



# Cy-Fair Republican Women

NEWSLETTER  
June 2009

## A Minute with Mary



At our Board meetings, aside from planning our Club's activities, we usually have rousing discussions of things that are going on in our community, our state and our nation. As we can all attest, when any group of women get together, we can solve the problems of the world – if only “they” would listen to us!

Just this week, we got on the subject of the pending changes in credit card regulations. There was a news article passed around with one particularly upsetting statement. I am paraphrasing, but it said something to the effect that those of us who routinely pay off our credit card balances each month would have to step up and start paying our share. What has happened to our society when you are penalized for doing the right thing? How could it happen that those of us who are fiscally responsible, live within our means, and pay our own way should have to pay more to cover for those among us who live by the credo of “I want it, and I've got to have it now” and ultimately spend more than they earn to live beyond their means? Oh yeah, the Democrats are in charge.

I believe that the cause of most of our troubles is that there is a large segment of our population who will not take responsibility for themselves or anything that happens to them. How is it that so many people in this country have the mindset that if something bad happens, it cannot possibly be their fault and someone else needs to fix it? Where is it written that our government needs to step in to “fix” the stupidity of people who simply bought more stuff than they could afford? Oh yeah, the Democrats are in charge.

Obviously, being Republican, I believe in fiscal responsibility and less government. I believe that the government is there to protect us and to help create a place



### CFRW UPCOMING DATES MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



- June 9.....CFRW Meeting  
Hearthstone Country Club
- September 10-13..NFRW 35th Biennial Convention  
Orlando, FL
- September 15.....Greater Houston Council General  
Assembly Meeting, Houston, TX
- October 2.....CFRW High Heels and High Tea  
Luncheon and Fashion Show  
Houston National Golf Club
- November 13-15..TFRW Biennial Convention  
Galveston, TX

where each person has the opportunity to work hard to provide for themselves and their family. The rest is up to us. The only way our society and our country will prosper is by each individual working hard and being responsible for themselves, and, when necessary, suffering the consequences for one's errors. Our government should not be responsible for our mistakes. But, oh yeah, the Democrats are in charge.

#### Quote from President Lyndon Baines Johnson:

*“There are plenty of recommendations on how to get out of trouble cheaply and fast. Most of them come down to this: Deny your responsibility.”*

**Mary Moss**



# JUNE MEETING



**TUESDAY  
JUNE 9, 2009**

**Time: 10:30 AM - Coffee/Social  
11:00 AM - Speaker/Meeting  
12:00 PM - Lunch**

**Place: HEARTHSTONE COUNTRY CLUB  
7615 Ameswood Road  
Houston, TX**

## **Lunch to be Served**

Double-Decker Club  
Sandwich  
Ranch Chips

**PLEASE RSVP:  
No later than Noon on  
Friday, June 5**

**Online at [www.cfrw.net](http://www.cfrw.net)  
Julie McCracken: 281-398-2687  
or  
[juliemc23@sbcglobal.net](mailto:juliemc23@sbcglobal.net)**

## **PROGRAM**

**Guest speaker is Mr. Keen Butcher,  
Managing Director of Equity Sales  
Houston, TX**

(See following page for more info)



## **CFRW Board Members**

**President: Mary Moss**  
281-550-9415  
[moss311@sbcglobal.net](mailto:moss311@sbcglobal.net)  
**Programs: Rita Parrish**  
281-376-1616  
[reparrish@hotmail.com](mailto:reparrish@hotmail.com)  
**Ways & Means: Millie Alford**  
713-466-0731  
[mcaphd@yahoo.com](mailto:mcaphd@yahoo.com)  
**Newsletter Editor: Betty Guthrie**  
281-370-3956  
[BLPGuthrie@aol.com](mailto:BLPGuthrie@aol.com)  
**Recording Secretary: Doris Jones**  
281-213-8837  
[dorin1@msn.com](mailto:dorin1@msn.com)  
**Treasurer: Barbara Buxton**  
832-559-3855  
[barbarabuxton@comcast.net](mailto:barbarabuxton@comcast.net)  
**Past President &  
Awards: Kay Waghorne**  
281-550-1723  
[kwaghorne@msn.com](mailto:kwaghorne@msn.com)  
**Parliamentarian: Jan Ott**  
281-859-6464  
[J.ott@wcthou.com](mailto:J.ott@wcthou.com)  
**Membership: Joy Gregory**  
281-463-8203  
[joygregory@sbcglobal.net](mailto:joygregory@sbcglobal.net)  
**Hospitality: Julie McCracken**  
281-398-2687  
[juliemc23@sbcglobal.net](mailto:juliemc23@sbcglobal.net)  
**Campaign Activities: TBD**

