

*Caucus backs
center, amendments*

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Rodney Ellis

*Meet the
candidates*

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Take GPC to lunch

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election news

special edition

Meet us at the polls Nov. 8

BY TERRY HARRIS

For the past several years, something phenomenal has been occurring in the Houston gay community. Gay Houstonians, with direction from GPC, have earned a reputation as political sophisticates. Many factors contribute to that reputation. Several years ago, GPC adopted a stringent process for endorsing candidates. Individuals seeking our endorsement are required to answer a written questionnaire and be interviewed by a screening panel. That concept is still being used, but this year the process was drastically overhauled.

Required information submitted with this year's written questionnaire included a biography of the candidate, statements regarding past hiring practices and past public statements regarding gay issues. Candidates also had to address 23 formal questions in writing. Those questions dealt with campaign structure and organization, police matters, health, women

Candidates receiving our endorsement this year worked hard to earn it. They deserve our total support and commitment — from volunteering in their campaigns to registering our friends to vote, to voting on November 8.

This campaign season seems slow, so far. There has been no gay-baiting by any of the candidates. The controversy which fueled the mayor's race two years ago has not surfaced. Overall, there does not seem to be a great feeling of excitement about the election. Voter apathy exists, but we cannot let our guard down. It afflicts our voters as well. Endorsed candidates can lose their bids for election without our support and a strong bloc vote.

The excellent reputation GPC and the gay community of Houston have earned is a result of our hard work and the bloc vote.

The most immediate need at this time is your help as a volunteer in the campaign headquarters of GPC-endorsed candidates. Listed elsewhere in this tabloid are



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Required information submitted with this year's written questionnaire included a biography of the candidate, statements regarding past hiring practices and past public statements regarding gay issues. Candidates also had to address 23 formal questions in writing. Those questions dealt with campaign structure and organization, police matters, health, women and human rights issues. Many questions required research.

The oral interview consisted of 38 questions in four categories: general, health, police and electability. Most interviews lasted two hours, twice the time allowed in the past. This gave GPC panels an opportunity to learn more about the candidates as individuals. At the same time it gave us an opportunity to educate them about gay people.

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The excellent reputation GPC and the gay community of Houston have earned is a result of our hard work and the bloc vote.

The most immediate need at this time is your help as a volunteer in the campaign headquarters of GPC-endorsed candidates. Listed elsewhere in this tabloid are the phone numbers and addresses of our endorsed candidates, as well as further information on volunteering. Do yourself and your fellow Houstonians a favor — call a candidate's campaign headquarters today to volunteer for GPC night. If you are not sure which campaign needs your help, call the GPC office and our volunteer coordinator will contact you to help you decide. We need you and your vote to make Houston a great place for all of us.



Numerous GPC-endorsed candidates braved the rain Sept. 18 to address the crowd at the first of two Montrose Jams. City Council candidates Anne Wheeler (top) and Nikki Van Hightower (below, right), as well as Mayor Kathy Whitmire (below, left) spoke briefly at the annual event, while candidates in the crowd included Rodney Ellis, George Greanias and U.S. Senate hopeful Lloyd Doggett, state senator from Austin. Other candidates appeared at the drier Jam a week later, including Eleanor Tinsley.

ENDORSEMENT CARD

Mayor: Kathy Whitmire
City Council

Dist. B: Ernest McGowen Sr.

Dist. C: George Greanias

Dist. D: Rodney Ellis

Dist. H: Dale Gorczynski

Dist. I: Rey Rodriguez

At-Large 1: Anne Wheeler

At-Large 2: Eleanor Tinsley

At-Large 3: Jim Greenwood

At-Large 4: Nikki Van Hightower

At-Large 5: Judson Robinson Jr.

Houston ISD

Dist. 4: Herbert Melton

**Vote Yes to build the downtown
convention center**

**Vote FOR all Texas constitutional amend-
ments—Except No. 4**



Register to vote

If you see people registering voters at bars or local events, they're probably GPC volunteers. GPC has set a goal of 3,000 new voters for the upcoming city elections. With election day November 8, volunteers are working up to the last minute signing up those new voters by the October 10 deadline.

If you haven't registered, do so. Even if you don't make the deadline, there could easily be run-off elections in December. When you move, simply drop your old voter registration card in the mailbox. You will be added to the list of your new precinct. Remember, you may still vote in your old precinct for 30 days. If you have any questions about voting, call the Harris County Voter Registration office at 224-1919.

If you have any trouble voting on election day, call the GPC office or any candidate's headquarters. You may register to vote the day you move to Houston. You are eligible to vote 30 days after you register.

Candidates as diverse as gay community

-The challengers-



Rey

Rodriguez: District I

Rey "Eskimo" Rodriguez is known as a relentless campaigner. At 37, he's out to prove he's also a tireless City Council member. He is once again knocking on doors in District I trying to convince voters in the heavily Mexican-American district that Ben Reyes has done a poor job, when he's done it at all.

In 1981, Rodriguez took on Reyes in a low-budget campaign he didn't expect to win. And he lost 8,700 to 2,600 votes. This time he's spending more money, has more name recognition, and, hopefully, will benefit from more voter disenchantment with Reyes.

Rodriguez, a radiator shop owner, is also known as an active civic-minded person who knows the issues of his district. He is a commissioner of the Northside Boy Scouts of America and a member of the Harris County Hispanic Caucus.

The University of Houston political science graduate has been involved in politics since his college days when he began working in campaigns, doing the kind of work he hopes volunteers will do for him.

Rodriguez is stressing that he'll be a responsive, accessible and hard-working council member.

Nikki
Van Hightower:
At-large 4



In 1979 Nikki Van Hightower was telling radio listeners about gay rights, reproductive rights, and other controversial issues. She wouldn't stop, so the station fired her. By this time she was used to paying a high price for her outspokenness. Just a few years before, the City Council had reduced her salary as the city's first women's advocate to \$1 a year.

