



# *Cy-Fair Republican Women*

*NEWSLETTER*

*March 2007*

## *Kay's Kolumn*



The results are in from our Member Survey and we will continue our current meeting schedule alternating monthly between mornings and evenings. I want to thank those members who participated in this survey. Our goal is to meet the needs of our members so that we can grow our membership and build a strong, active club.

Building our membership is not just a goal for CFRW but for TFRW as well. As conjoined organizations we are set about to build a strong, grass-roots force which will aide us in maintaining our majority in the state, maintain the White House and re-capture the US Congress in the face of momentum won by Democrats this past fall. Momentum is a powerful thing. We must not underestimate its potential.

While our membership may not be large, it is certainly active. We had a terrific showing at the TFRW Nuts and Bolts Seminar last month. The event was hosted by Greater Houston Council. We all learned some things about TFRW and about what our responsibilities are as club officers and committee members. I was joined by Millie Alford, Barbara Dorsey, Dawn Fobbs, Betty Guthrie, Alice McDill, Kathleen O'Neal, Dawn Shull, and Julie Sweidel.

The Greater Houston Council meets every other month and all of you are welcome and encouraged to attend. Please check the calendar for the dates and let one of the board members know if you are interested in going.

We also had an impressive attendance at the TFRW Legislative Day in Austin. Barbara Biggi, Millie Alford, Stephanie DeHondt, Barbara Dorsey, Dawn Fobbs, Alice McDill, Mary Moss, Jan Ott, Kathleen O'Neal, Rita Parrish, Dawn Shull, Julie Sweidel and I traveled to Austin to participate in this spectacular day. There was a sea of "red coats" and all at the Capitol knew the Republican Women were in the house.

We all want to say "Thank you" to Stephanie, for the wonderful "Silent Auction" basket of new baby items that she put together for us. This creation was simply the best and brought in big dollars for TFRW.

Jan and several officers from last year's board attended a dinner hosted by Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst. Our Club was honored for winning Second Place in Membership Growth in the Small Club category. Jan was presented with a gavel and accepted a check for \$500 that was awarded to the club at the TFRW Luncheon.

I wish you all could have gone with us. Republican Women from around the state were educated, motivated and appreciated. And it was just what we needed to send us on our way to the next Presidential election cycle. We CAN retain the White House and recapture seats lost in this past election. I encourage all of you to become involved. It is fun and rewarding and so worth while. Never under estimate the power you have and the influence you can have in this process. Join us in this process. There are so many things you can do and we want you to be a part of the greatest "little" club (for now) in Texas...

Later..... Kay



## FEBRUARY MEETING



**TUESDAY  
MARCH 13**

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

**Place:** at Romero's Las Brasas Mexican Cantina  
15703 Longenbough (at Hwy 6), Houston, Tx

**RSVP:**

Krista Steele: 281-246-4894

Ksteele@entouch.net

No later than Monday, March 12

**Speaker: Jay Guerrero**

**Regional Director - Southeast Texas for  
Senator John Cornyn**

When Jay started working for Senator Cornyn in 2003, he established the Southeast Texas office. From this office Jay manages 25 counties in the Gulf Coast region stretching from Beaumont to Victoria and east of College Station to Galveston. With around 6 million senate constituents in this region, the area is very diverse. It includes urban areas of Houston, the Port of Houston, the Texas Medical Center, large concentrations of refineries and the Johnson Space Center. Please welcome Jay to our March meeting and be prepared for up to date information about these regions of Texas.



### 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@houston.rr.com

Past President & Awards: **Jan Ott**

281-859-6464

J.ott@wcthou.com

Parliamentarian: **Barbara Dorsey**

713-466-0771

dannyandbarbara@sbcglobal.net

Membership: **Dawn Fobbs**

281-463-4218

msdawwn@sbcglobal.net

Hospitality: **Krista Steele**

281-246-4894

Ksteele@entouch.net

Campaign Activities & Website:

**Julie Sweidel**

281-704-9083

jsweidel@netscape.net

Legislative: **Millie Alford**

713-466-0731

caphd@yahoo.com

Community Service: **Susan Fruit**

281-463-2972

susan@susanfruitinteriors.com

Publicity: **Mary Atchison**

281-855-6706

mary@wcthou.com

Historian: **Emily Klein**

832-778-0734





## MINUTES

### CY-FAIR REPUBLICAN WOMEN GENERAL MEETING

February 13, 2007

President Kay Waghorne called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m. at the home of Mary Moss. Shirley Chambers gave the invocation followed by the United States Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge of Allegiance. Sixteen members, two guests and the evening's guest speaker were in attendance.

