



Cy-Fair Republican Women Newsletter

www.cfrw.net



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VOLUME 7
JULY 2014



TEXAS GOP CONVENTION 2014 By Micheline Hutson Grassroots Club Chair

The Texas State GOP Convention is the largest in the country, dwarfing the RNC National Convention. Its simple purpose is to elect party leadership and adopt the rules and principles that will guide the party for the next two years.

Anyone may attend the Texas State GOP Convention after two simple steps.

1. Attend your precinct convention after the Primary Election polls close (about 7:30 p.m.) Commit to be a delegate to the Senatorial District Convention.
2. Attend your Senatorial District Convention and commit to be a delegate or alternate to the Texas State GOP Convention. Often, all delegate positions are unfilled and alternates are "promoted" to delegate status.

Rules committee and platform committee began meeting Monday, June 2. Most of the hard convention work is done here. Please remember that the final rules adopted by the body in the general session will

govern the state party for the next two years. The final platform is a statement of principles and acts as suggestions for our elected representatives.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, Pages and Sargent at Arms training were conducted. Rules and Platform Committee meetings continued as needed.

Thursday, June 5, Opening General Session began with a tribute to Governor Rick Perry.

In the Senate District 7 caucus SREC committeeman Mark Ramsey was re-elected and Sarah Singleton was elected SREC committeewoman. Sarah Singleton has been a frequent CFRW visitor, representing Dan Patrick's campaign. SD7 also nominated Amy Clark as Vice-chairwoman of state GOP and re-nominated Steve Munisteri as Chairman. These nominations were ratified during the General Session.

As all four of the General Sessions progressed, all Republican candidates for state office gave speeches. The delegates were treated to talks by Senators Ted Cruz (R-Texas) and Rand Paul (R-Kentucky).

The delegates had a choice of three Breakout sessions, focused on training, growing the party and Texas' unique issues.

These Breakout sessions were all

well-attended.

1. Data Beacon Training - New software developed by NRC to replace Voter Vault to guide neighborhood canvassing and get out the vote drives.

2..Judicial Panel - Discussion by Texas' top Judges

3.. State Senate- Preview of next Legislative session

4. Oil and Gas- Keep Texas a leading producer

5. Urban Engagement- Reaching the urban voter

6. Political Organization- Basic county party structure and interaction between state GOP and RNC

7. Obamacare Alternative - Medicaid block grant and health care compact

8. TFRW-Motivate women to run for office and participate in Victory 2014

9. Robert's Rules of Order- Basics of proper political debate

10. Grassroots- Statewide campaign and county organization discussion

11. Public Education

12. Congressional Panel- Texas Congressional delegation



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13. Political Engagement- Republican vote among African American, Asian American and Hispanic Americans

14. Social Media training

15. Victory 2014

One of the purposes of the 2014 State GOP Convention was the 2016 Presidential Candidate Preference Straw Poll. This was an early attempt to influence the election of the 2016 Republican Presidential candidate. Texas has had little influence in previous years due to late or delayed primaries. The winner was Ted Cruz with 43% of the votes. The second place candidate, Dr. Ben Carson, was followed by Senator Rand Paul and Governor Rick Perry.

Our own Joy Gregory and Rita Parish were honored at the TFRW Tribute to Women Lunch. Senators John Cornyn and Ted Cruz spoke briefly. Congresswoman Kay Granger told of the urgent need for Republican women to run for public office, especially US Congress. She alone stands as the single female Republican Representative from Texas.

Adopting the report of the Permanent Platform Committee was order of business during the last General Session. The first of proposed planks rejected was all mention of legal marijuana. The Immigration Plank also dubbed the "Texas Solution", which proposed a Worker Visa program was tossed in favor of language that strongly rejected anything that resembled amnesty for illegal aliens. The Chairman called for a Roll Call vote. The 31 Senate Districts gathered for a vote, reported in a weighted fashion, reflecting full voting strength, as though all eligible delegate positions voted. It was heaven for Robert's Rules junkies. The final plank discussed was supporting "Net Neutrality" which was pulled after a request from several elected representatives.

These are few of the shorter, non-controversial planks:

1. Raw milk and dairy products - We support legislation confirming local dairy farmers' rights to produce and sell natural milk and dairy products within the state of Texas.
2. Taxation by a Foreign Entity - We believe that any attempt to allow the United Nations or any other foreign entity to levy taxes on US citizens or US government should be rejected.
3. Government Lobbying - We oppose paying lobbyists with tax dollars.

