

"I've just concluded that for me personally it is important for me to go ahead and affirm that I think same sex couples should be able to get married."

**President Barack Obama
ABC News interview,
May 9, 2012**

President Obama comes out in favor of same-sex marriage

By Jay Narey

In an ABC News interview President Barack Obama stunned the political world by stating that he personally believed that same sex couples should be able to get married. Few observers expected such an announcement until after the Fall Election—but many believe that the President was forced to issue a statement following Vice President Joe Biden's and Secretary of Education Duncan's comments just days earlier. But it may have been the passage of North Carolina's Amendment to their state constitution that was the real catalyst.

No one can say that this President is without political courage to step up to the plate on such an issue of such import as Civil Rights and to afford every citizen the same opportunity to their own "pursuit of happiness" as enshrined in the Constitution.

Social conservatives immediately pounced on the President decrying a "War on Marriage" which as we all know is simply ludicrous. Polls show a majority of Americans now are in favor of marriage rights to same-sex couples, albeit narrowly.

As a result of this potentially divisive announcement, we as Democrats will have to re-double our efforts both financially and persuasively to make certain that this truly progressive President is re-elected in November. FORWARD, not backward - Let's get busy !



History making ABC News interview with President Barack Obama on May 9th.

President Barack Obama has seen an uptick in fundraising since he announced his shift on gay marriage, with some Democratic rainmakers citing renewed interest from gay and lesbian donors who had been urging the president to clarify his stance on the divisive social issue.

"The phone calls went on until one in the morning after the president spoke - people calling saying 'Where do I go, what can I do to help, what events are coming up,'" said Robert Zimmerman, a Long Island, N.Y., Obama bundler. "People I've been seeking out for campaign support for months have been calling me saying, 'I'm ready to give.'"

Obama's campaign has declined to say how much it has collected since the announcement but some staffers have asked supporters to give money as a way of expressing their approval. Following the Obama interview with ABC News, Rufus Gifford, Obama's national finance director, said in a posting to the campaign website that "if you're proud of our president, this is a great time to make a donation to the campaign."

STONEWALL ENDORSEMENTS RATIFIED EARLY VOTING UNDERWAY IN PRIMARY -

By Jay Narey

Following a grueling 3 days of intense interviews with numerous candidates, the Endorsement Committee issued its recommendations to the general membership for ratification.

The general membership ratified the final slate of endorsed candidates at our general meeting on April 17th.

Let's remember that the larger GLBT community looks to us for guidance and leadership in many of these elections and races and it's one of the most important things we do as an organization.

Here is a full slate of candidates that Stonewall Democrats of Dallas has endorsed in the 2012 Democratic Primary.

President of the United States
US Senate
US Congress District 5
US Congress District 30
US Congress District 32
US Congress District 33
Texas Supreme Court, Place 6
State Board of Education, Place 12
State Board of Education, Place 13
State Senate District 23
House District 100
House District 102
House District 103
House District 104
House District 107
House District 110
House District 114
House District 115
5th Circuit Court of Appeals, Place 2
5th Circuit Court of Appeals, Place 9
5th Circuit Court of Appeals, Place 12
State District Judge 14th
State District Judge 95th
State District Judge 162nd
Judge, Criminal District Court 2
Judge, Criminal District Court 4
Dallas County Sheriff
Dallas County Tax Assessor
Dallas County Commissioner District 1
Dallas County Commissioner District 3
Dallas County Democratic Party Chair

Barack Obama
Sean Hubbard
Linda Mrosko
Eddie Bernice Johnson
Kathryn S. McGovern
Domingo Garcia
Michelle Petty
Lois Parrot
Mavis B. Knight
Royce West
Eric Johnson
Rich Hancock
Rafael Anchia
Roberto Alonzo
Robert Miklos
Larry Taylor
Carol Kent
Mary Claire Fabishak
Dan Wood
David Hanschen
Lawrence Praeger
Ken Molberg
Eric Moyer
Maricela Moore
Don Adams
Dominique Collins
Lupe Valdez
John Ames
Theresa Daniel
John Wiley Price
Darlene Ewing

Early Voting is currently underway from May 14th through May 25th.
The Democratic Primary Election is on Tuesday, May 29th.

GET OUT AND VOTE AND TAKE 3 FRIENDS WITH YOU !

