



Village Republican Women

February 2010

Newsletter



www.VillageRepublicanWomen.org

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Kathleen Slaydon

Newsletter Editor

Open

Publicity

Buffy Ingersoll

Chaplain

Clara Boyce

Webmaster

Chris Cobb

Program

Vargo's Restaurant

2401 Fondren

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

9:30 Check-in & Coffee

10:00 Meeting

RSVP by February 23, 2010

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

Nolia Rohde: hospitality@villagerepublicanwomen.org

281-496-1195

Lunch is \$20.00 ♦ RSVP required ♦
If you book you must pay as the Club has to pay



Candidates Forum For Non-legislative Offices

Village Republican Women will be hosting Republican candidates who are running for non-legislative offices in contested primary races. We hope to learn more about these candidates; specifically, why they are running for the office they have chosen and what differentiates them from the other Republican candidates in the race. We look forward to seeing you!

President's Message.....

I am fully recovered from the virus that flattened me last month and am grateful for the Board members who took over and ran the meeting in a dignified and professional manner. The Board has revisited the question of raising dues and saving the money from our fundraiser to support candidates. However, after talking with past Board members, I am open to keeping all our money together and it will be used according to the desires of the entire membership. Please review the budget and be ready to make a final decision at the February meeting.

Those of you who have served on the Board are fully aware that anytime a member attends a function that requires a fee, the member pays the fee from her own pocket. While we are happy to do this as a show of our commitment, we must ask that ALL members contribute to our operating budget by paying sufficient dues that actually fund our ongoing projects. Most area Clubs charge \$30 to \$35 annually and we feel it is necessary to keep pace to ensure the integrity of our Club. We can decide to delay the dues increase until 2011 rather than changing it in mid year.



Thanks to the 106 voting members and 29 dual members who have renewed or joined our dynamic group for 2010. Those who send their payments to us by **February 28** will continue to receive our news and updates. We will be contacting those who have overlooked their renewal opportunity to help them remain involved and informed this year.

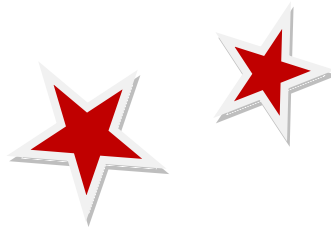
After a long discussion with Vargo's new manager we regret that the price of lunch must be raised to \$20 in order to continue with the fine service we have received for the past years at this beautiful and convenient venue. **We will be charged for every lunch that is booked whether the person attends or not.** Please, please book your lunch ahead of time and be prepared to pay for it to prevent using Club funds to pay for uneaten lunches. We had been spoiled with the relaxed attitude of the previous manager but we now have to be more responsible. That is what it means to be a Republican!

Remember to attend your Precinct Convention at your official polling location on March 2 at 7:00 p.m. This is your opportunity to participate in politics at the grassroots level. There is no quorum, you just need to present your stamped voter registration card in order to attend. The party platform is begun at the local level so allow your voice to be heard. Time spent at the precinct convention will count toward your campaign hours. Please visit www.harriscountygop.com for further information on this important aspect of our electoral system.

Beverly Roberts

Important Dates

February 24		10:00 a.m.	VRW General Meeting	
February 16		9:00 a.m.	GHC Nuts 'N Bolts Workshop	
February 16-26			Early Voting for Primary Election	
March 2			Primary Election and Precinct Conventions	
March 24		10:00 a.m.	Membership Lunch/VRW General Meeting	



WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH..... THE TOUGH GO SHOPPING!

Buffie Ingersoll, Publicity Chair

Want to have some fun and help raise much needed funds for our club? Here's your chance! Please consider participating in a silent auction to be held at our March Membership Meeting.

Do you have some wonderful items that are too special to give away? Donate them to the auction! Do you spend your money at a store, restaurant, or service provider (dry cleaners, spa, manicurist, hair salon, etc.) that may share our conservative values? Ask them to donate an item for the auction!

Popular items to consider donating are:

- Ladies accessories: jewelry, scarves, purses, etc.
- Ladies services: spa gift certificate, mani-pedi
- Home Accessories
- Gift cards of any kind
- Patriotic themed items
- Wine and spirits
- (If you have a number of small but related items, I will turn them into gift baskets)

You may bring your items to the February meeting. However, if that is not possible, please call, email or fax me (Buffie) or Rajada and we will pick up your donations. I will be out of the country from Feb. 23 - Mar. 10th, so please contact me before or after those days with any questions or donations you may have.

phone: 713-467-0396 713-467-0396

email: buffiei@att.net

fax: 713-984-0663

From Feb. 23 - Mar. 10, please contact Rajada at:

phone: 713-963-9805 713-963-9805

email: rajadaflaming@yahoo.com

Thanks for your support and LET'S GO SHOPPING!

For more information about our Club, please call 832-443-8109 or visit

www.villagerepublicanwomen.org

POLITICAL AD PAID FOR BY VILLAGE REPUBLICAN WOMEN PAC FUND

Texas Federation of Republican Women (TFRW)

In 1955, seventeen years after the formation of the National Federation of Republican Women in 1938, the Texas Federation of Republican Women's Clubs was organized. Individual Republican women's clubs had been in existence in Texas prior to the organization of the National Federation, but it was not until 1955 that clubs existed in 75 percent of the state's Congressional Districts (the requirement for federating a state organization).

