

Clear Creek Republican Women



February 2011 Newsletter

www.clearcreekrw.org

Karen Abshire, Editor

karen@aduvo.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS MARCH

- 8 Tri-County RW – Golfcrest Country Club, Pearland 10:30 a.m. info call Laura Morgan 281-484-8083
- 9 Santa Fe Chamber of Commerce luncheon Aldersgate United Methodist Church 11:30 a.m. \$10.00 Dr. Emory topic the Alphabet of Care for Senior Citizens info sfchamber@comcast.net
- 13 9-12 Association – Glenn Beck We Surround Them Show – 2nd anniversary Mario's, 618 NASA 1, Webster 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. info info@912membersusa.com
- 16 Galveston Republican Women 11:30 a.m. info bgutierrez314@comcast.net they meet every month on the 3rd Wednesday
- Alvin Area Republican Women, 260 George St. 11:30 a.m. info Barbara Staigle 281-331-2740 they meet every month on the 3rd Wednesday
- 17 Republican Network 6:30 p.m. La Brisa Mexican Restaurant on I-45 info Todd@toddkinsey.com they meet every month on the 3rd Thursday
- 19 2011 Lincoln-Regan Day Dinner – The Hilton Post Oak, Houston 6:30 p.m. guest speaker Gov. Mike Huckabee info hariscountygop.com
- 22 Clear Lake Tea Party – Tx State Legislature Detailed Informational Class or Majority Activist class info cltp10@aol.com
- 24 Friendswood Republican Women 11:15 a.m. Perry's Restaurant FM 518 info Kathy Rogers at krogers@classwide.com they meet the fourth Thursday of the month
- 26 Pan Jam Steel Drum Festival Kemah 10 am to 10 pm and the 27 from 10 am to 6 pm info Sandra Williams 281-538-4165
- 29 Sandpipers Republican Women – Galveston Country Club, Galveston 11:30 a.m. \$15. Lunch info giniawray@aol.com they meet on the last Tuesday of the month
- 29 Houston Young Republicans 7:00pm Magnolia Hotel 1100 Texas @ Fannin info David Beirne 281-772-4548 they meet every month on the last Tuesday
- 30 Bay Area Republican Women 11 am info www.barw.org they meet every month on the last Wednesday
- APRIL 1** Clear Creek Republican Women 11:30 a.m. Esteban's Fiesta Shack FM 518 they meet every month on the first Friday except June & July

Bay Area Republican Women's - Lincoln Dinner guest speaker Herman Cain
\$75 tickets 6:00 p.m. Hilton NASA Clear Lake 3000 NASA Pkwy info
Debbie Roan dgroan@comcast.net

- 7 First Thursday new group meets the first Thursday at Denny's Restaurant at 7:30 a.m. info Christy Ann Dickson at cpc@swbell.net they meet the first Thursday of every month.

Save the Date

March 6 – September 5

May 2 – 5

Texas – history of Texas - Houston Museum of Natural Science
On the Road Again...to DC with Texas Federation of Women
reservation must be made now info contact Carolyn Hodges
at chodges@hodgessw.com

The President's Address

TFRW? CCRW? NFRW?

What are these letters? What do they stand for? Are they important to us? Well let me explain what they are and how they impact our club, which by the way is CCRW. CCRW stands for Clear Creek Republican Women which was founded in 2000.

CCRW is part of TFRW which stands for Texas Federation of Republican Women.

The purpose of the Texas Federation of Republican Women (TFRW) is:

1. Actively support Republican candidates
2. Provide strength and unity for political action
3. Encourage Republican Women to run for office
4. Train Women to become effective Republican Party workers
5. Inform our members and the electorate through political education
6. Offer a source of year-round service by republican Women volunteers
7. Publish TFRW quarterly publication and other political action material
8. Cooperate with the Republican party organization by undertaking special assignments and campaign projects
9. Plan local and statewide meetings to broaden and unify the interest and education of its members.

