

Save the Date! 75th Anniversary National Convention July 6-10, 2004

LULACnews

September/October 2003



The Truth about Vouchers

Redistricting Crisis in Texas

Lung Cancer Killer Among Hispanics

LULAC Profiles Johnny Mata



U.S. Air Force Joins Forces with LULAC

September | October 2003

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Above Photo: The ribbon cutting ceremony during the LULAC National Convention in Orlando, Florida.

Cover Photo: LULAC National President Hector Flores with Air Force Representatives. (Photos by Luis Nuño Britones.)

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LULACnews

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A MESSAGE from the President



(Photo by Luis Nuño Briones.)

Dear Brothers and Sisters of LULAC,

This month is Hispanic Heritage Month, a time to celebrate our diverse culture which offers a rainbow of beautiful differences and similarities. I hope you are making the most of this time in your communities by participating in activities that reflect our stunning heritage and contributions. *Que viva el 16 de Septiembre y la libertad para todos los paises Latino Americanos.*

With Congress back in session there is much advocacy work to be done on behalf of the Hispanic community. For example, the DREAM Act should be up for vote soon. This bill would

give many students the opportunity to obtain a higher education in our country. Please remember to contact your Congressional representatives and press for passage of this important issue that would affect the future of our nation in such a positive way. Another legislative concern that we should be aware of is the request by the Bush administration to expand the Patriot Act's scope which would continue to erode many of the civil liberties we hold dear. Make your voices known by telling our members of Congress that we will not stand for any further erosion of our civil rights. Finally, let us insist that our government focus more resources on education and other domestic issues instead of pouring billions into war. I encourage you to concentrate on these issues now and not when it is too late to do anything about it.

LULAC continues to fight for important issues throughout the country that could affect the lives of Hispanics. As many of you know, LULAC has been working diligently to see that the redistricting effort in Texas does not diminish our voting strength or congressional representation. It has been a tough battle but we plan to continue the fight to see that all of our voices are heard in Texas and elsewhere. In addition, LULAC has recently asked California gubernatorial candidate Arnold Schwarzenegger to step down from the board of U.S. English, an organization with anti-immigrant ties.

We hope that you will continue to participate in advocacy work and community service with your councils. Now more than ever your participation is needed, especially as we prepare for another election year in 2004. It is time to start focusing on voter registration efforts so that we can have a stronger voice in shaping our future. We also need to grow the LULAC membership as there is more power in greater numbers. Call on your friends to join in these important fights so that we may work together to have a brighter tomorrow. We are planning an exciting year with membership expansion as one of our top priorities.

Finally, in preparation for our upcoming Diamond Jubilee 75th anniversary celebration in San Antonio, Texas, we are calling on each of you to gather any historical data that you have so that we may compile a complete and accurate history of LULAC. We want to be able to document the many successes LULAC has had in its 75 years of existence so that we may inspire future LULAC members. Also, make sure to start making plans for the convention scheduled for July 6-10, 2004 you won't want to miss this year's celebration!

Sincerely,

Hector M. Flores
LULAC National President

U.S. Air Force Joins Forces with LULAC

By Brigadier General Jose M. Portela,
Mobilization Assistant to the Assistant
Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and
Reserve Affairs

Committed to promoting work force diversity, Air Force officials have taken the first steps toward building a partnership with one of the nation's leading Hispanic organizations – the League of United Latin American Citizens. We all believe the Air Force should be representative of the America we serve. In less than two decades Hispanics will be 25 percent of our population and the largest minority group in our nation. The Air Force lags behind other services in Hispanic representation with 5.5% total and a negligible 1% in the SES/GO ranks. The numbers are not improving at a time where the Hispanic population is exploding. It should be clear to everyone that this is not just the right thing to do; it is a readiness issue with a major future impact in manning and force structure.

We started the relationship with LULAC when, as colonels, BG Aponte and I attended the Dallas LULAC convention about five years ago. We joined forces with LULAC because we felt that it offered the best chance of uniting all Hispanics and because of its track record of advocating civil rights for all of us.

Continued on page 21.



Brigadier General Maria Cribbs, Director of Manpower and Personnel, J-1, the Joint Staff, U.S. Air Force, spoke during the Women's Luncheon at the National Convention. She is pictured with her mother and LULAC National President Hector Flores.

(Photo by Luis Nuño Briones.)



LULAC Council 5002 with LULAC member U.S. Representative Raul Grijalva (D-AZ) at the Cesar Chavez Stamp Unveiling in San Luis, Arizona.



The above students are on their way to college thanks to scholarships awarded by Council 5001 in South Bend, Indiana.

Attention LULAC

LULAC Women's Hall of Fame

LULAC would like to keep track of the many women who have been inducted into the LULAC Women's Hall of Fame. If you or someone you know has been inducted, please send the name of the person, the year they were inducted, and her contact information to Christine Bobadilla at cbobadilla@lulac.org or call 214-219-2133.

LULAC Calendar

■ **First Anniversary of "LULAC's Sabor Latino" Radio**
WHEN: October 12, 2003
WHERE: South Bend, IN
CONTACT: Eulid Villanueva at 574-256-5494

■ **LULAC of Illinois will honor Dr. Silvia Ramos**
WHEN: Oct. 16, 2003
WHERE: Westside Technical Institute
CONTACT: Gilberto Romero at gilrosrome@sbglobal.net

■ **Citibank Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration**
WHEN: 5-7 pm, Oct. 22, 2003
WHERE: Chicago
RSVP: Fernando Pavon 312-627-5096

■ **Crisis: Hispanic Education Summit**
WHEN: 9:00 a.m.-2:00 pm, October 25, 2003
WHERE: UIC Chicago Pavilion, Chicago, IL
CONTACT: Blanca Vargas at Lulacmidwest@comcast.net

■ **4th Annual Youth and Young Adult Leadership Retreat**
WHEN: Oct. 25-26, 2003
WHERE: UFW Headquarters, La Paz, Kenne, CA
CONTACT: Mickie Luna at 831-673-2009 or calulac@hollinet.com

■ **Civil Rights Conference "Safeguarding Our Freedom: Preserving Civil Liberties"**
WHEN: 9-3, Nov. 1, 2003
WHERE: Thomas College, Waterville, Maine
CONTACT: Laura Medrano 617-957-1462 or LauraMedrano@lulac.org

■ **LULAC Week**
WHEN: Feb. 15-21, 2004

■ **LULAC Legislative Awards Gala**
WHEN: March 9, 2004
WHERE: Washington, DC

■ **75th Annual LULAC National Convention**
WHERE: San Antonio, Texas
WHEN: July 6-10, 2004
 For more information see www.lulac.org or call 202-833-6130 or 1-866-577-0626

LULAC Youth Scholarships & Awards

This year LULAC National Youth gave scholarship awards to seven recipients totaling \$5,000. The award was sponsored by the LULAC Institute and came about through the efforts of the youth board. The awards went to Daileen Carrion, Armando Olguin, Arlinda Arriaga, Rodrigo Echeverria, Irma Maldonado, Adrian Ortega and Adalberto Sanchez. LULAC salutes the recipients for their hard work and wishes them good luck with their future plans.

