



Collin County Republican Review

March 2011

CCRMC Monthly Newsletter

March Meeting: Thursday, March 17, 2011 6:30 PM Social; 7:00 PM Meeting



Speaker this month is former USAF Captain Scott O'Grady. On June 2, 1995, while he was patrolling the no-fly zone, Capt. O'Grady was thrust into the national limelight when his F-16C was shot down by a Bosnian Serb SA-6 and he ejected over Bosnia. He survived for almost six days by eating leaves, grass and ants, and avoiding Serb patrols. He evaded capture and was rescued on June 8 by U.S. Marines. In 2007, he completed a master's degree in biblical studies at Dallas Theological Seminary. This is an inspirational message on courage, patriotism and faith that you will not want to miss.

Inside this issue:

Prez Message	2
Support Our Advertisers	3
Feature Story— Roundup Jason Poe	4
Joe's Corner	5
2011 Board	6
Representative Paxton	7
Florence Shapiro	8
Van Taylor	10
Dalyar Hight	11
Candy Noble	12

Upcoming Events:

- Mar. 17 —CCRMC Meeting
Scott O'Grady
- Apr. 21 —CCRMC Meeting
Fusion Center
- May 19 —CCRMC Meeting
Elizabeth Ames Jones—US Senate Candidate
- June 16 —CCRMC Meeting
Russ Verney
- No Meeting in July

Lincoln Day Dinner

This upcoming annual event & only major CCGOP **fundraiser** is scheduled for **Saturday, April 2nd**, at the **Allen Event Center**.

The theme for this year's dinner is: *"Uniting Under the Texas Stars."*

The featured speaker this year is *Colonel Alan West, Congressman of Florida House District #22*

Prices of tables are: \$10,000 for a President Table; \$5,000 for a Diamond Table; \$2500 for a Platinum Table; \$1500 for a Gold Table; and \$950 for a Silver Table. Each table seats 10.

Please be thinking of items you'd could donate to the **Silent Auction or Live Auction**. Typically the CCRMC helps out with the silent auction so let us know if you can help.

CCRMC has purchased two tables for members to buy individual seats. If you would like to reserve seats at \$95 each at our table or tables, please contact:

Jim Bortzfield jbortz@swbell.net by Friday, February 18th. Send money to our PO Box made payable to CCRMC or give your check to Riley Hollingsworth at the next meeting



Jim Bortzfield President, CCRMC

Statistics and Averages

First, everyone make a special note to attend this month's meeting. USAF Captain O'Grady is well worth the time you will spend coming to the meeting. Several I have talked to are out of town for Spring Break and a lot of the "regulars" won't be there so come on out and support the club.

Regarding the topic, Ken Paxton has contributed this month with some statistics and averages on school funding, pointing out:

"Since the 1998-1999 school year, total school spending in Texas has increased from \$28.0 billion to \$54.7 billion per school year; which amounts to a 95% increase in spending. During the same period, enrollment growth in public schools has increased from 3.95 million students to 4.73 million students; which amounts to a 20% increase in enrollment. On average in Texas, school districts spent \$11,978 per student in 2008-2009, which is nearly double the spending per student from 1998-1999. By contrast, McKinney ISD only spends about \$7,600 per student."

That is true. What is missing from this? A good average temperature is your head in the freezer and behind in the oven and on the average, you are fine. So, below from the TEA, is what the money is spent on. Texas has experienced rapid growth and voters in the rapid growth areas passed bonds and there is bond service for facilities far in the future and this money shows in total SPENDING. Let's examine some details from the TEA information.

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Total Spending	28.7	33.1	38.4	40.6	43.3	46.5	51.3	54.7
Per Pupil. \$	6,913	\$ 7,708	\$ 8,916	\$ 9,269	\$ 9,629	\$ 10,162	\$ 11,024	\$ 11,567
Total Operating	23.0	29.4	30.5	31.7	33.6	35.8	38.8	40.5
Per Pupil. \$	6,167	\$ 6,861	\$ 7,084	\$ 7,229	\$ 7,466	\$ 7,826	\$ 8,342	\$ 8,572

What this shows is that spending on operating expenses per student did not double, it increased around 40%. A good question is why did spending increase 40%. Let's go back to what changed in around 1999. The State began the No Child Left Behind and extensive testing and modification of class requirements. Many schools contracted with outside services for millions to comply. Texas recognized that we had some of the most underpaid teachers in the nation (we have moved up to #33 now) and increased pay. By the way, Wisconsin is #22. Schools wanting the State's coveted "Exemplary" classification to grow the city with families wanting public education, spent even more for quality teachers.

