



Cy-Fair Republican Women

NEWSLETTER

August 2008

Kay's Kolumn



I hope that everyone is enjoying their summer. In the lull before the storm, I am thinking about all the work we have ahead of us in the fall and how CFRW will play a part in this important election year. And, asking how our members can get the most out of their membership in the process. Everyone who joins a Republican Women's club, does so with different expectations. As president, I want to make sure that all of our members enjoy their association with the group and that everyone has the opportunity to participate and contribute their time and talents.

We formed CFRW with many great goals in mind. One, of course, is to help put good Republicans into office. Another is to engage more women in the Cy-Fair area in the political process. We want to surround ourselves with other people who share our mania. Some of us (certainly not me) have personal political ambitions or want to promote "women" in the political arena. And we all want to be a part of the "grass roots" of the Republican Party and to learn about issues and candidates so that we can make informed decisions.

And we need YOU to make all these things happen. I challenge everyone to participate and to contribute to our club in some new way. I'd love you to "put your mark" on our club! I know that many of us still don't know one another too well yet, and it is difficult to meet and make friends during the short time we have each month at our meetings. It is by working with one other, attending events and volunteering for committees that we build relationships and

CFRW UPCOMING DATES MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

August 12, 2008 - CFRW Meeting
Meeting 6:30 PM

At the home of Jan & Bill Ott
7903 Alamar, Houston, Tx
Located in Hearthstone

strengthen our club. And, the more we do that, the more good work we will do.

Also, we need your ideas and energy. If you have any ideas about what you would like to see our club do, please let me know. **Our board is always open to new ideas and volunteers.**

There are several events coming up where we will have the opportunity to work and play together.

We have our August Evening Social event. This will provide a leisurely atmosphere to mingle more than we normally get a chance to do at our regular meeting. We have the two voter registration drives lined up. There are already campaign activities and block walking for candidates. The Bus Buddies event is coming up again and Caring for America "caps for the soldiers" project where we will get together after a meeting to learn to knit or crochet these incredible gifts to our military. These are all opportunities to build friendships and do good work.

Later, Kay



AUGUST MEETING



August Evening Social

**Tuesday, August 12, 2008
6:30 PM**

Our club's August meeting will be a casual evening social event.

Come join us for light fare, wine, and friendly conversation.

Spouses and guests are welcome!

We are honored to have

U.S. Congressman John Culberson

As our special guest speaker

Also speaking is **Apostle Claver T. Kamau-Imani**

In the home of
Jan and Bill Ott
7903 Alamar, Houston, TX 77095

**Cost is \$8 per person –
Payment and reservation required by Friday, August 8
Late Registration fee is \$12 per person**

RSVP Online at www.CFRW.net

or

Mail payment and reservation form to:

Dawn Shull
13322 Golden Valley Drive
Cypress, TX 77429

For More Information call: Barbara Dorsey at 713.466.0771

Note: This social event will replace our August Business Meeting



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WAYS AND MEANS - Mary Moss



SAVE THE DATE! SEPTEMBER 13, 2008 - 9 TO 4

CFRW has reserved booth space at the Copperfield Women's Club Craft show on Saturday, September 13 at Lonestar College from 9 am to 4 pm.

We will be selling our *Life of the Party* Cookbooks, Peter Barnes Books, and other Republican stuff. We will also be taking Voter Registrations and hopefully drum up interest in our club and some new members! We will need to have at least three people there at all times - one of which needs to be a deputized voter registrant.

We will have a sign up sheet at the August meeting or let me know if you can help out.

Peter Barnes Books

We still 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

I have a new batch of red t-shirts at the June meeting. CFRW has lots of events coming up that you will want to be sporting our CFRW apparel. Check with me at the July meeting to purchase your shirts.

That's it for this time - **Mary**



MEMBERSHIP - KELLI RAY



Time to get "social" in August! Please join us and bring a friend, family member, AND neighbor to the next meeting featuring U.S. Congressman John Culberson as our honored guest speaker. Members, it's time to rally! Let's show Congressman Culberson that we are excited, energized and ready to win in November!

Kelli Ray





MINUTES

CY-FAIR REPUBLICAN WOMEN GENERAL MEETING

July 8, 2008

President Kay Waghorne called the meeting of the Cy-Fair Republican Women club to order at 11:03 am at Hearthstone Country Club. Handouts included a meeting agenda, flyer about the CFRW August 12th Evening Social, and the individual reporting form for TFRW General Election Competition sponsored by Lt. Governor David Dewhurst. Chaplain Alice McDill gave the invocation and led the group in prayer followed by the United States Pledge of Allegiance and the pledge to the Texas flag. Kay welcomed members and the following guests: Diane Connor, Betty Collins (rejoined member), Doris Jones (new member), Emily Klein (member from John Culberson's office), Colleen Gilbert (member from Michael McCaul's office), Jerry Reed, Debbie Reed, Brenda Kaiser, and Martha Wells (members of Operation Military Embrace, Inc.).

