

# Clear Creek Republican Women



## February 2005 Newsletter

Barbara Meeks, Editor  
Clearcreekrw@yahoo.com

### From the President



With the swearing in of our newly elected Galveston County elected officials and the second inauguration of President George W. Bush pleasant memories, we are full steam ahead. Don't be left at the station. It's election time...again. I know that's music to your ears. You all had a little holiday break and it is time to get rolling once again.

The first race coming up in May is for League City Mayor and City Council. As usual, we will be showcasing the candidates in order for you to make an informed decision. Come meet the candidates and then pledge to help them get elected.

In the next five months, we will be following our state legislators on numerous issues that will affect our pockets. School financing is first and foremost. Hand in hand, comes the property tax issue. Other important topics will be Child Protective Services and the continuation of Insurance Reform. These are all very important issues. Our legislators are on a quick train ride from the opening of the 79<sup>th</sup> Texas legislature to sine die at the end of May. Remember, they have 140 days "to do the work of the people of Texas".

It will go fast, so stay on board to stay informed! And... be sure to express your views to your elected officials in the form of an email or letter. Remember, they represent *you*.

See you at Esteban's!

*Kathie*

### February 4th Meeting



New business growth is always on the minds of city leaders. Governor Perry's recent announcement of BP's national headquarters for its spin-off petrochemical company to be located in League City is indeed a boost for the Bay Area. From the Office of the Governor, our February speaker will be Cynthia Tauss, the Gulf Coast Regional Representative for Economic Development & Tourism. Cynthia's talk will be "Texas: Best Business Climate in the Nation".

A CCRW member from League City, Cynthia was appointed and served on the Texas General Services Commission in 2001 and Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles from 1995 - 2001. Cynthia has worked as a consultant, campaign fundraiser, and as a lobbyist during the recent 78<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session. Cynthia is the recipient of first "Distinguished Service Award" given to a citizen by the League City Police Department.

We are pleased to also have Senatorial District 11 State Republican Executive Committee member, Dr. Robin Armstrong. Robin will discuss his recent experience at the inauguration of President Bush.

*Katie Benoit*

### Table of Contents

Upcoming Events Calendar	Page 2
Membership, Treasury, Minutes	Page 2
Lincoln Dinner with Oliver North	Page 2
Book Review	Page 3
Campaigns	Page 3
Officers and Committees Directory	Page 3
Legislative Report	Page 4

## Upcoming Events

### Mark Your Calendars!



**Friday February 4** CCRW Board Meeting, Fiesta Shack 10:30a.m.

**Friday February 4** CCRW Meeting, Fiesta Shack, 11:30a.m.

**March 19** Lincoln Day Dinner featuring Oliver North at the Galveston Convention Center.

**April 14, 2005** The Texas Federation of Republican Women will host a Legislative Day at the Austin Convention Center.

**November 11-13, 2005** The TFRW 25th Biennial Convention will be held in Corpus Christi.

## Membership Notes . . .

**Happy New Year to everyone!** It was so good to see such a great turn out at the January meeting. As of January 23rd there are 44 Full Members and 15 Associate Members. How exciting! What a fun way to meet new friends and help our Elected Officials in Galveston County and the surrounding area.



Let's all welcome *new Members from January:*

Sandra Brooker  
Cathleen Dikes  
Marian Meeks  
Tracy Rzimondo  
Jennifer Seago

If you *have not* paid your dues, please submit your application to me or Darlene Anene with your dues. Let's all *bring a friend* in February and fill the room at "The Fiesta Shack".

*Teri Goodman*

## From The Treasury

Clear Creek Republican Women PAC

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Petty Cash \$ 336.75  
Checking \$1,894.18  
Total \$ 2,230.93



*Darlene Anene*

## January Meeting Minutes

The regular monthly CCRW meeting was called to order by President Kathie Nenninger at 12:05pm on January 7, 2005. The invocation was given by Chaplain Shirley Hendrickson. Cindy Seidensticker led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American and the Texas flags. CCRW Membership chair Teri Goodman introduced the elected officials and candidates who were present. President Nenninger welcomed visitors and new CCRW members Marian Meeks, Jennifer Seago, Cathy Dikes,



Tracy Rzimondo, and Sandra Brooker. There are currently 36 full members and 9 associate members. Kathie introduced speaker Carol Starnes, a liver transplant recipient and volunteer with Texas Life Gift. Her subject was how the organ donation system works. Debbie Lindemann gave a short legislative report. Tommye Randolph, Community Outreach chair announced that donations for Tsunami relief made before January 31 may be claimed on 2004 taxes. Cindy Seidensticker asked for volunteer hours, ASAP. It was announced that in order to be listed in the directory, CCRW dues must be paid before March 1.

