

# The Republican Club of Sun City NEWSLETTER

April 2017

Everett Schmidt, Editor  
(Club Website: rcsctx.com)

Sun City Texas

(Subjects in this newsletter: Leftism of New England States, the Battle of San Jacinto)

## SPEAKER TO DISCUSS “CONVENTION OF STATES” METHOD OF AMENDING THE U. S. CONSTITUTION

Chuck Adams, a successful businessman from this area, will address the “Convention of the States” provision provided in Article V of the U. S. Constitution to amend that document during the club's dinner meeting scheduled for **Thursday, April 27** in the ballroom of the Social Center in Sun City.

Article V provides two methods of changing the Constitution, the first of which has been utilized a number of times to bring about changes now incorporated in our Constitution as amendments.

The second method has not previously been utilized in the 230+ years of the existence of our Constitution, but it has recently gained considerable attention because of being promoted by a number of high-profile advocates such as Gov. Greg Abbott and talk-show host/author Mark Levin in view of an apparent inability on the part of Congress to pass Constitutional amendments in accordance with the first method – even when change is needed and desired by many citizens.

The attempt made in 1996 utilizing the first method to have term limits placed on members of Congress is instructive. As reported in the 2016 GOP Platform, this is what happened: “The GOP leadership brought to a vote, in both the House and Senate, a constitutional amendment. It failed to secure the necessary two-thirds vote in the House, where 80 percent of Republicans voted for it and 80 percent of Democrats voted against it. Every Senate Republican voted to allow a vote on term limits, but the Democrats killed it by a filibuster.”

Given the proclivity of today's Democrats to obstruct, a similar response from Democrats should be expected in regard to any efforts today to provide adjustments in the Constitution in regard to matters of citizen concern about the welfare of the nation as founded. Some examples: a balanced budget, protection for the unborn, border protection and other such matters. The result of efforts will likely continue to be gridlock.

The second method, by reducing the role of Congress in favor of an increased role of states, possibly provides a way to avoid gridlock; however, there is great concern about the complications which can ensue by utilizing a method not previously tried. Some possible complications: the unclear role of Congress, whether topics are determined in advance or at a Convention of States, how delegates are apportioned, and others. There is special concern that the second method might enable leftists to bring about, for example, amendments concerning gun control, limitations on religious liberty, open borders, and other matters.

In order that the reader may reflect on such complications in relation to the language of Article V, pertinent sections of that Article are provided:

**The Congress . . . or, on the Application of the Legislatures of two thirds [34] of the several states shall call a Convention for proposing Amendments, which, in either Case, shall be valid to all Intents and Purposes as part of this Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three fourths [38] of the several States, or by Conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other Mode of Ratification may be proposed by the Congress.**

Given the present dichotomy with continuing gridlock on the one hand and a possible run-away “Convention of the States” on the other, the information presented by our speaker is extremely timely. The future of our country is at stake by the decision the nation makes.

### INFORMATION ABOUT THE MEETING OF APRIL 27

**BEGINNING TIMES: Doors Open – 5:45 pm; Social Period – 6:00 pm; Dinner – 6:30 pm : Program – 7:00 pm**

**MENU:** Spring salad mix, chopped bar-b-que, corn on the cob, green bean casserole, ultimate Mac and cheese, wheat loaf bread.

**COST:** Dinner fee is \$18 per person. Checks made out to “The Republican Club of Sun City” should be mailed to: **The Republican Club of Sun City, 1530 Sun City Blvd., Suite 120, Box 227, Georgetown, TX 78633**, or left in a special drop box located on the front porch of the home of club treasurer Gene Edwards at 202 Duck Creek Land. For information, contact Gene at 512-990-1159 or [geneedwards@earthlink.net](mailto:geneedwards@earthlink.net) The deadline for payment or reservations is Friday, April 21.

VISITORS ARE WELCOME! (Non-members may attend a maximum of two meetings per year – as attendees for the dinner or as observers for the program – without having to pay membership dues.)

