



# Cy-Fair Republican Women

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2007

## Kay's Kolumn



Our Fashion show was a tremendous success. We had beautiful fashions and accessories, great vendors and door prizes, but nothing topped our great moderators, Speaker Tom Craddick and Representative Corbin Van Arsdale. Representative Gary Elkins stepped in as well as they each took turns to describe our fashions with flare and fun. Kudos go to Mary Moss and her committee for a job well done.

We have held 3 voter's registration drives and were able to sign up the 100 new voters that we pledged to meet our awards requirements. We will continue to recruit new voters as the campaign season heats up and work hard to get Republican supporters to the polls. Please make every effort to vote and to encourage your friends and family to go to the polls on November 6. It is a very important election with several bond issues that we need to consider. Also, I want to continue to encourage all of our members to work for the candidates of their choice in anticipation of the primary in March. Our new Campaign Activities Chairman, Pam Waldren, is ready with campaign information.

Before we renew our CFRW membership dues for 2008 we will once again be considering our meeting times. As we continue to grow it is getting more difficult for our once-small group to meet in someone's home for our night meetings. Also, especially in the 2008 Election cycle, it is becoming more difficult to have elected officials available during the evening as speakers. Even if we do change to day meetings, we will always have a certain number

### CFRW UPCOMING DATES MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- Nov 9-11...TFRW State Convention  
El Paso , Texas
- Nov 13.....CFRW Meeting  
Hearthstone Country Club 10:30 AM
- Nov 20.....Greater Houston Council Meeting  
9:30 AM
- Nov 30.....CFRW Christmas Party  
Home of Krista Steele

of evening meetings throughout the year for special events. We will consider this matter and make a decision at the November meeting. Members received an email asking for input so if you are unable to make the meeting and wish to weigh in on the matter please email me at [kwaghome@msn.com](mailto:kwaghome@msn.com)

Finally, **MARK YOUR CALENDARS for Friday, November 30th**. That is the date for our club Christmas Party. We will be kicking off the holiday season with an early date before the oh-so-busy season gets under way. Krista Steele will be hosting the party at her home and if you would like to help please let her know.

Ten of us are off to El Paso on the 8<sup>th</sup> for the TFRW Convention. We will tell you all about it at the meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup>.

Until then.....Kay



## NOVEMBER MEETING



# TUESDAY NOVEMBER 13

**Time:** 10:30 AM - Coffee/Social  
11:00 PM - Speaker/Meeting

**Place:** Hearthstone Country Club  
7615 Ameswood Road  
Houston, Texas

**Lunch Following Meeting:**  
\$15.00 per person with lunch  
\$3.00 per person without lunch

### RSVP:

Krista Steele: 281-246-4894  
Ksteele@entouch.net  
No later than Monday, November 12th

### OUR SPEAKER THIS MONTH IS :

## Tom Moon

**Tom is Assistant Director, Election Department at the Harris County Clerks Office and he will speak to us about election laws. He teaches election law to the precinct judges and will explain how our elections work.**



### CFRW Board Members

President: **Kay Waghorne**  
281-550-1723  
kwaghorne@msn.com  
Programs: **Stephanie DeHondt**  
713-898-9690  
sdehondt@aol.com  
Ways & Means: **Mary Moss**  
281-550-9415  
moss311@sbcglobal.net  
Newsletter Editor: **Rita Parrish**  
281-376-1616  
reparrish@hotmail.com  
Recording Secretary: **Betty Guthrie**  
281-370-3956  
BLPGuthrie@aol.com  
Treasurer: **Dawn Shull**  
281-376-2067  
dnshull@comcast.net  
Past President & Awards: **Jan Ott**  
281-859-6464  
J.ott@wcthou.com  
Parliamentarian: **Barbara Dorsey**  
713-466-0771  
dannyanbarbara@sbcglobal.net  
Membership: **Kelli Ray**  
281-256-0370  
kray@axiaresources.com  
Hospitality: **Krista Steele**  
281-246-4894  
Ksteele@entouch.net  
Campaign Activities: **Pam Waldren**  
geopamw@sbcglobal.net  
Legislative: **Millie Alford**  
713-466-0731  
mcaphd@yahoo.com  
Community Service: **Cheryl Mills**  
713-503-7053  
sdcmills@swbell.net  
Publicity: **Mary Atchison**  
281-855-6706  
mary@wcthou.com  
Historian: **Emily Klein**  
832-778-0734  
Literacy Program: **Susan Fruit**  
281-463-2972  
susan@susanfruitinteriors.com  
Registration: **Frances Warren**  
713-208-8402  
cubadee@sbcglobal.net  
Chaplain: **Alice McDill**  
akmcdill@yahoo.com





