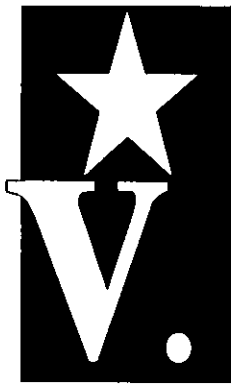


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Project

V.O.T.E.

Voters of Tomorrow through Education

May/June 1996

Vol. 6, No. 2

Message from the Secretary



Has it really been a year? That's the question I'm asking myself as I sit down to write this column. Yes, another school year is drawing to a close. Teachers and students are already making their vacation plans. But before we turn out the classroom lights for the summer, I want to take a moment to review what has happened during the course of this 1995-96 school year. And for Project V.O.T.E., what a year it's been!

The biggest news comes with regard to the continued growth of our program. Ten new charter sites were added this year. Let's welcome the newest members of the Project V.O.T.E. family: Temple ISD, Clear Creek ISD, Alvin ISD, Amarillo ISD, Lubbock ISD, Abilene ISD, Tatum ISD, Klein ISD, Brenham ISD, and Brownsville ISD. It's great to have all of you on board.

With the addition of these communities, the Project V.O.T.E. curriculum can now be found in 38 school districts across Texas. Success can be easily measured by the fact that more than 2,500 classroom teachers are currently utilizing the Project V.O.T.E. lesson plans, reaching more than 97,000 students with the important message of voter participation in our democracy.

In addition to a classroom presence, approximately 1,500 Girl Scouts have completed the required activities to earn a Project V.O.T.E. patch. Those looking to earn this community involvement patch can choose from a variety of activities including meeting with county officials, writing about a polling place visit, interviewing a candidate for office, or composing a report on the importance of voting.

(continued on back page)

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Artist

Clayton Marion Sylestine
Chief
Alabama Coushatta Tribe



ASK VOTO

Votosaurus Rex

Q How do we get a Secretary of State (SOS)?

A He/She is appointed by the Governor.

Q How many Secretaries have there been?

A Eighty-four under State Secretaries of State (including Tony Garza). There were many SOS under the Republic of Texas, most served as "Acting SOS" and several served multiple terms for different durations. Antonio O. Garza, Jr. is the 99th SOS.

Q How many women Secretaries have there been?

A Three.

Q Name some famous former Secretaries.

A The first SOS was Stephen F. Austin (under the Republic of Texas) also Bob Bullock, current Lt. Governor and Mark White, former Governor.

Q Who was the youngest Secretary?

A David Dean at age 33.

Q Who was the oldest Secretary?

A Believed to be C.D. Mims who was 60 years old when he took the oath of office (Secretary of State in November 1920).

Q Which Secretary held the office for the longest consecutive term?

A Mark White (January 19, 1973 - October 27, 1977) four years and 181 days.

Q Which Secretary held the office for the shortest term?

A George Clark for 10 days (January 17-27, 1874).

Q How many divisions operate under the Secretary of State?

A Four divisions plus Administrative Services.

Executive Division

Elections Division

Statutory Filings Division

1. Corporations Section
2. Statutory Documents Section
3. Uniform Commercial Code (UCC Section)
4. Texas Register Section

Information Services Division

Administrative Services

Financial Management Section

Staff Services Section

Q How many African-Americans have been appointed to the Secretary of State?

A Two. One women, Myra McDaniel and one man, Ron Kirk.

Q How many Hispanics have served as the Secretary of State?

A Two. Roy Barrera and Antonio O. Garza, Jr. *Sidenote: 50% of the Secretaries of State have been "Juniors," including our own Honorable Antonio O. Garza, Jr.*

Q What is Stephen F. Austin's middle name?

A Fuller.

Q What Secretary of State has a state park named after him?

A Martin Dies, Jr. - because of his dedication to improving the parks and wildlife during his reign as a State Senator.