U.K. based Pearson has a millions of dollar contract to grade these new testing standards, most non-computer based because the State did not fund enough computers so that all students could be tested at the same time. And the student population in Texas is in dire need of additional resources. Of the 4.73 million students in Mr. Paxton's study, 2.3 million are Hispanic and .800,000+ students in Texas are ESL. Now, we can complain all we want about illegal immigration, but in education, the problem is real and the test results graded by Pearson determines the rating of the schools and even the compensation of district employees up to and including keeping their jobs. And, by the way, I understand the 3% of the stock of Pearson is owned by—the Libyan government no less.

Maybe we should reassess the craziness of the testing including the reported \$1.2 million per year spent inserting blank pages in the math assessment tests.

Meanwhile, in the Comptroller's report, nearly EVERY department in the State has increased spending in the same time period MORE THAN 40%.

Should be an interesting Legislative session. And special session.

Thanks for listening

Jim Bortzfield, President 2011



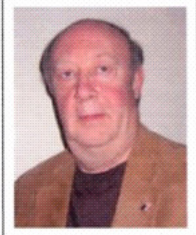
**THANKS TO THESE 2011
NEWSLETTER
ADVERTISERS**



Posey Properties
2701 W. 15th Street
Plano, Texas 75075
Cell (214) 642-4196
Business (972) 596-3000
Fax (972) 985-7164
E-Mail Roger.Bolin@century21.com

Each Office Is Independently Owned And Operated

Roger Bolin
REALTOR®
Commercial, Residential, & Property Management



Richland Real Estate

黃泰國
Paul T. Huang, MBA.
President

1750 N. COLLINS, SUITE 200
RICHARDSON, TX 75080 USA
(TEL.) 972-690-6918
(FAX) 972-690-3363
E-mail richpaul@flash.net
www.richland-realestate.com



W.M. "Mike" Yarbrough
Justice of the Peace
8585 John Wesley Drive • Suite 130
Frisco, TX 75034

Office (972) 731-7303 Weddings: (972) 731-7310
www.collincountytx.gov

**SUPPORT THE CCRMC
BUY A BUSINESS CARD AD
\$35 PER YEAR
Funds for flags on the 4th!**

**A Message from Jason Poe—VP Newsletter**

Well, so much for that new civility thing. <http://www.jsonline.com/blogs/news/117738098.html> Anyone paying attention to the circus in Wisconsin has had plenty to cheer or cry about. Gov. Scott Walker and the Republican legislature were able to reduce the collective bargaining power of state employee's and in the process allowed 14 Democratic officials to show us how government was not intended to work, by leaving the State and not allowing a quorum. This attempt ultimately failed and the will of the electorate was finally prevailed. <http://www.jsonline.com/news/statepolitics/117735163.html> <http://www.powerlineblog.com/archives/2011/03/028582.php>

Unless you have been riding your bike to work or taking DART, http://www.planostar.com/articles/2011/03/14/plano_star-courier/news/228.txt you are aware that gas prices have continued to climb. We are not at 2008 levels, but appear to be heading in that direction. President Obama held a press conference last week to address the issue. Unfortunately, there's no meat on the bone. <http://www.powerlineblog.com/archives/2011/03/028589.php>

Who knew that Texas could get dragged into the Wisconsin controversy? Paul Krugman of the NY Times weighed in with his thoughts on the Texas Educational System versus that of Wisconsin. Take a look at this takedown by blogger Iowahawk as he makes an interesting case that we know what we're doing down here. <http://iowahawk.typepad.com/iowahawk/2011/03/longhorns-17-badgers-1.html>

Be careful which way the wind blows, it appears that some of our elected officials profited from Hurricane Katrina improperly. Monies from the Texas Wind Insurance Fund may have found their way into the wrong pockets. <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/metropolitan/7470919.html>

For those who are following the debate as it relates to education funding for Texas, I am sure you are aware of the rally at the State Capital last week. How does that affect us here in Collin County? See this piece as it relates to Collin College. http://www.planostar.com/articles/2011/03/14/plano_star-courier/news/233.txt

Local business, government, education and civic leaders took over Austin last week as the 82nd Legislature recognized March 7 and 8 as Collin County Days. http://www.planostar.com/articles/2011/03/14/plano_star-courier/news/240.txt

Remember our meeting this Thursday the 17th at 6:00.



