

# April 2013 Newsletter

[clearcreekrw.org](http://clearcreekrw.org)

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**Kerri Foley**, 1<sup>st</sup> VICE PRESIDENT, MEMBERSHIP

**Roxann Lewis**, 2<sup>nd</sup> VICE PRESIDENT, PROGRAMS

**Rebecca Allcorn**, RECORDING SECRETARY

**Lesley Bruemmer**, PAC TREASURER

**Natalie Roth**, CORRESPONDING SECRETARY



**Kathie Nenninger**, AWARDS  
**Mary Horn**, CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES  
**Dolly Schroeder**, CHAPLAIN  
**Arlene Taylor**, ASSISTANT CHAPLAIN  
**Cheryl Faircloth**, HOSPITALITY  
**Barbara Vollmer**, HOSPITALITY  
**Gina Gentile**, LEGISLATIVE  
**Loretta Roberts**, LEGISLATIVE  
**Betty Suagee**, LITERACY  
**Kathleen McCumber**, OUTREACH  
**Jean Sargent**, NEWSLETTER  
**Evelyn Garland**, PUBLICITY



## President's Message

2010 and 2012 were banner years for Texas and Galveston County Republicans. We sent conservative Republicans to Austin and Washington D.C. and kept Galveston County red. However, we can't stop, sit down and wait for next year.

Democrats are already working hard to turn back the clock in Texas. Is it any wonder that the Democrats want to take Texas? Texas is one of the top job-creators in America. Because Texas is business friendly and has a low tax rate, people and businesses are flocking to Texas. Everybody wants to come to Texas, even the Democrats!

They have set up shop in Texas and launched a facebook page and a website. They are not shy about their intentions. It is interesting that they call their organization *Battleground Texas*. They know it will not be easy. But they have gone full steam ahead and are already recruiting volunteers to come to our neighborhoods. We have to stay involved and engaged.

Although this is supposed to be an "off" year for elections, there is still plenty to do and there are elections to win. There are municipal elections in Bayou Vista, Dickinson, Clear Lake Shores, Kemah, Santa Fe, and Jamaica Beach; school board and bond elections for Clear Creek ISD; school board elections for La Marque ISD; College of the Mainland election for Board of Trustees. Also, elections are being held for the Bolivar Emergency Services District and Galveston County Water Control and Improvement District 12 (WCID12), which affects the Kemah area.

While these races are non-partisan, and each city is unique with varying needs, we can learn about candidates' values and how they will govern if elected. And then we must vote for those who share Republican values of limited government, fiscal responsibility and individual rights.

Every bond election affects our pocketbooks. How much is this going to cost me? How is the money going to be spent? Go to their meetings and ask questions. Someone once said, "All politics are local." And one of the basic principles of the Republican Party is that decisions are best made close to home.

Early election begins Monday, April 29 through Tuesday, May 7. Election Day is Saturday, May 11. For specific polling locations for your city or school elections, contact your city secretary at City Hall and/or your school district. Or visit their websites.

Remember Thomas Jefferson's words, "The price of freedom is eternal vigilance."





## April 5 Guest Speaker Galveston County Judge Mark Henry

Elected in November 2010, Judge Henry is the 28<sup>th</sup> County Judge in Galveston County history, which dates back to 1838, and only the fifth Judge since World War II. Judge Henry has led the charge to cut spending, shrink the size of county government, lower the tax rate, refinance bonds at historic low rates, and he has worked to ensure that the county held some funds in reserve to protect against uncertainty in the health care industry. He's the first Judge to open a satellite office in the high growth area of League City and Friendswood, where providers and citizens alike have quicker access to their county government.

Prior to taking office, Judge Henry served 21 years as a commissioned officer in the United States Air Force, retiring in March 2010 as a Major. Starting as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in 1989, he worked in the classified arena of Space Operations and then held many staff positions at Professional Military Colleges.

After Judge Henry transferred to the Air Force Reserve in 1995, he built a successful aviation company in Galveston County. Talon Air is an authorized vendor of aircraft parts to the United States Government and has received praise from the Presidential Helicopter Squadron for its fast response to supply a critical item. His wife, Amy, still oversees the day-to-day operation of Talon Air.

