



Common Sense



Meeting Monday, February 6, 2012, 7:00 pm at San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts, 1 Love Street

Chair Chat by County Chairwoman Linda Shoemaker

I saw a wonderful cartoon in Lone Star Project - Policlips. Two guys wearing "Rick Perry Campaign" t-shirts are carrying the wounded Perry (black eye, teeth missing) away from a boxing ring on a stretcher. One guy says to the other, "At least we don't have to worry about brain damage!"

Confused about our primary election chaos? Well, you should be. Two courts have different, but overlapping missions. New election laws must be pre-cleared because of our state's history of election discrimination. State "leaders" (an oxymoron) chose to request pre-clearance from a federal district court in Washington, DC. rather than going to the Obama Justice Department for a decision. The DC case will not be decided before January 31st. The issue is: *do new state laws (photo identification and redistricting maps) violate the Constitution and the Voting Rights Act?*

The Supreme Court tossed the redistricting maps drawn by a San Antonio federal court that had tossed the maps drawn by Republican state legislators. The "Supremes" ruled that the federal court in Texas had *exceeded its mission*. A status hearing will be held by the San Antonio court to allow the state parties to discuss maps and Texas' election schedule, in hopes of working out an agreement. Our side will again argue that there is a *reasonable probability* that Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act will be violated if the Republican legislative maps are used. No new filing period has been established. The current primary date of April 3rd will likely be changed. This fact is holding up a new candidate, **Dusty Thompson**, who is waiting to file for Constable in Precinct 4. Both state parties are faced with an unknown election date that might not allow time for a run-off election, county conventions and state conventions at which national delegates will be chosen for the national convention. Stay tuned!

Just Talking by Ben Quiet

Remember when the poor and middle class crashed the economy, took trillions in taxpayer funded bailouts, gave themselves billions in bonuses and paid no taxes? I don't either. It is time to take our government back. In 1776 we separated our government from England. In 2012, we have to separate our government from the corporations.

For too long we have stood by while the rich have looted our country and trashed the countryside through neglect and by direction, have gained control of the Congress, the media outlets, the courts, and the economy itself. Now they are openly going after us on a personal level. All the Republican candidates for President have pledged to take down Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid. It seems that distance is the only thing they are willing for us to keep and call our own. Wake up!

Please join us at this year's NAACP banquet on Saturday, February 18, McNease Convention Center. Your contribution of \$20 or \$25 will help us defray the cost of our table. This is a good way to put our name out in the African American Community and to support their cause. Tickets will be available at our February 6 meeting.

"If the Republican leadership is going to insist that 60 votes in the Senate are required to do any business at all in this town, a supermajority, then the responsibility to govern is now yours, as well. Just saying no to everything may be good short-term politics, but it's not leadership." President Barak Obama 1-24-12 State of the Union

Announcements

The month's guest speaker is Don Dunagan, former Marine Major and voice of the title character in the Disney classic "Bambi."

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!

Register Now

Plans are being made to conduct several registration drives. Locations will include churches and businesses. We are looking at the possibility of some block by block registration efforts. Please let us know if you can help or if you have suggestions. People who wish to register now may call Floyd Crider at 374-7202.

Ballot by Mail

A reminder to all voters. A person who is age 65 or older, who is disabled, or who is going to be out of the county during any given election may request a ballot by mail. Information about the procedure is available from the elections office, 325-659-6541, or on the county web site. Voters using the ballot by mail procedure will not be required to submit identification in addition to the voter registration documentation.

The Executive Committee (officers and board of directors members) meets 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

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TGCDC 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)

**New Primary Date
April 3, 2012
ID required to vote**

Tom Green County Democratic Club

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