



Cy-Fair Republican Women

NEWSLETTER
March 2006



Jan's Jottings

We are in the midst of a very busy time politically, which presents us with opportunities and challenges us to be involved in order to make a difference. I know many of you have been helping with primary candidates and their campaigns and attending the forums and meet the candidate events. We have certainly had a very lively debate for the Senatorial District 7 seat and I expect that we will probably be having a run-off campaign and election as well. It is very important for our district to be well represented in the State Senate and we cannot forget the importance of some of the judicial races as well.

I know your mail boxes have been full with campaign literature and "sample ballots". One of our goals as a club is to "help promote an informed electorate through political education". Although, by the time you read this you probably have already voted, I hope that you carefully looked at where this material came from before you let it influence your decisions. Sometimes, it may come from a group whose opinions you value and others that you may want to view with skepticism. Always look at who puts out the material and consider if money changes hands for the endorsements. Just as Cy-Fair Republican Women are a PAC, all campaign material is financed by a PAC. As we talked about at the last meeting, a PAC may only be a couple of people. You can always look on the Texas Ethics Commissions website at <http://www.ethics.state.tx.us/> to see who is financing the PAC.



**CFRW UPCOMING DATES
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**



March 14 ... CFRW Meeting
March 21 ... GHC Meeting -
Don Carlson, speaker
March 25 ... Senatorial District Convention
April 11 ... Primary runoff Date

After the runoff election, if necessary, we will be getting into full swing for the general election. We all need to do what we can to make sure that Republicans are successful all the way down the ballot. You will be hearing more about GOTV (Get Out The Vote) efforts as time goes on. We cannot take any of the races for granted.

In the meantime, we have a really great way to help out in working toward these goals and that is our upcoming "High Heels & High Tea" luncheon, silent auction and fashion show. This is going to be an event that will be a lot of fun and a way to raise money to support our candidates. Invite your friends for a little shopping, lunch, and of course, who doesn't enjoy a fashion show! I have been listening in on Kay Waghorne and her committee and I can assure you they have wonderful plans underway. You will not be disappointed. One little thing I must mention, they really need you to support them by selling tickets (should be easy for such a great event), and helping out with some of the work. How perfect is this – work toward the cause of good government, and have a lot of fun along the way.



MINUTES

February 14, 2006

CY-FAIR REPUBLICAN WOMEN

The meeting was called to order by president, Jan Ott, at 7:15 p.m. at the home of Marketa Fisher. Dawn Shull led the invocation and pledges.

Candidates Barbara Larson, State Representative District #133, Judge McCulloch, District 4 Probate Judge, Orlando Sanchez, County Treasurer, and spokesmen for Beverly Malazzo, 315th District Juvenile Court each spoke for 5 minutes. All candidates had been invited.

Carolyn Hodges, Greater Houston Council President, spoke about the importance of attending precinct conventions and how the grass roots process evolves into the Republican Party platform.

The January general meeting minutes were approved as printed in the February newsletter.

Kay Waghorne reported that the membership book is complete and once your 2006 dues are paid you will receive a book. We made \$3400 on ad sales from the book. The High Tea & High Heels fashion show committee has started work with a target date of May 6. She would like someone to take over as publicity chairman.

Dawn Shull announced that if anyone has any problem receiving the newsletter to let her know. Mary Moss has prepared flyers about the club to put out at precincts for election day. Also, she will take your orders for name tags. Rita Parrish reminded everyone to turn in their volunteer hours to her.

Jan Ott spoke about "soft money" and campaign literature. She reported that you can look on the Texas Ethics Commission's website to view the source of the monies.

Rita Parrish reported on the TFRW Leadership Workshop in Austin and Jan asked for a volunteer to take over Community Service since Mika has moved.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by,
Madonna Morris for Kitty Berger, Secretary CFRW



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Legislative Report:

More than four years later, the security within our borders is still uppermost on the mind of the public as evidenced by the amount of controversy and active legislation that has just been passed or is pending in Congress.

1. The USA Patriot Act

The Senate passed the USA Patriot Act on March 2, 2006, by a vote of 89 to 10. The Act was scheduled to expire on March 10, 2006. With the Senate's passage, it will be forwarded to the House which is expected to approve the bill and it is expected to be signed into law by the President before the expiration date. Even though there have not been any actual complaints or reported incidents or examples of civil liberties violations in the approximate four years since it was first passed, the Senate caved to the extensive media pressure and added *thirty (30)* new significant civil liberties safeguards. These "safeguards" impose additional authorization, reporting and other massive administrative requirements and prerequisites for surveillance and other measures. For more information on those additional purported protections of civil liberties, you may view the Press Release at www.lifeandliberty.gov.