## **ADVOCATE OF CHILDREN NEEDING PROTECTION TO ADDRESS CLUB IN MAY**

Brandy Hallford, a practicing attorney who often serves as a court-appointed attorney representing children who are in legal custody of the Child Protective Services (CPS), will address the club during its dinner meeting scheduled for **Thursday, May 25**. Her address will focus on her experiences representing CPS and how individuals in the community can provide support for those children often in desperate need for help.

Details of the meeting will be provided in the May newsletter.

### **OTHER CLUB NEWS**

**Membership Nears Another All-Time High.** Vice president (for membership) Cathy Cody reports that current 2017 club membership stands at 368. That's only 5 members away from the all-time high of 373 reported in the October 2016 newsletter.

**VP Vacancy.** The Executive Committee has postponed taking action on filling the current vacancy in the vice president position.

**Attendance at March Meeting.** Club treasurer Gene Edwards reports there were approximately 142 attendees attending the March dinner meeting with an estimated 10 additional individuals attending at observers.

### **MAYORAL, SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS SLATED FOR MAY 6 (Turnout of Republican Voters is Important!)**

Because turnout for city and school board elections is typically low, and because Democrats have now become energized over the prospect of having Democrats winning at least some of the local elections – as a step toward winning partisan elections in the future – Republicans are especially encouraged to turn out for the May 6 elections. Even though those elections are not listed as partisan elections, those candidates whose philosophy is Republican deserve our support for two reasons: (1) the Republican concept of governance at all levels of government is sounder than that of Democrats, and (2) counter to Democrat objectives, it will help keep Texas red!

About the candidates: Mayor Dale Ross has, for a long time, been widely-recognized as a conservative Republican. His opponent is described in the media as a social activist. *Two* Republicans (Rita Ortego and Ben Stewart) are reported to be running for the Georgetown ISD Place 7 position. A Democrat candidate placed an ad with a headline saying, "Vote Saturday, May 7 – This is our chance to fight back *against Trump*," thus suggesting a questionable priority of that candidate.

Club members wishing to learn more of the party affiliations of candidates are urged to contact their precinct chairman: Sue DeVillez – pct. 381; Cathy Cody – pct. 394; and Terry Putnam – pct. 396.

Early voting is April 24 – 29. Voting is May 6.

### **WHY ARE THE NEW ENGLAND STATES SO LEFTIST? The Answer Can Explain the Leftward/Secular Drift of the Entire Nation**

**Foreword.** For decades, the New England states – New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut – have produced some of the most influential and liberal politicians the nation has had. While they all may not have been born and raised in the those states, the common denominator among them is the fact that they were educated there in some of the most prestigious universities in the world, among them Harvard, Yale and Princeton.

Note some of the lions of liberalism/progressivism/leftism in this group. Woodrow Wilson, a founder of the Progressive Movement (which supports a living Constitution) and the 28th President of the U. S. (1913-1921) was a graduate of Princeton University (NJ); Barach Obama, President of the U. S. for 2 terms, was a graduate of Harvard Law School; Edward Kennedy, Senator from Massachusetts who, among the legislation for which he is responsible, gave us the deleterious Immigration Laws of 1965, was a graduate of Harvard Law School; Hillary Clinton, Senator from New York and unsuccessful presidential candidate, was a graduate of Wellsly College (Mass.) and Yale University (Conn.); Bill Clinton, President of the U. S. for 2 terms was graduate of Harvard Law School; Jonathan Gruber, one of the architects of and spokesmen for ObamaCare who spoke of "the stupidity of the American people," was a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Mass.). Many more liberals having roots in New England states could be cited.

There are, however, a number of prominent critics of that situation. Sen. Ted Cruz, a graduate of Harvard, said, "Understanding Harvard Law is very important to understanding our President Barack Obama. He is very much a creature of Harvard Law. To understand what that means you have to understand that there were more self-declared communists on the Harvard faculty than there were Republicans. Every single idea this president has proposed since he has been in office has been orthodox wisdom of the Harvard faculty lounge.

The late William F. Buckley stated, "I would rather be governed by the first 2000 people in the Manhattan

phone book than the entire faculty of Harvard.”