TFRW

TFRW is the back bone of our organization and helps us to achieve our potential of getting conservative REPUBLICANS, both men and women elected to state offices. The valuable resources which are available from them are endless..TFRW has seminars throughout the year to enhance the clubs with information necessary to run campaigns.

Each Republican Women's club in the state of Texas belongs to this organization.

NFRW...

NFRW stands for National Federation of Republican Women and strives to elect candidates on the National level.

A HUGE THANK YOU to all that attended our Lincoln Dinner on February 17th. Our crowd exceeded 350 persons and the Governor of Louisiana, Bobby Jindal gave a resounding speech. Plans are already in order for next year. To the many volunteers that spent countless hours in making this a great success we appreciate your hard work. Barbara Meeks and Penny Ignazio were the cochairmen of the event and it was the BESTEST we have ever had.

Thanks,

President, Sarah Von Dran





COMMUNITY OUTREACH CARING FOR AMERICA

The Community Outreach Committee identifies community service projects and brings them before the club members for consideration. The committee encourages and promotes volunteerism and leadership in the community. Not only do we help others, but it affords an opportunity for Republican Women to be visible in the community.

Our club has been and is very active in the community. In the past we have contributed school supplies and dictionaries to area schools, as well as contributing money for children in need. We have collected food for interfaith ministries and food banks. During our December meeting we brought Christmas presents for children and donated them to the Interfaith ministries.

One of our ongoing projects is calendars for Devereux. Several members also volunteer at their facility on a regular basis. These are just a few of the outreach projects CCRW has been involved with in the past.

For this month, we are collecting items for the Pregnancy and Parenting Support Center. Please bring any of the following items to CCRW's March 11th meeting:

Diapers (sizes 2,3,4,5 – Walmart's Parent's Choice is best buy), baby lotion, baby powder, baby shampoo, baby oil, baby wipes, bottles, teething gel, diaper rash ointment.

Bonnie Wilson

Community Outreach Chairman



Nuts & Bolts Workshop

March 15th

The GHC (Greater Houston Council) will have an exciting, informative event to educate area clubs and membership setting up a campaign. A social will begin at 9:15, followed by the meeting at 10am at the SOSA Center located at 1414 Wirt Rd & Westview 77052. Contact Penny Ignazio :

281-339-1948

Or bklynpenny@aol.com



March Speaker *Cheryl Johnson,* *Tax Assessor-* *Collector*



Tax cuts are always on the mind of our March speaker, Galveston County's Tax Assessor-Collector, Cheryl Johnson. And do we thank her for it especially given our current political climate. Cheryl has been an extraordinary advocate in helping the citizens of Galveston County and has become the epitome of a taxpayer's friend. Cheryl has educated property owners on how to be more effective in reducing their tax burden with classes she has held throughout the county. She helped institute increased local control over taxpayer payment options and added two satellite offices. Cheryl has been a visual leader up and down this county. Programs for volunteer deputy voter registrars through Republican club members are an important example of her dedication to our party.

Even while Cheryl was a Board of Trustee and subsequent President of the of the Clear Creek ISD School Board her decisions reflected the pocketbooks of the taxpayers, implementing cost effective programs for the vast growth of the school district. She then went on to serve fellow citizens as Director of Information Services for the Galveston County Appraisal District prior to being elected Tax Assessor-Collector.

At the request of Senator Buster Brown to provide input on revisions of the Texas Education Code, Cheryl began a 14 year involvement with the State legislative process. She has developed friendships and professional relationships with many legislative leaders which continue to enable her to be effective in promoting changes in the Texas Capital. At our March meeting and just on the heels of TFRW's Legislative Day in Austin, Cheryl will be conducting a brief instruction for us on how to lobby our legislators and making our voices heard.

