

Northwest Democrats News



September, 2007
Volume 11 Issue 9

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

September 15th Program: The Democratic Effort in South Texas

Don't forget to attend our September 15th meeting when Anthony Gutierrez will be our guest speaker.

Anthony Gutierrez is the Regional Field Director for the DNC/TDP State Partnership Project.

Last cycle Anthony was assigned to the Southwest region of the state which essentially overlapped the 23rd Congressional district. He is currently assigned to the thirty-nine counties which comprise the South Texas region beginning with the counties of Comal, Kendall and Bexar and stretching all the way down to the counties of Cameron and Hidalgo at the southernmost tip of the state.

The Democratic National Committee, as part of its State Partnership Project (more commonly referred to as the 50-State Strategy) funds four field staffers to the Texas Democratic Party. Under the direction of the TDP, the field staff works with campaigns, county parties and activists.

Anthony will discuss the work the field staff did during the 2006 election cycle and will present some examples of how that work benefited various parts of the state. He'll also give us an update on a few of the things the field staff is currently working on, including conducting various types of trainings, assisting county parties to formulate campaign plans and working to complete a massive national election protection project.

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

2006-2008

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Special Projects: Stuff the Bus a Big Success

A big "Thank You" to all members who contributed school supplies and monetary donations to our Stuff the Bus project. We collected a lot of supplies. It is a tremendous help to families in need and demonstrates our strong support for education.

If you have any questions, please call Gene Marck 614-7400 (office)...273-9201 (cell).

Authorized & Paid for by the Northwest Democrats

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

TXDemocrat@satx.rr.com

A Few 'Joyce' Words

by Joyce Dorrycott

All those who missed the August 9th "Los Tres Caballeros" dinner missed a really great evening. Three hundred forty nine people had reservations, and others showed up who didn't have reservations. Fortunately for the latter some of the former didn't make it allowing room for the late arrivers to attend. As we plan next year's event we will be sure to let everyone know exactly how many seats are available. The one hang-up occurred at registration, and we are already making plans to correct our mistakes this year.

The food was excellent, our honorees spoke eloquently on differing subjects, and the pictures of our former activities kept the audience entertained. We are extremely grateful to all those who were instrumental putting the newly-named "Pat Maloney, Sr., Public Service Awards" dinner on your schedule. It is currently planned for August 7th next year.

We will add between \$5,000 - \$6,000 to our Fall 2008 general election bank account. There is only a small amount of pledges to collect, and we can put this year's dinner to bed and begin thinking about the 2008 Super Bowl. But, before we change focus, I want to thank the following: Ray Baray, who made all the arrangements with the hotel; Anna Dorrycott who designed the invitation, put the program together, and compiled and presented the slide show at the dinner; and Verna Blackwell-Hilario, Adam Castillo, Rachel Hill, Jacob Middleton, Evelyn Mortola and Esmeralda Rodriguez who brought their considerable talents together to create this very successful event.

The only real disappointment we have had this year is the lack of interest we had in our first workshop. *We have brought together some of the brightest political minds in Texas to present important and critical information to our 2008 Democratic candidates— people they might otherwise have to pay large amounts to get guidance from.* For those interested in learning much of what was discussed campaign manuals are available for \$50 each. Those interested will have another opportunity on the 8th – this time focusing on campaign law and finance. Many candidates and officeholders have gotten into both political and legal problems over the way they handle their campaign accounts – whether in the area of raising and/or spending money or in the manner in which these activities are reported.

We are currently watching as a respected, long-time officeholder has been forced to resign his office due to campaign finance violations. Anyone who has dealt with these laws knows how vigilant you must be so as not to be in violation. This is not the first time we have watched an otherwise respected elected official get into legal problems due to failure to observe the letter of the requirements of the law. Sometimes it is because they trust someone else to do it, and sometimes it is because they make bad decisions on reporting. In either case, the candidate/officeholder takes the fall. Our hope is to present well-qualified people to convey the law to those running this year so they may avoid these pitfalls.

Hopefully, there will be greater interest in the September 29th workshop on "The Role of the Internet and the Media in Campaigns." This is certainly an area where all of us can learn a lot. You don't need to be a candidate to attend these workshops and, if you have not yet attended one, this is one you should not miss!!

