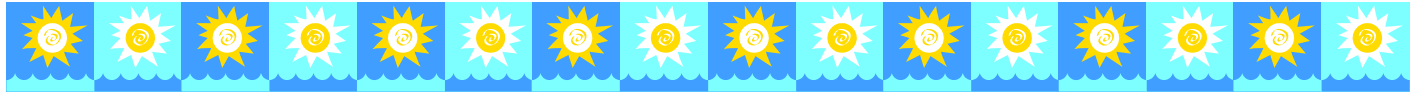


Sun City Democrats

www.suncitydems.org

August 2010



General Meeting:

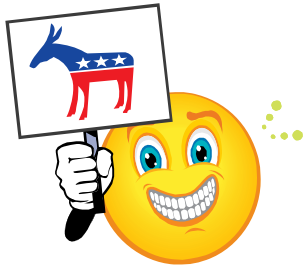
The General Meeting is typically on the first Saturday of each month. The meetings are free and open to the public. For additional information on the Sun City Democrats, please contact President **Roe Mackey** at 864-7948 or Communications Chair **Betty Dougherty** at 864-1582.

NOTE: *There will be NO general meeting in August. Our next meeting will be on September 11, 2010 at 9:30 AM in the Ballroom.*

Saturday, September 11, 2010

9:30 AM Coffee, 10:00 Speaker

Place: Sun City Social Center **Ballroom**



Program: Pride, Patriotism, and Politickin'

For Sun City Democrats, **September 11, 2010** begins a concentrated effort to help move our state into a new era of Democratic government. We have invited the ***Austin American Statesman*** political columnist, **Ken Herman**, to speak at our meeting that Saturday. The theme of the day will be **Pride, Patriotism, and Politickin'**. We plan to have lots of Texas candidates join us for the politickin'.

We will be inviting residents of Georgetown and elsewhere in the county to join us in the ballroom. Our goal is to reach out to Independents and those who have not been participating in the electoral process. We hope to convince them that Texas deserves a new vision and a new governor. The tide is turning in Texas and Sun City Democrats can have a big part in electing **Bill White** Texas' next governor.

*Please volunteer to help in this special event by calling **Betty Dougherty** at 864-1582.*

SUN CITY DEMOCRATS 2010 OFFICERS

President: **Roe Mackey** 864-7948

Vice-President: **Duane Florschuetz** 868-2621

Secretary: **Bonnie Boorman** 863-2387

Treasurer: **Margaret Donaldson** 818-1594

Past President: **Jodi Salyers** 864-2812

Communication: **Betty Dougherty** 864-1582

Website Editor: **Jodi Salyers** 864-2812

Newsletter Editor: **Jodi Salyers** 864-2812

Hospitality: **Fred Becker** 864-0704

Meeting Setup: This position is vacant.

Coffee: **George Wagner** 864-0641

Meeting Food: **Bettie Horn Bendewald** 931-0981

IMPACT: **Don Lelong** 869-1714

Membership: **Larry Hilliard** 541-221-3015

Meeting Sign-In: This position is vacant.

New Homeowners: This position is vacant.

Database: **Frank Wentworth** 864-3385

Programs: **Craig Whitney** 869-2690

Special Events: This position is vacant.

Decorations: This position is vacant.





Texas Democratic Party
Boyd Richie, Chairman
Email: yellowdog@txdemocrats.org
Website: <http://www.txdemocrats.org/>

Williamson County Democratic Party
Greg Windham, Chairman
656-7368 gregry17@gmail.com
<http://www.wilcodemocrats.org>

Williamson County Democratic Party Office
704 South Austin (Upstairs Chupa Rosa), Georgetown

Precinct 381
~Kay Walker, Precinct Chair
864-2874 kaywalker@suddenlink.net
NOTE: See Kay's Newsletter on Page 3.