Judge Henry is a fourth-generation Texan, born and raised in the Houston area, and a graduate of the University of Houston. He is married to Amy Lewis and is the father of three children. He is a Commercial Pilot, motorcycle rider, boater and runner.



## March 1, 2013 General Membership Meeting Minutes submitted by Rebecca Allcorn, Recording Secretary

President Bonnie Wilson called the Clear Creek Republican Women meeting to order at Noon at Esteban's Fiesta Shack in League City.

Dolly Schroeder led us in prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge led by State Senator Larry Taylor.

Bonnie introduced the twelve elected officials, six candidates and five guests attending the meeting.

V.P. of Programs, Roxann Lewis, introduced our guest speaker, Galveston County Probate Judge Kim Sullivan. Judge Sullivan explained the duties of the Probate Court from processing wills to granting guardianships. The business meeting resumed at 12:38pm.

The minutes of the February meeting were approved with no corrections.

### OFFICER REPORTS. The following officers gave their reports:

*V.P. Membership:* Kerri Foley reported a total of 54 members and 40 associate members.

Bonnie challenged all to invite two new members to CCRW this year.

*V.P. Programs:* Roxann Lewis announced Judge Mark Henry as guest speaker for the April meeting.

*PAC Treasurer:* Lesley Bruemmer's report will be filed for internal review.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS. The following committee members gave their reports:

*Community Outreach:* Kathleen McCumber is working with Alison Putnam from Resolve-It, Inc. Alison will provide a list of supplies and needs for the center.

*State Legislation:* Loretta Roberts reported on current legislation bills that were filed, including gun control, transportation, property taxes and education. State Senator Larry Taylor's newsletter can be received online. To register, contact Beth Shields at [bethshields@senate.state.tx.us](mailto:bethshields@senate.state.tx.us).

*Federal Legislation:* Gina Gentile was absent. She provided printed copies of legislation filed by Texas Representatives.

**Campaign Activities:** Mary Horn announced an approximate total of 700 volunteer hours for the year. Turn in all campaign hours by the end of the month. Mary will email guidelines for tracking volunteer hours.

**Publicity:** Evelyn Garland notifies several area newspapers of CCRW meetings and activities. Let her know if you see CCRW articles to help monitor the effectiveness and response of her efforts.

#### **SPECIAL REPORTS**

*Larry Taylor* spoke in his defense to the recent attacks made against him.

*County Commissioner Ken Clark* commented on the current sequester crisis and reports from the President's administration. He also announced the need for Galveston County Commissioners Court to reform the Justice of the Peace and Constable departments.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **TFRW Legislative Day, April 18.** Contact President Bonnie Wilson if interested in sharing transportation costs.
- **Lincoln Day Dinner, March 2.** Lesley Bruemmer announced last minute tickets available at GOP Headquarters.  
The Dinner is a major fundraiser for Galveston Republican Party.
- **Friendswood RW, March 23.** Guest speaker will talk about CSCOPE curriculum.
- **Galveston RW, March 20.** Guest speaker Railroad Commissioner Barry Smitherman.
- **The next CCRW meeting will be April 5, 2013.**

The meeting adjourned at 1:10pm.



### **Federal Legislative Report**

submitted by Gina Gentile, Legislative Committee Co-Chair

In the wake of the gun hysteria coming out of the White House and Congress in recent months, the United Nations is set to resume discussion on the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) during the last two weeks of March.

Congressman Mike Kelly from Pennsylvania, along with 129 other legislators, drafted a letter to President Obama to oppose the Treaty. The President is a big proponent of this Treaty, however, and has made it clear that he will lend his support in any way he can. From Congressman Kelly's website:

**Say "Yes" to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment  
by saying "No" to the  
United Nations Arms Trade Treaty**

*There is considerable cause for alarm regarding the UN's renewed efforts to forge an Arms Trade Treaty that could trample the constitutional rights of Americans, and could seriously compromise our national security and the security of our allies, whom we will be less able to arm and less quick to defend due to the restrictions placed on us by the ATT. My colleagues and I stand committed to fighting this threat to our sovereignty and to standing up for the U.S. Constitution, which we are all sworn to support and defend.*

[Congressman Mike Kelly]

As these talks are taking place in the U.N. now, this is a good time to take a moment to support our Congressmen who oppose this Treaty. Congressman Mike Kelly made it easy for us to do this on his site. Go to [www.attpetition.com](http://www.attpetition.com) and sign the petition to STOP THE ATT.





