

H G & L P C

Houston Gay

Lesbian Political Caucus

FEB. 1994

NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box Box 66664
Houston, Texas 77266

February Caucus Meeting

The Stouffer Presidente

6 Greenway Plaza East

Phone: 629-1200

Wednesday, February 2, 1994

Credentiailling & Social Time,

7:00 PM

Meeting, 7:30 PM

The focus of this meeting is to endorse candidates running for office in the March 8th, 1994 Primary Election. The Screening Committee will present its candidates and make recommendations to the Caucus.

Important Reminder:

Only members in good standing may vote.

New members must wait 30 days before voting privileges are granted.

Directions to Caucus Meeting:

Free parking is available in the lower garage of the Stouffer Presidente Hotel/Greenway Plaza complex. If you exit off of north-bound

Edloe, the entrance to the underground garage is directly in front of the hotel. Take the escalators to the ballroom level. Check at the Credentials Table prior to entering the Caucus meeting room.

Supreme Court refuses ruling on Sec. 21.06

The Texas Supreme Court has thrown out Morales et al. v. Texas, the challenge to the state anti-sodomy statute, on the basis that the civil courts do not have jurisdiction. The gay and lesbian community shouldn't be overjoyed at this decision; however.

The Supreme Court decision has left in effect the decision of the Third District Court of Appeals which ruled in the City of Dallas v. England case that Sec. 21.06 is unconstitutional. District Court of Appeals rulings have statewide effect unless overturned by a high court.

While the fact that a criminal court has ruled Sec. 21.06 unconstitutional is a victory for the lesbian and gay community, the fact that the Supreme Court has failed to rule poses difficult legal and political questions. The Supreme Court has limited the ability to test the constitutionality of a law. Without criminal prosecution there is now no way to get a high court review of Sec. 21.06.

One can only speculate as to the political motivation behind the ruling. The dissenting opinion, joined by both liberal and conservative justices, asserted there is ample evidence of harm. Refusing to rule might indicate that the debate of lesbian and gay equal rights is too much of a political hot potato to the majority of the Court. If this is so, perhaps the new Supreme Court in 1995 may have a different majority opinion on where Sec. 21.06 lies jurisdictionally.

The Texas Human Rights Foundation has called this a backhanded victory for the gay and lesbian community. We are victorious in that there is in effect a statewide ruling that the anti-sodomy statute is unconstitutional. However, without a high court ruling, the books aren't closed on Sec. 21.06.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE CAUCUS

One of the ways you get things done is to first dream the dream, then set your goals necessary to achieve those dreams. Once goals are set, then Action Plans can be drawn to map out paths toward that end. That's basically what we're going to do this year.

For 1994, the following goals have been set and are being acted on by committees of the Caucus: To double our cash receipts (to \$50,000); to double our membership (paid membership has dropped to below 200 as I take office); to double our mailing list (which has also dropped by more than half of what it was). Committees have already begun work on each of these items. Read some of their reports elsewhere in this newsletter and you'll see what I mean.

My goal is to strengthen the organization by adding structure, communication between committees, computing power, and money to our operations. We're a PAC, and we're going to begin acting like it twelve months a year, not just at election time.

As to the goals of doubling our funding, membership, and the mailing list, believe me, it's all doable. It requires each of us to bring our friends and others into the Caucus. In this case, the bigger the Caucus, the better the representation of our community.

Doubling our membership increases our projected annual revenue by 12%. We will also tap other revenue sources, as well. For its part, the Pledge Program, for example, has to bring in \$15,000 for us to successfully reach our overall goal of \$50,000 in 1994. Already, the Finance Committee has signed up annual pledges totaling \$5,000, one-third of what they will need to collect from this source alone.

This same success will happen to our other doubling goals as other committees begin to do their part. Each committee has distinct and important roles to play in this operation. Our success won't happen overnight. Nor within a few months. This is a year-long project. I look forward to working with you towards this end. 1994 is going to go down as a good year for our political movement here in Houston, especially for the Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus.

There are, of course, other organizational things in the works that I look forward to sharing with you as we get on with our 1994 mission. Such things as strengthening the committee system of how we operate. First, however, is the upcoming primary election coming Tuesday, March 8, 1994.

The Caucus cannot slow down in doing its job, even when there happens to be a change of Caucus officers. We are fortunate to have Jim Owens at the helm of the Screening Committee once again.

His committee has been at work for weeks and will be presenting their recommendations to us at our next Caucus general meeting, Wednesday, February 2, 1994. This endorsement meeting will be an important meeting and all Caucus members are encouraged to participate. It's about as grass roots as it gets in politics. We are going to be faced with some interesting new challenges that evening, to say the least.

This is what it is all about, folks. Come watch and participate. It's your organization. It's fun. And you'll feel good doing good. All at the same time. See you.

GVO

HOUSTON GAY & LESBIAN POLITICAL CAUCUS

P. O. Box 66664, Houston, Texas 77266-6664
(713) 521-1000

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Terri Richardson, Vice President
Matthew Huston, Secretary
Patrick McKee, Treasurer

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This member newsletter is an official publication of the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus. Commentary published herein reflects the opinions of the HGLPC. The Caucus also publishes an Election Newsletter at least two times annually in even-numbered years, and at least once in odd-numbered years.

Paid for by Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus
Patrick McKee, Treasurer

TAKE THE PLEDGE

During the last Caucus general meeting, the Finance Committee presented the blueprint for our 1994 budget. This year we are proposing a budget two times larger than what we spent last year. This is based on what we, as a Caucus, have said that we want to accomplish, and is necessary if we are to match the spending done by Far Right groups who want to eliminate our rights and regulate our bedrooms.

To get the money we need to meet the challenges we are undertaking, we need committed people who are willing to help fund the fight to join our Pledge Program. There are three ways you can "take the pledge:"

- 1) Have \$50 per month electronically withdrawn from your checking account, or
- 2) Pay \$150 per calendar quarter, or
- 3) One payment in the amount of \$600.

We have heard the ambitious plans that our new president has for the Caucus, and we have seen the need for an organized, effective political group dedicated to the advancement of gay and lesbian issues in the local political arena. Colorado is an example of what can happen if we are not prepared. To be an effective political power, we need block voting power, we need committed volunteers, and we need money. Through the Pledge Program, you can help give the Caucus the money we need.

If you are interested in joining this program, please give Scot Hedrick, the Finance Committee chair, a call at 787-6542.

PRIMARY ELECTION: PRIMER INFORMATION

It is very, very important that you remember that once every two years you must vote twice: Once in the primary election, once later that evening after the polls close. The second election is called the precinct convention and it is where you elect your respective party's delegates and alternates (Republican and Democrat) to the next phase of this bi-annual process.

Those elected at the *precinct* level then go to the *senatorial* district convention. Then that *senatorial* convention elects delegates to the *state* convention. And so on. In off years, such as this year, it is easier to get our community's delegates and alternates elected.

Your second vote that day is just as important as the first, kinda. This is how you have a voice in your own political party's inner workings, not just the party's candidates. But you can't vote this 2nd time *unless* you had voted in the primary election during the day. Voting in the primary is what qualifies you to vote in the precinct convention.

The **HGLPC Election Newsletter**, due out near the end of February, will describe this process in more detail. Since the two major parties have slightly different rules regarding the precinct convention process, be sure you read the information relevant just to your own political party.

Caucus Committees And Their Respective Chairs: (Caucus Voice Mail Box numbers are in parenthesis)

3-Ring Project
Finance/Fund Raising (4)
Historian (archivist)
Information & Technology(5)
Legal Guidance
Liaison (within community)
Mailing List (new signups) (6)
Membership
Mission Statement
Newsletter

Annie Parker
Scot Hedrick
Dennis Klappersack
David Westerkamp
Dale Carpenter
Clair Koepsel
Ken Wilk
Kevin Davidson
Annie Parker & Chris Bacon
Gary Van Ooteghem

Office
Outreach (outside community)

Parliamentarian
Pledge Program
Police Relations
Public Relations
Screening (2)
Taxes & Accounting
Voter Registration

Rennie Trozzi
Marion E. Coleman
& Gene Harrington
Clark Moore
Scot Hedrick
Annie Parker
Keith McGee
Jim Owens
Kathy Hubbard
Lou Vanech

Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus

General Meeting Minutes

January 5, 1994

Convened at 7:30 PM. Rennie Trozzi, chair.

Reports

1. The December general meeting minutes were amended to show that the November board meeting was chaired by the Secretary. *The minutes were approved.*

2. McKee presented the Treasurer's Report

3. Davidson presented the Board Report:

- The board passed a motion that the Office Committee research two proposals for office space.
- \$1300 were allocated to the Computer Committee with a fundraiser organized by Richardson to try to recoup funds.

4. Westerkamp presented the Computer Committee Report:

- A committee meeting was announced for Saturday, January 8, 1994, at 3419 Roseland. 1 PM.
- Money was approved for buying hard drive for storing the mailing list and the voter list.

5. Hedrick presented the Finance Committee Report:

- Distributed 1994 budget proposal as a starting point to work from.
- Requested that proposals for money should go through the Finance Committee
- Requested that committee chairs give input to the Finance Committee to provide accurate information
- Requested that the Treasurer be a member of the Finance Committee
- Announced that proposals are due by Feb 9 from committee chairs to the Finance Committee for the next budget review.
- This ambitious budget proposal is five times as much expended in 1993.
- The proposal is predicated on: (1) increased membership, (2) new Pledge Program, and (3) budget money for a PAC in new year
- Caucus members with input may contact Hedrick directly or attend a monthly meeting - usually 3rd Wednesday of each month

6. Owens presented the Screening Review Committee Report

- Screening Review Committee met twice in December.
- Owens requested that he be allowed to incorporate the Screening Committee discussion under New Business at this time. No objections.
- The following recommendations were made:
Questionnaire for candidates was developed incorporating: (1) general political info, and (2) specific info of interest to the Caucus. It is to be mailed prior to screening to all the candidates.
Resource book was established for screeners for background on seats.
Panel chairs will meet ahead of time to develop questions to start the screening. 20 minute sessions were deemed too short so they were lengthened to 30 minutes with 5 minutes before and after for the panel to review the candidate. Each panel is to designate someone to take notes for the panel in addition to each screener's own notes.
Scoring methodology was changed slightly
Screener qualifications were developed to ensure all screeners are impartial.
Panel chair will now review and decide if a screener is qualified. Screener may appeal the decision to the entire screening panel.
The panel chair will decide if observers may be permitted into a screening.
- For the upcoming screening:
New screeners must attend an orientation session
Screener must evaluate all candidates in a race for their scores to count
Panel will meet before each screening session to establish rules and for orientation
Those wishing to screen to sign up with Owens.
There will be three panels for this screening period
Screening starts 1/17 - 1/26 and all screeners will meet prior to the February general meeting to develop recommendations.
- There was general discussion on whether to screen unopposed candidates in the primary. The current policy is to screen all who request a screening. To change this would require a vote by the Caucus.

7. Motion: Trozzi moved that credentialing be closed (8:07 PM) General second. *Motion passed without discussion.*

Old Business

1. Office Space - Trozzi

- Space at 3400 Montrose was being checked out.
- Space is big enough to hold general meetings.
- Bacon was reviewing the lease
- Gay Men's Chorus made a request to sublet space from Caucus. They were still reviewing if the proposed space met their needs.
- Carpenter to discuss with them to see what arrangements can be made.