2. Placing a Hold on Acquisition of British Company Managing U.S. Ports by Dubai Ports World

Due to the significant public outcry, which for once matched the media rampage against President Bush, Congress has acted to place a moratorium on the Dubai Ports World acquisition resulting in its potential management of certain U.S. port terminals. Senate Bill 2333 was passed on February 27, 2006, requiring an investigation under the Defense Production Act of 1950 regarding the acquisition by Dubai Ports World of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company. The President's decision to allow the acquisition is suspending pending a 45-day investigation by Congress.

3. Immigration Issues and Senate Hearings Held to End Border Violence

Our own Senator John Cornyn chaired the hearing on "Federal Strategies to End Border Violence." The hearing focused on the increase in violence that has been occurring along the Mexican border. Senator Cornyn co-authored the Comprehensive Enforcement and Immigration Reform Act of 2005, S. 4138.

The Senate Judiciary Committee began debate on comprehensive immigration reform on March 2, 2006, and the full Senate will begin floor debate on March 27th.



Campaign Activities:

We hope everyone voted in the primary election and we also hope you all attended your precinct convention on election night after the polls closed. If so you were a part of a real grass roots process and perhaps some of our members are now delegates to the Senatorial District Convention which will be held in the Houston area. Please report your hours if you worked on any candidate's campaign or worked at the polls. Also if you attended your precinct convention the time spent there is counted as volunteer hours. We need volunteer hours in this activity to earn award points for our club.

Now that the primary is over there will probably be run-offs coming up. Senator Hutchison will be at the top of the ticket and it will be very important to support all our Republican candidates. We will all need to work hard to make sure that all these candidates are elected. By volunteering to help in any way needed we can feel confident that we put our best effort into assuring our future political goals will be met.

Again – please report all volunteer hours to Rita Parrish by e-mail repparrish@hotmail.com or by phone 281-376-1616.





Membership:

We now have our own stylish name tags. Come prepared to order your very own hard plastic, magnetic backed, personalized name tag at our next meeting. The cost is \$15.00.



Ways and Means:

We are hard at work on your fashion show, lunch and silent auction, *High Heels and High Tea*. It will be held on May 6 at Raveneaux Country Club. Tickets are \$50 per person. The success of this event will require participation and promotion by all of our members. If you can help, that's great. Give Kay a call and she will find something for you to help with. We are hoping that every member will bring two guests. Each one of you will receive 3 tickets to sell. If you need more, please let me know. They will be mailed to you shortly.



Publicity:

Micheline Hutson has graciously agreed to be our Publicity Chairman. I know she will be looking for ways to further our exposure in the community. If you have any publicity ideas or have any publications that you would like to see CFRW advertised in please send Micheline an email to: mhutson@sbcglobal.net.

We currently have a recurring monthly ad in Krenek publications for both the Katy and Hwy. 6 area papers. We are also in the Sun papers, Longwood Cardinal, and the Leader. Please let Micheline know if you are not seeing these ads in your paper.



Americanism:

Elizabeth Mitchell, Americanism chair suggests some good books about America that we might enjoy. She will review *Founding Brothers* at the next meeting.

• *1776* by David McCoullough

“With this book, two-time Pulitzer Prize winner David McCoullough....sets the grassroots fervency of the outnumbered colonists against the mighty United Kingdom, the world’s only superpower. ...*1776* captures history at its most human level. He takes the reader...on the arduous journey of Henry Knox, a Boston bookseller who dragged tons of heavy British artillery to turn the tide in the siege of Boston. America at its most heroic; history at its finest.” (<http://search.barnesandnoble.com>)

• *Founding Brothers* by Joseph J. Ellis

“In *Founding Brothers*, Joseph J. Ellis reveals that many of those truths we hold to be self-evident were actually fiercely contested in the early days of the republic. Ellis focuses on six crucial moments in the life of the new nation... . Throughout the text, Ellis explains the personal, face-to-face nature of early American politics—and notes that the members of the revolutionary generation were conscious of the fact that they were establishing precedents on which future generations would rely.” (<http://www.amazon.com>)

• *Team of Rivals* by Doris Kearns Goodwin 4.

“In *Team of Rivals*, esteemed historian Doris Kearns ... is focused enough to offer fresh insights into Lincoln’s leadership style and his deep understanding of human behavior and motivation. Goodwin makes the case for Lincoln’s political genius by examining his relationships with three men he selected for his cabinet, all of whom were opponents for the Republican nomination in 1860: William H. Seward, Salmon P. Chase, and Edward Bates. These men... were shocked and humiliated at losing to this relatively obscure Illinois lawyer. Yet Lincoln not only convinced them to join his administration...he ultimately gained their admiration and respect as well. ... Had he not possessed the wisdom and confidence to select and work with the best people, she argues, he could not have led the nation through one of its darkest periods.” (<http://www.amazon.com>)

• *1912: Wilson, Roosevelt, Taft & Debs-The Election that Changed the Country* by James Chace.