First VP – Programs, Stephanie DeHondt, introduced the speaker, Victoria Miller, Austin Director of Field Operations for Congressman Michael McCaul. Ms. Miller gave an interesting presentation on the importance of grassroots campaigning for Republican candidates. Grassroots politics begins with groups like ours and involves organizing and networking within the local and state communities and getting the public to vote. She stressed the need to communicate positive messages about candidates, their records, their views on issues and their platforms. A question and answer period followed.

The minutes of the January 9, 2007 general meeting were approved as printed.

Kay made the following announcements:

- The re-scheduled “Nuts and Bolts” Leadership Workshop will be held on Tuesday, February 20, 2007 at the Compass Bank building on Kirby at San Felipe. Beginning with lunch at 11:30 a.m., the workshop which will conclude at 2:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet was circulated for those interested in attending.
- Sign-up sheet was passed for those interested in attending a Town Meeting with Debbie Riddle (District 150) and Patricia Harless (District 126) at Brookside Funeral Home at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, February 17.
- Sign-up sheet was passed for those interested in attending a Town Meeting with Congressman Culbertson (District 7) at Jersey Village High School on Wednesday, February 21 at 6:30 p.m.

Stephanie DeHondt, Programs Chair, asked for members to submit topics of interest for meeting programs.

Ways and Means Chair, Mary Moss, asked for volunteers to help with the High Tea and High Heels fundraiser to be held on a weekday in October. A sign-up sheet was passed. Please contact Mary if you can help! Regarding the club shirts, Jan Ott moved that the club spend up to \$150 for the shirts and allow the Board to decide on which shirts will be purchased. Motion was seconded by Barbara Dorsey. Motion passed. Mary announced that the Peter Barnes books are still available for purchase. Mary will distribute recipe cards at the next meeting to start collecting recipes for the club's cookbook fundraiser.

Treasurer, Dawn Shull, reported a balance of \$4758 in the club's account. Meeting attendees are asked to pay cash for lunch at daytime general meetings.

Newsletter Chair, Rita Parrish, asked that members inform her if they prefer to receive their newsletters by mail instead of via email.

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*(Minutes continued)*

Krista Steele, Hospitality Chair, introduced Kathleen O'Neil as a committee member. Sign-up sheets were circulated for members interested in volunteering their homes for meetings, being a hostess (refreshments), or preparing an invocation

The next general meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 13, 2007, at Romero's Las Brazas Restaurant on Longenbaugh Drive and Highway #6 at **10:30 a.m.**

Julie Sweidel, Campaign Activities Chair, informed the members that a mayoral election is scheduled for May 12, 2007 in Tomball, TX. The current mayor, Hap Harrington is being challenged by Diane Holland. A tea for Holland is being held on Sunday, February 18, at 2 p.m. for those interested.

Jan Ott, Awards Chair, reported that the third graders at Walker Elementary School (CFISD) performed a wonderful "thank you" skit for those who delivered the dictionaries donated by CFRW. Pictures can be viewed on the website.

Historian, Emily Klein, asked for photos from 2005 through 2006 be provided to her for inclusion in the past president's scrapbook.

Old Business:

- **Day meeting start time has been changed from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. to better accommodate those who are employed.**
- Results from the survey regarding "daytime only", "evening only", or "both day and evening" meetings will be reviewed by the Board. A decision will then be made by the Board.
- Stephanie is working on the Legislative Day auction basket which will contain items for infants with a patriotic and Republican theme. Donations of items are welcomed.
- Kay announced that CFRW donated a pair of gardening gloves to the "Nuts and Bolts" basket for Legislative Day.

New Business:

- A Peter Barnes children's book will be donated to the library in honor of our guest speaker, Victoria Miller.
- Tickets were drawn and door prizes were awarded.