New Business

1. Elections

a. Second calls were made:

- Board seat #9 - VanOoteghem announced during first call, VanOoteghem removed self from ballot, Coleman self nominated, no other nominations, nominations closed
- Board seat #8 - Carpenter announced during first call, no other nominations, nominations closed
- Board seat #7 - Koepsel announced during first call, no other nominations, nominations closed
- Board seat #4 - Huston announced during first call, Wilk self nominated, Huston withdrew nomination, no other nominations, nominations closed
- Treasurer - No nominations during first call, McKee self nominated, no other nominations, nominations closed.
- Secretary - No nominations during first call, Lewis self nominated, Froehlich self nominated, Huston self nominated, Lewis withdrew, no other nominations, nominations closed.
- Vice President - Richardson announced during first call, no other nominations, nominations closed
- President - No nominations during first call, VanOoteghem self nominated, no other nominations, nominations closed
- b. Motion: Hill moved that candidates in all unopposed races be elected by acclamation. General second.** Motion passed without discussion.
- c. Wilk addressed the Caucus with a short speech on his background. VanOoteghem made a brief statement to the Caucus.
- d. Secretary candidates addressed the Caucus
- e. Trozzi called a break for voting and counting.
- f. Meeting called to order

2. Stop the Hate Rally — Trozzi

- A gay man was beaten and shot in Tyler in December.
- Rally to be held January 8, 1994, in Tyler for visibility was announced
- Hill addressed Caucus about the importance of the rally.
- This is possibly first case to be tried under the new state hate crimes statute.
- Motion: Huston moved that the Caucus endorse the Stop the Hate Rally. General second.** Motion passed unanimously without discussion.

3. Trozzi turned meeting over to VanOoteghem

4. VanOoteghem announced Huston as new Secretary. A request was made from the floor for the vote tally. Clark announced the tally as 25 for Huston, 20 for Froehlich.

5. VanOoteghem addressed the Caucus at length.

- Stressed that the Caucus is "one" group.
- Announced a committee to review and revise the mission statement.
- Indicated he will stress and attack AIDS issues.
- Stressed the need to raise funds for the PAC.
- The mailing list is very low (4,500 valid names). The new computer system will assist in building it up again. It is an effective tool to provide candidates.
- A PAC necessary to provide money to candidates. More than an endorsement is required.
- Recommended a training program for new committee chairs led by the current chair
- Announced the 1994 committee chairs.
- Several candidates at the meeting were recognized.

6. Motion: Trozzi thanked Richardson for her leadership and moved for lifetime membership. General second. *Motion passed unanimously without discussion.*

Announcements

1. Stonewall 25 meeting to be held January 27, 1994, at 7:30 PM, Montrose Library

2. Parker requested volunteers for the Police Committee to learn procedures in

dealing with the police department and the courts.

3. Haring announced the P-FLAG Homophobia Workshop scheduled for March 11, 1994. Brochures are available. CEE credits will be offered.
4. Hill said to send letter of appreciation to outgoing board members and officers. No action taken by the Caucus.

5. Harrington reviewed the action done for the December run-off election, including signs supporting Gorkzynski and Tinsley.

6. Kever requested support for his candidacy for Empress of the Imperial Court Single Star. Everyone is eligible to vote. "Damita Jo" is name to vote for on January 22, 1994, at 811 Westheimer, HIPY offices.

Motion to adjourn at 9:25 PM.

Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus Board of Directors Meeting January 12, 1994 Minutes

In attendance:

officers

Gary VanOoteghem
Terri Richardson
Matthew Huston
Patrick McKee

board members

Kevin Davidson
Ray Ramirez
Keith McGee
Ken Wilk
David Westerkamp

others present:

Kathy Hubbard
Michael Stubblefield
Jack Valinski

Scot Hedrick
Claire Koepsel
Dale Carpenter
Marion Coleman

Meeting convened at 7:30 PM. Davidson, chair.

Reports/Old Business

1. Hedrick presented minutes from December 1993 board meeting.
Approved.

2. McKee presented Treasurer's Report

3. Hedrick presented Finance Committee Report

The report indicates sources of funding include: (1) Computer Committee raising its own funds for initial capital investments, (2) office sublet to Gay Men's Chorus, (3) annual dinner, and (4) new pledge program.

Hedrick presented two articles to be included in the newsletter: (1) Finance Committee Report, and (2) "Take the Pledge".

Hedrick presented a sample pledge form and requested board ratification of the pledge program.

Discussion:

Nine people are currently identified as willing to contribute in the pledge program

Wilk suggested we use the name "GLPC" instead of the organization's full name. McKee raised the question of legal/liability issues.

Wilk suggested to increase the number and dollar value of pledge amount options.

No action taken by board.

4. Westerkamp presented Computer Committee Report

Westerkamp read the Computer Committee's adopted mission statement and gave the status of the same-sex sort beginning with the 20 precincts of highest gay concentration. The current "big list" has 4,500 valid names. To help with the committee's budget development, the committee plans to send delegates to each other committee meeting to assess their computer needs. The 600 MB hard drive and the tape backup have been purchased. Additional budget items (not fully assessed) include (1) backups, (2) operations, (3) networking, and (4) additional software (desktop publishing, Microsoft Projects). Richardson has potential fundraising source. The committee additionally proposed contacting national groups (Digital Queers) and setting up a bulletin board system (BBS).

Discussion:

Richardson expressed concern that lesbians outside the gay neighborhoods were not being reached.

Stubblefield reported that in the county, 376,000 people live in same-sex households with different last names, and so the priority should be to search where we know gay people live.

There was general discussion on selling our mailing list.

The Computer Committee has been renamed the Information & Technology

Committee.

No action taken by the board.

5. Hedrick presented Office Committee Report

Hedrick said the space is a good one and that we should proceed with it. The Gay Men's Chorus wants to sublet an office, but they will not be singing there.

Discussion:

McGee expressed a preference in continuing to use a hotel for our general meetings.

Carpenter disagreed saying the office is very presentable and also within walking distance for many people.

There was general discussion ceiling tile options.

Carpenter raised some leasing details, including: (1) a \$500,000 insurance policy, and (2) a lien on all equipment kept in the office.

There was general agreement that those were unreasonable requests.

VanOoteghem indicated the space would be available after March 1, due to work that needed to be done on the space.

Motion: VanOoteghem moved that the President, Finance Chair, and Legal Counsel renegotiate and finalize the lease for office space at 3400 Montrose, Suite 306, not to exceed \$650 per month. General second.

Motion passed without opposition.

6. Hubbard presented Tax/Accounting Report

Hubbard reported that two past corporate charters have expired and that the GLPC is an unincorporated organization. There is only one bank account, held by the PAC. Current PAC reporting on spending is "kosher". VanOoteghem jokingly announced his resignation. Richardson gave past Articles of Incorporation to Hubbard. Hubbard indicated we may attempt to apply for 501(c)4 status. McKee and Davidson stated that campaign finance reports to the Texas Ethics Commission are due January 18, 1994. Election Newsletter ads were cross-checked with payments McKee had received. General discussion on gathering full documentation prior to selling an ad.

No action taken by the board.

Brief discussion on the Texas Supreme Court decision regarding 21.06.

7. Newsletter

Davidson reported that there are two weeks to get ads, then print and mail the newsletter after the endorsement meeting.

Discussion:

VanOoteghem suggested we adopt a policy of "no ad without a check".

Richardson opposed, indicating there is not enough time to work it that way.

Coleman agreed with Richardson, indicating that GLPC is not a business.

General discussion ensued on getting documentation of who gave and (who did not give) money to the Caucus during the December run-off election.

No action taken by the board.

New Business

1. Call Notes (telephone messaging service)

VanOoteghem requested board approval of "30-call package" so that each committee can have its own voice mail box.

Motion: Coleman moved the above. General second.

Motion passed without opposition.

2. Retreat

VanOoteghem suggested that the board hold a retreat in the April-May time frame to sit and talk.

Discussion:

Richardson suggested that the retreat be held earlier — soon after the primary election.

Richardson recommended a place in Romayor, TX which she will reserve before the next meeting.

General discussion on putting this item on the agenda for the next meeting.

No action taken by the board.

3. Liaison Committee

VanOoteghem suggested setting up presentations for all other organizations on the community, and that training sessions be developed to prepare these presentations.

Discussion:

Richardson discussed her experience speaking with the Gulf Coast Transgender Association and recommended serious education of GLPC membership about this highly-discriminated-against community.

Ramirez remarked on the unfriendly atmosphere at general meetings and suggested we make people feel more wanted.

Coleman suggested having two board members as greeters at each general meeting.

COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

FINANCE/FUND RAISING

The Finance Committee met on December 15, 1993, and at that meeting developed the blueprint for the 1994 budget. This budget outlined the major sources of funds for the Caucus and the major uses of those funds.

The major sources of funds will be the new pledge program (see related pledge program article) and a doubling of the membership of the Caucus. The Annual Dinner, advertising sales in our election newsletter, and normal Caucus contributions will continue to be regular sources of revenue.

Major expenditures include multiple election related mailings during the 1994 elections, rent for the new office, and newsletter publishing. We plan to build up cash reserves during 1994 so as to leave more than \$10,000 to the 1995 Caucus.

The plans of the Information & Technology Committee are also incorporated in the budget. It was recognized that several of the committees are just beginning to forge their plans; therefore, the Finance Committee is requesting that all committees submit a preliminary budget by February 9, 1994.

It is planned that ALL expenditure proposals first be passed through the Finance Committee to be reviewed against the budget. The committee also recommended that the Treasurer be an ex officio member of the committee. Finally, the committee will begin developing future budgets and long-term plans so that we will have a budget for each future year before the end of the preceding year.

If you have any input to the budget process, or would like to help the committee, please contact Scot Hedrick at 787-6542.

INFORMATION & TECHNOLOGY

Information and Technology Committee meets on the first Sunday of each month at 1:30 PM. Call Voice Mail Box # 5 for more details and announcements.

The HGLPC Information and Technology Committee (ITC) met on January 9, 1994, and defined its mission statement, and responsibility to the Caucus at large. ITC's mission will be to plan for, and provide comprehensive information services to support all stated goals of the Caucus. Solutions will be provided, or developed, using the most efficient and effective hardware and software technologies. This will be done within set financial planning guidelines.

Developing a comprehensive computer services plan for the Caucus will require meeting with each committee to survey specific needs. From that effort, a plan will take shape, and a budget will be developed and submitted to the Finance Committee and the Board.

The Apple Corporation has been chosen as the primary hardware and office productivity software solution. This decision was made in large part because of Apple's intuitive user friendly computing environment. The learning curve for new users will be minimal. Apple has committed to provide a software bridge to IBM's DOS and OS/2 based environment. This will meet the objective of maximizing system compatibility and portability to the more widely used IBM architecture.

Basic office productivity software will include interactive word processing and spreadsheet, desktop publishing, and a budget and financial package. Other possible applications might include flow chart and form's software.

The Board has approved the purchase of a 600 Mb external hard drive, a tape backup system, and Foxpro software. Foxpro is a relational database that is being used to restore and update the current mailing list, and to develop a sophisticated, powerful and versatile mailing list database. Needless to say, this is a critical resource for doing the basic work of the Caucus.

This committee has an aggressive and exciting agenda and we encourage your involvement. For information, contact David Westerkamp at 524-5466.

SCREENING

The **Screening Committee** activity is currently focusing solely on the screening of current Primary Election candidates. As of one week before the February general Caucus meeting, there were three panels comprised of 24 Caucus members screening 60 candidates. For more information, call Jim Owens at his Voice Mail Box # 2.

Committee chair Jim Owens reports that the screening of Sheila Jackson Lee and Craig Washington has been completed. He anticipates that this will be one of the more exciting races for us on the evening of Endorsement night, Wednesday, February 2nd. He further reports that three Republicans have requested to be screened. A recent record, he says.

NEWSLETTER

The **Newsletter Committee** announces that future monthly issues of this newsletter will contain photos (on a regular basis) and stories of interest to Caucus members. Changes in style and format will be noticable by our readers beginning with this 1st issue of 1994. We are starting to apply more computer power, together with the natural talent we have available in our community, to evolve the Caucus newsletter into the information tool that it is meant to be.