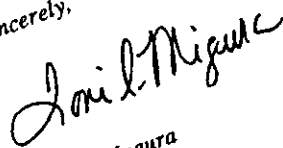
Letter from the Girls Scouts Council

Dear Ms. Sutton:

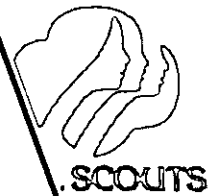
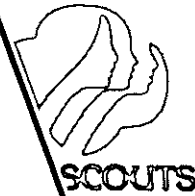
It gives me great pleasure to report to you on the Project V.O.T.E. Program event that we had on February 9, 1996. We had a total of 59 Girl Scouts ranging from Brownie to Senior levels. Ms. Sylvia Palumbo, a volunteer with S.V.R.E.P. explained the organizations' commitment to increase the participation of Hispanic and other minority group members in the democratic process. Mr. Oscar Villarreal with the Elections Administration Office showed the girls the objects necessary in order to conduct an election, he was very helpful in answering questions and deputized six Girl Scout Leaders. After the girls heard the presentations, and observed a sample ballot, ballot box and voter registration certificate, they completed a mock voter registration application. After the girls "registered to vote," four girls were chosen as candidates for each of the five positions for the office of Mayor, County Attorney, District Attorney, Sheriff and Tax Assessor. The candidates prepared speeches and tried hard to convince the other girl scouts to vote for them. The five winners received a First Place ribbon and the other girls received a Participant ribbon. At the completion of the program the girls were encouraged to remind their parents, friends, and relatives to vote on March 12, 1996. The public was invited to come by the Girl Scout Service Center and register to vote.

The Project V.O.T.E. Patch Program helps the Girl Scout Mission that is "to inspire girls with the highest ideals, character, conduct, patriotism and service that they may become happy and resourceful citizens." Thank you for your involvement in developing this very important program.

Sincerely,



Toni I. Mugura
Field Director
Paisano Girl Scout Council DST.1



Faulk Hawks Soar Above the Rest

Using actual Shoup Lever Voting Machines, students at Faulk Middle School got acquainted with the electoral process and put democracy in motion when they elected a new student council president last September.

Brownsville I.S.D. became a charter site for Project V.O.T.E. this year, and already students are exercising their right to vote. Mr. Martin Leal, social studies department for Faulk Middle School, coordinated the election activities. Under his direction, seventh grade gifted and talented students transformed their school into a polling place for a day.

Cameron County Elections Administrator Amalia Cano loaned the voting machines and booths to Faulk, created ballots, and swore in the clerks several days before the election. The entire election process was conducted by students who served as machine officials, runners, election judges, and election clerks. The honor students were graded on how well the election was conducted.

Special attention was given to detail. Inside the polling place were four voting booths, complete with curtains, which provided privacy and added a realistic touch. Election officials wore badges, distance markers were placed outside the entrance, and instructions were posted inside the booths. Runners informed classes when it was their turn to vote. Clerks were on hand to assist fellow students with the equipment, and direct voters to the voting booths. The election judges and additional clerks qualified the voters, and had each student sign their name in the appropriate place on the combination form.

On the ballot were seven candidates for student council president and one proposition. Proposition No. 1 asked students to vote "For" or "Against" adopting a dress code which would require students to wear uniforms to

school. Although there were mixed feelings about the possibility of school uniforms, more voters were in favor of not adopting a dress code.

Many students voted during lunch breaks. Others took time out from their social studies classes throughout the day to vote on September 15th. According to Leal, no student was denied the right to vote. Of the 998 students enrolled at Faulk, 909 voters turned out to cast a ballot on election day.

Last year, the students conducted a similar mock election using paper ballots. It took hours to count the ballots and tally the results. Thanks to the voting machines, this year students were able to learn the results in a matter of minutes. Martin Leal hopes the mock election will continue to be a tradition at Faulk Middle School, building confidence, and giving future voters an opportunity to have hands-on exposure to the democratic process.

Mr. Leal would like to thank all the students, teachers and staff of Faulk Middle School, and acknowledge the following people for their contribution to the mock election's success:

Mr. Bill Gutierrez, *Principal*

Mr. Rey Arteaga, *Assistant Principal*

Mrs. Alice Puckett, *Assistant Principal*

Mrs. Domitila Davila, *Instructional Facilitator*

Ms. Deborah Bycznski, *Student Council Sponsor*

Honorable Gilberto Hinojosa, *Cameron County Judge*

Amalia Cano, *Cameron County Election Administrator*

Irma Chapa, *KGBT Ch. 4 news*

Marcial Guajardo, *Brownsville Herald*

Luis Hinojosa, *KBSD Ch. 21 news*

On behalf of the Secretary of State's Office, thank you Faulk Hawks for your participation in the democratic process and in Project V.O.T.E.!