Anne Wheeler has been involved in human rights issues for years and is certainly no newcomer to gay rights. You may have seen her at the AIDS Vigil, the Summit or riding in the last two Gay Pride Week parades.

A former Houston ISD teacher, Wheeler is an active member of the State Democratic Executive Committee.

The public began to become more familiar with Wheeler about four years ago. In the 1979 race for the District I City Council seat, Wheeler ran against Dale Gorczynski and barely lost.

Rodney Ellis is former chief of staff for Congressman Mickey Leland, D-Houston. Ellis, 29, has worked for four years as administrative assistant to Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby and was also the first black to join the executive staff of the Texas Railroad Commission as general counsel to Commissioner Buddy Temple.

Ellis was the area coordinator for the United Negro College Fund and also

But Van Hightower was beginning another project requiring her special kind of integrity that would overwhelmingly succeed: The Houston Area Women's Center. In 6 years, Executive Director Van Hightower has transformed the small, struggling center into a financially secure agency that is recognized as one of the finest women's centers in the country.

As director of the center and as women's advocate, she has worked with numerous leaders and elected officials, as well as the police department.

In 1981 Van Hightower was chair of the task force on School Violence that was formed by the Houston Teachers Association.



Anne
Wheeler:
At-large 1

Some people may also remember Anne Wheeler from her oil well days. For it was also about that time she challenged George R. Brown's plans to build an oil well in the middle of Memorial Park. After meeting with Wheeler, Brown's group

served as assistant director for promotions and fundraising for the Texas Southern University Athletic Department. Before resigning to run for City Council, Ellis was responsible for managing Congressman Leland's offices and staffs in both Houston and Washington, D.C.

Ellis is a graduate of Worthing High School and began his political career as

Her awards and honors reflect her many years of community involvement. Just a few: Ladies Home Journal Woman of the Year in local politics and government, 1978; Houston Teachers Association's Humanitarian Award, 1983; the 1979 Women at Work National Broadcast Award for radio and TV editorials.

Van Hightower, who received a doctorate degree in political science from New York University, also taught at the University of Houston, the University of Texas School of Public Health and the New York Institute of Technology.

In addition to human rights, Van Hightower's campaign is stressing quality of life issues: crime, traffic, and clean air and water.

agreed to build a slant well out of sight in the service area.

In 1979, Wheeler established the Greater Houston Tax Coalition. Like her long list of endorsers, this group reflects diverse viewpoints. Their main concern, however, is rising property taxes.

Her campaign is focusing on the need for better budget scrutiny and long-range planning.

Wheeler is also stressing Jim Westmoreland's high rate of absenteeism, promising she'll be a "full-time" council member.

Rodney Ellis:

District D



Student Council president at Worthing in 1971. He holds a BA in government from Texas Southern University (1975) and a master of public affairs degree from the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs/UT-Austin (1977). He received his law degree from the University of Texas School of Law in 1979 and has also studied at Xavier University and the London School of Economics, England.

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The incumbents

Kathy Whitmire: mayor

Mayor Kathy Whitmire, now seeking her second term, points to improvements in city bus service and administrative appointments, especially Police Chief Lee Brown, as two of the major accomplishments of her first administration. During her screening, the mayor called Brown's appointment her most important accomplishment for the gay community. The mayor, who has appeared recently at GPC's Summit celebration, the endorsement meeting and the Montrose Jam, was also instrumental in establishing the Gay Task Force that met with Police Department officials after Brown was appointed. She also helped establish liaisons between the gay community and the police and fire departments. The new city budget will include \$88,000 for an AIDS project largely because of the mayor's efforts.

Ernest McGowen: District B

For years Ernest McGowen Jr. has been the champion of minorities and their

rights. McGowen is currently working to find housing for people with AIDS. He is often seen at gay events and has been very supportive of gay issues. His office number is 222-5931, and his two assistants are Phyllis Murray and Tony Williams

George Greanias: District C

George Greanias is the City Council member whose district includes Montrose. As a result, many gay men and women consider Greanias "their" councilman, no matter where they live. Greanias has continued to support community issues, partly through his presence at gay events and as an adviser to the KS/Aids Foundation. His is also on the city's Aids Task Force.

Greanias has been instrumental in getting several gay rights issues before the mayor and chief of police and has worked closely with the police department regarding police activities in Montrose. His office number is 222-5933, and his two assistants are Dawn Dancy and Kent Speer.

Herbert Melton: HISD, District 4

Herbert Melton, former principal of Yates High School, has received GPC's endorsement.

Melton is seeking the District 4 seat currently held by Dr. James C. Jones. District 4 includes parts of Montrose.

Melton taught school in the Houston

ISD for over 20 years. After retiring from the district, he became a self-employed businessman.

He scored high on the new school board screening questionnaire, showing considerable knowledge of and concern for gay-related issues.

Dale Gorczynski: District H

Dale Gorczynski, one of the youngest members on the council, represents the Heights, among other areas. Many gay men and women are moving to the Heights and are finding Gorczynski very receptive to their issues. He is a member of the Aids Task Force and is currently working on a noise ordinance which would regulate noise in neighborhoods. His office number is 222-5943, and his two assistants are Chip Burgin and Denise Jenkins.

Eleanor Tinsley: At-large 2

Eleanor Tinsley was one of the first "activists" on City Council. In 1979, she won a major victory for the Gay Political Caucus by defeating an opponent who smeared the gay community and the endorsement. She is currently working to win approval for the 911 emergency

number, which will appear on the November 8 ballot. Her number is 222-5947, and her assistants are Madeleine Appel, Martha Coats and Rita Woodward.

Jim Greenwood: At-large 3

Jim Greenwood's main interests lie in improving the city jail system and Houston's environment. Greenwood, who was endorsed in 1981, has appeared at numerous community events. His office number is 222-4767, and his two assistants are Marian Dominigue and Lisa Capers.