If you wish to be either a writing or photographic contributor, please get involved with this committee. For more information, call the Caucus' main telephone number (521-1000) and leave your name and number in our new Voice Mail system.

MISSION STATEMENT

The **Mission Statement Committee** is comprised of two former Presidents of the Caucus, Annise Parker and Chris Bacon. They have been charged with the assignment of writing the Caucus' mission statement. It is anticipated that they will be ready to present their report at either the March or April, 1994 general Caucus meeting. They do not hold general meetings. If you wish to have input into their task at hand, please write to the committee by sending your thoughts care of HGLPC, Post Office Box 66664, Houston, Texas 77266-6664.

OFFICE COMMITTEE

The **Office Committee** has located office space for the Caucus at 3400 Montrose (Code's). Expected move-in date is either March or April, 1994. More news on this as this date gets closer.

CALENDAR OF CAUCUS MEETINGS

ALL COMMITTEE CHAIRS: To have your committee meetings shown in the HGLPC Newsletter, please contact the Newsletter Committee with details.

Wednesday, February 2, 1994:

The **Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus general meeting** will be at Stouffer's Presidente Hotel. Social and credentialing begin at 7:00 PM, Meeting starts promptly at 7:30 PM.

Wednesday, February 9, 1994:

The **Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus Board of Directors'** monthly board meeting begins with a Social at 7:00 PM. The meeting starts at 7:30 PM. The meeting place was not known at the time this newsletter was going to press.

Wednesday, February 16, 1994:

Finance Committee monthly meeting: Social at 7:00 PM, Meeting at begins 7:30 PM. Meeting place will be at 3416 Garrott Street in the Montrose. The committee is working on the largest Caucus budget ever: \$50,000 for 1994. Call Voice Mail Box # 4 for more details and announcements.

Wednesday, February 23, 1994

During 1994, the **chairs of all the committees** will meet on the 4th Wednesday of each month to discuss operational and co-ordinating procedures and problems between their respective committees. *This meeting is for Committee Chairs only.*

General Meeting Minutes Continued...

McKee suggested making nametags for board members and officers.
General discussion on starting a guestbook.
VanOoteghem suggested we get literature printed up that includes the mission statement.
Coleman suggested distributing a card with the committee names.
Carpenter expressed opposition to affirmative action but suggested we increase outreach to African Americans.
Coleman indicated the Outreach Committee has already made contacts in black and latino communities.

Motion: Richardson moved that VanOoteghem issue a press release on the Supreme Court's 21.06 ruling.
VanOoteghem indicated that McGee had called the THRF to get information on the ruling.
Motion dies without a second.
Richardson asked who the PAC chair is. VanOoteghem stated that he is.
No action taken by the board.

4. Other

a. Motion: Coleman moved that a discretionary fund for the President be set at \$250 annually.
General second.

Discussion:

The current discretionary fund was set at \$50 monthly.

Coleman withdrew the motion.

b. VanOoteghem stated that by-laws changes are the legal responsibility of the 9-member board, and that board members should be included on the By-Laws Committee. Copies of the by-laws will be made for the next meeting.

c. Ramirez asked whether the Caucus would like to hold a Pride Week (June 3-12, 1994) event.

No action taken by the board.

Next meeting announced for immediately following the endorsement meeting.

Announcements

1. Wilk announced the Log Cabin Republicans meeting for January 31, 1994.

Meeting to be held at 2311 Rosedale. Phone 522-5502.

2. Ramirez announced the Houston Stonewall 25 Committee will meet January 27, 1994, at 7:00 PM. Montrose Library upstairs.

Motion to adjourn at 9:15 PM.

Minutes taken by Matthew Huston, Secretary

Obituaries

Robert Louis Falletti, former GLPC member, died on January 19, 1994. He was 36.

Clint Darbonne, husband of GLPC member Sheri Cohen-Darbonne, died on January 19, 1994.

If you wish to report an obituary to the Newsletter Committee for inclusion in our newsletter, please call the Caucus office (521-1000) and share this information with us.

H G & L P C

MARCH
1994

Houston Gay

Lesbian Political Caucus



ELECTION NEWSLETTER



PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE CAUCUS

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

We don't have much space in this publication, so let me cut to the chase right off the bat. The Caucus and its screening committee have spent a great deal of time screening candidates for the upcoming primary election on March 8, 1994. Other committees have worked to get the word out to voters in our community. The work that all do are related to one Caucus objective: Block Voting. This is where you come in.

Inside this Caucus Election Newsletter is information that will assist you in helping us deliver the block vote to candidates who are understanding and sympathetic to our cause. It is important that these candidates get your support and vote. It is the very essence of what we are about, frankly.

We are experimenting with a new, novel way to put this information into your hands so that you can take it with you to the polls. You will notice that we have included a perforated push card. Please take one for yourself and then give the other push cards to friends and family who can help us in this endeavor. We must do everything in our power to multiply our voting strength.

The candidates and advertisers who have placed ads in this publication are to be thanked because they have helped us raise the funds necessary to reach the thousands of voters in our community on our mailing list. Now it is your turn to help by passing the word along.

If you know of others who would like to receive Caucus news and endorsement information, please call or write us so that we can get them on our lists. We literally need to reach everybody within ear shot to make this a successful mission.



GARY J. VAN OOTEGHEM

HOUSTON GAY & LESBIAN POLITICAL CAUCUS

P. O. Box 66664, Houston, Texas 77266-6664
(713) 521-1000

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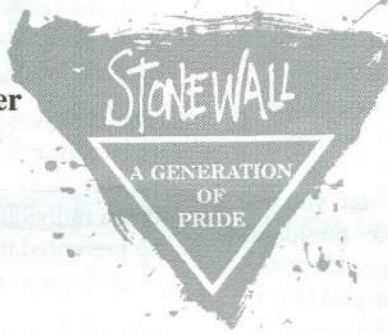
This Election Newsletter is an official publication of the Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus. Commentary published herein reflects the opinions of the HGLPC. The Caucus also publishes a monthly newsletter for its members.

Paid for by Houston Gay & Lesbian
Political Caucus
Patrick McKee, Treasurer

1969 STONEWALL



During the last weekend of June, 1969, police and Alcoholic Beverage Control Board agents entered a gay bar – The Stonewall Inn – on Christopher Street in New York City. Allegedly, there to look for violations of the alcoholic control laws, they made the usual homophobic comments and then, after checking identification, threw the patrons out of the bar, one by one. Instead of quietly slipping away into the night, as we had done for years, drag queens and king, many African-Americans and Latinos, hustlers, students and others in the area held their ground and fought back. Someone uprooted a parking meter and used it to barricade the door. The agents and police were trapped inside. They wrecked the place and called in reinforcements. Their vehicles raced to the scene with lights glaring and sirens blaring. The crowd grew. Someone set a fire. More people came. People protested for three days. And for the first time, after innumerable years of oppression, the chant, Gay Power, rang out!



1994 STONEWALL

On June 26, 1994, representatives from 162 countries will march on the United Nations Building in New York City. All facets of our global family will come together in a unified action. This international movement will show the diversity of our community, and our unity of purpose will capture world-wide attention. Our avowed task: to eradicate homophobia from our villages, cities, provinces, nations... and this planet!

STONEWALL 1994 HOUSTON CHAPTER

Houston is taking its place with the rest of the country, and the world, to see that our voices are heard. The Stonewall '94 – Houston Chapter will promote outreach, media and PR, merchandising, travel logistics, and most importantly, fundraising. For more information, contact:

Graig Williams (Chairperson)

272-0656

Jim Ewing (Fundraising Co-Chair)

528-6835

STATE PARTY CONVENTIONS

Party conventions in non-presidential years can be as important as those in presidential election years. There is no national convention to attend, but this is a time to learn the process (stage a coup?) and lay the groundwork for 1996. You must be elected a delegate or alternate at each stage to progress further: starting first at the precinct convention, then to the senatorial district convention, and then finally to the state convention. Fewer people participate in the off-years, so it is easier to be elected to the next level and it is often easier to pass resolutions. This article will deal with the precinct conventions only.

MARCH 8, 1994

**PRECINCT POLLING PLACE
7:00 PM**

Return to your polling place and locate the primary for your precinct. If Republicans and Democrats share a polling place, they will be meeting in different rooms in the same building. You **MUST** have voted in that party's primary earlier in the day to attend the evening precinct convention. You are not allowed to switch party affiliation during this process. Your voter registration card will have been stamped to indicate this fact. Bring this card with you when you return to the polls to participate in the precinct convention. As you enter, you will be asked to sign-in on an attendance sheet. Unlike presidential election years, you are not required to state any presidential preference or caucus status. However, you may be part of a group and want all your supporters to sign in as, for example, "Reform Democrats" or "Moderate Republicans." (If you are planning a caucus sign-in, call your party for special rules.)

7:15 PM

The election judge (or any qualified voter) may call the convention to order. The election judge (or a proxy) often calls the convention to order and then requests, as a courtesy, an immediate adjournment so that he/she can finish election paperwork and participate themselves. Sometimes, another qualified voter will have called the convention to order thus creating two precinct conventions. Should this happen, both conventions' delegates must then be taken to the Senatorial District Convention to determine which is the legitimate convention. This tactic has been used by the fundamentalists in the Republican Party.

The body then elects a permanent chairperson and secretary. Nominations come from the floor, can be self-nominations, may be for any qualified attendee, and may be closed by a two-thirds vote. Voting is by any standard method, although any person may request a roll call vote. The new chairperson will then take possession of an information packet provided by the party.

Each precinct elects a different number of delegates and alternates to the senatorial district convention. The

chairperson will announce what that total is and then may call for nominations. Each person has as many votes as the number of delegates to be elected. You may vote these as a block, or divide them among candidates. For example, you might cast six votes for one candidate, including yourself, or two votes for each of three candidates. Alternates are elected after all delegates have been elected. The Democrats have a gender parity rule that can be invoked, if necessary, to seek racial balance, as well.

Sometimes there are fewer nominees than delegate positions. If so, all nominees present are elected. Additional names may then be submitted of qualified voters who are not present to fill the delegation, or delegate positions may remain unfilled. This can be advantageous at the senatorial district convention, where those delegates present cast full allotment of votes even if that's a much higher number.

The chairperson then calls for the election of a delegate to serve as chairperson of the delegation at the senatorial convention.

The chairperson then calls for presentation of any resolutions to be forwarded to the senatorial district convention. They may be accepted unread if such a motion passes, or voted up or down individually. The chairperson may require resolutions to be presented in writing. Any qualified precinct convention attendee may present a resolution on any subject.

PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

This is an elective process! You should be known to others at the convention, or bring supporters pledged to vote for you. A basic knowledge of Robert's Rules of Order and current party rules are helpful, but not necessary. Party rules can be obtained, in advance and at no charge, from the party office. Be alert to resolutions or slates of delegates put forth by LaRouch supporters (democratic primary) or fundamentalists (republican primary).

Make a list of any gay or lesbian delegates or alternatives from your precinct.

If you feel you have been treated unfairly in the process, or wish to challenge the election of a delegate or delegation, immediately contact the local party office for instructions on the grievance process.

FINAL STEP

Call HGLPC at 521-1000 (FAX 524-8955) and give your name, address, precinct and party affiliation. Also give us those names of any other gay or lesbian delegates or alternates. We would like to use them in any pre-convention strategy sessions we might hold.