Kathleen O'Neil moved the meeting be adjourned. Maureen Young seconded. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.....Betty Guthrie, CFRW: Secretary



**Campaign Activities:**

We logged an impressive number of hours in February and (already!) in March at the Nuts 'N' Bolts Seminar and Legislative Day in Austin. Both events were great times to mix and mingle with other Republican women. These forums help keep us motivated and remind us that we are, indeed, a big part of the political process.

The Tomball General City Election in May 2007 is starting to roll with the filing of **Diane Holland** as candidate for mayor. We are in contact with her campaign office and would like to provide support from our members. Look for a link to her website on ours, [www.cfrw.net](http://www.cfrw.net), in the very near future. If you are interested in volunteering for her, please send an email to: [dianeformayor@yahoo.com](mailto:dianeformayor@yahoo.com) or call Julie Sweidel, Campaign Activities Chairperson of CFRW at (281) 345-6678 for more information.





**Ways and Means:**

**High Tea and High Heels - Fall 2007**

We have started to work on plans for our major fund raising event of the year - *our Second High Tea and High Heels Fashion Show and Luncheon* - but **WE STILL NEED YOUR HELP!**

In order to make our second event even more successful than the first we need help on the following committees:

- Venue/Menu - help locate the place for the event and choose the menu
- Fashion Show - help select the vendor(s) that will supply the clothes and accessories
- Silent Auction/Vendor tables - round up and set up the Silent Auction items and Vendor tables
- Decorations - think up/create table decorations, etc.
- Publicity - get the word out
- Printing - design the invitations, fliers, etc.

If you can help out in any capacity - either large or small - please contact me, Mary Moss, 281-550-9415 or [moss311@sbcglobal.net](mailto:moss311@sbcglobal.net). More people on the committee means we can spread the work out so that it is not a big problem for just a few.

**Peter Barnes - children's books - \$18 each - 5 different titles available**

We still have several of these cleverly illustrated children's books that explain how our American government works - from the president to the congress to the supreme court. These are great gifts for children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews, school teachers, or even gifts in your name to local schools or libraries.

**Coming up - CFRW Cook Book**

Don't forget about the proposed Cook Book project. Be thinking of those special recipes that you can submit. If you'd like to help, let me know, **Mary Moss - 281-550-9415 - [moss311@sbcglobal.net](mailto:moss311@sbcglobal.net)**

That's it for this time .....Mary

**CFRW UPCOMING DATES  
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

March 13..... CFRW-Meeting - 10:30 AM  
Romero's Las Brasas Restaurant

March 20.....Greater Houston Council Meeting

April 10.....CFRW-Meeting - 6:45 PM



**Membership:**

**\*Membership has it's benefits\***

Thanks to all of the loyal members for renewing your membership! Your support is wonderful and greatly appreciated. Welcome, welcome, welcome to all new (CFRW) members! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your fellow members listed in your member directory. Or call me personally.

If you have not renewed your membership, please fill in the membership form and mail it to, Ms. Dawn Fobbs at 6717 Bluebottle Lane, Katy, Texas 77449. In addition, call me anytime at, 281.858.969. You are welcome to also bring your membership forms to the next meeting and pick up your membership directory as well as order your CFRW member badge. Badges are \$15.00 and ordered once per month.

Reminder: Membership is \$25; Associate membership is \$17, and Supporting memberships are \$30. All checks or money orders should be made out to Cy-Fair Republican Women or (CFRW).

Thank you and I look forward to personally seeing each one of you encouraging you to help us help you.

Dawn Fobbs  
[msdawn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:msdawn@sbcglobal.net)





## Legislative Report - Millie Alford

Legislative Day was a great success! I think one of the highlights for me was attending the public meeting on the Trans Texas Corridor. It was an open meeting and scheduled speakers were allowed to speak to the panel and share their opinions on the TTC. Occasions like these really whet our appetites and encourage us to learn more about our government and elected officials. As we listened to the speakers, it was very evident to me that all citizens have access to our system, if we take advantage of the opportunities. I realized that participating in the process is just the tip of the iceberg in what all goes on in our legislature. This month, I'm offering some FAQ's and their answers which I hope will be as helpful to you as they are to me. They can be found at <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/Resources/FAQ.aspx> . If you have a question about the legislative process or which bills are currently under consideration, and you cannot find the answer, please email me at [caphd@yahoo.com](mailto:caphd@yahoo.com) and I will be happy to do some research for you. ☺ In addition to the previous website, you can read the Highlights, Featured Items, etc. on <http://www.house.state.tx.us/welcome.php> . There is a wealth of information at your fingertips.

