



# Greater Houston Pachyderm Club



Newsletter

P O Box 22531 Houston Texas 77227-2531

April 2006

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AFFILIATED WITH THE REPUBLICAN PARTY  
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Pachyderm Luncheons Every Tuesday  
Double Tree Guest Suites

5353 Westheimer (two blocks west of the Galleria)  
Noon-1:15 PM \$14.00 per person No Reservations Required  
Parking \$1.00

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## Program

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### April 4<sup>th</sup> 2006

Run-Off Forum, Texas House Representatives Dist 133



Jim Murphy is the General Manager for the Westchase Business District and a Houston Community College System Board Member. He is a UT graduate who was also named one of Five Outstanding Young Texans in 1995.

His platform addresses: Limited government / limiting spending. Sensible mobility, better schools, and protecting the family.



Mike Schofield is an attorney who served as Gov. Perry's Assistant General Counsel until he resigned in September of 2004, and moved back into the District to run for the seat. Mike has degrees in Political Science from Rutgers University and in Law from LSU.

His platform addresses: Property tax relief - appraisal caps. Education reform and Immigration reform.

### April 11<sup>th</sup> 2006 Beverly Woolley, State Representative District 136



Beverly Woolley is Chairman of the prestigious Calendars Committee, and serves on the civil Practices and Ways and Means Committees. With a special Session for our State Legislature, the focus issues will be School Financing and Property Tax Reductions. According to recent news, work has already begun in the Committees who will bring their findings and proposals for a vote. Beverly Woolley will discuss these issues and the problems and compromises that may result.

### April 18<sup>th</sup> 2006



James T. Edmonds, Chairman, Board of Commissioners Port of Houston authority. Jim Edmonds appointment in June of 2000 was a joint Decision of the Houston City Council and the Harris County Commission. The awarding of nearly 17 million in Federal Security Grants to the Port of Houston Authority is credited to the Port's proactive stance to broaden public awareness of security issues along the world's sixth largest Port. Under Edmonds leadership, the Port of Houston Authority has been able to expand its business opportunities to better serve existing customers and to create opportunities for future customers,

## Welcome New Member

John Parker  
Hannia Parker  
Bob Stover  
Bruce Tatro

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## Attention All Pachyderms.

**Dues are almost past due. Renew your membership today so you will be included in our 2006 membership directory. Membership is only \$40 and, considering the very high quality of our programs, is one of the best values you will find anywhere. You can also become a Benefactor Member for only \$60 more (\$100 total). Benefactors get special mention in our directory and newsletter and receive a gold name badge. Mail your check today made payable to Greater Houston Pachyderm Club at PO Box 22531, Houston, Texas 77227-2531. You can print a membership application from the Club's web site at [www.greaterhpc.org](http://www.greaterhpc.org).**

such as the construction of the Bayport Container and Cruise Terminal. The Port of Houston is the first U.S. Port to receive the Port's Certification for ISO14001 Compliance. Mr. Edmonds will review the many positive influences the Port gives to our city and surrounding area.

## April 25<sup>th</sup> 2006



Mona Lisa Chambers is the recently elected Republican Chair of Senatorial District Thirteen. She is determined to reach out to "non traditional" Republican voters, who believe in the principles upon which the Republican Party was founded - freedom, faith, equality, and free markets. Mona Lisa has her work cut out for her in District 13

(Senator Rodney Ellis), but her discussion of the history of the Republican party as the party of civil rights and inclusiveness will show why her goal to create a more "diverse" Republican party with its members pulling in the same direction is not beyond reach.