Election Results - March 12, 1996

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY

<i>Race Name</i>	<i>Votes</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Race Name</i>	<i>Votes</i>	<i>%</i>
President/Vice President			U.S. Representative District 14		
Patrick J. "Pat" Buchanan	217,974	21.4%	Jim Deats	8,466	24.4%
Bob Dole	567,164	55.6%	Greg Laughlin-Incumbent	14,777	42.5%
Steve Forbes	130,938	12.8%	Ron Paul	11,112	32.0%
U.S. Senator			U.S. Representative District 15		
Phil Gramm-Incumbent	838,339	85.0%	Jose Aliseda	3,453	31.0%
Henry C. (Hank) Grover	72,400	7.3%	Tom Haughey	7,697	69.0%
David Young	75,463	7.7%	U.S. Representative District 16		
U.S. Representative District 1			Dick Bowen	5,225	38.5%
Dennis Boerner	6,386	29.5%	Rick Ledesma	8,329	61.5%
Hamp Hodges	5,150	23.8%	U.S. Representative District 17		
Ed Merritt	10,133	46.8%	Rudy Izzard	20,454	100.0%
U. S. Representative District 2			U.S. Representative District 18		
Brian Babin	7,094	31.0%	Larry White	6,296	100.0%
Ben Bius	2,986	13.1%	U.S. Representative District 19		
Donna Peterson	8,047	35.2%	Larry Combest-Incumbent	52,286	100.0%
U.S. Representative District 3			U.S. Representative District 20		
Sam Johnson-Incumbent	42,882	100.0%	Kirk K. Colyer	4,771	30.0%
U.S. Representative District 4			John Shull	4,872	30.6%
Jerry Ray Hall	20,024	53.8%	James Walker	6,274	39.4%
Jon Newton	17,169	46.2%	U.S. Representative District 21		
U.S. Representative District 5			Lamar Smith-Incumbent	77,143	100.0%
Glenn Box	8,259	41.9%	U.S. Representative District 22		
Pete Sessions	11,464	58.1%	Tom DeLay-Incumbent	41,874	80.0%
U.S. Representative District 6			Greg Pepper	10,464	20.0%
Joe Barton-Incumbent	49,172	100.0%	U.S. Representative District 23		
U.S. Representative District 7			Henry Bonilla-Incumbent	21,572	100.0%
Bill Archer-Incumbent	40,364	100.0%	U.S. Representative District 24		
U.S. Representative District 8			Olivia Coggin Eudaly	5,305	24.8%
Kevin Brady	14,769	22.1%	Ed Harrison	16,078	75.2%
Gene Fontenot	24,204	36.2%	U.S. Representative District 25		
Don Henderson	10,599	15.8%	Bill Brock	5,796	34.3%
U.S. Representative District 9			Brent Perry	11,093	65.7%
Steve Stockman-Incumbent	19,647	100.00%	U.S. Representative District 26		
U.S. Representative District 10			Dick Armey-Incumbent	43,012	100.0%
Teresa Doggett	29,479	100.00%	U.S. Representative District 27		
U.S. Representative District 11			Joe Gardner	13,043	100.0%
Jim Broyles	4,459	15.8%	U.S. Representative District 28		
Jay Mathis	12,981	46.0%	Mark L. Cude	10,328	100.0%
Brian Pardo	9,587	34.0%	U.S. Representative District 29		
U.S. Representative District 12			Jack Rodriguez	3,605	100.0%
Ernest J. Anderson, Jr.	6,355	20.2%	U.S. Representative District 30		
Bill Burch	3,355	10.7%	John Hendry	5,743	100.0%
Kay Granger	21,774	69.2%			
U.S. Representative District 13					
Mac Thornberry-Incumbent	27,184	100.0%			

