



GREATER HOUSTON  
**PACHYDERM  
CLUB**



**NEWSLETTER**

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The Honorable Tom DeLay

The Honorable Kevin Brady

The Honorable John Culberson

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**PACHYDERM  
LUNCHEONS  
EVERY TUESDAY**

**Double Tree Guest Suites**  
5353 Westheimer (two blocks west of the Galleria)  
Noon-1:15 p.m. \$14.00 per person  
No Reservations Required Visitors Welcome  
**PARKING \$1.00**

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**PROGRAMS FOR OCTOBER 2005**

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**Tuesday, October 4, 2005**

**Speaker: Hon. Kyle Janek, Texas State Senator, District 17**

<http://www.senate.state.tx.us/75r/senate/members/dist17>



After serving eight years in the Texas House, Janek has served as a state Senator the past two legislative sessions. After his first session, he made the Texas Realtor Honor Roll for his work on issues important to homeowners like property tax relief. In addition, the Texas Association of Business designated him a Fighter for Free Enterprise. He has also been cited for his leadership on health care issues and historic preservation. The senator currently serves as vice chair of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee and as a member of the Finance Committee and the Education Committee. He

will discuss some of the accomplishments and challenges of the recently completed 79<sup>th</sup> Legislative sessions earlier this year.

**Tuesday, October 11, 2005**

**Candidate Forum - Houston City Council Race District C**

**Ann Clutterbuck** <http://www.clutterbuckforcouncil.com>

**Brian Cweren** <http://www.brian2005.com>

**George Hittner** <http://www.georgehittner.com>

**Judy Silversen** <http://www.judysilversen.com>



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In what is arguably the most hotly contested race for the seat currently held by term-limited incumbent Mark Goldberg, these 4 Republican candidates will present their qualifications and communicate their views on how if elected, they feel they can best serve our city and their district on the council. Each candidate will be given an opportunity to give a short opening introduction followed by a question and answer session in which 4 of the questions will have been predetermined and given to the candidates in advance. We will then conclude the program by allowing each candidate to give a brief closing statement.

**Tuesday, October 18, 2005**

**Speaker: Roy Morales, Candidate for Houston City Council At-Large,  
Position 1 <http://www.roymorales.com>**



A retired Lt. Colonel in the United States Air Force, Morales has most recently served our city as Chief Technology Officer for the Houston Fire Department and the Houston Emergency Center. If elected, he hopes to make security a priority by protecting our industries, neighborhoods and families through better emergency services and fighting for our city's fair share of Homeland Security funding. He also supports our city lobbying the federal government for a broader, more comprehensive immigration and border protection programs. Morales is seeking the At-Large seat currently held by term-limited incumbent Mark Ellis.

**Tuesday, October 25, 2005**

**Speaker: William E. "Bill" King, Former Mayor, City of Kemah  
<http://chron.com/hurricanes>**



As the outgoing Kemah mayor, King was one of a handful of local officials who fretted that Texas was unprepared for a catastrophic hurricane. Unfortunately, many other state and local public officials didn't agree. In fact, reports from the Governors Office of Emergency Management earlier this year actually rejected many of King's doubts including whether or not our area's roadways and evacuation routes were adequate to handle a full-fledged evacuation of Southeast Texas. King will discuss his views on hurricane preparedness and proactive planning including annuals practice drills and exercises to better deal with catastrophic storms in the future.

For more information regarding our programs or speakers, please email Verdene Ryder at [verdene@earthlink.net](mailto:verdene@earthlink.net) or call (713) 686-4336

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NEWSLETTER



## LEADERS OF THE PACH

*“MORE DOMESTIC ENERGY – LESS MIDDLE EASTERN OIL*

*WHAT ABOUT OIL SHALE DEVELOPMENT?”*

— **Bob Shults**  
McFall, Sherwood & Breitbeil, P.C.

In the August GHPC Newsletter, we lamented the fact that the recent energy bill did not open the Alaskan Natural Wildlife Refuge’s 2000 acres to controlled petroleum production (out of a total expanse of 17.1 million acres). This portion of the ANWR contains 5.7 to 16.0 billion barrels of technically recoverable undiscovered oil. This is compared to 13.0 to 33.8 billion barrels in the lower 48 states combined. What would you think if told that, with short-term technological advancements, the lower 48 resources could be increased by 800 billion barrels? That’s correct — 800 billion barrels, which is the midpoint in the possible range of recovery.

