

Clear Creek Republican Women



August 2004 Newsletter

"...the new stars on the horizon."

Cheryl E. Johnson, Editor
clearcreekrw@yahoo.com

August 6, 2004 Meeting

Our speaker this month will be State Representative Larry Taylor. A lifelong Texan with deep roots in Galveston County, Larry has spent his adult life in community service serving in various capacities in city, school, and government activities. Larry has also led Republicans as the Chairman of the 2000 Galveston County Republican Convention and as the City Chairman for the Galveston County Republican Party. He was elected in 2002 as State Representative for Galveston County, District 24. Representative Taylor received three outstanding awards during his time in the 78th Legislative Session, elected "Freshman of the Year" by the Texas House Republican Caucus, received the "Texas Hero Award" from the Texas Public Policy Foundation and the Texas Association of Business designated Representative Taylor as "Fighter for Free Enterprise" on behalf of the business community. Rep. Taylor was named Co-Chair of the Texas Conservative Coalition Public School Finance Task Force in June 2003.

Katie Benoit



From the President

Summer started off with a bang. It was almost like the sound of a starting gun at the Olympics, only this was the 2004 Texas Republican State Convention. The momentum of the coming election began in full force and those who attended the convention were *really* energized. Though we didn't officially have a June CCRW meeting, it certainly seemed like it. Everywhere I looked, there was a CCRW member, **one fourth** of our membership and **fifteen** of our associates, by my count. That is exciting! Plus, the great news is that our very own Treasurer, Darlene Anene, and one of our associate members, County Treasurer, Kevin Welsh, were elected to attend the National Republican Convention in New York City. Not a small feat, given our new Congressional District 14 includes nineteen Counties. To top that off, another associate member, Dr. Robin Armstrong, was elected to be on the State Republican Executive Committee (SREC), Senatorial District 11, replacing County Commission Ken Clark who was term limited. Current SREC member and associate member, Kathy Haigler, was reelected as well. I would like to congratulate everyone. We were treated to inspiring speeches by many of our elected officials and were feted at receptions each evening.

True to form, we were still in our Congressional Caucus during the TFRW Tribute to Women Luncheon. After our votes were cast, we scurried to the ballroom and lunched at our front row tables, even though we missed the entire program. It was such an honor for me to be honored at the luncheon and I will proudly wear the beautiful pin that I was presented. I was humbled to be in such awesome company.

There was no place better to be, when the passing of one of our most revered Presidents, Ronald Reagan, was announced. There was such comfort in being with hundreds of devoted Republicans at an impromptu prayer vigil. Some cried, some held hands, but we were together and filled with emotion. It was a feeling that I will carry with me for a long time.

There is so much to be done before the November election. Roll up your sleeves and get involved a few hours a week. Together, we can insure that our President will be reelected. Don't take anything for granted. The alternative is just too scary.

Kathie

CCRW Officers

President.....	Kathie Nenninger
VP Membership.....	Bonnie Wilson
VP Programs.....	Katie Benoit
Secretary.....	Benny Cheney
Corresponding Secretary.....	Madonna Crame
Treasurer.....	Darlene Anene
Immediate Past President.....	Tommye Randolph

CCRW Committees

Awards.....	Linda Mahanay
By-Laws.....	Catharin Lewis
Campaigns.....	Kathy Rogers
Chaplin.....	Shirley Hendrickson
Community Outreach.....	Madonna Crame
Historian.....	Pam Kinser
Hospitality.....	Celia Mabry
Legislative.....	Shirley Hendrickson
Newsletter.....	Cheryl E. Johnson
Parliamentarian.....	The Honorable Kathleen McCumber
Publicity.....	Jane Couch
Telephone Committee.....	Almeda Wallingford
.....	Norma Byous
.....	Sylvia Jackson
.....	Niki Stevens
Voter Registration.....	Kathy Rogers
Ways and Means.....	Norma Byous

Calendar

Galveston County Young Republicans, August 2, 2004

League City Annex, 174 Calder Road . Doors open at 6:30 pm, program begins at 7:00 pm