Judson Robinson: At-large 5

Judson Robinson Jr. is one of the oldest friends the Gay Political Caucus has on the City Council. He has proven that by his consistent votes for human rights. When there were no single member districts, Judson Robinson was the person the gay community contacted for assistance. His office number is 222-4774, and his assistant is Grace Moolchan.

ELECT EXPERIENCE, VOTE FOR RODNEY

ELLIS

FOR CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT D.

POL. ADV. PD. FOR BY THE RODNEY ELLIS FOR COUNCIL COMMITTEE, P.O. BOX 8447, HOUSTON, TX 77288. HAROLD ODOM, TREASURER, CONGRESSMAN MICKEY LELAND, CHAIRMAN. Warning: Placement, posting or erection of this material within the City of Houston is regulated by Sections 3-2 and 3-3 of the City's Code of Ordinances and Chapter 46 of the City's Building Code; violation thereof is punishable by a fine of up to \$200.

ELECT ANNE WHEELER

City Council – Position 1 for a “Full-Time City Council Member”

- Founder and Chairman Emeritus - Greater Houston Tax Coalition
- Co-owner Houston Folklore Center
- Teacher H.I.S.D., 14 Years
- Elected CD Commissioner 1976 - 1983
- Graduated University of Houston 1962
- Active in Senior Citizens Transportation Program (FISH)
- Elected Officer of Crestwood Civic Club Crestwood Garden Club
- Fifth Generation Native Houstonian

HEADQUARTERS: 804 WAUGH DR. - 520-0211

POL. ADV. PD. FOR BY ANNE WHEELER CAMPAIGN, MARK HILL, TREASURER

The caucus needs a few good volunteers

Behind every good City Council member are a lot of good volunteers. Remember all those brochures, invitations and letters you get before the election? They usually go out by the thousands. And they're not handled by machines. Or paid staff members.

Almost every night, starting several months before an election, everyday folks like you and I give a few hours a week to fold, stuff, stamp, and do whatever helps get the campaign literature out on time. It's rather mindless work, but it's also fun. The people you meet make it more than worthwhile. And then there's the satisfaction of knowing that your few hours really make a difference. Those hours mean overworked and underpaid staff members can be more awake when they write important fund-raising letters or handle critical campaign paperwork. If you bring a friend or two, it means everyone gets to go home at a reasonable hour, instead of a few tireless workers staying up all night.

There is an additional benefit that we may not immediately see, but which has a pervasive effect. Stuffing an envelope next to a blue-haired grandmother from

River Oaks or a blue collar worker from the north side creates the community image and understanding we need to gain the human rights we have to have.

Other GPC members are almost always around. We're known as tireless campaign workers, experts at bulk mailings, and the best stuffers in the city. It is a reputation we have to maintain. For, as you've probably realized, all the work and fun translates into political influence. Candidates and incumbents alike respect our political clout. We vote. We work at headquarters doing things most people never realize need doing. If ever there was a time you wanted to contribute something more than money to GPC, you couldn't find a better time than the next month.

Just call one of the campaign headquarters or the GPC office and see how you can help. The first three races have been targeted for extra volunteers.

NIKKI VAN HIGHTOWER headquarters

1724 Bissonnet 526-1840

GPC has been asked to meet volunteer needs at least on Monday nights.

ANNE WHEELER headquarters

804 Waugh #2 520-0211

GPC has been asked to meet volunteer needs at least on Tuesday nights.

RODNEY ELLIS headquarters

5405 Griggs Road 664-5590

DALE GORCZYNSKI headquarters

122 E. 5th St. 723-4234

REY RODRIGUEZ headquarters

302 Lenox (at Harrisburg) 926-9393

KATHY WHITMIRE headquarters

3333 Fannin 520-7666

Election Central at Numbers

GPC Election Central will be at Numbers II Disco on Westheimer following the November 8 city elections.

The traditional election party begins at 8 p.m. and won't wind up until 2 a.m. Come watch the election returns on large video screens, and dance. You will also have a chance to meet the candidates.

Admission is \$5, and that includes a buffet. There will be a cash bar.

“Nikki's long-time, courageous work—both inside and outside our community—demonstrates her ability to be

HEADQUARTERS: 804 WAUGH DR. - 520-0211

POL. ADV. PD. FOR BY ANNE WHEELER CAMPAIGN, MARK HILL, TREASURER

GFC Election Central will be at Numbers II Disco on Westheimer following the November 8 city elections.

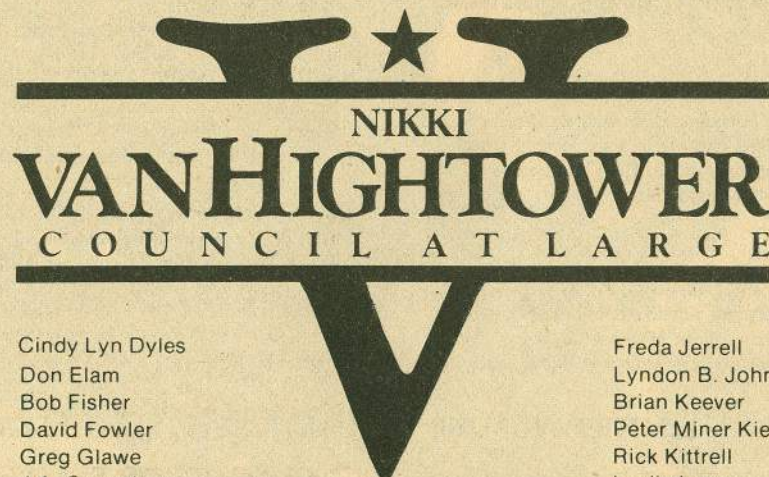
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RODNEY ELLIS headquarters
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REY RODRIGUEZ headquarters
302 Lenox (at Harrisburg) 926-9393
KATHY WHITMIRE headquarters
3333 Fannin 520-7666

"Nikki's long-time, courageous work—both inside and outside our community—demonstrates her ability to be outspoken and effective on our behalf.

