

Sun City Democrats Newsletter

www.suncitydems.org

August 2008



General Meeting

The General Meeting is the first Saturday of the month (usually, but be sure to check for change of time and/or place). Come at **9:30 a.m.** for coffee and conversation. The program starts at **10:00 a.m.** The meetings are free and open to the public. *For additional information on the Sun City Democrats, please contact President Mary K. Pierson at 864-9909 or Communications Chair Carol Flynn at 864-3544.*

Saturday, August 2

Place: Ballroom

Program: Mark Thompson, candidate for Texas Railroad Commissioner, will speak. Mark is a Disabilities Right Advocate and Therapist for Blind children and adults for the last 15 years and has also served as a Police Officer in the Austin area for 8 years. For more information, see www.markfortexas.com

Saturday, September 6

Place: Ballroom

Program: Boyd Richie, Texas State Democratic Chair, will be our speaker. A life-long Democrat and Texas native with an extensive history of service to the party, he started his career in politics and government at a young age – joining his father and siblings block walking for Democratic U.S Senator from Texas, Ralph Yarborough. For more information, see http://www.txdemocrats.org/the_party/leadership/

Saturday, October 4

Place: Pavilion

Program: Continuing to spotlight the campaign and candidates, Jaime Lynn, candidate for Williamson County Attorney, and Greg Windham, candidate for Williamson County Commissioner - Precinct #3, will speak.

Saturday, Nov. 1

Place: Atrium, Activities Center

Program: To Be Announced

Tuesday, Nov. 4

Place: The Oaks

Event: Election Night Party. 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Watch this space for more information.

Saturday, December 6

Place: Ballroom

Event: Holiday Party and regular meeting.

OF INTEREST TO MEMBERS:

Texas Democratic Party

Boyd Richie, Chairman. www.txdemocrats.org

707 Rio Grande Street, Austin, TX 78701

Telephone: (512) 478-9800

Fax: (512) 480-2500

Williamson County Democratic Party

Richard Torres, Chairman. County web site link:

www.williamsoncountydemocrats.org. For more information, call 512-671-8683.

Williamson County Government www.wilco.org.

Road Bond information, including maps, vital records information, elections, Commissioner Court Minutes, and quick links to all cities and all school districts in the county.

Keep an eye on Williamson County at

www.eyeonwilliamson.org.

\$\$ BE A PAID-UP MEMBER!! \$\$

Dues are **\$10** per new member until the end of the year. If you're renewing, it's \$20 per person. You may pay at the sign-in table at the meetings or mail a check made out to Sun City Democrats Club to:

Maria Wagner
135 Lantana Drive
Georgetown TX 78633

It shall be the policy of the Sun City Democrats Club that its membership roster and database shall be considered an asset which is to be used only by the club for the purpose of promoting the activities of the club. The information in these documents should not be sold or divulged to others. The custodian of the database shall be the membership chair and those persons whom he/she designates to help with the communication needs of the club.

DEMOCRATS — UNITED IN NOVEMBER!

Support the Sun City Democrats PAC!

Our Political Action Committee is known as **IMPACT**: "Informed Members PAC of Texas." Send donations to **IMPACT** treasurer, Clint McCutcheon, at 110 Warbler Way or see him at the meeting.

Another way to help our PAC

Buy a logo T-shirt or polo shirt and show your pride in our club and our party!! See John Miller at the meeting or contact him at 863-0833. T-shirts \$12.50; Polo shirts \$18.00. All sizes available now. Profits benefit **IMPACT**.

Buy Business Cards

Advertise yourself and your Democratic affiliation! Order 50 business cards for \$25.00 for benefit of our PAC. Use standard **Democrats Club** format, or customize and personalize to your specifications. See Clint McCutcheon or Betty Dougherty to order cards.

Volunteer!! Help Make a Difference!!

To volunteer for a committee, please contact the chair of that committee, or email President Mary Kay Pierson at mkatpie@aol.com, and she will pass the message on to the chair.