Precinct 394
~Dwayne Boydston, Precinct Chair
431-4412 dwayne.boydston@gmail.com

Precinct 396
~Billie Reaney, Precinct Chair
868-0098 billie_reaney@msn.com

Precinct 399
~Bill Blair, Precinct Chair
868-9180 billblair3@verizon.net

Tongue-in-Cheek Message to the National Rifle Association (NRA)

~ John H. Noble, Jr., Sun City TX Resident

I'm encouraged by the Supreme Court ruling in McDonald v. Chicago. I'm almost 75 years old and have hearing and eye acuity problems. Please pursue the following remedies to help me. Given my age-related infirmities, I would like the NRA to take advantage of McDonald v. Chicago to enable me to (1) purchase an Uzi machine gun, (2) a silenced .22 semi-automatic pistol, and (3) a silenced .308 sniper rifle. My physician advises me to protect my remaining hearing by avoiding loud noises. Silenced weapons would alleviate the problem. Increased trembling of my limbs prevents accurate aiming of my weapons. An Uzi machine gun would likely overcome the problem. With these adjustments in current law in hand, I will be able to defend myself against future assaults on our constitutional rights. The Texans I talk to believe the federal government is about to come down hard on Governor Rick Perry's attempts to secede from the USA. Texans, I'm told, joined the Union with the proviso that we could decide in the future to secede from the Union. I admire his commitment to principle.

Thank you for your aggressive advocacy for those of us who believe that the best government is least government, backed by the right to use arms to protect ourselves against unwanted government incursions. The NRA is the American way. God bless!

Please SUPPORT the Sun City Democrats

The **Sun City Democrats** provide many activities and services for members. We have educational meetings, provide speakers, social events, maintain a website, and a monthly newsletter. We exist only because of loyal volunteers. Please call any of the officers to volunteer your time or to ask questions.

Sun City Democrats' annual dues are \$12 per member. You may pay at the sign-in table at the meetings or mail a check made out to **Sun City Democrats to: Sun City Democrats; 1530 Sun City Blvd, Suite 120; PMB #432; Georgetown TX 78633.**

[Sun City Democrats Membership Application](#)

Please SUPPORT the Sun City Democrats Political Action Committee ~ IMPACT:

Our PAC is known as **IMPACT: Informed Members Political Action Committee of Texas**. **IMPACT** is the only 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 fundraising program **10 Grand By 2010**, has been a success! The **IMPACT** Committee (**Don LeLong, Clint McCutcheon, Billie Reaney, Criag Whitney** and **Jane Yendell**) plus **Roe Mackey** and **Richard Torres** has distributed \$9,000 in **IMPACT** funds to Democratic candidates.

IMPACT plans one more fundraiser, in the fall, and may have \$3,000 or so more to distribute.



Precinct 381 Newsletter

~ **Kay Walker**, Precinct Chair

Texas Democratic State Convention Corpus Christi, June 24-26, 2010

The Sun City delegates to the Democratic State Convention arrived in Corpus Christi on Thursday afternoon and checked into various ocean-side hotels. Sun City was represented by **Diane Gabelle**, **Rochelle Margolis**, **Elliott Tucker**, **Kay Walker** and **Jane Yendell**. The first event was the Kickoff Reception at the Texas State Aquarium and included a tour of the Aquarium, a dolphin show, and a night-time view of the Battleship Lexington nearby.

Friday began at 8:00 a.m. with registration in the Convention Center. After having one's credentials verified, a delegate could attend a couple of Interest Group meetings or caucuses or stroll around an exhibit hall filled with booths selling political signs, bumper stickers, t-shirts, toys, books, etc. Some of the Interest Groups attended by our delegates were: Non-Urban Caucus, Education Caucus: Building a Bold New Direction for Education for Texas, Texas Stonewall Democrats, Jewish Caucus, and Democrats Against the Death Penalty.

At 2:30 on Friday, we met with the Williamson County Democrats to elect **Larry Yawn** as our delegation chairperson.

At 3:00, we joined the rest of Senate District 5 to elect committee members to five working committees of the convention. Williamson County felt lucky to win several of these seats: **Nick Lealos** to the Platform Committee, **Cam Scott** to the Nominations Committee and **Sue Duncan** to the Credentials Committee.