"We urge you to join us in voting for Nikki Van Hightower for City Council at Large Position 4."



Larry K. Adams
James Alsbrooks
Larry Bagneris, Jr.
Joe H. Baker, Jr.
Kathy Barton
Dale A. Beverly
Edwin P. Betke
Tony Bicocchi
Sandi Bubbert
Barbara Cigainero
Alfonso Cisneros
Marion E. Coleman
Peggy Colvin
Sue Devaney
Julie DeVriese

Cindy Lyn Dyles
Don Elam
Bob Fisher
David Fowler
Greg Glawe
J.A. Gonzales
Joy Goodman
Gary W. Grant
Norman Guttman
Terry L. Harris
Charles M. Hebert, Jr.
Lynn Herrick
Ray Hill
Emily Jane Japhet
Frank Jerrell

Freda Jerrell
Lyndon B. Johnson
Brian Keever
Peter Miner Kiernan
Rick Kittrell
Leslie Larson
Gracie Lee
Maria Longnecker
Sue Lovell
Randall Metcalf
Donn D. Mumma
Christopher Nowaski
Annie Parker
Renee Rabb

Bill Radding
Bill Ramsey
GREGG Russell
Deborah Squires
Tom Stovall
Charles Temple
Leonard Tharp
Shari Valentine
Jack Valinski
Francisco Valle
Tony Vega
Tim Weaver
Jim Wetherbee
Jay Wood

Endorsed by the Gay Political Caucus

PSYCHIATRY AND FAMILY THERAPY CENTER

3400 MONTROSE BLVD., SUITE 501

HOUSTON, TEXAS 77006

(713) 522-9816

Psychiatry and Family Therapy Center provides a complete spectrum of Mental Health Services to persons of all ages without regard to sexual orientation. Psychotherapy for individuals, couples, families and groups is offered, as well as psychological testing and vocational counseling.

PSYCHIATRY AND FAMILY THERAPY CENTER IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE ITS FALL SERIES OF WORKSHOPS:

1 Contemporary Issues For Gay Americans

A series of structured conversations to explore your thoughts and feelings about a number of issues for the contemporary Gay person. Topics will include: AIDS and what it means to you; Relationships; Coming out and its process; What do the politics of the Gay movement have to do with you? Feeling integrated into the larger society. These groups are meant to explore and raise questions and discussion. There will initially be 5 sessions with a potential for more depending on the group.

Dates: 5 Sessions, Tuesdays: October 25; November 1, 15, 29; December 6, 1983.

Time: 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Leader: Gary G. Treese, MSW

Fee: \$75.00

2 The Loving Relationship: An Impossible Dream?

What happens when lovers discover their differences? Perceptions that disagree, contradictory assumptions, different views of the world. How do expectations and disappointments create distance? How do we get caught between fear of entrapment and commitment? Is there any hope? This workshop will search for solutions to these universal human dilemmas by sharing ideas and experience, and by raising awareness.

Date: 2 Sessions, Thursdays: October 27 and November 3, 1983.

Time: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Leaders: Gary G. Treese, MSW and Bettie Cartwright, MA

Fee: \$50.00

3 Unemployment Survival Tactics: Making The Most Of A Horrendous Situation.

Are you or someone you live with: Dreading a layoff? Going through a lay-off now? Already re-employed and recovering? Attend this brainstorming session designed to offer tips for survival, learn what emotional effects to expect and share your worst and best coping strategies.

Date: Tuesday, November 1, 1983

Time: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Leader: Sally A. Simon, MSW

Fee: \$25.00

4 Loving Women

A seminar especially designed for Lesbian women. Will provide a sensitive atmosphere in which to explore and deal with the complex experience Lesbians struggle with everyday. Including attitudes of family, friends, and on the job. Format includes group discussion and exercises.

Date: Wednesday, November 2, 1983

5 Spice In Your Life

Variety is the spice of life. Boredom, fear and being ultra-responsible are some of the culprits for spoiling our dreams and fantasies. Take this opportunity to chase your dreams - maybe even catch some! The would-be adventurous are welcome to join this seminar... participate in devising plots to make some of your dreams real. Involves group discussion and activities designed to invite change into a hum lifestyle. Bring along your own bag of fantasies.

Date: Tuesday, November 8, 1983.

Time: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Leader: Sally A. Simon, MSW

Fee: \$25.00

6 Professional And Gay

Being a responsible professional person is often a stressful lifestyle. Being Gay and a professional can add to that stress. Gay people are represented in every profession and at every level. This workshop is designed to explore the special considerations of the gay professional person. Topics to be discussed include: How important should your Gay identity be to your profession? Are you truly comfortable being Gay? How have the political gains been internalized? How does being Gay present an obstacle to success?

Date: 2 Sessions, Thursdays: November 10, 17, 1983.

Time: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Leader: Gary G. Treese, MSW

Fee: \$50.00

7 What Your Boss Knows Won't Hurt You!

This workshop is for employees who want to get ahead in management. Goal setting, time management, conflict management, and being the promotable employee will be explored.

Dates: 4 Sessions, Mondays: November 28, December 5, 13, 19, 1983.

Time: 9:00 am - 11:00 am

Leader: Peter Kingan, MA

Fee: \$60.00

8 Adaptation To Living

A workshop focusing on the dilemmas and possible solutions for friends, lovers, couples and families engaged in the major life transition of ending alcohol or chemical abuse. Emphasis will be on the opportunity to use new tools for communication and relationships made accessible through a chemical-free lifestyle.

