



Cy-Fair Republican Women

NEWSLETTER
July 2006

Jan's Jottings



I hope you all are enjoying a little fun and relaxation this summer, but, I do hope that you will still take a little time out from your "fun in the sun" to join us for some interesting programs and some time to share your friendship and ideas with each other at our meetings. We will continue to meet each month this summer. You may have some teacher friends that are available to attend meetings while they are off from school – be sure to bring them with you.

You won't want to miss our program this month with Representatives Van Arsdale and Bohac. There has been a lot of heated rhetoric about the bills that were passed during the special session. Keep in mind that this was a package of **five** bills that were passed which include a lot of items that I think most everyone can agree were very positive moves and alternatively, brings about questions and concerns surrounding other portions. I am sure you have heard the controversy about the business tax. The Tax Reform Commission, made up of former Texas Comptroller John Sharp and 24 business leaders representing various Texas industries, aimed to reduce property tax and close loop holes where currently, 1 in 16 Texas businesses pay any business taxes. We have all been clamoring for property tax relief and, according to independent analyses, these business taxes are dedicated to doing exactly that. Our July meeting is a great opportunity to ask questions and

learn more about these bills and the decisions made in passing them.

When we evaluate what our Representatives do here in Texas or in Washington, I am sure we can agree on one point and that is, even as Republicans we will disagree and debate. Our time to disagree amongst Republicans was in the primary. It is time now for us to all work together and to keep in mind that even if we only agree with a portion of what one of our Republicans stands for, we can almost be absolutely certain that it is a lot more than what we would agree with the opposition. The divisiveness on some issues is making a lot of our very good candidates very vulnerable. We must keep this in mind as we get out there and work to get our Republicans elected. Campaigns are getting organized now so that they will be ready to really start running hard very soon. We want our Cy-Fair Republican Women out there helping and making a difference.

Besides our interesting meeting this month, our August meeting will feature not only another great speaker, but, we have also planned it to be a more social event. It will be a good time to bring husbands and friends (*potential members!*). In September we will focus on membership and hope that everyone will bring at least one guest.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone on July 11 and hope that most of you will be able to also stay for lunch. It gives us more time to get to know everyone better and just have a good time. See you soon.....jan



**CFRW UPCOMING DATES
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**



- July 11 CFRW -Day Meeting
- Aug 8 CFRW- Evening Meeting
- Sept 7 Greater Houston Council
Immigration Roundtable
- Sept 19 Greater Houston Council Meeting



Membership:

The Cy-Fair Republican Women has certainly grown by leaps and bounds in our first year! At last count, we have 36 regular members and 16 associate members. But to be an effective force in our area, we need to spread the word to other like minded ladies in our area.

Here is my challenge to you all. Bring a friend to our next meeting. Someone you think might enjoy the information and fellowship that we provide. Someone who you think will be interested in getting involved with our many projects - from community outreach to working for candidates in the upcoming election. Then next meeting, bring another friend. At every Republican Women's function that I have attended there is a running theme that comes from the elected officials in attendance - Republican Women make a difference. Stay involved - spread the word - **bring a friend. Together, as Cy-Fair Republican Women, we can make a difference.**

We continue to offer 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.

Our September 12th lunch meeting, will be our yearly Membership Drive. We will have invitations for this meeting for you to take at the August 8th meeting. Please take a few and invite any of your friends who you feel may enjoy the information, fellowship, and opportunities that we provide.



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We plan to have door prizes for our guests and we will award a prize to the member who brings the most guests. As "they" say, "The more, the merrier!" Republican Women's Clubs are grass roots at its finest. Be informed, be involved, **bring a friend.** We can make a difference!





Campaign Activities

After attending the State Republican Convention in San Antonio, 6 members of our club now have a better understanding of how the Republican Party Platform is changed and amended. Those who attended were eligible because we all had attended our local precinct conventions after the primary polls closed on March 7th. There we were elected as convention delegates attending the Harris County Senatorial District Convention later in March at the University of Houston and then the State Convention in San Antonio at the beginning of June. I would highly recommend that you all attend these conventions because this is the first place we can all make a difference and see how these grass roots efforts pay off

It's about time to gear up for the fall elections. Some of our club members have volunteered for candidates this past year of our existence. We now have the opportunity to step up and make a difference volunteering as we get behind our candidates and see that our republicans are elected. We really need good voter turnout to make that happen so we are organizing a campaign to get voters registered. We'll have more details at our next meeting. It's also the end of our second quarter to report volunteer hours to TFRW. If any of you have new hours to report please contact me at 281-376-1616 or reparrish@hotmail.com. We will also be recognizing those who have been active in volunteering the most at our club meetings and there will be special recognition for these CFRW club members at Legislative Day in Austin.



July Meeting and Speaker



TUESDAY EVENING JULY 11

Meeting/Luncheon Tuesday Morning, July 11

Las Rosas Mexican Restaurant
19831 N.W. Freeway
(SW corner of 290 and Hwy 6 behind
Chili's)

9:30 Social/Coffee

10:00 CFRW Meeting

\$3 per person (without lunch) \$15 per
person (includes lunch)

Please RSVP to Jan or Mary by July 10 to
J.ott@wcthou.com or 281-859-6464



In the recent special session, the legislature approved changes to the current business tax that will take effect in 2007. For some businesses tax will go up, some will go down, and some will remain the same. It is important that we hear both sides of this issue, so we have invited 2 of our Cy-Fair Republican Legislators to share with us their views on how our Texas Businesses will be effected by the recent changes.

