



Grayson County Republican Women PAC



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Our Red Hot, Sizzlin' Political Action Newsletter

January 2011

Conservative Victory 2011

"I have wondered at times what the Ten Commandments would have looked like if Moses had run them through the US Congress." -Ronald Reagan

President's Message by Connie Huntington



As the 2011 New Year begins, we all have many things to think about, hope for, plan for and experience. The Grayson County Republican Women, P.A.C. is no exception.

At our December meeting, the officers for 2011 were sworn in. They are: President Connie Huntington, Vice President Karen Heise, Secretary Mary Burchum, and Treasurer Andrea Reid.

At our first Executive board Meeting held Wednesday, January 12th, we discussed how best to organize and work with all of you, our members. To that end, our next meeting (Friday, January 21st – noon, at Kelly's Square) will be a different format. We welcome your input and will be asking all of you to participate by expressing your goals and visions for the upcoming year. Please plan to attend – You are needed!

Some have said that 2011 is an "off year" and we have little to work on because it is not an election year. At this point in our history, we as citizens cannot let this be an "off year". The November 2010 elections were meant to send a message to Washington. I believe that most of our elected Republican officials heard that message. Those elections were a triumph for the Republican ideology of small government, fiscal responsibility, and conservative values. The Democrats took a shellacking (Obama's own words). However, they continue to embrace selective hearing; their spin doctors are out in force and they will try to convince the nation that the Democrat in charge at the Whitehouse has moved from a very liberal progressive agenda to a centrist one. Centrist? Harry Reid still leads the Senate and Nancy Pelosi still leads her party in the House. Our job did not end at the ballot box in November; it is now our responsibility to remind all those we elected of our message and their responsibility to keep their promise to cut the federal budget, repeal and replace Obamacare and to stop the Obama agenda. We can't slow down this year – the Democrats are waiting for us to give them an opening. We have a great opportunity in 2012 to correct the direction of this country and we will work throughout 2011 to be ready.

We will have a list of names and addresses of our office holders at our meeting next week – please take one. We should encourage them to stand strong on issues we support, praise them when they have represented us well, and hold them accountable when they do not.

This past week has been especially emotional for all of us. The shooting in Tucson gave us all pause – "why" would someone do something so evil? It's a "why" for which we may never have a satisfactory answer. We can't legislate these events away – gun control, silencing political pundits, or even more security will not stop evil. We can only pray that those who suffered loss are comforted and those who were injured are healed.

As I write this, the National Republican Party has just elected Reince Priebus of Wisconsin as Chairman, Michael Steele dropped out of the race prior to the final vote. It will be interesting to see what occurs in the Party as we have change at the top.

I am thankful each day for the wonderful Republican Women in this organization and your strength of character and conviction.

Here are the newly elected officers for 2011:

President	Connie Huntington	chuntington@cableone.net
Vice President	Karen Heise	kwriter66@hotmail.com
Secretary	Mary Burcham	maryburcham@verizon.net
Treasurer	Andrea Reid	amikovitz@yahoo.com

(Committee chairs will be announced after the January meeting.)

Meet Your New Leaders



Judge Fallon swears in the new GCRW 2011 Officers at the December meeting.
From Left to right: Judge Fallon, Karen Heise, vice-president; Mary Burcham, Secretary; Connie Huntington, President; Andrea Reid, Treasurer

President Connie Huntington is a lifelong Republican, born across the Red River but raised in San Diego, CA. Having grown up on the “Left” Coast has only made her more eager to fight the good fight. She is married to Gary Huntington, also a lifelong Republican. They are refugees from California having escaped in January 2004. They first settled in Lubbock and moved to Sherman in June of 2007. Both love Sherman and are very happy to call it “home.” They have two daughters. Wendy lives in Coppell with her husband Scott Miller and their three children. Amy and her husband Christopher Anderson and their four children currently live in Austin as her husband completes his doctorate at UT.