Upcoming Events were announced, including the April 14th TFRW legislative day in Austin. Patsy Yokum will organize the bus trip. More information will follow soon. Bay Area Republican Women's Lincoln Day Dinner will be held February 5th at South Shore Harbour Hotel. Guest Speaker will be Governor Rick Perry.

In celebration of CCRW's 5th birthday, Benny Cheney served cake to each attendee. Past Presidents Bonnie Norman and Tommye Randolph were recognized and each presented with a yellow rose. Minutes of the December meeting stood approved as printed, and the Treasurer's report will stand for audit. The next regular CCRW meeting will be February 4th at Esteban's Fiesta Shack in League City. The speaker will be Cynthia Tauss, speaking for Governor Perry on his Economic Development Program. The meeting adjourned at 1:10 PM.

*Norma Byous*

## Lincoln Day Dinner

Lt. Col. Oliver North will be in Galveston on March 19th for a Lincoln Day Dinner organized by *The Conservative Cause PAC*. The dinner will be held in the beautiful Grand Ballroom of the new Island Convention Center on Seawall Blvd.



A VIP reception with Oliver North, other conservative dignitaries, and elected officials will precede the dinner. North will speak at the dinner, and will stay afterwards to sign copies of his books, which will be available for purchase at the event. Book sale proceeds will go to a charity that supports service members and their families.

Dinner seats are \$110 each. A special \$250 VIP pass includes a private meeting with Oliver North and other conservative dignitaries. Only 73 VIP tickets are available without purchase of a table.

Limited Sponsor Tables are available:

Two Platinum Tables: Dinner for 8, VIP passes for 8; \$5000  
Four Gold Tables: Dinner for 8 and VIP passes for 4; \$3000  
Ten Silver Tables: Dinner for 8 and VIP passes for 2; \$1750

Call 281-332-2899 for additional information. For tickets visit the website: [www.tickets@lincolndaydinner.com](http://www.tickets@lincolndaydinner.com).

## Book Review:



### The Greatest Speeches of Ronald Reagan

Who said, “I have wondered at times about what the Ten Commandments would have looked like if Moses had run them through the U.S. Congress and the taxpayer: That’s someone who works for the federal government but doesn’t have to take the civil service examination.”? If you guessed 40<sup>th</sup> President, Ronald Wilson Reagan, you are right! The book, “Greatest Speeches of Ronald Reagan”, compiles the wisdom, wit, and warmth of one of our greatest Presidents.

Reagan was a visionary on par with our Founding Fathers. He had the charm of Kennedy and Clinton, without the moral failings. He was a student of history. He was a man of great faith in God (did you know the “Evil Empire” speech was to the National Association of Evangelicals in 1983?). Most of all, he was an optimist, as evidenced by his “New Republican Party Speech containing the reference to “a city upon a hill” (pg. 49 – 67) [note there is also a speech titled City Upon the Hill” (p. 19)].

Reagan was certainly a great speechwriter. Not to take away from Peggy Noonan and the other wonderful speechwriters he employed, but many of his greatest speeches were written in his own hand. We are fortunate to have this compilation of some of his finest words.

The book opens with a speech given as part of Barry Goldwater’s Presidential campaign and continues, chronologically, to his Last Letter to America (which still makes me cry). My favorites are the 1986 State of the Union Address (day of the Challenger disaster), his first Presidential Nomination Acceptance speech (“Is the United States stronger and more respected now than it was three and a half years ago?”), and of course, “Mr. Gorbachev, Tear Down This Wall”.

Reagan was a great national cheerleader. He often pointed to the accomplishments of our country as evidence that ours was not a “sick society”. He realized that, “All we need to do is take action, and the time for action is now.” His firm belief in tax relief comes across loud a clear, as applicable today as it was at the time of his speeches. This book provides a wealth of history (Solidarity in Poland, the Cold War, space). I am privileged to have lived in California while Reagan was governor (his second campaign was the beginning of my interest in politics) and through his presidency in the 1980’s.

The book has a timeless quality, “That message (of the previous November’s election) was very simple: Our government is too big, and it spends too much” (from a speech in 1981) and “we must enforce the dictates of our (UN) Charter and resume the struggle for peace”. It is available from Newsmax ([www.newsmax.com](http://www.newsmax.com)).

