



Cy-Fair Republican Women

NEWSLETTER

April 2008

Kay's Kolumn



I want to thank and congratulate all of our members who have been an integral part of the electoral process by working hard for your candidates and for helping to get out the vote. Even though our primary election is over we still have run-off elections and conventions and the general election in November... so we are just getting started.

Keeping the White House and regaining lost seats both in Texas and Washington is the task now at hand.

This task is a monumental one. The significance of enthusiastically supporting Republican candidates and motivating voters to go to the polls in November and to vote Republican can not be overstated.

Whether it is Senator Clinton or Senator Obama, either of these presidential candidates represent a historic candidacy and are generating support and incredible enthusiasm from first time voters and minorities. While they continue to beat each other up, we have important work to do, helping Senator McCain shore up his base. Even if he was not your choice, he is now the presumptive Republican candidate-elect and needs our "enthusiastic" support.

Down-line candidates on the state and local level will be affected by the presidential election. Not only is the presidency at stake this year. Democrats in Texas smell blood. They long for the days when they (the Democrats) controlled Texas and are out to win it back. Every office in Texas has a target on it and

CFRW UPCOMING DATES MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Mar 31, 2008.....1st day of early voting in primary runoffs

April 1, 2008.....Last day to apply for ballot by mail for primary runoff

Apr 4, 2008.....Last day of early voting in Primary runoffs

April 8, 2008.....CFRW-Meeting 10:30 AM
Hearthstone Country Club

April 8, 2008.....Primary Runoff Election Day

they will be relentless. And, quite frankly, I feel that it will take every registered Republican in Texas voting down line to stop it.

If you don't vote... it is a vote for the Democrats.

To do our part, we need members. "Membership is a lifestyle, Not an event" our 2008-2009 TFRW membership campaign is underway. Our goal is to gain 24% in membership in 24 months. We are excited that Barbara Buxton and Louise Rugaard will be joining Kelli Ray on the Membership Committee. I encourage everyone to be ambassadors to our club. Invite your friends and ask them to join. Active membership is contagious.

I look forward to seeing those serving as delegates to the senatorial district convention, and at our general meeting on April 8.

Later, Kay



APRIL MEETING



TUESDAY APRIL 8

Time: 10:30 AM - Coffee/Social
11:15 AM - Speaker/Meeting

Place: HEARTHSTONE COUNTRY CLUB
7615 Ameswood Road
Houston, Texas

Luncheon Selections:

Choice #1: Champagne Chicken salad- mixed greens, grilled chicken, strawberries, raspberries and mandarin oranges topped with champagne vinaigrette.

Choice # 2: Chicken fried steak with garlic mashed potatoes and chef veggies.

Hot rolls served with both.

RSVP:

No later than Monday, April 7th

Online at www.cfrw.net

or

Joy Gregory: 281-463-8203 www.joygregory@sbcglobal.net

PROGRAM

Our speaker for this month is Dr. David Anthony, Superintendent of Cy-Fair Independent School District.

Dr. David Anthony began his career as superintendent of schools in Cypress-Fairbanks ISD on July 1, 2004. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Secondary Education from East Texas Baptist College in 1974, a Master of Education in Administration and Supervision from Northwestern State University in 1977 and a Doctor of Education degree from NSU in 1986. Prior to accepting the superintendency in CFISD, he served as superintendent in McKinney ISD, Texas City ISD, Mount Pleasant ISD, and High Island ISD.



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WAYS AND MEANS - Mary Moss



Life of the Party Cookbooks

We still have plenty of our *Life of the Party Cookbooks!* Be sure to buy one for yourself and give them as gifts. They are a great addition to any cook's library. Books will be available at the May meeting at the HH&HT price of \$20.

If any of you belong to or know of a group that is sponsoring a bazaar, craft show, or civic event where we can sell some of our cookbooks and have a membership drive as well, PLEASE LET ME KNOW! THANKS!

Peter Barnes Books

We have plenty of these wonderful children's books. 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.

Autographed books are \$18 each. Or get all five autographed titles for \$90

CFRW Denim Shirts and T-Shirts

CFRW has lots of events coming up where you will want to be sporting our CFRW apparel. Check with me at the May meeting to purchase or order your shirts.

