



# PARK CITIES REPUBLICAN WOMEN

*Effectively promoting Republican values and candidates in North Texas since 1960.*

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

Newsletter

November 2010

Dear Kristina,

On November 16th, we have a special evening meeting planned at the home of Mayor and Mrs. Leppert. This event is by invitation only to PCRW members and their spouses. Encourage your friends to join now if they would like to attend! See membership information and how to join below.

The slate of 2011 PCRW officers will be voted on at the meeting that night. Active members and new active members who have paid dues by October 17 are eligible to vote. Please see the slate of officers below. It has been an honor and pleasure to serve as PCRW president the past two years. Thank you for the opportunity! Best wishes to the new board in the coming year.

Planning for the Holiday Luncheon, PCRW's one and only fund raising event is well under way and invitations will go out soon. Advance reservations have been brisk and space is limited. The regular reservation price is \$100.00 per person. New this year, we are offering a PCRW Patron level opportunity which includes preferred seating and program recognition. The reservation price for Patrons is \$125.00 per person. Please make the luncheon a fund raising success for PCRW by organizing or hosting a table! If you are interested in purchasing a reservation, please contact [Carmen Glenn](#).



Thank you Rep. Dan Branch and PCRW member, Trinka Taylor for hosting the election night "Watch Party" in the Impressionist ballroom at the Hotel Palomar! Victory was sweet for many Republicans in Texas and across the nation that night. It was not so for our well qualified Dallas County candidates in the judicial, county judge and district attorney races. Twenty thousand more Democrats than Republicans voted straight ticket, thus electing all of their "down ballot" candidates.

Take a moment to read the article "I Should Be Dead" by PCRW member, Jenn Vermeulen. It is a harrowing description of her recent but positive experience with our health care system and the concern she has for the future system under "Obamacare".

Welcome new members and thank you all who have renewed and joined PCRW for 2011! Get a head start on renewing for next year and do it now.

Help keep our database updated with correct addresses, emails and phone numbers. Send changes to [PCRW database changes](#) Have a question? Send me a [PCRW email](#).

Visit our website at [www.parkcitiesrepublicanwomen.org](http://www.parkcitiesrepublicanwomen.org) and get up to date information on events and activities. Check out the photo galleries and encourage friends to join and pay dues using Pay Pal. Click on "Join Today". Avoid the end of the year rush and renew today for 2011.

Find Park Cities Republican Women (Official Group) on Facebook.  Follow us on Twitter! 

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## November 2010 Monthly Meeting

**Tuesday, November 16**  
5:30 - 6:00 p.m.

Private Friends Reception  
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Home of Mayor & Mrs. Leppert  
By invitation to PCRW members and spouses only  
Join Today!

[Reply required](#)

## 2010 PCRW Winter Schedule

**Wednesday, December 8, 2010**  
10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Brook Hollow Golf Club

**Tuesday, January 18, 2011**  
11:30 - Noon  
Meet and greet  
12:00 - 1:00  
General Meeting

Cindy

Cindy Clendenen  
President, PCRW

## Membership Information & Forms

PCRW offers several levels of membership:

**Active Member** (women, primary club membership): \$50

**Associate Member** (men, and women who hold primary membership in another club): \$30

**Student** (for students between the ages of 18-24): \$15

**Friend of PCRW** (special giving opportunity with some enhanced benefits): \$200

We ask that you kindly renew your membership for 2011. Beat the holiday rush! [Membership forms are available here](#). Please send your form and payment to JoAnne Kroener (PCRW Treasurer), 25 Highland Park Village, 100-840, Dallas, TX 75205-2789. You may join online through the [PCRW website](#). Click on "Join Today", fill out the form and pay with a credit card through Paypal.

## Photos



October Meeting at the Museum of Biblical Art  
Angie King & Kristie McCrary

Meadows Museum  
SMU Campus

## Election Results

Election Results are available [here](#).