JUDGE JIMMY
Carroll
A TEXAS DEMOCRAT FOR
TEXAS SUPREME COURT

Political Ad. Pd For By Jimmy Carroll Campaign. Madelon Carroll, Treas.,
603 W. 13th Street, Suite 1A-179, Austin, Tx 78701

IEILIECT
MIKE CHARLTON



COUNTY CHAIR HARRIS COUNTY
DEMOCRATIC PARTY

ENDORSED BY THE HOUSTON GAY AND LESBIAN
POLITICAL CAUCUS, COOPERATING COUNSEL,
LAMBDA LEGAL DEFENSE FUND, TEXAS HUMAN RIGHTS
FOUNDATION

IT'S TIME TO ELECT SOMEONE
COMMITTED TO THE COMMUNITY

PAID FOR BY THE MIKE CHARLTON CAMPAIGN, KAREN LERNER, TREASURER, 550 WESTCOTT, SUITE 320, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77007

ENDORSED BY:

The Association of Women Attorneys
The Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus
Women's Political Caucus of Houston



ELECT

**Susan
SPRUCE**

180th Criminal District Court **JUDGE**

Vote March 8th Democratic Primary

Paid for by The Susan Spruce Campaign • Bill Burge, Treasurer, 333 Clay Street Suite 3636, Houston, TX 77002 • 655-1551

elect

Lee Wilson
JUDGE

County Criminal
Court No. 15

Paid Political Adv. Paid for by Lee Wilson for Judge • Mary E. Conn, Treasurer
918 Heights, Houston, Texas 77008 • (713) 868-9855

S H E R R I
C O T H R U N
 - for -
J U D G E
 309th Family District Court

YOLANDA

for

TEXAS STATE SENATE • DISTRICT 6

Pd. Pol. Adv. By The Yolanda Navarro Flores Campaign '94

Juanita Navarro, Treasurer (713) 692-4688

HAGSTETTE FOR JUDGE



**232ND CRIMINAL
DISTRICT COURT**

Strength of Experience
Courage of Conviction

Paid for by the Eric Hagstette Campaign, Charley Davidson, Treasurer

Ken Bentsen

Democrat for Congress

ENDORSED BY:

★ Houston Gay & Lesbian
Political Caucus

★ National Political Congress
of Black Women

★ Harris County Democrats

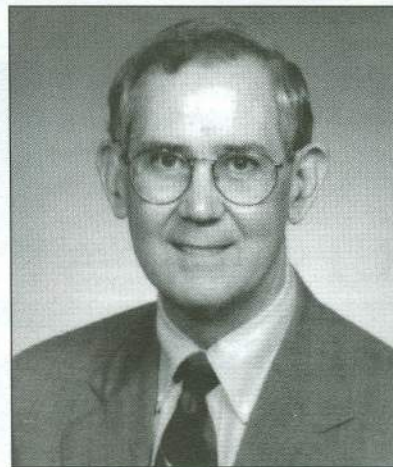
★ Houston Black American
Democrats

Paid for by the Ken Bentsen, Jr. for Congress Committee

ROSEMARY GARZA

ATTORNEY AT LAW

202 TRAVIS, SUITE 210 • HOUSTON, TEXAS 77002
 (713) 225-3757



Elect
MICHAEL T. HAY
 JUDGE, 245th
 JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Endorsed by Houston Gay and
Lesbian Political Caucus

Political Advertising paid for by the Michael T. Hay Campaign, Joyce Cox, Treasurer,
P.O. Box 53711-3711, Houston TX 77052-3711



GRADY YARBROUGH

FOR STATE TREASURY
☆☆ DEMOCRAT ☆☆

Keep the treasury open and operating. This is Vital because of the Increased Volume of Trade with Mexico, as a result of the N.A.F.T.A agreement. Other Latin-American Nations will soon sign trade agreements with the United States. Texas, geographically, is an entry for these Latin-American Nations to U.S. markets, therefore, the Treasury is vitally needed.

Reduce the cost of operation so that the agency can become more competitive.

To consolidate operating procedures where duplications occur.

To build confidence and morale among employees so that productivity can increase.

To operate the agency as the 1989 legislature intended.

To keep Texas informed via regular Town Hall meetings on how State Funds are spent and invested.



FRANCES M. (POPPY) NORTHCUTT

for JUDGE
Texas Court of Criminal Appeals

Paid political advertisement, Poppy Northcutt Campaign Fund, Jan Dilleck, Treasurer.
1001 Texas Ave., Ste 500, Houston, TX 77002
For additional information, call 713/225-0067. Fax 713-225-0944.

KEVIN D. NEWSOME

CPA FOR DISTRICT CLERK

*"Let's Move The District Clerk's
Office into the 90's"*

PAID FOR BY THE KEVIN D. NEWSOME CAMPAIGN, LEVI BENTON CPA, TREASURER.



Elect Leta PARKS JUDGE

234 th District Court

Leta Parks is endorsed by the GAY AND LESBIAN POLITICAL CAUCUS. The Caucus endorses Leta because she is the best qualified candidate and because she believes it's time for a fair hearing for EVERYONE.

Because other groups agree with the Caucus about Leta's experience and commitment she has recieved the greatest number and variety of endorsements of community groups.

Vote for LETA PARKS in the Democratic Primary on March 8th.

- | | |
|--|--|
| ■ Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus | ■ The Houston Post |
| ■ Women's Political Caucus | ■ Citizens for Qualified Judges |
| ■ Harris County Democrats | ■ Jewish Herald Voice |
| ■ Houston Lawyers Association | ■ Association of Women Attorneys |
| ■ Harris County Council of Organizations | ■ Harris County Mexican-American Democrats |
| ■ Houston Black American Democrats | ■ AFL / CIO |

Paid for by the Leta Parks Campaign • Mary Ann Harris, Treasurer • P.O. Box 131476 • Houston, Texas 77219

KEEP JUDGE PEAVY JUDGE

WELL QUALIFIED FOR FAMILY COURT JUDGE

Political advertising paid for by the Keep Judge Peavy Judge
J. Lindsey Short, Treasurer, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Ste. 315, Houston, TX 77027



TAKE THE PLEDGE

During the last Caucus general meeting, the Finance Committee presented the blueprint for our 1994 budget. This year we are proposing a budget two times larger than what we spent last year. This is based on what we, as a Caucus, have said that we want to accomplish, and is necessary if we are to match the spending done by Far Right groups who want to eliminate our rights and regulate our bedrooms.

To get the money we need to meet the challenges we are undertaking, we need committed people who are willing to help fund the fight to join our Pledge Program. There are three ways you can "take the pledge:"

- 1) Have \$50 per month electronically withdrawn from your checking account, or
- 2) Pay \$150 per calendar quarter, or
- 3) One payment in the amount of \$600.

We have heard the ambitious plans that our new president has for the Caucus, and we have seen the need for an organized, effective political group dedicated to the advancement of gay and lesbian issues in the local political arena. Colorado is an example of what can happen if we are not prepared. To be an effective political power, we need block voting power, we need committed volunteers, and we need money. Through the Pledge Program, you can help give the Caucus the money we need.

If you are interested in joining this program, please give Scot Hedrick, the Finance Committee chair, a call at 787-6542.

H G & L P C

ENDORSEMENTS FOR PRIMARY ELECTION

TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 1994

DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES

U. S. SENATE
U. S. HOUSE of
REPRESENTATIVES, DIST. 18
U. S. HOUSE of
REPRESENTATIVES, DIST. 25
STATE TREASURER
GENERAL LAND
COMMISSIONER
AGRICULTURE
COMMISSIONER
SUPREME COURT, PLACE 1
SUPREME COURT, PLACE 2
SUPREME COURT, PLACE 3
PRESIDING JUDGE
COURT of CRIMINAL APPEALS
COURT of CRIMINAL
APPEALS, PLACE 2
STATE SENATOR, DIST. 6
STATE SENATOR, DIST. 13
STATE SENATOR, DIST. 15
STATE REPRESENTATIVE,
DIST. 132
STATE REPRESENTATIVE,
DIST. 134
STATE REPRESENTATIVE,
DIST. 137
STATE REPRESENTATIVE,
DIST. 143
STATE REPRESENTATIVE,
DIST. 147
1st COURT of APPEALS,
PLACE 1
14th COURT of APPEALS,
PLACE 1
14th COURT of APPEALS,
PLACE 3
14th COURT of APPEALS,
PLACE 6
DISTRICT JUDGE
113th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT JUDGE
180th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT JUDGE
182nd JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT JUDGE
185th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT JUDGE
232nd JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT JUDGE
234TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT JUDGE

Jim Mattox
Craig A. Washington
Ken Bentsen
Grady Yarborough
Garry Mauro
Marvin Gregory
Rene Haas
Alice Oliver Parrot
Jimmy Carroll
Charles F. (Charlie) Baird
Frances M. (Poppy) Northcutt
Yolanda Navarro Flores
Rodney Ellis
John Whitmire
Scott Hochberg
Bruce Reeves
Debra Danburg
Carol Alvarado
Garnet F. Coleman
Gerry Birnberg
Ben G. Levy
George Ellis
Carl Dudensing
Patricia Lasher
Susan Spruce
Laura Ingle
Carl Walker, Jr.
Eric Hagstette
Leta Parks

245th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT JUDGE
246th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT JUDGE
248th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT JUDGE
263rd JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT JUDGE
281st JUDICIAL DISTRICT
FAMILY DISTRICT JUDGE
308th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
FAMILY DISTRICT JUDGE
309th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
FAMILY DISTRICT JUDGE
310th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
FAMILY DISTRICT JUDGE
311th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
FAMILY DISTRICT JUDGE
313th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
HARRIS COUNTY JUDGE
JUDGE, COUNTY
COURT at LAW #3
JUDGE, COUNTY
CRIMINAL COURT #9
JUDGE, COUNTY
CRIMINAL COURT #14
JUDGE, COUNTY
CRIMINAL COURT #15
JUDGE, PROBATE COURT #2
JUDGE, COUNTY
PROBATE COURT #4
DISTRICT CLERK
COUNTY CLERK
COUNTY TREASURER
JUSTICE of the PEACE
PRECINCT 1, PLACE 2
HARRIS COUNTY
DEMOCRATIC CHAIR
DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE, #53
DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE, #57

Michael T. Hay
John W. Peavy, Jr.
Woody R. Densen
Ruben Guerrero
Michael C. Farrow
Steve Schweitzer
Sherri Cothrun
Deborah Wright
Dinah Bailey
Ramona John
Vince Ryan
Carolyn Day Hobson
Glenn Joseph Rushin
Norma Jean Mancha
Lee Wilson
Martha Failing
Paul J. Smith
Kevin D. Newsome
Sheryl Roppolo
Katy Caldwell
David M. Patronella
Mike Charlton
Pat Gandy
Sherry Griffith

REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES

JUDGE, COURT of CRIMINAL
APPEALS, PLACE #1
HARRIS COUNTY CIVIL COURT #4

Steve Mansfield
Cynthia Crowe

To be included on our mailing list, call 521-1000.

Paid for by HGLPC, PAC
Patrick McKee, Treasurer
P.O. Box 66664, Houston, Texas 77266-6664

for Judge *Patricia* **Lasher**

113th Civil Dist. Court

A Democrat you can trust.



Pat Lasher is endorsed by:

- Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus
- Harris County Democrats
- AFL - CIO
- Area 5 Democrats
- Houston Area Black Democrats
- Association of Women Attorneys
- Mexican American Democrats of Houston

Political Adv. paid for by the Patricia Lasher for Judge Campaign,
Pamela Powell, Treasurer, 4500 Scotland, Houston TX 77007.

**United For Victory
on March 8
and November 2!**

**With your support, we'll
take back this seat in the
U.S. Senate and put it in
the hands of the people—
where it belongs!**

**Thanks for your encouragement and
continued help in the campaign.**

JIM MATTOX
DEMOCRAT FOR U.S. SENATE

Early Voting: February 16 - March 4

Pol. adv. paid for by Jim Mattox Finance Cmte.