Secretary: Caroline Mackey 864-7948
cmackey40@verizon.net

Treasurer: Maria Wagner 864-0641
wagywagy@suddenlink.net

Committee Chairs

Programs: John Lichtenthal 819-9632
j.lichtenthal@verizon.net

Communications: Carol Flynn 864-3544
flycar@verizon.net

Membership: Frank Wentworth 864-3385
f_wentworth@yahoo.com

Social Events: Jodi Salyers 864-2812
iodotcom@aol.com

Hospitality: Fred Becker 864-0704
fb.becker@suddenlink.net

GOTV: Pending

Precinct Chairs: **396.** Billie Reaney 868-0098
billie_reaney@msn.com

381. Kay Walker 864-2874
klwalker@suddenlink.net

399. Craig Whitney 869-2690
cbwhitney@verizon.net

YOUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

U.S. Rep. John Carter (R-District 31)
Washington: 202-225-3864
Round Rock office: 512-246-1600

U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison (R)
Washington: 202-224-5922
Dallas office: 214-361-3500

U.S. Sen. John Cornyn (R)
Washington: 202-224-2934
Dallas office: 972-239-1310

TX Governor Rick Perry (R)
512-463-2000

TX State Rep. Dan Gattis (R-20th Dist.)
512-463-0309
dan.gattis@house.state.tx.us

TX State Sen. Steve Ogden (R-5th Dist.)
512-463-0105

Williamson Co. Commissioners Court Precinct 3
Valerie Covey 512-943-3370
vcovey@wilco.org

City of Georgetown Mayor George Garver (nonpartisan) 930-3651

SUN CITY DEMOCRATS CLUB OFFICERS

President: Mary K. Pierson 864-9909
mkatpie@aol.com

Past President: Don Lelong 869-1714

Vice President: Craig Whitney 869-2690
cbwhitney@verizon.net

PRECINCT 381 NEWS

~Kay Walker

The Williamson County Democratic Party had a most successful opening for their campaign headquarters on July 19th. Folks from Sun City who attended were Jean and Harold Steadman, Frances and Kendall Young, Kim and Bill Moran, Kathleen Murray, Carol Flynn and Kay Walker. Candidates attending were Brian Ruiz, Woodie Jones, Mark Thompson, Jamie Lynn, Gregory Windham and Diana Maldonado. A television crew came, there was food and drink, rock music and much talking (as much as possible over rock music). Boyd Richie gave a most inspiring speech. Kendall Young donated a computer to the office. Kim and Bill Moran and I were greeters/solicitors of funds. This office will house all the Williamson County candidates and their staffs. It is where we will go to volunteer. The address is 110 Hwy. 35, and is at the intersections of Hwys 35 and 640.

PRECINCT 396 NEWS

~Billie Reaney

PRECINCT 399 NEWS

~Craig Whitney

It has been reported nationally that older white men and women of a "certain age" are Barack Obama's weakest demographic. In Sun City, I believe this statistic will be proven false. If you feel

that this is the year OF THE DEMOCRAT, we not only need your vote ----but your help. Early voting starts Oct. 20th and ends Oct 31. We need election help in the early voting and in the general election to see that the election runs smoothly. If you can help, please call:

Richard Torres---512-671-8663 or
Karen Carter-----512-260-6965

Be a part of the most important election in our lifetime.

Sun City Candidates 2008 (These are some of the candidates for whom we will have the opportunity to vote.)

Presidential Candidates

- **Barack Obama**

National Candidates

- **Rick Noriega** for U.S. Senate
www.ricknoriega.com
713 921 7425
- **Brian Ruiz** for Congress District 31
1901 East Palm Valley Blvd., Ste. 215,
Round Rock, TX 78664
(512) 686-4257
<http://ruizforcongress.com>

Texas State Candidates

- **Jim Jordan** for Chief Justice, Texas Supreme Court
2911 Turtle Creek Blvd.Ste.1400, Dallas,
75219
Phone: 214-520-8292
Email: info@judgejimjordan.com
www.judgejimjordan.com
- **Sam Houston** for Justice, Texas Supreme Court, Place 7
P.O. Box 56386, Houston, TX 77256-6386
Phone: 713-520-1464
Email: sam@samhoustonforjustice.com
- **Linda Yañez** for Justice, Texas Supreme Court, Place 8
1111 Nolana Loop, McAllen, TX 78504
Phone: 956-683-9796
www.lindayanez.com
- **Woodie Jones** for Chief Justice, Texas Court of Appeals
www.woodiejones.com
Phone: (512) 482-9302 –
Email: woodie@woodiejones.com

- **Mark Thompson** for Texas Railroad Commissioner
P.O. Box 283 Hamilton, TX 76531
www.markfortexas.com
Email: markthompsonaustin@yahoo.com