Please join us at our next meeting on July 11th to hear **State Representatives Dwayne Bohac and Corbin Van Arsdale** as they share their views about this change to our current business tax and why each of them voted the way they did. You will hear both sides of this controversial issue and our Legislators will also be available to answer any questions you may have pertaining to the recent special session.

As Republican Women, our role in this process is to first educate ourselves on the issues in order to be effective for our party and its leadership. This meeting will be an informative one, so please make plans to attend.





MINUTES

June 13, 2006 General Meeting

CY-FAIR REPUBLICAN WOMEN

The evening meeting was called to order by president, Jan Ott, at 7:20 p.m. in the home of Barbara Dorsey. Shirley Chambers gave the invocation, and Mary Atkinson led the pledges. Guests for the evening were Nick Swyka, District Director for John Culberson, Emily Klein, also from John Culberson's office, Roy Morales, and Patricia Henderson, President of Magic Circle Republican Women.

The first guest speaker was Hans Ambrosia of Texans for Lawsuit Reform. He encouraged members to join his organization and become involved with developing issues for them to address.

The second guest speaker was Allyson Nixon, a former employee of CIS (Citizen and Immigration Services). Mrs. Nixon spoke of the many instances of negligence and fraud in the fee based agency.

The April general meeting minutes were approved as printed in the May newsletter. Jan Ott gave the treasurer's report.

Kay Waghorne announced that our spring style show, High Heels and High Tea, was a huge success. A committee will be formed to decide where to allocate the proceeds. She welcomes any suggestions for future fundraisers.

The July meeting will be a day meeting with the place and program still to be determined. The August meeting will be an evening meeting with members' husbands invited, and the September meeting will be a membership drive.

Six CFRW members attended the State Republican Convention in San Antonio June 1-3. On June 2, TFRW hosted a breakfast, Tribute to Women, to honor republican women. Our president, Jan Ott, was one of the honorees. Senator John Cornyn and Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson spoke at the breakfast, and Jan had her picture taken with them.

It was announced that one of our members, Micheline Hutson, had suffered a burst appendix. Community Service Chair, Susan Fruit, will continue to work with Operation Interdependence and the Dictionary Project. On September 7, the Greater Houston Council will host an Immigration Roundtable.

Thanks were given to Betty Guthrie and Rita Parrish for hosting the night's meeting and to Barbara Dorsey for having us in her home. Martha Wong is in a tough re-election battle and could use volunteers in her office on Richmond, just inside the loop.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40.

Submitted by,
Kitty Berger, Secretary CFRW





★ Community Service

I'm Susan Fruit and as our club's OI Chairman (Operation Interdependence), I'd like to introduce myself to you and tell you that I will be collecting non-perishable goods and sundry items for our overseas troops on behalf of our club. ALL items must be small enough to fit inside a quart size (7" x 8") zippered plastic baggie.

This month the following supplies are urgently requested for our troops. Please drop off whatever items you can donate at my home at **14827 Elmont Dr. in Hearthstone subdivision**. There is a covered entranceway at my front door and a white iron bench where you can leave the items. You don't have to call me ahead of time. Whatever you can donate will be greatly appreciated. Please drop off your items **by July 5th** to get in the next overseas mailing. Please feel free to call me at any time at 281-463-2972 if you have any questions.

Personal notes to go in the C-rats bags. These notes are sent in every bag of C-rats we mail and are crucial to our service people's morale. They are treasured more than anything else you send. This note doesn't have to be long, just a few words of encouragement and appreciation is enough. Please take a few minutes to write down your thoughts or some news from the home front – it will be greatly appreciated!

Powdered drink mixes: Crystal light, Kool-aid, tea bags sealed in foil – not paper. (NO cocoa mixes at this time).

Salty foods: Mixed nuts, pretzels, crackers, BEEF jerky (pork is not permitted by Iraqi law).

If you do not have time to shop, please consider making a monetary donation so the area co-managers (Vicki Nixon and Cindy Phillips) can purchase supplies for you or apply the funds towards the mailing of these items.

Thank you so much for your help and participation in this worthwhile project. Again, **please drop off your donation at my home by July 5th for the next mailing.** We will continue this as an ongoing project so watch for updates.

★ Americanism

The Declaration of Independence

“.....We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable Rights.....”

“The Unanimous Declaration of Independence of the Thirteen United States of America” was signed on August 2. After his signing (according to John Hancock) Benjamin Franklin remarked:

“We must now hang together, or we shall most assuredly hang separately.”



★ Legislative Report

Learning About the Legislative Process

Most of our members probably already know about the Legislative Process, but for those of us who need and want more information, I'll be sharing about Bills and the processes. A great website is Texas Legislature Online.

http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlo/help/legislative_process.htm



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

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CY-FAIR REPUBLICAN WOMEN

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.