**Legislative: Dawn Shull**  
281-376-2067  
[dnsnull@comcast.net](mailto:dnsnull@comcast.net)  
**Caring for America: Debbie Brown**  
281-859-3239  
[diamond.deb@earthlink.net](mailto:diamond.deb@earthlink.net)  
**Publicity: Pam Waldren**  
281-859-8162  
[pwroses@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pwroses@sbcglobal.net)  
**Historian: Judith Stokes**  
281-304-6281  
[rlsdaystar@hotmail.com](mailto:rlsdaystar@hotmail.com)  
**Literacy Program: Mary Atchison**  
281-855-6706  
[mary@wcthou.com](mailto:mary@wcthou.com)  
**Registration: Clarisa Chavez**  
832-814-4976  
[Chavezantos@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Chavezantos@sbcglobal.net)  
**Chaplain: Suzanne Davis**  
713-562-4901  
[threedavishome@sbcglobal.net](mailto:threedavishome@sbcglobal.net)  
**Web: Kristen Govantes**  
281-712-1759  
[gandkgovantes@gmail.com](mailto:gandkgovantes@gmail.com)





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## KEEN BUTCHER - Rita Parrish

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Keen Butcher, Managing Director of Equity Sales in Houston, Texas, was previously an investment banker for Banc of America Securities (Montgomery Securities) in the technology corporate finance division in Palo Alto, California. His first introduction to investment banking was as a Mergers & Acquisitions Associate with Robertson Stephens in San Francisco. He holds a BA in Political Economy from Princeton University and an MBA from The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.

Keen Butcher might well be the man to figure out how to recapture Republican dominance - or at least relevance. With the Republican Party in need of revitalizing Keen Butcher is on the right track.

From 2003 to 2006 Keen worked as County Chairman in the Democratic stronghold of Santa Clara County, CA – home to Silicon Valley – energizing local Republicans and, therefore, local victories. In just three years, Keen Butcher gave this local party a pulse. According to several local party activists, he has a knack for getting people to turn out, whether for door-knocking or other election-related activities.

Coming from the world of investment banking, Butcher likes to stress the power of leverage. In his political world, this means getting the small handful of folks who are passionate about a particular candidate - whether for a school board or city council seat - going door-to-door with a slate card, thus promoting all Republican candidates on the ticket.

Mr. Butcher has relocated to Houston, but the progress he built in Santa Clara County, hopefully, will be maintained. If Republicans elsewhere are trying to learn lessons about reviving GOP fortunes, they might want to replicate his, ahem, Keen ideas.

(Sources: Tudor Pickering Holt & Co and the Lone Star Times, Joel Mawbray)



## MEMBERSHIP - Joy Gregory

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Thank you, ladies, for the great response to our Membership Drive in May. We had thirteen guests present and welcomed five new members. We now have 61 members. Our new members are Leanne Buxton Grove, Evie Winn, Lauree Buxton Johnson, Virginia Pittman, and Lauren Hayes. Let's continue to invite our friends and neighbors to become members of CFRW!

On a more somber note, it is with heavy hearts that we say goodbye to our dear friend, Alice McDill, who lost her fight with cancer on May 21<sup>st</sup>. We will miss her energy, enthusiasm and willingness to take on any project, but most of all we will miss her. Please remember her family in your prayers.