This year the National Youth Awards were presented during the LULAC National Convention in Orlando, Florida, during the National Convention. The following were the award recipients.

- **Mr. LULAC** – Adalberto Sanchez of Skyline Council #280, Dallas, Texas
- **LULAC Young Man of the Year** - Manuel Olguin, Youth 301, San Antonio, Texas
- **LULAC Young Woman of the Year** – Arlinda Arriaga, Collin County Council #298, Plano, Texas
- **LULAC Youth Advisor of the Year** – Angelina Najjar, Pueblo Youth Council, Colorado
- **LULAC Council of the Year** – Skyline HS Youth #280, Dallas, Texas

NEWS FROM AROUND THE LEAGUE

Central Florida LULAC Awards Scholarships



Back row (L-R) Dr. Lydia Medrano, Deputy State Director for Youth and Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee, Joannie King, Assistant Secretary of LULAC Council 7006, Danny Martinez, LULAC State Sergeant in Arms, Anita de Palma, LULAC Florida State Director, Gwen MacKinnon, President of LULAC Council 7093 and Deputy State Director for Young Adults. Front row (L-R) Marilyn Wadley, LULAC State Secretary Pro Tem, Matilda "Mati" Garcia, LULAC Central Florida District Director, and Rene Gonzalez, Member of LULAC Council 7006, Founder and Artistic Director of the Spanish Lyric Theatre and host of the event.

Members of the LULAC Florida State Board and Tampa Bay Councils held a fundraising reception for the upcoming "MATI" Award Scholarship Gala. This is the third year scholarships have been awarded to young people in the Tampa area. Finalists are selected from regional Hispanic organizations that select the cream of the crop from a wide pool of members. The two scholarships are awarded to the first and second finalists. The scholarships are named after long-time LULAC member Matilda Garcia for her great contributions to the scholarship program and years of fighting on behalf of education for Hispanics. Congratulations to LULAC Council 7006 and the Central Florida District for all their hard work in raising money for deserving students.

Ohio LULAC Expands its Membership



Ballet Boliviano performed during a Mexican Festival in Wauseon, Ohio where a new council was recently started. Sonia DePredo, the director of the group, is a new LULAC member and is helping other members in the group join LULAC as well.

Kansas LULAC Fights for Education



Last fall, Kansas LULAC fought hard to see that anti-immigrant Kansas Board of Education candidate Connie Morris did not succeed. Unfortunately, Ms. Morris made it on to the board. This addition to the board has made many Hispanics in Kansas very concerned because Ms. Morris believes that immigrant children should not have the right to an education. The electoral defeat, however, did not put an end to the fight by Kansas LULAC. Earlier this year, Immediate Past Kansas State Director Florentino Camacho, Jr., led a group of picketers to urge the board members to support all children, not just non-immigrant children. LULAC members also took the opportunity to hold up signs that said "Recall Connie Morris." LULAC will continue to monitor the Kansas Board of Education to ensure that all children are treated equally in the school system.



(L-R) National VP for the Midwest Blanca Vargas with the council's new officers: Vice President Conrado Jensen, Secretary Alicia Hernandez, member Carlos Lerma, President Manuel Gondora, Parliamentarian Justo T. Suarez, and Vice President for Youth Mike Vasquez.

On August 2, 2003, National VP for the Midwest Blanca Vargas established a new council in Wauseon, Ohio. The new council will focus on education and civil rights.

OUR HISTORY

Remembering the Fight

When Hispanics Weren't Welcome at Our Schools



Saturnino Alvarado's name will be honored on a wall of fame at Argentine Middle School in Kansas City, Kansas, in recognition of his efforts to get Hispanic children admitted to the school.

It is hard to imagine that there was a time when it was commonplace for Latino children to be turned away from schools in this country. There were some, however, like Saturnino Alvarado who refused to stand for this treatment. Mr. Alvarado, a shoe cobbler from Mexico, struggled in 1925 to ensure that his two children Jesus and Luz Alvarado, and two of their friends were admitted to the all-Anglo Argentine High School in Kansas City, Kansas. Mr. Alvarado faced a great deal of resistance from many in the community and finally turned to the Mexican Consulate. After a year's struggle among the Mexican consulate, the Kansas attorney general and the school board, Mr. Alvarado made progress. As a result of the consulate's intervention, the U.S. State Department issued a statement on October 30, 1925, explaining that under the treaty with Mexico, Latinos must be treated as friendly aliens and extended the same privileges as American children. Mr. Alvarado was successful and his children and other Hispanic children were admitted to the school from that day forward. It was not until the late 1940's, however, before Mexican children were accepted in all the district's schools.

Esperanza Amayo always admired Mr. Alvarado for his courage to fight on behalf

of Hispanic children. "He opened the doors for those who came after him. His contribution was unique and no one can match it," said Ms. Amayo. As a result, Ms. Amayo has fought tirelessly for the past twenty years to have the name of Mr. Alvarado honored at the Argentine school. Ms. Amayo finally approached Tino Camacho, Immediate Past LULAC state director of Kansas, to help with the cause earlier this year. Within a month LULAC members were successful in convincing the Kansas City School Board to honor Mr. Alvarado by naming the school gymnasium after him. Congratulations to Ms. Amayo for not giving up on the fight and to Kansas LULAC for helping to honor this courageous champion of Latino children.

Today, 43 percent of the students at the school are Latino. Because the Argentine school is now recognizing Mr. Alvarado, minority children will remember that they should not be treated as outsiders in our schools. By memorializing Mr. Alvarado, the Argentine school will also inspire other students to have the courage to fight for what is right in their lives.



Esperanza Amayo has fought tirelessly for twenty years to see that we never forget that there was a time when Latino students were not welcome at our schools.

Preparing to Celebrate 75 Years of Service

LULAC Celebrates Diamond Jubilee in San Antonio, Texas



Almost 75 years ago, the founders of the League of United Latin American Citizens formed an organization that would become the largest, oldest and most successful Hispanic civil rights and service organization in the United States. Since our founding, LULAC has developed a tremendous track record of success advancing the economic condition, educational attainment, political influence, health and civil rights of Hispanic Americans.

Throughout the year, we are planning a series of events and programs to commemorate this unique milestone, including LULAC Week (February 15-21, 2004), the LULAC National Legislative Awards Gala (March 9, 2004) and the LULAC 75th Anniversary Convention in San Antonio (July 6-10, 2004). We hope that you will be able to participate in all of these important events.

We are calling on all members to increase council participation or form new LULAC councils in their individual areas in the coming year to help ensure that the oldest and largest Hispanic organization of the United States will continue to lead the way for the Hispanic community.

We also are asking that councils send us historical information so that we may compile information and photos that reflects the past 75 years that LULAC has dedicated itself to the Hispanic community. If you have something you'd like to contribute to this effort please mail it to LULAC National, 2000 L Street NW, Suite 610, Washington, DC 20036 or email it to LQuiroga@lulac.org

The Redistricting Crisis in Texas

By Ana Yáñez-Correa
Texas Public Policy Director



LULAC members during the anti-redistricting rally in Austin, Texas.