At last it was time for the Convention to convene at 6:00 p.m. The keynote speaker was, of course, **Bill White**, who gave an excellent rousing speech. We all clapped and stood and waved signs in the air. He was followed by several other interesting speakers, including our own Williamson County state legislator, **Diana Maldonado**. Other speakers were **Linda Chavez-Thompson**, candidate for Lieutenant Governor and **Barbara Ann Radnofsky**, candidate for Attorney General; **Blake Bailey**, candidate for Texas Supreme Court, and U.S. Legislators **Sheila Jackson Lee** and **Gene Green** of the Houston area.

Around 9:00 p.m. on Friday night, the parties began. Several of us attended one given by the House Democratic Campaign Committee at a nearby hotel. This group's main purpose is to elect a Democratic majority in the Texas House of Representatives in November. We were able to visit with politicians on a balcony overlooking the ocean. That was a lovely ending to a long day!

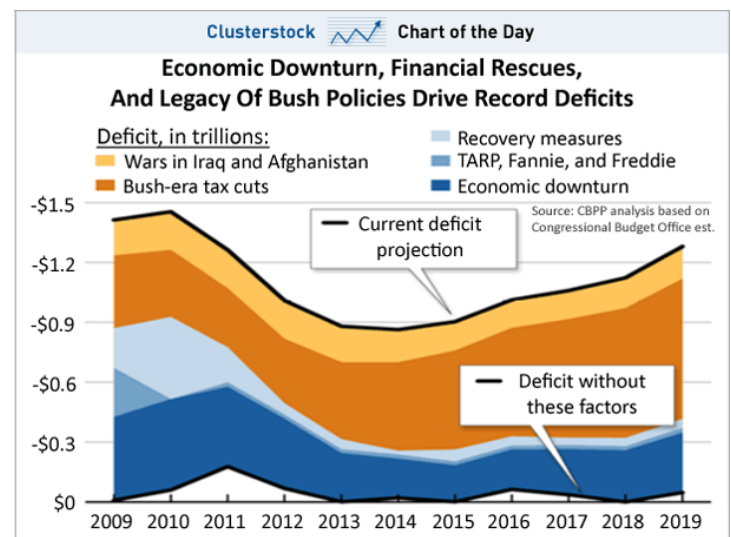
Saturday morning began with the annual Lady Bird Breakfast. Here we visited with delegates from across the state and heard the featured speaker, **Andrea White**, wife of Bill White. The breakfast was followed by

two hours of more Interest Groups and Workshops. Several of us attended and were greatly entertained by **Kathy Miller** of the Texas Freedom Network workshop on the Texas Board of Education. We also heard State Senator **Wendy Davis** and State Representative **Mike Villarreal**, both outstanding speakers.

The Convention reconvened at 11:00 a.m. The most important item on the agenda at this session was to elect a State Democratic Chairperson for the next two years. The incumbent, **Boyd Richie** was challenged by a young teacher, **Michael Barnes** and the two groups of followers were very vocal and enthusiastic. Eventually, **Boyd Richie was declared winner**. This was followed by many excellent speakers including **Jeff Weems**, candidate for Railroad Commissioner and **Hector Uribe**, candidate for Land Commissioner.

Then began all the committee reports. The Rules Committee announced that they were divided over whether to change the Texas Caucus system often called the "Texas Two-Step". Quite a number of speakers made impassioned pleas for their points of view. The final decision by vote was that the Texas Two-Step will remain in place, and the Caucus System will not be changed at this time. The Platform Committee announced that the Democratic Platform will be published in a few weeks. They work with the Resolutions Committee to debate which resolutions will be worked into the Party Platform. Some resolutions deal with photo ID, anti-abortion voices from the right, harsh anti-immigration rhetoric from Republicans, health care benefits, the border fence, the Arizona immigration law and free public schools that are 100% funded. **Teresa Kline**, age 86 of Corpus Christi, explained, "Basically it is the fundamental beliefs of the Democratic Party; we address the things that we believe in."

Sunday morning we left the "Sparkling City by the Sea" and headed back to the Hill Country, invigorated and inspired and ready to work for Democratic victories in November.



