



Cy-Fair Republican Women

NEWSLETTER
October-November 2009

A Minute with Mary



Wow! Our third installment of HIGH HEELS and HIGH TEA was outstanding! We had a great turnout. The items to see and buy were lovely and unique. What an entertaining program too!

From our opening ceremonies to our CAbi style show and everything in between, there were many, many people who contributed to the success of the day. CFRW is so privileged to count as members and friends such distinguished individuals who were ready to step in to make our event so very special. Judge Jay Karahan knocked our collective socks off with his rendition of "God Bless America". It was such an honor to have the next president of TFRW, Rebecca Bradford, give the invocation, and State Rep. Patricia Harless lead the pledges. Supreme Court Justice Dale Wainwright was an inspirational speaker, and he did an awesome turn as emcee of our style show along with former State Rep. Corbin VanArsdale. They both were really good sports!

All of this could not have taken place without the hard work and planning of many people. A very big "thank you" and "a job well done" go to Millie Alford and her committee – Kay Waghorne, Lois Barclay, Barbara Buxton, Clarisa Chavez, Joy Gregory, Betty Guthrie, Jan Ott, Rita Parrish, Kelli Ray, Dawn Shull, Judi Stokes, and Pam Waldren. Thank you ladies – you are the best!

Now it's on to the next event – TFRW 27th State Convention. Many of us are planning to attend the TFRW State Convention in Galveston in November. As you may know, we are having a booth at the convention to sell some of our CFRW cookbooks, some really fun Christmas stockings, and delicious



**CFRW UPCOMING DATES
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**



- November 3.....ELECTION DAY - VOTE
- November 10.....CFRW General Meeting
(10:30 a.m.) Carrabba's Italian Grill
- November 11.....Veterans Day
- November 13-15..TFRW 27th State Convention
Galveston, TX
- November 19.....CFRW Board Meeting
(1:30 p.m.) Hearthstone Country Club
- December 6.....CFRW Christmas Party
(6:30 p.m.) Barbara Buxton's home

homemade preserves. We will auction off a one of a kind quilt being made by Judie Stokes' sister. Delegates and alternate delegates were elected at our September meeting, but there are also several of our ladies who have indicated that they are coming for a day to see what's going on and to help with our booth. Anyone who can make it either Friday or Saturday is welcomed to come and sit in on the festivities and to help man our booth.

I am forever awed by the hard work, dedication and kindness of the ladies of CFRW. I think we make a great team!

Mary Moss

*How far that little candle throws his beams! So shines
a good deed in a weary world.*

~ William Shakespeare



NOVEMBER MEETING



**TUESDAY
NOVEMBER 10, 2009**

PROGRAM

JULIUS DEBROECK, M.D.
Family Physician in the Cy-Fair Area

**Time: 10:30 A.M. - Coffee/Social
11:00 A.M. - Speaker/Meeting
12:00 P.M. - Lunch**

**Location: Carrabba's Italian Grill
7540 N. Hwy. 6
Houston, TX
(Copperfield area)**

**Lunch Menu: Chicken Bryan
House Salad
Broccoli
Bread
Sogni di Chocolate**

(Vegetarian meals are available with advanced notice.)

Lunch available by reservation ONLY:

**Please RSVP no later than NOON on
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2009
Online at www.cfrw.net,
Julie: 281-398-2687
or
juliemc23@sbcglobal.net**



CFRW Board Members

President: Mary Moss
281-550-9415
moss311@sbcglobal.net
Programs: Rita Parrish
281-376-1616
reparish@hotmail.com
Ways & Means: Millie Alford
713-466-0731
mcaphd@yahoo.com
Newsletter Editor: Betty Guthrie
281-370-3956
BLPGuthrie@aol.com
Recording Secretary: Doris Jones
281-213-8837
dorlin1@msn.com
Treasurer: Barbara Buxton
832-559-3855
barbarabuxton@comcast.net
**Past President & Awards:
Kay Waghorne**
281-550-1723
kwaghorne@msn.com
Parliamentarian: Jan Ott
281-859-6464
J.ott@wcthou.com
Membership: Joy Gregory
281-463-8203
joygregory@sbcglobal.net
Hospitality: Julie McCracken
281-398-2687
juliemc23@sbcglobal.net
Campaign Activities: Lois Barclay
281-370-7715
loisbarclay@att.net
Legislative: Dawn Shull
281-376-2067
dnsnull@comcast.net
Caring for America: Debbie Brown
281-859-3239
diamond.deb@earthlink.net
Publicity: Pam Waldren
281-859-8162
pwroses@sbcglobal.net
Historian: Judith Stokes
281-304-6281
rlsdaystar@hotmail.com
Literacy Program: Mary Atchison
281-855-6706
matchison@scacompanies.com
Registration: Jeanie Hardin
713-849-9997
proteus1010@sbcglobal.net
Chaplain: Suzanne Davis
713-562-4901
threedavishome@sbcglobal.net
Web: Kristen Govantes
281-712-1759
gandkgovantes@gmail.com





JULIUS DEBROECK, M.D.