Date: Saturday, November 5, 1983

Time: 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Leaders: Bettie Cartwright, MA and Gary G. Treese, MSW

Fee: \$35.00

9 The Holidays Are Coming: A Get-Ready Workshop

Learn Stress management techniques for dealing with the holiday stress. Factors involved in holiday stress and assessment of personal stress and management techniques will be the focus.

Date: 4 Sessions, Tuesdays: November 29; December 6, 13, 20, 1983.

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Time: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Leader: Sally A. Simon, MSW
Fee: \$25.00

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Date: Wednesday, November 2, 1983
Time: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Leaders: Sally A. Simon, MSW and Scotti Sween, MSW
Fee: \$25.00

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Leaders: Bettie Cartwright, MA and Gary G. Treese, MSW
Fee: \$35.00

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Learn Stress management techniques for dealing with the holiday stress. Factors involved in holiday stress and assessment of personal stress and management techniques will be the focus.

Date: 4 Sessions, Tuesdays: November 29; December 6, 13, 20, 1983.
Time: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Leader: Peter Kingan, MA
Fee: \$80.00

CONSULTANTS OF PSYCHIATRY AND FAMILY THERAPY CENTER

Bettie Cartwright, MA is a psychotherapist with 12 years experience in counseling families and individuals. She is a Professional Counselor licensed by the State of Texas and a Certified Alcoholism Counselor. She is on the faculty of the University of Houston Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counseling Course and serves on the Board of the Houston Area Women's Center. The personal growth and relationship issues of women and men are of special interest to her.

David O. Hinkle, M.D. is a board certified psychiatrist with more than 14 years experience in working with adults, adolescents, children and families and in consultation to community agencies. He is on the clinical faculty of Baylor College of Medicine and the University of Texas Medical School in Houston. He serves on the Board of the Gay Switchboard of Houston, Inc. He is the co-author of the recent article **A Sexual Minority: Homosexuality and Mental Health Care** in the American Journal of Social Psychiatry.

Peter L. Kingan, MA is a licensed counselor and child-care administrator. His ten years of clinical and administrative mental health experience has included directing a multi-service center for children and their families, and providing individual and group therapy at the Montrose Counseling Center. Mr. Kingan has provided workshops and consultation to numerous organizations in Harris County.

Sally A. Simon, MSW has extensive experience with children, adolescents and adults. Areas of special interest to her include women's issues, blended families and dual-career couples. She offers workshops on grief and loss, domestic violence, relationships with family members, and stages and adjustments in life. She is a Clinical Member of the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy, certified for independent practice by the Academy of Certified Social Workers, and on the Board of Directors of the Fort Bend County Women's Refuge.

Scotti Sween, MSW, AAMFT, has been a psychotherapist for many years and has written for television, theatre and journals. Her special interests include stifled creativity in men and women, the struggles of creative people in a "straight" society, the challenge for women to take their creativity seriously, and the therapeutic nature of the expressive arts. She is currently on the faculty of the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

Gary G. Treese, MSW is a Certified Social Worker and an Advanced Clinical Practitioner. He has been in the Mental Health profession since 1977. He has worked for the Mental Health and Mental Retardation Authority of Harris County and is the former Executive Director of the Montrose Counseling Center. He has been involved with Mental Health issues for Gay persons on the local and national level and was the co-convenor of the Fourth National Lesbian and Gay Health Conference in Houston in 1982. He has lectured widely on Gay Mental Health issues, and is the co-leader of a Houston support group for persons with AIDS.

EACH WORKSHOP HAS A LIMITED NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS, SO PLEASE REGISTER EARLY!

Registration fees are to be paid in full, in advance. Refunds for cancellation will be less a \$10 bookkeeping fee, and will be accepted up to 5 days prior to the workshop.

Name: _____ Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip Code: _____

Please Check The Workshops You Are Registering For: ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8 ☐ 9

Check, MasterCard or Visa is enclosed in the amount of \$ _____ ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____ Signature _____

Please make checks payable to the workshop leader.

The proof : bloc vote

BY RAY HILL

There are several ways gay and lesbian groups can approach urban politics. The San Francisco approach is to form several political groups, each endorsing separate opposing candidates, thereby cancelling each other out on election day. The Los Angeles approach is to give endorsed candidates large amounts of money so they can in turn spend it campaigning for gay votes.

In Houston, Gay Political Caucus delivers a bloc vote. You will hear critics say: "GPC is trying to tell you how to vote." Believe it. That is how bloc voting works. Actually, the membership gathered for the endorsement meeting, discussed each race and voted on the endorsements.

This year there were some tough decisions, but no close votes. Most of this year's endorsements were unanimous or nearly so. Even in the most debated race, at-large council Position 4, Nikki Van Hightower was endorsed by greater than a 2-1 margin.

The day after the election the progress of the gay rights movement will be measured by the results in each race on the ballot. If Whitmire wins, Houstonians will give us credit (blame?) throughout her next term. Should George Greanias not do as well as expected it will be taken as a

sign of our weakness. In order to preserve our position in the continuing race for political influence each of us must vote for and support each candidate on the endorsement card, all of the constitutional amendments (except 4), and the downtown convention center.

No one person or small number of people reached these decisions. No votes were bought or sold. No covert deals were cut. GPC endorsed the way it always does — majority vote of the caucus after thorough screening and debate.

In races where GPC did not endorse, vote your own preference, or don't vote if you have no opinion. But vote FOR all endorsed candidates. Encourage your friends and family members to vote and suggest they also support GPC candidates. We, like the rest of the population, have become less active voters in recent years. Only your commitment and enthusiasm can help overcome this problem. Tell people you plan to vote, and offer the endorsement card to anyone you think might vote. With only 20 to 30 percent of qualified voters going to the polls, we could have an overwhelming effect on the results if 60 to 70 percent of our voters turn out. By persuading our friends, neighbors, workmates and family to join us we could easily support our candidates 150 to 200 percent — literally.