The late Antonin Scalia, shortly before he died, observed in his dissent in the same-sex marriage case that the Supreme Court consists of only nine men and women, all of whom were successful lawyers who studied at Harvard or Yale Law School. He then makes the point that, “The striking unrepresentative character of the body [court] voting on today's upheaval would be irrelevant if they were functioning as judges, answering the legal question whether the American people had ever ratified a constitutional provision that was understood to proscribe the traditional definition of marriage. But of course, the Justices in today's majority are not voting on that basis; *they say they are not*. And to allow the policy question of same-sex marriage to be considered and resolved by a select, patrician, highly unrepresentative panel of nine is to violate a principle even more fundamental than no taxation without representation: no social transformation without representation.” (Justice Neil Gorsuch, recently appointed to replace Justice Scalia, is a graduate of Harvard and Oxford.)

**Historical Perspective.** During the early days of the nation, as the country expanded westward, it was largely the members of the lower class – those with little to lose and much to gain – who ventured into the wilderness. The result, contends columnist Chris Weinkopf, was that, while class mobility and meritocracy were early phenomena *elsewhere* in America, “New England retained a more rigid system. This meant that with the “*hoi polloi*” seeking opportunity on the frontier while the elites remained in the east, a natural sense of superiority arose throughout New England – a sense that very much carries on to this day.”

During the founding of the nation, New England was inundated with religious faith. It was the strong Christian beliefs of founders like Massachusetts' John Adams who incorporated religious beliefs into the Constitution – like the fallibility of man necessitates a separation of powers. New England spawned great universities whose initial purpose was to have ministers. Harvard University is a prime example. But over time, the great universities evolved into secular institutions – some radically so. Again, Harvard University is an example of that phenomenon.

**The Influence of Education.** The number of institutions of higher education is impressive. Weinkopf reports that for every big name university in the region, there are countless smaller ones – more than 250 sprinkled throughout the six states. He also reports

Massachusetts has more colleges and universities than either Florida, Michigan or Virginia. Vermont boasts of the highest number of campuses per capita in the nation. Even tiny Rhode Island can claim 11 institutions of higher learning. Boston itself is so college-heavy that, during the academic year, it is estimated that 25% of its population consists of students.

The large number of colleges and universities means, contends Weinkopf, that “there are vast populations of people whose existence is largely sheltered from the workday pressures of the real world, including professional academics who haven't left a campus since their undergraduate days.”

“Then, too.” continues Weinkopf, “there are many more residents in the surrounding communities who take their moral and political cues from the colleges, operating under the false belief that education and smarts are the one and same.” Columnist Karl Zinsmeister contends that New England's elitism and the resulting tendency of its politicians to assign decision making to a managerial class at the top of society is the quality that propels it out of the mainstream America.

**A Comparison of the Voting Records of New England and Texas Elected Officials.** *The New American* magazine publishes several times a year a chart revealing how Senators and Representatives voted on issues which revealed “their adherence to constitutional principles of limited government, fiscal responsibilities, national sovereignty and a traditional foreign policy of avoiding foreign entanglements. The scores are derived by dividing a congressman's constitutional votes (pluses) by the total number of votes cast (pluses and minuses) and multiplying by 100). Examples of issues are warrantless surveillance, firearms background checks and National Defense Authorization Act. The higher the number a given official has, the more he or she adheres to constitutional principles.

Following are excerpts from the January 2017 issue of that magazine. The scores of New England elected officials are posted along with – for comparative purposes – those of Texas elected officials.

