



Victory Gram



Meeting Monday, June 6 at 7:00 p.m. @ San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts, 1 Love Street

Back to the Future

Before the turn of the last century, an oligarchy of plutocracy dominated the economy. Many people had to be paid off – politicians (Tammany Hall), judges, police and others. Unions were weak when they existed at all and The American Party (Know Nothings) was spreading fear about immigrants (Irish). Robber Barons were large and in charge until Teddy Roosevelt busted monopolies and stood tough for a while. Still, decades later, Tennessee Ernie Ford was singing "Sixteen tons and what do you get? Another day older and deeper in debt. St. Peter don't you call me, cause I can't go. I owe my soul to the company store."

All aspects of life for the laborer were controlled by the bosses. Children worked right alongside their mothers in unsafe sweat shops. There was no need for education for those without money. Before OSHA and strong unions, Muckrakers like Sinclair Lewis uncovered horrors in slaughter houses and other places of work.

You may be used to it now, but work was not always 8 hours per day nor 5 days per week, with overtime for additional hours. Nor were holidays and paid vacations always the norm.

Guess what? There are those who want to take us back to that future, the future of buying officials, rigging elections, rearranging the news and deregulating all business. And did I mention, busting the unions?
Floyd Crider

Ethics or Bigotry?

Recently, while discussing slavery with a friend, I questioned how people who considered themselves moral, ethical, and supportive of family values could not only condone, but even participate in that practice.

My friend replied, "It's simple. They didn't consider slaves to be human."

I realized that that must be the answer, not only for slavery, but also for what the Republicans in the Texas legislature and the US Congress are doing with their budget proposals. How else could people who consider themselves moral, ethical, and supportive of family values (as all elected Republicans do, whether they act that way or not) propose budgets that attack school children, college students, the medically indigent, and the elderly by proposing budgets that give significant tax breaks to the very wealthy and large businesses while reducing the deficits by de-funding education, Medicare, and programs for the elderly? While many people in those categories don't vote, which makes them easy targets, how can those who DO vote get conned into voting for people who think like those Republicans?

Mitch Krasney

Relay for Life Report

Relay for Life on May 20-21 was invigorating. Our team enjoyed a windy, challenging setup and met many Democrats who came by to whisper their complicity in our political cause. Sandwich sales brought in \$475, and our team goal of \$1500 was exceeded by \$29. Our boat, the "Yellow Dog" held its own in the barefoot field race, happily propelled by myself and Meagan Pluff (who also ran laps) and flying the Democrats' flag alongside the American flag. Survivor Angela Livingston walked TEN laps with a \$10 per lap sponsor. President Crider bought all the trimmings for the meals. Last-minute large cash contributors included Monette Molinar and Frank Hernandez (who also walked) and Guy Choate of Webb, Stokes and Sparks. Thanks to drivers Ivey Mossell and Linda Shoemaker, who also contributed her equipment and manpower to get the brisket cooked and properly served! Special thanks to Maggie Fernandez who cooked all night AND served on the following night!

Your Relay Captain, Janna Simms

Announcements

The guest speakers at this month's meeting are

Becki Salandy of the Public Housing Authority; Angelica Peña, HOME Program Coordinator for the city's Housing & Family Support division; & representatives from the city's Neighborhood & Family Services division.

Juneteenth 2011

We plan to participate in Juneteenth this year. We will participate in the parade down MLK and by registering voters at the BBQ in MLK Park. FMI contact Floyd Crider at 374-7202 or president@tgcdc.org

GOTV Begins Now

The Executive Committee is working to schedule with the Elections Office training for Deputy Voter Registrars. If you are interested in being certified to register voters, please contact Ivey Mossell, 944-1137 or ivey@zipnet.us. The training takes about an hour and usually is scheduled at 5:30 P.M. on some date chosen by the elections office personnel.

We need to be proactive for the 2012 election! Turning unregistered citizens into registered voters is a must!

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

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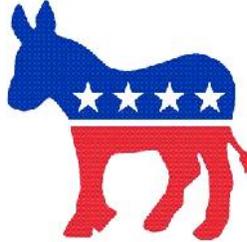
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