



Cy-Fair Republican Women Newsletter

www.cfrw.net



www.youtube.com/CFRWTexas

VOLUME 3
MARCH 2015



WOW!

What a fantastic February meeting. It was awesome to see everyone at our General Meeting. So many guests spoke with me after the meeting to thank us for such a “fun time” and say they would be back. We have new members joining each meeting. What a great way to begin our year! Their fun time, and ours, came from our members being so friendly and welcoming, our beautiful accommodations, and the many hours of preparation that goes into every meeting. Many times I’ve heard that CFRW is friendly, inviting, and fun. Let’s keep that legacy going. Let’s try to speak to our guests and enlist our new members as much as we can.

Our speaker, Mr. Wayne Thornburn, was so informative. For me, it was a walk down *Memory Lane*. So many of the people he named were people from crucial times in my past. Those brave men and women were laying the foundation for our current leaders and officials to keep our State **RED**, and helping people realize that the Conservative way is the only way our state and nation will thrive.

The information about our State elections is so useful. I don’t expect I’ll remember it verbatim, but that’s just a little more information for us to keep in our cache when someone asks us what we do at CFRW. We have the facts and numbers to back up what we believe! Thanks, Jan, for making sure our speakers are informational, as well as entertaining, with a good sense of humor.

There are many activities on our calendar this year. If you cannot attend one thing, don’t be discouraged; there will be something else in a month or so. If you

would still like to go with us to the **George Bush Library**, on March 25, please let me know. We have about 14 signed up so far. We also have several going to **Legislative Day** on April 16, so if you haven’t sent your reservation in, please do so. Every Legislative Day I’ve attended has been great. Our State Legislation is now in session and some very exciting things are happening. We will be working on our **High Heels & High Tea Luncheon** set for October 23 so your talents are welcome. **TFRW State convention** will be coming in November, so plan to attend. It will be in Lubbock this year, and from serving on the Site Committee, and seeing the enthusiasm of those ladies in Lubbock, I know it will be a great convention.

As we continue to make plans for our yearly activities, let’s keep in mind that we are all part of a well-oiled machine, and when we work together, we can accomplish any goal we set. CFRW has such great officers who take their responsibilities seriously and dedicate their time and talents to making our organization the BEST. Our members are supportive and encouraging. When we face challenges, we will continue to try to find solutions. We want to be open-minded for new ideas, but not forget our roots. Please offer your opinions and ideas with a spirit of helpfulness and if you are the person receiving new ideas and opinions, please accept them in the same manner. It is easier to just do what we’ve always done, but if that’s the case, we won’t grow, so let’s stretch our limits and use our talents to increase our numbers, add fun and educational activities, and develop our influence.

By the way, this brings me to another announcement of great significance. This is our **10th year anniversary**, and in July, we will have an anniversary party you won’t want to miss. Our meeting date is July 14, so mark that date in **red**. This special day in our club’s history will be celebrated in style. Be sure to invite friends and

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Bill filed to Phase out Texas' Franchise Tax

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A bill was filed by State Representative Dwayne Bohac (R-Houston) that will give tax relief for Texas business owners. **HB 1314** will phase out this tax, also called the Margin Tax, but it will take 10 years to gradually phase it out.

After an initial reduction in 2016 the bill will structure the tax to be reduced 10 percent annually until it will be totally phased out over 10 years. Most businesses pay 0.975 percent currently but others who retail or wholesale pay 0.4875. By reducing the percentages gradually the state will be able to adjust to the fiscal impact and continue its economic growth and job creation.

The Margin Tax was developed in 2006 to replace the previous corporate income tax structure. The problem with this system of taxation is that it taxed a company's gross sales, regardless of profitability. The formula for this tax was that it is applied to a company's total revenue minus whichever is greater: cost of goods sold, total compensation, or 30 percent of total revenues.

"A tax scheme that taxes near the top of the line regardless of profitability is inherently inefficient and unfair," said Representative Bohac. He also stated, "Having been only one of 15 Republicans to vote AGAINST the margin tax during a special session in 2006, I have been working tirelessly to reduce its negative impact on Texas businesses and to create better conditions for job growth and economic development . . . I came to the Texas House to eliminate what was, at the time, a corporate-type income tax, not replace it with a more inefficient method that punishes business owners whether they make a profit or not."

"Since its inception, this tax has been confusing, inconsistent and unfair," Rep. Bohac said. "It is only because we have been so prudent in other areas of our budget and economy that we have been able to foster what has been labeled the 'Texas Miracle.' This is an overly burdensome tax on our job creators, and we must (and reasonably can) take the necessary steps to eliminate it over the next 10 years. We have the money and flexibility in the budget to do it; we just need the will."