Despite the many pressing issues that the Texas legislature faced during its recently concluded legislative session, precious time, energy, and much needed resources were wasted addressing congressional redistricting. Republicans argued that they should have a majority of the congressional delegation in Texas. While advocacy groups worked hard to try and prevent budget cuts that promise irreparable harm to our children, our elderly, and the disabled, the leadership instead focused on forcing congressional redistricting. So unpopular was this move by the Republican leadership that Democratic Representatives fled the state to Oklahoma to break a quorum and prevent it from occurring. In addition, public comment during recent hearings revealed that ninety percent of the comments were against redistricting.

Ironically, the district lines are already drawn in such a way that they are favorable to Republicans, giving them the potential to have a majority of the seats in Texas. However, even though the voters in these areas elect Republicans to every statewide office, they frequently vote for Democratic congressman. Currently, at least four of the current districts are majority Republican. The only way the Republicans can create truly failsafe Republican seats, however, is by drawing districts that disenfranchise rural communities, independent voters and minorities, which make up almost half the pop-

ulation of the state. Over 1.3 million Hispanics and African Americans in Texas live in congressional districts now held by Democrats. The latest congressional redistricting plan proposed in the Senate would eliminate seven Democrats. Under such a scenario, voters in the coalition that elected those Democrats would lose representation in Congress for at least a decade.

LULAC efforts to fight against redistricting began with a Laredo council, with the LULAC leadership quickly following by holding statewide

press conferences stressing LULAC's position against redistricting. LULAC members from all over the state attended every House and Senate hearing on the issue. When the issue lay in the hands of the Senate, LULAC members organized a successful letter writing campaign that convinced Senator Frank Madla, whose vote was critical, to oppose redistricting.

Governor Perry insists that he has the well being of all Texans at heart. Yet during a time when the state is facing a \$10 billion budget shortfall, Texas is being forced to spend almost \$60,000 a day since June 30th on the politically divisive issue of redistricting. The money that has been spent on redistricting should have gone to the elderly, our children, and the handicapped.

The American GI Forum took a vocal position against the Republican effort. In response, Governor Perry promptly cut the annual funding they have received since the 1970's. The governor's actions send a chilling message to the citizens of Texas that if you merely express an opinion that opposes the current leadership you may receive severe political retaliation. "This is not only a slap in the face to the members of the American GI Forum but to every Texan who supports our veterans who valiantly risked their lives in order to preserve such rights as freedom of speech," explained State Deputy Director Roger C. Rocha Jr. Perry eventually returned GI Forum's funding, however, the continued effort to force through congressional redistricting in a non-census year without an or-

der by a federal court continues despite the thousands of individuals who rallied in front of the capitol to show their disapproval.

The leadership tried to force the eleven Senators to return to Texas and they succeeded with the return of Senator Whitmire. According to LULAC National President Hector M. Flores "this is perceived as an attempt to force Hispanic and African American Senators to participate in a process that would threaten the voting right of millions of Texans. In effect, it's the same as forcing them to vote against their constituents." In response, the LULAC National Executive Board voted to file an amicus brief in favor of the eleven Senators.

We are now in a third special session, and a map that completely dilutes minority representation while adding at least four additional Republican seats has passed. So where does this leave our voting rights? Well, the court will have to decide. We must not be discouraged; instead let's learn from what has happened in Texas and let it be an inspiration for all LULAC members and anyone else who champions American ideals to become more involved in the political process at the local, state, and national level. Let what happened in Texas be a wake up call, we cannot allow a few to make decisions for all of us. The welfare of this nation depends on using our voting power wisely, and holding elected and appointed officials accountable for their action and inactions.



LULAC members during the anti-redistricting rally in Austin, Texas.

Salen cupones

POLICY and Legislation

The Truth about Vouchers: A Threat to Public Education

Statement given by LULAC National Director of Policy and Legislation Dr. Gabriela D. Lemus at the Teach-In for Jobs, Peace and Justice

The future of public education is at stake. Now is the time for us to speak out against vouchers which threaten to destroy public education as we know it. As of today we have publicly funded voucher programs in Wisconsin, Ohio, and Florida and most recently, Governor Bill Owens of Colorado signed a bill establishing a voucher program and Washington, DC may be moving toward creating a program for the District of Columbia as well.

On April of 2003, Colorado became the first to create a school voucher program since the U.S. Supreme Court declared that vouchers were constitutional in *Zelman v. Simmons-Harris*. With the adoption of HB 1160, the Colorado Opportunity Contract Pilot Program is now poised to become the largest voucher program in the United States. LULAC has gotten involved as part of a lawsuit in the state of Colorado against vouchers. At our Colorado state convention, LULAC members passed a resolution condemning the program. From LULAC's perspective, the Colorado case represents a slippery slope towards a public relations strategy that sublimates the need for improved educational systems to a competitive concept of creating choice in education for kids and parents.

On the same day that the Supreme Court handed down its opinion on *Zelman*, Representative Dick Armey of Texas introduced legislation – HR 5033 – that would create a voucher plan for students in the District of Columbia. If passed, HR 5033 would create a federally funded voucher program that would be run by a non-profit corporation created by the Act. The corporation would consist of a seven-member board of directors with six of its members appointed by the President: three nominated by the Speaker of the House, and three by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and one member that will be appointed by the Mayor of Washington.

In the meantime, as these two new voucher programs are challenged and considered, other states like Texas are debating a bill – known as the Education Freedom Program – that would allocate government money to

low-income parents in certain school districts to transfer their children from public to private-schools. In Louisiana, legislators are reviewing several bills, including a proposal from GOP Governor Mike Foster to provide vouchers to low-income children whose schools are deemed to be failing.

It is clear that vouchers as a concept are fast becoming a reality and are poised to do serious damage to public education, especially now that state budgets are so hampered by deficits. Public education has always been a cornerstone of American society. Its potential privatization does not bode well for children of color, many of which are de facto segregated in the poorest districts with the least access to resources. What all of these cases appear to share in common is that they begin as pilot programs but eventually move into state-wide programs that siphon millions of tax dollars out of the public school system to fund private and religious schools.

The perception that vouchers create choice for parents and kids is erroneous in that it really creates choice for private schools, which have the right to pick and choose who they will accept. The likelihood is that private schools will use vouchers to recruit the most talented and academically motivated children out of public schools at taxpayers' expense. The children who are left behind may not perform at as high a level as standardized tests require, opening potential problems for public schools. The No Child Left Behind Act sets harsh accountability standards by requiring that students test at a certain level. If the students do not meet the testing standards the schools will lose funding which only hurts students in the long run.

