



Since 1975

NEWS

Claiming America's Promise

HOUSTON GAY AND LESBIAN POLITICAL CAUCUS

The South's oldest Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender civil rights organization

Volume 27; Issue 2 September, 2002

NEXT GENERAL HGLPC MEETING

7 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 2

**Houston Lesbian and
Gay Community Center**

803 Hawthorne Avenue

**VOTE!
TUESDAY
Nov. 5**

- Take the day off to volunteer for the Caucus PAC Get-Out-The-Vote (GOTV) program.
- Take a weekend morning or weekday evening and volunteer on an endorsed candidate's campaign.

State Rep. Noriega speaks at Caucus meeting

State Representative Rick Noriega, District 145, was scheduled to speak at the September 4 meeting of the Caucus at press time.

Noriega has long credited the Caucus Political Action Committee with ensuring his election to the Texas House of Representatives in 1998.

Noriega was to discuss the upcoming legislative session.

"Rick has been a strong supporter of GLBT equality legislation and we look forward to hearing from him," said Caucus President Ken Jones. "He's also one of the brightest members of the Texas Legislature."



Rick Noriega

'Donkey and Elephant' sale/BBQ set for Sept. 14

The Caucus is sponsoring the Rainbow Donkey and Elephant Rummage Sale and Barbeque from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m., September 14.

Event organizer Don Brown says the Community Center will be selling liquid refreshments and the Caucus will be selling barbeque.

Table fees will benefit the GLBT Community Center, where the event will be held. Funds raised by the Caucus will be spent on a voter registration drive and voter I.D. project.

For information or donations, contact Ken Jones at 713-443-6440.

Caucus raises its own rent at Community Center

Challenge issued to other Center tenants

The Caucus Board of Trustees voted unanimously in August to voluntarily increase the rent for the Caucus office in the Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center. The board decided to increase the rent by 50 percent and to challenge other Center tenants to do the same.

"The Community Center is very important to Houston's GLBT community and we want to do our part to support the Center," said Caucus President Ken Jones. "We're sure the other tenants will want to do the same."

The Caucus was the first tenant of the Cen-

ter, moving into the building in the spring of 1998.

"The Center is a 'hub' of Houston's GLBT community," said Caucus trustee and Center Advisory Board member Clarence Burton Bagby. "As we move forward to begin a capital campaign for a permanent home for the Center, we need to also ensure the short-term financial stability of this essential community asset."

"We really appreciate this generous and very public show of support by the Caucus for the Community Center," said Center President Tim Brookover.

Caucus Voter I.D. and Database Project continues

The Caucus Voter I.D. and Database Project is continuing, with volunteers filling the Caucus office at the Community Center most every Saturday afternoon.

"We're thrilled by the enthusiastic response from Caucus members," said Caucus Trustee Ron Grose, who has been assisting on the project.

Jack Valinski has been updating and

enhancing the Caucus computer system to allow multiple volunteers to work on the project at once.

"We really appreciate Jack's work on this project," said Caucus President Ken Jones.

The project entails matching the 10,000-plus names on the Caucus mailing list to their corresponding voter registration

information from Harris County. This will allow the Caucus to target actual voters with direct mail and prevent wasting mail on non-voters.

The Caucus has purchased Harris County's voter registration rolls for the project.

The effort will also allow facilitate the targeting of voter registration efforts.

Sanchez supports GLBT equality; gets teacher groups endorsement

HOUSTON — Democratic gubernatorial candidate Tony Sanchez wowed members of Houston's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community last spring with promises for a state government that "will fairly represent all Texans." Sanchez appeared at a private home in Montrose and spoke to the crowd of about 75 people for about two hours.

Sanchez also said he supports domestic partner benefits and opposes bills that would outlaw gay and lesbian parenting and foster parenting.

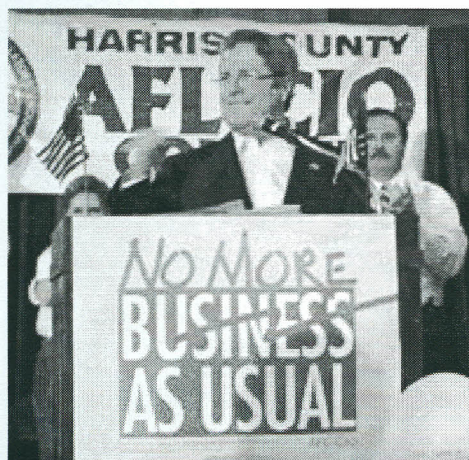
Sanchez also detailed his support for the Texas Employment Non-Discrimination Act, a bill that has been introduced in each of the last several sessions of the Texas Legislature by openly-gay Austin State Representative Glen Maxey. He also stated his support for Dallas State Representative Harryette Erhardt's education bill banning discrimination based upon sexual orientation in Texas schools.