**RE-ELECT
RE-ELECT
RE-ELECT**



**JUDGE
WOODY R. DENSEN**
248TH CRIMINAL DISTRICT

Democratic Primary March 8, 1994

**ENDORSED BY THE GAY & LESBIAN POLITICAL CAUCUS
RECORD VOTES AGAINST ART. 21.06, TEX. PENAL CODE AS
MEMBER OF TEXAS LEGISLATURE**

JUDGE OF 248TH CRIMINAL DISTRICT COURT FOR 12 YRS.

MEMBER TEXAS LEGISLATURE 4 YRS.

28 YRS. LEGAL EXPERIENCE AS TRIAL LAWYER,

LEGISLATOR & JUDGE

Paid For by Woody R. Densen Campaign, Douglas H. Pettit, Treasurer, 8704 Burning Hills, Houston, Texas 77071



**MICHAEL C.
FARROW**

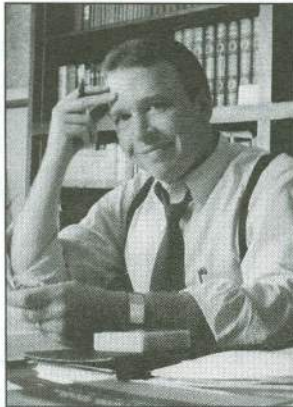
for **JUDGE**
281ST CIVIL DISTRICT COURT

Political Advertising paid for by the MICHAEL C. FARROW Campaign
John W. Stevenson, Jr., Treasurer - P. O. Box 2405 Houston, TX 77252-2405 - 713/942 VOTE

BAIRD, THE CHOICE FOR TEXAS

Texans have a right to know where a Judge stands...

- ☆ Judge Baird believes victims of crime deserve our protection more than criminals do.
- ☆ Judge Baird believes our judicial process should operate efficiently to punish the guilty and free the innocent.
- ☆ Judge Baird believes judges should handle their cases promptly to ensure that criminals are behind bars rather than walking our streets.
- ☆ Judge Baird believes in equal protection for all Texans, regardless of race or gender, by our criminal justice system.



...Judge Charlie Baird stands for us!

ELECT

Charles F. (Charlie) Baird
Presiding Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals

BAIRD...Leadership for a change

Pol. Adv. Pd. for by the Charles F. (Charlie) Baird Campaign, Elizabeth M. Garcia, Treasurer,
PO Box 1924, Austin, Texas 78767-1924



"Thank You"

*for your
Endorsement and your
on-going support."*

DEBRA DANBURG

STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DST 137

*...the most successful record on gay and lesbian
issues in the State Legislature.*

FOR DETAILS CALL 52-DEBRA

Paid for by the Debra Danburg Campaign Committee, P.O. Box 66602, Houston, Texas 77266, Tobin Englet Treasurer

**Since I Am Running Unopposed,
I'm Working Hard to Keep**

Congressman

Craig Washington

District 18



**A Representative
Who Fights for Our Rights**

Endorsed by the H.G.L.P.C.

**State Representative
Garnet F. Coleman**
District 147

ELECT JUSTICE BEN G. LEVY

14th Court of Appeals, Place 1



EXAMPLES OF APPEALS RESOLUTIONS

- a reasoned critique of the "employment-at-will" doctrine (Little v. Bruce, 1987)
- an affirmation of the constitutional right to peacefully picket
- a call for the establishment of a "parent-child" privilege
- an analysis of the harshness of the Texas recidivist statute as applied to non-violent crimes
- a protest against diluting the privilege against self-incrimination
- use of the *cy pres* doctrine to protect and preserve charitable trusts
- a warning of the dangers of censorship

**VOTE LEVY
DEM. PRIMARY
MARCH 8TH**

- Preferred by his peers in the Texas Bar Association in the 14 County area of this court's jurisdiction (More votes than his Democratic opponents combined)
- Endorsed by Houston Lawyers Association
- Endorsed by Harris County Democrats
- Endorsed by Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus
- Endorsed by Harris County Mexican American Democrats
- Endorsed by the East End Mexican American Democrats
- Houston Police Officers 1988 "Appellate Judge of the Year"

Pol. adv. paid for by the Committee to Return Justice Ben G. Levy
4061 O'Meara, Houston, Texas 77025, Martin S. Elfant, Treasurer.

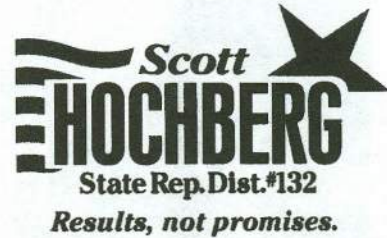
DeLago Health Services

"Where Home Healthcare is Going"



311 Rustic Lane
P.O. Box 624
Friendswood, Texas 77546
(713) 992 - 4499

***Thank you, HGLPC, for your
continued support.***



Pol. adv. pd. by the Scott Hochberg Campaign, Box 31786, Houston, 77231
Kathryn A. Elek, Treasurer

Re-Elect
Carolyn Day

Hobson

JUDGE

Harris County Civil Court at Law#3

Pol. adv. paid for by the Committee to Elect Carolyn Day Hobson, Frank Flores & Michael Urban, Treasurers, 11811 East Freeway, Suite 220, Houston, Texas 77029.

Special Thanks
for donations:

RUBEN GUERRERO
PAID FOR BY THE CAMPAIGN TO ELECT YARBROUGH

RAMONA JOHN
FOR PARTIAL COST OF DISTRIBUTING

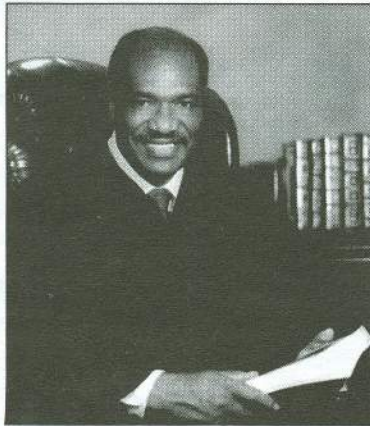
A NEW FAMILY BUSINESS

VILVEN DESIGNS

Jim Vilven & Liz Vilven
father & daughter



Re-Elect

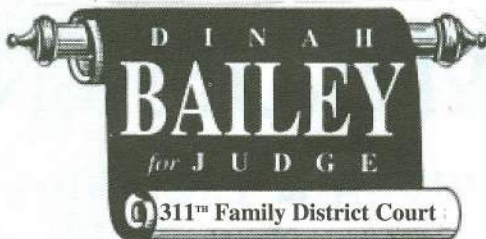


Judge Carl Walker

Judge 185th District Court

Political advertisement paid for by Carl Walker, Jr. Campaign Fund, Janice Walker, Treasurer

Reform - For Our Families



Political advertisement paid for by the Dinah Bailey Campaign Fund
Diana R. Musslewhite, Treasurer • P.O. Box 2405 • Houston, Texas, Tx 77252-2405

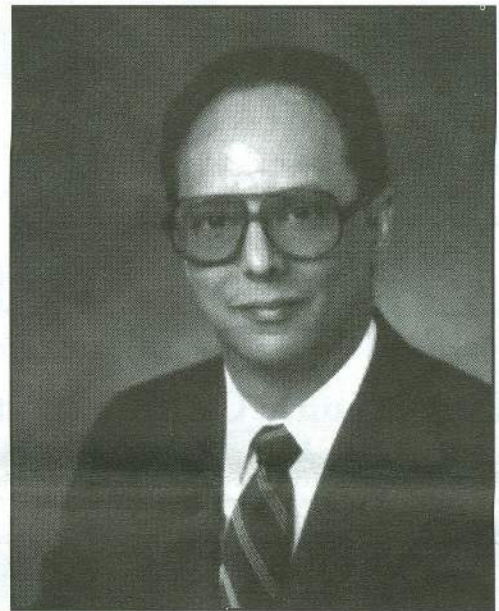
Elect

Gerry Birnberg

FOR JUSTICE, 1ST COURT OF APPEALS (PLACE 1)

Gerry Birnberg

knows what must be done to assure justice before an appellate court. He's been protecting civil rights before the courts for more than 20 years.



Gerry Birnberg is proud to be endorsed by the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus as well as by the following individuals:

Chris Bacon
Dr. Gary Brewton
Martha Fitzwater
Gene Harrington
Steven Kirkland
Michael A. Maness
Patricia O. Kane
Scott Tillinghast
Mary Anne Bobinski
Debra Danburg
Pat Gandy
Ray Hill

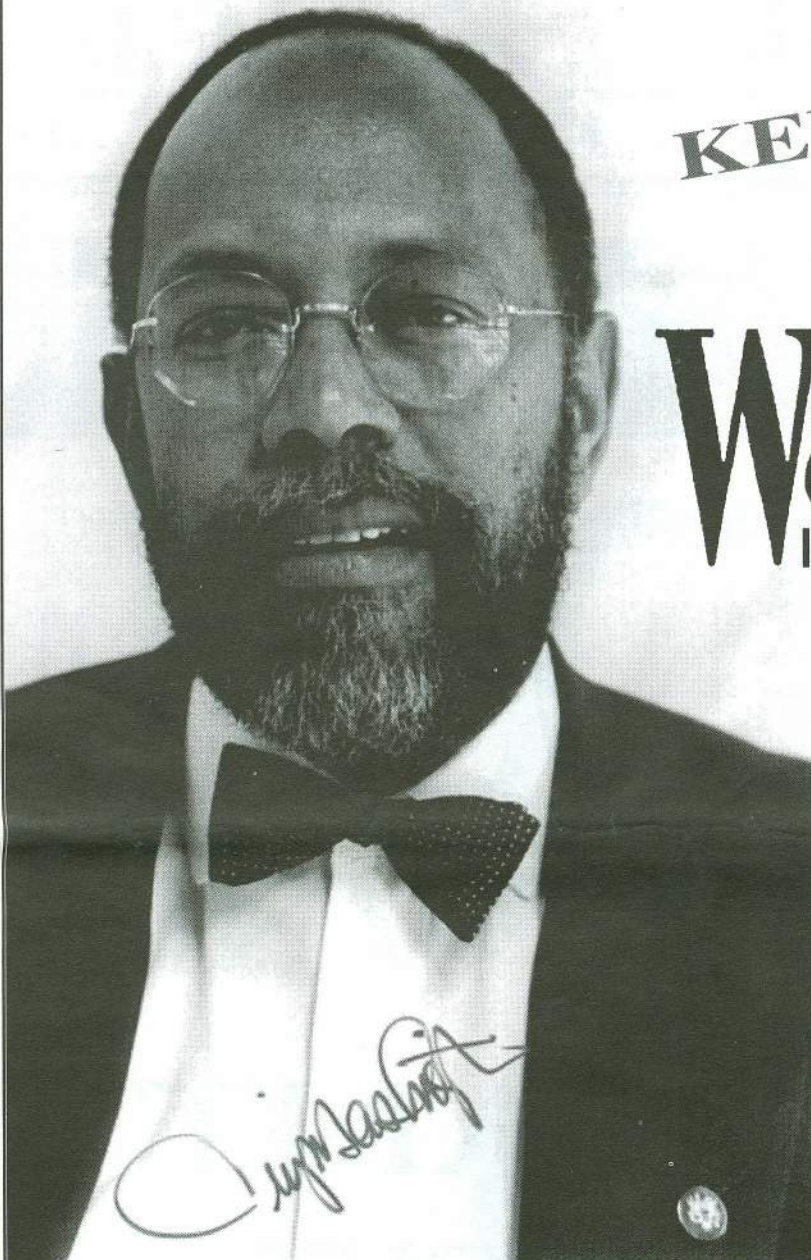
Sue Lovell
Gary McCoy
Ben T. Reyes
Craig A. Washington
Sydney J. Braquet
Laurie Eiserloh
Samuel Gutierrez
Mitchell Katine
Ann Lower
Linda Morales
Donald Skipwith
J. Patrick Wiseman

KEEP

CRAIG
Washington
IN CONGRESS



*“When gays and
lesbians need a voice
in the U.S. Congress—
or a vote—they can
always count on me.”*



Congressman Craig Washington

Campaign Headquarters:
1614 Fannin at Pease
Houston, Texas 77002
Phone number 526-1818

VOTE
MARCH 8TH

SPECIAL EDITION
APRIL 12 RUN-OFF ELECTIONS

HGLPC

HOUSTON GAY & LESBIAN POLITICAL CAUCUS

11 candidates in crucial April 12 races



Helen Cassidy



Roman Martinez

Farrar a "refreshing" choice

The HGLPC doesn't always agree with the *Houston Chronicle*. In the case of Jessica Farrar, however, the caucus concurs wholeheartedly. "Refreshing," a candidate with innovative ideas, the *Chronicle* wrote in endorsing the candidate for state representative district 148.

