

Galveston Island Democrat Club  
Monthly Membership Meeting Minutes

ILA Local 20 Union Hall

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

President Carol Derragon brought the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Minutes from February 25, 2025, were accepted as written.

Loretta Davis, Treasurer, reported that Galveston Island Democrats (GID) started March with \$14,287 and after donations and expenses ended at \$14,265. Reminder from president that we have elections coming up that will incur expenses, so all donations are appreciated.

Reports from committees are as follows: (contact and references can be found in Actions & Activities)

Book Club – Carol Hollaway: The club now has 8 members and there is still time to join and participate in the current book.

Civic Affairs (Galveston Island) Liaison – Conni Rivers: Currently there are seven people attending local civic meetings to become aware and report on items of interest to GID. If anyone is interested in participating, please contact Conni.

Community Outreach - Lodie Massey: Many opportunities to be visible and show support are available in the coming months, particularly the march to support ADA Women's Center. The president shares that a new route for most marches has been created that is shorter and reviewed favorably by the Galveston Island Police Department (GIPD).

Hospitality – Margaret Mehringer: no report

Island Volunteer Deputy Registrars (VDR) – Lynda Harvey: No report for VDR but reminds audience that two bills are in committee in Texas House that of concern. Elimination of the countywide polling place (TX SB76) voting suspension for not voting in the last 25 months (SB396).

Legislative Affairs (Texas) – Joe Willis: Voucher bills (SB 2 and HB 3) have been referred to Public Education Committee. This presents a good opportunity to influence the outcome of the bill because if the bills move to the floor for vote the margins against the bill are so narrow that pressure from the Governor will likely push the bill to approval. Please refer to Actions & Activities below to see members of the Education Committee. Emails and phone calls will influence these members to vote in GID's favor.

Membership – Cas Luis / Janie Marshall: 74 in attendance tonight with 10 new people attending.

Merchandise Sales – Sue Woodson: At the last two meetings about \$600 in shirt sales were collected. Suggestions were made to change the shirt design to generate more sales. Stickers and

buttons are also for sale. If anyone orders more than they need of merchandise that supports the GID cause, the Merchandise Sales team would be glad for donations.

Social Events – Hector Arias / Randy Penn: Goal of this committee is to provide activities for like minded people to engage. Tickets are purchased, at a discounted price, from Island ETC to attend plays. Gatherings are organized for lunch and happy hours. (See Actions & Activities for details).

Technology & Communications – Janet Jordan: no report

Other

Carol Hollaway: We recently lost the husband of our Precinct 202 Chair Linda Kenney. Michael Patrick Sheet’s family requested, in lieu of flowers, that we donate to a tree planting. Donations can be made at Galveston Island Tree Conservancy.

(new) Precinct Chair Development - Kenneth MacPherson: Precinct chairs are as follows:

Name	PC
Orphan Precincts	211, 215, 274, 221, 225, 275
Linda Kenney	PC 202
Sue Woodson	PC 206
Frances King	PC 214
Scott Richert	PC 216
Vicki Barnhart	PC 218
Carol Hollaway	PC 223
Cas Luis	PC 224
Kenneth MacPherson	PC 276

<https://galveston.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=dd63e34d417d420cbcc25a61be71338f>

Precinct chairs are needed for orphan precincts. Roles are available for coaches, co-chairs, assistant chairs, chairs and captains. Precinct chairs are elected positions, but it is rare to have a contested election.

As a Democratic Precinct Chair, you should be willing and able to:

- Attend County Executive Committee (CEC) meetings.
- Contact and energize Democrats who live in your precinct and remind them to vote in all elections.
- Attend monthly meetings with GID officers and committee leaders.
- Attend monthly general meeting for GID.
- Support Democratic candidates/officeholders on your precinct’s ballot.
- Not openly endorse candidates/officeholders from any other political party.

Precinct chairs are supported by the GID for help with contacting potential voters. Databases are used to identify Democratic and independent voters to help avoid potential conflicts.

#### Actions & Activities:

##### Past:

2/28/25 Economic Blackout

3/8/25 International Women's Day March. GID participated and approximately 200 people marched.

3/9,10/25 Cambridge Energy Research Associates (CERA) Protest

3/23/25 US Mail not for Sale march to support postal workers. GID participated and approximately 80 people marched at the corner of Broadway and 59<sup>th</sup> in front of the post office.