Texas is one of only five states with a gross receipts-style tax in its code. Texas' overall ranking in the State Business Tax Climate Index would go from 10th to 3rd best in the country if the Margin Tax is ended. Analyses have been made that if this tax is repealed it would create 41,500 new jobs, \$3.4 billion in new investment, and \$9.8 billion in new real disposable income during the first five years. Also if the Margin Tax had never been created, personal income would have grown as much \$46.3 billion cumulatively between 2006 and 2013, a 0.57 percent increase over actual personal income growth during that period.

"According to the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), small businesses make up about 96% of the state's employers. It's imperative for our state's economic prosperity and job creation that we continue to maintain a low tax burden on these businesses so they can continue to grow and hire new employees," said Bohac.





Programs ~Jan Ott

Our MARCH SPEAKER will be

JAY GUERRERO

Regional Director for Texas' Senior Senator and Majority Whip, Senator John Cornyn

Join us at our next meeting to hear the latest inside scoop about what is happening in the United States Senate.

Jay Guerrero is an important part of the Senator's team that is working for Texans. He established the Southeast Texas office which manages a region of 24 counties along the Texas Gulf coast and stretches from Beaumont to Victoria and east of College Station to Galveston. The region encompasses over seven million of the senator's constituents including the large urban areas of Houston, Galveston, Beaumont and Victoria and important entities such as the Texas Medical Center, the Port of Houston and the Johnson Space Center as well as one of the world's largest concentrations of refineries.

Prior to his position with Senator Cornyn, Jay worked at the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy at Rice University where he managed programs surrounding world leaders such as Secretary James A. Baker III, Russian President Vladimir Putin, Nelson Mandela, and the King and Queen of Jordan, to name a few. He also has worked with City of Houston Councilman Orlando Sanchez, the Chancellor of the University of Houston System and in the Texas House of Representatives and Texas Senate.

Jay will be updating you on what the Senator is doing to represent you in the U. S. Senate. Please join us for this informative presentation.

Literacy Publicity from Lone Star College and the Cypress Creek Mirror
~ Beth Mayer, Newsletter Editor

Gail Schubot, CFRW's Literacy Chair, recently led a group of our ladies to present book donations to Lone Star College. The college showed their appreciation for our donation and our community involvement via both their own newsletter and the Cypress Creek Mirror, a local news publication. Please follow the links below to see their press releases:

http://www.yourhoustonnews.com/cypresscreek/living/cfrw-literacy-committee-donation/article_dc167305-ee69-5dd9-b1b8-acd3a1f127e8.html

<http://www.lonestar.edu/news/24516.htm>





GRASSROOTS CLUB

~ By Sandra Vinklarek

We would love for you to join us!

BENEFITS ARE:

- You will not receive fundraising material from the RPT
- You will not receive phone call solicitations from the RPT
- You can have automatic monthly donations paid by your credit card (\$8.25/month)
- and much more!!

** To join, please see me → Sandra Vinklarek ← or Sign Up online at www.grassrootsclub.com OR you can CALL the Republican Party of Texas at 512-477-9821 **



MARCH 2015 GENERAL MEETING Tuesday, March 10th

TIME:

10:30 AM – 1:00 PM

LOCATION:

HEARTHSTONE COUNTRY CLUB
7615 Ameswood Rd
Houston, TX 77095
(281) 463-2201

Please visit www.cfrw.net for details
RSVP no later than
Friday, March 6th, 2015
No-shows will be billed

Campaign Activities

– by Joy Gregory

On February 3, 2015, fifteen CFRW women participated in the Volunteer Deputy Voter Registrar Training at Hearthstone Country Club. Erica from Mike Sullivan's office gave a great presentation. After the training a number of us stayed for lunch and fellowship. I would like to thank the following ladies for their participation: Lois Barclay, Mary Kay Brady, Barbara Buxton, Alice Bennett, Clarisa Chavez, Alice Gullett, Sharon Hamilton, Mary Ellen Harrington, Darcy Mingoia, Mary Moss, Jan Ott, Nancy Roberts, Judie Stokes, Sandra Vinklarek and myself.

Don't forget to turn in your Campaign hours for this or any other training or committee meetings you attend. Travel time should be included and all time should be reported to the nearest whole number of hours. If you attended Nuts and Bolts that time should be counted.



A Minute with Millie

~ *Continued from Page 1*

neighbors to join us for a celebration to be remembered.

Thanks to each and every member who contributes to CFRW in her own way to help support our mission. Let's make our voice count every opportunity we get! Our next meeting is March 10. Please make your reservations early, and join us for a great day.

~ LET'S CONTINUE TO KEEP HARRIS COUNTY AND TEXAS RED! ~





Legislative ~ Rita Parrish

Passing the Budget - HB 1 in the House and Senate

2015 is fully underway and all of the newly elected officials have finished their swearing-in ceremonies and the legislative session has begun. Committees in both the House and Senate will be named and bills will start to make their way through the legislative process.

In our newsletter last month, House Bill 1 was briefly discussed. With space limited we only had room to introduce the fact that HB 1 was passed and would be put into effect in the upcoming year. Here is a little more info on what will happen with this bill.