That's it for this time - Mary



CARING FOR AMERICA - Cheryl Mills



Thanks to our guest speaker at our last meeting, Elizabeth Ingersoll, our club is inspired to Support Our Troops in new and creative ways. One of our new members, Kimberley, told us how valuable Tabasco sauce packets are to the troops, since she knew first hand as a former Army nurse that the food is good but very bland! We learned that we can send anything in a sealed wrapper that will fit in a quart-sized plastic bag, and that the plastic bags are needed as donations as well. The snack-sized bags are also needed for sealing scented items like soap within the larger bag.

Thanks go to Jan Ott who brought in a bag full of travel-sized personal care items. We will be collecting C-rats (civilian rations) at every meeting, so be creative and think of something you can donate to help raise morale as well as send a piece of home to our brave troops overseas.

Please remember that donations of money are the greatest need at this time for Operation Interdependence. Make tax-deductible checks payable to Operation Interdependence and donate at each meeting or online at www.oidelivers.org. The money is used for postage and each box costs \$30 to ship. Also, the cards and letters we write at our meetings are the lifeline home for the men and women in service. Thank you for writing your expressions of gratitude!

Cheryl Mills





MINUTES

CY-FAIR REPUBLICAN WOMEN GENERAL MEETING

March 11, 2008

President Kay Waghorne called the meeting of the Cy-Fair Republican Women (CFRW) to order at 11:00 a.m. at Hearthstone Country Club. Chaplain, Alice McDill, led the group in prayer followed by the United States Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge of Allegiance. Kay welcomed members and introduced the following guests: guest speaker Elizabeth Ingersoll (Operation Interdependence); Matthew Rugaard (son of Louise); Jane Hancock, Carmen Densing, Fred Blanton (candidate for Lone Star College System Trustee); Jason Roper (candidate for Lone Star College System Trustee), Suzanne Davis (candidate for Emergency Service District No. 9 Commissioner at Large Set); Colleen Gilbert (member, representing U.S. Congressman Michael McCaul, Sandi Oliver (representing Texas House Representative and Associate Member Patricia Harless).

Kay read a thank you letter from Covenant House for the donation from CFRW.

Betty Guthrie, Secretary, reported that the minutes from the February 12, 2008 general meeting were printed in the CFRW March Newsletter. There being no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer, Dawn Shull, reported a balance of \$10,126.32 in the treasury as of the end of February 2008.

Cheryl Mills reported that the Internal Review Committee which included Debbie Lemons had met with the treasurer to review the CFRW financial reports for fiscal year January 1, 2007 – December 31, 2007. A checklist was made available as well as the year-end report. The committee approved the books. The membership accepted the report as presented.

Mary Moss, Ways and Means Chair, announced that CFRW cookbook sales have almost met costs and that books are still available for purchase, as are denim shirts, and Peter Barnes' children's books.

In Kelli Ray's absence, Kay presented the Membership Chair's report reminding all members and perspective members that annual membership dues are now due. They can be paid at the meeting or online on the website at www.cfrw.net. New member badges for those who ordered them are available from Kelli. CFRW has introduced the 2008-2009 membership initiative "Membership is a lifestyle, not an event." CFRW immediate goal is to meet last year's membership of 46. The target by year's end is an increase in membership of 24% in 24 months. Volunteers are needed to assist as greeters, in planning events and enhancing communications.

Caring for America Chair, Cheryl Mills, announced that materials for writing notes and letters to our troops were available at the back table and distributed them to attendees. She announced that CFRW will be doing more to support the Fisher House in Houston. The house provides housing for family members of U.S. veterans who are patients at the local VA Hospital.

Cheryl introduced guest speaker, Elizabeth Ingersoll, who is Co-Area Manager of Operation Interdependence in Houston. She presented an interesting and informative program on her organization which acts as a shipping center for boxes of donated items (sealed toiletries, grooming products, comfort items, condiments, etc. along with notes of support) sent to our troops. The non-profit organization is served 100% by volunteers. Operation costs are 2.2%. Houston is one of fourteen (14) centers in the United States which packages items in small baggies, boxes 50 of them per box, and sends them to units requesting them. Each box costs \$30 to send. More about this organization can be found on their web sites at www.oidelivers.com or www.oihouston.com.

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MINUTES, CONTINUED

Cheryl announce CFRW will be doing more to assist this program by writing notes to our troops, collecting items at every meeting and listing suggested items to donate on our web site.

Kay reported in Pam Waldren's absence that as Campaign Activities Chair, she requests all who worked on campaigns, at polling sites, were elected as precinct chairs, elected as delegates to convention, etc. to report their service hours to Pam. Lt. Governor David Dewhurst has recently announced that he will sponsor a new award to groups based on their volunteer activities. The program begins April 9, 2008.