Friendswood Republican Women, August 4, 2004

Timber Creek Golf Club Restaurant, 4554 FM 2351. 11:30 am

Galveston Island Pachyderm, August 5, 12, 19, 26, 2004

Gaidos Restaurant 3800 Seawall Blvd. 11:30 am



Clear Creek Republican Women, August 6, 2004

Program:

Fiesta Shack behind Esteban's Café & Cantina 11:30 am, Lunch \$10, Noon Meeting

Republican Network, August 19, 2004

League City Annex, 174 Calder Road, League City, 7:00 pm

Bay Area Republican Women, August 25, 2004

Nassau Bay City Hall, 1800 NASA Road One, 10:00 am



Clear Creek Republican Women Monthly Member and Board Meeting, September 3, 2004

Fiesta Shack behind Esteban's Café & Cantina



Money Matters

Clear Creek Republican Women, PAC

Checking Account Balance	\$1,731.83
Petty Cash	+ 220.75
Balance	\$1952.58

Our semi-annual report has been filed with the Texas Ethics Commission and our memberships are up-to-date with TFRW.

Darlene Anene



Legislation Watch

FEDERAL

House Considers Bill Limiting Federal Court Jurisdiction

On Marriage (from Traditional Values Coalition News)

July 16, 2004 -- The House of Representatives, led by House Majority Leader Tom DeLay (R-TX) will soon vote on H.R. 3313, the Marriage Protection Act sponsored by Indiana Republican John Hostettler. This bill will strip federal courts, including the U.S. Supreme Court of the ability to hear cases pertaining to the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), which says that states do not have to recognize same-sex marriages performed in other states.

According to DeLay: "Marriage is under attack. We intend to fight it on all fronts" and that the House will "use every opportunity to defend marriage.

H.R. 3313 will enforce the power of the Congress under Article II, Section 3 of the U.S. Constitution to regulate the appellate jurisdiction of federal courts, including the Supreme Court. Hostettler notes that the Constitution gives Congress the power to restrict the jurisdiction of the courts and to refuse to fund unconstitutional decisions. A court decision is only enforceable if Congress and the Executive branch allow it to be so now is the time to press harder for a Constitutional marriage amendment, not to go off in defeat, because of a small setback. Let your Senators know how disappointed we are in the low vote for this amendment. Urge them to bring the issue up again and work harder to pass it.

Pro-Lifers Win Victory In House Panel Vote

July 16, 2004 - A House committee has voted to approve an amendment to health, education, and labor programs that makes it more difficult for government officials to take action against health care providers or insurers who do not provide abortions.

The amendment was sponsored by Dr. Dave Weldon (R-FL). This amendment, called "The Hyde Conscience Protection Amendment," would prohibit federal funds from going to any federal agency, state, or local government if they take action against health providers, hospitals, health insurers or managed care group because these groups refuse to do abortions.

The U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops has published detailed information on what this amendment will accomplish: <http://www.usccb.org/prolife/issues/abortion/h-background.pdf> <http://www.usccb.org/prolife/issues/abortion/andaindex.htm>

The legislation must still go the full House for a vote. It could still be defeated in a conference committee meeting.

TAKE ACTION: Urge your U.S. Representative to support passage of this conscience amendment! *[Another great opportunity to support the many Representatives that are working so hard for Conservative values. We need to let them know we're behind this approach to such a difficult situation.]*

Shirley Hendrickson



Membership Memo

Well, Ladies, it's time to put Summer fun behind us, roll up our sleeves and get serious about keeping George W. Bush in the White House, keeping our Republican majority down the ballot and elect three more County-wide candidates to office. To do this, we need you, your talent, your expertise, and your dedication (and a little sweat, too). But, Republican Women are up to the task and can make it happen. Right? Right!

You know what they say: "If you want something done, ask a busy person; if you want something **done right**, ask a Republican Woman!"

I would like to give a real rousing Republican welcome to our newest member, Judy DeAlejandro. She lives in Friendswood and works in the neonatal ICU as a unit clerk. And a great big welcome to dual members, Melinda Keeney and Terese Raia. We are so glad Terese is out of the hospital and is going great guns again. She is SREC for District 17. Also, welcome to associate Bill Bandiga. He has been busy this summer helping our candidates and helping out at parades and other events.