In addition nothing in the voucher laws appear to require that the private schools offer transportation to voucher students. This issue stands out particularly in the cases of Colorado and Washington, DC. Not many schools have the ability to take on the additional transportation task and many of these private schools may be located in areas that are far from where students live. In Milwaukee, for example, home to the nation's old-

POLICY and Legislation

est taxpayer funded program which started in 1990, nearly 63 percent of the schools either offer very limited transportation or none at all. Lastly, vouchers discriminate against children with special needs. Private schools are neither required to accept nor are they set up to accommodate the special needs of children with learning or physical disabilities.

The Colorado example has demonstrated that there are many myths in the construct of the voucher debate. Vouchers do not necessarily provide choices to students and their parents. The reality is that the private schools are the ones that have a choice. In the case of Colorado, choices were already in play upon the passage of this bill. In fact, Colorado afforded parents more choices than most states offer. What is significant to note is that the pro-voucher forces are intent on the privatization of public schools.

Organizations that represent private schools are balking at the thought of having to accept children that do not meet their philosophy. For example, the President of the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), an advocacy group for private schools, stated that he opposed voucher plans that would curb private schools' freedom to accept students who are mission-appropriate. Currently, private schools have the ability to determine which students fall within their mission or establish criteria for acceptance that many students cannot meet.

One of the reasons LULAC members became outraged with the Colorado passage of the law was that the people of Colorado generally did not want a voucher law. Colorado voters in both 1992 and 1998 rejected ballot initiatives that would have diverted tax dollars to private or religious schools. It was the changing political fortunes of the Colorado Legislature, however, that played a major role in delivering momentum to the pro-voucher forces. No doubt the Independence Institute, the most influential ultraconservative think tank in Colorado, has played a large part in convincing the legislature to support vouchers. This organization has supported vouchers since 1985 and has

actively sought to privatize public education. Both its former national president and its research director have signed the Alliance for the Separation of School and States to end government involvement in education. Unlike other pro-voucher groups that simply seek to end federal involvement, the Alliance goes a step further and seeks the complete privatization of schools.

In conclusion, voucher programs have not proven themselves sufficiently to solve the education problems that public schools face. The reality is that schools need more resources, and elected officials need to demonstrate the political will to challenge those who object to government's involvement in education. By placing a political agenda bent on privatization above the needs of children, pro-voucher forces will undermine any attempt to make real reforms in schools that might have a positive impact on the education of our kids.

Member Benefits

American Airlines

American Airlines is offering a special travel discount for LULAC members and their immediate families for up to 5% off most fares purchased online at AA.com. To obtain your discount go to AA.com and use promotional code SC325D. This offer is valid through December 31, 2003.

LULAC is working with other companies to obtain more membership benefits in the future.

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LULAC

Profile

Johnny Mata of Council 402

Every issue of LULAC News will profile a LULAC member that has exhibited strong leadership within LULAC and his or her community. This month we are profiling Johnny Mata, a LULAC member for the past 34 years.



Where and when were you born? I was born in 1937 in Texas. My parents were both from Mexico. My father crossed the border at the age of two in my grandmother's arms.

What would you characterize as your best personality trait? I am very committed to community service.

Who do you admire most? President John F. Kennedy

What do you believe is the best leadership trait? Being a good listener so that you can really understand people and their situations.

What compelled you to join LULAC 34 years ago? I had friends who were LULAC members who encouraged me to join. I also remember being inspired by the former LULAC presidents who spoke on the radio about LULAC's mission and projects.

What do you believe LULAC should focus on? We should make sure that we preserve our history so that it can be passed on. We need to obtain the necessary resources for research and advocacy so that we can support and train our volunteers to be more productive.

What is your motto? Accomplish as much as you can today because tomorrow might not come.

What is your passionate LULAC cause? The erosion of civil liberties because it has a severe effect on Hispanics and others. The only way to turn things around is to focus on voter registration and inspiring participation by our community.

What is your most memorable LULAC experience? After a Hispanic Vietnam veteran was brutally beaten and killed by the police LULAC worked hard to bring awareness of the problem of excessive force and brutality by police. We were able to bring these issues to the forefront, which made our leaders more accountable.

What do you perceive to be the most important Latino issue?

There are many but I feel we need to utilize our political potential power to our advantage to make changes. We also need to make sure that our children receive an adequate education so they may obtain better employment opportunities.

How do you increase LULAC membership? I believe we have been successful in attracting new members by constantly communicating with the media and staying on top of issues as they arise.

What advice would you give to young Latinos who want to make a difference? Get involved with LULAC - today more than ever it is needed. We need young people to commit to fighting for civil rights and justice - they need to take this role seriously.

What do you do when you are not involved with LULAC? I am retired now so I devote about 80% of time on LULAC. Previously I worked for the Office of Economic Opportunity for 34 years in several different capacities. I also served as a Communications Sergeant for the U.S. Army in the 1960's.



Johnny Mata speaking before the national convention in Houston, Texas last year. (Photo by Luis Nuño Briones).



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LULAC Youth Promote Reading with "Fiesta of Books"



LULAC Youth from the Ft. Worth District collect books for the literacy project in Texas.

LULAC youth councils are working to promote literacy and help the hungry by holding a book drive. The project idea originated in District 21 with youth councils 250, 1024, 1018 and 1009 and adult councils 4568, 4738 and 4739 in the Ft. Worth area. San Antonio District 15 and Dallas District 3 LULAC Youth are also participating in this worthwhile cause by collecting books. The books will be distributed during an event that will offer children entertainment and games that promote the importance of reading. The project helps the community in two ways by offering books to children in the community in return for a canned food donation. The food will then go back to the community to help fight hunger. If your council would like to do a similar activity in your area please contact Mrs. Govea at g.govea@worldnet.att.net for more information and ideas.



LULAC National Youth President Manuel Olguin shares a book with a child from the community.

LULAC Youth Awards at National Convention



Robert Villareal, Jr. of Council 4780 was named Young Adult Man of the Year. (Photo by Luis Nuño Briones.)



Stephanie Rodriguez of council 4780 was named Young Adult Woman of the Year with Lt. Col. Consuelo Kickbusch. (Photo by Luis Nuño Briones.)



14th Annual Scholarship Reception in Lubbock, Texas



LULAC National President Hector Flores attended the 14th Annual Scholarship Reception held by Council 263.



LULAC Youth enjoy a soccer game during the District 3 Youth Picnic in Texas.

Left: Representatives for the Young Adult Council of the Year, Council 11096 of University of Nevada Las Vegas: Adam Jimenez, council member and Nicole Cordova, past president of Council 11096, who received the award from Lt. Col. Consuelo Kickbusch. (Photo by Luis Nuño Briones.)

Picture Unavailable: Lisbeth Lassiter of Council 4780 was named Young Adult Sponsor of the Year.

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for information in English

National LULAC President Empowers LULAC Women

"This stage is her claim. Her tan bronze skin shines with radiance and fame. She drives from generations full of love and life - she has deep rooted values, inner strength and might." Patricia Quiros- Garcia



LULAC Past President Belen Robles was appointed Advisor to the National President on the Census. (Photo by Luis Nuño Briones.)