Jan Ott, Awards Chair, reminded all about the upcoming State Convention in Houston on June 12-14, 2008. Non-delegates are invited to attend and to volunteer. Hotel room reservations must be done individually. Deadline for reservations is March 17, 2008.

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- The following members were nominated as members of the Campaign Fund Disbursement Committee: Barbara Dorsey, Joy Gregory, Cheryl Mills and Jan Ott. There being no additional nominations, Millie Alford moved the entire slate be approved. Motion was seconded by Jude Wiggins, and the motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Betty Guthrie

CFRW: Secretary



MEMBERSHIP - Kelli Ray



Hello CFRW! Please welcome **RUTH HOUSTON** to our club. She recently submitted her new membership form via online (look at her all tech-savvy)! Feel free to reach out to her with a welcome note or be sure and seek her out at the next meeting.

*WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBER
RUTH HOUSTON*





What other concerned Texas citizens are saying about legislative woes.

This month I did some research into some of the legislative concerns of Texas citizens. I found the following article very interesting and very appropriate for our organization to read, especially since it deals with issues which affect Houston and other major cities in Texas. Although it is from an agriculture/farm point of view, the issues are concerns for all of us. Please let me know what you think of this article and if you find others you think our group will enjoy, please let me know and I will make sure we have access to them.

This article was taken in whole from the magazine's website at http://southwestfarmpress.com/news/farming_budget_deficit_tops/

It was submitted to the *Southwest Farm Press* Timely, Reliable Information for Southwest Agriculture.

About the Magazine:

Southwest Farm Press offers in-depth coverage of the varied, highly productive agriculture of the southwestern states. Editorial encompasses production, management, research and legislative/regulatory issues affecting growers of key cotton, wheat, grain, sorghum, rice, peanuts, pecans, soybeans, corn and vegetable/citrus crops and includes features on the region's producers and agribusiness news

AUSTIN, Texas – Oddly enough, water will not occupy the top spot on Texas legislators' agenda when the body meets next month.

"The number one priority will be the budget," says Woody Anderson, a Mitchell County farmer and chairman of the Ad Hoc Advisory Committee for Agriculture and Livestock. Anderson discussed his committee's work during the recent Texas Commodity Symposium in Amarillo.

"The budget shortfall will get a lot of attention from this session of the Texas legislature," Anderson said. "Depending on whose numbers you believe the deficit could range from \$3 billion to \$5 billion or from \$10 billion to \$12 billion. Every segment of the government will be looking for budget relief."

Agriculture, he said, will not be exempt, but he hopes the cuts are not deep enough to cripple the industry. Of particular concern to rural areas and the overall state economy are tax issues, Anderson said. "We expect the legislature to look hard at sales tax and agricultural use exemptions."

He said exemptions for agriculture go back a long way, all the way to the Texas Constitution.

"Property tax exemptions deserve some scrutiny and ought to be considered for productivity value exemptions instead of the old usage title," he said. Exemptions on property tax for agricultural use go back to 1979, he said.

Eliminating that exemption would play havoc with rural economies without offering significant relief to the state's deficit. "The state lost only \$1.1 billion in taxes through this exemption in 2001. Compare that to the \$1.5 billion loss from the Homestead Exemption that many Texans receive. And compared to the overall budget, it's insignificant, less than 1 percent of the total.

"But if the exemption is eliminated, it will wreak havoc on the farm economy and on rural Texas."

Anderson said water, although not the main concern of this legislative session, may be the second, third and fourth priorities. "We have a number of players interested in water legislation," he said. "We want to make certain that local control, through underground water districts, remains the guideline for water management in the state."

He said regulatory issues to watch include Total Maximum Daily Limits, point and non-point pollution standards and a process that allows citizens to collect evidence against suspected polluters and make a case against them.

Water users should be aware of compliance rules, Anderson said. "Those looking for remediation will find more attentive ears if they have a history of compliance."

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LEGISLATIVE REPORT - Continued



He said improving infrastructure to increase water use efficiency will be a key issue. "We also expect more interest in brush control, especially efforts to eradicate invasive species."

He said the Texas legislature likely would not take action against Mexico to force compliance with the 1944 U.S.-Mexico Water Treaty, which Mexico has ignored for more than a decade. "But I expect our legislators will discuss the issue thoroughly. State leadership will make recommendations to the Federal Government but I don't anticipate any legislation issuing from Texas."

