

# Northwest Democrats News



Aug., 2009  
Volume 13 Issue 8

Northwest Democrats, P.O. Box 681911, San Antonio, TX 78268; TXDemocrat@satx.rr.com

## Aug. 15<sup>th</sup> Program: Legislature Report

Don't forget to attend our June 20<sup>th</sup> meeting when we will hear from our State Representatives who will give us a report about what all transpired in this year's legislative session.

Please join us for this important meeting at 8:30 am at Luby's, Floyd Curl and Huebner.

### 2008-2010

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Joyce Dorrycott

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## Special Projects: Stuff the Bus

**Stuff the Bus** kicks off at the Aug. meeting. Stuff the Bus is the annual collection to provide school supplies to needy families. Please bring **pens, pencils, filler paper, rulers, scissors, calculators, folders**....any kind of school supplies for this worthy cause. The supplies are distributed to families in need by the local schools. I noticed that Walgreen's already has many school supplies on sale at very cheap prices. The name "Stuff the Bus" comes about because the organizers will actually stuff a yellow school bus full of supplies.

## 2009 Pat Maloney, Sr. Dinner

If you are a candidate or know of a candidate who has not been contacted about the dinner, please let us know. There isn't yet a central listing of all the Democratic candidates so we have been primarily going on word of mouth. There are many candidates planning to run this year, and we want to make sure that we reach all of them.

Table sponsorships are still available as are tickets (\$50 each).

You can contact Jacob at 867-6338 or TXDemocrat@satx.rr.com

**Authorized & Paid for by the Northwest Democrats**

To submit an article or other info, email Jacob Middleton at:  
TXDemocrat@satx.rr.com

## A Few 'Joyce' Words

*by Joyce Dorrycott*

The days are quickly passing as we work toward making our August 19<sup>th</sup> Pat Maloney, Sr. Dinner honoring State Senator Leticia Van de Putte. As usual it is a big effort involving only a handful of people.

I wanted to take this opportunity to remind each of us just why we do this every year. I know of no group that works so hard just to raise the funds that will make them work so hard in the fall of the general election. As an organization we are deeply dedicated to electing Democrats every two years.

In fact, the work never seems to end. We put together a Super Bowl every January which takes weeks to put together. Then a couple of months later we begin work on the August dinner. In even-numbered years, we are already working on the campaign when the August dinner occurs. And, in those years, we work from July until November, 6 days a week, 10 – 12 hours a day, and for 4 – 6 hours on Sunday.

But, when we are successful in keeping our Democratic officeholders and electing new ones, then everything we have done is worthwhile.

There is another group to whom we are always indebted – our contributors and sponsors. Over and over they provide us the financial support to have successful events. Many of our sponsors stay with us through our every fundraising effort. We are deeply appreciative of all of you.

We are still seeking table sponsors, but it is also time for our members to both get tickets themselves and encourage others to contribute toward the dinner's success. If no one has contacted you about getting a ticket, just call Jacob at 867-6338. Pass the word to everyone you know.

And, as many of you know, the 2010 election is already underway. Petitions are being signed, fundraisers are being held, and candidates are identifying supporters. Northwest Democrats, as an organization, does not endorse anyone in the primary. That makes us all able to support anyone we choose in March and still support the entire ticket in November.

For a political organization to be effective – it must be involved. Not just during elections, but throughout the other time as well. At our July meeting we heard about the Wounded Warrior Center. Northwest Democrats donates to them every June and December. And, we have an activity each month working in our community.

On another topic, I want to say how proud I am of our president. President Obama – what a victory we all shared. And, everyday, it seems, he is on television exhorting Congress to do one thing or another. Health care is his major topic the last few weeks. We need to write letters to the editor expressing our support for his health care plan.

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## Calendar

Aug 15 - 8:30 am - **NW Democrats**, 9251 Floyd Curl @ Huebner

Aug 17 - 6:30 pm - **Stonewall Democrats**, Grady's Bar-B-Que, 6510 San Pedro

Sept 2 - **Young Democrats**, Grady's Bar-B-Que, 6510 San Pedro

Sept 5 - **Northeast Democrats**, Luby's, 8511 Tesoro Dr.

Sept 19 - **NW Democrats**, 9251 Floyd Curl (@ Huebner)

## Healthcare, Judiciary, and the Fed

by Jacob Middleton

Healthcare. If I have to hear one more time that we are heading towards socialism, socialized medicine, government-run healthcare and how destructive it is going to be, ruin the private sector, etc. Alright, if that's the case then I have one question: When will the Republicans in the House and Senate be introducing legislation that eliminates Medicare, Medicaid, Military Health System/TRICARE, Indian Health Service, SCHIP, and the Federal Employees Health Benefits Programs? All of those programs are public healthcare programs in the United States.

Judiciary. The recent news that at least two local district court judges are being considered for appointment to the federal bench got me wondering. By the end of 2001, Bush had managed to appoint (after they were confirmed by the Senate) 22 U.S. District Court Judges and 5 U.S. Courts of Appeals Judges. So far President Obama has nominated 5 people for seats on the Courts of Appeals, but has so far nominated no one to be on the district courts. And remember, that Bush was dealing with an almost evenly divided Senate. Bush along with the Federalist Society wanted to dramatically change the judiciary and with the recent Supreme Court decisions they have. Why is it that Bush seemed to get so much done with so little, and yet Democrats can't seem to get even a little done with so much.

The Federal Reserve. Having recently finished *Deception and Abuse at the Fed: Henry B. Gonzalez Battles Alan Greenspan's Bank*, I wish Henry B. were back as chairman of the Financial Services Committee. After reading that book as well as finding out more about the Fed it's shocking. This is one of those cases where truth is stranger than fiction and sometimes you start to feel like you might be some kind of conspiracy nut.

When you hear Eliot Spitzer, who for all his faults did a pretty good job as NY Attorney General, call the Fed a Ponzi scheme, it makes you stop and wonder. After reading and listening, the Fed seems about as federal as Federal Express. When you really examine the Fed, although it is supposed to be independent within the government, it seems to be run by the banks.

Spitzer made the point on MSNBC's Morning Meeting and went on to mention the AIG bailout stating, "You look at the governing structure of the New York Fed, it was run by the very banks that got the money."

Some simple searching provides you with a list of the primary dealers (banks that work with the Treasury and the Fed on the budget deficit and monetary policy) on the New York Fed. Among the banks: Bank of America, Citigroup, Goldman Sachs, J.P. Morgan, and Morgan Stanley. Prior to 2009 other banks on the list include Countrywide, Lehman Brothers, Bear Stearns, and Merrill Lynch. Add to this the news that Wall Street banks are "reaping outsized profits by trading with the Federal Reserve...".

All these bank bailouts and the Fed tells us we can't know anything because any investigation or audit by Congress will remove independency of the Fed. I don't think so. This is why I would urge Congress to pass the Federal Reserve Transparency Act of 2009 that allows the General Accounting Office (GAO), which is the investigative arm of Congress, to audit the Fed.

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# **SAVE THE DATE!!!!!!**

Aug. 19<sup>th</sup> - 6 pm - 9 pm, Omni Hotel  
PAT MALONEY SR. ANNUAL DINNER  
Honoring State Senator Leticia Van de Putte