Kathie Nenninger, Programs

FEDERAL STATUS

by J. Kranz

February is the most important time of the year for our government with the release of the President's budget for the next fiscal year (FY). This year, the Administration was a week late (generally released the first Monday of Feb.) and on the 14th, they sent our country a bitter valentine – a \$3.73 trillion dollar budget – continuing the trend of out-of-control spending and record debt. This annual action sets the stage for months of debate on the funding priorities of our nation. This year is the most contentious I have seen in over a decade, maybe more? Competing initiatives and issues are causing vigorous battles across the aisle, the branches of government and between agencies on Capitol Hill. The issues at the forefront, a multi-trillion dollar national deficit, Obamacare, Iraq and Afghanistan, U.S. border security and the war on macroterrorism, homeland security, national defense, tax cuts and closer to our Bay Area home, NASA.

The President's FY12 budget focuses on several over-arching principles, innovate, educate, build, take responsibility, and reform. The budget highlights include:

(The list below is not inclusive of all stated budget features – just the ones I thought most noteworthy)

- 5-year non-security, discretionary spending freeze – planned deficit reduction of \$400B over next 10-years
- 10-year deficit reduction - \$1.1T, excluding war savings and not extending 2001 and 2003 tax cuts for high-income earners. Two-thirds will be from spending cuts
- \$148B for overall Research and Development
- Elimination of 12 tax breaks to oil, gas, and coal companies will raise \$46B over ten years
- Maintains maximum Pell Grant award, making college more affordable for approximately 9 million students
- Establishes a 6-year, \$35B per year national infrastructure and transportation Bill
- More than 200 terminations, reductions, and savings of \$33B this year. Half of all agencies will see their top-line reduced from the 2010 enacted levels

- Cuts more than \$2B in administrative overhead – travel printing, etc.
- Sets up a process to quickly dispose of excess and under-utilized federal real-estate
- Starts a process to reorganize government in order to better serve and develop a competitive America
- “Pay for success” bonds where government programs have often failed – government will only pay for these programs that produce results.
- Includes Fiscal Commission recommendations: federal worker pay freeze, medical malpractice reform, government reorganization
- Social Security reform
- Corporate tax reform
- Prevents increase in tax for middle-class through Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT) by limiting rate for high income earners to itemize tax deductions
- Strengthen Medicare Program integrity with “doc fix” which prevents a nearly 30% cut in reimbursements to doctors
- Cuts \$78B from Pentagon spending plan over next 5 years

What was the GOP's response to the President's budget? It was a counter proposal/budget that reduces spending by \$100B in this year alone. As noted by Rep. Paul Ryan (R-WI-1st), Chairman of the House Budget Committee, “The president offered a disappointing step in the wrong direction with a budget that locks in Washington's spending spree and adds \$13 trillion to the debt. His budget would stifle job growth today and cripple future generations with a crushing burden of debt and taxes. Job creators understand that today's big deficits are tomorrow's big tax increases. Washington tried to spend, borrow and tax our way to prosperity. It just doesn't work. After two years, all this borrowing and spending has not only failed to deliver promised jobs but also has plunged us deeper into debt.”

On the international front, the turmoil that began in Israel, is now spreading across many other countries in the middle-east and could quickly turn into another diplomacy effort requiring billions of dollars from the U.S. in foreign aid. Our country cannot afford to engage financially, but we cannot afford to be disengaged through lack of action and

leadership. These very critical issues are exploding across the news daily and are visibly challenging the President, the DoD, and Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton while the world watches to see how the most powerful country in the free-world responds. Will this only create a distraction, or excuse, for our Commander-in-chief and Cabinet Members not to address our domestic issues? Guess we'll see.

Stay tuned over the next few weeks and months while the budget and international battles continue – God help us!

NASA

Among the many challenges the NASA and workforce has faced over the past decade, the cancellation of the Constellation Program, called for in the President's FY10 budget plan last February, has been the most detrimental.

Although the Columbia tragedy in Feb., 2003 saddened our NASA family to the core, it didn't threaten the future of the space program. Instead, the industry fought back to strengthen the program and return to human space flight with a renewed commitment and passion.