I'm so-oo-oo excited about the positive impact our Club is having in our community and our County. Not only are we going, we are growing. We now have 45 full members, 11 dual members and 8 Associate members. We *can* make our goal of 50 full members by December. There have been several women who have expressed an interest in learning more about CCRW, we just need to be sure to invite them to our August 6th meeting. If you have talked to anyone, let me know and I will personally invite them, as well as send them our newsletter. Thank you, thank you for your faithfulness and hard work!

Looking forward to seeing **all** of you on Friday, August 6th. I've missed you!

Bonnie Wilson



Prayers go out to our friends from Galveston, John Porter and his wife Mary during these difficult times.



Voter Registration

Voters Still Being Registered

Despite the summer break, voter registration was still in full swing. The last “mission” of the previous year was carried out by Mary Burney and Kathy Rogers at Kroger’s in Friendswood (ask us to tell you the stories). The numbers were great!

Tommye Randolph organized a group to register voters at the pool in her subdivision (good idea on a hot day). They also took forms to the Community Association meeting the next day. We have an open invitation to register voters at JSC Credit Union in Friendswood and can also register voters at the local colleges (San Jac South, UH/CL, and Alvin Community) if we can get volunteers. You don’t need to be deputized to hand out cards (in fact, it’s a bonus if you’re doing it as part of a campaign activity, such as block walking). Please contact me at krogers@ghg.net or (281)482-3610 to volunteer or suggest a location.

Kathy Rogers



Campaigns

Volunteer Hours Being Requested April - June

Please let me know of your volunteer hours for the period April 1 through 30 June. Anything that you actually participated in (as opposed to just attending a meeting) counts (unless you got paid, no matter how small the payment was). There is a very nice chart in the back of the CCRW Yearbook that you can use to keep track of hours as they occur, or as I do, write it into a calendar. Every little bit helps. Also, if you haven’t reported for January 1 through March 30, it’s not too late. Thanks for all you do!

Kathy Rogers



Book Review

The Final Days: The Last, Desperate Abuses of Power by the Clinton White House

Barbara Olsen

The Final Days by Barbara Olsen, who died in the September 11 plane targeted on the Pentagon, exposes the excesses and self-enrichment of the last days of the Clinton White house. This book is a no holds barred accounting of the absolutely everything for sale mentality during the last of the Clinton years. Olsen, a lawyer by profession, had previously investigated the Clintons in the “Filegate” matter and pursues the facts of these cases with precision and clarity. The book was at one engrossing and disgusting. It was well written and proved the case beyond any reasonable doubt; however, it was despicable that any occupant of the Oval Office would stoop to such depths for personal enrichment. The surprising lack of follow-up, by any of the liberal media, confirms the biases that have been documented in other accounts. The pardons, pay-offs, and other miscarriages of justice, all carefully documented, as a lawyer would craft a prosecution, were stunning. The volume of potential illegalities would not be thought possible in a system of checks and balances such as ours, but was clearly presented in black and white. The importance of the character of the person holding the highest office in the nation could not be more precisely stated than in this book. Barbara Olsen’s untimely death robbed all of us of a fearless prosecutor and champion of justice.

Next month Benny Cheney and I will do a joint review of *Laura, America’s First Lady, First Mother*, by Antonia Felix, because you all deserve something positive, uplifting, and containing a great cookie recipe.

Review by Kathy Rogers



From the Editor

Tax Freedom Day according to an independent tax watchdog group was April 11th this year. Remember—this is the day after you stop working for the US government and begin to work for yourself. I also heard that July 7 was Tax Freedom Day, became curious about the difference in dates, and began to do some research. The best I could surmise (no one responded to my email inquiry so that I could verify criteria), July 7th could possibly be the day we are free from all the *rest* of the taxes. Which ones?