'BUSTED?

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ATTORNEY AT LAW

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hous'ov. kol'man

n. 1. A woman-owned business specializing in quality graphics and printing. 2. A large red brick house in the heart of Montrose. – *adj.* Having many and varied features. – *v.* Producing design, illustration, camera work, printing and bindery. – *adv.* 1. To increase the client's business manifold. 2. To satisfy the client.

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It is essential to the well-being of each of us that we elect city officials who will work for the good of the entire city.

In her few months in office Kathy Whitmire has shown herself to be probably the hardest working, best organized, most sincere mayor Houston has ever had. She deserves reelection.

Houston is fortunate to have the opportunity to be served by the following candidates for election or reelection to City Council. They comprise a list of intelligent, concerned people of impeccable integrity who will surpass in excellence any comparable political group in the country:

District B: Ernest McGowen Sr.

District D: Rodney Ellis

District I: Rey Rodriguez

At-Large 2: Eleanor Tinsley

At-Large 4: Nikki Van Hightower

District C: George Greanias

District H: Dale Gorczynski

At-Large 1: Anne Wheeler

At-Large 3: Jim Greenwood

At-Large 5: Judson Robinson Jr.

We all know that Houston currently does not have adequate convention facilities. We must acquire a top-notch center, and the most logical location for it is the proposed Brown Center on the east side of downtown Houston.

Vote for Houston progress by voting for competent people and for worthwhile causes.

And, by all means . . .

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It will provide more money for the arts.

It will provide more money for vital public services.

And it won't add to Houston's traffic congestion, because

tax revenue.

It will help Houston compete for millions of dollars in convention business we are now losing to major convention cities like Dallas, Atlanta and New Orleans.

It will provide more money for the arts.

It will provide more money for vital public services.

And it won't add to Houston's traffic congestion, because most convention delegates will fly into town and then use taxis or shuttle buses in non-peak traffic periods to get around.

That's Why We Endorse The Center.

The Gay Political Caucus

The Montrose Business Guild

The Committee For Human Equality

State Representative Debra Danburg

Mayor Kathryn J. Whitmire

Council Member Eleanor Tinsley

Council Member George Greanias

**Houston Gets The Benefits.
Visitors Pay The Bills.
And That's A Fact.**

Take GPC to lunch

Or buy us four drinks a month. However you figure it, for only \$10 a month you can help assure GPC's financial security. You'll be in good company. About 50 GPC members are already on the pledge program.

This is how it works: Once a month GPC processes a bank draft in whatever amount you choose. The amount is automatically deducted every month on the same day unless you contact the pledge chairperson.

GPC needs about 50 more pledges of at least \$10 to pay each month's basic bills—office rent, phone, printing, postage. It's money GPC counts on to meet its financial commitments.

Here's how one recent pledge program member expressed it:

"I wanted to vote in the last endorsement meeting. Was I a member? No. I was

only on the mailing list, like most of my friends. They just assumed they were members. One of them said 'No one ever asked me to join.' Well, I asked them. I told them about the pledge program. 'You won't even miss the \$10,' I said. And they don't (or the \$20 some of them signed up for). Next endorsement meeting I won't have to look stupid when someone asks me if I am eligible to vote."

Of course, GPC has other kinds of memberships, from the regular one (\$15 a year and up) to \$5 for students and low-income. No matter how much or how little you can give, membership gives you a voice and a vote in the caucus (not to mention the monthly newsletter).

To sign up for the pledge program, return your bank deposit slip, with your signature, along with the following membership form.

Last Name	First	Middle
Street Address		
City	State	Zip
☐ Pledge program at _____ per month		
☐ \$15 GPC membership		
☐ \$25 GPC/National Gay Task Force		
☐ Mailing list		
Mail to: GPC P.O. BOX 66664 Houston, TX 77266		

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COUNCIL MEMBER

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Jim Greenwood has a proven record of service: President of the Houston Bar Association • Chairman of the Texas Commission on Jail Standards • President of

Eleven years experience, recently served as officer and board-member of the City of Houston Appraisal Review Board hearing commerical and residential valuation protests, lifetime member-Gay Political Caucus.

Jim Greenwood has a proven record of service: President of the Houston Bar Association • Chairman of the Texas Commission on Jail Standards • President of the State Junior Bar Association • Member of the Vestry, St. John the Divine Church • Member of the Governor's Conference on Criminal Justice.

Jim Greenwood is: A native Houstonian • A graduate of Rice University and the University of Texas Law School • A former Little League coach • Married with five school age children.

Jim Greenwood is committed to: Strengthen neighborhood police protection • Improve traffic and mass transit • Modernize city financial and management procedures • Improve flood control efforts. • Attract new businesses, visitors and jobs to Houston • Maintain the quality of our parks and libraries.

Campaign Headquarters:
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Re-elect
Jim Greenwood FOR CITY COUNCIL POSITION 3

Paid for by Jim Greenwood for Council, John Kuhl, Treasurer, 28th Floor, First City Tower, Houston, Tx. 77002.

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GPC supports center

GPC members voted overwhelmingly at the September 8 regular meeting to endorse the proposed downtown convention center. The facility, to be named the George R. Brown Convention Center, would be built east of Main Street in an area bounded by U.S. 59, Clay, Capitol and Jackson.

The City Council voted unanimously September 21 to place the issue on the November 8 ballot. They have been united in their support of the downtown project and are asking Houston voters to give the green light.

The ballot proposal would prohibit use of money from the city's general fund for the center. Funds for the project, estimated to cost about \$146 million, would come from Houston's hotel occupancy tax, or "visitors' tax."

The reasons for building the convention center as soon as possible and building it downtown are numerous.