LULAC Texas State Director Margaret Moran was appointed Chair of the Health Commission. (Photo by Luis Nuño Briones.)



Mary Alamendarez was appointed Advisor to the National President on Voter Registration.

By 2005, Latinas will be the largest female minority group in the United States. President Flores understands the impact Latina women have on our culture, local communities, nation-wide decisions, and our future. He appreciates their intuitive thinking, creativity, sensitivity and values based decision making. He embraces their tendency to reflect on decisions, weighing options and outcomes before moving to action. President Flores has great appreciation and respect for our Latina LULAC Women and has recently made the following appointments:

- Advisor to the National President on Census: Ms. Belen Robles
- Advisor to the National President on Voter Registration: Ms. Mary Almendarez
- Civil Rights Vice Chair and Counsel to the National President: Ms. Lena Levario
- Education Commission Vice Chair: Ms. Michele Bobadilla, Associate VP for Outreach Services, University of Texas
- Health Commission Chair: Ms. Margaret Moran, Texas LULAC State Director
- Housing Commission Chair: Ms. Julie Martinez
- National Chaplain: Ms. Queta Fierro
- Sergeant-at-Arms: Ms. Sylvia Gonzales
- Women's Commission Chair: Ms. Vera Marquez, LULAC VP for Women
- Members of the Women's Commission: Ms. Ana Hart, Multicultural Community Manager Corporate Public Relations, Tyson Food, Inc. and Ms. Rosa Rosales, LULAC VP for Southwest and Elsie Valdes, immediate past V P for the Southeast.

Empowered women empower others.



L-R: LULAC's Arkansas Deputy Director for Women's Affairs Ana Hart was appointed to serve on the Women's Commission. LULAC National Vice President for Women Vera Marquez was appointed Chair of the Women's Commission. Below: LULAC National Vice President for the SouthWest Rosa Rosales was appointed to serve on the Women's Commission. (Photos by Luis Nuño Briones.)



Above: Queta Fierro was appointed National Chaplain. Left: Michelle Bobadilla was appointed Education Commission Vice Chair. Not Pictured: Elsie Valdes was appointed member of the Women's Commission.

Ward Connerly and the Racial Privacy Initiative

By Gabriela D. Lemus, Ph.D.

University of California Regent Ward Connerly spearheaded a statewide initiative in California that would prevent the state from collecting or analyzing information about race, national origin, or ethnicity. The initiative, known as Proposition 54 – the Racial Privacy Initiative – was originally scheduled to appear on the March 2004 ballot, but will now be considered as part of the October 7 special election.

In the way of background, the Racial Privacy Initiative (RPI) Proposition 54 website states that “the state shall not classify any individual by race, ethnicity, color or national origin in the operation of public education, public contracting or public employment.” The RPI mission statement touts that the passage of RPI will end government’s preferential treatment based on race and that it will “signal America’s first step towards a color-blind society.” Yet, California law already states that it is illegal to give preferential treatment in jobs, contracting, and college admissions based on race or ethnicity.

Even when the state legislature perceives there to be a compelling state interest to classify a group Proposition 54 would place additional barriers by requiring that both houses of the state legislature approve the classification by 2/3 majority vote and obtain the governor’s approval. What is not clear is what impact this proposition would have on issues like redistricting, political empowerment of minority communities, and other important issues like racial profiling. Furthermore, Proposition 54 will make it more difficult to enforce “hate crime” laws across California because it eliminates data that law enforcement needs to track these crimes. On its face, it would appear that Proposition 54 sets some dangerous precedents.

Proposition 54 would eliminate access to data that is necessary to protect public health, improve our schools, and provide information necessary to enforce civil rights laws. Though there is some effort to make some exemptions, these appear to be deliberately vague and leave significant questions about how the initiative will actually affect healthcare, public health, and educational programs. Many academics and politicians

alike realize the importance of racial information and how it helps law enforcement and increases the effectiveness of medical research. Although, proponents say that there is a “medical exemption,” the exemption only allows doctors to keep racial data with regard to treatment of their patients. It does not allow public health officials to use population data to prevent diseases.

The California Medical Association and 40 other health groups concur with this assessment and have indicated that they are seriously concerned about this initiative as they feel it will make it more difficult to prevent diseases. For example, public health officials use statistics to target early detection of breast cancer and prostate cancer. Birth and death certificates include race data to help us respond to trends in fatal diseases and infant mortality. Racial data is used to identify groups at risk for infectious diseases such as AIDS, SARS, and Hepatitis B, so as to contain problems early and decrease the likelihood of spreading them to the general population.

The campaign appears to be a post-affirmative action backlash to the decision made by the Supreme Court on the University of Michigan case *Grutter v. Bollinger* this year when, the Supreme Court declared that the consideration of race is valuable. Perhaps more appalling is Mr. Connerly’s sense of mission to share this chilling effort with other states. In late June, Connerly took his show on the road to Michigan where he began a campaign to place a similar initiative on the November 2004 ballot known as the “Michigan Civil Rights Act.” Connerly has made it clear that he is not stopping in Michigan, “in the weeks and months ahead, we will be exploring the feasibility of undertaking initiatives in other states, cities, and counties across the land,” Connerly stated.

In his last great work, *Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community*, King wrote, “[i]ntegration is...a mutual sharing of power...Justice cannot be achieved without changes in the structure of society. This is a multiracial nation where all groups are dependent on each other...There is no white path to power, short of disaster, that

does not share power with black aspirations for freedom and human dignity.” To that we should add that power should be shared with all ethnicities and races, all peoples’ aspirations for freedom and human dignity.

King’s last words on affirmative action were spoken at the Washington Cathedral where he stated: “[t]he roots of racism are very deep in our country, and there must be something positive and massive in order to get rid of all the effects of racism and tragedies of racial injustice.”

We as a society must embrace affirmative action for what Dr. King foresaw and attempted to create – an effort to build inclusiveness and racial equity. The purpose of affirmative action has never been to grant color preferences. The purpose of gathering data is to make wiser and more informed public policy decisions.

LULAC Facts

The Numbers Tell the Story

- Hispanic women now make up 4.7 of the total work force, whose rate of growth exceeded 100% over the past 10 years.
- Hispanic women exceed their total representation as sales workers, clericals, service workers, and laborers.
- The crop production industry employs the largest percentage of Hispanic women in the private sector.

Sources: A study produced by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). A full report is available at www.eeoc.gov

Your Government

Your Patent & Trademark Depository Library

"An Invaluable Tool for Communities"

Contributed by Mary Gomez

For over 200 years, Congress has enacted laws relating to patents based on the Constitution of the United States, Article I, section 8, "Congress shall have power... to promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries." Under this system of protection, American industry has flourished. New products have been invented, new uses for old ones discovered, and employment opportunities created for millions of Americans.

To this end the primary functions of the United States Patent and Trademark Office are to grant patents and register trademarks. Through the issuance of patents, technological advancement is encouraged by providing incentives to invent, invest in, and disclose new technology. Through the registration of trademarks, businesses are assisted in protecting their investments while promoting goods and services, and consumers are safeguarded against confusion and deception in the marketplace. By disseminating both patent and trademark information, the USPTO promotes an understanding of intellectual property protection and facilitates the development and sharing of new technologies.

