



# Village Republican Women



April 2010

Newsletter

[www.VillageRepublicanWomen.org](http://www.VillageRepublicanWomen.org)

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## Program

### Houston Racquet Club

10709 Memorial Drive

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

9:30 Check-in & Coffee

10:00 Meeting

RSVP by **Friday, April 23**

Only if staying for lunch

[Click Here to RSVP on the website](#)

Nolia Rohde: [hospitality@villagerepublicanwomen.org](mailto:hospitality@villagerepublicanwomen.org)

Or call 281-496-1195

◆ Lunch is \$20.00 ◆ RSVP required for lunch ◆



**Paul Bettencourt**



**Former Harris County Tax Collector**

**Texas GOP Treasurer**

April is tax month, and by now, you have probably just paid your federal taxes.

In the coming weeks you will receive your notice for your local property taxes. Please join us for our April meeting to hear from former Harris County Tax Assessor-Collector and taxpayer advocate, Paul Bettencourt. It will be an interesting discussion about the federal tax increases we are facing, the effect of the weakened economy on state and local revenue, and the debates that will take place in Austin to address these shortfalls. Tax and spending policy is clearly driving conservatives to the polls this year, so this should be a great program!

## *President's Message.....*

The final phase of the Primary election is complete so now it is time to **really** get to work! Many thanks to all who worked on campaigns; report your hours at [www.villagerepublicanwomen.org](http://www.villagerepublicanwomen.org) as our Club will win awards for the involvement of the members.

Let's get together and head to the Republican Party of Texas Convention in Dallas this summer. Some of our ladies are delegates and four members will be honored at the Tribute to Women Brunch on Friday, June 11 at 10:00 a.m. Let me know if you wish to attend the brunch so we can send all our reservations together. Please send a check for \$59, payable to VRW PAC, to Diane Sloan, 1915 Indiana, Houston 77019. The deadline is May 1. For further information go to: [www.tfrw.org](http://www.tfrw.org).

After three years of enjoying the beautiful Vargo's Restaurant we must move to another location. Nolia and I worked with the restaurant staff for three months trying to resolve various issues but were unable to come to an agreement. Thanks to Rajada Fleming for securing the Houston Racquet Club for us. The view is beautiful, the room is spacious and lunch will be delicious. A definite advantage of the new venue is having an elevator for the convenience of those who find it difficult to navigate the stairs.

Kudos to Buffie Ingersoll and her committee for a successful silent auction at the March meeting. We cleared \$929 which will offset some of the extra expenses incurred by upgrading our technology to better serve you.

Ladies and gentlemen, this is going to be a banner year for Republicans. Those who slept through the 2008 election are now wide awake and eager to be involved in the political process. Bring your friends and join us for education, inspiration and outreach so we can restore our nation to its former greatness and with no apologies to anyone!

*Beverly Roberts*



### **Important Dates**



April 28	9:30 a.m.	VRW General Meeting	New venue!
May 26	9:30 a.m.	VRW General Meeting	New venue!
May 1		Deadline for reservations – Tribute to Women brunch	
June 11-13	Various	Republican Party of Texas Convention	

For more information about our Club, please call 832-443-8109 or visit [www.villagerepublicanwomen.org](http://www.villagerepublicanwomen.org)

POLITICAL AD PAID FOR BY VILLAGE  
REPUBLICAN WOMEN PAC FUND

***Board Meeting***  
**Monday, May 3, 2010**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**Home of Beverly Roberts**  
**818 Silvergate Drive, Houston**  
**832-443-8109**

 **Membership Report—Laura Miller** 

New member packets are ready for distribution. An informative pamphlet to hand to prospective members is now complete for you to provide to those who show an interest in our Club.

**Tribute to Helen Diaz**

Helen Diaz, longtime VRW member, passed away on February 25, 2010 at the age of 86. Helen worked in Washington DC as a young woman during the Truman and Eisenhower years. She loved to relate the story of how President Eisenhower and his wife Mamie stopped the limo to give her a lift one day as she walked along carrying a heavy load of papers. Helen told us how nice Mamie was to her.

Helen also informed us that she was once employed by Alger Hiss, the high official in the State Department who served as head of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Hiss was at the center of a national controversy over Communist infiltration of the government during the Truman administration. He was ultimately sentenced in 1950 to five years in prison for perjury, when he denied the testimony of a self-confessed former Russian spy who implicated him in passing government secrets.

Helen loved being a Republican and maintained an avid interest in politics in her later years. She had many friends at VRW where she enjoyed conversation about current issues.

Our dear friend will be remembered for her beauty, grace, and charm as well as her passion for life.

Respectfully,  
Terry Peterson

A donation will be made in Helen's memory to the TFRW Scholarship Program.

 **March Community Outreach Project—Patricia Fortune** 

To fulfill the Barbara Bush Library Literacy Project of TFRW the Board voted to donate the book by William Bennett, *America, the Last Best Hope*, to the Harris Country Public library on Corbindale. Our Club name will be stamped on the book. We hope to obtain a signed copy from the author.

## ★ Legislative Report—Kathleen Slaydon ★

In Texas, you need picture ID to buy guns, alcohol or cigarettes, board an airplane, open a bank account, sign up for welfare benefits, obtain a library card from the Austin Public Library system, attend Rep. Gene Green's (D-Houston) town hall meetings, apply for a certified copy of a Texas Non-repairable or Salvage Vehicle Title, open an account to buy water from the cities of LaMarque and Texas City, enter a federal courthouse or federal government facility or enter a state courthouse or government facility.

But for some reason, picture ID is not required to vote. The Democrats claim that requiring picture ID at the voting booth will result in “voter suppression” and besides, there's no “proof” of “widespread” voter fraud.

Voter fraud is prosecuted by the Texas Attorney General or the district attorney in the jurisdiction where the fraud is alleged to have occurred. Between 2002 and January, 2008, the AG prosecuted 22 such referred cases. This doesn't sound like much, unless you know that one of the cases involved 500 fraudulent voter applications.

In [testimony to the House Committee on Elections](#) at page 40, then-assessor Bettencourt presented evidence of dead people continuing to register and vote, but the DA was unable to prosecute because there was no way to prove exactly who had done the fraudulent registration and voting.

The Texas Watchdog has studied the issue of dead people voting, and found the dead turn out to vote in [Dallas](#) and [Houston](#). People can [designate just about any place as their voting address, even if they don't live there](#). The ability to designate, plus absentee voting, has [created opportunities for fraud](#). Texas Watchdog also has uncovered [extensive voter fraud with the mail-in ballot process in South Texas](#).

And voter fraud is catching up with Democrats.

[Luis Sepulveda \(D\) lost his re-election bid to be a Dallas County JP and claims voter fraud was involved; Dallas County Commissioners referred the case to the AG.](#)

Rep. Al Edwards (D-Houston) is suing Borris Miles in District Court over [alleged voter fraud in this year's Democratic primary](#). Miles won by eight votes.

Be prepared to counter the ridiculous arguments against a rational voter ID measure when the Legislature reconvenes in 2011 in Austin.



Ellie Essalih, Program Chair, who will welcome a new baby in May, examines one of the silent Auction items that was a gift to her from Lo Wallace.