- Houston, the nation's 4th largest city, ranks only 17th among the biggest convention cities in terms of exhibition space.
- Every day the center is delayed, the city loses millions in convention dollars while the cost of the project escalates. Some of that lost revenue will go to smaller cities, like Dallas. In 1982, the

city received \$550 million in convention revenue, while Houston got just over \$300 million. Friends of the Downtown Convention Center, the main backers of the project, point to surveys which show that about 50 convention groups, worth \$233 million to Houston's economy, would gather in Houston only if the downtown facility becomes a reality.

- More economic benefits: Supporters estimate the downtown convention center would generate over \$14 million in new taxes, over \$400 million from delegates and about \$120 million in new payrolls in its first year of operation.
- The downtown site was recommended by three consulting firms and a citizens committee and approved after Council agreed the Albert Thomas center is inadequate and cannot be expanded into a major convention center.
- The Astrodome complex should not be expanded into a major convention center because it was built primarily as a sports and events center.

New board member elected

Jack Valinski has been elected to the GPC board. Valinski, who has been very active in the caucus for the past year, is a member of the media committee.

GPC Calendar

NOVEMBER

- 1 Board meeting
- 2 General meeting
- 6 GPC Meet the Candidates Rally
- 8 Municipal Elections;
Election Central Party, Numbers
- 16 General meeting
- 30 Interface

DECEMBER

- 7 General meeting
- 9-11 GPC Holiday Celebration

12 Second Annual GPC/NGTF Dinner

JANUARY

- 3 Board meeting
- 4 General meeting
- 18 General meeting (first call for GPC elections)
- 31 Board meeting

FEBRUARY

- 1 General meeting (second call)
- 15 General meeting (GPC elections)

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2 General meeting
6 GPC Meet the Candidates Rally
8 Municipal Elections;
Election Central Party, Numbers
16 General meeting
30 Interface

DECEMBER

7 General meeting
9-11 GPC Holiday Celebration

JANUARY
3 Board meeting
4 General meeting
18 General meeting (first call for GPC
elections)
31 Board meeting

FEBRUARY

1 General meeting (second call)
15 General meeting (GPC elections)

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Women in GPC

BY ANNISE PARKER

Women have never had a better opportunity to be involved in the Gay Political Caucus. Starting at the top and spreading through its 500 members, GPC is gaining a definite feminist slant. Part of this is numerical and intentional. GPC has started a push for new women members. The vice president of the caucus, chair-of-the-board, and two other board members are women. Gay organizations have traditionally under-represented women. With four out of 13 board positions held by women, GPC leadership reflects a much higher percentage than actual membership by women in the caucus. Strong feminist men in the caucus and on the board are working with us to bring in more women.

Although women have always been at the forefront of the gay rights movement, many more gay women channel their energies through established feminist organizations or independent lesbian groups. Feminists and gays, as well as many other minorities, have the same major goals of freedom from discrimination and equal legal representation. A problem arises in that we often seek the same goals along, at best, parallel paths.

We must learn to combine our energies, our efforts, and our mailing lists.

"An Evening with Women" held last July at the Swim Club was the inauguration of what we hope will be a series of GPC-sponsored women's events, with a political twist. GPC initiated and coordinated the event. The National Organization for Women (NOW), Choices and the Houston Area Women's Center (HAWC) co-sponsored the event. Each organization sent a mailing to their members promoting the event. Each organization had information tables and used the evening for a membership drive. This was not a fundraiser, and there were no political speeches. GPC provided the food, the location and the politicians.

a stepping stone, a process, an opening of doors — pick your metaphor. The real work and reward of joint efforts comes through coalition politics. We had the chance to work with a number of women's groups, on the state and local levels, in the last state Legislature. Crucial changes in our state's rape laws were passed in bills sponsored by State Rep. Debra Danburg and State Sen. John Whitmire.

The next step in our coalition building will come in the political campaigns and the voting booth. GPC is one of the most powerful political forces in this city. The primary reason for this is our strong, well-organized voting bloc. We also have the most thorough screening and endorsement process most politicians will ever encounter. Finally, we are recognized for the number of volunteer hours our members give to endorsed candidates. Pooling our volunteer energies and providing other organizations with endorsement information can only increase our effectiveness. We are working with local women's groups to pull in campaign volunteers.

This election year provides the opportunity to work for four excellent women candidates. Many women got their first taste of politics in Kathy Whitmire's earlier races. We can help in her re-election. Her popularity in the gay community remains high, and GPC functions are a great place to meet her. Eleanor Tinsley has been a good friend of our community and ranks with the mayor in popularity. Anne Wheeler and Nikki Van Hightower face tough races for City Council-at-large positions. Their need for volunteers is critical.

Women have been in GPC from its inception, although their presence and influence have waxed and waned. At times they have had to fight to make their voices heard in a male-dominated organization. Those times are behind us. GPC is growing and changing. But the change will continue only if new women fill the

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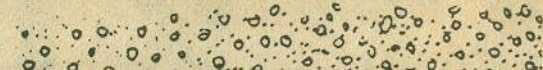
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A social event such as this is an example of the benefits of working together, but it is coalition building on only one level. It is

