



President's Corner

"Courage starts with showing up and letting ourselves be seen." ~ Brené Brown

I included this quote on many of our meeting agendas this year – and we did show up and we were seen! We showed up for protests, town halls, and parades; but we also showed up with food donations for our community, and school supplies, and in support of our school board.

Your actions, both large and small, are important. Whether you help deliver meals, sort books, or do one of a hundred other tasks at one of our many local non-profit agencies – these things matter. Donating to RCC, donating to St. Vincent's, or donating an afternoon to help a friend – these things matter. Likewise, your political actions (both large and small) are also important. Making phone calls to Washington D.C. or Austin, sending postcards, wearing your GID t-shirt or ballcap – these things matter too. Voting and helping others to vote this year – yes, it matters. And having conversations with non-Dems to try to bridge the political chasm – it matters.

In 2026, I hope even more GID members and friends find the courage to show up with us – to grow our visibility and our impact. We will be asking for your help with everything from candidate forums to community outreach to social and fundraising events.

Together, we CAN make a difference. Si, se puede! Have a safe and happy holiday season!

Carol Derragon

DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE FORUMS

The races have begun! Filing for national, state, and county offices closed on December 8, 2025. All Texas Democratic candidates will be certified by December 19 and invitations to the Candidate Forums will be issued.

This is your opportunity to hear from the candidates that will appear on the Galveston County ballot running in the primary for US Senate and Congress, Texas State Offices, Texas Senate and House, Texas Supreme Court and Court of Criminal Appeals, State Board of Education, and County Offices, plus Galveston County Democratic Party Chair.

It is a full slate with many candidates. GID has reached out to the County, plus other Clubs, to help with the forums this election cycle.

Mark your calendars for:

January 27, 2026 - sponsored by Galveston Island Democrats

February 2, 2026 - sponsored by Texas Democratic Women of Galveston County

February 12, 2026 - sponsored by Galveston County Democratic Party

If three Forums are not sufficient to accommodate all candidates, other tentative dates scheduled are:

January 6, 2026 - sponsored by Dickinson Area Democrats

January 8, 2026 - sponsored by Galveston County Democratic Party

All Candidate Forums will include a meet and greet with the candidates, beginning at 6:30 pm. The candidates will speak from 7:00 to 8:30, concluding with another opportunity to speak individually with them.

Locations for all the Forums will be announced as soon as they are confirmed. Would you like to volunteer in implementing the Candidate Forums? Please contact Conni Rivers at gcdpliaison@gmail.com.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Volunteers from the Galveston Island Democrats served a lunch of beef stew, salad, bread and assorted cookies on Thursday, December 4, as a community service effort for the clients of Access Care of Coastal Texas (ACCT). This lunch directly supported ACCT's nutritional assistance and community support programs, showing care for vulnerable members of the community.

ACCT is a non-profit organization that provides comprehensive support services to individuals living with HIV/AIDS in Galveston, Brazoria, and Matagorda counties.



On December 2, GID volunteers delivered a truckful of GID food donations to the annual ABC13 Share Your Holidays event at Ball High School. Ball H.S. has been a part of this event since its inception 45 years ago! These donations stay in Galveston County benefiting people in our own community.



GID BUSINESS

Be sure to attend our January 27 meeting, when a new slate of GID officers will be elected! The following individuals have self-nominated for GID Officer positions for 2026:

Lynda Harvey – President

Janet Jordan – Vice President – Administration

Carol Hollaway – Vice President – Finance

Loretta Davis – Treasurer

Shelia Salinas – Secretary

in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, other nominations will also be accepted "from the floor" at the January 27 meeting.

We are now posting the draft of each meeting's minutes on our website. Please review the November meeting minutes, as we will vote to accept those minutes at the January 27 meeting. If you miss a meeting or are unable to attend, we hope this new feature will help you keep informed.

The recently accepted, revised bylaws are also available on our website.

The minutes from the last membership meeting and the current bylaws can be found at: galvisledems.com - Who We Are/ Bylaws, Minutes and Newsletters.

GID MEETINGS & EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE!

**GID will participate in the Galveston parade
honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

January 17, 2026

**Lineup begins at 11:00 am at 29th and Church St.
1:00 pm - Parade begins**

**Galveston Island Democrats
Monthly Meeting**

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

6:30-7:00 pm Social

7:00 pm Meeting

ILA Meeting Hall, 6501 Harborside Dr.

GID SOCIAL EVENTS

Friday, January 9, 2026

Note: 1st Friday Coffee Club moved to 2nd Friday this month,
due to New Year's Day.

GID Friday Drop-in Coffee Club - 9:00-10:30 am

Mr. Texas Coffee House @ Pride Center Galveston, 1502 39th Street

Friendship, coffee, community, and conversation.

Fresh baked goods by local bakers.

GID 3rd Tuesday Drop-in Happy Hour - 4:30-6:00 pm**Nick's Kitchen & Beach Bar, 3802 Seawall Boulevard****(Next to Gaido's), Galveston,****www.nicksgalveston.com**

- Local seafood prepared a variety of ways
- Happy Hour drinks — margaritas, domestic drafts, & wine by the glass — and bites — seafood stuffed jalapeños, spinach artichoke dip, & buttermilk fried chicken sliders, and more.
- Come join the fun!

OTHER MEETINGS AND RESOURCES**Wednesday, December 17, 2025, at 6:00 pm****GISD School Board Meeting****Lovenberg Administration Building****3904 Avenue T****Galveston, TX77550****Wednesday, Jan. 7, 5:30-6:30****GISD Voter Information & VDR group****For location, contact****Lynda Harvey, Committee Chair****Abcbookk@yahoo.com****409-789-6316****Thursday, January 8, 2026****Galveston Chapter of Citizen's Climate Lobby 5:30-7:00 pm****Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 502 Church St., Galveston, TX 77550****Wednesday, Jan 21, 2026 (to be confirmed)****GISD School Board meeting****Lovenberg Administration Building****3904 Avenue T****Galveston, TX 77550****Sunday, January 25, 2026****Voter Information table 9:00 am - 12:00 pm****Galveston's Own Farmer's Market, 3304 Market, Galveston, TX 77550**



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