



REPUBLICAN PARTY
OF TEXAS CHAIRMAN STEVE MUNISTERI

SREC Senate District 17 Update

From Tina Gibson and Marvin Clede, SREC Representatives

Thank you for the honor of working for you!

Summer Edition 2013

Summer Workshop Review

By Marvin Clede

With a standing room only crowd, we had a very exciting Saturday morning meeting in the very beautiful pool house in the garden next to the home of **Pat** and **Pam Hughes**. Pat was a long time precinct chair in Bellaire and it was most gracious of them to invite us to meet there. We are also so thankful to our own **Senator Joan Huffman** for sponsoring the breakfast, **State Representative Sarah Davis** for sponsoring equipment and **Jim Hotze** for providing the tech support. We also appreciate **Tammi Sturm** for running the reception table and **Fort Bend County Chair Mike Gibson** for helping everyone have a seat in a crowded meeting.



This session was highlighted by a legislative forum with two State Senators and three House members, and capped with a summary of state and national party activities by **State Chairman Steve Munisteri**.

Each legislator (**Senators Joan Huffman** and

Glenn Hegar, followed by **Representatives Jim Murphy, Sarah Davis, and Rick Miller**) gave a brief summary highlighting legislation that was particularly important to them and their overall experience to this point. This was followed with a time of questions from the audience and responses from the group.

Continued on page 2.



Senator Huffman and Pat Hughes

In this Issue

Senate District 17
Summer Workshop

Texas Voter ID Law

There is a Difference

November Election
Propositions

A Busy Summer Around
SD 17

Brazoria GOP Fun Fest

Calendar of Events



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Page one continued:

It was especially good to hear from **Senator Hegar** who is now running for State Comptroller, since he led the way on the passage of the pro-life bill including safety standards for facilities performing abortions and limits restricting those procedures after 20 weeks gestation.

Artemio Muniz with the **Federation of Hispanic Republicans** spoke on creative ways to reach out to our Hispanic neighbors who are by and large traditional conservatives by nature, followed by **Jonathan Nessmith** and **John Baucum** with the **Houston Young Republicans**. We must continue to link up with these vital organizations tying in to two significant voting blocs with whom we need to build bridges. Multiple opportunities are available to partner with them. **Dr. Martha Wong**, President of **Texas Asian Republican Assembly** was also present.

Later **Barry Smitherman**, **Railroad Commission Chair** and candidate for **Attorney General** spoke, followed by **Eric Opiela**, SREC member and Assistant Counsel for the RPT who is running for **Agriculture Commissioner**. They addressed key issues that we need to keep in mind, reviewing various energy related topics, Texas lawsuits ongoing against the Federal government, and the importance of water and topics relating agriculture to the urban SD 17 where we live.



Eric Opiela addressed the Battleground Texas plan for making Texas purple, then blue and showed data on how they will implement this plan. It's amazing to see that the plan is the very same grass roots plan of activists and precinct chairs that we have always had but for some reason have neglected to use in recent elections.

Steve Munisteri closed with a rousing call to action, partially in response to the mobilizing Democrat

progressive grassroots organization around us, but showing that there are a lot of positives to build upon in our efforts to keep Texas a red state and work toward next year's primaries and the following general elections of 2014 and 2016.

Subsequent to this meeting, as most of you know, the Texas Legislature wrapped up the Third Special Session called by the Governor by agreeing on a compromise bill for transportation funding with some of the excess money in the Rainy Day Fund but also maintaining safeguards to keep a minimum amount untouched in that fund. We will be voting on this and more legislative initiatives on the November 5th election.



No phone Calls
During Dinner

No Direct Mail
Solicitations

**JOIN THE
GRASSROOTS CLUB**

www.GrassrootsClub.com

Voter Identification Will be in Effect in the November Election

From the Office of the Secretary of State.

Photo identification will now be required when voting in Texas elections.

The U.S. Supreme Court cleared the way for photo ID requirements in Texas, originally passed by the Texas Legislature in 2011, to take effect.

A voter will be required to show one of the following forms of photo identification at the polling location before the voter will be permitted to cast a vote:



- Texas driver license issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- Texas Election Identification Certificate issued by DPS
- Texas personal identification card issued by DPS
- Texas concealed handgun license issued by DPS
- United States military identification card containing the person's photograph
- United States citizenship certificate containing the person's photograph
- United States passport

With the exception of the U.S. citizenship certificate, the identification must be current or have expired no more than 60 days before being presented at the polling place.

Election identification certificates are now available only for voters who do not already have a required form of photo identification. There is no fee for the certificate. Information on how to obtain an election identification certificate can be found at www.dps.texas.gov. You may also contact DPS by telephone at (512) 424-2600. Go to www.sos.state.tx.us for more information.

To review frequently asked questions and answers, visit www.votetexas.gov

There is a Difference!

Remember in the last election, the Republican Party of Texas published a familiar push card for county parties to hand out while block walking, standing at county fair booths, and any other event where there could be a potential voter?