Williamson County Candidates

- **Jaime Lynn** for County Attorney
<http://vote4lynn.com/>
P.O. Box 1722, Cedar Park, TX 78630
Phone: 512-826-8313
Email: jaime@vote4lynn.com
- **Gregory Windham** for County Commissioner Precinct 3
www.windhamforwilco.com
Phone: 512-507-2900

WHAT IT TAKES TO RUN OUR DEMOCRATIC CLUB

The chart below shows how our membership dues are expected to be allocated during 2008. It's important that we, as members, understand how our money is spent. Mary K. Pierson, our club president, said, "I was totally shocked when I recently heard someone say they thought we 'didn't have to pay room rent for the meetings as we were a Sun City Club.'" As you can see, we do have to pay room rent, along with other expenses. On the plus side, members spend countless volunteer hours, holding meetings, running errands such as picking up supplies, planning and executing social occasions, keeping our finances in order, and other invaluable contributions of their time and efforts. Kudos to all!

2008 PROJECTED EXPENSES	EXPENSES
Rent: meetings, socials thru March 2009	\$1,650.00
GHS and Jarrell HS library donations	\$1,000.00
Coffee Supplies	\$100.00
Williamson Co. Democratic Party donation	\$500.00
Democrat County Convention donation	\$500.00
Social	\$700.00
Newsletter	\$750.00
Office supplies	\$200.00
Web Site	\$150.00
Postage	\$100.00
Gift Certificates for Speakers	\$300.00
Southern Poverty Law Center Memorial	\$50.00
Election Year Printing	\$500.00
Miscellaneous	\$100.00
TOTAL	\$6,600.00

RULES FOR RESIDENTIAL POLITICAL SIGNS

This information was provided by Carl Zimmerman, Community Standards Director, for an article in the March 2008 Sun Rays.

“Residents may also place political signs on residential property under the following restrictions:

Residents may display signs advertising for a political candidate or ballot item for an election from ninety days before an election to which the sign relates until ten days after that election date to which the sign relates.

Residents are limited to no more than one sign for each candidate or each ballot item. Signs must be ground-mounted with either one or two stakes. Signs are limited to a maximum size of four feet by six feet.

Residents are prohibited from displaying signs that:

- contains roofing material, siding, paving materials, flora, one or more balloons or lights, or any other similar building, landscaping, or nonstandard decorative component;
- is attached in any way to plant material, a traffic control device, a light, a trailer, a vehicle, or any other existing structure or object;
- includes the painting of architectural surfaces;
- threatens the public health or safety;
- violates a law;
- contains language, graphics, or any display that would be offensive to the ordinary person; or
- is accompanied by music or other sounds or by streamers or is otherwise distracting to motorists.

(Reference: State of Texas Property Code, Chapter 202, Construction and Enforcement of Restrictive Covenants § 202.009]. Regulation and Display of Political Sign. Effective June 18, 2005)

The new policy allows residents to install one ground-mounted sign for one candidate for each national, state, and local elected office as well as one ground-mounted sign for each ballot item. The individual signs may be as large as four feet by six feet. The signs may be displayed from ninety days before the scheduled election until ten days after the

election is completed. This policy will be strictly enforced.

For the National Election Day on November 4th, 2008: Signs may be displayed from August 6, 2008 until November 14, 2008.

Residents are encouraged to use good judgment when displaying political signs for either election. Please help all of us keep Sun City beautiful.”

THE PURPOSE OF THE SUN CITY ELECTION COMMITTEE ~ Mary K. Pierson

As pointed out at the last general meeting, the Election Committee had two vacancies and I agreed to gain more information about the objective of said committee.

The Election Committee is one of many committees that operate under the Governance Committee of Sun City Texas. Its sole purpose is to be the administrative arm for all internal Sun City elections. They receive the names of the candidates for the Sun City Board members along with various positions on the myriad of committees. At that point, they begin generating ballots and publicity and setting voting times and dates. Once that is established, they find volunteers to work at the polls during the voting. They only work on internal elections, not elections outside of Sun City such as the primaries, the general elections, or any of the elections for city, county, or state candidates.

The committee comprises five members, but there are seven positions. Those positions are for neighborhood representatives who choose to attend the meetings and report back to their various neighborhoods. They are held open so that all neighborhood representatives can attend without it being restricted to one or two people.

Anyone interested in working on this committee must submit his/her name and go through an interview process when positions are open. The term is normally for two years, but one can extend if needed and approved.

For additions and corrections to information in the newsletter, contact Betty Dougherty at 864-1582 or bettydou@suddenlink.net.

DEMOCRATS — UNITED IN NOVEMBER!