The numerous lesbian and gay votes in this Heights district could play a crucial role in electing Farrar.

The 27-year-old architect has worked in numerous political campaigns. Farrar also served as an aide to City Council member Ben Reyes. She lists among her accomplishments as Reyes aide:

- Proposing the 1993 city budget amendment for \$500,000 for AIDS prevention and education,
- Proposing the ordinance that would have placed condom machines in bar restrooms.

Helen Cassidy seeks court post

Helen Cassidy is a Democratic candidate for judge of the 1st Court of Appeals, Place 1.

Cassidy is the best candidate in this race for two reasons. First, her education and experience make her eminently qualified as a judicial candidate. Second, her outstanding record as a longtime human rights activist is a measure of her character.

Cassidy, who is board certified in civil appellate law, has spent the past 10 years with the 14th Court of Appeals,

(See Page 2)

***"I will filibuster. . .
to repeal the
sodomy statute."***

- Román Martinez

By TERRI RICHARDSON

By a 15-1 margin, Román Martinez received the HGLPC endorsement for the Senate District 6 run-off April 12.

In a powerful statement to the caucus at its March endorsement meeting, Martinez pledged not only to support legislation repealing the Texas sodomy statute (21.06), but, if necessary, to filibuster to attain that goal.

Martinez's opponent is Mario Gallegos. As a state representative from District 143 and a member of the powerful House/Senate Conference Committee on the Texas Penal Code, Gallegos voted *against* repeal of section 21.06.

In remarks before the HGLPC endorsement meeting, Gallegos neither explained nor apologized for this vote. Since there is no Republican candidate in November, whoever wins the run-off will become Houston's first Hispanic state senator.

Martinez has been a strong supporter of gay and lesbian issues, from working with openly gay people on his own campaign staff to supporting "Take Five" candidate Gene Harrington for City Council in 1993. Martinez also helped Harrington win endorsements of other Hispanic leaders. Last week, Martinez was endorsed by Laurie Eiserloh, former executive director of the Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas.

Martinez is making a strong appeal to gay and lesbian voters across the district. Part of Montrose and much of the Heights is now included in Senate District 6, which stretches spiderlike across the city from Intercontinental Airport to South Houston, from Baytown to Gulfport. Martinez, who frequently addresses the need to build a strong coalition among progressives, vowed in a March 19 meeting with lesbian and gay leaders to "help build the coalitions that are necessary to fight the widespread discrimination against men and women in your community."

Top courts often key to G/L cases

Rene Haas

It's Bitter Media Contest, Round 2 for the important Texas Supreme Court, Place 1. HGLPC-endorsed Rene Haas is expected to face another close call with Supreme Court Justice Raul Gonzalez.

Haas carries the major Democratic endorsements into the contest against the conservative Gonzalez.

The former felony prosecutor and district judge is a certified family law and criminal law specialist. She also serves on the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Carl Dudensing

Carl Dudensing has practiced for 32 years in various areas of the law and has developed the intellectual and emotional maturity essential to effectively serve on the 14th Court of Appeals, Place 6.

Dudensing, a 61-year-old attorney, believes an intermediate appellate court judge must follow the law, be fair and impartial to all litigants, and see that substantial justice be done while never sacrificing the due process of the law afforded by the U.S. Constitution to all citizens.

Ben Levy

Ben Levy is running for justice on the 14th Court of Appeals, Place 1. Highly rated by the Texas Bar Poll and the Houston Bar, Levy has served six years on an appellate bench while his opponent has had limited judicial experience.

Levy co-founded the ACLU Houston chapter. When he ran for Congress Levy did not hesitate to take progressive positions on expenditures for the relief of social problems, and on issues such as lesbian and gay equal rights.

Levy wrote opinions in favor of plaintiff Steven Little, who had been fired after allegations he was HIV-positive. Several of his opinions, especially in the field of torts, are cited in law textbooks.

Helen Cassidy

(continued from page 1)

where she is chief staff attorney. Prior to that, she was an administrative judge with the EEOC. She is the current chair of the Appellate Section of the Houston Bar Association.

Her human rights record spans the past 23 years, beginning in 1971 with her election as the first president of the National Organization for Women Houston chapter. Her work through the years spans the progressive political spectrum from protest marches against Anita Bryant in the '70s to Q-Patrol in the '90s.

Mattox speaks out

The name Jim Mattox strikes a chord in most people's minds. A man who is many things to many people, Mattox received the HGLPC endorsement for several important reasons:

His courageous stands for gay and lesbian rights and his progressive record as opposed to opponent Richard Fisher's conservatism.

Mattox has been endorsed by the state's gay and lesbian organizations, and leaders.

Openly gay state Rep. Glen Maxey wrote: "Jim Mattox has long fought injustice and discrimination against our community." Maxey praises Mattox because:

As a state representative in the early '70s, Mattox led efforts to repeal the sodomy statute.

As a U.S. representative during the Reagan years, Mattox voted against anti-gay legislation that barred federal legal service programs from aiding lesbians and gay men.

As Texas attorney general, Mattox courageously dropped the state's appeal of Judge Buchmeyer's decision in *Baker v. Wade*, which had found the sodomy law unconstitutional.

And, while others ran for political cover, Mattox boldly insisted that gays and lesbians should not be discriminated against in the U.S. military.



Kevin Newsome

Paper endorses Kevin Newsome

Kevin Newsome brings impressive financial credentials to his campaign for district clerk:

- Eight years at Texaco working in information technology with numerous international assignments,
- Experience at Arthur Andersen, one of the top accounting firms,
- Experience in the City of Houston Controller's office.

His record and a plan to modernize the county treasurer's office earned him the overwhelming endorsement of the *Houston Post* in 1990. In this race he has been endorsed by the *Houston Chronicle*.

Newsome, an African-American, wrote in his HGLPC questionnaire that, because he has experienced discrimination, he would not "discriminate against any minorities," such as gay men and lesbians.

Manchester leader Carol Alvarado seeks support in 143rd

At 26, Carol Alvarado is a rising political star.

The candidate for state representative District 143 has served on Constable Victor Trevino's staff and was state legislative assistant to Rep. Gene Green. Mayor Lanier named her to serve on the Committee on the Environment. Alvarado also founded the Manchester Civic Club.

On her HGLPC screening questionnaire, Alvarado expressed support for many issues important to the gay and lesbian community, including the repeal of 21.06.

Alvarado's endorsements include state Sen. John Whitmire, Harris County Democrats, Texas Women's Political Caucus, and Mexican-American Democrats.

Bentsen vs. fundamentalist in House race

By ANNISE PARKER

Ken Bentsen, candidate for U.S. representative in the 25th Congressional District, has become well-known in our community over the past four years.

In 1990 he was elected to the post of Harris County Democratic Party Chair, with an HGLPC endorsement in the runoff for that seat. He was re-elected, again with our support, in 1992.

Ken Bentsen has always made a point to include gay men and lesbians in Democratic Party committees and staff positions. Gay and lesbian political activists have come to value his fairness.

In addition to his party activities, Ken and his wife Tamra are active supporters of the arts. Their work with DiverseWorks has helped bring cutting edge exhibits and performances to Houston. They are fixtures at many community events, particularly those of



U.S. Congressional candidate Ken Bentsen, a familiar face at lesbian and gay events.

Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals (HATCH).

Bentsen, an investment banker, vacated his party post to run to replace Mike Andrews in the U.S. House of Representatives. He received the HGLPC endorsement in the primary, but once again faces a runoff.

His opponent, Beverly Clark, while previously endorsed by the HGLPC in her City Council races, has embraced religious fundamentalism and has become fervently anti-choice. She surprised the entire field with her showing in this race and may be difficult to beat.

We must elect Ken Bentsen, or be faced with a November ballot that pits a homophobic Republican fundamentalist, who has pledged millions of his own dollars, against a fundamentalist Democrat, who has spurned the Democratic Party platform.

Controversy ignites county party chair contests

Unfortunately, the caucus cannot endorse candidates who do not ask for endorsement. Hence, HGLPC cannot recommend anyone in the slugfest for Harris County Republican Party chair.

Here's your choice: Moderate Betsy Lake vs. Jim Kennedy, vocal homophobe and former Straight Slater.

The rift that opened up in the party two years ago was essentially along the lines of conservative activist Steven Hotze's allegations that Betsy Lake was soft on the gay issue. Lake has stood strong in her support of gay men and lesbians in the Republican Party.

After the 1985 referendum that repealed Houston's lesbian and gay city employment ordinance, Jim Kennedy ran for City Council on the so-called Straight Slate. His most recent attempt at a City Council seat occurred last fall against Eleanor Tinsley. Kennedy vociferously gay-baited in that runoff in which Tinsley received the HGLPC endorsement.

HGLPC-endorsed Republican candidates fared well in the primaries.

Steve Mansfield, Republican nominee for judge on the Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 1, won with 67% of the vote statewide. Mansfield actively pursued the endorsements of all the major lesbian and gay political caucuses in Texas. When asked at his Houston screening why he was seeking the endorsement—when party leadership would not approve—Mansfield said that what the party thought didn't concern him. He said his libertarian bent makes him strong on privacy rights issues.

Cynthia Crowe ran unopposed for the Harris County Civil Court No. 4 Republican nomination. It is somewhat unusual for any unopposed candidate to go through the HGLPC screening process. Crowe, who favors legal recognition of domestic partnerships and disavows the anti-gay aspects of the Republican Party platform, should be commended for seeking and securing the HGLPC endorsement.

Mincberg faces Perez

Democratic voters can choose between businessman David Mincberg and perennial candidate Leslie Perez for county chair of the Democratic Party.

HGLPC-endorsed Mincberg has been active in raising money for Democratic candidates. He also is CEO of a successful real estate firm with 100 employees.

Mincberg, who is married to HISD trustee Cathy Mincberg, has a long record of civic leadership. He is president of the Jewish Family Services Board and the American Jewish Committee. He also founded Southwest Houston 2000.

This newsletter is an official publication of the Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus. Commentary published herein reflects the opinions of the HGLPC. This Election Newsletter is published at least two times annually in even-numbered years and at least once in odd-numbered years.

Paid for by Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus Political Action Committee, Patrick McKee, Treasurer
P. O. Box 66664, Houston, Texas 77266-6664 (713) 521-1000
Newsletter co-editors: Cicely Wynne and Matthew Huston

Why vote?

Because gay men and lesbians do not have civil rights. Because, short of civil war, our only hope is in public officials who believe in equal civil rights for all people. And the only way to ensure that we have such public officials is to put them in office. And the only way to put them in office is to vote.

Voting is a hassle. It breaks up the normal routine of your day. It might be cold and raining, or hot and humid, and you might have to stand in line. You might have to go into a building you've never been in before. You might have to give your name to someone you've never met before.