### Questions and Answers:

#### 1. How do I determine my district and legislator?

Use the [Who Represents Me?](#) system on this website. You can enter your ZIP code, city, or street address to find your legislator and district.

#### 2. How do I contact my representative or senator?

It is each legislator's prerogative to support feedback through e-mail. If a legislator chooses to do so, you can find an e-mail feedback form on the legislator's home page. You can find your representative on the [house website](#) and your senator on the [senate website](#).

#### 3. How do I find out more about the Texas legislative process?

Information on the legislative process (introduction of bills, calendars, committees) can be found on the [legislative process](#) page.

#### 4. How do I find out when a public hearing is being held?

To find times and places for public hearings, view the committee schedule information available for [house](#) and [senate](#) committees.

#### 5. How do I follow the status of a bill?

You can use TLO to follow a bill through the entire [legislative process](#). View the page [How to Follow a Bill Using TLO](#) to gain information on features provided by this website to follow a bill through the legislative process. This page includes information on how to find out when a bill will be discussed in committee, when a bill will be discussed on the floor, and how to find the current status for a bill.

#### 6. How do I view the text of a bill or lookup the status of a bill?

You can view bills, fiscal notes, and bill analyses by selecting the [bill lookup](#) link on the Texas Legislature Online home page. You can also use this link to inquire about the status for a bill. You will be prompted to enter a bill number. See [question #9](#) for documents available in alternative formats.

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## Legislative (continued)

### **7. How do I obtain a hard copy of a bill?**

The [Texas Legislative Council House Document Distribution](#) section distributes house documents and copies of general information and legislative reference publications to members of the legislature and to the general public.

House Document Distribution

Robert E. Johnson Building, Room B.324

1501 N Congress Ave

Austin, TX 78701

(512) 463-1144

E-mail: [house.documentdistribution@tlc.state.tx.us](mailto:house.documentdistribution@tlc.state.tx.us)

Senate Bill Distribution

Sam Houston Building, Room 190

201 E. 14th St.

Austin, TX 78701

(512) 463-0252

### **8. What does the underlining and strikethrough in bill and amendment text mean?**

Underlined and strikethrough text indicate changes being made to the text of existing law or an existing constitutional provision. Underlined text is new language and strikethrough text indicates text being removed from existing law.

### **9. Is there an FTP site available for downloading bills?**

Yes. The address is <ftp.legis.state.tx.us>. For downloading purposes, HTTP/FTP is supported on Internet Explorer (version 5.5 or higher), Netscape (version 7.2 or higher), or Safari. Firefox does not support HTTP/FTP. The Firefox browser requires an add-on such as FireFTP.

### **10. How do I obtain the conference committee report version of bill text?**

Changes to bill text made by a conference committee are included in the enrolled version of the bill text.

### **11. How do I find out how a legislator voted on a bill?**

Bill vote information is available in the house or senate journal. The votes of individual representatives and senators are available only if (1) a record vote is requested at the time the vote takes place; or (2) when a record vote has not been taken within a specified time limit, a member registers a request to have his or her vote recorded in the journal. For help in finding vote information, view the page entitled [Finding Vote Information](#).

### **12. How current is the information on this site?**

Information updates occur immediately after the information is entered into the legislature's internal computer system.

### **13. What are the hours of operation?**

Texas Legislature Online is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

### **14. Is the system available when updates are being made?**

Updates to the website do not require the system to be "unavailable." Occasional scheduled maintenance periods will require that the system be "unavailable." In such a case we will post a message on the home page.

### **15. The information I need is not on the website. Where can I get help?**

The earliest bill text available on this website is for the 73rd Legislature (1993). If you need access to earlier versions of text, you can view it onsite at the [Legislative Reference Library](#) (512) 463-1252.



Affiliations:  
National Federation of Republican Women  
Texas Federation of Republican Women  
Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women

**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

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.