# MINUTES

## CY-FAIR REPUBLICAN WOMEN GENERAL MEETING

October 12, 2007

We did not have a regular club meeting in October instead we had our Annual Fundraiser, High Heels and High Tea. Therefore there are no meeting minutes this month and they will resume with our November meeting.



### WAYS AND MEANS - Mary Moss



#### High Heels and High Tea

What a wonderful event our 2007 **High Heels and High Tea** turned out to be! We had over 125 guests, including Speaker of the House Tom Craddick, Representatives Corbin Van Arsdale, Patricia Harless, and Gary Elkins, Sheriff Tommy Thomas, and Judges Elizabeth Ray, Sharolyn Woods, and Lynn Bradshaw-Hull, who enjoyed the great fashion show by Cabi with accessories by Silpada and lunch (especially those desserts) out at Lindsay Lakes.

A big THANK YOU goes to all of you who helped in the planning and execution of the big day. The committee, who spent many hours organizing - Rita Parrish - Venue; Jan Ott and Stephanie DeHondt - Fashions, Krista Steele - Auction, Mary Atchison - Publicity, Dawn Shull - Registration, and Millie Alford - Decoration. And to those who volunteered and pitched in at the event - Nena Jurek, Louise Rugaard, Frances Warren, Cheryl Mills, Barbara Biggi and Charlotte Lema.

Receipts are still coming in, but it looks like we have made over \$7,000!!! This money will be used to support Republican candidates in the upcoming elections and for our literacy causes.

Again thanks to all of you who helped in any way and for those of you who came and enjoyed the day! You all added to the success of **High Heels and High Tea!**

#### *Life of the Party Cookbooks*

The cookbooks are in and boy do they look GREAT! Buy one for yourself and give them as gifts. They are a great addition to any cook's library. Books will be available for purchase at the November meeting at the **HH&HT** price of \$20.

#### **Peter Barnes Books**

We have re-ordered these wonderful children's books, so we have plenty of each title. These make great gifts for the kids in your lives - children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Or make a donation to a school or church library. What a fun way to educate our children about this great nation and how our system works.

Books are \$18 each. Or get all five titles for \$90.

That's it for this time -

Mary





My focus for November is on the issue of Domestic Violence. October has been Family Violence Awareness Month. I attended a Memorial Service for Victims of Abuse this week and was moved to tears by the information. I've been aware of the HAWK organization in Houston and The Family Abuse Center in Waco. The numbers are climbing, and we must realize the impact family violence is having on our society. I have made a promise to myself to become more involved. We think with our busy schedules, one more thing might put us over the limit, but I hope you will take time to read these statistics and become informed about the legislation which affects the families of so many people in Texas.

FYI: Capitol Switchboard 512-463-4630

Texas Legislature Online: <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/>

To inquire about your representatives: <http://www.fyi.legis.state.tx.us/>

<http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/BillLookup/BillNumber.aspx>

The following information was retrieved from "The River" Newsletter [http://tcfv.org/pdf/the\\_river/spring\\_river07.pdf](http://tcfv.org/pdf/the_river/spring_river07.pdf) [*The River is a publication of the Texas Council on Family Violence and is sponsored in part by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. Materials from this newsletter may be reprinted without permission, with credit to "The River, a publication of the Texas Council on Family Violence," ] Family violence incidents are reported annually by the Texas Department of Public Safety. The number of women killed is taken from the TDPS Uniform Crime Report as well as media articles and law enforcement agencies.*