To assist individuals seeking information on patents and trademarks the USPTO has designated Patent and Trademark Depository Libraries (PTDL) around the country. These special libraries receive and house copies of U.S. patent and trademark documents, make them freely available to the public, and actively disseminate patent and trademark information. There are a total of 86 PTDLs nationwide including two PTDLs in Puerto Rico, which are a bilingual resource to Latin countries.

The presence of a PTDL is valued because it is a rich local resource for small businesses, research and development firms, university and governmental laboratories, and independent inventors and entrepreneurs. Conducting a patent or trademark search at a PTDL can help you find out if someone has already filed for a patent or trademark. Access to basic materials is free and a PTDL

representative provides expert assistance in the usage of the materials.

A quick visit to the USPTO website will provide you with the location of the nearest PTDL. For library locations and additional information on the Patent and Trademark Depository Library Program, please visit our web site at: <http://www.uspto.gov/go/ptdl>. It is always best to call ahead before visiting a PTDL and make sure that the PTDL representative or other knowledgeable staff will be available to assist you.

As a final note, Hispanic Americans have made many contributions to this nation's social and economic well being. Hispanics have received patents in various technology areas including medical, biotech, and other health-related fields. For example, at a PTDL you can check out the patents issued to the Hispanic female astronaut, Dr. Ellen Ochoa. *Learn about other Hispanic inventors at your local PTDL Library.*



Dr. Ellen Ochoa became the first Hispanic female astronaut in 1990. She is also the co-inventor on three patents for optical information-processing equipment. The equipment uses an optical system or laser light to extract information from an image rather than using an electronic or computer system. Her patents were for an optical inspection system in 1987 (patent 4674824), an optical object recognition method in 1989 (patent 4838644), as well as a method for noise removal in images in 1990 (patent 4949389). Ochoa was born in Los Angeles in 1958.

The Latest Findings from the U.S. Census Bureau

- Hispanics are more geographically concentrated than non-Hispanic Whites.
- Hispanics are more likely than non-Hispanic Whites to live inside central cities of metropolitan areas.
- Hispanics are more likely than non-Hispanic Whites to be under the age 18.
- Two in five Hispanics are foreign born.
- Hispanics live in family households that tend to be larger than those of non-Hispanic Whites.
- More than two in five Hispanics aged 25 and older have not graduated from high school.
- Educational attainment varies among Hispanics.
- Hispanics are much more likely than non-Hispanic Whites to be unemployed.
- Hispanics and non-Hispanic Whites have different occupational distributions.
- Hispanic workers earn less than non-Hispanic White workers.
- Hispanics are more likely than non-Hispanic Whites to live in poverty.

For more information please visit www.census.gov

HISPANIC LEADERSHIP

Leading the Way

A Former Ambassador Epitomizes the American Dream



The Honorable Raul Castro with Dr. John David Arnold, President and Founder of PPEP Farmworker Council #1088.

PPEP Farmworker Council #1088 is proud to have Raul Hector Castro as one of their members. Mr. Castro, arguably the most distinguished member of the council, has a resume that touts such accomplishments as becoming the governor of Arizona and serving as the ambassador to El Salvador, Bolivia, and Argentina.

Mr. Castro was born in Cananea, Sonora, Mexico, in 1916 and his story is an inspiring one of achieving the American dream. Mr. Castro's father was a deep-sea diver and a copper miner and his mother was a midwife. His family moved to Pirtleville, near Douglas, Arizona when he was young where the Spanish language was forbidden and segregation was a way of life. He was the thirteenth of fourteen children and when he was twelve his father passed away. Despite the challenges he faced he went on to graduate with honors from Douglas High School and from Arizona State College.

Castro decided to leave Arizona for California after he was denied a teaching position by the Douglas school board. In California he made a living picking fruit and boxing professionally and a year later he got a job with the U.S. State Department in Agua Prieta, Mexico. After five years on the job he learned there was not much chance to advance, so he decided to go to law school

at the University of Arizona and became a U.S. citizen. After practicing law for five years, Castro was named Pima County attorney in Arizona and later served as a judge for the Pima County Superior Court. President Lyndon Johnson appointed Mr. Castro to be the U.S. ambassador to El Salvador and four years later he served as ambassador to Bolivia. He made history in 1974

when he became the first Mexican-American to be elected Governor of Arizona. After completing two years of his four-year term as governor, Castro was tapped by President Jimmy Carter to serve as ambassador to Argentina from 1977 to 1980.

LULAC Leader Appointed to Board of Trustees



LULAC Council 4703 president Cruz Hinojosa, Jr. was recently appointed to be a member of the Galena Park Independent School District Board of Trustees in Texas. Mr. Hinojosa is very involved with his community serving as president of the board of directors at the Galena Park Community Resource Center, which provides job-related classes for youth and adults. Mr. Hinojosa is also a member of the Knights of Columbus, a Catholic fraternal organization which do-

nates millions to numerous charities. Under Mr. Hinojosa's leadership LULAC members have been able to raise \$6,200 for scholarships and Council 4703 has three youth councils and one young adult council under their sponsorship.

LULAC Leader Recognized and Honored



Representative Danny K. Davis (D-IL), LULAC National VP for the Midwest Blanca Vargas and Representative Luis Gutierrez (D-IL).

LULAC National VP for the Midwest was recently recognized and honored by the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace. The award was presented on June 24 in Washington, DC to those who have demonstrated uncommon dedication to the principle of living for the sake of others and working to overcome the barriers dividing people of different races, religions, nationalities, and cultures.

Submission Criteria

We would like to include as much as possible in the LULAC News. To ensure quality and accuracy please be sure to properly label all information that you submit. If sending photos, please send high resolution photos and be sure to provide sufficient information on each photo.

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LNSF Makes a Difference



Raquel Egusquiza highlights the Ford Motor Company Fund's long-time support of the LNSF and their sponsorship of LNESC's new marketing pieces at the LULAC National Convention in Orlando. (Photo by Luis Nuño Briones.)

"I wasn't the brightest student in high school, but I realized that I needed to go to college if I ever wanted to get anywhere," says Ian Durnan a sophomore pursuing a degree in Business Management at the University of Arizona and a recipient of a scholarship from the LULAC National Scholarship Fund (LNSF) from Council 1057 in Phoenix, Arizona. And he's right. While the grandparents of today's high school and college aged students could access the workforce without a high school diploma, an increasing reliance on technology and a highly skilled and specialized workforce have turned the high school diploma into a minimum requirement for employment. Today's labor market is becoming more diverse, technology based, and specialized and requires post secondary education in order to secure access to it and higher paying jobs.