## President's Message

### Morals and Philosophy in Times of War

For decades during the 400's B.C., the Peloponnesian War raged between Athens and Sparta. Athens was the cradle of what would later be known as "Western democracy". Sparta was militarized and was the "terror machine" of its age. Sparta did not like moving its army out of its home area, however, since the Spartan economy depended on an entire society of slave labor, the "helots", and Spartan leadership was always afraid the helots would find a way to revolt while the army was gone. Also, Athens had developed a mighty navy, so when the Spartan army approached Athens, the city and Athenian subjects from the countryside "hunkered down" in the city and the navy sailed off to the coast near Sparta and inflicted more damage than the Spartan army did outside the walls of Athens. Therefore, the "battle season" was short each year and the war dragged on and on. Eventually, Sparta won. What started the process of victory happened only about two years into the war. While the Athenians, both city dwellers and those from the countryside, crammed into the city to get away from the Spartan army, a virulent plague set in. Over a few years, it so utterly decimated the Athenians that they could not recover enough to field their normal army, navy and economic might. The point for us today is that the great Athenian leader, Pericles, died early in the plague. He was a genius both in military and moral terms. After his death, his adopted ward, Alcibiades, took over. He cared more for his own power and that of his "party" than he did for Athens. He changed sides twice during the war. Athens kept taking him back because its leadership was so decimated. Athens was being infected with lawlessness ("*anomia*" in Greek). According the Thucydides, when death hovered over all, many, if not most, lost self-control and "turned themselves over to the pleasures of the moment." This was especially true since they had such little trust in their leaders. Make no mistake; we are in a long war now. Our Party is the one with the philosophy, leadership, and morals to see out country through these times. If we become infected with the plague of hopelessness, anger, and hatred, we risk losing the moral compass that keeps us strong. An automatic distrust of proven and dedicated leadership arising out of mistrust of "incumbents" is not sound. The Republican Party as a group knows its principals and roots. We do not need to reach for an "Alcibiades" who glitters with no substance just because he is "new". Whatever our choice in candidates for any office, it should be made on the basis of principal and leadership - not promises and newly found exposure.

— Bob Shults

## Among Conservatives - The Second Annual Weekly Standard Cruise

by Jim and Kandace Heimer

Kandace and I just returned from the 2006 Weekly Standard Cruise. If you are unfamiliar with the Weekly Standard, it is a conservative magazine published by Terry Eastland with Senior Editor Fred Barnes and Editor William Kristol, who regularly appear on Fox News with Brit Hume and Chris Wallace as panelists, and as political commentators.

Holland America's Oosterdam departed San Diego on Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, spent one day at sea, and then made port calls the next three days at Cabo San Lucas, Mazatlan, and Puerto Vallarta, before spending two more days at sea returning to San Diego. As interesting as the port visits were, the main interest for the 200 Weekly Standard subscribers on board were the cocktail parties, dinners, and seminars with the Weekly Standard Staff. Activities began with a Saturday afternoon check in (we now have Weekly Standard beach towels) and a cocktail party before the 8 pm dinner. At each dinner, the participants rotated among tables during the week to give us the opportunity to have at least one dinner with a member of the Weekly Standard staff.

Each morning at sea began with an informal "coffee klatch" on the followed by morning and afternoon seminars, dinner, and - for those with stamina - a final informal gathering in the Crow's Nest lounge. Some of the topics covered during the seminars (and discussed over breakfast, dinner, and cocktails) were Fred Barnes' new book, *Rebel in Chief*, and panel discussions on the Bush presidency, the Alito



**The Weekly Standard Panel (l to r): Matt Continetti, Phil Terzian, Stephen Hayes, William Kristol, Terry Eastland, Jonathan Last, Fred Barnes**

nomination and the future of the Supreme Court, the old versus new media, the state of the union, the war on terrorism, the Abramoff scandal, the 2006 elections, the fate of the Republican majority, and the 2008 elections. Each session included a question and answer period, and all of the Weekly Standard Staff were available afterwards, at the bar, or wherever you could catch them for additional discussions. Perhaps the most "startling" revelation on the cruise was William Kristol's forecast (since repeated on TV), that the Republicans will lose the House in 2006.

While Terry Eastland, Fred Barnes, and William Kristol are the best-known members of TWS, Jonathan Last edits the Weekly Standard web site and Phil Terzian edits the "Back of the Book" section on cultural issues. We also had two other staff members who are making their names in their reporting of very significant current events. These are the Abramoff scandal, an ongoing project of Matt Continetti (whose book on the K-Street Project will be out shortly), and efforts to get the archives captured during the Iraq war declassified and released for analysis by Stephen Hayes.

Most of the participants on the cruise were in the "older" category, many being retired. California (we were surprised) had the most attendees - apparently, there are Republicans out there after all, but most of the States and a couple of foreign countries were represented. It was a great experience to spend a week with like-minded individuals and to hear commentary from experts in observing the political scene. We are watching The Weekly Standard closely for news of the next cruise, and we would like to organize participation from Pachyderm members for the 2007 cruise.

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*"Free Government Requires Active Citizens"*

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