Here is a reminder of a few points to discuss. You can certainly add more. We must keep informing potential Republican voters while we are block walking, talking with our friends or manning our county fair booths this election cycle and beyond. Go to www.texasgop.org to review the Party Platform.

REPUBLICAN

VS

DEMOCRAT

ISSUES

Against
Against
Against
For
For
For
For
For
For

Same Sex Marriage
Gun Control
Obamacare
Protection of the Unborn
School Prayer
School Choice
Balanced Budget
Extending Tax Cuts
Domestic Oil Exploration

For
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Against

Constitutional Amendments for the November Election

AUSTIN, TX – Texas Secretary of State John Steen selected the ballot order for the 9 proposed constitutional amendments to be voted on as part of the November 5 election.

“This fall voters will be asked to approve 9 amendments to the Texas Constitution,” said Secretary Steen. “By randomly selecting the order in which the amendments appear, we can help ensure no amendment unfairly benefits from its placement on the ballot.”

The amendments will appear in the following order:

- ◆ **Proposition 1 (HJR 62)** The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of all or part of the market value of the residence homestead of the surviving spouse of a member of the armed services of the United States who is killed in action.
- ◆ **Proposition 2 (HJR 79)** The constitutional amendment eliminating an obsolete requirement for a State Medical Education Board and a State Medical Education Fund, neither of which is operational.
- ◆ **Proposition 3 (HJR 133)** The constitutional amendment to authorize a political subdivision of this state to extend the number of days that aircraft parts that are exempt from ad valorem taxation due to their location in this state for a temporary period may be located in this state for purposes of qualifying for the tax exemption."
- ◆ **Proposition 4 (HJR 24)** The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of part of the market value of the residence homestead of a partially disabled veteran or the surviving spouse of a partially disabled veteran if the residence homestead was donated to the disabled veteran by a charitable organization.
- ◆ **Proposition 5 (SJR 18)** The constitutional amendment to authorize the making of a reverse mortgage loan for the purchase of homestead property and to amend lender disclosures and other requirements in connection with a reverse mortgage loan.
- ◆ **Proposition 6 (SJR 1)** The constitutional amendment providing for the creation of the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas and the State Water Implementation Revenue Fund for Texas to assist in the financing of priority projects in the state water plan to ensure the availability of adequate water resources.
- ◆ **Proposition 7 (HJR 87)** The constitutional amendment authorizing a home-rule municipality to provide in its charter the procedure to fill a vacancy on its governing body for which the unexpired term is 12 months or less.
- ◆ **Proposition 8 (HJR 147 and SJR 54)** The constitutional amendment repealing Section 7, Article IX, Texas Constitution, which relates to the creation of a hospital district in Hidalgo County.
- ◆ **Proposition 9 (SJR 42)** The constitutional amendment relating to expanding the types of sanctions that may be assessed against a judge or justice following a formal proceeding instituted by the State Commission on Judicial Conduct.

Adding a sense of history to today's event, the actual 1876 Texas Constitution was displayed and the amendments were drawn from a wooden box made from materials from the home where Texas delegates met at Washington-on-the-Brazos to declare independence from Mexico in 1836.

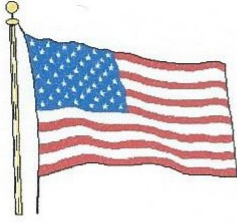
“Texas still operates under the 1876 Constitution so its presence is a good reminder about the importance and lasting impact of amending this document,” said Steen.

The 1876 Constitution and historic wood box were generously made available by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, which also hosted the event at the Lorenzo de Zavala State Archives and Library Building. As part of his presentation, Secretary Steen reminded voters that the **November 5 election will be the first statewide election with new photo ID requirements in effect for voting in person.**

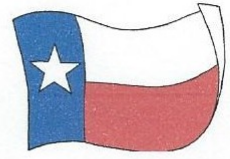
“Now is a good time for voters to make sure they have the appropriate photo ID and update their registration if their voter registration does not match the name on their ID,” said Steen. “To learn more, voters are encouraged to visit VoteTexas.gov or contact their county elections office.”

Voters ages 65 and older and those with a disability may vote by mail for any election.

For more information about voting in Texas, visit: www.votetexas.gov



Brazoria County



Republican Fun Fest 2013

Sunday – October 13, 2013 – 4:00 PM – till 6:30 PM

**The Lions Club of Pearland, 3350 S. Main, Pearland 77581
Meal Catered by Joe's Bar-B-Que in Alvin**

FISH FRY/CHICKEN TENDERS

Tickets: \$25.00

Live Auction & Silent Auction

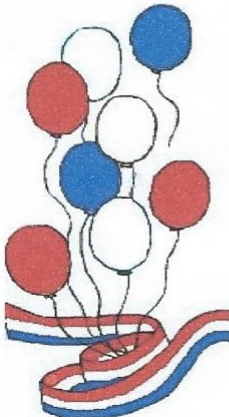
Linda Starkenburg, Auction Chair

lstarkey@sbcglobal.net

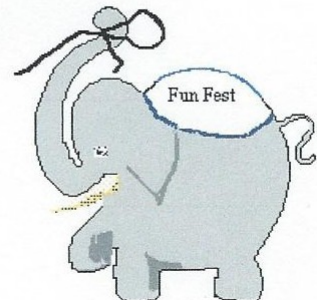
Sponsorships available: Yvonne Dewey, 979-297-6252