Election Results - Continued

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY

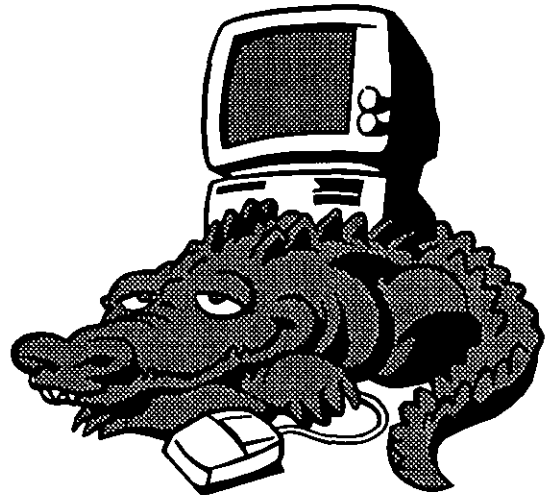
<i>Race Name</i>	<i>Votes</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Race Name</i>	<i>Votes</i>	<i>%</i>
President/Vice President			U.S. Representative District 16		
Bill Clinton-Incumbent	796,041	86.4%	Dolores Briones	11,583	22.2%
Heather Harder	28,772	3.1%	Silvestre Reyes	22,119	42.5%
Fred Hudson	32,232	3.5%	Jose Luis Sanchez	14,698	28.2%
U.S. Senator			U.S. Representative District 17		
John Bryant	267,545	30.0%	Charles W. Stenholm-Incumbent	44,528	100.0%
Jim Chapman	239,427	26.9%	U.S. Representative District 18		
Victor M. Morales	322,218	36.2%	Sheila Jackson Lee-Incumbent	22,475	100.0%
U.S. Representative District 1			U.S. Representative District 19		
Jo Ann Howard	28,962	34.1%	Michael G. Clennan	3,798	30.1%
Tommy Kessler	19,948	23.5%	John W. Sawyer	8,833	69.9%
Max Sandlin	36,142	42.5%	U.S. Representative District 20		
U.S. Representative District 2			Henry B. Gonzalez-Incumbent	17,167	100.0%
Edgar J. "Bubba" Groce	15,171	19.8%	U.S. Representative District 21		
Fred Hudson	16,068	21.0%	Gordon H. Wharton	15,876	100.0%
Jim Turner	45,453	59.3%	U.S. Representative District 22		
U.S. Representative District 4			Scott Douglas Cunningham	8,132	100.0%
Ralph M. Hall-Incumbent	23,743	100.0%	U.S. Representative District 23		
U.S. Representative District 5			Charles P. Jones	17,837	39.9%
Wm. A. Foster, III	11,510	36.4%	Allen Rindfuss	5,811	13.0%
John Poulard	20,150	63.6%	Joseph P. (Joe) Sullivan	21,085	47.1%
U.S. Representative District 6			U.S. Representative District 24		
Terry Jesmore	1,480	17.1%	Martin Frost-Incumbent	16,479	100.0%
Janet Carroll Richardson	7,193	82.9%	U.S. Representative District 25		
U.S. Representative District 8			Ken Bentsen-Incumbent	13,984	100.0%
Robert W. Musemeche	3,083	38.0%	U.S. Representative District 26		
C.J. Newman	5,026	62.0%	Jerry Frankel	4,190	100.0%
U.S. Representative District 9			U.S. Representative District 27		
Jack Cherry	6,741	14.5%	Mary Helen Berlanga	16,097	30.1%
Nick Lampson	32,161	69.0%	Solomon P. Ortiz-Incumbent	37,434	69.9%
Geraldine Sam	5,147	11.0%	U.S. Representative District 28		
U.S. Representative District 10			Frank Tejada-Incumbent	36,257	100.0%
Lloyd Doggett-Incumbent	34,640	100.0%	U.S. Representative District 29		
U.S. Representative District 11			Felix Fraga	7,680	36.5%
Chet Edwards-Incumbent	33,837	100.0%	Gene Green-Incumbent	13,352	63.5%
U.S. Representative District 12			U.S. Representative District 30		
Hugh Parner	17,625	100.0%	Eddie Bernice Johnson-Incumbent	17,238	100.0%
U.S. Representative District 13					
Aaron Alejandro	16,732	48.3%			
Samuel Brown Silverman	17,931	51.7%			
U.S. Representative District 14					
Charles (Lefty) Morris	34,397	100.0%			
U.S. Representative District 15					
Renato Cuellar	13,832	21.8%			
Ruben Hinojosa	21,726	34.2%			
Jim Selman	21,138	33.2%			

* For a complete Race Summary Report, please contact the Elections Division of the Office of the Secretary of State toll-free at 1-800-252-VOTE(8683).