Examining my family’s tax responsibilities and basing estimates on my daily salary, **I worked 31 days** for Galveston County, County Road & Flood, Friendswood ISD, City of Friendswood, and Galveston County Consolidated Drainage District. **I then worked 22 days** for Harris County, County Flood Control, County Department of Education, Port of Houston Authority, County Hospital District, City of Houston, Clear Lake City Water Authority, and Clear Creek ISD. *That means*, not counting sales and use tax, gasoline taxes, telecommunications taxes, hotel/motel taxes, and all the rest of the taxes that I will **continue to pay**, I worked until *June 3rd for local government*—assuming my values remain the same and the tax rates do not increase. (Not likely, huh?) Therefore, April 11 (Federal Freedom), June 3 (Local Freedom), July 7 (Every Other Tax Freedom). Good thing our government is becoming more efficient, isn’t it.

Cheryl



A Link Letter

A couple of people asked me today to make up a resource list to help other political "junkies" - like myself - with links to helpful websites. It's certainly not exhaustive, but it might be helpful. Thought I'd share...

Kathy Haigler

- President George W. Bush
- Presidential: www.whitehouse.gov
- Campaign: www.georgewbush.com
- Presidential Prayer Team www.presidentialprayerteam.org
- U.S. Senate www.senate.gov
- U.S. Congress www.house.gov
- Governor Rick Perry www.governor.state.tx.us
- Texas Senate: www.senate.state.tx.us/75r/Senate/Members.htm
- Texas House of Representatives: www.house.state.tx.us/members/welcome.htm
- RedViewer – to create maps of Texas districts <http://gis1.tlc.state.tx.us>
- Texas Election Code www.capitol.state.tx.us/statutes/eltoc.html
- Texas Ethics Commission www.ethics.state.tx.us
- Texas Gallery Watch texas.gallerywatch.com



Clear Creek Republican Women Galveston County, Texas

2430 Thorndon Park Court, League City, TX 77573
www/geocities.com/clearcreekrw
clearcreekrw@yahoo.com

Best link for looking up something in Harris County by topic:
www.co.harris.tx.us/ServicesA2Z.htm

- Republican National Committee www.rnc.org
- Republican Party of Texas www.texasgop.org
- FOX News www.foxnews.com
- The Drudge Report www.drudgereport.com
- WorldNet Daily www.worldnetdaily.com
- Sean Hannity www.hannity.com
- Rush Limbaugh www.rushlimbaugh.com
- KSEV/Dan Patrick Electronic Newspaper:
www.chronicallybiased.com
- Houston Chronicle www.houstonchronicle.com
- Americans for Fair Taxation www.fairtax.org
- Young Conservatives of Texas www.yct.org
- Texas Eagle Forum www.texaseagle.org
- Texas Christian Coalition www.texascc.org
- Texas Alliance for Life www.fairtax.org
- Southern Baptist Convention: www.erlc.com
- Ethics and Religious Liberty www.ivotevalues.com
- Commission (Richard Land): www.erlc.com
- www.ivotevalues.com



On the Light Side

How To Stay Young

- © Remember, there is no way you can look as bad as that person on your drivers license.
- © Throw out nonessential numbers. This includes age, weight and height. Let the doctors worry about them. That is why you pay them.
- © Keep only cheerful friends. The grouches pull you down.
- © Keep learning. Learn more about the computer, crafts, gardening, whatever. Never let the brain idle. " An idle mind is

- the devil's workshop." And the devil's name is Alzheimer's.
- © Enjoy the simple things.
- © Laugh often, long and loud. Laugh until you gasp for breath.
- © The tears happen. Endure, grieve, and move on. The only person who is with us our entire life, is ourselves. Be ALIVE while you are alive.
- © Surround yourself with what you love, whether it's family, pets, keepsakes, music, plants, hobbies, whatever. Your home is your refuge.
- © Cherish your health: If it is good, preserve it. If it is unstable, improve it. If it is beyond what you can improve, get help.
- © Don't take guilt trips. Take a trip to the mall, to the next county, to a foreign country, but NOT to where the guilt is.
- © Tell the people you love that you love them, at every opportunity.
- © Don't sweat the petty things and don't pet the sweaty things.
- © AND ALWAYS REMEMBER that Humpty Dumpty was pushed!

Benny Cheney

Last But Not Least



Very special congratulations to our Vice-President Programs, Katie Benoit, on her recent marriage. We wish Katie and Dave Hake a blessed life together.

Don't forget to bring your gently used books and extra 2004 calendars for Devereux.