“Chace recounts all the excitement and pathos of a singular moment in American history: the crucial primaries, the Republicans’ bitter nominating convention that forever split the party, Wilson’s stunning victory on the forty-sixth ballot at the Democratic convention, Roosevelt’s spectacular coast-to-coast whistle-stop electioneering, Taft’s stubborn refusal to fight back against his former mentor, Debs’s electrifying campaign appearances, and Wilson’s “accidental election” by less than a majority of the popular vote.”(<http://books.google.com/>)



**MEETING/LUNCHEON
TUESDAY MORNING
MARCH 14**

Romero's Las Brazas Mexican Cantina

**15703 Longenbaugh (at Hwy 6), Houston,
TX 77095**

09:30 Social/Coffee

10:00 CFRW Meeting

Lunch following the meeting

Must have RSVP's if attending the lunch no later than Monday, March 13, 2006

\$3.00 per person (without lunch) \$15.00 per person (with lunch)

RSVP: J.ott@wcthou.com or 281-859-6464

Judge Janice Law, the author of *Sex Appealed*, will be our speaker this month. In her book she unravels an account based on original research—personal interviews with both key and behind-the-scenes figures, many of whom have never spoken publicly. Judge Law explores pervasive rumors that the events of September 17, 1998, were a prearranged, orchestrated set-up designed to test Texas Penal Statute 21.06—a too perfect case.

Judge Law was on the bench during the time period of *Lawrence v. Texas* and knows many of the participants. She has worked as both a federal and state prosecutor, and has also done indigent criminal defense. Before becoming an attorney, she worked for 14 years as a journalist. She currently serves as a visiting judge.

Sex Appealed was honored by being selected for the annual Book Fair & Authors' Night sponsored by the National Press Club, Washington, D.C. on Nov. 17. Authors submitted about 600 books to the NPC committee which chose approximately 60 for the prestigious event.



The person who was to become St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, was born in Wales about AD 385. His given name was Maewyn, and he almost didn't get the job of bishop of Ireland because he lacked the required scholarship. Far from being a saint, until he was 16, he considered himself a pagan. At that age, he was sold into slavery by a group of Irish marauders that raided his village. During his captivity, he became closer to God. He escaped from slavery after six years and went to Gaul where he studied in the monastery under St. Germain, bishop of Auxerre for a period of twelve years. During his training he became aware that his calling was to convert the pagans to Christianity.

His wishes were to return to Ireland, to convert the native pagans to Christianity. But his superiors instead appointed St. Palladius. But two years later, Palladius transferred to Scotland. Patrick, having adopted that Christian name earlier, was then appointed as second bishop to Ireland. Patrick was quite successful at winning converts. And this fact upset the Celtic Druids. Patrick was arrested several times, but escaped each time. He traveled throughout Ireland, establishing monasteries across the country. He also set up schools and churches which would aid him in his conversion of the Irish country to Christianity. His mission in Ireland lasted for thirty years. After that time, Patrick retired to County Down. He died on March 17 in AD 461. That day has been commemorated as St. Patrick's Day ever since.

Much Irish folklore surrounds St. Patrick's Day. Not much of it is actually substantiated. Some of this lore includes the belief that Patrick raised people from the dead. He also is said to have given a sermon from a hilltop that drove all the snakes from Ireland. Of course, no snakes were ever native to Ireland, and some people think this is a metaphor for the conversion of the pagans. Though originally a Catholic holy day, St. Patrick's Day has evolved into more of a secular holiday. One traditional icon of the day is the shamrock. And this stems from a more bona fide Irish tale that tells how Patrick used the three-leafed shamrock to explain the Trinity. He used it in his sermons to represent how the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit could all exist as separate elements of the same entity. His followers adopted the custom of wearing a shamrock on his feast day.

The St. Patrick's Day custom came to America in 1737. That was the first year St. Patrick's Day was publicly celebrated in this country, in Boston. Today, people celebrate the day with parades, wearing of the green, and drinking beer. One reason St. Patrick's Day might have become so popular is that it takes place just a few days before the first day of spring. One might say it has become the first green of spring.

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Also available on the Web at www.wilstar.com



Affiliations:
National Federation of Republican Women
Texas Federation of Republican Women
Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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Important links:

<http://www.CFRW.net> - Cy-Fair Republican Women

<http://thomas.loc.gov/> - Texts of bills are updated several times a day.

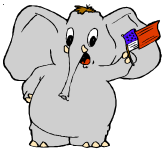
<http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/> - Updates on what is going on in the Texas legislature.

<http://www.texaspolicy.com/> - The Texas Public Policy Foundation produces academically sound research on important issues.

<http://www.ghcrwpac.org> – Greater Houston Council

<http://www.tfrw.org> – Texas Federation of Republican Women

<http://www.sos.state.tx.us> - Texas Secretary of State web site offers more information on proposed constitutional amendments.



A rigid economy of the public contributions and absolute interdiction of all useless expenses will go far towards keeping the government honest and unoppressive.

Thomas Jefferson, letter to Lafayette, 1823