Takin' Care of Business

SWBT/TAB Collaborative Effort Update

The collaborative effort among Southwestern Bell Telephone, Texas Association of Broadcasters and Project V.O.T.E. is in full swing! The ten target areas are: Austin, Abilene, Beaumont, Corpus Christi, El Paso, Laredo, Longview, McAllen, Tyler and Waco. As you may remember from the last newsletter, the purpose of this collaborative effort is to expand the Project V.O.T.E. program in these areas through public service announcements, funding of additional curricula, facilitating enhancements to the curriculum, creating a training video for teachers, establishing a Web page, and sponsoring news activities. A joint press conference will be held in late April announcing this collaboration—tune in then for further details!



Internet Update

The latest craze, as you all may know, is the Internet. In fact, it seems as if everyone has a site on the Web. Naturally, Project V.O.T.E. wanted to be in on the action. Therefore, we have been working diligently on an electronic version of the curriculum.

The entire curriculum, excluding the Handbook of Strategies and the Clip Art section, will be placed on the Net by May 1st. You may visit our site at <http://www.sos.state.tx.us>. A description of each grade level will be available, followed by instructions for downloading the corresponding file. We plan to add new information periodically about the program, including press releases, activities/lessons for use in the classroom, as well as a links to some of our favorite places to visit.

All of the files will be made available in a pdf format. The major advantages to the pdf format are that it allows for the curriculum to maintain its page fidelity and that all users, both PC and Mac, can view and print the files. We are extremely pleased with the final product and hope that you will be too!

Classroom Chat

The November election will be here before you know it! Prior to the election, we will send each of the charter sites an election packet that will include sample ballots, and a candidate's guide listing qualifications for office and important election dates. Please remember that if you are going to conduct a voter registration drive for that election, we have voter registration applications, brochures, "I Voted" stickers, and other items available to you at no cost. To order any of the materials mentioned, please contact us toll-free at 1-800-252-VOTE(8683).

If you are going to be conducting a mock election, or introducing any of the Project V.O.T.E. lessons in September or October and would like Secretary Garza to visit your classroom, please contact Kim Sutton direct at (512) 463-9873.

(Message from the Secretary, continued from front page)

So after a year of growth and good news, how can we possibly top ourselves? Well, the Secretary of State's Office is currently working to further expand the number of Project V.O.T.E. sites in Texas with the help of corporate sponsors. That effort is taking place on various fronts, and I'm pleased to see the Texas business community embracing the concept and ideals behind Project V.O.T.E. Inside this newsletter, you'll read more about the push to put Project V.O.T.E. into even more communities across our state.

Though the summer months are just ahead, it's not too early to start thinking about the next school year. The 1996 election year will be reaching its peak in November with the Presidential sweepstakes at the top of the ticket. A variety of statewide and local races will also be grabbing the headlines in your community.

Now's the time to begin thinking about projects to get your students interested in the political events during the campaign season. I encourage you to review the Project V.O.T.E. curriculum for ideas that tie-in with

the election. Something as simple as a mock election can illustrate to students the basics of voting while sparking some interest in current events.

The Secretary of State's Office is planning an extensive get out the vote effort in the months leading to the November General Election. I will be traveling the state and hope to visit as many Project V.O.T.E. sites as possible in the fall. If you would like to schedule a visit to your school (including an informal discussion with your students about the role of the Secretary of State in an election year), please feel free to give Kim Sutton a call.

While I've already met many of you, I certainly hope to get the opportunity to visit with all Project V.O.T.E. coordinators and teachers in the months ahead to hear what you're doing in the classroom. Your ideas and thoughts about the curriculum are a major reason Project V.O.T.E. continues to evolve and grow. Thank you for all your hard work this past school year and have a great summer!



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