## President's Picks

### [Decision Points](#)

by George W. Bush

## Useful Contacts

[Park Cities Republican Women \(PCRW\)](#)

[PCRW E-Mail](#)

[Dallas County Republican Party](#)

[Republican Party of Texas](#)

[Republican National Committee \(RNC\)](#)

[Governor Rick Perry](#)

[Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison](#)

[Senator John Cornyn](#)

[Congressman Pete Sessions](#)

[State Senator John Carona](#)

[State Rep. Dan Branch](#)

[State Rep. Will Hartnett](#)

White House Comments Line: 202-456-1111

Capitol Hill: 202-224-3121

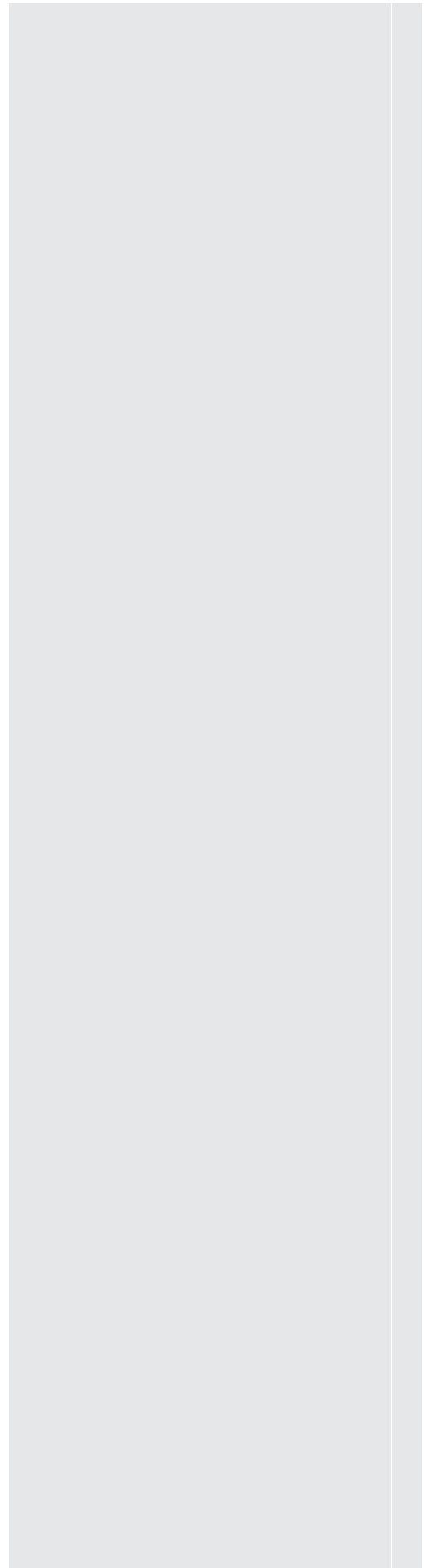
PCRW is among the largest Republican women's clubs in Texas, and is dedicated to supporting the election and appointment of Republicans to public office. PCRW was founded in 1960 and has worked diligently for more than 50 years to encourage qualified candidates to run for office, to support Republican values in candidates and officeholders, and to educate its members and the public on the important political issues facing Texas. Membership in PCRW is open to all registered voters who support the Republican Party.



Kristie McCrary, Karen Gren Johnson, Kimber Hartmann, Cindy Clendenen



Ruth Chambers, Pastor Stephen Broden,  
Cynthia Howard, Judy Lightfoot Bennett



## Article - I Should Be Dead

By Jenn Vermeulen

It had become a race against time. A large complex mass had formed around my left ovary and fallopian tube and threatened to burst, unleashing bacteria-laced fluids into my abdomen and blood stream. For 2 weeks I had been suffering from increasing pain, fever, and nausea. I visited with an internist who suspected a kidney stone, took a urine sample -- which was negative -- and sent me on my way. But four days later, hobbling in pain, barely getting by on obscene amounts of Tylenol and ibuprofen, I found myself at my 6 weeks postpartum visit, wondering if anyone would believe my story. Fortunately, my story began to tell itself to my midwife, who found blood and ketones -- which spill out through the kidneys as a by-product of your body beginning to metabolize itself for energy -- in my urine. She immediately called the ER for my admission.