Congratulations to CFRW member, Suzanne Davis, who was recently elected as a Commissioner on the board of the Harris County Emergency District No. 9. Way to go, Suzanne!





# MINUTES

## CY-FAIR REPUBLICAN WOMEN GENERAL MEETING

May 12, 2009

President, Mary Moss, called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. at Hearthstone Country Club. Chaplain, Suzanne Davis, offered the opening prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Pledge to the Texas Flag.

Mary Moss welcomed our visitors and gave an overview of our club. She spoke of our work with Operation Interdependence for our troops, voter registration drives, and donations of books and flags to local schools.

Rita Parrish introduced this month's speaker, Mr. Leo Vasquez, our new Harris County Tax Assessor-Collector and Voter Registrar.

Mr. Vasquez gave a brief personal history stating he is an Army brat (born in Germany) who received degrees from Yale and Columbia Universities. He has worked in the private sector and in government. He was on the Texas Board of Criminal Justice (2005), Texas Dept. of Licenses and Registration, and Harris County Health Facilities Development Corporation. As our new Tax Assessor-Collector, he will focus on customer service and efficiency. His office takes care of voter registration, automobile services and property taxes. Harris County has a voter roll of 1.8 million. His office receives 80,000 calls per month. His office is also involved in a Voter Registration Partnership with private companies and citizens, such as the Houston Apartment Association, Houston ISD, Houston Landlords Association, and local grocery stores. Mr. Vasquez urged us to "skip the lines and get online" to register to vote, register automobiles, etc. He hopes to register every eligible resident in Harris County. May 31<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for protesting appraised values of homes with the Harris County Appraisal District.

Mary Moss began the business meeting by calling for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting as printed in the May issue of the CFRW Newsletter. Motion was made and the minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report indicated that there was a beginning balance of \$7,522.65. Deposits were \$1,088.00. Payments were \$436.43 which left a balance of \$8,174.22. It was mentioned that we had received \$750.00 for winning second place in the David Dewhurst volunteer campaign hours contest. One hundred dollars from the award was put into the CFRW Scholarship Fund.

Millie Alford stated that our High Heels and High Tea Vendor Booth and Silent Auction Item Application was printed in the May newsletter. New applications are forthcoming with a disclaimer. The luncheon event will be held on October 2, 2009 at the Houston National Golf Club. Millie was able to get desserts for \$300. Millie urged all to work on this fundraising venture. She also mentioned cookbooks and other fundraising items would be available for purchase.

TFRW Biennial Convention will be held November 13-15 in Galveston, TX. We need volunteers for our booth. Members were urged to make hotel reservations and order denim shirts.

Betty Guthrie, Newsletter Editor, informed us that the deadline for articles for the June issue is May 26, 2009.

Joy Gregory, Membership Chair, introduced our guests and representatives of public officials. We have five new members, which gives us a total of 60 members. Barbara Buxton won a gift for bringing four new members.

### Old Business:

Legislative Day Highlights: Attendees visited the Texas Senate and House. A resolution to recognize TFRW was announced. CFRW won \$750 in the Dewhurst Contest (second place for medium-sized clubs).





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## MINUTES, continued

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Suzanne Davis will represent us at the Cy-Fair Chamber of Commerce meetings on the third Tuesday of the month at Crown Plaza Brookhollow.

Kay Waghorne gave a report on the Apostle Claver Reception. A slide presentation gave ideas on how to expand the Raging Elephant group. Mr. Claver is a minister trying to reach persons of color in order to educate them on Republican values. He has a radio program and a Web Site [www.ragingelephants.org](http://www.ragingelephants.org).

Voter Registration Workshop was attended by five members. There is still time to get deputized as a Deputy Voter Registrar.

Bylaws: In good standing

Emily Klein, our past Historian, presented past President, Kay Waghorne, with a scrapbook for her dedicated work during her presidency.

