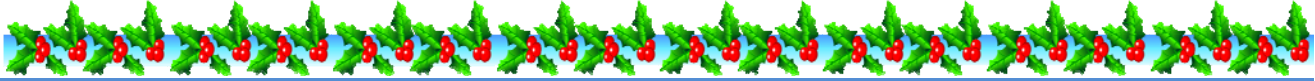


Sun City Democrats Club

www.suncitydems.org

December 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 Jodi Salyers at 864-2812 or Communications Chair Carol Flynn at 864-3544.*

Results of the Election for Club Officers

President: Jodi Salyers
Vice-President: Jim Stauber
Secretary: Joan Baker
Treasurer: Margaret Donaldson

And please give a whole heap of kudos to our outgoing officers!!

Mary K. Pierson, Pres.
Craig Whitney, VP
Caroline Mackey, Sec.
Maria Wagner, Treas.



Saturday, December 6

Place: Sun City Ballroom

Event: Annual Holiday Party and regular meeting, including a report on the club's progress during the year 2008.

A variety of refreshments and beverages will be provided at no cost to the members. All you need to do is come ready to meet with your fellow Democrats for a pleasant beginning for the Holiday Season.

Saturday, January 3

Place: Atrium of the Activities Center

Program: Bob Moser, the newly appointed editor of The Texas Observer, will speak to the group. Mr. Moser was the former editor for The Nation Magazine and a John S. Knight journalism fellow at

Stanford University. He also wrote the Southern Poverty Law Center's Intelligence Report on American extremists regarding the religious right and the anti-immigrant movement.

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

Keep an eye on Williamson County at

www.eyeonwilliamson.org.

Rumor checking headquarters

Check it out and get the facts at www.snopes.com, www.factcheck.org, and www.mediamatters.org.

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

Dues are **\$20** per member. You may pay at the sign-in table at the meetings, or mail a check made out to Sun City Democrats Club to:

Margaret Donaldson
107 Rosecliff 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.

Support the Sun City Democrats PAC!

Our Political Action Committee is known as **IMPACT**: "Informed Members PAC of Texas." Send

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donations to **IMPACT** treasurer, Clint McCutcheon, at 110 Warbler Way or see him at the meeting.

Volunteer!! Help Make a Difference!!

To volunteer for a committee, please contact the chair of that committee, or email President Jodi Salyers at jodotcom@aol.com, and she will pass the message on to the chair.

YOUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

See our web site, www.suncitydems.org, and select the **GOV'T & PARTY** menu item, then click #2 **REPRESENTATIVES**.

SUN CITY DEMOCRATS CLUB OFFICERS

For club officers' names and contact information, go to our web site, www.suncitydems.org, click on **Club Info**, then select #2, **Current Officers**.

PRECINCT 381 NEWS

~Kay Walker

This year precinct 381 split into four precincts and the following precinct chairs were elected by the WC Democrats:

Precinct 381 - Kay Walker

Precinct 396 - Billie Reaney

Precinct 399 - Craig Whitney

Precinct 394 - Robert Mohr.

This split of precinct 381 was done entirely upon the pressure applied by Billie Reaney to the county election officials as to the law concerning the number of residents allowed per precinct.

The precinct chairs attended monthly meetings of the Williamson County Democratic Party and participated in the operation of the campaign headquarters. They disbursed information as to campaign signs and other campaign materials.

The precinct chairs were active in facilitating the Primary Election in March, the Primary Runoff Election in May and the General Election in November.

Kay Walker created a pool of workers for the elections and also provided names of Sun City election workers to the county party for several other polling sites throughout Williamson County.

Billie, Kay and Margaret Donaldson (standing in for Craig Whitney) met with their Republican counterparts to plan the various aspects of the elections in order to follow new fairness rules. This required making sure the Republicans understood new rules and that they followed through on implementing them. Billie also spearheaded a

review of the election process and a report to the election officials as to successes and problems. Billie Reaney (by gleaning reports put out by the county party each day of early voting) supplied the precinct chairs with names of people who voted early so as to create lists of voters for telephoning during the days between early voting and election day. Each precinct chairperson found a telephoning committee and organized this important election work.

Precinct chairpersons promoted club membership throughout their contacts with their precincts. They also kept their precinct Democrats informed as to county political events and other information pertaining to campaigns, issues, and elections.

PRECINCT 396 NEWS

~Billie Reaney

A sea change in the political environment is the major event for Democrats this year. Obama won. Democrats won. WCDP won. Diane Maldonado won. And for WCDP Democrats, the most important of these wins is the latter two.

In January, Sun City was redefined as four precincts (381, 394, 396, 399) with four precinct chairs and thus, four votes on the Executive Board of the Williamson County Democratic Party (WCDP).

March brought the strongest outpouring of Democratic strength in decades as Sun City cast 2660 ballots in the Democratic Primary and well over 500 people attended our Democratic Precinct Caucuses. They elected 103 delegates and a dozen alternates from among their delegations to attend the WCDP convention held on the 29th of that month.

The WCDP convention on March 29 in Round Rock was the largest non-athletic event ever held in Williamson County. At the convention, Sun Citizens served on committees, volunteered in the preparations for the convention, including the construction of all the precinct signs, helped with the setup, with the decorations and the final closing of the convention. We elected 18 delegates and alternates from Sun City to attend the State Convention. And at the Texas State Democratic Party Convention we were instrumental in electing from Williamson County, 3 delegates and an alternate to the National Democratic Convention in Colorado.

Such success has a number of outcomes. Democratic activists in Sun City and in the county have been energized. Countywide, the press and the public has begun to revise their opinion about the Democratic Party. Editors and reporters have begun to solicit information from the party officials and to give such information prominent placement in their newspapers. Diane Maldonado's winning race for the Texas Legislature has been a blow to the Republican Party. After the 2006 elections they could convince themselves that Democratic majorities in 26 precincts was a fluke or an error in the election process. Now they know, the battle has been joined and their days of complete dominance of the political system are over.

The most significant outcome, however, is the responsibility placed on all of us to renew and extend our efforts for the Democratic Party. We must make sure that all the effort, all the work, all the dedication that went into electing Obama is not lost when his name is not on the ticket. We have only just begun the revitalization of our local party.

Winning is so much more fun than not winning and our local Democrats want more of it. To continue to foster this new future for our party and to encourage and sustain voter participation in the life of the party, the WCDP has voted to establish a year-round office. It is now open and almost ready to roll! I have volunteered to chair the fund-raising committee that will keep it open. Our goal is to recruit a large contingent of donors who will make a commit \$10.00 per month to the effort or a single donation of \$100.00. Our Party must have an address (and a phone number) if we are to be viewed as a credible, viable alternative to the Republican majority. It's up to all of us. This is where the buck stops.

PRECINCT 399 NEWS

~Craig Whitney

If by 'Liberal' they mean someone who looks ahead and not behind, someone who welcomes new ideas without rigid reactions, someone who cares about the welfare of the people — their health, their housing, their schools, their jobs, their civil rights, and their civil liberties — someone who believes we can break through the stalemate and suspicions that grip us in our policies abroad, if that is what

they mean by a 'Liberal', then I'm proud to say I'm a Liberal. ~ John Fitzgerald Kennedy

Georgetown's Inaugural Bus Service



12/08/08 First bus



Jakob Romine entertains the waiting riders



Edward Polasek, City of Georgetown, daughter Claire, and Don Hill, with CARTS

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

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