In January 2004, prior to the first anniversary of Columbia, President Bush rolled out the Vision for Space Exploration, a new national space policy that would serve as an impetus for moving space exploration forward and overcome the tragedy. Within the space policy, several objectives were laid out, including returning the space shuttle to flight, finishing the International Space Station (ISS) and then retiring the space shuttle while the agency focused on the primary objective of returning to the Moon, and developing the requisite space systems to get there.

This commitment and passion would be crushed in the following years by a completely divided industry due to a technical standoff about the type of space vehicles and providers that would be needed to return to the Moon. This technical standoff by industry was then turned into a purely political debate when the Administration changed, but they had the answers about what destination in space, when, what type of vehicle, and what sector of industry would do the work. The future of human space flight would be entrusted to the commercial entrepreneurs who promised a more efficient and cost-effective return for the government and taxpayers but a major obstacle...they had not done

it before. Organizations within the tradition contractor community

The ultimate blow to the space industry and contractor community that had been working on the new space capsule, Orion, and the new launcher, Ares I, both a part of the Constellation Program, came in February 2010, when the Administration called for the cancellation. This cancellation of this program was analogous to the "commander-in-chief" of the Titanic, intentionally running the ship into "the iceberg" that would ultimately kill it.

THE COUNTDOWN HAS BEGUN

There are only 89 days until the end of the 82nd Texas Legislature and you thought that it had just begun.

The day of our CCRW meeting, **Friday, March 11, 2011** will be the 60th day and is the deadline for filing bills and joint resolutions other than local bills, emergency appropriations, and bills that have been declared an emergency by the governor. Everything is fast passed or so it seems. Bills have the following seven stages and many are currently still in committee.

Stage 1

Filed

Stage 2

Out of House Committee

Stage 3

Voted on by House

Stage 4

Out of Senate Committee

Stage 5

Voted on by Senate

Stage 6

Sent to Governor

Stage 7

Bill Becomes Law

The Sonogram bill has passed in the House and Senate with similar, but different versions. If the House had passed the Senate bill, the issue would pretty much be settled. It will likely be headed for a conference committee, which means there could be hours more worth of sonogram debate later in the session. Stay tuned. For more information on the Senate (16) version... <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/BillLookup/History.aspx?LegSess=82R&Bill=SB16>

For the House (HB 15) version...

<http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/BillLookup/History.aspx?LegSess=82R&Bill=HB15>

*Texas Legislation,
Kathie Nenninger*

The State of CCRW Membership...

“Welcome!”

New and Returning

Membership Is Now:

57 Full Members

23 Associates



Treasurers Report

Lesley Bruemmer
Treasurer



BALANCE \$ 2782.43

CCRW 2011 OFFICERS

President	Sarah Von Dran	281-482-2990
1 st VP Membership	Michelle Slaughter	281 667-4128
2 nd VP Programs	Tommye Randolph	713-299-3128
Recording Secretary	Penny Ignazio	281-334-4418
Corresponding Secretary	Natalie Roth	281-538-2417
Treasurer	Lesley Bruemmer	832-632-2880
Publicity	Betty Suagee	281-332-
Outreach	Bonnie Wilson	281-332-8039
Chaplin	Norma Byous	281-332-4681
Historian	Frances Nussbaum	281-990-0099
Legislation	Jeanie Krantz	713-259-9022

March Birthdays!

- 3/6 Janis Lowe
- 3/7 Melissa Gore
- 3/9 Arlene Taylor
- 3/10 Susan Pierce
- 3/10 Michael Siwierka
- 3/15 Simon Urbanik
- 3/17 Charity Clark
- 3/20 Betty Suagee
- 3/21 Debbie Lindemann
- 3/21 Pitsy Dahlstrom
- 3/24 Jane Murray
- 3/27 Denice Ruggeri
- 3/28 Ryan Dennard
- 3/29 Tommye Randolph
- 3/29 Dennis Paul **Attending:**

FEB. 11, 2010 CLEAR CREEK REPUBLICAN WOMEN BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Karen Abshire, Lesley Bruemmer, Norma Byous, Penny Ignazio, Tanya Kloesel, Barbara Meeks, Kathie Nenninger, Natalie Roth, Cindy Seidensticker, Sarah Von Dran, and Bonnie Wilson.