Bill White Campaign Info

~ **Clayton Tucker**, Bill White for Texas, Williamson County Organizer

Hi, this is **Clayton Tucker**, and I am organizing the Bill White Campaign in Williamson County. As I am sure you know, Williamson County is a new battle ground in this state and we have a lot of work to do to win this cycle; it won't be easy; but it can be done.

We will need your help; from participating in and leading phone banks, block walking events, to hosting house parties/virtual phone banks, to recruiting new volunteers, etc. I, or other Bill White Organizers working in Williamson County, will help you as much as we possibly can. We are here to make sure you have the tools you need to organize to win in November.

To keep you updated, **Bill White** events will start occurring biweekly now. Here is a link with more info about these events:

http://action.billwhitefortexas.com/page/event/search_simple Type in your zip code and events near you will pop up.

If you know any friends who would also be interested in coming to these or any other events, then please let them know. Also, if you haven't signed up for updates from the **Bill White for Texas Campaign**, please do so by going to Bill White's website (www.billwhitefortexas.com) then go to "Sign Up For Email Updates" or you could click the "Volunteer" button; both are located on the right side of the screen.

Clayton Tucker

Bill White for Texas
Williamson County Organizer

Cell: 512-887-0007

<http://www.billwhitefortexas.com/>

Become a supporter on **Facebook**:

www.billwhitefortexas.com/facebook

Follow Bill on **Twitter**:

@billwhitefortx

Sign up to volunteer:

<http://www.billwhitefortexas.com/volunteer>

Mark your calendar for September 11. There will be a **Candidates' Caravan** from one end of Williamson County to the other. For us at **Sun City**, it will begin at 9:30 a.m. with a regular meeting at the Atrium. Several candidates will be there to speak and to meet and greet. Some may even be state level candidates. Then after we wind

up our meeting around 11:00 a.m. you can spend the rest of the day at the farm of **Jane Van Praag** just south of Bartlett. (Directions to come later). Here is her invitation. Incidentally she is the wonderful senior Democrat who helped turn her precinct blue in the last several elections.

Editor's Note: For more information regarding the event below, please contact **Clayton Tucker** directly:

Here's almost 2 months notice, hoping you will mark your respective calendars for Saturday, September 11, as taken up entirely for an all-day/all-evening frolic at our family farm.

Here are the reasons we chose this date: Since we always have opposed the Patriot Act, this is our opportunity to show what we think Patriot Day really should be all about. Also, last year on that date, the first of four fall floods part-near demolished our property, so after considerable restoration, we'll mark the anniversary with an act of triumph over what almost proved our defeat. Additionally, the Farmers' Almanac projects a chance for decent weather.

Our place is very modest but quite pleasant. On the terrace land beside the creek we have a 9-hole miniature golf course (18, if you play backward too), several sitting and reclining areas beneath the shade, including one with a big fire pit and small bar. Space for foosball, volley ball, horse shoes, and other yard games. Another couple of patios near the house to encourage more conversation. A pretty creek to explore and room to roam. Ample parking.

We'll provide both the meat and vegetarian entrees, keg beer, iced tea and lemonade; the rest will be potluck. We'll have some portapotties handy. Among other entertainments, some of our friends are musicians and poets, so anybody who wants to perform for the crowd is very welcome.

More specific details, including directions, closer to the event. We're roughly an hour's drive northeast of Austin. I realize not everybody lives anywhere within this vicinity, but if you're going to happen to be in the area anyway, it'd be mighty nice to have you here.

The idea is for everyone to relax and enjoy a day in the country. A few days ago, when I announced my invitation to friends at our monthly meeting of Williamson County Democrats, the chair was especially pleased because he'd just learned this is the day our state-wide candidates will be touring WC; he was wondering just what kind of fete we could provide...so at some point in the day they'll be attending our party to join in the festivities and you'll have a chance to hear their stump speeches. However, I stress that this is not solely a political rally and all kinds of gently laid-back persons will be attending. Please bring others you like too.