### **New Business:**

Motion was made and passed to nominate Millie Alford and Kay Waghorne as our delegate and alternate delegate, respectively, to the NFRW Biennial Convention in Orlando, Florida, September 13-15, 2009.

Suzanne Davis won the Commissioners' election for Harris County Emergency District 9 (ESD). She thanked those who voted for her and invited us to her victory party, Friday evening May 15, 2009.

Meeting was adjourned.

Doris Jones  
CFRW Secretary



## CFRW BOARD POSITIONS - Mary Moss



### **Our New Secretary – Doris Jones**

Thank you to Doris Jones for accepting the appointment to Secretary of CFRW. She is filling the remainder of the term vacated by Barbara Dorsey who recently moved from our area. Welcome aboard, Doris!

### **Board Position Available**

Dawn Fobbs has resigned as our Campaign Activities Chairman. This important position needs to be filled as soon as possible. The position entails recording and submitting the quarterly campaign volunteer hours reports and organizing various campaign activities such as voter registration drives, working at a GOP candidate's campaign headquarters, etc. If you are interested in this position or would like more information, please contact Mary Moss.





## WAYS AND MEANS - Millie Alford



We do have a wonderful group of ladies, and it is a pleasure to work with all of you. I want to thank you all for offering such great ideas for the High Heels and High Tea Luncheon and Fashion Show fundraiser.

Another special thanks goes to those who have volunteered to help with the High Heels and High Tea event. We encourage new members to get involved. Your help can be in several areas: registration, vendors, fashions, silent auction, and others. October 2, 2009 is our date, and we have reserved The Houston National Golf Club as the venue. We ask that everyone try to offer at least one name of someone who might be interested in being a vendor for this event. Please email me at [mcaphd@yahoo.com](mailto:mcaphd@yahoo.com) or call me at 713-466-0731 (H) or 214-315-6203(C). The vendor application is now available, and a copy is attached. Copies will be available at the June meeting, but feel free to print one and take it to your local hair salons, boutiques, nail spas, or post it at your grocery, etc.

The success of our High Heels and High Tea depends on the participation of each member. We have space for more than 25 vendors, so please don't be shy. We will have tickets ready by the June meeting, so start thinking of whom you'd like to invite. Thanks to everyone who gives so much to make CFRW the great organization it is. Welcome to all our new members. Please get involved. It is so rewarding!

We have been busy working on the plans for the Texas Federation of Republican Women (TFRW) Biennial Convention which will be held in Galveston, TX on November 13-15, 2009. We completed the Vendor Booth Applications. They will be part of the PreCall package which will be sent out to all the TFRW Clubs this month. I will also have them at our June 9th meeting. If you'd like to pressure, I mean *encourage*, your friends to participate, we would love to have them. The booth cost is the same price as last year: \$300.00 for regular booths and \$450.00 for corner booths. All Clubs will receive a HUGE discount of \$100.00 as will any organization that helps veterans or military members.

We still have *Life of the Party* cookbooks! They would make great gifts for special family and friends. We plan to display them at the CFRW Booth at the TFRW Convention. We still have the Peter Barnes Collection of autographed children's books which would make a great gift for the little ones in your life. Each autographed book is \$18, or buy any five (5) titles and receive a \$10 discount (5 @ \$18 = \$90 less \$10 = TOTAL PRICE \$80).

If anyone is interested in getting a cookbook or ordering a CFRW denim shirt (\$30) or red sequin t-shirt, (\$35), please let me know. I will be placing an order soon, so please contact me if you're interested.



## LEGISLATIVE - Dawn Shull



The Democrats in the Texas House have delayed, obstructed and filibustered SB 362, the voter photo ID bill, to the point that the Rep. Todd Smith (R) who wrote the bill in the House was quoted in the *Austin Statesman* on Monday as saying, "Short of the Democrats raising the white flag on their chubbing practices, voter ID is dead for the session." There was a Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, midnight deadline, and as of this writing it doesn't look good. There is a possibility that Governor Perry will call a special session. He wants the Legislature to pass a windstorm insurance reform bill. He says this is needed to prevent the state from being liable, possibly for billions of dollars, should a major storm come our way.