**State Board of Education and CSCOPE**  
Editorial by David Bradley, SBOE, District 7

Many are asking questions about the accessibility, content and structure of CSCOPE, which is now being used in 80 percent of Texas school districts. Some call it "curriculum," while others describe it simply as "lesson plans." Its development began a decade ago when teachers were looking for lesson plans to align with new standards being adopted by the State Board of Education (SBOE). By law, curriculum is reviewed by the SBOE, while lesson plans are not. In essence, CSCOPE is now an online curriculum program marketed to individual school districts by members of the Regional Education Service Centers. It was not coordinated through the Texas Education Agency, and it was never reviewed or approved by the SBOE to assure conformity with Texas curriculum standards.

Concerns regarding parental access stem from the ten-page CSCOPE contract that teachers are required to sign prior to using the curriculum. It prohibits educators from showing CSCOPE content to parents. This directly conflicts with the state law assuring parents the right to review any and all curriculum used in public schools to instruct their children. In this same vein, it took the Chairman of our Education Board six months to obtain an access password from CSCOPE developers known as the Texas Education Service Center Curriculum Collaborative (TESCCC). The TESCCC board is comprised of the 20 executive directors of the 20 publicly-funded Regional Education Service Centers in Texas. Access to their meetings and minutes was repeatedly denied until the Texas Attorney General insisted that their meetings be posted and open to the public in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act.

Reports of questionable CSCOPE content range from viewing the Boston Tea Party as an act of terrorism to requiring students to design a flag for a new socialist country. One document handed out during a 2012 CSCOPE summer training session called for rigid compliance with CSCOPE content, stating that steps should be taken to ensure that "individual teachers do not have the option to disregard or replace assigned content." Yet today, the CSCOPE website claims that CSCOPE curriculum is "customizable" and "aligned with" Texas state standards.

Also of concern is the fact that state employees have used public funds to develop a product and are then turning around and selling it to Texas schools. Texas taxpayers are essentially paying for the work twice. And despite protestations that the Regional Service Centers have yet to "break even on their investment," any amount of money paid for CSCOPE multiplied by four million Texas students is a hefty sum! In my mind, there is an obvious conflict of interest when employees of the Regional Service Centers decide to market their own product to a captive audience of school districts that they are already employed to serve.

In order to cut costs and bolster competition, SB 6 of the 2011 legislative session expanded the term, "instructional materials," to include hardware, software, etc. Textbook money is now sent directly to individual school districts, which are no longer required to purchase SBOE-approved curriculum that has been reviewed and certified as conforming to state standards. This month, the Texas Legislature took measures to regulate CSCOPE after learning of the issues described above. Senators Dan Patrick and Donna Campbell filed SB 1406, which, if passed, would require CSCOPE to come under the authority and scrutiny of the SBOE.

We have apparently come full circle. In the quest for taxpayer savings, we are being double-billed, and higher state standards are being set aside for online curriculum that can be changed with a simple keystroke. In the short term, SB 1406 needs our support so CSCOPE can be brought under the review of the SBOE to ensure content compliance for our Texas students. In the long term, new legislation and contracts must be developed for the new era of online education resources so we can continue to ensure Texas' high standards of content are met.

David Bradley, State Board of Education, District 7 (Representing Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Hardin, Jasper, Jefferson, Liberty, Newton, Orange, Sabine, San Augustine and Tyler Counties)  
2165 North Street, Beaumont, Texas 7701 409-835-3808 [sboesupport@tea.state.tx.us](mailto:sboesupport@tea.state.tx.us)





## IN REMEMBRANCE

Deborah "Borah" Van Dormolen, Republican National Committeewoman, passed away on March 11, 2013.

Texas Federation of Republican Women president, Carolyn Hodges, informed the Republican family of Borah's passing and touted her service to her country, fellow man and the Republican Party.