##### Ongoing and Future:

Black Owned Banks support: Frances King shared organizational effort to support local black owned banks by opening checking and savings accounts. For more information, contact Frances King at the March meeting.

Tesla Takedown **March 29 noon**. League City Tesla, 400 Gulf Pkwy, League City 77573

International Transgender Day of Visibility **March 31**. Official gatherings are not known currently but encourage everyone to use social media to let transgender community know that they are seen and respected.

Social Security Appreciation / Protest **April 1<sup>st</sup> noon**. NW corner of FM 646 & I-45 South (public sidewalk near HEB Gas Station).

National Day of Protest – Stop DOGE **April 5 10 A-noon**. 5700 Broadway, Galveston (vacant field). More details are coming soon. Register now! <https://mobilize.us/s/hc25q2>

Alcohol and Drug Abuse (ADA) Women's Center "Journey to Recovery" Walk will be **April 12, 2025**: 8:30 AM at 39<sup>th</sup> and Seawall across from Academy at Fort Crockett. The march will begin at 9 AM. GID has been a sponsor of this event for multiple years. ADA is a licensed substance abuse treatment center. The walk brings awareness to the possibility of recovery from the disease of addiction. More information can be found at <https://givebutter.com/Journeytorecovery2025>.

Veterans Appreciation **May 24**. Plans are underway to show support for veterans. Will follow up with details.

Suggestions were made and assurances were given that Empty Chair forums, Beto & Waltz meetings and other activities are in work. More information to follow.

Book Club – Carol Hollaway Next meeting **April 7, 2025**, at 7pm. The current book is The New Climate War: The Fight to Take Back Our Planet, by Michael E. Mann. The Book Club will meet every four to six weeks via Zoom. Carol can be reached at [precinct223chair@gmail.com](mailto:precinct223chair@gmail.com) .

Island ETC (2317 Mechanic St, Galveston) **March 27**. Meet at Tremont Hotel for happy hour at 6PM or at Island ETC lobby at 7:30 PM for tickets. Curtain opens at 8 PM. Non-discounted tickets are still available.

Each Thursday, lunch with Seaside Seniors. The **March 27** lunch is at Great Episcopal Church (1115 36th Street). The cost is \$8 for meals including dessert.

Island Idol Season 8 at 23<sup>rd</sup> Street Station Piano Bar (1706 23rd Street) **March 30** at 8PM. Local contestants perform.

Texas Legislature Education Committee members:

**Chair:** [Rep. Brad Buckley](#)

**Vice Chair:** [Rep. Diego Bernal](#)  
[Rep. Alma Allen](#)

[Rep. Trent Ashby](#)

[Rep. John Bryant](#)

[Rep. Charles Cunningham](#)

[Rep. Harold V. Dutton, Jr.](#)

[Rep. James B. Frank](#)

[Rep. Gina Hinojosa](#)

[Rep. Todd Hunter](#)

[Rep. Helen Kerwin](#)

[Rep. Jeff Leach](#)

[Rep. Terri Leo Wilson](#)

[Rep. Alan Schoolcraft](#)

[Rep. James Talarico](#)

Special Guest Speaker:

Bob Hendricks, Citizen's Climate Lobby

- Texas State co coordinator of Citizens Climate and chair of the Texas State Executive Committee and of the Austin Executive Committee at the Sierra Club

- Last election, over 50% population concerned about climate but climate ranked 10<sup>th</sup> on priority list
- Policy goals: carbon pricing for US, clean energy permitting reform, building electrification and efficiency
- Need new communication strategy – Change words to change reactions to counter act feelings of being overwhelmed, inadequate effort, and outcast in community.
  - Reframe language to appear positive
  - Use examples to show climate change is possible
  - Acknowledge all effort has positive impact
  - Select terminology that has not become politically charged. Replace global warming with extreme climate. Replace fossil fuel with dirty energy.
- Appeal to core values of individual's community that aid in supporting climate goals.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Shelia Salinas

Secretary

Follow GID on its website and Facebook page:

<http://galvestonislanddemocrats.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/GalvestonIslandDemocrats>

Questions: email us at [galvisledems@gmail.com](mailto:galvisledems@gmail.com)