**To Volunteer, call Jo Knight at 281-485-4140 or
Gary Moore at 281-412-0014**

**Meet your Republican elected officials
and candidates**



**For Tickets call
Martha Otto
Fun Fest Chairman
281-489-8500**



It Was a Busy Summer for Senate District 17

By Tina Gibson

This summer has been a beehive of events for the Republican Party in Senate District 17 and the greater Houston area. The GOP wheels have been rolling at an increased pace to get us ready for the November and March Primary Elections. Many of our local auxiliary clubs have hosted great programs this summer.



The **High School Republicans of Texas** held its first convention in San Antonio in June. Our Houston area schools, Elkins High School in Missouri City and Bellaire High School sent their representatives and officers. Congratulations to Bellaire High School for receiving the award for the most active and growing club!

The **Texas Federation of Young Republicans** met for their convention in Austin in August. Members of the Houston YR Club have a big representation on the board. Congratulations to this club for winning the Outreach of the Year award!

Representatives from most of the Houston area Auxiliaries participated in our Senate District 17 Workshop in July. See page one for more information.

Mike Gibson, Fort Bend County Chairman, was selected to participate on the Republican National Committee Outreach committee this summer, representing suburban counties from the state of Texas. As the most diverse county in the United States, Fort Bend County is a major target for progressive Democrats to try to change it from solid RED to blue in the upcoming elections. Congratulations to Mike! The greater Houston area of County Chairmen has also met for strategy and sharing of ideas over the summer at the Harris County GOP headquarters, in which Mike participated.

RPT's **Rachel Wilson**, Young Republican Outreach Director, hosted a Republican leadership training seminar and deputy voter registrar training for Young Republicans, College Republicans and High School Republicans in Houston at the Harris County GOP headquarters in August. College Republican club presidents and officers, college class presidents, as well as high school club officers were in attendance. Students represented Texas A&M, University of Texas, Lamar and Texas State. State YR President **Mark Brown**, State College Republican President **Kristopher Infante** and I, all presented on Republican Party structure and leadership in each organization.

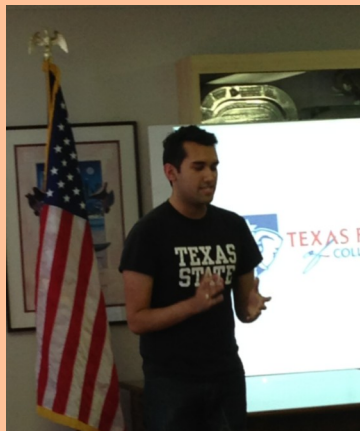


High School, College and Young Republican Houston area leaders with **Mike Sullivan, Harris County Tax Assessor-Collector**.

I had the honor of speaking to the **Sugar Land Optimist Club** about what is going on with the Republican Party of Texas and how I represent the Party in this district. I also led a panel on "media controlled" women's issues and women's leadership in the Republican Party with **Patricia Grady, Adela Garza** and **Adryana Boyne** at the **Federation of Hispanic Republicans** Forum in Houston in August.



Shown with **Tina Gibson** are Optimist members **William Johnson, Mel Haycraft**, and **Roy Lawrence**.



College Republican Federation President **Kristopher Infante**



Young Republican Federation President **Mark Brown**



Texas Asian Republican Club

Please Join us

When: Thursday September 12, 2013 at 6:30 PM
Where: Kim Son Restaurant, 10603 Bellaire Boulevard
Houston Texas 77072
Speaker: State Representative District 133 Jim Murphy
Cost: \$10.00 Per person
RSVP: texasasianrepublicanclub@gmail.com



Calendar of Events

Texas Asian Republican Club Meeting and Dinner at Kim Son— Houston, September 12
Fort Bend County Fair —September 27-Oct 6
SREC Meeting and Volunteer of the Year Dinner—Austin, September 27-28
Secretary of State Election Law Seminar for County Chairmen—Austin, October 4-5
Brazoria County GOP Fun Fest Fundraiser Dinner— Pearland, October 13
TFRW Convention— San Antonio, October 16-19
Fort Bend GOP Picnic—October 20
First Day to Apply for Ballot by Mail—September 6, 2013 (does not apply to FPCA)
Last Day to Register to Vote—Monday, October 7, 2013
First Day of Early Voting—Monday, October 21, 2013 (17th day before election
day falls on a Saturday, first day moves to next business day)
Last Day to Apply for Ballot by Mail (Received, not Postmarked) - Friday, October 25, 2013
Last Day of Early Voting—Friday, November 1, 2013
Last day to Receive Ballot by Mail -November 5, 2013 (election day) at 7:00 p.m. (unless overseas deadline
applies)
Election Day - November 5, 2013
Fort Bend GOP Christmas Party —Tuesday, December 10
Primary Election - March 6, 2014



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