

# Clear Creek Republican Women



## April 2005 Newsletter

Barbara Meeks, Editor  
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### From the President



**A call to action: check out the fine print...**

The Texas State legislative session is moving at such a fast pace, you had better be on board. There are so many areas that need your attention. First and foremost, we had H.R. 2, which will reduce property taxes by a third. Now we have H.B. 3, which will increase a variety of consumer taxes in order to pay for it and perhaps hidden within, the beginnings of a state income tax. Check out the fine print. House Bill 9 would set up a new state agency to license and regulate video lottery terminals at racetracks and Indian reservations while paving the way for full-scale casinos. Check out the fine print. Take time to really study all of the issues, as the results of the legislature passing a bad bill may be irrevocable. Call your representatives and tell them how you feel.

We have had several requests for action. First, we had the Women in Iraq Project letter writing campaign to show them how much we admire them and their determination to produce a free Iraq. We currently are addressing the Trans Texas Corridor and the impending HB 3363. Read the facts on both sides. There is also pressure in the US Senate to support HR 418 without adding any guest worker provisions as it pertains to immigration. Check out the fine print. Write your letters of concern to Senator Cornyn.

In the midst of both national and state deliberations, we are having city elections and school district trustee elections. I hope that you are not hibernating or have your head stuck in the sand. Attention to these issues and making a difference is what CCRW does best and is our very purpose. Whether you realize it or not, with the proper knowledge you can be an influence on others. Bring a friend on April 1<sup>st</sup> to listen to our candidates and determine whom you will be voting for in the city election. See you at Esteban's!

*Kathie*

### April 1st Meeting

**Come Meet the Candidates!**



On Friday April 1, 2005, members and guests of Clear Creek Republican Women will have the opportunity to hear from candidates for Mayor and City Council in League City.

There are three candidates for the position of Mayor, four candidates for Council Position 1, and four candidates for Council Position 2.

Election Day will be held in five precincts across the city on Saturday, May 7th. Early voting will be held from April 20th through May 3rd at City Hall, during normal business hours.

Every registered voter should take the time to learn about the candidates, so they can cast an informed, intelligent vote. There could be standing room only, so plan to arrive early to be assured a seat!

*Katie Benoit*

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## Upcoming Events

### Mark Your Calendars!



**April 1: CCRW Board Meeting**, Fiesta Shack, 10:30am.  
**April 1: CCRW Meeting**, Fiesta Shack, 11:30am.  
**April 7: Friendswood Republican Women**, Perry's Grille, 614 S Friendswood Drive, 11am.  
**April 7, 14, 21, 28: Galveston Island Pachyderm**, meets weekly at Gaidos, 3800 Seawall Blvd, 11:30am.  
**April 14, 2005** The Texas Federation of Republican Women Legislative Day at the Austin Convention Center.  
**April 20: Galveston Republican Women**, Landry's on the Seawall, 11:30am.  
**April 20: Early voting** begins for city elections.  
**April 26: Sandpiper Republican Women**, Galveston Country Club, 14228 Stewart Rd, 11:45am.  
**April 27: Bay Area Republican Women**, Nassau Bay City Hall, 1800 NASA One, 10am.  
**November 11-13:** The TFRW 25th Biennial Convention will be held in Corpus Christi.

## Membership Notes . . .

We are making great progress with CCRW membership! We now have 53 members and 24 associate members, which is wonderful! If every member recruits one member, we can have 100 members by December 31st, which should be our goal! Be sure to read about the membership contest on page 3.

Please welcome Diane Paetz as our newest member. We also welcome new Associate Members Onzelo Markum III, Jerry Shults and Joe Spence.

*Teri Goodman*

## From The Treasury

Clear Creek Republican Women PAC

### Treasurer's Report:

Petty Cash \$ 424.75  
Checking \$ 1,589.18  
Total \$ 2,013.93



*Darlene Anene*

## March Meeting Minutes



The March meeting of Clear Creek Republican Women was called to order by President Kathie Nenninger on March 4th at 12 noon. The invocation was given by Chaplain

Shirley Hendrickson. Cindy Seidensticker led the Pledge to the American flag, and Bonnie Wilson led the Pledge to the Texas flag. Teri Goodman introduced the elected officials and candidates who were present. President Nenninger introduced six guests. Changes to the CCRW PAC By-Laws, updated by Carole Ragland and Catherine Lewis, were accepted after a motion by Tommye Randolph, with a second by Barbara Meeks.

Katie Benoit introduced speaker Pam Matranga, Constable Pct 7 and the first female elected to Constable in Galveston County. She gave an overview of her duties and responsibilities, and her goals for the future as part of the community.

Minutes of the February meeting were approved as printed in the monthly newsletter. The Treasury report, also printed in the newsletter, will stand for audit. Teri Goodman introduced the new and associate members and stated CCRW currently has 52 full members and 17 associate members.

Katie Benoit announced that candidates for League City Mayor and City Council will speak at the April meeting. Members are invited to submit questions in advance to Katie. Patsy Yoakum gave an update on the Legislative Day trip. President Nenninger stated that State Rep Larry Taylor will be seated with CCRW at the luncheon. She thanked Donna Maloney and Jeannie Plass for joining the phone committee. She announced that Tommye Randolph was nominated for TFRW Teacher of the Year Award and recognized associate members Diane Kerkhove, BARW Woman of the Year and Robin Armstrong, President Elect of Galveston County Medical Society. The TFRW 50th Anniversary scarf is available at [www.TFRW.org](http://www.TFRW.org) for \$25. The meeting adjourned at 1:10pm.