Whether you knew Borah for a long time or just met her, you realized that she was no ordinary person. She was an accomplished soldier, businessperson, Republican political leader, legislative advocate, Olympic athlete, and community leader. Whatever she did, she did wholeheartedly and with enthusiasm.

Borah will be remembered most for her servant heart. She served in the U.S. Army for 23 years and rose to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. After retirement, she continued to commit her life to promoting the values of liberty and freedom. Borah was serving her second term as Republican National Committeewoman from Texas, and she had recently been selected to serve on the RNC Rules Committee.

Carolyn Hodges speaks for those who knew Borah personally and those of us who knew her briefly: ". . . all of us who are members of the TFRW and are active within the RPT are devastated by the loss of such a wonderful woman who devoted so much of her life to the betterment of her country."



☆☆☆☆☆

**C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S**

At the recent Lincoln Day Dinner Galveston County Republican Party presented the **Rising Star Award** to Mary Horn, CCRW's Campaign Activities Chair. Mary was honored for being a **new** volunteer who daily worked many hours at Headquarters.

**C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S**

☆☆☆☆☆

**APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Bonnie Wilson
- 1 Evelyn Timmons
- 1 Hon. John Kinard
- 1 Hon. Jack Roady
- 8 Pamela Archer
- 13 Cynthia Seidensticker
- 16 Mary Horn
- 22 Gary Pearson
- 27 Heather Morris



**MESSAGE FROM CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES CHAIR, MARY HORN**

Very few have reported their volunteer/campaign hours for January through March. The total for the first quarter is now due! As of March 20, 1,348 hours have been reported for the first quarter of this year.

You may or may not have received my email because of an email list that hadn't been updated. This is being corrected, and you will hear from me soon if you haven't already. **PLEASE email your volunteer hours to me ASAP! [mfmhorn@verizon.net](mailto:mfmhorn@verizon.net)** Or you may bring them to the April 5 meeting. CCRW had the most hours last time, and we would like to continue the trend. But I must submit the hours to TFRW online before April 15. So thanks for your promptness!



## UPCOMING EVENTS



### March

- 28 11:30 am: Friendswood Republican Women meet at Perry's Grill, 614 S. Friendswood Drive, Friendswood. Guest Speaker is John Griffing, "CSCOPE in Our Schools". Contact Kathy Rogers at 781-744-0929 or visit [friendswoodrw.org](http://friendswoodrw.org).

### April

- 5 11:30 am – 1:00 pm: **CCRW Monthly Meeting**, Esteban's Fiesta Shack [Behind Esteban's Mexican Restaurant, 402 W. Main (FM 518), League City]
- 8 6:30 pm: 9/12 Members meet at Mario's on NASA 1. Visit [9/12membersusa.com](http://9/12membersusa.com) or friend them on Facebook for more information.
- 6 2:00 pm: Town Hall Meeting with Congressman Randy Weber at League City's City Hall, 300 W Walker, League City. Contact Courtney Weaver at 281-616-7687 or [Courtney@randyweber.org](mailto:Courtney@randyweber.org).
- 9 6:30 pm Social; 7:00 pm Program: Mid-County Republican Network. For location and speaker information contact Karen Stephens at 409-771-3056.
- 10 Galveston Republican Women is hosting the Chic Boutique at the *Runway of Hope* Salvation Army Style Show. If you would like to donate new or gently-used items, contact Brenda Gutierrez at 409-908-9707 for a list of items.
- 13 Bay Area Republican Women Lincoln Day Dinner with Ted Cruz as Keynote Speaker. For reservations contact Lillian Norman-Keeney at 281-291-0191 or Debbie Guitian Roan at 281-218-7350 or email [normankeeney@sbcglobal.net](mailto:normankeeney@sbcglobal.net)
- 18 Texas Federation of Republican Women Legislative Day, Austin
- 18 6:30 pm: Republican Network, La Brisa Restaurant, 501 Wesley Drive, League City (off I-45 Gulf Freeway North). Contact Paula Smith at [skydiverpaula@comcast.net](mailto:skydiverpaula@comcast.net) for more information.

### May

- 3 11:30 am – 1:00 pm: **CCRW Monthly Meeting**, Esteban's Fiesta Shack [Behind Esteban's Mexican Restaurant, 402 W. Main (FM 518), League City]
- 17-18 National Federation of Republican Women Region 4 Conference, Marriott Sugarland Town Square. Visit [nfrw.org](http://nfrw.org) or [tfrw.org](http://tfrw.org) for details.

