



Common Sense



Meeting Monday, September 12 at 7:00 p.m. at San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts, 1 Love Street

Conservatism - Moving Civil Liberties Backward by Floyd Crider

Conservative, a term that can mean quite a few things. Primarily, a person or thought that seeks to conserve, preserve, or keep things the way they are or allows for only minimal change. In some cases, even facilitate a return to the way things were. We have heard for decades, since the Civil Rights legislation of the 60's and 70's, that some want to return to "states rights" or "I want my America back." I feel that this is often a synonym for a return to no rights for minorities or anyone who is not a straight (in public) WASP (White Angelo Saxon Protestant) male over 50. Legislation currently being passed in some states exemplifies this attitude. These bills are little more than modern day poll taxes designed to minimize the voting rights of a targeted population. Texas's new Voter ID Law, which will go into effect in January, is one of these. Because of this trend, we must maximize our efforts to make sure that everyone who is eligible to vote has the opportunity to register to vote and to cast their ballots. Let's not let efforts to disenfranchise voters be a reason for a loss of representation.

Rep. Pete Gallego to visit October 3

The 2012 election is rapidly approaching. In fact, it's already time to kick-off primary season 2011-2012. This year we will be kicking off in style on Monday, October 3, 2011. Our 2011-2012 Primary Season Kick-off will be held at Mejor Que Nada located at 1911 S. Bryant Blvd.

Events start out with a meet and greet mixer beginning at 5:30pm. Come meet one of the highest ranking Democrats in the Texas House of Representatives, Rep. Pete Gallego (D-Alpine). Cost to attend the mixer is \$10 per person. Finger food will be served along with tea, water, and draft beer. A cash bar will also be available. Rep. Gallego will speak at 6:45pm. Local candidates will also be in attendance.

Other Important Upcoming Events

September 13 - Democrats who are interested in becoming precinct chairs can begin filing. For more information or to get a filing form, contact Linda Shoemaker at 450-0018, 224-2944, or 655-VOTE.

November 8 - Texas Off Year Election. On the ballot are 10 proposed amendments to the Texas Constitution.

Party Fundraiser September 10th

On Saturday, September 10th, the Tom Green County Democratic Party will host an End of Summer and Fun in the Sun party at the home of the party's chair, Linda Shoemaker. The address is 2169 Gun Club Rd. Valet parking will be available and rides will be provided to anyone needing a ride. Call Linda at 450-0018, 224-2944 or 655-VOTE if you have questions. This is the day before the 10th anniversary of 9/11 and we will acknowledge this tragic day with a time of silence and the singing of "Let There Be Peace on Earth." The party will begin at 4 PM. We will have swimming, boating, washer tossing, croquette, card games and a movie following the meal. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be served, plus lots of veggies and fruit, cold drinks, chips and dip and (hopefully) delicious homemade desserts. For those who prefer staying cool inside, we will have discussion groups to talk about the upcoming presidential election. This event will also raise funds for a new headquarters location. We will request a donation of at least \$10 per person. Children under 18 are free. Hey, this is important! We must begin this challenging election cycle with sufficient funds.

Linda Shoemaker

Announcements

The guest speaker at this month's meeting is Larry Justiss from Stephens Central Library

Callers Needed

We need some more callers. It only takes a few minutes each month and provides a valuable reminder for our members.

Contact Joyce Hubbard at 325-947-5253 or hubbard7@suddenlink.net. . Thanks!

DRIVE THE VOTE

Soon, the Democratic Club will begin a program to designate one day a month to help fight the voter disenfranchisement that is Voter ID Law. We will do so by offering rides to those who need it to make sure they have a valid photo ID. If you are interested in being a driver or know someone who could use the service, contact John Perry at 325-374-5077 or vp@tgcdc.org.

EVENTS COMMITTEE

The Democratic Club is looking for volunteers to serve on the new Events Committee. The purpose of the committee is to identify events the club should have a presence at (i.e. parades, festivals, and other civic events).

If you are interested or FMI, contact John Perry at 325-374-5077 or vp@tgcdc.org.

The Executive Committee (officers and board of directors members) meet for planning on the Monday following each general membership meeting.

Everyone is welcome.

Time — 6 P.M.

Place — Galilee Community Development Corp.

1404 S. Oakes

Contacts

Club Officers

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If a free society cannot help
the many who are poor, it
cannot save the few who are
rich. **John F. Kennedy**

County Chairperson

Linda Shoemaker
325-450-0018
325-224-2944
countychair@tgcdc.org

Party Hotline

325-655-VOTE (8683)

TGDCDC on the Internet

Visit us on the web at www.tgcdc.org
and join us on Facebook at
[www.facebook.com/
groups/299114276625](http://www.facebook.com/groups/299114276625)

Tom Green County Democratic Club

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