This will be a great opportunity for me to visit with those of you I already know and get to know the rest. So, please, get out your calendar now so you won't fergit! Jane Van Praag

Kim Moran and Bonnie Boorman, Sun City Democrats Secretary, made the following comment and requested that the letter Kim received from Bill White (on the left side of this page) be placed in this newsletter:

Kim suggested that we email the recipients of the newsletter to join **Women for Bill**. A candidate we can all get excited about! **Bonnie**



Dear Kim,

Women will have a powerful voice in determining the outcome of the election this November. If Texas women, like you, are engaged in the discussion about Texas' future over the coming months, we will replace Rick Perry and work together to move this state forward.

That's why we're launching [Women for Bill](#) - an opportunity for women across the state to connect with one another and find the tools and resources needed to make our vision of Texas' future a reality.

[Join us at Women for Bill, and get involved in our campaign to move Texas forward.](#)

Texas has a history rich with strong, courageous, and self-sacrificing women. My great-great-great grandmother moved her family 160 years ago to Texas, where she knew no one, because she dreamt Texas would provide her children with the opportunity for a better life.

She instilled in future generations of our family the Texas values we're still fighting to preserve today: hard work, love of family, the value of education, the importance of service, and respect for others. My mother and grandmother always worked outside the home, because they wanted to save to give their children more opportunity. By their example, I was taught to stand up for what I knew was right and to create a better future for our fellow citizens.

This November Texas has a choice. We can continue with the divisive politics of the past or we can bring Texans together to build a healthy and prosperous future for our families, a future in which every child has access to a good education, small businesses have room to grow, where our energy sources are diversified and our government works for Texans, not the other way around.

Strong Texas women will always do whatever it takes to build for the future. Part of this is working to elect people they know are committed to more opportunity for all Texans.

I will fight for *all* Texans, ensuring that this state remains a place where our kids and our grandkids can thrive. But I can't do it without your help.

We've created Women for Bill as a way to tap into the wealth of talent, knowledge and energy found in the women of Texas. Through this site, you can connect with others in your community and learn about volunteer opportunities, events in your area and other ways that you can support the Bill White for Texas campaign.

[Please sign up for Women for Bill, and join other women across this state in working for Texas' future.](#)

With your help, we *will* move Texas forward.

Respectfully,



Bill White

Editors Note: Personally I'm opposed to organizations that are sexist-driven and appeal to only one sex or the other; but if it helps to get **Bill White** elected our next Governor, go for it, Ladies!



Larry Hilliard, Sun City Democrats Membership Chair, made the following comment and requested that the article regarding the **Williamson County Tea Party** from the Austin American-Statesman be placed in this newsletter:

Marsha Farney's offensive comment (as reported below) is highlighted in red. At some point in time, rational people need to understand that we don't need this kind of partisan politics in the Texas State Board of Education. **Larry**

Tea party supporters gather to commemorate Fourth of July

~ **Joshunda Sanders**, Austin American-Statesman
Saturday, July 3, 2010

"Hundreds of people huddled Saturday in Hangar A at the Georgetown Municipal Airport bearing signs and flags to celebrate part of the Fourth of July weekend, showing their love of America with a tea party rally.

Pamela Winn, co-chair for the Williamson County Tea Party, said that the hangar holds more than 1,200 people and by midmorning, it was full. The gathering was the first of its kind during the Fourth of July weekend, because the group wanted to get as many people as possible out for the rally, she said.

Among the speakers at the gathering were U.S. Rep. **John Carter**, R-Round Rock, **Melissa Goodwin**, who won the GOP nomination for a seat on the Austin-based 3rd Court of Appeals, and businessman **Larry Gonzales**, who is running for the state House District 52 seat.

They addressed a crowd that parked their pickups and cars on the airport's grassy perimeter. In all manner of stars and stripes, attendees carried to the rally fold-out chairs, Gadsden, Texas and U.S. flags, and anger at the country's direction under President Barack Obama's leadership.

"I said it last year and I'll say it again: I'm mad as hell and I'm not going to take it anymore," said Carter, who received a standing ovation. "We are gathered on the day before the birthday of our nation to say we want our voices heard."

