

# Northwest Democrats News



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Northwest Democrats, P.O. Box 681911, San Antonio, TX 78268; nwdemocrats@gmail.com

## June 16<sup>th</sup> Program: Bexar County Legislators

Don't forget to attend our June 16<sup>th</sup> meeting when our local Bexar County legislators will be there to give a wrap-up of the legislative session and how successful they thought it was. Now's the time to ask them about the Speaker's race, why they didn't pass that bill you wanted, why in the world they did pass that bill, and whether or not Trey Martinez Fischer actually shoved a Republican legislator to the floor.

Legislators for our area: State Sen. District 19 Carlos Uresti

State Sen. District 26 Leticia Van de Putte

State Rep. District 116 Trey Martinez Fischer

State Rep. District 117 David Leibowitz

State Rep. District 123 Mike Villarreal

State Rep. District 124 Jose Menendez

State Rep. District 125 Joaquin Castro

Please join us for this important meeting at 8:30 a.m. at Luby's, 6200 Bandera Rd.

### 2006-2008

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## Announcement

### Meeting of San Antonio Chapter of Americans United

Wednesday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm at Community Unitarian Universalist Church, 4818 Beverly Mae E. (off Babcock Rd., near the Medical Center)

For more info contact: Eric Lane at [eflane@swbell.net](mailto:eflane@swbell.net) or 723-6564; or Joe LaBonte at [SanAntonioAU@satx.rr.com](mailto:SanAntonioAU@satx.rr.com) or 658-5210

From NW Member Rona Aduna

Authorized & Paid for by the Northwest Democrats

To submit an article or other info, email Jacob Middleton at:

[TXDemocrat@satx.rr.com](mailto:TXDemocrat@satx.rr.com)

## **A Few 'Joyce' Words**

*by Joyce Dorfyott*

There are a lot of things happening for Northwest Democrats right now. In addition to the ongoing operation of the organization, members are looking up phone numbers, recording obituaries and planning for a number of special events this summer and fall.

The group meeting on alternate Thursdays at my home to look up phone numbers is gradually wading through the lists. It was a real relief to finally finish all the "A's" and get started on the "B's". Some folks still have lists out that they have not turned in, and I would really appreciate getting them. Not only is a group having lunch and working together every other Thursday, they are taking lists home with them. Others like Evelyn Mortola come by, pick up a number of pages and return to get more later. I would like to especially thank Jean and Bill Stavisky, Marguerite Holmes, Lisa Lanett and Sue Wilson for their constant involvement. Doris Johnston takes the obituary sheets home and puts them on a form prepared for this use making it easier for me to identify them on the computer.

For the past month a few of us have been meeting every Saturday afternoon working on a fundraiser for the PAC and planning workshops for the organization. Things are beginning to fall in place. Please put the following date and time on your calendar – **Thursday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30 – 9 pm**. We will be hosting a major fundraiser at the Omni Hotel. Monies netted from this event will be added to our 2008 general election fund.

**We are also planning a series of three workshops as follows:**

**July 28<sup>th</sup> – 8:30 am – 3:30 pm – “So You Want to Run for Office?”**

**September 8<sup>th</sup> – 8:30 am – 1:30 pm – “Campaign Law and Finance”**

**September 29<sup>th</sup> – 8:30 am – 3:30 pm – Use of the Internet and the Media in Political Campaigns”**

The location is still being determined, but we will have further information at the meeting. A brochure is also being prepared which will include information concerning the schedule, presenters, etc. All funds netted from these workshops will be used for the organizations non-2008 general election activities. If you would like to work with any of these activities, please contact me. More people are always needed, and you will derive a great deal of satisfaction due to your participation.

It is also critical for Texas that we Democrats defeat John Cornyn. For too long there has been no Democratic senator from Texas, and it is certainly time we change all that. We are fortunate to have one of our members who has formed an exploratory committee in preparation for a run for this seat. Regardless of the candidate you support in the primary, we need to get behind the Democrat in the general election. We can no longer afford the luxury of sitting on our hands when our candidate doesn't get the nomination.