**CONNECTICUT**

Sen. Blumenthal (d) – 15%

Sen. Murphy (d) – 15%

Larson (d) – 20%

Courtney (d) – 20%

DeLaurfo (d) – 20%

Himes (d) – 8%

Esty (d) – 18%

**MAINE**

Sen. Collins (r) – 40%

**TEXAS**

Sen. Cornyn (r) – 52%

Sen. Cruz (r) – 77%

Gohmert (r) – 88%

Poe (r) – 63%

Johnson (r) – 73%

Ratcliffe (r) – 74%

Hensarling (r) – 70%

Barton (r) – 56%

Culberson (r) – 59%

Sen. King (I) – 13%  
 Pingree (d) – 23%  
 Poliquin (r) – 50%  
**MASSACHUSETTS**  
 Sen. Warren (d) – 20%  
 Sen. Markey (d) – 21%  
 Neal (d) – 21%  
 McGovern (d) – 41%  
 Tsongas (d) – 25%  
 Kennedy (d) – 21%  
 Clark (d) – 28%  
 Moulton (d) – 10%  
 Capuano (d) – 35%  
 Lynch (d) – 11%  
 Keating (d) – 11%  
**NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
 Sen. Shaheen (d) – 5%  
 Sen. Ayotte (r) – 35%  
 Guinta (r) – 65%  
 Kuster (d) – 15%  
**RHODE ISLAND**  
 Sen. Reed (d) – 15%  
 Sen. Whitehouse (d) – 15%  
 Cicilline (d) – 23%  
 Langevin (d) – 13%  
**VERMONT**  
 Sen. Leahy (d) – 18%  
 Sen. Sanders (I) – 46%  
 Welch (d) – 33%

Brady (r) – 52%  
 Green (d) – 15%  
 McCaul (r) – 58%  
 Conaway (r) – 55%  
 Granger (r) – 54%  
 Thornberry (r) – 50%  
 Weber (r) – 68%  
 Hinojosa (d) – 10%  
 O'Rourke (d) 15%  
 Flores (r) – 60%  
 Jackson Lee (d) – 15%  
 Neugebauerf (r) – 63%  
 Castro (d) – 18%  
 Smith (r) – 60%  
 Olson (r) – 62%  
 Hurd (r) – 55%  
 Marchant (r) – 61%  
 Williams (r) – 64%  
 Burgess (r) – 80%  
 Farenthold (r) – 75%  
 Cuellar (d) – 28%  
 Green (d) – 18%  
 Johnson (d) – 14%  
 Carter (r) – 55%  
 Sessions (r) – 58%  
 Veasey (d) – 13%  
 Vela (d) – 13%  
 Doggett (d) – 23%  
 Babin (r) – 65%

## APRIL 21, 2017: 181<sup>st</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF SAN JACINTO, “ONE OF THE DECISIVE BATTLES OF THE WORLD”

On April 21, 1836 – some 181 years ago – one of the world's decisive battles, the Battle of San Jacinto, was fought in the fields near what is now referred to as the Houston Ship Channel between Texas and Mexican forces. A plaque on the San Jacinto Monument located on that battlefield states, “when measured by its results, San Jacinto was one of the decisive battles of the world.” (The complete statement is reported below.)

Because the club has a number of residents from other states who may not be familiar with this historical event, and because even native Texans could, perhaps, use some refreshment of their recollections, the following account of some of the events leading up to that battle and the battle itself is presented.

**Texas Declares Its Independence.** On March 2, 1836, Texas declared its independence from Mexico and became the Republic of Texas. The Declaration was made by 54 delegates meeting at the village of Washington-on-the-Brazos.

**The Battle of the Alamo.** The battle of the Alamo inspired the Texians (as they were called then) to victory in the coming battle of San Jacinto. The Alamo battle began on February 23, 1836 with a 13-day siege during which around 200 Texans were pitted against a force of Mexicans estimated to number between 1,800 and 6,000 men.

During that siege, William Travis, commander of the Texas garrison, sent a message of defiance and a plea for help:

**I am besieged by a thousand or more of the Mexicans under Santa Anna – I have sustained a continual bombardment and cannonade for 24 hours and have not lost a man – The enemy has demanded a surrender at discretion, otherwise the garrison are to be put to the sword, if the fort is taken – I have answered the demand with a cannon shot, and our flag still waves proudly from the walls – I shall never surrender or retreat. Then, I call on you in the name of Liberty, or patriotism and everything dear to the American character to come to our aid with all dispatch.**

**The Goliad Massacre.** Less than a month after the Battle of the Alamo, a Mexican colonel ordered 342 prisoners out of the pueblo of Goliad to three roads where Mexican soldiers shot them point blank. Those who survived being shot were clubbed and knifed to death.

Simultaneously, at the Goliad Presidio, approximately 80 wounded prisoners were executed by a variety of means. Colonel James Fannin, who was there, requested that his body receive a Christian burial, that his personal belongings be sent to his wife, and that he be shot in the heart, rather than the face. Instead, the firing squad shot him in the face and spat on his body, and the soldiers rummaged through his possessions, taking some and dumping the rest. His body was burned on stacks of timbre along with the men who had been under his command.

