Law Judge for the Environmental Control Board. A 1985 Koch appointee, Sandra is a former Deputy Police Commissioner, Executive Director of the Civilian Complaint Review Board, and Deputy Commissioner of the Office of Equal Employment Opportunity for the NYPD. Sandra has also served on the Mayor's Housing Court Advisory Council for Judicial Selections.

Sandra has represented clients for The Family Center, a non-profit organization representing litigants with HIV/Aids, served as a volunteer attorney for GMHC and has facilitated mediations for clients of The Center and the Housing Court. She has been a resident of Penn South Coop since 1988, and is a member of the Executive Committee of CRDC.

Participating on the Mayor's Housing Court Advisory Council has taught her to evaluate what a judicial candidate says about why they want to be a judge. It is her belief that a judge must never forget that he or she is in service to the people, and that fairness and compassion are hallmarks of that service.

JUDY RICHHEIMER



A former president of CRDC, Judy has lived in Chelsea for 38 years. Her contributions to the community include early and active support for the Highline, organizing the only 2008 presidential primary debate held in Chelsea, and spearheading a drive to collect food for 9/11 first responders. She has held key volunteer positions in several Democratic campaigns, including those of Scott Stringer and Dennis Kucinich.

A "hyphenate" professionally, Judy is a writer — her credits include *New York Magazine*, *Details* and *Vogue* — and a licensed New York City tour guide. Several times elected Judicial Delegate, Judy has brought the investigative and research skills she honed as a writer and a guide to the task of judging judges — observing them in their courtrooms, reading their decisions and interviewing litigants who have appeared before them.

Her ideal judge-candidate has an even temperament, legal acumen, and a commitment to progressive ideals.

Alternate Judicial Delegates

JOHN R. JOHNSON



John Johnson served for two decades as an international economist and banker, based in New York and Tokyo. For the next 15 years, John served as an economic development advisor for the UN and other international agencies where he led major relief and development programs in post-conflict, fragile and emerging states including Kosovo, Afghanistan, Egypt, Indonesia, Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan, and Zambia.

Since his return to Chelsea in 2007, John has become actively involved as a member of the Executive Committee of CRDC and with other grassroots organizations including the ACLU, MoveOn.org, among others.

John has met with many judicial candidates and seeks to bring a new, broader perspective to the process of judicial reform and candidate nominations in Manhattan.

DAVID A. CARAWAY



David A. Caraway is a member of Lesbian and Gay Law Association where he has served on the screening panel for judges completing candidate background checks and conducting interviews for competence, temperament, fairness, reputation and sincere progressive and liberal orientation. He has served as campaign treasurer for four different civil and supreme court judicial candidates. David has been practicing Residential Real Estate and Trusts and Estates law in NYC for 17 years after getting his start assisting AIDS victims with their estate planning needs. David has been active in Chelsea politics for 12 years and will be running his third NYC marathon this fall.

As part of judicial screening panels in the past, I have always insisted on finding and selecting judges who are competent, fair, progressive, respectful, and even-tempered. I will continue to do so if elected as a Judicial Delegate.

DONATHAN SALKALN



For the last 32 years, Donathan has called Chelsea home. As a community activist he helped spearhead the fight against the Jet Stadium, fought against the weakening of the rent laws, MTA rent hikes, cuts to Social Security and other senior programs. He was a founding member of the Chelsea Waterside Park Association, RBI of Harlem, built several houses for Habitat For Humanity and is currently Vice President and Director of Communications of CRDC. He is a graphic artist and has been happily married for the last 14 years.

Donathan believes that the selection of judges is of utmost importance—it is their decisions that have the potential of making things right, in a democracy often littered with wrongs.

DAVID WARREN



A native New Yorker and long-time resident of midtown Chelsea, David is very concerned about environmental issues. He has been an active member of CheckPeds, an organization advocating solutions for locals whose transportation of choice is walking or bicycling. He is also a supporter of congestion pricing. Believing that change starts with individuals, David commutes to his job at FDNY by bicycle.

David is also interested in international affairs, being an active participant in the N. Y. Chapter of the United Nations Association of America. Additionally, he fights against prejudice based on sexual orientation through his membership in Stonewall Democrats and GLID. David is serving his second term as a member of CRDC's Executive Committee.

David will support judges who have previously made progressive rulings, particularly in the areas of tenants' rights, alternative transportation and equal rights.

LYDIA R. HUMMEL



Lydia has been active in community issues throughout the nearly 20 years she has lived in Chelsea. She is currently in her second term as one of CRDC's Vice Presidents. In this role, Lydia encourages club members to use their skills in forwarding club goals. She is personable, communicative and accessible. She has previously represented CRDC as a Judicial Delegate.

Lydia has always guided the CRDC to take effective positions on issues important to the community. In addition, her organizational skills have filled the club events with inclusiveness and grace. She also is a design leader in the consumer products industry and has worked with companies including Converse, Coach, The Gap and Polo Ralph Lauren.

In judicial candidates, Lydia looks for qualities of humanity, openness and dedication to equality under the law.

LEATHEA VANADORE



A native of the segregated South, Leathea fought racism and lost contact with much of her family as a result. She has campaigned for women's rights, against the Vietnam War, and the unreliability of electronic voting machines. She has also fought to reduce the influence of money in politics and worked to elect progressive candidates at the federal, state and local levels. Before retiring to become a full-time activist, Leathea was a teacher.

Recently she has become an activist against hydrofracking, which poses a grave threat to our water supply. She regularly speaks out and lobbies along with other members of United for Action. She believes protecting our environment is a moral imperative.

As a member of CRDC, Leathea is not afraid to ask tough questions of anyone—or to speak her mind. In a judge, she looks for integrity, compassion and balance.

PO Box 1120
Old Chelsea Station
New York City, NY 10113-1120

Chelsea, Madison Sq., Flatiron, Rosehill



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, September 11: Barbeque – 4-7 pm
The Frying Pan, Pier 66A (West Side Highway and
26th St.) Moment of silence and bell-ringing for
9/11 (bring bells.)

Thursday, September 15: Book Signing and
Presentation — History of the Bronx River.
Hudson Guild Elliott Center, 441 West 26th Street
(btw 9th & 10th Aves.)

Thursday, October 20: Aging Healthy in Chelsea
Dr. Marianne Fahs speaks about aging in NYC.
Hudson Guild Elliott Center, 441 West 26th Street
(btw 9th & 10th Aves.)

Club Executive Committee Meetings
Thursdays, September 1st, October 6th.

Visit our website for
calendar updates, new stories
and much more!
www.crdcnyc.org

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Please pay your 2011 dues so you can vote for our 2011 officers and Members-At-Large. Please fill out the coupon below and mail to our postal box, or you may renew by going to our website, www.crdcnyc.org.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

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(Evening): _____

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\$30 Individual \$45 H'Hold \$100 Patrons

\$15 Ltd. Income \$20 H'Hold Limited Income

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New York City, NY 10113-1120

Questions? Call 212-924-5433, email us at
info@crdcnyc.org, or visit our website at www.crdcnyc.org