Joe's Corner
Joe Cordina
VP Programs

We have a great line up of speakers coming for you this year so start marking your calendar now to be sure you don't miss one—

March— Speaker USAF Captain Scott O'Grady

April— Speaker Kelly Stone and/or Jason Lane Emergency Preparedness Center / Fusion Center

May — Speaker Elizabeth Ames Jones, candidate for U.S. Senate 2012 (Pending)

June— Speaker Russ Verney, former Chairman of Reform Party (Ross Perot) and campaign manager for Bob Barr Libertarian candidate for President 2008

Working on a Collin County mayor's round table and a speaker so big that we will limit attendees to members only. Get your dues in, you won't want to miss this year.

Joe Cordina
VP Programs



CCRMC OFFICERS FOR 2011

President—Jim Bortzfield
 Pres, Elect—Jason Poe
 V.P. Programs—Joe Cordina
 V.P. Newsletter—Jason Poe
 V.P. Membership—Keith Williams
 V.P. Publicity—Dalyar Hight
 Secretary—Mike Yarbrough
 Treasurer—Riley Hollingsworth
 Serg, At-Arms—David Rippel
 Past Pres—Roger Bolin

Committees—In order to accelerate CCRMC growth and plan for growth, the following committees have been set up for 2011.

Newsletter—Chairman Jason Poe. Members—Keith Williams and Jim Bortzfield

Programs—Chairman Joe Cordina. Members—Joe Counter and Roger Bolin.

Membership—Chairman Keith Williams. Members—Dalyar Hight

Publicity—Chairman Dalyar Hight. Members—Jason Poe and Joe Celso

Strategic Planning—Chairman Roger Bolin. Members—Mark Rutledge, Mark Haerr, Marc Freidland

If you want to help on a committee, speak up!





**A Message from
State Representative Ken Paxton (R - District 70)**

Improving School Finance in Texas

In January, the Texas Comptroller released the initial Financial Allocation Study for Texas (FAST) report showing how local school districts allocate their finances to achieve results. The report examines many criteria that reveal how school districts utilize local and state resources to educate Texas' schoolchildren. Here are some of the highlights of the FAST report:

· Since the 1998-1999 school year, total school spending in Texas has increased from \$28.0 billion to \$54.7 billion per school year; which amounts to a 95% increase in spending.

· During the same period, enrollment growth in public schools has increased from 3.95 million students to 4.73 million students; which amounts to a 20% increase in enrollment.

· On average in Texas, school districts spent \$11,978 per student in 2008-2009, which is nearly double the spending per student from 1998-1999. By contrast, McKinney ISD only spends about \$7,600 per student.

· In the 1998-1999 school year, payroll and operating costs were the highest expenditures in school district budgets by percentage. In 2008-2009, the highest expenditures by percentage were debt service and capital expenditures.

· Most school districts built up fund balances to offset economic downturns as property appraisals increased.

· In 2008-2009, payroll expenditures, as a percentage of total expenditures, ranked last in district spending instead of first, as they had in 1998-1999.

The Comptroller's report comes at a time when many school districts are facing budget shortfalls as a result of the recent economic downturn. As a result, many school districts are currently asking the Legislature for assistance. In order to help school districts address their needs, I support initiatives that remove many of the unfunded mandates on public schools, provide additional financial flexibility for school districts, and equitably fund public schools. Each State requirement needs to be carefully evaluated to ensure that education quality improves while administrative requirements are reduced, which will save school districts bureaucratic costs.

Additionally, I believe that funding teacher salaries and purchasing and maintaining classroom resources should be the top priority when spending scarce education dollars. The evidence from the Comptroller's report shows that even though the Legislature has increased state spending to local school districts above and beyond enrollment growth and inflation over the past dozen years, many local school districts have increased administrative overhead costs and capital expenditures faster than teacher salaries and classroom instruction expenditures.

Finally, the school districts that received high ratings in the FAST report should be used as a model across the State for improving student performance, supporting teachers and utilizing resources for classroom instruction. I am pleased to say that McKinney ISD and Frisco ISD were given the highest rating by the Comptroller for maintaining high student performance while keeping costs low. Allen ISD, Prosper ISD and Celina ISD also scored very high.

For more information about the FAST report, please visit www.fastexas.org.