This brutality and the defeat at the Alamo constituted the basis of battle crys for the coming Battle of San Jacinto.

**The Battle of San Jacinto.** General Houston, commander, ordered his troops to advance toward the

Mexican camp at about 4:00 PM. They were hidden by the crest of a hill between the two camps. It took the Texians about thirty minutes to cover the distance to within 100 yards of the Mexican breastworks when the shooting began. The actual battle at San Jacinto lasted less than 18 minutes although the slaughter continued until dark.

The Texians lost nine men and the Mexican Army about 600, most after the Mexican position was overrun and the Mexicans were in retreat. Cries of "Remember the Alamo" and "Remember Goliad" indicated the revenge the unbridled Texians felt against the Mexicans.

**The Significance of the Battle of San Jacinto.** The commander of the Texas army, General Sam Houston, brought hostilities to an end when he had the commander of the Mexican forces, Santa Anna, sign a document recognizing the independence of Texas with its border at the Rio Grande River. The importance of the Battle of Jacinto is recorded on the San Jacinto Monument as follows:

MEASURED BY ITS RESULTS, SAN JACINTO WAS ONE OF THE DECISIVE BATTLES OF THE WORLD. THE FREEDOM OF TEXAS FROM MEXICO WON HERE LED TO ANNEXATION AND TO THE MEXICAN-AMERICAN WAR, RESULTING IN THE ACQUISITION BY THE UNITED STATES OF THE STATES OF TEXAS, NEW MEXICO, ARIZONA, CALIFORNIA, UTAH AND PARTS OF COLORADO, WYOMING, KANSAS AND OKLAHOMA. ALMOST ONE-THIRD OF THE PRESENT AREA OF THE AMERICAN NATION, NEARLY A MILLION SQUARE MILES OF TERRITORY, CHANGED SOVEREIGNTY.

## NOTES ON THE PASSING SCENCE

### (Some random observations on this crazy world in which we live)

**"Secular Moral Theory."** Judge Neil Gorsuch, in connection with a Senate committee hearing on this proposed nomination to the Supreme Court, explained his position on assisted suicide and euthanasia, as stated in his 2006 book on that subject, that "all human beings are intrinsically valuable and the intentional taking of human life by private persons is always wrong." He then continued, "we must understand the Law of God as forbidding us to do this where it says 'Thou shalt not kill.'"

Columnist Terry Jeffrey then makes this shocking disclosure: "Gorsuch declines to base his argument against taking human life on a belief in God or God's law. Even in citing the Declaration of Independence, he left the 'Creator' out of it. He adopted instead what he called a 'secular moral theory.'"

Gorsuch gave this explanation: "My argument, based on secular moral theory, is consistent with the common law and long-standing medical ethics."

**Judge OKs Genderless Designation.** An Oregon County Court has granted a Portland resident's request to be designated "genderless." The 27-year-old video game designer has been granted the right to change his name to "Patch," only one name, and to be designated as "agender," meaning no gender.

An attorney opposing this designation observes, "American is a nation of laws. It's not a nation governed by personal perception."

**Improper Student-Teacher Relationships.** Given the concern over widespread reports of improper student-relations and the attempt by the Texas Legislature to curb that kind of behavior, the reader may be interested in the report appearing in the Washington Post indicating that, "A former Texas middle-school teacher who was impregnated by a 13-year old student has been sentenced to 10 years in prison."

**Adult Illegal Aliens Can Attend Public Schools.** After the reports a few weeks ago of an 18-year old illegal alien raping a 14-year old girl in her school, the reader may find the following report of interest:

"The chairman of the Arlington Public School Board in Virginia said that she is 'proud' that the Arlington school district allows illegal aliens to attend high school as adults – no age limit – and that they can stay in school until they graduate . . . there's 300 students that are older than 18. . . There is no age limit."

**Black Students Demand, Get Segregated Housing.** OneNewsNow reports that, "After demands last year by the Black Student Union at California State University-Los Angeles for separate housing for black students, this year the school has made such accommodations. The student group cited frequent 'racist attacks' and 'microaggressions.'"