You might have to think about how to conceal your endorsement card in the palm of your hand so you can refer to it when casting your ballot. You might even have to get up a little earlier in the morning, or be a little late for dinner.

But getting fired from your job is also a hassle. Or not being promoted because, unlike the other men in your office, you don't have a wife and 2.6 children. Or being turned down for an apartment because you and your same sex partner wish to rent a one-bedroom unit. Or going to jail for violating the Texas Penal Code, which outlaws homosexuality.

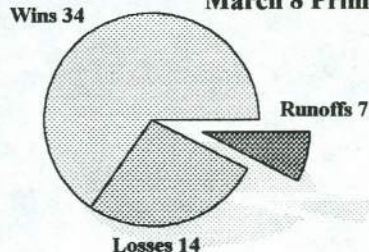
Or losing your children because some ignorant bigot thinks you're an unfit mother. Or being kicked, spit on, clubbed, stabbed, shot, just because you're a lesbian, gay man, or transgendered person — how's that for a hassle?

Bloc vote. It's the only way we can make a difference. It's one "hassle" that's worth the hassle.

HOUSTON GAY & LESBIAN POLITICAL CAUCUS ENDORSEMENTS FOR THE RUNOFF ELECTION TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 1994

<i>U.S. Senator</i>	Jim Mattox
<i>U. S. Rep., Dist. 25</i>	Ken Bentsen
<i>Sup. Court Justice, Place 1</i>	René Haas
<i>State Senator, Dist. 6</i>	Román Martínez
<i>State Rep., Dist. 143</i>	Carol Alvarado
<i>State Rep., Dist. 148</i>	Jessica Farrar
<i>Judge, 1st Ct. of App, Place 1</i>	Helen Cassidy
<i>Judge, 14th Ct. of App., Place 1</i>	Ben Levy
<i>Judge, 14th Ct. of App., Place 6</i> ..	Carl Dudensing
<i>Harris Cty. District Clerk</i>	Kevin Newsome
<i>Harris Cty. Democratic Chair</i> ..	David Minberg

HGLPC Endorsement Results March 8 Primaries



Become a Member! Help Us Fight For Our Rights!

Membership Categories:

Active Membership: \$30 ☐

Low Income Membership: \$18 ☐

Family or Two-year Membership: \$50 ☐

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Signature: _____

Please return to **HGLPC, P.O. Box 66664, Houston, TX 77266-6664**, or call **(713) 521-1000** for more information. We meet the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM at the Stouffer Presidente Hotel in Greenway Plaza.

Membership has its privileges

Become a member of HGLPC

Do you want to take part in the screening and endorsement process? Become a member of the HGLPC!

There are three options for your annual membership. Individual membership is \$30. Family membership is \$50 for you and your partner. For students, people on disability, or others who can't afford the \$30, there is an \$18 membership.

All memberships come with *full voting privileges*. Plus you get a monthly newsletter to keep you up on the latest with the Caucus.

Once you become a member you can join the Screening Committee to interview the many candidates who seek HGLPC endorsements. Or you can help coordinate campaign activities such as block walking, phone banking, and voter registration.

We meet the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM at the Stouffer Presidente Hotel in Greenway Plaza. Show up at a meeting, and we'll sign you up.

Lend your voice to lesbian and gay politics in Houston. Join the HGLPC today!

Election activities

Volunteers Needed

The HGLPC will be very busy the first 12 days of April and is looking for volunteers with a few hours to spare.

Phone banking to GLPC list (3 hour shifts) April 4 - 11
Literature table at Kroger April 9 & 10
Block walking April 10
Staffing precincts Election Day, April 12

If you are interested in any or all of the above

activities, please call Terri Richardson, HGLPC's Political Action Committee chair, at (713) 741-1331.

Election Returns Party at the new Chapultepec club

Come to the HGLPC Election Returns Party at 8 PM Tuesday, April 12, in the new club at Chapultepec Restaurant, 817 Richmond.

The atmosphere is eclectic, yet homey; the *pico de gallo*, the best in town. And the owner has been a long-time HGLPC member. He just asks that we please park on the street.

Voting information

Early Voting

Anyone can vote early in Texas at various locations, including Downtown. Check the newspapers or call 755-6965 for Early Voting information.

One-year move rule may confuse voters

A new voter registration rule allows registered voters who moved in the past 12 months and did not re-register at their new addresses to vote in their old precincts. This major rule change could confuse many voters.

Every voter who has moved in the past 12 months should check to see if they have a voter registration card. If the card lists the new address, everything should be set to vote on Election Day or during Early Voting.

If, however, you *did* re-register by March 13 and have not received a new card, officials advise calling 224-1919 to see if you are registered at your new address.

If you did not re-register, it's still a good idea to call 224-1919 to make sure you are registered at your old address.

Vote if you didn't, vote if you did — But don't "cross over"

Anyone who registered to vote by March 13 may vote in the April 12 Democratic or Republican Primary Runoffs.

You didn't have to vote in the March 8 Primary to vote in the Runoff on April 12. *However*, if you did vote on March 8 you may not switch political parties (or "cross over") for the April 12 election.

In other words, if you voted in the Republican Primary you may *only* vote in the Republican Runoff. Similarly, if you voted in the Democratic Primary, you may only vote in the Democratic Runoff. "Crossing over" is against the law!

The following
Friends of the Community
urge you to
Vote the Bloc!

Chris Bacon
Rob Bridges
Dale Carpenter
Tony Cruz
Kevin Davidson
Gary Drabek
Brian Elley
Jim Ewing
Jason Firth
Pat Gandy
Gary Grant
Gene Harrington
Stan Head
Scot Hedrick
Ray Hill
Hubbard Financial
Services

Matthew Huston
Clair Koepsel
Larry Lingle
Sue Lovell
Patrick McKee
Annise Parker
Ray Ramirez
Terri Richardson
Dennis Spencer
Keith Stewart
Brian Tihansky
Rennie Trozzi
Theresa Trozzi
David Westerkamp
Bill White
Graig Williams
Cicely Wynne

MAY 1994

HGLPC News

HOUSTON GAY & LESBIAN POLITICAL CAUCUS

Board Report

A lot of exciting things are going on with the Caucus. Committee chairs are coming up with fresh ideas that the Board is eager to try out.

At the May 11 Board meeting the Board endorsed the testing of new endorsement terminology for the upcoming HISD Trustee runoff election between Maria Esther Campos and Michael Reyes. The screening committee, for this race only, will rate each candidate using the following terms: highly recommended, recommended, acceptable, and unacceptable. (See the article on page 2.)

A new membership form has been introduced, covering questions about people's political and activity interests. New member welcome packets and membership cards are going to be developed. These packets will contain information about the Caucus, including standing rules and bylaws, a list of officers and directors, and much more.

Multiple databases are being developed with the Caucus mailing list to get in touch with media, politicians, and other gay and lesbian organizations, as well as develop precinct profiles for future get-out-the-vote efforts.

The Board has started planning fundraisers in order to send out a test mailing to a portion of the voters identified from a same-sex sort of the county's voter registry which the Caucus acquired last fall. It's an ambitious project, but the prospect of tapping into 100,000 voters makes it a worthwhile investment.

Planning continues for the Pride Day parade and rally. Lou Vanech has volunteered to be the Caucus Pride Committee Chair. The focus will be on increasing membership and registering people in our community to vote.

Finally, work is continuing on finding a speaker for the annual HGLPC Dinner. The Board is also looking for a permanent chairperson (or people!) to find a location for the dinner and make the arrangements.

Calendar

- Notice!** *The HGLPC Garage Sale has been postponed until mid-June!*
- May 21 EPAH's Leather and Lace Party at Pacific Street. 7:30 - 11 PM.
- May 23 Reception for Vince Ryan at 718 Silver. 5:30 - 7:30 PM.
- June 10 The Company We Keep presents "A Tribute to Judy Garland —Donna Day at the Tower," featuring a sneak preview of *Judy at the Stonewall Inn*. 8 PM.
- June 12 Houston Lesbian and Gay Pride parade and rally. All day.
- June 21 Fundraiser for Harris County Judge candidate Vince Ryan at Cody's Montrose. 5 - 7:30 PM.

Community Report: Loss in Austin

Proposition 22 passed overwhelmingly during the May 7 election in Austin. The petition-driven proposition removed insurance benefits to unmarried partners of city employees who had registered their relationships with the Travis County Clerk. The benefits were extended to unmarried partners by City Council in September 1993.

The 67.4% to 37.6% vote represented one of the highest voter turnouts Austin had seen, and was an unequivocal victory for the religious right-backed organization, Concerned Texans.

Continued, page 2.

Caucus Adopts New Bylaw

At the May 4 general meeting the following new bylaw was adopted: "No elected trustee or executive officer of the HGLPC can publicly advocate or support the candidacy of a candidate not endorsed by the Caucus against an endorsed candidate. Such an action would constitute an act of malfeasance as defined in the bylaws."

This bylaw had been a standing rule of the Caucus since April 1989, and a form of the rule had existed previously. Debate over this standing rule has occurred a number of times in the history of the Caucus.

Two principal reasons have been cited to consider the rule as a bylaw

rather than a standing rule. First, it governs the activities of officers and directors and therefore more aptly fits in the organization's constitution. Second, bylaws are considered more permanent because they are more difficult to adopt, more difficult to remove, and cannot be suspended temporarily.

An attempt at a compromise bylaw that would have permitted the Board or Caucus to grant dispensation to a Board Member wishing to support a candidate against the Caucus endorsement, failed to attain a two-thirds majority vote.

Transitions

President, two Board Members resign

Gary VanOoteghem resigned as President of HGLPC on May 2, 1994. Gary was a founder and the first President of the Caucus beginning in 1975. One of the pioneers of lesbian and gay political activism in Houston, Gary ran last fall for an at-large City Council seat. Gary became President of HGLPC for the second time in 20 years in January.

Terri Richardson, vacating her position as Vice President, nominated herself for President during first call at the May 4 meeting. Gene Harrington nominated himself during first call for Vice President, but has withdrawn due to conflicts with outside activities. Second call for both these positions will be held at the June 1 meeting.

Shortly after Gary's announcement two other Board Members resigned. Scot Hedrick resigned after having served on the Board for a year, citing disagreement with the new Caucus by-law limiting the political activities of Board Members. During first call, Jim Ewing nominated himself for Scot's Board seat. Second call will be held at the next general meeting.

Board Member Ken Wilk submitted his resignation on May 10. Ken joined the Board in January, having become a member of the Caucus in March 1993. First call for his replacement will be held at the June 1 meeting.

HGLPC to March in Pride Parade

Come join other members of the Caucus in marching in the Pride Parade on June 12. The focus of Caucus activities during Pride Week is voter registration. So the plan is for marchers to wear giant "voter registration card" sandwich boards (with whatever you want underneath!) to emphasize the importance of registering to vote *and* voting.

Also volunteer to staff the HGLPC booth at the afternoon rally. We will be signing up new members, soliciting people to join the mailing list, and registering voters. Call Lou Vanech, the Caucus Pride Committee Chair, at 695-4933 for details and to sign up.

HISD Trustee Election on May 31

Maria Esther Campos and Michael Reyes are in a runoff election for HISD Trustee District 8. The election will take place Tuesday, May 31, 1994. The area represented by this seat involves three Montrose and two Heights precincts that have a considerable number of gay voters. The turnout is expected to be an all-time low, so there is great potential for the lesbian and gay vote to determine the outcome of the election.

This is an important election for the gay and lesbian community for a number of reasons. Gay men and lesbians have children attending HISD schools. Because Texas has one of the nation's largest public school systems, textbook publishers pay a lot of attention to the desires of large Texas school

districts. The honest and accurate portrayal in textbooks of lesbians and gay men, our history, and our culture is very important in stemming homophobia. Finally, and most basically, our community is concerned about education. So get out and vote!