Roger rushed to Baylor where we hung out for a long time in the ER. Unspecified abdominal pain doesn't triage very high, apparently, even with a doctor's phone call. Eventually I had a CT scan -- a "stone protocol", as the technician put it. Those words made me uneasy. *Kidney stone? Do we really still think this is a stone?* I asked what the images would show -- would my whole abdomen appear or just my urinary system? The tech responded that it was pretty anatomically specific, so I began to pray. *Lord, if this is something other than a problem with my kidneys, please let them see it.*

Once the results were in, things moved very quickly. They had indeed seen "something", but didn't know what. The pace of my medical attention picked up. I can't begin to tell you how frightening it is to all of a sudden be of much interest to an ER doctor. I was taken for an ultrasound and X-rays for further investigation. Even with all the rushing, it would still be hours before we had an answer.

By now, the pain was unbearable and my fever was climbing, as it had been many hours since I was last able to self-medicate. I was crying in pain, sharp stabbings echoing throughout my abdomen. My poor husband stood at the curtain of my treatment bay, trying desperately to get the attention of a nurse who would help me. After 9 hours in the ER, I was finally taken up to my room where I was started on 5 IV antibiotics and heavy pain medication. The caustic nature of this drug cocktail would cost me 5 IV sites and 7 IV-site attempts. The prayer was that the drugs would get to the infection, before the infection got the best of me. Once I was stabilized, then the doctors would discuss the next step in my care: getting in there to clean things out.

It would be 5 days before the doctors felt I was stable enough to undergo the procedure to drain the abscess. It was crucial that my body be given enough time to completely envelop the infection in a scar tissue barrier, to protect me from potential rupture. The decision revolved around two methods: laproscopic, or something even less invasive but with a more narrow window for success. Finally, it was decided that I was ready and the latter method was to be attempted first, in hopes of saving me major surgery.

Using cutting-edge Interventional Radiology, a highly skilled doctor would guide a catheter through my belly button and puncture the abscess to drain it. In doing so, she was also unleashing purulent matter into my abdominal cavity, knowing some would never make it up the drainage catheter. It was imperative that the antibiotics had the upper hand. The extra bad news: I had to be awake and able to communicate with doctors.

I don't care how easy the tough men in movies make it look; taking something the size of a ball-point pen through your gut is anything but. However, I'm sure it would have been easier if the tech hadn't looked at my tiny body and decided I only needed half the recommended dose of pain med and Versed (the balance of which he quickly pumped into me and from there I have no memory.)

Tubo-Ovarian Abscesses (TOAs) were virtually untreatable in the 1970's. In fact, the mortality rate for a ruptured TOA in 1980 - the year I was born - was 90%. In the 1980's standard treatment was a total hysterectomy with debridement of the abdominal cavity, and mortality rates improved. With the discovery of broad-spectrum antibiotics in the 1990's, rates improved even more. However, the most significant gains have been made in the last handful of years with the advent of Interventional Radiology -- Baylor begin one of the few pioneering hospitals in this area of expertise. No where else in the Metroplex would I have had the treatment options I did at Baylor.

Born in another place -- say a third-world country where TOA mortality remains high for lack of medical care -- or at another time: I would be dead. My four children, the youngest a mere 7 weeks old, would be orphans and my husband all alone.

*There but by the grace of God go I.*

The technology that saved my life is the fruit of American medical innovation. None of this stuff was imported! In England, the NIH still recommends major surgical intervention -- the American standard from the 1980's. Canada only has 417 CT scan machines in the entire country! They aren't saving lives from TOAs either!

America has been the sole beacon of light to the world's physical sufferings because of the medical system we established decades ago. The rest of the world relies on us to be pushing those life-saving frontiers, investing in medical research and drug development, improving treatment options, curing diseases that torment the body and shorten this sweet life.