Some startling numbers for 2006: In Texas Family Violence incidents 187,811

Women killed by intimate partners 143 (Including husbands, ex-husbands, common-law husbands, boyfriends and ex-boyfriends) Adults sheltered 12,356-Children sheltered 16,968

Adults receiving nonresidential services 36,254-Children receiving nonresidential services 15,621-Adults denied shelter (Due to lack of space) 22% Hotline calls answered 182,459-Referrals and information provided to batterers 7,015

*The following is an excerpt by Ana Rodriguez, TCFV Policy Analyst and Rajani Ramachandran, TCFV Staff Writer presented in the Spring 2007 issue of "The River" Newsletter. The results of the bills as of October 25, 2007 follow in italics. <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/BillLookup/BillNumber.aspx>*

Laura Wolf, Senior Policy Director for TCFV, said, "State funding for family violence services ensures that victims of family violence in Texas have access to emergency shelter, counseling, safety planning, legal advocacy and other life-saving services. In fiscal year 2006, Texas family violence programs delivered these critical services to more than 81,000 women, children and men who were escaping family violence." Sen. Jane Nelson (R-Lewisville) reiterated the importance of the issue of domestic violence and the need to fund programs that provide those essential services. Rep. John Davis (R-Houston) talked about the importance of raising boys to be "good men" and promised to do what he can to support the cause. The TCFV board adopted the following five items to focus on during the 80th legislative session.

**Appropriations-Preserve state funding for family violence services — TCFV's highest priority.**

The funding appropriated by the Texas Legislature supports core emergency services to victims of family violence. At this moment the base bill includes almost \$46 million for family violence services as well as \$2 million requested by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to improve access to services. Additionally, the base bill includes \$2.5 million for BIPPs.

(continued next page)







**Education Code-Require school districts to adopt teen dating violence policies.**

TCFV is working to expand existing laws regarding public school safety so that schools may have effective policies and tools to better address the needs of students experiencing violence and abuse within teen dating relationships. (**HB 121**, by Representative Dukes / **SB 86** by Senator Hinojosa). [*HB 121-Effective immediately 05/18/2007 Signed by the Governor -/05/18/2007- SB 86-No action taken in committee 03/15/2007 Scheduled for public hearing on .03/15/2007*]

**Labor Code-Expand unemployment compensation to better benefit victims of domestic violence.** Under current law, victims of family violence and stalking who are forced to leave their employment due to family violence may be eligible for unemployment compensation. However, fewer than 100 victims have been able to take advantage of this option, given the eligibility requirements. TCFV is working to amend the current eligibility requirements so as to better meet the Legislature's intent to afford victims of family violence and stalking unemployment benefits when they have no choice but to leave their jobs. (**HB 550** by Representative Dukes / **SB142** by Senator Zafferini)[*HB 550-06/15/2007 Signed by the Governor- Effective immediately- SB 142-Removed from local & uncontested calendar 04/19/2007 Placed on local & uncontested calendar 04/19/2007*]

**Code of Criminal Procedure-Require accreditation of battering intervention and prevention programs(BIPPs), so that all services to which batterers are referred meet common standards of quality.**

Many communities throughout Texas do not have state-regulated BIPPs, and as a result judges are forced to refer abusers to intervention services that have little or no accountability standards. TCFV is working to establish an accreditation program whereby all programs to which abusers are referred will meet the same high standards of batterer accountability and victim safety. (**HB197** by Representative Gonzales-Tourielles/ **SB 44** by Senators Nelson & Shapiro).[ *Laid on the table subject to call 04/30/2007 Companion considered in lieu of SB 44 04/30/2007- SB 44-Effective on 9/1/07 05/17/2007 Signed by the Governor 05/17/2007*]

**Create a state-run Address Confidentiality Program (ACP) for victims of domestic violence.** Safety planning with victims of family violence often involves keeping one's address and whereabouts confidential. Increasingly, abusers have access to technology that enables them to track their victims and continue to threaten their safety. As a result, the mail has become one of the main methods that abusers utilize to stalk and otherwise continue abusing victims. TCFV is working to create an ACP in which certain victims would have their mail forwarded by the State thereby maintaining their address as confidential and out of public record.(**HB 569** by Representative Gonzales / **HB 597** by Representative Guillen/**SB 74** by Senator Lucio)[*HB569- 04/16/2007 H Committee report sent to Calendars-HB 597- 04/18/2007 H Left pending in committee-SB 74-Effectively immediately 06/15/2007, Signed by the Governor 06/15/2007*]