The state budget is otherwise known as the Appropriations Bill and it is a very important one. This bill alternates between the House and Senate each year. The budget will start in the House this year as HB 1. This is a very complex process because there are so many parts to the Appropriations Act. It is composed of 12 Articles, or sections, which include every state agency having a specific article. There are committees and subcommittees made up of members of the Appropriations Committee and they are assigned to hear testimony and review the budget requests from the various state agencies. These articles include General Government, Health and Human Services, Education, Business and Economic Development, Judiciary, Natural Resources and Public Safety and Criminal Justice among others. As we can see this is a long process which requires much debate and review to determine that each agency is utilizing their funds in the most efficient and effective manner. The subcommittees hold hearings with the various agencies and report information back to the Appropriations committee and the individual budgets are incorporated into the full bill, HB 1.

The next step is getting the bill passed by the Appropriations Committee. After going through many amendments (typically 250+ are submitted) which are debated on the House floor, the final product is then voted on by the House and sent to the Senate. Now the Senate begins their process which begins in the Senate Finance Committee.

Once the Senate reviews, debates and changes HB 1 in their committees and votes on the final bill it has changed drastically from the bill which the House approved. So they will now appoint a conference committee to work out the differences. The House and the Senate will each appoint 5 members to this conference committee who will have to reach a compromise and present a final version to their respective chambers. Our constitution requires a budget to be passed each session. If the House and Senate chambers cannot make an agreement before the session ends on June 1 this will then create the need for a Special Session which will last until the bill is passed. It will go then to the Governor's office who will be able to veto any provisions of the bill he finds objectionable, before signing the bill into law. At this point Texas will have an official budget for fiscal years 2016 and 2017.

If you would like to follow this process on any legislation and or watch legislative hearings or floor debate go to: <http://www.legis.state.tx.us/Home.aspx>.





GENERAL MEETING MINUTES ~ by Vivian Marlatt February 10th, 2015

President, Dr. Millie Alford began the meeting at 11:00 a.m. **Mary Ellen Harrington** gave the invocation and led us in the pledges to the U.S. and Texas flags.

Dr. Mille Alford introduced our guests.

Jan Ott, 1st Vice-President, introduced our speaker, Wayne Thornburn, author of "Red State".

The business meeting was called to order at 12:10 a.m.

Officers' Reports

The minutes from the January 13th Regular Meeting were approved as printed in the February Newsletter.

1st Vice-President, Jan is waiting on confirmation for our MARCH speaker.

Treasurer, Mary Moss reported that as of January 30, 2015 we had a starting balance of \$15,119.83 and ending balance of \$15,590.69. CFRW Scholarship Fund \$4,032.54. The 2015 budget committee recommended the budget for 2015. It was moved and approved. The next TEC report deadline is March 30th.

Committee Reports

Membership Chair, Alice Bennett reported that as of today we have 44 renewals, 3 associate women and 4 associate men.

2nd Vice-President, Edith Gibson is taking orders for bling shirts via email or in person. She is still accepting auction items for the High Heels & High Tea along with volunteers. Planning meetings will begin next week. She will email the dates and times.

Caring for America Chair, Mary Kay Brady shared what items Operation Interdependence's purpose is. She shared the organization was in need of snacks, sunscreen (small tubes), \$15 donations for shipping and Avon Skin Soft lotion.

Campaign Activities Chair, Joy Gregory, Millie Alford and Edith Gibson attended the Inauguration of Governor Abbott and Lt. Governor Dan Patrick in Austin on January 22. Joy shared that 17,000 attended the state inauguration lunch and 10,000 attended the ball. CFRW had 15 members attend the volunteer deputy registration training. Reminded everyone to turn in their campaign hours and CFRW has recorded 416 hours to date.

Grass Roots Chair, Sandra Vinklerek, reminded everyone to join the Grassroots Campaign.

Publicity, Nancy Roberts asked for everyone's neighborhood newsletter contact information so she can post the general meeting and other events of CFRW.

New Business

Joy Gregory was presented a scrapbook of her tenure as Past President of CFRW by Judy Stokes, Past Historian.

Old Business

NUTS N' BOLTS® Workshop – Greater Houston Council at the Sosa Center February 17

Field trip to George Bush Library/SMU Dallas – March or April; sign-up sheet circulated
Legislative Day in Austin – April 16. Room arrangements, carpools.

Next General Meeting: March 10th at 10:30 A.M. *Please make reservations.*

Deadline for March Newsletter articles is February 16th.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Vivian Marlatt





Cy-Fair Republican Women

2015 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: Please circle Cash or enter Check #:
 Alice Bennett Date Received:
 7311 Muirfield Valley Lane
 Houston, TX 77095

For more information regarding membership, please contact Alice Bennett at 713-412-0141

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 Contributions are not deductible as a charitable contribution for Federal Income Tax purposes.



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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Houston, Texas 77095**

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