Vacation time is NOT here. Work time is NOW.

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## **Help Needed**

For some weeks now a number of us have been meeting on alternate Thursdays at noon to lunch and visit together while also looking up phone numbers for those voters for whom we do not have numbers at present.

The task is so large that we simply must have more help. By working together now we will be better organized for the 2008 General Election.

What we are about is no small task. There are over 150,000 names to be checked. So, if you have the time to assist us, please join us. We meet at my home at 6454 Village Park at 12 noon, every other Thursday. Call me at 680-5701 if you need further information or directions.

## So You Want to Run for Office and not be a Gene Kelly

by Jacob Middleton

Are you a candidate? Or maybe a potential campaign manager? An elected official who would like to brush up on their campaign know-how? Or, anyone who is remotely interested in how to run for office?

If you happen to fit any of the previous criteria, then you are perfect for our upcoming campaign workshops.

Three workshops to be precise. The first workshop will help you learn how nearly every campaign works. First let me say that our workshops do not teach the Gene Kelly method of running for office, which is you file to run, you do nothing, and hope that somehow you are the next Senator from Texas. I don't know about you, but I'm tired of candidates who think that if they simply travel to every city and county; avoid direct mail; and campaign ads; that somehow the voters will

telepathically connect with them and flood the polling booths en mass on election day and choose them. I'm sorry if that's harsh, but you need a little more if you expect to actually have a chance. I'm also tired of voting for a libertarian in every race where there isn't a Democrat, but that's another story.

Some topics that will come up in the first workshop include but are not limited to: What voters should I target? Is there a difference in a primary election campaign and a general election campaign? What kind of people should I hire as campaign staff? Why can't my message consist of 15 issues? I don't have a lot of money for a campaign, what do I do?

The second workshop will focus on campaign law and finance. Think of this workshop as "How Not to be a Tom DeLay."

The third workshop will focus on the internet and media in campaigns. What

should a campaign website look like? Should I blog? What's YouTube? Are websites different for a city/county candidate and a statewide candidate? What's free press and how do I get some?

These workshops will be led by campaign specialists who are experienced and knowledgeable individuals who can help you run an effective campaign. Some of the people we hope to have include Christian Archer, Kelly Fero, Glen Maxey, and Chris Feldman.

We are in the process of setting up a payment method for our Northwest Democrats' website. This way you can not only pay for the workshops, but also for the August Northwest Democrats' dinner, and your dues.

If we prepare now, it'll be all the more satisfying to hear CNN project that Democrats in Texas have unseated incumbent Republican Senator John Cornyn.

At won't it be nice to turn on KENS, KSAT, or WOAI and hear that Democrats in Bexar County have swept every race on the ballot?

### In Anticipation & Check This Out

**Saturday, June 16th, 2007—Northwest Democrats Meeting.**

**Be sure to check out the Northwest Democrats Official Blog.**

**<http://northwestdemocrats.blogspot.com>**

**And also check out our website.**

**[www.northwestdemocrats.org](http://www.northwestdemocrats.org)**

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**Please Mark Your Calendars!**  
by Ray Baray

Make sure to put **August 9<sup>th</sup>** on your calendar to attend the **Northwest Democrats' first ever dinner reception, honoring the extraordinary contributions of our three Democratic congressmen: Charlie Gonzalez, Ciro Rodriguez and Henry Cuellar.**

The dinner will be held **6:30 p.m. - 9 p.m. at the Omni San Antonio Hotel, 9821 Colonnade Boulevard.** Reserve your table of ten early! There will be three sponsorship levels, in addition to individual tickets. Tables will go for \$1,500 (Speaker of the House), \$1,000 (Majority Leader) and \$500 (Committee Chair). Individual tickets will be \$50/person. To reserve your table or ticket(s), please call Joyce Dorrycott at (210) 387-3931. Proceeds from the event will be used to fund the 2008 Northwest Democrats' general election campaign office.