As **Tim Austin** of Round Rock arrived at the rally with his flags wrapped into each other, his sentiments echoed Carter's. "The government is intruding in places it doesn't belong," said Austin, 47. "I'm a Christian and a patriot, and I'm concerned about the direction our country is taking."

The tea party movement is a fiscally conservative populist one that grew popular in 2009 and remains something of a wild card in the upcoming elections. Although it's not a political party of its own, the movement supports candidates running on a platform of limited government, among other things.

In Georgetown, the rally included more information about the candidates at a number of tables at the back of the hangar as well as church-sponsored groups selling hot dogs and water, and others selling bumper stickers, T-shirts and buttons. On stage, speakers mentioned God and country with devotion and pride.

Goodwin told the audience that she's been carrying a copy of the Constitution in her purse for years to underscore the depth of her patriotism. "It's not a gimmick; I keep it there as a reminder," she said. "You can ask my husband."

Marsha Farney, who is running for a State Board of Education seat, was not as reserved about where she stood. "I'd rather be here than with those America-bashing Democrats," she said.

At least one Democrat, **Greg Windham**, the chair of the Williamson County Democratic Party, was among them. He said he had never been to a tea party rally but he came prepared with a book about Thomas Jefferson stuffed in his back pocket.

"I see a lot of folks from my church here, and a lot of my neighbors," said Windham, 40. "I wanted to get a look at how many people were out here. They're not as angry as I expected."

jsanders@statesman.com; 512-445-3630



Editor's Note:

This is all the more reason why we MUST vote for **Judy Jennings** for TX State Board of Education. <http://www.votejudyjennings.com/>



Mary K Pierson, Sun City Democrats Past President, made the following comment and suggested that **John Shelby Spong's** response to a question from the UK regarding "tea-partiers" be placed in this newsletter:

I just ran across this article by **John Shelby Spong**, one of the most brilliant theologians I have ever read. I thought I might pass it on to you - he answers the question about "tea-partiers" so succinctly and clearly. Thought you might enjoy his perspective, even though I'm not sure I trust the American people to "see the light" at the end like he does. **Mary K**



A View of The Tea Party Movement

~ **John Shelby Spong**, theologian, revolutionist, and rational anti-religionist

Katherine Barney from Worthing, Sussex, UK writes:

Can you help me to understand the movement in American politics that you call "The Tea Party"?

Dear Katherine:

I can try, but in a question and answer format it must, of necessity, be brief.

The Tea Party Movement is a manifestation of the great fear and anxiety that, today, accompanies Western politics everywhere. This anxiety is also present in Greece, France, Germany and Iceland, but since they did not have the Boston Tea Party in their national history they do not call it that.

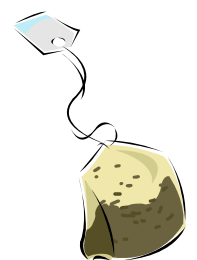
It was born in the economic crisis that rocked this country in the last year of the Bush Administration, when the politics of greed finally brought Wall Street to its knees. It was fed by the healthcare debate, when lobbyists were paid to frighten the American public with distortions, half truths and absolute lies in an attempt to prevent the profits of healthcare companies, trial lawyers, drug manufacturers and private medical practitioners from being compromised. It also has in it an element of racism as the white Anglo-Saxon portion of our population began to see a multi-ethnic America coming into being and to feel that they were losing the power to impose their agenda on this emerging society in the way that they had always done in the past. It has within it a traditional fear of big and intrusive government, which is as old as our ancestors' reasons for migrating from Europe in the first place. The Tea Party Movement represents an inability on the part of many of our citizens to embrace our interdependent population that is now tempering the "rugged individualism" which was part of our past.

I believe that the movement will also prove to be little more than a momentary blip on the EKG chart of American history and will soon fade back into the woodwork, as the economy returns to normal, the ill-advised wars in Iraq and Afghanistan are brought to a close, the BP oil leak is finally plugged, the damage it has done to our environment is addressed, and when people finally accept the fact that a new America is emerging and that it represents a rising consciousness and a new vision of what it means to be human. This new version will then equip us to arrive at the time when we will celebrate our diversity rather than coddle our fears.