Julius DeBroeck, M.D. is our speaker for this month's meeting. He has a Family Practice in the Cy-Fair area which he started in 1984. He graduated from Strake Jesuit High School in 1973 and the University of Notre Dame in 1977. He attended medical school and did his residency at Baylor College of Medicine. Dr. DeBroeck is married to Dr. Linda Holleran, and they have 5 children.

Dr. DeBroeck will be speaking about the health care issues facing physicians and their patients at this time in our country. It will be a very informative meeting. We invite everyone to attend and hear from a physician in our area what the real issues are.

~ Rita Parrish



MEMBERSHIP - Joy Gregory



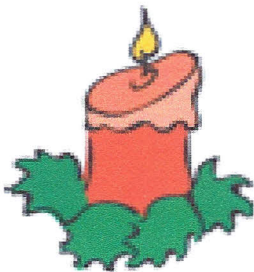
WOW! What a meeting in September! Six new members joined in one day. The new members are **Stephanie DeHondt, Patsy Koetting, Jenny Masters, Charlotte Mixon, Carole Wilkinson, and Phyllis Wilson**. Welcome, ladies. We now have 60 regular members and 73 total members. Membership for the last two months of the year is only \$17.00, a real bargain!

HOW CAN I BECOME A CFRW MEMBER?
*CFRW membership applications are available online at www.cfrw.net.
Please feel free to download a copy, complete the form, submit it and
share copies with your friends.*

Many thanks to **Clarisa Chavez** for her efforts as the CFRW Registration Chairman. We will miss her, but wish her the very best in her new home. **Jeanie Hardin** has graciously accepted the appointment as the new Registration Chairman for the remainder of Clarisa's term.

SAVE THE DATE

Mark you calendars for the CFRW Christmas Party! Look for your E-vite coming in early November.



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2009

6:30 P.M.

HOME OF BARBARA BUXTON





MINUTES

CY-FAIR REPUBLICAN WOMEN GENERAL MEETING

September 8, 2009

President, Mary Moss, called the meeting to order at 11:05 A.M. at Carrabba's Italian Grill. Suzanne Davis, Chaplain, led us in prayer and the pledges to the American and Texas flags.

Joy Gregory, Membership Chairman, introduced new members and visitors.

Rita Parrish, Programs Chairman, introduced our September speaker, Melinda Biersdorfer. Ms. Biersdorfer is a previous member of Cy-Fair Republican Women. She is currently the Northern Region Supervisor for the Harris County Community Supervision and Corrections Department (formerly the Harris County Probation Department). She has worked eighteen years for the department. She has a special interest in gangs, drug cases, and domestic violence. She has worked in the residential boot camp program and was Assistant Supervisor in Baytown. She is involved in several areas of training for the Department. As a Supervisor, she is a problem solver and a case auditor.

She explained that probationers are now called clients. After court, if a defendant receives probation, the Harris County Community Supervision and Corrections Department will supervise him/her. There are twenty-two district courts and fifteen county courts. There are approximately 34,000 clients on probation for one year. The Department follows its clients to make sure that they obey and perform the terms and conditions of their probation as set by the Court. First time offenders may get pre-trial release if they follow the rules. A client may get deferred adjudication (upon successful completion of his probation, the client will have no record of conviction). Straight probation is when a client will have a conviction on his record. After conviction, a court can at its own discretion expunge a client's record. This is done on a case-by-case basis. The goal of the probation department is to produce law-abiding and productive citizens. Probation is an opportunity for the probationer to improve his life.

There are eleven standard conditions of probation that are common to all probationers. A judge can add additional conditions to a client's probation. The courts consider a person to be an adult at the age of seventeen. Children under age seventeen can be certified by the court as an adult. Courts can order a person to undergo drug treatment at a facility. A client must meet with the officer in charge of his file who acts as an arbitrator between the judge and the client. A probation officer may go to a client's home, job, etc. Some probation officers have over 200 cases at one time. If a client does not perform as set out in the terms of his probation, a warrant may be issued for his arrest and upon arrest, he will appear before the Court. The court may send him to prison, jail, or back on probation.