Success is never-ending because success is like the process of seed planting . . . every creative redemptive contribution, like a seed planted, will bear fruit!

Robert H. Schuller

Submitted by Dolly Schroeder,  
CCRW Chaplain

### \*\* WELCOME NEW MEMBERS \*\*

#### Full Members:

Genevieve Buckaloo  
Anne B. Darring  
Ginger Grutzius  
Kari Long



#### Associate Members:

Nick Long  
Donnie Quintanilla

**CCRW Balance as of March 23: \$ 2282.93**

Lesley Bruemmer, PAC Treasurer  
[tabtxngirl@gmail.com](mailto:tabtxngirl@gmail.com) 832-632-2880 (h), 757-839-5917 (c)

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**Clear Creek Republican Women PAC  
Galveston County Texas  
2013 Membership Application**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ Pct. # \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday (Month/Day) \_\_\_\_\_

Full Member \$25\*\* \_\_\_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \* \_\_\_\_\_

Associate Member \$15 \_\_\_\_\_ Member Since \_\_\_\_\_

Member of Another Club? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ If yes, name of club: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about CCRW? Newspaper (name) \_\_\_\_\_

Website (name) \_\_\_\_\_ Friend (name) \_\_\_\_\_

Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to help with the following (please check all that interest you):

Audits\_\_\_ Awards\_\_\_ By-Laws\_\_\_ CCRW Directory\_\_\_ Historian\_\_\_

Hospitality\_\_\_ Legislation\_\_\_ Newsletter\_\_\_ Community Outreach\_\_\_

Parliamentarian\_\_\_ Publicity\_\_\_ Fundraising\_\_\_ Website\_\_\_

Hobbies / Areas, Topics of Interest / Comments \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail membership application and check to:  
Lesley Bruemmer, CCRW PAC Treasurer, 2301 Meadows, League City, Texas 77573**

Date Paid	Check #	Cash	Amt. Paid \$
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*Dues and donations are not deductible as charitable contributions for Federal Income Tax purposes.  
Corporate Contributions are not permitted.*



**NOMINATION APPLICATION for TFRW BOARD of DIRECTORS 2014 -2015**

Please send this completed form accompanied by:

1. A typed letter of 150 words or less from the applicant stating why you believe you are best qualified for and want to have this position.
2. A wallet size photo of the applicant, and
3. At least three one-page letters of recommendation, not to exceed five.

Letters should come from an officer of TFRW or local club member, and someone with whom the applicant has worked.

One original Application must be mailed or hand delivered to the Nominating Committee Chairman by MAY 15, 2013.

The Nominating Committee Chairman will forward electronic copies to the Nominating Committee Members.

**CHAIRMAN: REBECCA BRADFORD, 5701 OSO PARKWAY, CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS 78414**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Senate District # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (Mobile) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Application for \_\_\_\_\_ position

Alternate position \_\_\_\_\_

Member of \_\_\_\_\_ TFRW Club

Federation Activities: Elected and appointed offices, committee chairs, honors, etc.

Local RW Club \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

TFRW \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

NFRW \_\_\_\_\_

Convention Attendance: Delegate or Alternate, Committee (dates if possible)

TFRW \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(Convention Attendance con't)

NFRW \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Republican Party Activity**

County Elected Office \_\_\_\_\_

County Appointed Office \_\_\_\_\_

State Party Elected Office \_\_\_\_\_

National Appointed Office \_\_\_\_\_

**Convention Attendance as Republican Party Delegate or Alternate, (dates if possible)**

County \_\_\_\_\_

District \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

National \_\_\_\_\_

**Campaign Activities (candidate, campaign management, office, walk, phone, etc.)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Specific Experience Related to Office Applied For (use additional page if necessary)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Federation Bylaws Requirement  
Article XI, Section 1-E**

"Nominees must be members in good standing of the Texas Federation of Republican Women and shall be in accord with the objectives, bylaws, and policies of the Organization and the Republican Party."

Should I be nominated and elected I agree to serve.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date