Quorum:yes

Sarah Von Dran led us in prayer. The pledges will be said at the general meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of January's executive meeting was passed, there were no changes.

Membership V.P. We have a total of 53 full members and 21 associated members paid for the year to date. Evelyn Garland had resigned from this position. Sarah Von Dran had appointed Michelle Slaughter to take over membership.

Program V.P. Tommye Randolph and Kathie Nenninger Our guest speaker for March meeting will be Cheryl Johnson.

Corresponding Secretary: Natalie Roth - February birthday announcements have been sent out. Natalie state that a book in Dr. Robin Armstrong's name has been donated to the League City Library.

Treasurer: Lesley Bruemmer gave her report stating that our balance is \$2666.70.

Campaign Activities: Tanya Kloesel reported 78 hours for February.

Community Outreach: Bonnie Wilson spoke on some of the organizations that we can help during the year. Pregnancy and Parenting Support Center, Women Veterans – Santa Maria Hostel for homeless women veterans, Shelter Alliance for donating old cell phones and the Village Fair (Lions Club) for old eye glasses.

Hospitality Chairman: Cindy Seidensticker made some suggestions for new members and guest. We will put a star on new

members name badges, so that we may welcome them, the president recognizes guests and it was suggested we have a guest book available.

Legislation: Kathie Nenninger stated that the Sonogram Bill and the Voter ID bill are in the Senate and House and should be passed by our next meeting. She would also like to put this information on our web page.

Website: Karen Abshire sends out the newsletter each month. She has been doing a great job. She also suggests that we look at the website which is under construction. WWW.ClearCreekRW.org.

Bonnie Wilson will be spotlighted in the March Newsletter, Cindy Seidensticker will be spotlighted in our April Newsletter, and Kathie Nenninger in our May Newsletter

New Business: We have to put a disclaimer on any information we put out about candidates. Concealed Handgun License fund raiser. We will sponsor a class for your license.

Discussion on some fund raisers that we could have: A Victorian fashion show and tea, Casino night (need to check if we can do this), a Spaghetti Dinner, A Cajun Dinner or an October Fest. Need to check out places we could do this at no cost or minimal cost.

Announcements: February 15 Nuts and Bolts event

February 17 Galveston County Republican Party Lincoln Dinner

March 3 Texas Federation of Republican Women Legislative Day in Austin.

Adjourn: The meeting ended at 10:45 a.m. Respectfully submitted,

Penny Ignazio
CCRW Secretary

**Clear Creek Republican Women PAC
Galveston County, Texas
2011 Membership Application**

Please **print** legibly. Please complete all the requested information.

All information is needed for CCRW to contact members and make reports to TFRW.

Full Member \$25.00 New Renewal

Associate Member \$15.00

Associate members are women who have primary membership in another Republican club or any men.

Name _____ Spouse _____

Mailing Address _____ Precinct # _____

City _____ Zip +4 _____

Phone Numbers (H) _____ (C) _____

(W) _____ Circle which phone is best to call H C W

Email Address: _____

Occupation _____ Birthday (Month/day) _____

Are you a member of another Republican Club? Yes No

If yes, which club? _____

How did you learn about CCRW? _____

Prior political activities _____

Areas of interest _____

I would like to help on the following committees:

Audit Awards By-Laws CCRW Directory

Campaigns Historian Hospitality ICM Tree

Legislation Newsletter Publicity Telephone

Ways and Means Web Community Outreach

Please complete and mail to Lesley Bruemmer, CCRW Pac Treasurer, 2301 Meadows, League City, Texas 77573 or bring to a CCRW Meeting at 11:30 am on the first Friday of the month August through May. Meetings are held at the Esteban's Fiesta Shack, in back of Esteban's, 402 West Main, League City, Texas.

Date Paid _____ Check # _____ Cash _____ **F A**