

Sun City Democrats

www.suncitydems.org

July 2009



General Meeting

The General Meeting is typically on the first Saturday of each month. 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.

NOTE: Summer Hiatus! *There will be no General Saturday morning meetings in July, August and September.*

Saturday, October 3, 2009

9:30 AM Coffee, 10:00 AM Speaker

Place: Sun City Activities Center Atrium

Program: **Becky Moeller** is president of the Texas AFL-CIO, overseeing the 220,000-member labor federation's legislative, political education and community service programs.



Moeller is the first woman to hold statewide elected office in the **Texas AFL-CIO**, having broken that barrier in 2003 when she became secretary-treasurer. During her four-year term in that office, she brought efficiencies and oversight to the state federation budget that kept programs going even after the departure of a substantial chunk of membership from the AFL-CIO umbrella.

Issues Group

The Issues Group meets typically on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 2:00 PM in member's homes. For additional information on the Issues Group, please contact the host or hostess of the next meeting.

NOTE: Summer Hiatus! *There will be no Issues Group meetings in July or August.*

Wednesday, September 24, 2009

2:00 PM

Place: Jay Pierson's, 103 Rain Lily Lane

Program: The Issues Group will be having its next meeting on Wednesday, September 24, at 2:00 PM at the home of Jay Pierson at 103 Rain Lily Lane. The topic for discussion is "**Alternatives to the Way Our Education System Works.**"

Please let Jay know if you will be attending by calling 864-9909 or emailing: jaypie@aol.com.

SUN CITY DEMOCRATS OFFICERS

President: Jodi Salyers 864-2812 jodotcom@aol.com

Vice-Pres: Jim Stauber 515-0486 jcstauber@prismnet.com

Secretary: Joan Baker 869-5611 mizbaker@suddenlink.net

Treas: Margaret Donaldson 818-1594 marjohndonaldson@yahoo.com

Past Pres: Mary Kay Pierson 864-9909 mkatpie@aol.com

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

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

IMPACT: Don Lelong 869-1714 donandjackie@verizon.net

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

Programs: Craig Whitney 869-2690 cbwhitney@verizon.net

Special Events: Nancy Danley 864-1544 nrdanley@suddenlink.net

VOLUNTEER and Help Make a Difference

Volunteers are needed on all committees; please help us make the Club the best that it can be. To volunteer for a committee, please contact the chair of that committee listed above.

Please SUPPORT Your Local Club

Have you noticed that the **Sun City Democrats** have become a growing and vital presence in Sun City, Georgetown, and Williamson County? Wasn't it wonderful seeing so many Obama yard signs displayed in Sun City during the last election? Please join us by supporting our activities and help us continue to elect more Democrats by paying your annual dues.

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 to our Treasurer: **Margaret Donaldson**, 107 Rosecliff Drive, Georgetown TX 78633.



Sun City Democrats

Support the Sun City Democrats POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Our PAC is known as **IMPACT: Informed Members Political Action Committee of Texas**. **IMPACT** is the way that the Sun City Democrats organization can legally contribute to candidates. Send donations to **IMPACT** Treasurer: **Don Lelong**, 101 Crosby Street, Georgetown TX 78633.

IMPACT 's goal is to raise **10 Grand By 2010**, just after the primaries. That's about the same as we raised during the last election cycle. We are shooting for broad participation and modest, frequent contributions (of course large ones will be gratefully accepted too). Be on the watch for **IMPACT** mailings, fundraisers, and other opportunities to support Democratic candidates.

DEMOCRATIC PARTY INFORMATION

Texas Democratic Party

Boyd Richie, Chairman. www.txdemocrats.org
707 Rio Grande Street, Austin, TX 78701
Telephone: (512) 478-9800

Williamson County Democratic Party

Richard Torres, Chairman. Phone #: 512-964-5054
www.williamsoncountymdemocrats.org.

Monthly meetings: 2nd Thursday of each month from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Party headquarters, 110 South I-35 (corner of I-35 and Highway 620 behind McDonald's in Round Rock).

Williamson County Democratic Headquarters

needs volunteer workers. Address: 110 North Interstate 35 (at Highway 620). Phone: 512-388-1993

Office Hours: Mon-Fri: 11 AM to 6 PM
Saturday 10 AM to 2 PM

Williamson County Obama Store is located at the Williamson County Democratic Headquarters, featuring T-shirts, hats, posters, calendars, etc.

PRECINCT 381

~**Kay Walker**, Precinct Chair
864-2874 klwalker@suddenlink.net

PRECINCT 394

~**Don Mohr**, Precinct Chair
868-2850 donmohr@netzero.net

PRECINCT 396

~**Billie Reaney**, Precinct Chair
868-0098 billie_reaney@msn.com

PRECINCT 399

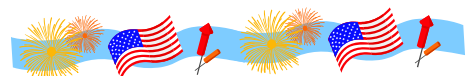
~**Bill Blair**, Precinct Chair
868-9180 billblair3@verizon.net



“A President’s Feet on the Desk”

The press's current preoccupation and vilification of Obama for placing his feet up on his desk while speaking on the phone is a bit disingenuous. Fox News seems to forget that the typical photo of a successful corporate businessman is one with his feet propped up on the desk. Where was the phony outrage then? And since when has America adopted all the myriads of cultural taboos of all the countries with which we have dealings? And when speaking on the telephone in private in one's own office?

Oh, and the comments that George W. Bush was too classy to sit with his feet up on the historical Resolute desk? If you look quickly you can still find the photo below on the Internet, showing Bush with his feet propped up on the desk in at least 3 people's faces. I say that, because all the rest of these photos have been quietly expunged from the Internet. I finally found it by Googling Karl Rove; when you Google George Bush, this picture no longer appears, just the little square that indicates there was once a photo there. Those Republicans sure work hard to change history, don't they?