"I was worried about having to accumulate thirty thousand dollars of debt before I even started working. I mean there are so many other payments to make: rent, car, etc. It's hard to imagine worrying about college loans as well." Ian explained, referring to the financial barriers that have proven to be powerful detriments to the success of students around the country, especially among Hispanics. According to a recent

study by the Hispanic Scholarship Fund Institute, Hispanic students received the least amount of financial aid through grants and work-study and the highest amount of loans outside of non-Hispanic Whites. This barrier combined with the poor quality of Hispanic secondary education, rising tuition, and room and board costs around the country are making the completion of college education a powerful challenge for Hispanic students.

To ensure that young Hispanics have the ability to attend college, LULAC chapters made it part of their mission to raise funds in their communities in order to provide local Hispanic students with financial support to pursue a college education by establishing the LULAC National Scholarship Fund (LNSF). LNSF started in the 1930's making it the oldest Hispanic scholarship fund in the country. For four decades, the LNSF grew around the country and spread to new areas as the Hispanic population became more mobile. In 1975, the LNSF came into its present incarnation when it became incorporated into the organizational structure called the LULAC National Education Service Center (LNESC).

The LNSF is like no other scholarship program in that through the activity of LULAC Councils nationwide it brings the Hispanic community and corporate America together for the advancement of educational opportunities available to promising young Hispanic students. LNESC, the administrator of the program, serves as the liaison between the two sectors. Working with major national corporations such as the Ford Motor Company Fund, the Procter & Gamble Company, Blockbuster Inc., Shell Oil Company and Chevron-Texaco, LNESC is helping to ease the severe financial burden the cost of a college education places on Hispanic families. "Without the support of our corporate partners, the LNSF would not be able to make the impact it does in the Hispanic community," says Richard Roybal, Executive Director of LNESC.

Every year with the help of LULAC Councils and its corporate partners, LNESC awards over 1,100 students with scholar-

ships through the LNSF ranging from \$500 to \$5,000. Though small awards seem somewhat insignificant when placed against the overall costs of college which can range anywhere from \$1,750 for a community college to \$13,000 for a state college and \$37,000 for a private university, they make a big difference. "Small awards allow students the freedom to be able to focus on their studies or help pay for books, which is something that is not included in tuition or room and board and usually has to come straight out of the pocket of the family. Considering books can be as expensive as five hundred dollars per semester, LNESC considers even the small awards substantial because the family is spared that expense," said Charles Tamez, Director of Development for LNESC.

"I never realized how much time it really took to earn \$500." Ian said about working, "I am lucky that organizations like LULAC give scholarships. Instead of having to work, I can devote that time to my studies." Celebrating thirty years of commitment to the Hispanic community, LNESC through LNSF continues to make a difference by providing recipients the ability to focus on completing their studies and the freedom from having to worry about the expense of college. Both are essential components to ensuring that Hispanics will be able to participate in the workforce at the highest levels.



LNESC Executive Director, Richard Roybal discusses Procter & Gamble's support of LNESC with Maria Molina, Procter & Gamble's Director of Hispanic Corporate Relations. (Photo by Luis Nuño Briones.)

Going (u)p

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LULAC and Freddie Mac Offer "Train the Trainer Sessions"

As most of you already know, LULAC has partnered with Freddie Mac to teach financial education in Hispanic communities. Now you have the opportunity to become actively involved in teaching these skills to your community. Through financial education, Freddie Mac designed *CreditSmart Español* to combat the housing gap among minorities in the US. While Anglo-Americans have a home ownership rate of about 74% the homeownership rate of Hispanic-Americans is only about 48%. Obviously we have long way to go before we reach parity.

Beginning in late October, LULAC and Freddie Mac will offer "Train the Trainer" workshops in five LULAC communities. If you live in Philadelphia, Houston, Dallas, Tucson, or Los Angeles and would like to become involved in this exciting and extremely beneficial new program, please contact Miguel Fernández at (202) 833-6130 or email him at MFernandez@LULAC.org

Managing Your Money

Promoting Financial Literacy with
Freddie Mac's CreditSmart Español

CreditSmart Español Program, a partnership between Freddie Mac and LULAC, is designed to help us manage our money and plan for the future by creating and maintaining good credit. The program will actively assist in delivering to consumers, valuable financial literacy and consumer credit education developed by Freddie Mac. As part of this program, LULAC has decided to include a series of financial tips from the program in the next several issues of the *LULAC News*. In the last issue of the *LULAC News*, we covered the third part of the series that discussed the importance of sticking to a budget. In this issue we will discuss good spending habits.

The Role and Importance of Good Spending Habits

To further assist you in developing a budget and a savings plan, you will need to examine your spending habits by asking yourself the following questions:

- Are you currently unable to save money?
- Have you reached your credit card limit?
- Are you able to make only the minimum required payments on your credit cards?
- Are you buying things simply to make you feel good?

Spending Habits

- Are you frequently buying merchandise only to return it upon discovering you have no need for it?
- Are you consistently "borrowing" from your savings or emergency fund to pay for current obligations?
- Do your monthly debts (excluding your mortgage or rent) exceed 20% of your monthly take-home pay?
- Have your creditors asked you to return any credit cards or have you been denied credit?

If you answered yes to any of the above questions, then you need to step back and take a closer look at your spending habits because you may be at risk of damaging your credit and setting yourself up for financial difficulties. Remember if you save you can take advantage of potential investments and avoid future financial disasters.

Savings equal stability and opportunity!

Continued from page 3.



LULAC National President Hector Flores with U.S. Air Force representatives during the LULAC National Convention in Orlando, Florida this past June.

It is also the largest and oldest Hispanic association and offers the best chance of recruiting more Hispanics, which is something that is sorely needed due to the low numbers of Hispanics in the Air Force. During that time we not only started a LULAC chapter but we were also founding members of the Defense Advisory Council for Hispanic Issues (DACHI). DACHI was formed to assist the Department of Defense in increasing its total Hispanic representation and in securing an equitable share of leadership positions for Hispanics.

Thanks to LULAC President Flores' visionary efforts the Orlando 2003 convention was a Air Force success for all participating in every way. The Air Force was always present in significant numbers and recognized

in one form or another at every major event and during every day of the convention. Aside from LULAC's teamwork our success was possible because of the Air Force Reserve Human Resources Development Council (AFRC/HRDC) outreach efforts. Over the past few years, the AFRC/HRDC has held its quarterly meetings in conjunction with LULAC. They have attended in significant numbers for the last six or seven conventions as part of their minority outreach yearly plan. In the process they have founded many chapters of LULAC and have many LULAC members.

Because of all our mutual efforts, we now have a signed Memorandum of Understanding between the Air Force and LULAC that will benefit all Hispanics and our country for many years to come. We are all very pleased with our relationship and look forward to even closer ties in the future.



Brigadier General Jose M. Portela, Mobilization Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs.

Searching for Peace

Recently Puerto Rico LULAC commemorated the second anniversary of the terrorist attacks on September 11th in New York, the Pentagon and Pennsylvania. On this occasion we celebrated the heroic acts that took place during that tragedy by holding a conference with students from the Superior School in Vega Alta. The conference was called "Searching for Peace."