Millie Alford, Legislative Chairman, introduced guest speaker Mr. Jerry Reed, President/Executive Director of Operation Military Embrace, Inc. He informed attendees about his organization and its mission to show appreciation to wounded military for their service and sacrifices on behalf of Americans and to raise public awareness of the difficulties and challenges experienced by the troops and their families. They provide visits to patients at the Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, TX, host events, grant wishes, offer a free PX day, trips to ranches for R&R, financial assistance to wounded troops in crisis, care packages to deployed troops, and more. A slide show accompanied his presentation.

The minutes of the June 10, 2008 general meeting published in the July issue of the CFRW Newsletter were approved as corrected. The correction of the date of the meeting in the heading as published in the CFRW July 2008 Newsletter was changed to June 10, 2008.

In Treasurer Dawn Shull's absence Kay reported a balance of \$12,185.51 in the CFRW treasury as of June 30, 2008. Current membership is 41 (in addition to the new member who joined today) with a goal of 49 members. The report was accepted.

Mary Moss, Ways and Means Chairman, announced that updated membership directory inserts have been distributed. Election pins are available, as are CFRW cookbooks. Red CFRW t-shirts have arrived and are available for purchase. Denim shirts can be ordered. Members expressed interest in purchasing "McCain" caps, so Mary will order these.

Kay, in Campaign Activities Chairman Pam Waldren's absence, reminded members to complete the individual reporting form with all their election volunteer hours and send it to Pam. CFRW is asking members to please submit ideas for voter registration drive activities by contacting Pam

Rita Parrish, Newsletter Chairman announced that the deadline for articles for the August 2008 CFRW newsletter is Monday, July 28, 2008.

Legislative Chairman Millie Alford asked for ideas and questions to research for future articles for the CFRW Newsletter.

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MINUTES, CONTINUED

Old Business:
None

New Business/Announcements:

- The CFRW Evening Social will be held on August 12, 2008, at the home of Jan and Bill Ott. Honored guest will be Congressman John Culberson, US House of Representative, District 7. Other candidates/elected officials will be in attendance as well. Members are encouraged to invite spouses and friends to this event. PLEASE rsvp on the CFRW website. Cost is \$8 per person.

A drawing was held for the door prize which was won by Doris Jones.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:17 pm. Optional lunch followed.

Betty Guthrie
Secretary, CFRW



CARING FOR AMERICA - Cheryl Mills



In August, we have the opportunity to help our favorite elementary school, Walker Elementary, by riding the busses home with the children on the first 3 days of school: August 25, 26 and 27. Training this year for the Bus Buddies program for the Cy-Fair School District will be available for first time participants to attend: Monday, August 18th from 9:30am - 10:30am; Tuesday, August 19th from 6:30pm - 7:30pm; and Wednesday, August 20th from 7:30am - 8:30am at the Berry Center Theater. Walker Elementary is located at 6424 Settlers Village Drive, Katy, TX 77449. I will contact you with the time you will need to arrive at the school on the first three days. Please remember to wear your CFRW shirt.

At our September 9th meeting, we will have an opportunity to learn to crochet hats for the Troops! Please plan to stay after the meeting for about an hour while my sister-in-law shows us how to crochet a skull cap for those in battle to wear under their helmets. We are having a contest to see which Club can provide the most caps in all of Texas, so let's show Texas what Cy-Fair can do!

Operation Interdependence has just received a huge supply of items to send to the troops that needs to be sorted and bagged, so please remember to go to their location at Jones Road and Cypress North Houston on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 9am and 1pm. Thanks!

Cheryl Mills





As we swelter in Houston, Austin has a number of “hot” issues to reconcile. This month’s report will focus on the plan to add almost a million elderly persons and persons with disabilities to the Medicaid system.

The following article was taken directly from *The American Statesman* and concerns persons with disabilities and the elderly of our state. We all are concerned what impact it will have on our loved ones.

Lawmakers criticize plan to expand troubled public assistance system-Advocates for people with disabilities worry about impact. By Corrie MacLaggan/*AMERICAN-STATESMAN* STAFF (Tuesday, July 15, 2008)

Members of a legislative panel on Monday sharply criticized a plan to nearly triple the number of Medicaid and food stamp cases handled by a troubled computer enrollment system. Under the plan, Health and Human Services Executive Commissioner Albert Hawkins proposed adding about 953,000 elderly and disabled people to the system between December 2008 and September 2009. Some lawmakers and advocates for people with disabilities called that reckless because the state has had problems processing cases in the system as quickly as the federal government requires. Judith Zaffirini, Senator, says she is shocked by proposal. Albert Hawkins Official seeks to expand new system. “If this conversion is not totally successful, people will be without services — this is probably the most vulnerable population we have,” Colleen Horton of the University of Texas Center for Disability Studies told lawmakers. “It’s really unfair to place the burden of the consequences of such a massive, untested conversion” on this group.

