

The Newsletter

# update

of Houston's Gay Political Caucus

## ELECTION SPECIAL

### Gay-baiting

Remember two years ago when Frank Mann made the mistake of calling us "odd-wads" and the community responded with hundreds of volunteers and thousands of dollars in campaign contributions to his opponent Eleanor Tinsley?

It was a disastrous mistake that the homophobes will not make again. GPC endorsed candidates are facing a more dangerous and insidious attack on the campaign trail this year.

The gay-baiting is coming from audience members who are supporting reactionary candidates. Kathy Whitmire, GPC's choice for mayor, was recently barraged at a meeting on the West side of Houston for having "the perverts" endorsement. Kathy's replies to their questions did not vary even one comma from her statements to GPC during screening. She said in reply to having received the "perverts" endorsement, "I'm pleased to have that endorsement."

Other candidates, such as

George Greanias in the District C race, are running into similar prejudice.

Because these attacks are coming not from the candidates but from their supporters, the response from the gay/lesbian community has been slower in coming.

GPC's endorsement—besides a bloc vote—has meant volunteers and contributions. Without such a response from the community, those who argue our endorsement is more of a hindrance than help will gain support.

Don't let it happen! When you hear that one of our candidates has been attacked in a public forum for having our support, you can bet the remark was meant to benefit an opponent. That such remarks are consistently happening is no accident.

Remember how good it felt two years ago not just to get mad, but to get even? It will feel even better this year. Call GPC at 521-1000 to get involved with your time and contributions.

Put this card in a safe place until

MUNICIPAL ELECTION  
November 3, 1981

#### GPC ENDORSEMENTS

Mayor Kathy Whitmire

#### City Council District Races

Distr. B Ernest McGowen  
Distr. C George Greanias  
Distr. H Dale Gorczynski

#### City Council-At-Large Races

Pos. 1 Morris Belt  
Pos. 2 Eleanor Tinsley  
Pos. 3 Jim Greenwood  
Pos. 5 Judson Robinson, Jr.

Controller Lance Lalor

Paid Political Advertisement  
Gay Political Caucus, 521-1000  
P.O. Box 66664, Houston, TX 77006  
K. Smith, Treasurer

### Screening How it works

The GPC screening process has been widely extolled in the media and often times is approached with fear and loathing by candidates seeking the endorsement.

The process begins with committee work to revise the questionnaire and score sheet. This year candidates were asked 50 questions (mayoral candidates 60 questions)

## Screening, cont.

relating to repeal of 21.06, gay and lesbian civil rights, women's issues, city services, minority concerns, community development, with the largest section dealing with the Houston Police Department.

GPC volunteers are then trained on the questionnaire and screening process before being placed on panels to interview candidates. This year over 26 volunteers participated as screeners. Each volunteer participated as a panel member for at least three candidates interviewing as many candidates as possible within the same race.

The volunteers were men and women, new and veteran, Democrat and Republican, precinct judges, GPC Board Members, Officers, and Members.

Once all the scheduled candidates had been interviewed (each session takes about 90 minutes), the score sheets were totaled to reach a rating and a recommendation meeting was held of the screening volunteers. This group reviews the candidates and their qualifications in each race and decides what recommendation to make to the caucus membership on endorsement night.

The bloc vote of the gay community is a trust in and affirmation of the GPC screening and endorsement process. GPC volunteers now must turn their energies to presenting the slate to the community and asking for the community's support of donations, time and votes.

## Candidates' Needs

All Candidates need and would appreciate your contribution.

KATHY WHITMIRE

Headquarters: 3030 Louisiana (06)  
520-7666

GPC has been asked to staff a phone bank at Kathy's headquarters on Sundays between 4-8 pm. Call 521-1000 to volunteer.

Volunteers are also needed for precinct work, especially outside of the inner city area. Block-walking and yard sign deliver is also needed.

If you own a business please take a supply of brochures and window signs for your establishments.

LANCE LALOR

Headquarters: 2436 Times (05)  
528-1812

Volunteer needs include phone calling from your home, yard sign delivery, typing, and election day volunteers to put up poll signs and push cards.