The Texas Federation of Teachers (TFT), the statewide organization with over 40,000 members throughout the state's education community, endorsed Sanchez for governor in the November general election.

"We are impressed with Tony Sanchez's actions as an advocate of public schools and we appreciate his commitment to make education a top priority," said TFT President John Cole.

Affiliated with the American Federation of Teachers and the second largest affiliate of the Texas AFL-CIO, the TFT recognized Sanchez's commitment to listen to educators as well as state leadership on education issues.

"We must fully utilize the innovation and intelligence available to us to create excellence in our system. We will not rest on the laurels of our



predecessors. I want to look beyond tomorrow to develop a dynamic system that responds to individual needs and breeds excellence and success," Sanchez said. "As Governor, I will build consensus to achieve these long and short-term goals."

Details of the Sanchez plan for education are available at educatorsforsanchez.com.

Other groups endorsing Tony Sanchez include:

AFL-CIO LABOR
Angelina Democratic Voters' League
Asbestos Workers Union
Barrio Precinct Chairs
Bexar County Sheriff
Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers
Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees
Capitol Area Progressive Democrats
Communication Workers of America
Educators for Sanchez
Fraternal Order of Police
Gay/Lesbian Political Caucus
Glass, Molders and Plastics Union

Graphic Communications International Union
Houston 80/20 PAC
Houston Professional Fire Fighters Local 341
International Association of Longshoremen
International Association of Machinists
International Assn of Theatrical and Stage Employees
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
International Union of Elevator Constructors
Mexican American Democrats
National Association of Letter Carriers
Office & Professional Employees International Union
Painters Union
Paperworkers and Allied Chemical Employees
Pipefitters Union
Plumbers Union
Physicians for Sanchez
Planned Parenthood of Houston Action Fund
Sabine Area Building & Construction Trades Council
Seafarers International Union
Service Employees International Union
Sheetmetal Workers International Association
Southeast Texas Action Fund (SET)
South Texas Organization of Police
Steamfitters Union
Stonewall Democrats of Austin, San Antonio
Tejano Democrats
Texas Academy of Family Physicians PAC
Texas Federation of Teachers
Texas Medical Association
Texas State Fire Fighters Association
Texas State Teachers Association
Transport Workers Union
True Care Pharmacy Association
United Auto Workers
United Farm Workers of America
United Food and Commercial Workers
United Steel Workers of America
United Transportation Union
University Democrats
West Austin Democrats
Women for Sanchez

Caucus Mission Statement

The Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus has worked to eliminate prejudice, violence, and injustice against gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people since its inception in 1975.

As part of a broader social justice movement for freedom, justice and equality, the Caucus is creating a world that respects and celebrates the diversity of human expression and identity where all people may fully participate in society.

By education, advocacy and action, the Caucus is working to promote and protect the political interests of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people in the greater Houston area.

Join the Caucus today! Liberty Club provides essential support

Name: _____ Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email (*please* print legibly): _____

Type of Membership (circle one): Annual (\$35) Two Year (\$60) Senior/Student (\$18.50)

Liberty Club (\$10 monthly)

Liberty Club (\$20 monthly)

Liberty Club (\$30 monthly)

Annual Liberty Club (\$120 minimum)

Credit card number (email address required): _____

Expiration: _____ Three digit number from back of card: _____

NOTE: Credit card donors will receive a PayPal confirmation email.

Make it easier for us AND you! Join today at www.hglpc.org

In the 2001 Houston Bar Association Poll, *Justice of the Peace David Patronella* was rated outstanding by 70.7% of the attorneys -- rating the highest rating of any justice court. Judge Patronella also spoke at the last Caucus General meeting.