The only thing in my opinion that would make the book better

would be an index, so that favorite quotes could be quickly referenced. This is not a book to be read in one sitting book. It is a great coffee table book (quite the conversation starter!).

“I never thought it was my style or the words I used that made a difference. It was the content.” (from his farewell address).

*Kathy Rogers*

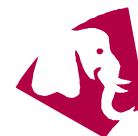
## Campaigns

Please be sure to keep records of the hours you volunteer in a campaign! These hours add up and they can help CCRW qualify for awards and special recognition! Please keep track of hours for each calendar quarter. Thanks for all you do!

*Cindy Seidensticker*



Join CCRW Today!



## CCRW Officers

President.....Kathie Nenninger, 281-334-4418  
VP Membership.....Teri Goodman, 281-334-5304  
VP Programs.....Katie Benoit, 281-554-2352  
Secretary.....Norma Byous, 281-332-4681  
PAC Treasurer.....Darlene Anene, 281-334-2785  
Corresponding Secretary.....Barbara Vollmer, 281-332-9398

## CCRW Committees

Awards.....Tommye Randolph, 281-316-9342  
By-Laws.....Catharin Lewis, 281-332-1644  
Campaigns.....Cindy Seidensticker, 281-332-6596  
Chaplin.....Shirley Hendrickson, 281-316-6929  
Community Outreach.....Tommye Randolph, 281-316-9342  
Historian.....Pam Kinser, 281-334-0987  
Hospitality.....Diane Gillette, 281-224-6159  
Marge Jacobson, 281-334-1447  
Legislation.....Debbie Lindemann, 281-218-9724  
Newsletter.....Barbara Meeks, 281-316-2057  
Parliamentarian.....Constable Pam Matranga, 281-534-3794  
Publicity.....Berniece Linck, 281-334-6376  
Telephone.....Almeda Wallingford, 281-538-1651  
Ways and Means.....Tracy Oliver, 281-481-9393

## Special Committees

TFRW Legislative Day.....Patsy Yoakum, 281-992-9647  
ICM Tree.....Phyllis Molnar, 281-291-9655  
Directory.....Shirley Hendrickson, 281-316-6929  
Book Reviews.....Kathy Rogers, 281-482-3610

## Legislative Update State Legislative News

Our state Legislators convened January 11, 2005 to elect Senator Shapiro as President Pro-tem and Senator Tom Craddick as Speaker of the House. The main items that will be focused on in the upcoming year include **School finance, Insurance reform, and Child protective services.** On January 24<sup>th</sup> the legislature went back into session for committee assignments. Legislators will also deal with contested election results.

**Washington** – House Majority Leader Tom Delay authored legislation, called the **Safe and Timely Interstate Placement of Foster Children Act of 2004**, that will ensure the safety of foster children who must travel out of state to find permanent, loving homes. The bill passed in the House and was sent to the Senate for action. Delay's bill sets specific timelines for permanent placements so no child will have to wait a year or more to join a new family. It also offers financial incentives to states to encourage safe, permanent homes be found in a timely manner. The bill also requires federal criminal background checks to prevent children from ever being placed into the home of anyone who has had a felony conviction involving violence or children.

Delay and his wife Christine have been involved in children's issues since September of 1994, when Christine became a trained Court Appointed Special Advocate. Since then, they have been foster parents and have dedicated themselves to improving the plight of abused children. The Delays are currently developing a residential community called Oaks at Rio Bend, which will provide a permanent, safe home for abused and neglected children.

With the **American Jobs Creation Act**, Delay also helped restore fairness to the Tax Code by restoring state sales tax deductibility. Currently the residents of 43 states are allowed to deduct their state income tax from their federal taxable income. This means that residents of states like Texas, which does not have a state income tax, carry a higher burden of federal taxes. The American Jobs Creation Act corrects this inequity in the tax code by allowing taxpayers to deduct either their state income tax or their state and local sales taxes in 2004 and 2005.

"The logic is simple: if state income taxes are deductible on your federal income tax return, then your sales tax should be deductible too, if that's how your home state chooses to generate revenue," Delay added.



Clear Creek Republican Women  
Galveston County, Texas  
2430 Thorndon Park Ct, League City, TX 77573  
[www.geocities.com/clearcreekrw](http://www.geocities.com/clearcreekrw)  
[clearcreekrw@yahoo.com](mailto:clearcreekrw@yahoo.com)

***“Nearly all men can stand adversity,  
but if you want to test a man's character, give him power.”***  
~Abraham Lincoln