The campaign needs office supplies such as xerox paper and postage.

GEORGE GREANIAS

Headquarters: 2111 Richmond (98)  
526-4272

Volunteers are needed to deliver yard signs, phone bank in the evening hours and help with some typing.

JUDSON ROBINSON JR.

Headquarters: 2901 Elgin (04)  
528-6201

Donations needed and appreciated.

DALE GORCZYNSKI

Headquarters: 1314 N. Loop  
864-1180

Volunteers are needed to work on the phones, deliver yard signs, and general office work.

Mail contributions to Box 7486  
Houston, Tx. 77248.

MORRIS BELT

Headquarters: 2101 Lexington (98)  
524-9350

Volunteers needed to phone bank, block walk, prepare mail-outs, and deliver yard signs.

Wooden stakes are needed by the campaign for yard signs.

ERNEST MCGOWEN

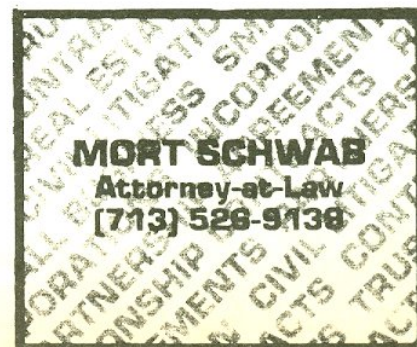
Headquarters: 3548 East-Tex (26)  
671-0951

Volunteers are needed for mail-outs and phone calling.

JIM GREENWOOD

Headquarters: 4001 Westheimer  
#211, (27)  
960-0456

Volunteers are needed for mail-outs, phone work, typing, and yard sign delivery.



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HOUSTON'S FRIENDLIEST COUNTRY-WESTERN BAR

HAPPY HOUR 4-7PM MONDAY-FRIDAY  
SUNDAY BUFFET AT NOON

710 PACIFIC • 528-9427

HOME OF THE MUSTANGS

MEMBER OF THE TAVERN GUILD



**HOUSE of GPC COFFEE BEANS**

"FINE COFFEES AND TEAS FROM  
HOUSTON'S FIRST AND MOST  
COMPLETE COFFEE/TEA  
SPECIALTY STORE."

2520 Rice Blvd.  
In the Village

524-0057

10-6 Mon-Fri  
10-5 Sat

## Montrose Clinic

For over two years The Medical Committee of Houston GPC and Lesbians & Gay People in Medicine have worked hard to get a Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic in the heart of Montrose. I am pleased to announce that this clinic hereinafter called THE MONTROSE CLINIC will open its doors at 6:00 pm, Tuesday October-6, 1981. The Clinic is located at 104 Westheimer. The phone # is 528-5531. The clinic will offer the same basic services as McGregor Clinic. The hours will be TueThurs-Fri-6 pm to 10 pm, and Sun 1 pm to 5 pm. There will be a doctor on duty during operating hours. Help make your clinic a success. Patronize it. If you would like to volunteer for any one of 22 different jobs please call Mr. Roger Pillsbury R.N., at the clinic number.

## VOLUNTEER!

## Where to Vote

To determine your polling place, you must first determine your precinct number. This number is printed on your voter registration card.

If you are registered at the address shown on this envelope, your precinct number will be printed above your name on the mailing label.

If you live in any of GPC's top precincts, your polling place can be found in the following list:

**COUPON**  
**montrose**  
**hair**  
**design**

4317 montrose boulevard

522-2822

ELECTION SPECIAL!!!!!!