The very good news is that these deposits are contained within the borders of Colorado, Utah and Wyoming, not Iraq or Saudi Arabia! Your next logical question is, “OK- what’s the catch?” For an answer, I recommend that you read at least the summary of the Rand Corporation report entitled Oil Shale-Development in the United States dated September 2005. See [www.rand.org](http://www.rand.org). Here are the highlights. To obtain oil from shale, the shale must be heated and the liquid that results must be captured. This process is called retorting. There are two methods of retorting: mining and surface retorting and in-situ retorting. In-situ retorting entails heating the oil shale in place, extracting the liquid from the ground and transporting it to a refining facility. Shell Oil Company has

conducted small scale field tests of an in-situ process with great promise of larger scale success and economic viability. The in-situ method has the advantage of not involve the significant disturbance of the surface by mining operations nor spent shale disposal above ground.

Clearly, there are numerous policy issues that must be addressed quickly in order to promote oil shale production. Reasonable environmental issues must be in place. The extreme environmental lobby has not shown itself to be reasonable, however, as evidenced in the ANWR debate. It is time for strategic national security and economic interests to prevail over irrational, no-growth environmentalists.

Additionally, the most abundant and promising deposits of oil shale are found on federal lands managed by the U.S. Department of the Interior. While progress was made in liberalizing lease provisions in the Energy Policy Act of 2005, current lease size provisions could still be a disincentive to shale development. This impediment should be corrected immediately. Other issues such as water use in the process and the need for tax and other incentives to promote investment and protect against artificial market risks imposed by OPEC manipulation need to be addressed as quickly as possible. With development lead times of five to twelve years, incentives need to be addressed now. It is time for the

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majority to make clear that our country's strategic and economic concerns take precedence over an extremist environmental elite.

## *PREPARING FOR A SLOWDOWN*

— **John Connly Walsh, who works for an American company in Baghdad**

I'd like to mention a couple of occurrences here in Iraq from about three weeks ago. The first was an announcement that the U.S. will remain in Iraq for four more years. That piece of news, coming as it did, in the midst of "withdrawal schedule" prattle, had a very positive impact on the morale and spirit of most Iraqis. Regardless of what you might hear or read in the mainstream media, the vast majority of Iraqis don't want us going anywhere. They were enormously encouraged to hear we are going to be here for quite a while longer.

Iraqis who think about and plan for their futures (and that's quite a few of them) were starting to wonder if the "withdrawal schedule" being flogged so eagerly in the MSM was not evidence that George W. was forgetting Margaret Thatcher's strong admonition to Bush Senior not to "go wobbly." But most agree that Bush the Younger does not require this kind of spinal reinforcement at all.

Talk about an early withdrawal once again brought up the Vietnam analogy. This time, however, it was not about "quagmire," but about "bugout," which many see as another possible analogy between the two wars. Whatever someone like the ever-fatuous Barbara Boxer may be saying, talk about the U.S. leaving Iraq has simply not found an audience here.

A second event three weeks ago involved my good fortune in sitting in on an impromptu and informal meeting of senior military officers. Some were active duty; some were retired and in Iraq with major contractors.

As always in such get-togethers, the subject very quickly turned to the war and its progress. All the senior officers, to a man, asserted that we are winning – but each warned that militarily it won't be a work of art. All of them, to a man, think we will win a major victory. Each warned, in somewhat different words, that Clausewitz might have trouble deciding precisely in which chapter of his book to highlight this victory. But the most important thing I learned was all are convinced that the U.S. and President Bush will achieve their vitally important long-term strategic and military objectives.

If the results of the Iraqi elections lead to the establishment of a secular government, then Bush and the U.S. will have been the clear winners. Everyone's choice for prime minister is Ayad Alawi. If he is whom we get, we and George Bush will have hit the jackpot.

The selection of Alawi as the eventual winner is primarily based on the conclusion that he has played his hand masterfully. He has put many miles between himself and the violence of the past 6 months. In fact, Alawi could campaign on the motto: "Let the good times roll!" and win handily.

Alawi is tough, secular, and a savage infighter. It may well turn out that his poor showing last January was a blessing in disguise for him. For Iraq to be ready for a stable government there is agreement that the country will be required to go through a massive bloodletting. This process will ultimately exorcise all the demons left over from Saddam. If Alawi had won in January, he would have lost his turn because he mistimed his arrival. Fortunately for Alawi, it is not always good to be the early bird.