Connie worked in the Healthcare industry for over twenty years. She was an Underwriter in the large employer market (companies with over 250 employees) for Prudential Insurance and she has been a Physician Network Director for an IPA/HMO. She retired from healthcare administration as Director of Physician Relations for a two hospital system in Northern San Diego County where her responsibilities included physician recruitment, contracting, network development, and a management services organization. She continued as a consultant until moving to Texas. Gary and Connie have also been retail business owners.

Vice-President Karen Heise has been a member of Grayson County Republican Women for three years, and this year will be her second year to hold the position of Vice President. Her husband and She have three kids, two dogs, and one feathered friend.(a cockatiel) She is looking forward to a great year in 2011.

Secretary Mary Burcham was born and raised in Bryan County Oklahoma; graduated Calera High School; attended Southeastern State College (Southeastern Oklahoma University); and later took CEU courses through Richland College and Presbyterian.

In 1965, she married Don Burcham, and in 1967 they moved to Richardson, Texas to start their careers. Mary's career was in healthcare and she became an office nurse then administrator in private primary care clinics at Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas for 30 years. She served on many Boards at Presbyterian during her tenure, one of which was the Founding Board of Directors of the Presbyterian Office Managers' Association. The CEO of Presbyterian asked her, along with doctors and nurses, to sit on a Committee of the Hillary Clinton's Healthcare Reform. This was a very challenging committee and a lot of data was gathered at that time. The committee felt they did an excellent job and made a huge impact on the Healthcare Reform.

Her brother was a state representative in Bryan County, Oklahoma, for 16 consecutive years and she assisted in his campaigns and watch parties.

She retired in 2005, moved to Gordonville, Texas, Grayson County. Since that time she has been very active volunteering for Sherwood Shores Fire Department, Sherwood Shores Neighborhood Watch, Sherwood Shores Chapel, and Texoma Red Cross; she also enjoyed helping with a candidates' forum at Sherwood Shores Chapel. She has been a Republican since she was 23 years old and has been active in her party.

Treasurer Andrea Reid – *No current information was available at this printing. More later.*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- ✓ **January 21, 2011** GCRW Meeting: Kelly Square @ Noon
- ✓ **January 29, 2011** TRFW Leadership Workshop
- ✓ **February 7, 2011** GCRW Executive Board Meeting
- ✓ **February 18, 2011** GCRW Meeting: Kelly Square @ Noon
- ✓ **February 18, 2011** GCRP Lincoln Day Dinner
- ✓ **March 3, 2011** TFRW Legislative Day / Austin

LEGISLATIVE DAY

Legislative Day will soon be upon us. At the January meeting we will be taking a head count on who would like to attend. Please check your calendars and if you are able to go we will need you to bring your payment to the Jan. meeting.

Legislative Day in Austin Texas
Date: March 3rd / Thursday
Payment: 65.00 per person

Those who go can get together and car pool plus share hotel rooms. The group will leave March 2nd the day before to be available for the morning sessions. They will return in the evening on March the 3rd.

LINCOLN DAY DINNER / EVENT

The annual Lincoln Day Dinner of the Grayson County Republican Party will be held on **Friday evening, February 18, 2011**. This event is one of two annual fundraising events held by the Party. The theme for this event will be "Celebrating our Freedoms". This celebration will include some outstanding entertainment and a great line-up of speakers including Mr. Dale Petroskey, as keynote speaker.

Mr. Petroskey has had an impressive career having served in the Reagan Whitehouse as Deputy Secretary at the Department of Transportation and as Assistant Press Secretary. He has also been Senior VP of the Missions Program with National Geographic, President of the Baseball Hall of Fame and most recently Executive VP of Marketing & Community Development for the Texas Rangers Baseball Club.

Our evening will also include a silent and live auction. Dinner, entertainment, outstanding speakers, and an auction, sounds like fun. Please plan to attend and support your Republican Party. An invitation is on it's way to you. If you do not receive one by February 7th, please contact Connie Huntington via email (chuntington@cablone.net) giving your address and phone number and we will make sure you get your invitation.