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ELECT



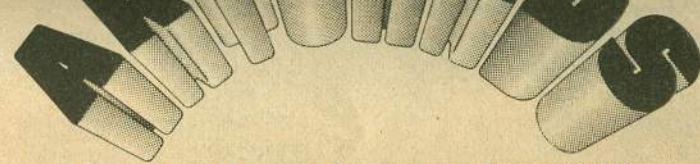
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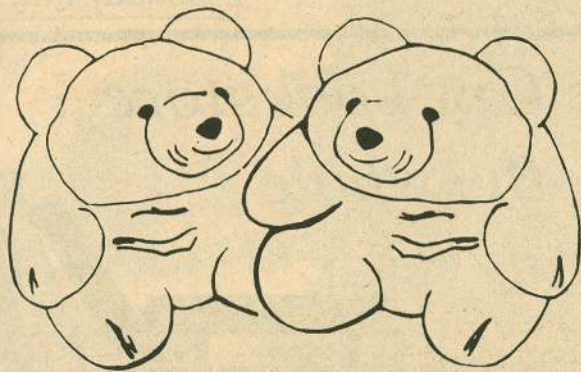
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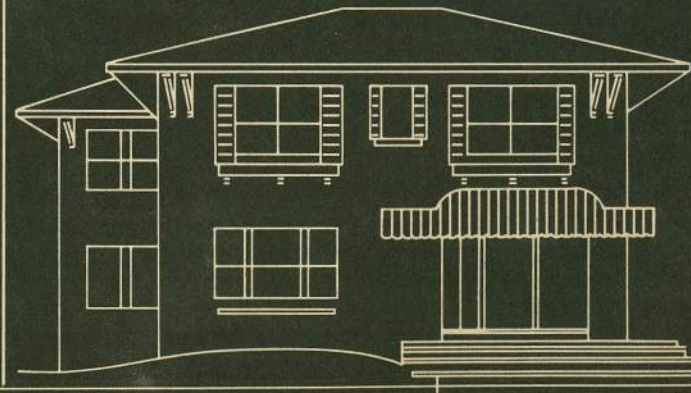
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Vote *FOR* the Constitutional Amendments

Eleven constitutional amendments will appear on the Nov. 8 ballot. Caucus members voted recently to endorse all the amendments, except No. 4, which deals with the Legislature during an "enemy attack."

NO. 1

This amendment permits counties with a population of less than 30,000 to have fewer than four constables and justices of the peace precincts.

Many smaller counties don't need four JP precincts and four constables.

NO. 2

This would replace the \$10,000 limit on urban homesteads with a one-acre limit. The new definition would apply retroactively to all Texas homesteads, not just to homesteads acquired after the amendment passed.

Because of increasing urban land values, the current constitutional exemption is protecting fewer and fewer urban homesteads from forced sale for debt.

NO. 3

This amendment allows commodity boards to collect refundable assessments on product sales if the assessments were approved by the affected producers in a referendum.

Commodity producers would be allowed to collect their voluntary assessments in a manner that would yield sufficient revenue to operate the programs effectively.

NO. 5

This amendment appropriates money from the Available School Fund to admin-

ister the Permanent School Fund or any bond-guarantee program established by law.

By improving school districts' bond ratings, a bond-guarantee program lowers the interest rates districts pay on bonds.

NO. 6

Wages could be garnished to enforce child support orders.

Texas is one of only a handful of states that do not allow wage garnishment. This amendment, which is supported by a wide variety of groups, would only allow garnishment for child support.

Children benefit because the payments are automatically deducted. The custodial parent no longer has to go to court or try to locate the absent parent. And the employer simply makes the deduction at the same time as other regular payroll deductions.

NO. 7

This would allow the Veterans' Land Board to issue \$500 million in general obligation bonds to create a Veterans' Housing Assistance Fund.

NO. 8

This amendment permits the governing body of a political subdivision to exempt property of certain veterans' organizations from ad valorem taxation. Those fraternal organizations organized to perform "charitable and benevolent functions" would also be eligible for exemptions.

NO. 9

Statutory probate court judges would be allowed to substitute in any county for

a judge of a statutory county court with probate jurisdiction or for the judge of the constitutional county court.

NO. 10

Cities would be given the right to spend public money to replace sewer lines on private property and to assess the cost to the property owner, if the owner agrees. The owner would be given five years to pay the assessment.

NO. 11

This would change the Board of Pardons and Paroles from a constitutional to a statutory agency and gives the board the exclusive power to revoke parole. It also

restores the governor's power to appoint all members of the board, which would no longer be limited to three members.

Supporters point out that this amendment would expedite the parole process and save money. The board has the expertise to determine if someone should be granted parole. Allowing the governor's clemency office review powers is a duplication.

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ments in a manner that would yield sufficient revenue to operate the programs effectively.

NO. 5

This amendment appropriates money from the Available School Fund to admin-

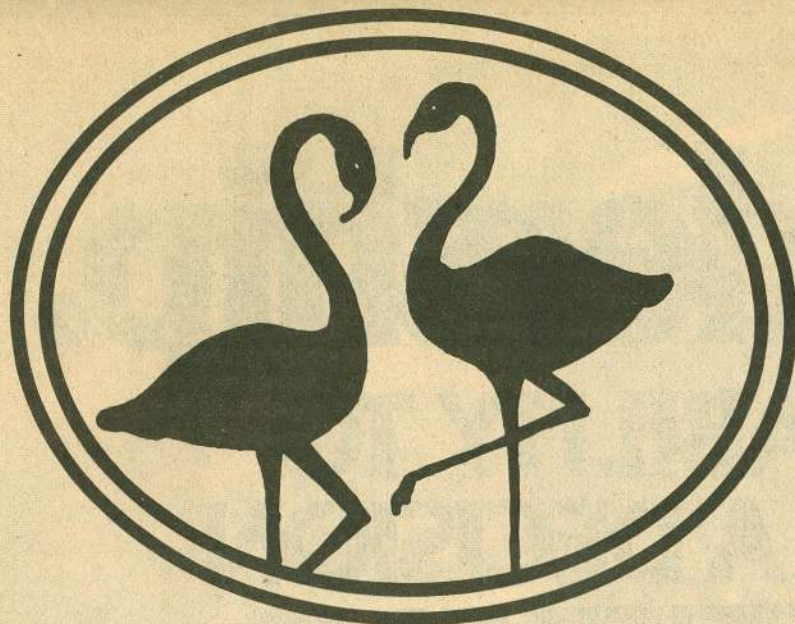
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NO. 9

Statutory probate court judges would be allowed to substitute in any county for

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