The Tea Party Movement will also almost inadvertently serve to drive us back to that biblical idea that we are indeed our brothers' and our sisters' keepers and that the humanity in each of us is ultimately dependent on recognizing the humanity in all of us. That is in fact what the Pentecost story in the Book of Acts is all about, the dawning of universalism that lifts us out of our tribal limitations.

Thank you for writing.

~ **John Shelby Spong**



You know how “they” say the Democrats blame Bush for everything? Well, a lot of other people think it’s Bush’s fault too!

Charleston Daily Mail

Sunday July 18, 2010

Poll puts blame on Bush for problems

by Bloomberg News

WASHINGTON - Democrats, facing a U.S. electorate angry about the economy and other issues, still have one political asset: George W. Bush.

The former Republican president is blamed more than President Barack Obama for the budget deficit, unemployment and illegal immigration, according to a Bloomberg National Poll conducted July 9-12.

Most surprising is that 60 percent say Bush is primarily responsible for the current situation in Afghanistan. Just 10 percent point to Obama, who has ordered 51,000 additional troops to that country since taking office, doubling the number deployed by Bush.

When Obama entered office in January 2009, there had been 568 U.S. casualties associated with the Afghanistan conflict, a number that has grown to 1,086, as of Wednesday, according to the Defense Department. The president has vowed to start withdrawing forces in July 2011, with the pacing determined by conditions on the ground.

"The public remembers the Bush years as a tumultuous time of costly wars, and the years when a budget surplus became a deficit," said J. Ann Selzer, president of Selzer & Co., a Des Moines, Iowa-based firm that conducted the survey.

Asked to compare Bush's response to Hurricane Katrina with Obama's handling of the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, 51 percent say Bush's performance was worse, while 35 percent name Obama. Republicans are more likely to pan Obama's performance on the oil spill, with 69 percent saying he did worse than Bush.

Facing a tough environment in the November congressional elections, when their control of both chambers may be at stake, Obama and his fellow Democrats often mention the problems they inherited from the previous administration, which left the White House 18 months ago.

"They spent a decade driving the economy into a ditch," Obama, 48, said at a Las Vegas fundraiser on July 8 for Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada. "And now they're asking for the keys back. And my answer is, 'no, you can't have the keys. You can't drive. You don't know how to drive. You drive in the wrong direction.' "

Still, Bush won't be on the ballot and there has been no indication that he will campaign for congressional candidates. Democratic and Republican lawmakers share some of the blame for the country's problems, including the increasing cost of Medicare and Social Security, as well the failure to fix the nation's immigration system, according to the poll.

It's been common in U.S. politics to blame previous presidents for problems. For generations, Democrats ran against Herbert Hoover's Depression-era economic policies and some Republicans still talk about President Jimmy Carter's supposed softness on foreign policy, three decades after the Democratic president left office.

Bush, 64, has stayed mostly quiet in public since leaving the White House. His book, "Decision Points," is scheduled to be released around the November election.

Because Democrats are most likely to blame Bush for the problems the country is facing, the political benefits for their party may be limited, says Bruce Buchanan, a political scientist at the University of Texas in Austin.

Still, Obama and the Democrats may be helped somewhat by voters' attitudes toward Bush, especially on the issue of unemployment, Buchanan says.

"You could blame Bush for losing your job, even if you're a Republican," he says.

More blame Bush than Obama for the federal deficit, 32 percent to 24 percent. Among Republicans, 39 percent say Obama is to blame, while about a quarter of independents hold that view.

The Obama administration expects a record budget deficit this year of more than \$1.5 trillion, or 10.6 percent of GDP, according to projections the White House released in February. It was \$1.4 trillion for the 2008-2009 fiscal year, which covers the end of Bush's presidency.

Obama gets more credit for increases in the stock market over the past year, with 28 percent of Americans giving him recognition, compared with 13 percent for Bush. Even among Republicans, a quarter give Obama credit for the increases.

On unemployment, Bush is listed as most responsible by 32 percent, compared with 22 percent for Obama. Those with incomes below \$25,000 are more likely to blame Bush for the unemployment rate, which was 9.5 percent in June.