Probation Officers do not carry weapons in Harris County; however, some Texas counties do allow them to carry a weapon. DWIs are always on one's record. There is no deferred adjudication for DWI. A third DWI is considered to be a felony.

A question and answer session was then held. In answer to a question about juvenile probation, Ms Biersdorfer stated that if a seventeen-year-old on juvenile probation reoffends, he would then be put on adult probation. Upon successful completion of probation, the client's file is sent to the Court and an order and letter are issued stating that the probation has been completed.

Harris County has problems with gang activity. Gangs such as the Tangos, Tango Blasters, M-13s, Mexican Mafia, and Hell's Angels from Canada, operate within Harris County. Some of these gangs traffic people, guns, and drugs. There is a lot of Mexican gang activity on the Texas border at locations such as Brownsville and Juarez. Ms. Biersdorfer indicated that most Asian gangs target other Asian gangs.





MINUTES, continued

Rita Parrish then introduced Mr. Jay Guerrero from Senator Cornyn's office. He oversees 25 counties with six million residents from Beaumont to Victoria in a federal response program for hurricanes. He stated that Senator Cornyn has been reelected to a second term in Congress. Senator Cornyn's responsibilities include his membership in the Federal Finance Committee, the Judicial Committee, the Agriculture Committee, and the Budget Committee. Mr. Guerrero stated that HB3200 (health care reform bill) did not make it out of the House. No bill has been introduced in the Senate. The Senate will be back in session today, and discussion on a bill will be started. He indicated that Senator Cornyn is waiting for all the information to crystallize and then will act. He suggested that we could call our Representatives in Congress and give our zip code and our view on the healthcare bill. Following a short question and answer period, Mary Moss asked him to autograph a book for a local elementary school.

The minutes from the August meeting were approved as published.

Barbara Buxton, Treasurer, reported that our beginning balance for August was \$7454.79. There were deposits of \$1986.96 and payments of \$753.05. Balance as of August 31, 2009, was \$8,688.70. The cash box contains \$40.00, and the Scholarship Fund has a balance of \$600.75 as a result of a \$100.00 transfer from the checking account.

Millie Alford, Ways and Means Chairman, stated that we have thirty vendors for the High Heels and High Tea October event. There is no speaker as of now. Tickets are currently on sale. CFRW denim shirts and red CFRW t-shirts are also on sale.

Newsletter Editor, Betty Guthrie, asked that we send articles to Rita Parrish, as Betty will be out of town. The deadline for the submission of articles is September 21st.

Lois Barclay, Campaign Chairman, needs volunteers for Lone Star College Community Partnership Day—three Wednesdays in September, October and November. We will be registering students to vote.

Debbie Brown, Caring for America Chairman, passed a basket for donations. She collected \$120.00 at our meeting last month. She asked for donations of personal care items to send to our soldiers.

Kay Waghorne, Awards Chairman, was not present. However, Mary indicated that Kay is following procedures to obtain awards for the club.

Ms. Marti Morrison from the Harris County Voter Registration Office was here to help us renew authorization as or become a deputy voter registrar.

We then took a vote on delegates to the TFRW State Convention on November 13, 2009. There are six delegates and six alternates. Delegates are Mary Moss, Kay Waghorne, Millie Alford, Barbara Buxton, Rita Parrish, and Joy Gregory. Alternates are Doris Jones, Lois Barclay, Dawn Shull, Judie Stokes, Pam Waldren, and Suzanne Davis.

Mary Moss announced that the Christmas Party would be on December 6, 2009. She then adjourned the meeting at 1:05 P.M.

Doris Jones
CFRW Secretary





AMENDMENTS PROPOSED FOR NOVEMBER 3, 2009 BALLOT

The November ballot will contain eleven propositions to amend the Texas Constitution:

Propositions 2, 3 and 5 deal with home appraisal - how a homestead is valued for tax purposes, enforcing uniform standards and procedures and consolidating appraisal boards. **Prop 2** is NOT a new state property tax (<http://www.senate.state.tx.us/75r/senate/members/dist7/pdf/Patrick-Enews-Oct2009.pdf>). **Prop 11** focuses on strengthening the rights of private property owners by limiting the government's power of eminent domain. **Prop 4** would establish a new education fund designed to help seven "emerging" research universities reach the status of Tier 1 "high-performing" research universities, important to attracting national prominence and top notch workers. **Prop 1** would allow local governments to finance the purchase of buffer areas around military installations. **Prop 6** would continue low-rate land or home loans for veterans, and **Prop 8** would allow "the state to contribute resources to veterans' hospitals". **Prop 7** would extend the exceptions for civil officials holding more than one paid office to include the Texas State Guard. **Prop 9** would bolster the public's right to access and use public beaches. **Prop 10** would extend from 2 years to 4 years the terms of emergency services district boards.

