

Katrina / Rita: They Affected Us All

I know that everyone reading this letter has been affected in some shape, form, or fashion by the recent events we have named Katrina and Rita! I know we have students in TJCSGA who were evacuated as a result of Rita. People across Texas really came out to show our Eastern neighbors why Texas is the Friendly State! I personally and professionally was affected from both of these storms in numerous ways.

First, in my professional position, we, like other non-affected college and universities opened our doors to students from affected institutions. The result was approximately 20 Katrina victims relocating between our three NCTC campuses as well as our housing two of the evacuees whom I met in the shelter. North Central Texas College (NCTC) open its heart to these students by extending the last day to enroll for classes (as mandated from the state) as well as NCTC opening their pocket-books. Our local chapter of Phi Theta Kappa conducted a raffle to give to United Way. SGA

voted in their General Assembly to offer services to the victims during the holidays when the public would not be as generous to the victims. NCTC voted to donate their toys collected in November and December to Katrina and Rita victims who have relocated to our three-county service area instead of to Toys for Tots. NCTC as an institution paid for the student textbooks as well as gave scholarships for tuition assistance. The faculty and staff also donated all dorm room items for two of the students who were living at the Red Cross shelter and wanting to move into the dorm!

The second way I was affected was from being a Red Cross volunteer. NCTC agreed to give me two weeks off to go volunteer on the National level. I had my bags packed and was unsure about where my assignment would be. On Saturday, September 3rd I had left my dog and was headed to NCTC to do some last minute work before I would be gone for two weeks. Before I reached NCTC I got the call and my assignment was to report to the local Red Cross shelter to assist with the set-up. Originally we had planned to take evacuees on Tuesday but the need for shelters was so great that we pushed the envelope to get our shelter ready for victims by that night. At 4 pm, I told our Emer-

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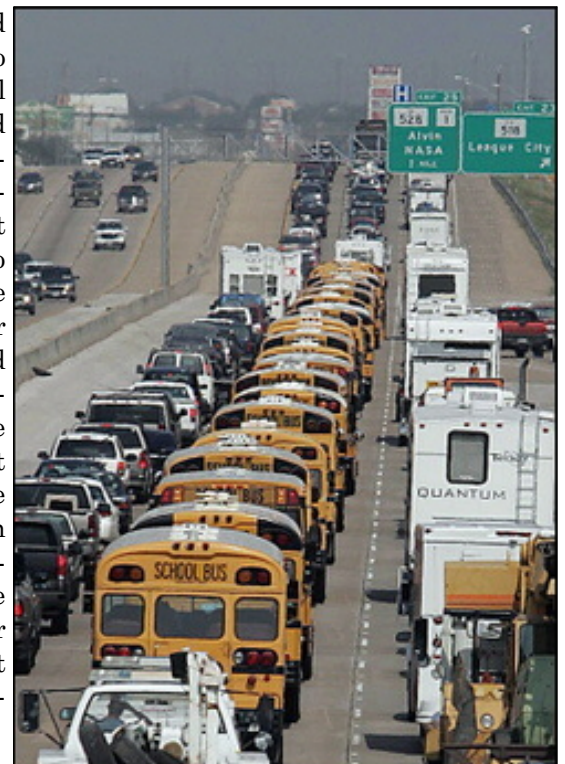
Issue #2

November 3, 2005

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Below : Fear of Rita sends coastal residents northward for safety.—Picture of I45 headed north towards Houston



36th Annual TJCSGA State Convention

With the date for the state convention quickly approaching, it is time for registration fees and deadlines. The date is set for March 30th-April 2nd, 2006. The location is at the beautiful Doral Tesoro Hotel and Golf Club in Fort Worth. The theme your state executive board has set is "TJCSGA Racing Towards Success."

Racing is exactly what we will be doing starting March 30th with the exciting activities, events, speakers, and competitions going on throughout the conference. Your executive board has been working very hard getting plans together to make this 36th annual state convention a winner!

Who could have picked a better location for this convention to take place? Located on Hwy 114, one block west of I-35W, across from Texas Motor Speedway, the Doral Tesoro is spectacular! There are many added features that set this hotel apart from others. The luxurious, spacious rooms are designed for your comfort. The hotel itself contains a fitness center, business center, pool and Jacuzzi, and an In-house Restaurant. In addition, this resort contains an 18-hole championship golf course re-designed by Jay Morrish. Included in your registration fees is one

free round of golf. There will be a tournament held on one of the days of the convention. (More details on activities to come in future bulletins.)

Not only is this year's convention location impressive, but so is the work that each individual SGA is going to bring to the convention. The Doral Tesoro Resort Hotel is an outstanding location for the 2005 SGA convention that will, once again, prove this tradition of spirit and unity to be a success.



Registration Fees and Deadlines:

Period 1 Early Registration		
By December 1, 2005	\$125 per student	\$135 per advisor
Period 2 Early Registration		
By January 20, 2006	\$135 per student	\$145 per advisor
Regular Registration		
By February 27, 2006	\$145 per student	\$155 per advisor
Late Registration		
Until March 31, 2006	\$175 per student	\$185 per advisor



Make checks payable to TJCSGA

Registration forms can be found at www.tjcsga.org

Please send your registration *forms and fees* to:

Stan Weatherred, South Plains College
 1401 College Av., Levelland TX, 79336
Call if you have questions: (806) 894-9611, ext 2377

Meet Your State Treasurer

My name is Stacey Jones and I am currently a sophomore at McLennan Community College.