25% Donated to GPC with this coupon. Haircut & Blowdry Just \$20.00

4 TRAVIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 3311 Beauchamp Ave.	40 POE ELEMENTARY 5100 Hazard	177 ROGERS ELEMENTARY 3101 Wesleyan & Richmond
33 WHARTON ELEMENTARY 900 W. Gray	53 FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 201 E. 9th & Harvard	178 HOLIDAY INN 3131 West Loop South
34 FELIX MEXICAN RESTAURANT 904 Westheimer	57 REAGAN HIGH SCHOOL E. 13th & Arlington	200 CENTER FOR THE RETARDED 3550 W. Dallas
37 AMERICAN LEGION POST 2715 Waughcrest Drive	60 LANIER JR. HIGH SCHOOL 2600 Woodhead	233 LAMAR HIGH SCHOOL 3325 Westheimer
38 WILSON ELEMENTARY 2100 Yupon	123 CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST 4100 Montrose & W. Main	431 CUNNINGHAM ELEMENTARY 5100 Gulfport
39 MARTEL AUDITORIUM 3511 Yorkum Blvd.	139 OLD #4 FIRE STATION 4106 S. Shepherd & Banks	434 ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH 4807 San Felipe
		435 ROGERS JUNIOR HIGH 5840 San Felipe

If you live elsewhere, (1) call GPC at 521-1000 or 521-9186, (2) look in the newspaper on election day or the day before, (3) call the County Clerk's office at 221-6411 or 221-6965, or (4) call any of the candidate's offices.

If you recently moved and either did not re-register, or did not receive your new registration card, go to the precinct of your old address to vote.

## Thoughts from the President

It was a mud bath, and there were inexcusable delays, but it was the most successful climax ever for a Houston Gay Pride Week. The needed money and volunteers from it keep coming in. Said to be the second largest such gathering in the country, "the RALLY", 1981, was a visible display of the political power reported in the August 10 edition of Newsweek.

For me, it is exciting to see so many of us together at that kind of event. The refreshments and fun and the program are always rejuvenating, but nothing we do has a more lasting impact on our lives than does effecting the political and legislative process. We did that well. Over 400 printed invitations were mailed to local, state and national politicians. They were asked to sit in the VIP section, with our community and business leaders. Indeed, they came in greater numbers than ever before--office holders, judges, candidates, Senate District 15 politicians and precinct judges. Even those who were unable to attend were impressed and made a point of conveying their regrets and best wishes. The invitation they received carried a clear message all by itself: the gay movement, and the Gay Political Caucus in Houston, are alive and quite well, even in 1981.

Sissy Farenthold is always great...we expect that, but Minneapolis Chief of Police Anthony Bouza was superb. He was even better Monday morning on the steps of City Hall. I had called a press conference to express our continued frustration with our own police chief. After two months of requests, B. K. Johnson refused even to greet

his professional colleague - apparently because Bouza spoke in support of our rights.

We will, with reason and determination, continue to speak out when our rights are denied or when the political system does not respond. Maybe some day we will not need political clout, but that is certainly not today. Therefore, we MUST use our power on November 3, and contribute now, both financially and by calling 521-1000 to volunteer for endorsed candidates' campaign efforts.

Will you also take the time now to make the following major contributions? We want the endorsement card to reach more people, so they will know which candidates are our friends. Will you give us the names and addresses of 5 friends who may not be on our mailing list? Please call those in now to 521-1000, day or night. A collective effort could provide the additional votes necessary to decide a race.



**VOTE  
LET YOUR  
CONSCIENCE  
AND MEMORY  
BE YOUR  
GUIDE**

**THE  
DIFFERENT  
DRUM**

1732 WESTHEIMER  
HOUSTON  
528-8508

## Voter Registration Update

This year's voter registration drive was an overwhelming success. Over 3,000 persons were directly registered by GPC volunteers. Countless others were registered through cards left behind in bars and other means.

So why are we sending you another registration card? The answer is simple: in our mobile and growing community, people move daily and people somewhere are constantly in need of re-registration. Even though you are probably registered, you surely know of someone who is not. Save the card and put it to good use.

You might find a few facts interesting and worthwhile: (1) It is too late to register in order to vote in the November 3 election. However, there will be a run-off. If you register by November 3 you will be eligible to vote in the run-off when our votes will be even more critical.

(2) There is no longer a residency term required for registration. One may register the minute they move to Houston. However, it is necessary to have an address to register.

(3) If you vote at least once during the two year registration cycle, you are automatically re-registered to vote. However, if you move during that time, your renewal card will be returned by the post office to the county and you will be dropped from the rolls. To re-register, you can either mark up your current certificate with the correct address and mail it to the county; or you can re-register and write the word 'change' on the margin of the application.