Northwest Democrats Political Workshops 2007. Coordinated by Joyce Dorrycott

Campaign Law and Finance \$125. Sat., Sept. 8th, 8:30 am - 1:30 pm

Role of the Internet and Media in Campaigns \$150. Sat., Sept. 29th, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

Limited space is available so reserve your place early. Reservations must be made and paid for at least 3 days in advance of each workshop. To register for any of the workshops, please call 210-680-5701 or 210-387-3931.

<http://northwestdemocrats.org/events1.htm>

Sex, Drugs, ~~Rock n' Roll~~ and Money Troubles

by *Jacob Middleton*

Apparently Republicans got so drunk with power over the past few years that they're still in the midst of a hangover of sorts. Aside from Larry Craig's bathroom escapade and David Vitter's prostitution usage there's also been:

Bob Allen, State Rep from Florida who offered an undercover cop \$20 for sexual services

Scott Eller Cortelyou, Republican radio personality who may have tried to use the Internet to solicit sex from a minor

Robert Vellanoweth, Schwarzenegger appointee arrested for vehicular manslaughter and driving under the influence of drugs and alcohol; the incident in question killed 3 adults and a child

Michael Cole, drank too much and spent the night at an Assembly intern's apartment; was also the ranking Republican on the Assembly Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Committee

Ted Kladt, former South Dakota State Rep charged with 8 counts of 2nd degree rape, 2 counts of sexual exploitation of a minor, and 1 count of sexual contact with a child younger than 16

Thomas Ravenel, former South Carolina State Treasurer charged with cocaine distribution

Michael Flory, former head of Michigan Federation of Young Republicans guilty of sexual abuse

Glenn Murphy Jr., former Chair of the Young Republican National Federation accused of sexually assaulting a sleeping man

Congressman Gary Miller, under investigation by the FBI over land deals that benefited him

Republican donor Abdul Ibn Ali Alishtari, aka Michale Mixon, indicted for providing material support to terrorists

Sen. Pete Domenici, ethics complaint for his role in firing of U.S. Attorneys

Scooter Libby, guilty of obstruction of justice and perjury

J. Steven Griles, former Deputy Interior Secretary guilty of obstructing justice after lying to a Senate committee

Congressman John Doolittle, under FBI investigation for ties to Jack Abramoff

Congressman Rick Renzi, under FBI investigation for his business dealings

Gov. Jim Gibbons, under FBI investigation for accepting bribes for government contracts

Sen. Ted Stevens, under investigation by FBI and IRS for his dealings with the VECO Corporation

Minority Leader John Boehner, leaked classified information in regards to warrantless wiretapping

So what does all this mean? Elected officials must follow the laws that govern campaign finance and election law. By coincidence we are having (or had depending when you read this) a workshop dealing with Campaign Finance and Election Law. You don't get to be good at something by doing something once. Practice makes permanent.

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Saturday, September 15th -

8:30 am - Northwest Democrats, Luby's, 6200 Bandera Rd.

**6 - 10 pm - Stonewall Democrats, 2nd Annual Awards Banquet, El Tropicano Hotel,
110 Lexington Avenue, Glen Maxey, Keynote Speaker**

Monday, September 17th

6:30 pm - Stonewall Democrats, Grady's Restaurant, 6510 San Pedro

Saturday, September 22nd

9 - 11 am - DLC, Enchilada Warehouse, 2106 N. St. Mary's

Thursday, September 27th

5:30 - 7:30 pm - Petition Signing Party, Navajo Civic Center, 2600 Rigsby

Saturday, September 29th

**8:30 am - 4 pm - Northwest Democrats' "Role of the Internet & Media in Campaigns,
Best Western Ingram Park, 6855 NW Loop 410.**

Saturday, October 6th

8:30 am - Northeast Democrats, Luby's, 8511 Tesoro Drive.

1 pm - SAAPAC, Grady's, 6510 San Pedro

Monday, October 7th

6:30 pm - Stonewall Democrats General Meeting, Grady's Restaurant, 6510 San Pedro

Saturday, October 20th

8:30 pm - Northwest Democrats, Luby's, 6200 Bandera Rd.