I grew up in Waco, Texas and I am now nineteen years old. I have always been very active in everything that I have been involved in. While attending Midway High School, I sang in the Select Choirs, played on the Varsity tennis team, I was an officer for Spanish club and a representative for Student Council. I was also very active at my church. During my freshman year of high school they asked me to lead the praise and worship for my youth group and lead a weekly bible study. I stayed very active throughout high school and still, on occasion, go back and speak to the youth group.

Last year, as a freshman at MCC I became involved with Student Government and really wasn't very active, until I was elected to the Public Relations office. Soon after elections Student Government became my life!

In the spring of 2005, I was elected President at McLennan and was asked to represent MCC as State Treasurer if we were elected. Student Government has become a part of my life and a part of me. The opportunities I have been given over the past year have been amazing, and I'm looking forward to many more.

Next fall I hope to transfer to A&M University to pursue a Bachelor degree in Political Science with a minor in Psychology, and eventually attend Baylor Law School. I would like to ultimately be a district attorney in a large city with my family, which I hope to have some day. I may possibly even pursue a career in politics eventually.

I look forward to working with people through out the state. Feel free to contact me if you ever need to do so. That is what I'm here for!



Fun Fact Trivia!

Who was the first
TJCSGA President
School?



Meet Your State Secretary



I am William McAdoo; I was born in El Paso, Texas on the 14th of February, 1986. I was born to Yolanda Martinez McAdoo and Bruce William McAdoo. I lived in El Paso till I was eight years old when my dad changed jobs and we moved to Miami Lakes, Florida. I lived in Miami Lakes for six months until my dad's job relocated to Jupiter, Florida. In Jupiter, I participated in track and field and cross-country in high school. After my freshman year in high school I moved to Midland, Texas. I went to Robert E. Lee high

school and continued to participate in cross-country and joined Student Council. I graduated from Lee high school and enrolled at Midland College. As a freshman I joined student government. I am currently in my sophomore year at Midland College and I am the President of student government at Midland College, Vice President of Region I, and State Secretary for TJCSGA. I plan to go to the University of Texas at Austin and go to medical school.



gency Management Coordinator (EMC) to make the call that we would be ready for victims by 7 pm. The EMC made the call and we were told around 3am we would see our group. Then at 7 pm we were called and told a group would be there by 8 pm. When our evacuees first arrived we had approximately 200 volunteers on site: a team of 30 medical professionals conducting medical screening and transporting to the hospital, 20 police officers conducting security checks, 10 red cross personal taking reports of the victims upon entering, and the rest were outside giving new clothes, a meal, and just being small-town friendly! After the first day, I was named shelter manager, and from that point on I was no longer on a two-week in and out assignment like I had initially planned. I stayed at the shelter for the first two weeks only leaving for Emergency Management meetings or when playing chauffeur for the Red Cross clients.

Initially we had success finding family members, and I was able to put approximately 30 people on a bus within the first week to be reunited with family. Unfortunately, by week three if we had not heard from someone's family we knew the worse could be expected. At our shelter we had over 1,500 volunteers, and I can truly say what impressed me the most of our town leadership was their willingness to work. The local City Manager was taking out trash; the County Judge and his wife would mop the floors; and City Council members played bathroom monitors whenever I asked. I really want to

stress the point that although these were some of our most respected leaders they also knew that being a leader meant being a servant leader. Never once did a City or County leader look at me and say, "You go mop and I'll do what you're doing." because they knew they were there to help, and they left their egos and titles at the door! In addition to the everyday process of running a shelter such as meals, laundry, safety, security, public relations, volunteer management, health services, and medical services we also provided a number of social service functions such as helping find jobs, continuing education training and workshops, finding housing, assisting with transition of paperwork, as well as other functions.

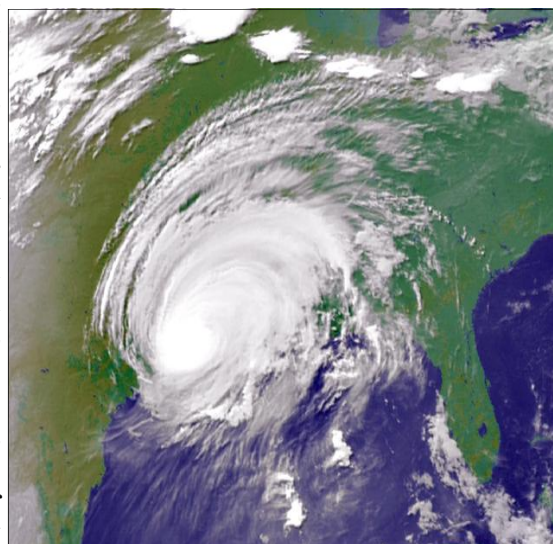
Katrina was no ordinary disaster and I was very proud of the way that Texas stepped up to the plate to assist these victims. My experience at the shelter will be with me always and I will never forget the experience or those whom I met. Over half of the victims who came to our shelter chose to make Gainesville their new home because they said their home was gone or that they did not want to go back since their leaders left them in. On the final Saturday, October 1st, we moved our clients out from the shelter to their new home in Gainesville, and about 5 caught buses to be reunited with other family members. We started at 5 am packing up the shelter, and at 5 pm my last volunteer and I walked out the shelter doors for the last time. The emotion finally hit me and that night after working our student organization fundraiser at 12:30 am I was in my bed at my house for the first time in a month. In that one month time of running the shelter my life had changed, yet it was nothing compared to those who were there for the storm of Katrina. The stories told on TV are similar to the accounts I