Former Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk will co-sponsor ENDA as our United States Senator

www.RonKirk.com



As the tenth most senior member of the Texas House of Representatives, *State Representative Debra Danburg* has been the strongest and most vocal proponent of GLBT equality in the Legislature. A stronger advocate for the James Byrd Hate Crime Law, she has also sponsored sodomy repeal legislation and other GLBT equality bills. She has also been a behind the scenes worker, keeping unfair legislation off the floor of the House and thereby avoiding a losing vote. Access DebraDanburg.com

Email article suggestions to "Caucus News" editor Clarence Burton Bagby at voter@hglpc.com

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DATED MATERIAL

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

E mail: voter@hglpc.com

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.HGLPC.ORG

Claiming America's Promise since 1975

Proudly officing at the
Houston GLBT Community Center
803 Hawthorne Avenue at Stanford

Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
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Caucus PAC endorses almost 50 candidates

5 general election.

Groups of four to eight interviewers screened each candidate for 30 minutes and reviewed candidate questionnaire answers before the full committee made its recommendations.

After weeks interviewing candidates, the Caucus PAC Screening Committee brought forth recommendations for the membership to endorse.

"Our screeners dedicated numerous hours and we're extremely grateful to them," said Screening Committee Chair Clair Koepsel.

"This is an outstanding group of candidates that really impressed our hard-working screening panels," said Caucus PAC President Ken Jones. "We do regret that although we did endorse a Republican in the primary, no Republicans responded to our invitation to screen."

The Caucus is the South's oldest gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender civil rights organization, having been founded in 1975. Its affiliated PAC endorses candidates and campaigns on their behalf.

Endorsed Candidates - November Election
as of 9/1/2002

Ron Kirk- US Senate, Dem

Sheila Jackson Lee- US House Dist 18, Dem
Chris Bell- US House Dist 25, Dem

Tony Sanchez- Governor, Dem
Kirk Watson- Attorney General, Dem
Marty Akins- St Comptroller, Dem
Charles Mauch- Railroad Commission, Green
Brad Rockwell- St Supreme Ct Place 2, Green
John Whitmire- St Senate Dist 15, Dem
Debra Danburg- St Rep Dist 134, Dem
Scott Hochberg- St Rep Dist 137, Dem
Joe Moreno- St Rep Dist 143, Dem
Garnet Coleman- St Rep Dist 147, Dem
Jessica Farrar- St Rep Dist 148, Dem
Denise Crawford- 14th Ct of Appeals, Dem
Lee Arellano- 55 District Ct, Dem
Diane Feller- 152 District Ct, Dem
Antonio M. Ingversen- 159 Crim Dist Ct, Dem
Grant Hardway- 182 District Ct, Dem
W. Robert Voigt- 183 Criminal Dist Ct, Dem
Ron Johnson - 338 Criminal Dist Ct, Dem
Rick Molina- 190 Civil District Ct, Dem
Wayne Slaughter, Jr- 208 Criminal Dist Ct, Dem
Herb Ritchie- 332 Criminal Dist Ct, Dem
Bill Connolly- 245 Family District Ct, Dem

Robert Hinojosa- 246 Family District Ct, Dem
Lydia Clay-Jackson- 248 Crim Dist Ct, Dem
Ruben Guerrero- 263 Criminal Dist Ct, Dem
Tasso Triantaphyllis- 270 Civil Dist Ct, Dem
Mary Kay Green- 308 Family Dist Ct, Dem
Richard Moore- 309 District Ct, Dem
Donna Kohlhouse- 310 Family District Ct, Dem
Teresa Ramirez- 313 Juvenile Dist Ct, Dem
Debra Shafto- Harris County Judge, Green
Bruce Mosier- Cty Civil Ct 1, Dem
Dinah Weems- Cty Civil Ct 2, Dem
Mitchell Contreras- Cty Civil Ct 3, Dem
Diana Musslewhite- Cty Civil Ct 4, Dem
Sylvia Pubchara- Cty Criminal Ct 2, Dem
Blanca Lopez- Cty Criminal Ct 5, Dem
Al Leal- Cty Criminal Ct 8, Dem
Randy Roll- Cty Criminal Ct 9, Dem
Yolanda Coroy- Cty Criminal 11, Dem
Leslie Ribnik- Cty Criminal Ct 14, Dem
James "Jim" Downes- Cty Probate Ct 3, Dem
Marc S. Whitehead- Harris Cty Attorney, Dem
Sylvia Garcia- Cty Comm Pct 2, Dem
David Patronella- JP Precinct 1, Place 2, Dem

**Election Information and
Early Voting Locations:**

<http://www.cclerk.hctx.net/elect.htm>