Respectively submitted,  
*Norma Byous*

## Legislative Day Bus Trip



Don't forget! On Thursday April 14th the CCRW chartered bus will leave the parking lot of League City United Methodist Church at 6am! Coffee, snacks and beverages will be provided!

We will be joined by members of Friendswood and Galveston Republican Women clubs. The trip itself will be loads of fun!

Please remember to wear **RED** jackets or sweaters and comfortable walking shoes! The first 25 who registered will enjoy a tour of the Governor's Mansion (no cameras, please) AND there will be a special, VIP-guided tour of the Capitol building! Hint: Brush up on your Texas trivia!

*Patsy Yoakum*

## April CCRW Birthdays

This month we wish Happy Birthday to:

Bonnie Wilson	April 1
Katie Benoit	April 22
Robin Armstrong	April 22
Kathy Rogers	April 26



Note: These birthdays are taken from information provided on CCRW membership applications. If your special day is not listed, please accept our sincere apologies and let Editor know so you can be included!

**Barbara Meeks, Editor**

## 2005 Membership Drive

Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst, a LONG time supporter of TFRW, has announced a statewide Membership competition to encourage Republican Women clubs to substantially increase their memberships.



The main objective is to have the highest percentage increase in the 2005 membership numbers based on the total membership that was reported in 2004.

Winners in the Medium Club category (40-74 Members) receives \$1500 first place, \$750 second place and \$500 for third place.

For an individual member of a club in each category, Small, Medium and Large, the winner will receive a \$1000 travel voucher for a trip to our nation's capitol, Washington D.C.

Last, but certainly not least, Lt. Governor David Dewhurst will host a dinner in Austin, as an acknowledgment for successful membership increases.

The Guests of Honor for the dinner will include the following officers and spouses from each winning club; President, Vice President, Membership, PAC Treasurer and Secretary. The total officers attending from any club cannot exceed five, not including spouses.

The membership for CCRW in 2004 was 45. We already have 53 members thus far in 2005. That is just one member shy of a 20% increase without really trying.

CCRW is well on the way to winning this challenge, and with YOUR help, this can become a reality!

You can start by bringing a guest to the April 1st meeting, and encourage them to become a member!

## Campaigns

Please be sure to keep track of your volunteer campaign hours! As you know, CCRW competes against other TFRW clubs for the honor of having the most volunteer hours. You may email last month's hours to seidenstic@aol.com, or simply bring them to the meeting!



## Lincoln Day Dinner

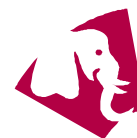
Lt. Col. Oliver North was the keynote speaker at a March 19th fundraiser at the Galveston Convention Center. Scores attended the VIP reception and hundreds from Galveston, Harris and Fort Bend Counties attended the dinner.



Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson, U.S. Congressman John Culberson and Harris County Tax Assessor Paul Bettencourt also addressed the crowd.

## 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
	Cynthia McIntyre 832-444-1736

## 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

*Debbie Lindemann*

**WASHINGTON** – House Majority Leader Tom DeLay announced that Texas will see more than \$16 billion of federal highway dollars under the Transportation Equity Act – a Legacy for Users, which passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 417-9. The six-year transportation authorization bill provides \$28.4 billion to fund America's highways. The approved TEA-LU bill sets transportation funding for the next six years and provides an additional \$4 billion more for Texas highways than what was included in the last six-year bill. The Department of Transportation estimates that 47,500 jobs are created by every \$1 billion spent in federal transportation funding.

**NEWS WATCH** - Watch for possible action by Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, to take custody and thus save the life of Terri Schiavo.

**AUSTIN** - House Bill 3, Property Tax Relief Act authored by Ways and Means Chair Jim Ketter, passed its third reading out of the House. HB3 provides a record \$5.4 billion property tax relief and a low, flat, fair business tax. To help fund the property tax cuts, HB3 increases cigarette taxes to \$1 per pack and increases tax on food of little or no nutritional value. It also expands consumption taxes, broadening the sales tax base and raising it a penny.

**AUSTIN** - Rep. Ruth Jones McCleendon filed HB 1546 and HJR 54 to create a funding mechanism to relocate dangerous freight rail lines in densely populated areas. TXDOT would be given authority to negotiate with rail officials to move freight lines, especially those carrying hazardous materials. Public hearings will be held throughout the state to receive input from citizens.

**AUSTIN** - Rep. Debbie Riddle with joint authors, Representatives Leo Berman, Juan Escobar, Melissa Noriega, and Carlos Uresti, filed HB 3224 to create a supplemental death gratuity package called "Texas Service Members' Memorial Fund". This will provide surviving families extra financial assistance after loved ones have been killed in the line of duty. Surviving families currently receive \$12,420 in federal compensation. The proposal will provide an additional \$50,000 from the state.

**AUSTIN** - Rep. Chuck Hopson authored HB 1666, which would give a tax break to small businesses that offer health insurance for their employees. The goal is to counter the decreasing number of small businesses in Texas that provide health care coverage.

**AUSTIN** - HB 2, "Roadmap to Results," provides more than \$3 billion new dollars for students next biennium, in addition to \$1.2 billion already budgeted for enrollment growth. The bill increases the state share of public education to 60 percent from 38 percent, the highest rate in over two decades. Ninety percent of Texas students would be in an equalized system, and recapture funds are slashed from \$1.2 billion to less than \$145 million.



## *Legislative Update*



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*"You can stand tall without standing on someone.  
You can be a victor without having victims."*

~Harriet Woods