The 2016 Texas State GOP convention will be held in Dallas. Hopefully, the RNC will decide to hold the 2016 National Convention in Dallas, too. Additionally, the 2015 TFRW convention will be in Lubbock, September, 2015. Make plans to attend!



CFRW Meeting Minutes ~ June 10th, 2014



President, Joy Gregory began the meeting at 11:05a.m. **Dean Hastings** gave the invocation and led us in the pledges to the U.S. and Texas flags.

Joy Gregory introduced our speaker, Paul Simpson for Barbara Buxton, 1st VP-Programs. Mr. Simpson the Harris County Republican Chair elect, spoke about the vision of reorganizing the Republican Party in Harris County. How he would like the party to focus on conservatism and grass root values. New positions are opening up and anyone interested in these opportunities should apply to the party's website at www.harriscountygopchair.com.

The business meeting was called to order at 11:55 a.m. Joy introduced the guests, candidates, elected officials, and their representatives.

Officers' Reports

The minutes from the May 13, 2014 Regular Meeting were approved as printed in the June Newsletter.

Treasurer, Mary Moss reported that June 30th is the next cutoff date for TEC.

1st Vice-President, Barbara Buxton was absent and **Joy Gregory** represented Programs announcing Jeff Brown of Texas Justice Supreme Court is the speaker for July.

Committee Reports

Membership Chairman, Nancy Roberts reported that as of today we have 80 regular members, 8 associate women, and 11 associate men.

Campaign Activities Chairman, Suzanne Davis asked that everyone fill in the "Hours Cards" for any hours you spent on CFRW duties or events.

Operation Interdependence Chairman, Mary Kay Brady reminded donations of snacks, shampoo, soap, lotion or monetary are needed.

Old Business

By-Law Committee Report – **Betty Guthrie** said the By-Laws have been submitted to TFRW with amendments and waiting for approval.

Literacy Chair – **Gail Schubot** encourages participation in an effort to work with children one on one to promote good government and patriotism. These hours should be logged during the months of July – December and CFRW will celebrate the individuals at the end of the year. Gail also reminds us to add these hours to "House Cards".

Grass Roots Club – **Micheline Hutson** shared our club winning Grass Roots award. She also encourages our members to join the Grass Roots Club with a membership of \$8.25/month to sustain the Grass Roots award for next year.

New Business

A Campaign Disbursements Committee was formed. The nominees were Barbara Buxton, Alice Bennett, Beth Mayer (Weaver) Michelene Hutson and Judy Stokes. A vote was tallied with the following: Standing members – President - **Joy Gregory**, 2nd Vice-President - **Millie Alford**, Treasurer - **Mary Moss**, Elected members - **Barbara Buxton, Alice Bennett, Micheline Hutson and Beth Mayer**.

August Social – Hospitality – **Lois Barclay** was absent and **Joy Gregory** announced the August Social is scheduled for August 11th.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Vivian Marlatt



PROGRAMS ~ Barbara Buxton



The speaker for the CFRW July 8 meeting is Texas Supreme Court Justice Jeff Brown. Justice Brown was appointed to the Supreme Court of Texas by Governor Rick Perry in September 2013. The appointment filled the vacancy that occurred when Gov. Perry appointed Justice Nathan Hecht as Chief Justice.

Justice Brown served on the Fourteenth Court of Appeals from December 2007 until his appointment to the Supreme Court of Texas. The Fourteenth Court of Appeals has nine justices and hears appeals from Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Galveston, Grimes, Harris, Waller and Washington counties.

Before taking the appellate bench, he served as a judge of the 55th District Court in Harris County for six years. While on the trial bench, the bar consistently ranked him among the county's top district judges.

The son of a longtime police officer, Jeff was named Civil District Court Judge of the Year by the Houston Police Officers Union in 2002 and by P.O.L.I.C.E., Inc., ("Peace Officers Looking Into Courthouse Excellence") in 2003.

Jeff has been active in state and local bar activities. He has served on several non-profit boards, including the Christian Community Service Center. The Texas Jaycees have named Jeff one of the Five Outstanding Young Texans of 2008. He and his wife, Susannah, a schoolteacher, live in southwest Houston with their three children, Kathleen, Rob, and Gus. They are active members of Bellaire United Methodist Church.

MEMBERSHIP - NANCY ROBERTS

Our Total Membership following the June General Meeting is 100. Thank you for your Renewal **Stephanie Peters** and New Member **Mary Ellen Harrington**.

Busy times are coming! Don't miss out on the "fun" of the election season!