A Message from State Senator Florence Shapiro (R-District 8)

The Time For a Balanced Budget Amendment is Now By State Senator Florence Shapiro (R-District 8)

The U.S. Constitution is one of the most masterful documents ever created. It is remarkable, not only for what it contains, but also for what it does not contain. This enduring document was not conceived overnight. And it was not the product of any one individual--it was created by a chorus of Americans all singing the same tune of freedom. In fact, a Convention of delegates came together to draft what has become the oldest living national constitution in the world. It was a philosophical struggle between those who favored states' rights and those who valued a powerful centralized government. To ensure the federal government remained in check, the Tenth Amendment was created, clearly limiting and enumerating the powers granted to the federal government and all others given to the States. However, after several generations of big government expansion, the power of today's federal government appears to be largely unchecked, particularly where fiscal matters are concerned.

For the past several decades, individual states and their tax-paying residents have been urging Congress to propose a balanced budget amendment; to date, it has fallen on deaf ears. Yet, a movement of the people has taken hold across this land. People from the East to the West are declaring state sovereignty and defending states' rights. Article V of the U.S. Constitution is an indisputable right of the states.

Knowing the nature of power, the framers of the Constitution had the foresight to create a safeguard to ensure that if Congress ignored the will of the people, the states had a remedy in place to protect their interests. Article V explicitly spells out how to call a constitutional convention in order to propose an amendment and how to ratify that amendment.

By design, state legislators are closer to their constituents than are members of Congress. The simple beauty of Article V is that no amendment can be ratified without 3/4ths of the states ratifying it. In the past, even the threat of a constitutional convention pressured Congress to propose several different amendments to the Constitution--the 17th (direct election of U.S. Senators by popular vote), 21st (repeal of Prohibition), 22nd (term limit for the President of the United States) and 25th (presidential line of succession).

It should be remembered that Article V serves a valuable function--it protects the rights of the people against overreaching government. To that end, the Texas Senate recently passed SJR 1, a resolution which would require a convention for the sole purpose to propose a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution. Senator Steve Ogden (R-District 5) and I authored the bill and believe it to be extremely important to the future of our country. This bill should pressure Congress to act on a balanced budget. However, if Congress does not, and a convention is formed, the bill explicitly provides a "fail-safe" option to rescind our resolution if there is consideration for any amendment outside the bounds of a balanced budget amendment. These efforts are aimed at further ensuring that the government serves the people--not the other way around.



Thanks for your 2010 Ads These will expire with this March issue

Renew now

Angela Tucker

1515 Heritage Drive, Suite 104
McKinney, Texas 75069
(214) 585-9899
angelatuckerforjudge.com
angelatuckerforjudge@gmail.com

Political advertising paid for by the Angela Tucker Campaign



CONSERVATIVE · EXPERIENCED · DEDICATED

DAVID D. RIPPEL

Attorney and Counselor at Law
www.RippelLaw.com

Suite 226
520 Central Parkway East Telephone: (972) 424-9500
Plano, Texas 75074 Telecopier: (972) 424-9522



Fred N. Moses
Collin County Chairman

8416 Stacy Rd. # 100
McKinney, TX 75070
Toll Free: 877-467-5985
Phone: 972-540-5985
Fax: 972-547-0874
Cell: 972-345-1965

email: fred@tes.com

Law Offices of Don High

Don N High
Lawyer

1320 Adair St.
Dallas, TX 75204

214/826-8558
214/826-2418 fax
214/499-5677 cell
don_shyla@sbcglobal.net

Tailored Financial Solutions for the Business & Estate Owner

- Life Insurance for Buy-Sell, Key-Person & Survivorship Needs
- Disability Income Insurance
- Group Insurance Plans
- 401(k) & Profit-Sharing Plans
- Long-Term Care Insurance
- Executive "Perk" Programs
- Estate Tax Reduction Strategies

Do business with an experienced professional. My clients know me, like me and trust me. And because of the nature of my practice, I'd rather visit with you too soon than one day too late.



Marc M Friedland, CLU
Chartered Financial Consultant
Marc Friedland Associates
(972) 455-4312
mmfriedland@finsvcs.com

TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



JERRY MADDEN
Committee on Corrections, Chair
District 67

P.O. Box 2910
Austin, Texas 78768-2910
Ph. (512) 463-0544
Fx. (512) 463-9974



P.O. Box 940844
Plano, Texas 75094
Ph. (972) 424-2235
Fx. (972) 424-6730

E-mail: jerry.madden@house.state.tx.us



JODIE LAUBENBERG

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 89

603 N. GOLIAD
ROCKWALL, TX 75087
972.772.8525
972.722.3377 FAX

P.O. BOX 1154
WYLIE, TX 75098
972.468.4189

JODIE.LAUBENBERG@HOUSE.STATE.TX.US

www.plano-lawfirm.com



972.867.0663
fax 972.867.8691

Shawn Ismail
Attorney & Counselor

LAW OFFICE OF
WALKER & ISMAIL

1400 GABLES CT.
PLANO, TEXAS 75075

T.J. (James) LANE, J.D.
Lawyer - Real Estate Consultant

THE LAW OFFICE OF T.J. LANE, PLLC

P.O. Box 515, McKinney, Texas 75070
214.592.0000 tj.lane@att.net



A Message from State Representative Van Taylor (R - District 66)