Anderson said the "right of capture" rule has been a "sacrosanct" element of Texas water laws for years but may be subject to discussion as the state wrestles with a growing demand for water, especially from metropolitan areas such as **Dallas-Fort Worth, Houston and San Antonio.**

Other issues that could affect rural Texans include animal health concerns, insurance liabilities, and workmen's compensation. "And this short list doesn't really scratch the surface of the legislature's agenda," he said. [e-mail: rsmith@primediabusiness.com](mailto:rsmith@primediabusiness.com)

If you would like to know about a specific bill, or the work of a particular representative, please let me know and I will be glad to research the information for you. It is obvious that we have many elected officials working for our welfare.

Accomplishments of the 80th Legislature:

<http://www.house.state.tx.us/resources/accomplishments80th.pdf>

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/>

To look up a bill: <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/BillLookup/Billnumber.aspx>

For the telephone and addresses of the representatives, access

<http://www.fyi.legis.state.tx.us/address.aspx?DistrictType=ALL&Address1=&City=&Zipcode=77041&Search=Submit>

Millie Alford



CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES - Pam Waldren



What could be better than supporting our fellow Republicans, serving our country and doing what we love best??? . . . why, a friendly competition, of course, complete with prize money, and lots of fun. Texas Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst is sponsoring The 2008 General Election Competition that will begin April 9, 2008 and end the day after the General Election. Check out this column in the coming months for ways you can volunteer and be a part of history as we work to win the White House and beyond. We will be turning in our volunteer hours to TFRW, so it will be important to keep track of how much time you put in. These same volunteer hours will be used towards the NFRW (National Federation of Republican Women) Activities Award. And there's more. . .

Texas Victory '08 is another exciting program, chaired by Texas Secretary of State Roger Williams. This is a Republican Get-Out-the-Vote program dedicated to cultivating, energizing and training grassroots volunteers to ensure Republican success at the polls on Election Day. A substantial victory effort is vitally important for the 2008 election cycle as we saw the Democrats take over Dallas County in 2006. We don't want that to happen in Houston! Texas Victory '08 will work with county parties to open volunteer headquarters, phone banks and coordinate volunteer activities in targeted counties. Look for emails from me for updates! This is a great opportunity for you to make your contribution to the Republican Party and yes, you really can make a difference!

Speaking of making a difference. . . our phenomenal club has clocked in nearly 500 volunteer hours in January, February, and March 2008! Our members participated and planned several local forums, attended the Greater Houston Council Luncheon, worked the polls, worked the phones for the candidate of their choice, attended their Precinct Convention and will end the month of March by attending the Senatorial District Convention.

For those of you who have not been able to attend any of these events, CFRW whole-heartedly welcomes you to join us, make new friends and make a difference in the Republican Party.

Pam Waldren



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 Franciel 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.

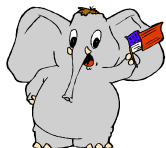
<http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/> - Updates on what is going on in the Texas legislature.

<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.



REGISTRATION VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

- Name: _____
- Address: _____
- City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
- Phone: () _____ Fax: () _____
- E-Mail: _____
- Senate District # or Senator: _____
- Do you plan to be a delegate or alternate? _____
- How did you hear about volunteering? _____

Please plan to dress comfortably.

We do request that no clothing with controversial displays be worn.

PLEASE MARK YOUR PREFERENCE TO VOLUNTEER:

(You may select more than one shift.)

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

_____ Noon – 3 pm
 _____ 3 pm - 7 pm

Friday, June 13, 2008

_____ 6:45 am - 10 am
 _____ 10 am – 1 pm
 _____ 1 pm – 4 pm
 _____ 4 pm – 7 pm

Thursday, June 12, 2008

_____ 9am - 12 pm
 _____ 12 pm – 3 pm
 _____ 3 pm - 7 pm

Saturday, June 14, 2008

_____ 8 am - 10 am
 _____ 10 am – 1 pm

*****Volunteer training will take place at 9am, Wednesday, June 11, 2008 at the Hilton Americas-Houston.*****

Please return form to:

Barbara Hauser

Chairman of Registration Committee

5644 Westheimer Road # 950, Houston, TX 77056-4002

or Fax to (512) 480-0709

For Registration Questions ONLY e-mail barbarahhauser@gmail.com