The purpose of the program was to teach alternative and positive ways to resolve our differences by always seeking peace. Another objective of the program was to reflect on the historical events that have produced significant changes in human development. In addition, participants were able to share their concerns about September 11th so that each could learn to effectively deal with their fears and insecurities. Parents and children alike participated in the event. The program was offered by the following persons: Monsignor Francisco Concepción – of the Catholic Church of Vega Alta, Reverend Carmen J. Laredón – Pastor of the Discipulos de Cristo Church located in the school's community and Mr. Walter Rivera, Sergeant of the Armed Forces for the U.S. Army.

The LULAC education center of Bayamón was presented with a plaque to recognize their work to support and foster peace. Also present at the event was Mr. Axel Calderón, Coordinator for LNESEC, Mrs. Gladys Romero, VP for Elderly of Puerto Rico and Haydée Rivera, VP National for the Southeast. The conference was a real success.

The below photo was taken during the "Searching for Peace" conference in Puerto Rico.



HEALTH CORNER

Su Salud

LUNG CANCER:

The Second Leading Cause of Death Among Hispanics

Hispanic Facts and Figures

- Cancer is the second major cause of death among Hispanic adults.
- In 2003, an estimated 3,900 Hispanics will die from lung cancer, and an additional 4,500 will be diagnosed.
- Lung cancer is the fourth most common cancer among Hispanic men and women.
- Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths in Hispanic men and the second leading cause of cancer deaths among women.
- From 1992 to 1999, death rates from lung cancer have declined among Hispanic men on average 1.9% whereas death rates for Hispanic women have not decreased significantly
- Most lung cancer cases are smoking-related (87%). Quitting reduces your lung cancer risk significantly, although former smokers are still at greater risk compared to people who never smoked. Risk declines with the number of years of smoking cessation.
- Approximately 67,400 new cases of lung cancer will be diagnosed in 2003 among Hispanics.
- Recent advances in treatment have increased survival rates and improved the quality of life of patients. Thanks to these new treatments, the cure rate for lung cancer has doubled over the last 30 years.

* Facts taken from the 2003 - 2005 Hispanic Cancer Facts and Figures published by the American Cancer Society.

Hispanics & Lung Cancer: A Deadly Combination

More hope than ever exists for people with lung cancer or those at risk, due to advances in detection methods and new and existing treatment regimens. Although lung cancer is the fourth most deadly form of cancer within the Hispanic community, it is a treatable and survivable disease when detected early.

Did you know?

- In 2003, lung cancer claimed the lives of 3,900 Hispanics nationwide and is the leading cause of cancer deaths among Hispanic males.
- Knowing the risks and receiving an early diagnosis can help detect the disease at a more treatable stage and ultimately save lives.
- Most lung cancer cases are smoking-related and the risk for lung cancer increases with the quantity, duration, and intensity of smoking.
- Quitting smoking reduces a person's lung cancer risk significantly, although former smokers are still at greater risk compared to people who never smoked.
- Other lung cancer risk factors include exposure to arsenic, asbestos, air pollution, environmental tobacco smoke, some organic chemicals, radon, and tuberculosis.

More information about lung cancer is available on www.cancerdepulmon.org, the official Web site of the public awareness campaign, *It's Time To Focus On Lung Cancer*. This national campaign is encouraging the Hispanic community to learn their lung cancer risks and seek an early diagnosis.

Cancerdepulmon.org (lungcancer.org) offers informational and supportive services for people at risk or those living with lung cancer and their loved ones, as well as information for health care professionals. Lungcancer.org also offers the following resources in Spanish:

Lung Cancer Briefs – providing information about the stages and symptoms of the disease, tips on how to communicate with your doctor, and ways to get involved in a clinical trial.

Educational Slide Kits – offering healthcare professionals lung cancer information to review with patients and caregivers.

It's Time To Focus On Lung Cancer is sponsored by Cancer Care, Inc., Oncology Nursing Society, and The CHEST Foundation.

November 17-21 is Lung Cancer Awareness Week

WHAT: *Lung Cancer Awareness Week* is focused on encouraging early diagnosis and offering educational and emotional support to lung cancer patients and their loved ones. Lung cancer is the number one cancer killer in America, yet is often diagnosed in the latest stages. Raising awareness of the disease can lead to earlier detection and can extend lives for people with lung cancer.

WHEN: *Lung Cancer Awareness Week* is Nov. 17 - 21. *The Great American Smokeout* is (Thursday, Nov. 20.)

WHY: Lung cancer kills more Americans each year than breast, prostate, and colorectal cancer combined, yet compared to other cancers, is dramatically under-reported in the media.

Lung cancer is increasingly a women's disease. Women now account for nearly half of all new lung cancer cases. Since 1987, more women have died each year of lung cancer than breast cancer.

New screening methods are being developed that may detect lung cancer in the early stages of disease, when it is most treatable and survivable.

Lung cancer can be prevented by not smoking; and quitting smoking can reduce the risk.

Call the Lung Cancer Toll-Free at 1-877-646-LUNG (5864) or go to www.lungcancer.org

President Bush Congratulates Hector Flores on being named National Leader of the Year



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 2003

Mr. Hector M. Flores
National President
League of United Latin American Citizens
Suite 610
2000 L Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036



Dear Hector:

Congratulations on being named National Leader of the Year by
Hispanic Journal.

As the leader of our Nation's oldest and largest Hispanic civil rights organization, you have played an important role in helping ensure that citizens have the opportunity to realize the full promise of America. Your hard work and dedication help make a difference in the lives of people across the country.

Hispanic Americans have contributed to every walk of contemporary American life, while simultaneously preserving the unique customs and traditions of their ancestors. The Hispanic-American community exemplifies commitment to family, love of country, and respect for others, and nobly reflects the American spirit.

Laura joins me in sending our best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush



Frank Ros, a representative of the Coca Cola Company, received a sponsorship appreciation award during the LULAC National Convention in Orlando, Florida this year.



LULAC Youth and Young Adults with Air Force representatives at the Air Force Breakfast during the LULAC National Convention in Orlando, Florida this year. (Photos by Luis Nufio Briones.)

Yes! I want to be a LULAC member!

All persons who are residents of the United States or are U.S. citizens residing abroad, are 18 years of age or older, and whose loyalty to our country is unquestionable, are eligible for membership in LULAC. LULAC members receive a copy of the LULAC Constitution, a membership card, a membership pin, and a complimentary subscription to the *LULAC NEWS*.

- ☐ I want to join LULAC as an active member. Please send me information on councils in my home area.
- ☐ I want to join LULAC as an associate member. Please find a check of \$25 enclosed.
- ☐ I want to become a lifetime member of LULAC. Enclosed is a contribution in the amount of \$1,000.
- ☐ My company would like to join LULAC as a corporate associate. Enclosed is a contribution of \$1,000.
- ☐ Please send me information on how I can start a LULAC council in my hometown.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Work Phone _____ Home Phone _____

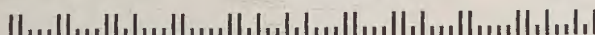
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