News Briefs

General Meeting

The May meeting of Stonewall Democrats of Dallas will take place Tuesday, May 15th at Ojeda's Restaurant, 4617 Maple Ave. Please arrive at 6 p.m. for social time. Meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.

Candidate for State Party Chair Gilberto Hinojosa was slated to speak but unfortunately had to cancel this month. Attending will be candidate for Democratic National Committee Glen Maxey, as well as Taylor Holden of Obama for America who will have yard signs, bumper stickers, and other Obama goodies. Bring your donations to make sure Obama is re-elected !

Membership -

We had 13 new or renewing members this month including Caroline Herring, David Pfleeger, Fernando Moreno, Herschel Weisfeld, James Westbrook, Janet Allen, Jeffery Weber, Jimmy Grindler, Michael Milliken, Rich Hancock, Roger Grape, Steve Krueger, and Vice Kordsmeier.

We extend a warm welcome to all of our new Stonewall Members and want to thank all of our renewing members for your ongoing support.

We'd like to give special recognition to our Sustaining Members. We currently have 72 Sustaining Members.

Sustaining Memberships start at \$ 120 / year or just \$ 10 / month. If you have the ability, please consider becoming a Sustaining Member.

Don't Forget !

Texas State Democratic Convention
June 7th-9th, 2012 at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston.
We need every Delegate/Alternate to attend !

President's Corner

By Omar Narvaez , President
Stonewall Democrats of Dallas

Thank you President Obama!

This declaration of his personal support of Marriage Equality is a moment in the LGBT equality movement that will go down in history. I knew at that moment what I always knew, electing President Barack Obama was right for our country and our community.

The Obama Administration has time and time again kept it's promises to the LGBT community. His signature on the Hate Crimes Bill, the repeal of Don't Ask Don't Tell, the DOJ's directive to no longer defend the Defense Of Marriage Act, executive orders allowing domestic partners benefits throughout government agencies, and the executive order allowing same sex partners hospital visitation are huge steps forward.

May 9th, 2012 will be a day I never forget. Those words that were spoken and heard around the world that the President of the United States of America believes that same sex couples deserve the right to be married created a national and world dialogue like no other. I remember sitting there when it happened, and I have never been prouder of President Obama than at that moment. I now know what I always knew. President Obama has my back.

Of course there will be those that will say his vocal support didn't come fast enough, or that there are more important issues among our community than marriage. I agree, but on that day, at that moment, the game changed. We now have the bully pulpit of the most powerful leader in the world in our corner. And now with the full backing of the POTUS, we can move forward as a community. Yes, there are still lots of battles to be won, and yes, it will take more time to get full equality, but I feel a heck of a lot better knowing that President Barack Obama stands with me.

Now, I am asking you today to make the pledge to give your all to help re-elect President Obama. He went out on a limb for our community, and let's show him we have his back! Sign up to phone bank with Organizing For America, send a donation, register another person to vote, and by all means tell people, "I SUPPORT PRESIDENT OBAMA!"
Forward— OMAR.

Dallas Chapter of Stonewall Democrats to receive special award at State Convention

Special Feature Article
by Jay Narey

The Executive Committee, the 4 statewide Officers, of the Texas Stonewall Democratic Caucus have decided to recognize Stonewall Democrats of Dallas in a very special way at our TSDC Reception Thursday night at the upcoming Democratic State convention in Houston on June 7th.

Stonewall Democrat of Dallas will be presented with the **Roberto J. Flores Club Achievement Award** during the reception. This award was created to recognize Stonewall Democrat clubs in Texas for their growth in membership and political activism. It is named in memory of Roberto J. Flores, who was the first Chair of the Club Development Committee of the TSDC.

Dan Graney, current President of the Statewide Caucus recently informed Omar Narvaez of the Award.

Graney said..."Stonewall Democrats of Dallas is not only the single largest Stonewall Democrats club in Texas, it is our "mother" club in that it gave birth to other clubs in North Texas and also the Texas Stonewall Democratic Caucus itself, which attained recognition as the official LGBT Caucus of the Texas Democratic Party. SDD has also served as a role model for other Stonewall clubs in Texas in terms of providing sample bylaws, endorsement procedures and other "best practices" new clubs can look to chart their own course. So, on behalf of the Texas Stonewall Democratic Caucus, please accept our congratulations and also our apologies for not presenting this award sooner. We expect to present this and other awards around 8:00 pm during our reception Thursday, June 7 pm in the second floor atrium (near Room 230) of the Hilton Americas Hotel and all Stonewall Members are invited to attend."