A full discussion of the background and reasons for these propositions can be found in the House Research Organization's 8/20/09 focus report at <http://www.hro.house.state.tx.us/framer1.htm>. It is well worth your while to read this. Some oppose certain amendments based on substantive reasons, pointing out funding issues or possible unintended consequences. Some opponents simply say we do not need another constitutional amendment to deal with a particular issue.



**EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE!
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2009
POLLS OPEN 7:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.**

HEALTH CARE REFORM

One of the top arguments that health care reform proponents put forth is that we must provide for the 46 million people without medical insurance. Who are these 46 million? Only a fourth of this number is truly involuntarily uninsured. The rest include underreported Medicaid recipients, those who qualify for Medicaid but have not applied, NON-CITIZENS, plus young, childless adults and others who could afford it, but CHOOSE not to buy medical insurance.

*"The biggest problem in America's health-care system is not the aggregate number of uninsured - which is a murky, misleading figure - but rather skyrocketing costs."*¹ There are so many common sense approaches to tackling this issue that will not break the bank such as:

- Tort reform
- Replacing the federal tax subsidy for employers with vouchers for individuals
- Allowing health care accounts subsidized with tax credits or deductions
- Genuinely going after Medicare fraud
- Eliminating state restrictions





LEGISLATIVE - continued



These just don't pass muster with the congressional Democrats in power who only seem to want more power. Stay tuned and stay informed, Mr. Obama's government is anything but transparent.²

¹A Closer Look at the Uninsured:

<http://article.nationalreview.com/?q=NTQxNjQ0YzJjMThlMmJmNzFiZmY4MDI2Yjc2MzNkOWQ>

²What's In and What's Out of Health Care Legislation:

<http://www.eagleforum.org/column/2009/oct09/09-10-23.html>

The bottom line appears to be that none of the newer proposals are much better than HR 3200 proposed by the US House of Representatives this summer. A few good articles on the subject are:

Sound Health Care Reform for a Sound Economy: A Response to the CEA Report <http://www.heritage.org/Research/HealthCare/bg2318.cfm>

The Max Tax: Baucus Health Bill Is More of the Same <http://www.heritage.org/Press/FactSheet/fs0037.cfm>

Beware the public option

<http://www.dickmorris.com/blog/2009/09/16/beware-the-public-option-trap/#more-635>

Obamacare-taxes for everyone

<http://www.dickmorris.com/blog/2009/09/23/obamacare-taxes-for-everyone/#more-641>

Medicare and Gag Orders

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970204488304574431212166204156.html>



WAYS AND MEANS - Millie Alford



Aloha! It is good to be home!

A special thanks to everyone who worked so diligently on the High Heels and High Tea. We have received wonderful reviews! I appreciate the willingness of so many to help make this a great event. We will have all the income and expenses calculated to share at our November 10th general meeting.

Next on our activity docket is the TFRW 27th State Convention in Galveston. We will sell our CFRW cookbooks, beautiful Christmas stockings, and homemade preserves. We will auction a fabulous Texas quilt being created by Judie Stokes' sister. Thanks to everyone who has volunteered to work in our booth. We will have a sign-up sheet at the next meeting. Thanks to Judi Stokes for agreeing to oversee this for the club. Kay Waghorne and I serve on the Vendor Booth Committee and will be going to Galveston on Wednesday afternoon. Set up for the booths will take place on Thursday afternoon. This convention promises to be an outstanding event, and I hope everyone will be able to attend.

I will have denim shirts and red t-shirts at the next meeting, so if you've ordered one, please see me. We will also be taking new orders for shirts. I'll have the order forms available at the November meeting.



IMPORTANT LINKS:

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

Cy-Fair Republican Women
14102 Blazey Drive
Houston, TX 77095

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Affiliations:

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

Political advertising paid for by Cy-Fair Republican Women.

Contributions are not tax deductible as charitable contributions.