Membership Committee--Thank you for volunteering to help with CFRW Directories and New Member Tea: **Alice Bennett, Micheline Hutson, Sandy Vinklarek** and **Pam Waldren**. If you are interested in participating on this committee, please contact me.

C.H.A.T. – Our JULY evening C.H.A.T. (Chicks Having an Awesome Time) HAS BEEN CANCELLED.

See you at our next General Membership Meeting on the Second Tuesday of July

July 8th at Longwood Golf Club!

RSVP to www.cfrw.net by Friday, June 6th, 14.





Common Core and CSCOPE

One thing both Republicans and Democrats agree on is that the United States lags behind in education and we must find a way to make improvements. The big divide is always how we manage to accomplish that goal. There are two terms surrounding education that we hear a lot about but many of us really do not know what they mean or how they impact education. What are CSCOPE and Common Core?

The **Common Core State Standards Initiative** is an educational initiative kicked off in 2009 in the United States that details what K-12 students should know in English language arts and mathematics at the end of each grade. The initiative is sponsored by the National Governors Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers with the goal of making high school diplomas more meaningful. States were given an incentive to adopt the Common Core Standards through the possibility of competitive federal Race to the Top grants. Virginia and Texas were two states that chose to write their own college and career-ready standards, and were subsequently also eligible for Race to the Top.

Common Core State Standards do not cover science and social studies content standards. Individual state or school districts are responsible for choosing their own curricula based on the standards. When Texas (one of 5 states) turned down Common Core, many at the time saw that as a positive, independent choice. Instead, Texas school administrators and superintendents developed their own program, CSCOPE.

Most people seem to agree that national standards in Math and science would be helpful but opposition to Common Core has grown. Many parents do not see set standards as the top problem in schools. They site lack of parental involvement, lack of student effort, and getting and keeping good teachers as the more serious problem at their child's school. Given those concerns, many parents may see introducing a new set of academic standards as less urgent.

Many teachers and students who have actually worked with Common Core have very good things to say about it but many parents say their own "child works hard enough as is". Others say that the curriculum is less demanding than what the students were doing before. One of the big concerns is testing. Even though most see an important role for testing, they question whether the current testing policies are actually improving schools. Another argument against Common Core is that it requires problems to be done a specific way - but, that is not a requirement from Common Core but from some states' demands.

CSCOPE is the K-12 educational curriculum support system that was widely adopted in Texas and was created by the publicly funded Texas Education Service Center Curriculum Collaborative (TESCCC). The TESCCC is made up of representatives from 20 Texas regions to help the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to provide oversight of public primary and secondary education and to support school districts.. TEA is managed by a Commissioner of Education who is appointed by the Governor of Texas. The board devises policies and sets academic standards for Texas Public schools. Nineteen of the service centers joined together to form the TESCCC which owns CSCOPE.

CSCOPE offered about 1,600 model lessons that districts accessed for a per-student fee. Because of intellectual property concerns, many lessons weren't available to the general public with civil or criminal penalties associated with the release of CSCOPE content. That caused great concern about bureaucrats secretly corrupting classrooms and teaching a liberal agenda. Secrecy also surrounded TESCCC's meetings. While popular with district administrators, CScope elicited mixed reactions from teachers, some of whom feel excessively constrained by a set timetable for lessons. CSCOPE has also been criticized as setting the bar too low so that every student learns at an equally low level with assessments being given as often as every three weeks, taking away valuable instruction time.

Because of Legislative action, it had been announced that CSCOPE was dead, but, it appears that there is "no statute" that requires districts to refrain from using the lesson plans if local school districts authorize it. The CSCOPE governing board simply dropped intellectual property concerns and allowed the lesson plans to enter the public domain.





GRASSROOTS CLUB ~ Micheline Hutson

During the 2014 Texas State GOP Convention, Cy-Fair Republican Women were awarded the 2014 Grassroots Club Award.

“The Republican Party of Texas in proud partnership with The Texas Federation of Republican Women Present to *Cy-Fair Republican Women* The 2014 Grassroots Club Award”

Other TFRW clubs honored:

- Canyon Lake Republican Women
- Georgetown Area Republican Women
- Golden Corridor Republican Women (Dallas, Collin and Denton counties)
- Hays County Republican Women (San Marcos)
- Lake Conroe Republican Women
- Village Republican Women (Memorial Area, Houston)



Membership in the Grassroots Club opens valuable new lines of communication between activist Republicans and the State Leadership.