Stonewall's Biennial Statewide Caucus will take place on Friday, June 8th at 1:00 PM at the George R. Brown Convention Center.

Every Stonewall member, whether you are a Delegate or not is invited to attend and participate. All current Stonewall members are welcome to attend and vote on the matters brought before the caucus.

Yours truly, **Jay Narey**, has been nominated by the Nominations Committee of TSDC as statewide Secretary for the Texas Stonewall Democratic Caucus. I would greatly appreciate your attendance as well as your vote during the Caucus meeting on June 8th so that the Dallas Chapter has representation on the Statewide Executive Committee.

Thank you, and I look forward to seeing you in Houston in 3 weeks.

Stonewall Spotlight

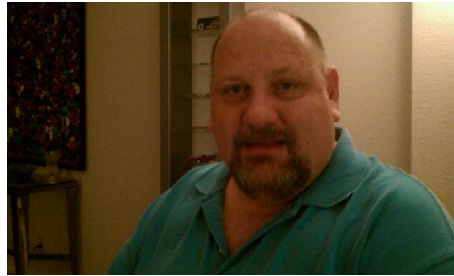
featuring Mike Lo Vuolo

What are the biggest issues facing America in your opinion?

Right now I feel the biggest issue is a lack of Middle Class life sustaining jobs. Too many jobs are being off-shored and outsourced at our expense to make corporate execs and share holders richer. In 1980 CEO pay was 42 times a blue collar workers pay. In 2011 it was 380 times the average worker. When 35 % of the country were union members both union and non-union alike benefited. Dwindling union membership has meant a steady drop in pay, benefits, and jobs.

What's your background and what do you do for a living?

I am a Labor Organizer with the airline division of Communication Workers of America...



**Stonewall Member
Mike Lo Vuolo**

I worked in the airline industry for 17 years and in 1997 I became a full time union organizer helping people get a voice on the job and binding contracts to spell out their pay, working conditions, and benefits. I work hard to dispel the myth that unions were only good in the "old" days. I also like to remind people that unions were the first that brought contractual domestic partner benefits and protections to the work place and now it's time for the government to ensure everyone receives them.

Why are you a Democrat?

I was raised by hard working blue collar parents who were Democrats. My paternal grandfather arrived in the United States at 15 in 1909. I still remember his talks about how hard working people in this country fought for workers rights. He said an honest days work deserved an honest days pay, along with a pension, medical coverage, and a way to grieve poor treatment on the job and we weren't going to get it voting Republican. In addition, my heart and life experiences always taught me that I wanted to be part of the "Inclusive Party" and not the "Exclusive". Being a 2nd generation US Citizen I remember the stories of discrimination from my grandparents.

If you could tell President Obama one thing, what would it be?

Thanks for what you've done so far including trying to unite and work with both parties to meet somewhere in the middle. Unfortunately, it isn't working.

Who is the first Democrat you voted for? The first Democratic President I voted for was Jimmy Carter in 1980.

STONEWALL
Democrats of Dallas

The Stonewall Advocate is a monthly publication of the Stonewall Democrats of Dallas. To contact the Editor, e-mail Jay.Narey @ stonewalldemocratsofdallas.org
No portion of this newsletter may be reproduced without permission.

President Omar Narvaez
Vice President Michael Wetter
Secretary Phyllis Guest
Treasurer Mike McCue

SDD Annual Membership:
\$35 General Level
\$120 Truman Level
\$300 Jefferson Level
\$600 Kennedy Level
\$1,200 Roosevelt Level

**Political Advertisement Paid For
By Treasurer Mike McCue**
Stonewall Democrats of Dallas
PO Box 192305, Dallas, TX 75219

*Reminder: May General Meeting
Tuesday, May 15th
6 p.m. Social & 6:30 p.m. Meeting
at Ojeda's Restaurant.*

*"Corporations are people, my friend... of course they are."
— GOP Front Runner Mitt Romney*