**Penal Code-Add strangulation to the definition of "serious bodily injury."**

In domestic violence cases, strangulation is highly correlated with an increased risk of lethality. However, in many parts of the state the penalties associated with strangulation do not reflect the seriousness of the crime. TCFV is working to amend the statute in order to give prosecutors more direction in seeking higher penalties for those offenses.(**SB 45** by Senator Nelson)[*SB-45- 05/01/2007 S Left pending in committee.*]

If you would like more information about priority items to the 80th Texas Legislature, domestic violence services in Texas or about state funding for those services, please contact TCFV's Policy Team at 512-794-1133.





*The Bylaws/Standing Rules Committee of Jan Ott, Mary Moss, and Barbara Dorsey has reviewed the Bylaws as required by TFRW and is proposing the following changes. Some of the changes are required by TFRW. The dues increase is because of the NFRW dues increase of \$3. We expect that in the next year TFRW will increase their dues by \$2 and the change that is proposed here would cover that without another change in our bylaws. The changes in Article V were made to clarify what was previously written. The only part of the bylaws that are included here are the sections that have changes.*

*These changes will be discussed at the November meeting and voted on at the December Christmas party.*

## **Bylaws of Cy-Fair Republican Women**

### **Article III - Policy**

#### **Section 1. Candidate Endorsement:**

This organization, its president, and its campaign activities chairman shall not publicly endorse any candidate for public office in contested Republican primaries, runoff elections, ~~and~~ special elections and /or non-partisan elections when more than one Republican is in the race.

If the organization violates this policy, it is subject to expulsion from the TFRW. Neither shall the Club nor an individual member advocate a split party ticket or support a candidate running on an opposition ticket. If the organization or one of it's members violates this policy, it is subject to expulsion from NFRW.

### **Article IV - Membership**

#### **Section 3. Annual Membership Dues:**

- a) Active Members: Membership dues shall be \$~~25~~30 for Active Members which shall include state and national federation per capita dues payable on or before January 1 of each year and shall be delinquent if not paid by March 1.

(continued - next page)





- b) Associate Member: Membership dues shall be \$~~17~~20 for associate members.
- c) Supporting Member: Membership dues shall be \$~~30~~35.

## Article V - Officers and Executive Board

### Section 2. Duties of Officers:

- a) **The President** shall preside at all meetings of the organization and the Executive Board. ~~She s~~ shall appoint chairmen of all standing and special committees with the approval of the Executive Board, shall appoint a parliamentarian, shall serve *ex officio* as a member of all committees except the Nominating Committee, and shall have general supervision of the work of the organization.

### Section 3. Executive Board:

The voting members of the Executive Board shall consist of the elected officers, the immediate Past President, who shall serve as advisor, and the chairmen of the sStanding cCommittees as described in Article VIII, Section 1. ; and T the Parliamentarian ~~who~~ shall serve *ex officio* without vote. All officers and/or committee chairmen shall be registered voters.

### Section 4. Duties of the Executive Board:

The Executive Board shall have the authority to transact any necessary business between meetings, to make recommendations as to the policies of the organization, to advise the President, and to fill vacancies that occur between elections by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Board members present and voting with the exception of a vacancy in the presidency, in which case the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President shall assume the office of President and the Executive Board shall elect a 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President\Programs as stated herein.

## Article VIII - Committees

### Section 3. Special Committees Inclusion:

The special committees shall include: Audit Internal Review and Nominations. Other special committees may be appointed by the President and/or Executive Board as deemed advisable.



**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**  
Affiliations:  
National Federation of Republican Women  
Texas Federation of Republican Women  
Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women

Cy-Fair Republican Women  
12406 Francel Lane  
Cypress, TX 77429

**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.