**KEEP THOSE CARDS AND LETTERS COMING, SUN CITY DEMOCRATS!
We are being published,
and we are making a difference.**

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has. “

~ Margaret Mead

PLEASE NOTE: Although we have included all letters written by Sun City Democrats, the opinions expressed are those of the author of each letter, and not necessarily that of all Sun City Democrats.

Jim Stauber’s Letter to the Editor was published in the **Williamson County Sun** on June 3, 2009:

“I.D. Out of Control”

There is nothing wrong with the current way that people have to ID themselves when they go to vote. **Lisa Birkman** seems to think, along with most Republicans, that everyone should have to show a photo ID to vote. Sad to say, but some people are fickle when it comes to voting. If they forget to bring their photo ID, they will go home and not come back to vote. If the Republicans get their way it will be harder for the poor and elderly to vote. Many older people don’t drive and therefore don’t carry a drivers license, and many poorer people can’t afford a car so they don’t have a drivers license either: How are these people going to get a photo ID? We must keep voter identification simple. Election judges are at the polls for a purpose, and that’s to check to make sure everyone who comes to vote is eligible to vote. That is why we have voter registration certificates. How many voter ID fraud cases have gone to court using the current system? None.

Now as to delaying bills at the Texas House of Representatives, the Democrats offered to move many bills ahead of the voters ID bill, but the Republicans refused to do that. They, the Republicans, want to suppress voters so that they can stay in power, pure and simple.

~ Jim Stauber

This one is not from a Sun City Democrat, and it is definitely tongue in cheek; it refers to the Obama’s charming habit of Date Night.



Andy Borowitz’s Report was posted on the **BorowitzReport.com** on June 6, 2009:

“Obama ‘Cautiously Optimistic’ About Date Night”

As he embarks on a crucial “date night” with his wife Michelle, President Barack Obama said today that he is “cautiously optimistic” about the outcome.

“Let’s be clear; you never go into one of these things knowing how it’s going to turn out,” Mr. Obama told reporters. “But Michelle has given me glimmers of hope.”

Mr. Obama said that he and his wife have had only informal talks about what will happen on their date night and that there are “no preconditions.”

“Hopefully, we will find common ground.” Mr. Obama said.

With his busy schedule permitting him only one date night per week, the pressure is on Mr. Obama to make each one count, according to one White House source who was involved in the planning of this week’s date night.

“There’s enormous pressure on the president,” the source said. “The whole world is watching.”

But Mr. Obama was careful to brush off such talk, stressing that this date night is just one of many date nights to come.

“This is a marathon, not a sprint,” he said. “You just need to stay at it, and sooner or later, you get lucky.”



George Flynn's Letter to the Editor was published in the **Austin American-Statesman** on June 6, 2009:

“More Voter ID Feedback”

Re: June 3 letter “Voter ID”

Once the victim of identification theft, I have taped a message in big block letters on the back of my MasterCard: ASK TO SEE IDENTIFICATION, in the hope that clerks will ask for something more than merely the card. The same message appears on my debit card, but clerks never read or comply. As far as check-cashing goes, merchants today run checks through readers that confirm the account and the balance, which is all they care about.

Doesn't the letter writer realize that the voter ID bill is aimed at suppressing the votes of the poor and the elderly, a high percentage of whom don't have credit cards, debit cards or checking accounts, a group most likely to vote for Democrats?

~ **George Flynn**



Billie Reaney's Letter to the Editor was published in the **Austin American-Statesman** on June 8, 2009:

“Confidence of Sotomayor”

I find it amusing that a Latina has a better grasp of the English language than a bevy of conservative pundits and talking heads. Sotomayor's statement, “I would hope that a wise Latina woman with the richness of her experiences would more often than not reach a better conclusion than a white male who hasn't lived that life,” presents a teachable moment.

Focus on the phrase “more often than not.” Sometimes better and sometimes not. Sometimes, then, the white male decision is better. Sometimes not.

Sotomayor is making a confident statement that women like her are every bit as able as those on the court. And, yes, I would hope that she would believe that she could do better than some of those who have worn the robe.

~ **Billie Reaney**

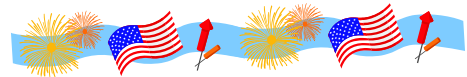
Although the next letter was not written by a Sun City Democrat, it eloquently shows why the Texas Voter ID Bill should never become law. This Letter to the Editor was published in the **Austin American-Statesman** on June 10:

“Protecting Voters' Rights”

Thank you, Democrats, for protecting my wife's right to vote. She was in a hospital/nursing home from mid-November to mid-April, and her driver's license expired December 14. She is still bed-ridden, but I have hopes she will soon be able to do bed-chair transfers. That does not mean she will be able to go to a driver's license office to get her license renewed or get a Texas ID card. She has voted in every major election and most local elections for nearly 50 years. It would be a shame to take away her right to vote now simply because she is not physically capable of traveling to an office for a new license.

By the way, we voted by mail in November. She is a Republican and voted for John McCain. I am an Independent and voted for Barack Obama.

~ **C. L. Kamman**
Austin



YOU'VE BEEN CAUGHT ... DOING SOMETHING GOOD!

Please remember to thank **George Wagner** and **Fred Becker** for providing coffee for our general meetings. **Betty Bendewald** is the wonderful member who provides, at her own expense, all the yummy goodies that appear at our general meetings. **Give them a high five or a hug the next time you see them!**