Thank you for your interest in the Texas Legislature and specifically House District 66. In an effort to communicate with the people I represent, I would like to update you on the progress we have made in the past few weeks and what is on the horizon.

Pending Legislation...

Eminent Domain - Senate Bill 18 is expected to be heard in the [Land & Resource Management](#) Committee on Monday, March 7th. If passed out of committee, the legislation is expected to be debated and voted on by the House on Wednesday, March 9th.

Sonogram - House Bill 15 passed out of the [House Committee on State Affairs](#) by a vote of 9 to 3 with one member not voting. The legislation is expected to be considered by the full House on Tuesday, March 1, 2011. The legislation has 70 Representatives that have signed on to support the legislation as an author.

Voter ID - Senate Bill 14 passed the Senate by a vote of 20 to 12. The bill is currently being debated by the [House Select Committee on Voter Identification & Voter Fraud](#). The legislation is expected to be considered by the full House for a vote as early as next week.

Sanctuary Cities - House Bill 12 was scheduled for public hearing before the [House Committee on State Affairs](#) on March 2, 2011.

As your Representative...

Each of the three bills mentioned above have my support. I will engage with my colleagues and remain meticulously involved in this process to ensure that these bills best reflect the ideals of my district. I will continue to monitor their progress of every piece of legislation as the text of bills is subject to change as it progresses through the legislative process.

I care about the concerns and opinions of the people I represent. I have received thousands of communications through calls, emails, letters, and constituent meetings since being elected to the Texas House of Representatives. I continue to read each letter or email and I am trying to respond as quickly as possible. Please know that my staff and I are taking note of your positions on the various issues facing the Texas Legislature. I hope you will continue to send your views on pending bills and the issues you consider important. Thank you for being involved in the legislative process.

Upcoming Events -

March 7 & 8 are [Collin County Days](#) in Austin. Leaders from the various communities will be in Austin to hear from numerous elected officials at the Texas Capitol. Various topics will be discussed including the budget, healthcare, infrastructure/transportation, and education. I look forward to meeting with everyone in Austin and discussing the issues that affect Collin County. Registration is still open if you would like to join. Click [here](#).

More...

[Track Legislation](#)

[Visit the District 66 Website](#)

[Schedule an Appointment](#)

[House Website](#)

[How a Bill Becomes Law](#)

[Subscribe to our newsletter](#)

It is my honor to serve the people of District 66 in the Texas House of Representatives. I hope you will continue to follow what is going on in the Texas Capitol and let me know your thoughts and opinions.

Sincerely,
Van Taylor



Message From Dalyar Hight VP for Publicity

Greetings Fellow Town Criers

Quote of the Month (*borrowed from the patriotpost.com*)

"There is no good government but what is republican. That the only valuable part of the British constitution is so; for the true idea of a republic is 'an empire of laws, and not of men.' That, as a republic is the best of governments, so that particular arrangement of the powers of society, or in other words, that form of government which is best contrived to secure an impartial and exact execution of the law, is the best of republics."

--John Adams,
Thoughts on Government, 1776

Well so far this month It's been a bit of ground laying but not a whole lot of "Out-There" publicity. We have calls in to the City managers for McKinney, Frisco, and Plano to find out if there may be an option for doing a multiple parade thing with our 4th of July float. The idea being that maybe with one "float build" we can get our image out to all the local cities. So far I've only gotten a response from Frisco stating that their festivities will be on Sat July 2nd but they are not ready with any particulars yet, so stay tuned in that arena. We are also working on building some working relationships with local publications. Again Stay tuned. It's been my experience that as long as one keeps pounding on it these things tend to come to fruition all at once so I'm expecting good things in the months ahead.



Make a Difference
Join the CCRMC Today

Email: ccrmc@ccrmc.org

Web Page: www.ccrmc.org

Promoting the goals and principles of the Republican Party of the United States, Texas and Collin County, through political education and active support of candidates in the general elections. The CCRMC increases the effectiveness of men in the pursuit of good government through active political participation.