Stay tuned...





## CARING FOR AMERICA - Debbie Brown



I have taken over the position of Caring for America from Louise Rugaard and have really enjoyed getting to know the women who are involved in CFRW and the volunteers at Operation Interdependence. Thank you for your tremendous response and support of our great men and women serving in the armed services. Cy-Fair Republican Women contributes to many organizations, but one of the most important is the donation of food, travel size hygiene products and letters to express our gratitude to our brave military. We contributed 45 individual size Gatorade and tea packets, a large bag of candy, 2 large bags of hygiene products and funds to ship more than 150 C-Rats (civilian rations) to soldiers!

During the month of June we will continue collecting travel size soaps, shampoos, razors, chap stick, sunscreen and small games such as playing cards and crossword puzzles. Big Lots has double packages of chap stick for \$1 and Dollar Stores has cards and games. OI will be receiving many food donations from HEB starting Memorial Day through July 4th. However, OI will be in great need of wide tape (preferably 3M) for sealing boxes. If you are able to bring your donations to the June 9th meeting, I will be there or you can drop them off on my front porch. OI sends over 5,000 C-Rats per month and would like to have a letter for each one. I am asking schools to encourage students to write notes. If you are a teacher or know a teacher, this can be a great end of the year brief activity. The letters from minors must not include last names.

Throughout the year, we are collecting knitted or crocheted beanies to be worn beneath helmets in the battle zones as insulation from heat or cold. These beanies also cushion the soldiers' heads from the weight of their helmets. They are given to the soldiers upon deployment, usually at airports with a thank-you note pinned underneath. To get directions and specifications for the beanies please e-mail Debbie. If you cannot knit or crochet, it is likely you might know someone who does and would enjoy this project, so please pass on the information. Awards will be given at Convention for the units donating the most beanies. To date, we have donated 49 beanies. Great job!

If you have any old cell phones and accessories, please bring them to our meetings to be donated to Cell Phones for Soldiers. They ask that the battery be attached. If it is more convenient, you may also drop off unwanted cell phones to Liberty Tax locations.

If you have any questions or suggestions regarding ways that we can help in our community, please contact Debbie Brown at [diamond.deb@earthlink.net](mailto:diamond.deb@earthlink.net).

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## NATIONAL FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN 35<sup>th</sup> BIENNIAL CONVENTION

The NFRW Biennial Convention is scheduled for September 10-13, 2009, in Orlando, FL. At our May meeting we elected Millie Alford as our delegate and Kay Waghorne as our alternate delegate. Several other members are planning to attend: Joy Gregory, Jan Ott (representing TFRW) and Dawn Shull. Anyone else who would like to attend can do so. Contact Mary Moss for registration information. You can also obtain information on the TFRW Web Site at [www.nfrw.org](http://www.nfrw.org). Take advantage of savings by registering early, as fees increase the later one registers.



# Vendor Application



## *Cy-Fair Republican Women*

### *High Heels and High Tea*

#### *Fashion Show~Luncheon~Silent Auction*

*Houston National Golf Club*

16500 Houston National Blvd.

Houston, TX 77095

Friday, October 2, 2009, 11:00 A.M.~2:00 P.M.

Vendor Booth Information and Silent Auction Item/Sponsor includes  
6' draped table with 2 chairs, accessible at 10:00 A.M.

Fee: \$50.00 each + donation of Silent Auction Item or gift certificate of \$50.00  
value.

**Name and Address** of person responsible for booth:

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Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Company Represented:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Product/Service** to be displayed: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Silent Auction Item** and value.

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Please make checks payable to Cy-Fair Republican Women's Club.

Ways & Means Chair: Dr. Millie Alford, 713-466-0731  
[mcaphd@yahoo.com](mailto:mcaphd@yahoo.com)

Payment Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Booth Number: \_\_\_\_\_



## 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.

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