The expansion plans for TIERS — Texas Integrated Eligibility Redesign System — comes at a time when the agency is struggling with worker shortages and high turnover. The state has had trouble getting enough workers trained in TIERS, which was designed to modernize the enrollment system. Several lawmakers said they were surprised to learn of the plan last week from an early copy of Hawkins’ testimony Monday to a joint House-Senate committee looking at the enrollment system. “I’m absolutely shocked and dismayed at what has happened,” said state Sen. Judith Zaffirini, D-Laredo, “and cannot believe that there is such an obvious attempt to go counter to what I consider legislative intent.”

Texas received federal approval to expand TIERS in a limited manner starting this month, but Hawkins said he won’t do so until the commission meets a series of benchmarks. Hawkins said that the agency is working to smooth the conversion and that he will continually evaluate the conversion plan and will not move forward if there are problems. The bulk of the change, which requires approval from the federal agency that oversees food stamps, is set to begin in March. “It’s not etched in stone,” Hawkins said of the plan. “It’s the plan to guide our efforts, but we’re not going to be bound to it.” Additionally, he plans to expand TIERS to other Medicaid and food stamp recipients in Central Texas and the El Paso and Lubbock areas.

The Center for Public Policy Priorities, which is an advocate for low- and middle-income Texans, warned in a report Monday that the state should halt plans to convert any more cases to TIERS until there are enough trained workers to process applications quickly enough to meet federal standards: 30 days for food stamps and 45 days for Medicaid. In June, Texas completed more than 70 percent of food stamp applications on time in TIERS — an improvement since January but short of the more than 90 percent that were completed on time in the old system in June. Most public assistance enrollment in Texas is still processed using the old system.

Kalese Hammonds of the Texas Public Policy Foundation, which is an advocate for limited government, told lawmakers that delaying TIERS expansion is not the solution — in part because of what keeping two systems is costing taxpayers.

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LEGISLATIVE REPORT - Continued



The state spends \$1.6 million a month to maintain the system that TIERS was designed to replace, agency spokesman Geoffrey Wool said.

The American Statesman accessed 7-17-08 at <http://www.statesman.com/news/content/region/legislature/stories/07/15/0715tiers.html>

In relation to this article, I did a little more research and found the following information regarding what happens between Legislative Sessions. It is reassuring to know that research and meetings are being held on issues such as these. Hopefully, the outcome will be favorable for the elderly and persons with disabilities.

Interim Committees Study Disability Issues

Between Legislative Sessions, House and Senate “*Interim Committees*” study important issues and compile information that will help guide policy decisions by subsequent legislatures. Each committee has a list of issues (or charges) that it will research and hold hearings on which are open to the public. Meeting notices are posted on the legislature’s Web site at <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us>. More information is at [Advocacy between Legislative Sessions Can Impact Policy, Programs](#). Key issues that **House committees** are studying are at [Speaker Craddick Announces House Interim Study Charge](#) and [New Committee to Review State ICF/MR Services](#). See also [House Human Services Committee Provides E-Mail Updates on Activities](#). Key issues that **Senate committees** are studying are at [Senate Interim Study Charges Released](#).

Texas Legislature: http://www.txddc.state.tx.us/public_policy/txlegis.asp#interim

August Legislative Report

Millie Alford



CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES - PAM WALDREN



Summer Activities are coming to a close and we are all looking forward to the cooler weather to accommodate our Fall CFRW activities. We will continue with our voter registration drive and will be participating in Community Partners Day and Cy-Fest at the Lone Star College located on Barker Cypress Road. Community Partners Day will be occurring on Sept. 24, Oct. 22 and Nov. 19. Cy-Fest, a big, all day event on Oct. 11, will draw several thousand people from our community and should be fun and productive for our club. In addition, The General Election Competition and Texas Victory '08 will be keeping us very busy as we work toward success at the polls in November. I'll keep you posted on events and dates as they arise.

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 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.

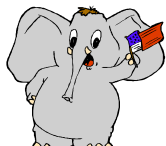
<http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/> - Updates on what is going on in the Texas legislature.

<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.



CY-FAIR REPUBLICAN WOMEN



August Evening Social

Tuesday, August 12, 2008

6:30 PM

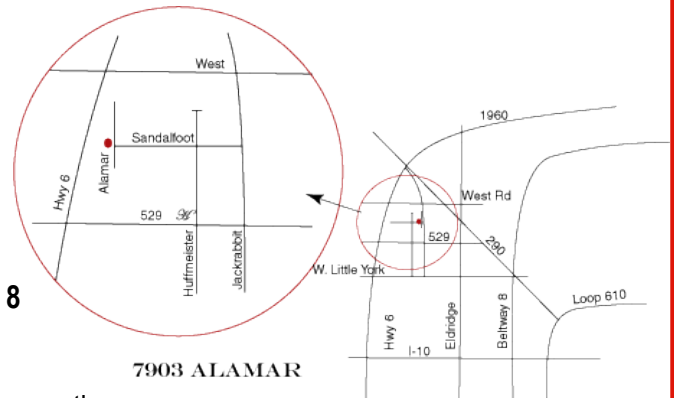
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Your payment is your reservation



7903 ALAMAR

Name: _____

Guest: _____

Total amount submitted: \$ _____ Check # _____ Cash _____

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