To join Grassroots Club, enter your credit card at www.GrassrootsClub.com. You will be charged \$8.25 each month. You may stop your contribution at any time by email or phone call. This money will be spent in Texas and will not be shared with any professional fundraising organization. This is an easy, painless way to defeat “Battleground Texas”!

This fundraising technique is so effective “Battleground Texas” has copied it. However, the “benefits” are one lidded drink cup and telephone conferences with Jeremy Byrd and Jenn Brown. That pales when compared to Grassroots Club membership benefits.

- No annoying TXGOP solicitation phone calls at dinnertime.
- No annoying TXGOP mass mail solicitations.
- Quarterly conference call with Chairman Steve Munisteri and a “special guest”.
- (Some “special guests” have been Rand Paul and Ted Cruz.)
- State Chairman email updates
- Private event at State GOP Convention. Next Convention will be in Dallas, June 2015.
- THE MONEY STAYS IN TEXAS!!!! YEAH!
- CFRW gets nifty awards and recognitions!
- My eternal gratitude!

**June 10th , 2014
GENERAL MEETING**

TIME:

10:30 AM – 1:00 PM

LOCATION:

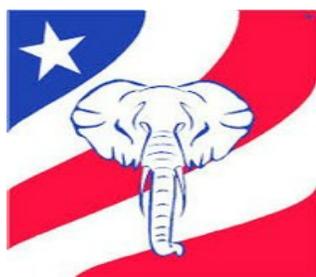
**LONGWOOD GOLF CLUB
13300 LONGWOOD TRACE**

Meeting & Lunch, \$15.00

Meeting only \$3.00

Reservations required by June 6th, 2014

No-shows will be billed





Cy-Fair Republican Women

2014 Membership Application

DATE: _____ OFFICE USE: IN PERSON MAIL/ EMAIL

PRINT FIRST AND LAST NAME:

CONTACT INFORMATION		PUBLISH IN DIRECTORY? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
Home Address:		Cell Number:	
City, St, Zip Code:		Work Number:	
Precinct #:		Home Number:	
Occupation: <i>(Required for PAC Report)</i>		Email Address:	
Position Title:		Spouse Name:	
BEST WAY TO REACH YOU		NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL? YES: <input type="checkbox"/> NO: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Cell: <input type="checkbox"/> Work: <input type="checkbox"/> Home: <input type="checkbox"/> Email: <input type="checkbox"/>		HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT US?	

CFRW REFERRALS – WOULD YOU LIKE SOMEONE TO KNOW ABOUT US?					
Name	Email Address	Tel #:	Newsletter by Email:		Relationship to New Member
			Y	N	
			Y	N	

MEMBER TYPE				
Name Badge Order	<input type="checkbox"/> New or <input type="checkbox"/> Replacement	\$15.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Active	<input type="checkbox"/> New or <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	\$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Associate Woman (Active member of which Rep. Women's club?)	<input type="checkbox"/> New or <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	\$20.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Associate Man	<input type="checkbox"/> New or <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	\$35.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	

GETTING INVOLVED! - - CHECK ANY MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITIES IN WHICH YOU ARE INTERESTED:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Campaign Activities	<input type="checkbox"/> Programs	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership
<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation	<input type="checkbox"/> Fund Raising	<input type="checkbox"/> Publicity
<input type="checkbox"/> Historian	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Contact me with more information on activities at CFRW

Please list talents/skills you possess: (Computer skills, presentation/speaking, meeting/event planning, etc.)

Please make check payable to Cy-Fair Republican Women	Total Amount Due:
Mail check and this form to: Nancy Roberts 16542 Village Drive Jersey Village, TX 77040	Please circle Cash or enter Check #: Date Received:

For more information regarding membership, please contact Nancy Roberts at 713-466-4199

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Solicitations made by Federal candidates and officeholders at this event are limited by Federal law. The Federal candidates and officeholders speaking tonight are soliciting only donations of up to \$2,400 from individuals and up to \$5,000 from multi-candidate political committees. They are not soliciting donations in any amount from corporations, labor organizations, national banks, Federal contractors, or foreign nationals.
"This is not a club endorsement, club president endorsement or campaign chair endorsement, only candidate information to help you make an informed decision and get involved with the candidate of your choice."

**National Federation of Republican Women
Texas Federation of Republican Women
Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women**

Affiliations:

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



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IMPORTANT LINKS:

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

<http://www.ghcfrwpac.org> - Greater Houston Council

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

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

Share the Vision...Join Republican Women