As the world's only superpower, we have an obligation to ourselves and to the rest of the world to impose discipline on all the troublemakers and terrorists, with or without the help of our allies. The obvious reason for this is that our safety and security demand it.

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To those who would ask, “Why is that our job?” my reply would be to suggest they read the speech Tony Blair delivered to Congress on July 17, 2003. On that occasion the Prime Minister was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal for his loyal support of the United States during the events leading up to the Iraq war.

Toward the end of his acceptance speech, Blair took careful note of what must cross the mind of every American by saying to us:

“And I know it’s hard on America, and in some small corner of this vast country, out in Nevada or Idaho or these places I’ve never been to, but always wanted to go... I know out there there’s a nice guy getting on with his life, perfectly happily, minding his own business, saying to you, the political leaders of this country, ‘Why me? Why us? And why America?’”

The Prime Minister answered his own question:

“Because destiny put you in this place in history, in this moment in time, and the task is yours to do.”

## ***WHY WE COULDN'T SAVE THE PEOPLE OF NEW ORLEANS***

In the late 1990’s, the state’s school systems ranked dead last in the nation in the number of computers per student (1 per 88), and Louisiana has the nation’s second-highest percentage of adults who never finished high school. By the state’s own measure, 47% of the public schools in New Orleans rank as “academically unacceptable.”

These government failures are not merely a matter of incompetence. Louisiana and New Orleans have a long, well-known reputation for corruption: as former

congressman Billy Tauzin once put it, “half of Louisiana is under water and the other half is under indictment.”

That’s putting it mildly. Adjusted for population size, the state ranks third in the number of elected officials convicted of crimes (Mississippi is No. 1). Recent scandals include the conviction of 14 state judges and an FBI raid on the business and personal files of a Louisiana congressman.

In 1991, a notoriously corrupt Democrat named Edwin Edwards ran for governor against Republican David Duke, a former head of the Ku Klux Klan. Edwards, whose winning campaign included bumper stickers saying “Elect the Crook,” is currently serving a 10-year prison sentence for taking bribes from casino owners. Duke recently completed his own prison term for tax fraud.

The rot included the New Orleans Police Department, which in the 1990s had the dubious distinction of being the nation’s most corrupt police force and the least effective: the city had the highest murder rate in America. More than 50 officers were eventually convicted of crimes including murder, rape and robbery; two are currently on Death Row.

Ten billion dollars are about to pass into the sticky hands of politicians in the No.1 and No. 3 most corrupt states in America. Worried about looting? You ain’t seen nothing yet

“New Orleans has a Democrat Mayor, a Democrat City Council, and a Democrat Chief of Police. Louisiana has a Democrat Governor, a Democrat Lt. Governor, a Democrat Attorney General; 24 of 39 Louisiana State Senators are Democrat, 67 of 105 Louisiana State House Representatives are Democrat, there’s a Democrat Representative in the House from

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New Orleans, and one of two U.S. Senators is a Democrat.”

**SO YOU CAN SEE WHY IT'S ALL BUSH'S  
FAULT!**

## **DEAD POLITICIANS**

A busload of politicians were driving down a country road when, all of a sudden, the bus ran off the road and crashed into a tree in an old farmer's field.

The old farmer, after seeing what happened, went over to investigate. He then proceeded to dig a hole and bury the politicians. A few days later, the local sheriff came out, saw the crashed bus and asked the old farmer where all the politicians had gone.

The old farmer said he had buried them.

The sheriff asked the old farmer, “Were they ALL dead?”

The old farmer replied, “Well, some of them said they weren't but you know how them politicians lie.”

## **SADDAM HUSSEIN AND GENERAL CUSTER**

What do Saddam Hussein and General Custer have in common?

They both want to know where the hell those Tomahawks are coming from!

## **HOW TO CHOOSE A POLITICAL PARTY**

During a neighborhood party, Joe got into an argument with his neighbor, about presidential politics. Finally, the neighbor asked me why Joe was such a dedicated Republican.

Joe told him that his father and grandfather were both Republicans and he was carrying on the family tradition.

“That's it?” said the exasperated neighbor. “What if your father and grandfather had been horse thieves?”

“Well...” Joe replied, “*I suppose then I'd be a Democrat like you.*”

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