heard from my clients. Most of my clients said they had sat on a bridge for two days before being put in a bus that drove around for two days waiting for a shelter to open. As for those who did not wait on the bridge to be rescued, they said the large shelters were scary as they did not feel safe, or the smell was so bad that they could not sleep indoors.

Working in the shelter was much like working with college students. I have seen the best in people and the worst in people. Just as I encourage my students, I say this to you... become active in your community! It is the duty of every educated person to not only give back financially what they can but also give back with your time and talents. If everyone gave of their time, just imagine what kind of world we would live in.

I hope that any of our member schools or students who were affected by Katrina or Rita know that our thoughts and prayers are with you, and if there is anything we can do on a state level we are more than willing to help!

- Kim Brown NCTC / State Advisor



Blinn College-Brenham SGA hosts Voter Awareness Week

Along with the help of the Beta Alpha chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the Young Republicans and the Blinn Democrats on its campus, the Blinn College-Brenham Student Government Association organized a "Vote Smart Voter Awareness Week" during the week of October 3-6. Most Texas residents, especially college students, are totally unaware about the vital Texas Constitutional Amendments election that will be taking place November 8, 2005, across our great state. Though this election will not determine governmental positions at the local, state, or national level, this election will allow Texas voters to either accept or reject nine amendments that will affect all Texas residents alike in one way or another. Blinn College's SGA was instrumental in orga-

nizing this event with the purpose of voter education and voter mobilization on campus. Both of these missions were accomplished by informing students and faculty on campus about the upcoming election by distributing more than 500 voter's guides, allowing students to fill out voter registration cards, and having students fill out voter commitment cards to remind them of their civic duty. This event was extremely successful in registering 85 new student-voters and in having more than 200 students commit to vote. Through our chapter's efforts, we hope to continue to make a dramatic difference in our state and local governments and in the participation of college students in those governments!



Pictured above, left to right: Wyatt Matthies (Beta Alpha advisor), Viet Ha (SGA freshman delegate), and George Edwards III (SGA Treasurer).



We would love more participation with the Bulletin. If you would like your school's work to be published please send any articles and pictures to: sga@hillcollege.edu

Thanks for your help!

Around The Regions

Region IV Fall Meeting



The Region IV meeting turned out to be a huge success. Each school enjoyed a night of 'unity' with host school McLennan Community College in Waco. Everyone was entertained with pizza, snacks, Frisbee golf, volleyball and bingo. Hill College continued their tradition by winning the volleyball tournament. Unity night, with its various activities, brought loads of fun to start out a productive Region IV meeting.

On October 15, 2005 I, Helena Collins, Parliamentarian of Hill College, Hillsboro, served as Secretary on the Region IV Executive Board. The meeting was a very enlightening experience. I had the chance to learn and to teach at the same time. It was my first time serving as an executive board member for Region IV. Over all, I think that this weekend went very well. Our Regional Parliamentarian, Richard Jackson, did an excellent job at maintaining Robert's Rules of Order as did the Executive Board when it came their turn to know their roles. I think that I did an admirable job at writing the minutes for the Region and keeping up with all other information, making sure every school in our region received a copy of the minutes along with an Executive Board contact list. I look forward to Hill College's hosting the spring meeting.



Helena Collins, Hill College



Region I

President School: Western Texas College

Contact Info:
Advisor: Patty Kuhl
Student Rep: Tony Wise

Region II

President School: Collin County Community College

Contact Info:
Advisor: Barbara Money
Student Rep: Hisham Masri
Phone: 972-578-5525

Region III

President School: Navarro College - Ellis County Campus

Contact Info:
Advisor: Amber Theinert
Student Rep: Brittnee Lucher
Phone: 903-875-7543

Region IV

President School: McLennan Community College

Contact Info:
Advisor: Ashley Cruseturner
Student Rep: Skyler Herring
Phone: 254-299-8444

Region V

President School: Kingwood College

Contact Info:
Advisor: Vida Davoudi
Student Rep: Nicole Khalaf

Region VI

President School: TBA
Contact Info:



Bulletin School
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Hillsboro, TX 76645



For the Next Bulletin:

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- ⇒ Around the regions featuring **YOUR school**
- ⇒ Announcements about this years State Convention including...
- Activities/ Events/ Competitions
- Speakers
- Awards
- and much more...