State Republican Executive Committee Update

from Candy Noble

www.candacenoble.com

What a great couple of weeks I've had. I spent most of last week in Austin at the Capitol, and took delight in the feel of a Republican majority there. I enjoyed the Texas Federation of Republican Women Day at the capitol on Thursday and attended the Dallas County Lincoln Day Dinner on Saturday night. This week I participated in the SREC Teleconference call. Here is the latest:

I had the opportunity to meet with 8 of our State Representatives and also our own State Senator Florence Shapiro. I asked those that I met with to pass a budget without raising taxes or using the Rainy Day Fund. I also asked that gambling not be expanded in Texas in any form. I talked about Voter ID, the Sonogram Bill and Redistricting. Your personal list of priorities might be a bit different and that's okay. If you have never had the opportunity to go visit your elected officials in Austin during a session, I encourage you to do so this year. The professional lobbyists visit them constantly and good-old tax-paying citizens are rare. Most people that come to see them are asking for money for their own pet projects. One of our Representatives told me that people were emailing and calling begging him to break his campaign promise not to raise taxes! If those who want to keep a lid on spending don't speak up, then we can only blame ourselves if they forget. I was concerned that most of those that I spoke to are ready to consider using the Rainy Day Fund. If you think that it is too soon to consider that option, join me in asking them not to do so.

Last Tuesday I sat in on the Voter ID committee hearing. It was fascinating to hear from elected officials from both Georgia and Indiana where similar bills have passed and been enacted. Interesting fact: Georgia minority vote participation actually increased in subsequent elections to the passage of their bill (as compared to neighboring states in the same election cycles where minority participation was down). Versions of the Voter ID Bill have passed in the full Senate and in the House Committee. Next it will go before the full House.

Also, the Sonogram Bill passed in the full House last Thursday. The Democrats put as many road blocks in the way as they could from Parliamentary Procedure Points of Order to endless Amendments. It appears that this will be their way of stalling any work on our behalf by our super-majority House Republicans. It will be in our best interest to make sure that all Bills coming to the floor have all their T's crossed and I's dotted to avoid missing out on passing great legislation on technicalities. A version of this bill has passed both House and Senate and is now in a joint Committee to approve a single version. The house version has a 24-hour waiting period and the Senate version a 2-hour waiting period. We'll be watching to see what comes out of committee for approval. Up next on the Governor's priority emergency list is the Eminent Domain Bill. Glad to see the work getting done in Austin.

Continued on Page 13

Continued from Page 12

Senator John Cornyn joined the SREC on Tuesday night's monthly Teleconference call. He reported that they have found a lot of redundancies in the federal budget for items. He would love to see a Texas-style Sunset Commission come to Washington DC, and I think that is a marvelous idea. Senator Cornyn and 30 Senate Co-Sponsors have presented a Balanced Budget Amendment. They did a test vote on the issue and found that 11 Democratic Senators would vote with the Republicans on this. We need to keep up the pressure on Washington to cut spending and pass a balanced budget. The proposed Balanced Budget Amendment includes the requirement that a supermajority vote will be necessary for any tax hike. This would prevent interpreting the passage of such an Amendment as a mandate to raise taxes.

Senator Cornyn also expressed his disappointment with the President's Administration's failure to uphold his oath to defend and enforce the law of the land-- including the Defense of Marriage Act. Speaker Boehner and the House of Representatives are pursuing a case in Federal Court to force the Administration to enforce all laws not just those with which they agree. Finally, Republicans are attacking the funding of ObamaCare Legislatively and in the courts. I'm ready to put that chapter behind us.

In Texas GOP news, we have staff that is watching all the legislation in Austin, checking it against the platform for those bills that line up with our priorities and those that are in opposition to where we stand. This is a big job. For those that get the emails from the Texas GOP you will notice that they send out legislative updates on bills that are in line with the list of Legislative Priorities from the convention. I do recommend that you subscribe to these updates if you haven't already done so: www.texasgop.org. Our next SREC meeting will be held in Austin on March 25. Guests are welcome to sit in on the meeting.

Thank you for the honor of serving you on the SREC. As always, feel free to forward this email. Let me know if you know others that would like to be added to my distribution list.

Candy Noble
State Republican Executive Committee
Senate District 8
candy@candacenoble.com

Every day I remind myself that my inner and outer life are based on the labors of other men, living and dead, and that I must exert myself in order to give in the same measure as I have received and am still receiving.

Albert Einstein

US (German-born) physicist (1879 - 1955)