The screening committee will meet May 19 to determine the endorsement. A new, experimental method of recommending candidates is being tried for this election. The screening committee will apply one of the following terms to each candidate who screens: highly recommended, recommended, acceptable, or unacceptable. We're trying this out in order to provide voters with more information about candidates and how they compare to one another, and not just provide a single option.

Two Caucus members pass away

Dennis Spencer, longtime Houston gay activist, passed away on April 6, 1994, due to complications from AIDS. Dennis had been both Board Chair and President during his many years of dedicated service to HGLPC.

Former Caucus member Wayne Joy passed away in early May, due to complications from AIDS. Wayne had served on the Ryan White Planning Council for a year. He had also been actively involved with the PWA Coalition.

Austin

Continued from page 1.

The proposition was fought by the Mainstream Austin Coalition, a group which had much gay and lesbian support.

Benefits to the 98 registered partners of city employees ended Monday, May 9, just two days after the referendum.

HGLPC News is an official publication of the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus. Patrick McKee, Treasurer. Matthew Huston, Editor. The HGLPC is solely responsible for the content of this newsletter.

Houston Gay and Lesbian Political
Caucus
P.O. Box 66664, Houston, Texas
77266-6664. (713) 521-1000.



November Election

County Judge race critical for HIV issues

Former City Councilmember Vince Ryan is running as the Democratic nominee for Harris County Judge in this November's election, in what is the most critical local race in terms of HIV-related issues. Ryan was endorsed by the HGLPC in the primary, and is also receiving support from prominent members of our community including Annise Parker and John Paul Barnich.

The County Judge, as the highest elected official from the metropolitan Houston area, is named as the grantee for local Ryan White CARE Act funds. This means the Judge, through appointments to the Ryan White Planning Council, can control the disbursement of federal emergency funds to local AIDS service providers working directly with people living with AIDS in Houston.

The HIV-affected community has had difficulty with the current County Judge Jon Lindsay, especially with his appointments to and empowerment of the Planning Council. Similar difficulties are anticipated with Ryan's well-funded opponent, Robert Eckels, who has shown little interest in HIV issues.

In contrast, Vince Ryan has shown consistent concern about HIV issues, having participated in many community events in the fight against AIDS. Ryan's campaign needs strong, early support from the gay and lesbian community for success in November.



Democratic Conventions

Lovell and Gandy win SDEC seats

Through successful behind-the-scenes work, Caucus member Pat Gandy positioned herself not to draw an opponent and won the State Democratic Executive Committee position for Senate District 6 at the June 3 Democratic State Convention in Fort Worth. Caucus member Sue Lovell, at the conclusion of a nail-biting district caucus meeting, beat a six-year incumbent to win a seat on the SDEC for Senate District 13. She had previously served on the SDEC from Senate District 17, before redistricting. Another openly gay SDEC member from Dallas was also elected at the Convention.

Much attention has been focused in the HGLPC on the road to self-representation, for seats at the tables of power. These are two women in our community who have worked hard at grassroots politics to gain the respect and confidence of those both inside and outside the lesbian and gay community. They are at the table representing us. Congratulations to Pat and Sue, and thanks for their efforts — we are all beneficiaries of their hard work and dedication.

In related news, Tony Miller beat Michael Woo in the Democratic primary election for California Secretary of State nominee. Miller is openly gay, and has received nationwide support through the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund.

HOUSTON GAY AND LESBIAN POLITICAL CAUCUS

Terri Richardson
President
Keith Stewart
Vice President
Matthew Huston
Secretary
Patrick McKee
Treasurer



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kevin Davidson, *chair*
Ray Ramirez
Keith McGee
David Westerkamp
Jim Ewing
Clair Koepsel, *vice chair*
Dale Carpenter
Marion Coleman



Visions of Rainbows

"Unity within Diversity"

As I make my daily trek outside of the Loop, the air seems to thin, as does queer visibility. Some days I wonder if I'm the only one. As I pass many commuters on their way to varied destinations, I wonder. . . . is he? is she?

Fortunately, there are courageous individuals displaying their pride every day with a rainbow emblem on their vehicle. Each sighting promotes a feeling of being

connected to one's culture. These visions of rainbows translate a common bond. We are family! We are everywhere!

When I look into the rainbow emblem I see our community standing together with all of our differences with the purpose of empowering our brothers and sisters unconditionally. The rainbow emblem knows no closet.

"Color Me OUT"

-Jim Ewing

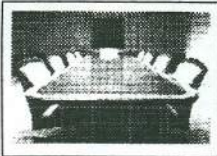
HGLPC News is a publication of the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus which is solely responsible for its content.

HOUSTON GAY AND LESBIAN
POLITICAL CAUCUS
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HOUSTON, TEXAS
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SEPTEMBER
1994

HGLPC News

HOUSTON GAY & LESBIAN POLITICAL CAUCUS



Board Report

At the September meeting, the Board approved selling a set of mailing list labels to the Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas for \$300 for which they signed a confidentiality agreement.

There was extensive planning for the awards dinner and Sunday's beer bust in the courtyard of 2700 Albany.

The Board approved a \$180 expenditure for refurbished chairs in the board room. Also approved was \$2,000 to purchase a laser printer and software for the new Macintosh computer.

During discussion of PAC activities \$500 was pre-approved for push-card printing. The Board approved continuing the endorsement of Rodney Ellis for State Senate District 13. Dan Morales was not endorsed for state Attorney General because he was unable to phone screen.

Discussions were begun about having a Caucus night at Lee Harrington's next theatrical production.



Recent Transitions

Elected. Ray Hill was elected to the Board of Trustees, seat #3, on September 7.

Elected. Rob Cavanaugh was elected to the Board of Trustees, seat #4, on September 7.

With the above two elections there are no open seats on the Board.



OpenHouse Beer Bust

The Caucus will be holding an Open House and Beer Bust at the new offices at 2700 Albany on Sunday, September 25, from noon 'til 5 PM. A \$5 donation will be requested at the door.

This will be a great opportunity for many members of the community to get to speak with Michelangelo Signorile, guest speaker at this year's awards dinner. Signorile is a regular contributor to *OUT* magazine and is author of the acclaimed book *Queer in America: Sex, the Media, and the Closets of Power*. Copies of the recently release paperback version will be available for purchase.

The Caucus offices in Suite 304 will also be open. People will be able to see the workspace just as we're gearing up for the November election.



Endorsements Decided

The Caucus endorsed seventeen new candidates for the November 8 general election at its September 7 endorsement meeting.

At the top of the ballot, the HGLPC endorsed Ann Richards for Governor and Richard Fisher for U.S. Senate. Also endorsed were Sheila Jackson Lee for the 18th Congressional District and Gene Green for the 29th Congressional District.

The remainder of the endorsements were made in judicial races. For



Monthly Calendar

- Sep 19 Fundraiser for Ann Richards Campaign. Museum of Natural Science. \$25. Call 522-4266 for info and tickets.
- Sep 24 HGLPC Annual Dinner. Doubletree on Post Oak. Michelangelo Signorile, guest speaker. Call 521-1000 for reservations.
- Sep 25 HGLPC Open House and Beer Bust. 2700 Albany. 12-5 PM. \$5 donation.
- Oct 5 HGLPC General Meeting. 2700 Albany, Suite 304. 7:30 PM
- Oct 22 EPAH Casino Night.
- Oct 27 Thomas O'Neil's *Judy at the Stonewall Inn*. Opening night. Call The Company We Keep at 523-9000.
- Nov 8 Election Day.

the 14th Court of Appeals, Ed Coghurn was endorsed for Place 5 and Patrice Barron was endorsed for Place 6.

In District Court races the following candidates were endorsed: Donna Roth, Beth McGregor, Charles "Ernie" Hill, Willard Tinsley, Robert Hinojosa, Sandra Peebles, Berta Mejia, David Jennings Willis, and Eileen O'Neill. Rosemary Garza was endorsed for County Criminal Court #15 and David Mendoza was endorsed for County Criminal Court #11.

The Caucus also voted to continue the endorsements of 36 candidates who had been endorsed during last spring's Primaries and who were nominated to the November ballot.

DON'T FORGET: OCTOBER 5TH CAUCUS MEETING TO BE HELD AT NEW OFFICE. 2700 ALBANY, SUITE 304



November Election

For the November 8 general election the HGLPC has pledged to support the endorsed candidates in a number of ways, requiring a large but attainable volunteer effort.

A Caucus member has been assigned to act as liaison between each candidate's campaign and the Caucus. The liaison will answer candidates' questions about where to drop off yard signs for election day, when and where to deliver campaign literature for information tables, how to procure mailing labels, etc. The liaison will also inform the Caucus about candidates' fundraisers and public appearances.

Election Newsletter Coverage. Endorsed candidates can buy advertising space in the Election Newsletter, to be mailed on October 24 to about 16,000 voting households, with another 4,000 distributed through businesses. The newsletter will include articles about each endorsed candidate, where possible, to provide voters information that will motivate them to get to the polls on November 8. We are asking the candidates to work closely with their Caucus liaisons to provide copy for these articles. In addition, we will be offering space to businesses, other community organizations, and candidates who have in the past been endorsed by the Caucus but who are not on November's ballot.



Awards Dinner

The Caucus will be holding its annual awards dinner on Saturday, September 24, 1994, at the Doubletree Hotel on Post Oak. Some of the famous, out-of-the-closet guest speakers in the past have included Andrew Sullivan, Torie Osborn, and Barney Frank. This year the Caucus is proud to announce that the guest speaker will be Michelangelo Signorile.

Signorile appeared on the national scene about four years ago when, as a journalist for the short-lived journal called *Outweek*, he revealed the homosexuality of Malcolm Forbes and then-Assistant Secretary of Defense Pete Williams. Since then Mr. Signorile has

Endorsement Cards. Each of the 16,000 newsletters that are sent out will have two endorsement cards. Endorsement cards will also be placed in the Montrose restaurants, bars, grocery stores, and other businesses.

Election Day Activities. On election day we will be covering the ten Montrose precincts, three Heights precincts, and two precincts in the Greenway Plaza area, all having a large number of lesbian and gay voters. Election day coverage includes placing yard signs for the endorsed candidates at these polling places and providing an people from 7 AM to 7 PM to push the endorsement cards.

Telephone Banking. We currently plan to staff a phone banking operation starting October 27. The phone bankers will work each weekday evening through November 7, and all day on Saturday and Sunday, November 5 and 6. We will be calling the HGLPC list, encouraging people to vote on election day, and taking notes of any special problems (transportation, lack of endorsement card, etc.) that we can address.

Block Walking. Block walking in Montrose is currently planned for Saturday and Sunday, October 29 and 30, and for the Heights and other precincts on Saturday and Sunday, November 5 and 6.

Neighborhood Info Tables. We will have tables in front of several bars in Montrose on Friday and Saturday night the weekend before the election. We will also have tables at select Montrose businesses during the day on November 5 and 6.

gained attention as the chief pioneer of 'outing,' or exposing the homosexuality of closeted public figures. He is actually one of a tremendous number of activists who believe the destruction of the closet is critical to gay and lesbian equal rights and liberation.

Signorile is the author of the acclaimed book *Queer in America: Sex, the Media, and the Closets of Power*, which has been released in paperback. The book discusses the closets of power, focusing on the media, Washington, and Hollywood. In the afterword of the recently released edition, Signorile reviews the events of 1993, paying particular attention to the rise of what he calls the new Gay Right.

Michelangelo Signorile is a graduate of the S. I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University. He now lives in New York City.

Call 521-1000 for dinner reservations!

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