In October of 1955, more than 300 delegates met in the White Plaza Hotel in San Antonio for an organizational convention. Mrs. Malcolm Milburn of Austin presided over the convention and Mrs. R. D. O'Callaghan of San Antonio was elected president of the new Federation.

The young organization set out, with funds donated by the first Executive Committee, to mail the first letter to member clubs and print its first stationery.

TFRW's Purpose

1. Provide strength and unity for political action within the Republican Party in Texas.
2. Actively support Republican candidates.
3. Encourage Republican women to run for office.
4. Plan local and statewide meetings to broaden and unify the interest and education of its members.
5. Train women to become effective Republican Party workers.
6. Inform our members and the electorate through political education.
7. Cooperate with the Party organization by undertaking special assignments and campaign projects.
8. Offer a source of year-round service by Republican Women volunteers.
9. Publish TFRW quarterly publication and other political action materials.
10. Improve the quality of life in cities across Texas through community service projects.

★ Legislative Report—Kathleen Slaydon ★

The Obama administration's plan to cut more than \$1 trillion from the deficit over the next decade relies heavily on so-called backdoor tax increases that will result in a bigger tax bill for middle-class families.

In the 2010 budget tabled by President Barack Obama recently, the White House wants to let billions of dollars in tax breaks expire by the end of the year -- effectively a tax hike by stealth.

While the administration is focusing its proposal on eliminating tax breaks for individuals who earn \$250,000 a year or more, middle-class families will face a host of these backdoor increases.

The targeted tax provisions were enacted under the Bush administration's Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001. Among other things, the law lowered individual tax rates, slashed

taxes on capital gains and dividends, and steadily scaled back the estate tax to zero in 2010.

If the provisions are allowed to expire on December 31, the top-tier personal income tax rate will rise to 39.6 percent from 35 percent. But lower-income families will pay more as well: the 25 percent tax bracket will revert to 28 percent; the 28 percent bracket will increase to 31 percent; and the 33 percent bracket will rise to 36 percent. The special 10 percent bracket is eliminated, meaning even more people will pay NO tax at all.

Investors will pay more on their earnings next year as well, with the tax on dividends jumping to 39.6 percent from 15 percent and the capital-gains tax increasing to 20 percent from 15 percent. The estate tax is eliminated this year, but it will return in 2011 -- though there has been talk about reinstating the death tax sooner.

Millions of middle-class households already may be facing higher taxes in 2010 because Congress has failed to extend tax breaks that expired on January 1, most notably a "patch" that limited the impact of the alternative minimum tax. The AMT, initially designed to prevent the very rich from avoiding income taxes, was never indexed for inflation. Now the tax is affecting millions of middle-income households, but lawmakers have been reluctant to repeal it because it has become a key source of revenue.

Without annual legislation to renew the patch this year, the AMT could affect an estimated 25 million taxpayers with incomes as low as \$33,750 (or \$45,000 for joint filers). Even if the patch is extended to last year's levels, the tax will hit American families that can hardly be considered wealthy -- the AMT exemption for 2009 was \$46,700 for singles and \$70,950 for married couples filing jointly.

To reach our Houston-area Congresspersons:

Second Congressional District: Rep Ted Poe: <http://poe.house.gov/>

Seventh Congressional District Rep. John Culberson: <http://culberson.house.gov/>

Eighth Congressional District Rep. Kevin Brady: <http://www.house.gov/brady/>

Ninth Congressional District Rep. Al Green: <http://www.house.gov/algreen/>

Tenth Congressional District Rep. Michael McCaul: <http://mccaul.house.gov/>

Fourteenth Congressional District Rep. Ron Paul: <http://www.house.gov/paul/>

Eighteenth Congressional Dist. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee: <http://www.jacksonlee.house.gov/>

Twenty-Second Congressional District Rep. Pete Olson: <http://olson.house.gov/>

Twenty-Ninth Congressional District Rep. Gene Green: <http://www.house.gov/green/>

To reach our Senators:

Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison: <http://hutchison.senate.gov/>

Senator John Cornyn: <http://cornyn.senate.gov/public/>

Put as much of your message as possible in the "subject" line of your email.

Please do not use the Club name, just identify yourself as a constituent of the elected official.

Be concise, accurate and courteous.



Caring for Hospitalized Military Children Project

Being hospitalized can be a scary experience for adults; for children the hours spent separated from loved ones can also be lonely and confusing. The goal of NFRW (National Federation of Republican Women) is to provide cuddly stuffed animals for children in military hospitals so they will have a friend with them at all times during their hospital stay.

Please bring *new* stuffed animals of any size to the February meeting where Patricia Fortune, Outreach Chair, will collect them and get them into the hands of hospitalized children. This is a wonderful way to show support for our troops and their families.

Village Republican Women News

Did you receive this newsletter via email? If yes, you are in the loop and will automatically receive all news, updates, meeting reminders, event announcements and candidate information.

However, if you downloaded this newsletter from the website or it was forwarded to you or you received it in the mail, we encourage you to subscribe to the VRW News. Members should email webmaster@villagerepublicanwomen.org with instructions to subscribe.

If you are not a member, we are happy to keep you up to date with our activities. Simply go to www.VillageRepublicanWomen.org , scroll to the bottom of the page and fill out the form.