When considering whether the short-term gains in Obamacare are worth the long term costs to research and development, consider this: How much progress are you willing to sacrifice? Enough to prevent nascent technologies 30 years from now that would save the life of your child born today? Is "free" medical care today so precious to us that it is worth the loss of human life tomorrow? How selfish. How horrifically selfish of us to crave in such an entitlement.

I haven't gotten the bills yet from this ordeal. (Guess what? They don't make you pay up-front; you can get treated if you're poor.) But I assure you this: I will happily pay every penny, if it's the last penny I have, just for the privilege to raise my children.

Children, who I hope, will benefit from many more decades of great strides in American medicine.

*Praise be to God!*

### **PCRW Friends**

"Friends" is a group of people within Park Cities Republican Women who have donated at an elevated giving level for the purpose of enhancing PCRW's ability to support Republican candidates through direct donations as well as through events that offer opportunities for Republican candidates to meet and connect with voters. PCRW thanks the members of Friends of PCRW for their generosity. For more information about the Friends program, please contact Lisa Luby Ryan. The members of Friends of PCRW as of October 31, 2010 include:

Cathie Adams	Marjorie Winn Ford	Jo Anne Kroener	Patricia Ridnour
Joyce Alban	Michaela Frederick	Shannon Langmade	Sue Ringle
Court Alley	Heather Furniss	Sarah Larroca	Carolyn C. Rogers
Sandy Ammons	Jean Garrett-Nolland	Jodie Laubenberg	Lisa Luby Ryan
Claudia Armstrong	Debora Georgatos	Susan Lebowitz	Sharon Smith
Pam Balsar	Jennie Gilchrist	Carole Lee	Merrie Spaeth
Diane Benjamin	Carmen S. Glenn	Caroline Loy	LaNeil Wright Spivy
Judy Bennett	Diane "Louie" Gorman	Gail Madden	Linda Staley
Claire Boston	Ebby Halliday Acers	Ann Margolin	Susan Stanzel
Dan Branch	Sarah H. Hancock	Janet Mariani	Mary Stone
Janet Brasch	Connie Harkins	Kay McCrary	Sharon Strother
Robbie Briggs	Linda Harper-Brown	Kristie McCrary	Lane Sullivan
Meriam Calabria	Kimber Hartmann	Jane McKay	Catherine Taylor
Rose Cannaday	Rep. Will Hartnett	Leanne McKinley	Teresa Thrash
John Carona	Jacquelyn Hill	Nancy McRae	Betsy Turner
Ann Carruth	Cindy Howard	Nancy McRae	Cecilia W. Twining
Susan Chad	Jan Gentry Howard	Janet Medlin	Norma Vardeman
Ruth Chambers	Vicki Howland	Mary Miller	Gisela Von Hagen
Eeverly Clark	Mary Catherine Huffines	Judy Moore	Sherry Walker
Cindy Clendenen	Jolie Humphrey	Beverly Morris	Candy Ward
Janis Coffee	Fredda Isenberg	Suellen Murchison	Suzanne Wasem
Camille Cohen	Patti Ivey	Justice Mary Murphy	Cindy Weber
Jeanne Cox	Doris Jacobs	Anita Oberwetter	Jefflyn Williamson

Earbara Hunt Crow	Milla Perry Jones	Barbara Olsen	Lisa Hart Willis
Kathy Crow	Ramona Jones	Debra Sue Payne	Tish Witten
Earbara Dewberry	Hon. Margaret Keliher	Marilyn Platt	Laura Woodall
Commissioner Maurine Dickey	Urve Kiik	Judy Pollock	Debra Wright
Mary Ellen Dill	Angie King	Ann Quest	
Suzette Felder	Merrie Ann King	Mary Jo Rausch	
Michael Flusche	Rita Klein	Twila Richardson	

**2011 Board Member Nomination Committee Slate**

PRESIDENT: Angie King  
 FIRST VP (Programs): Kimberly Hartmann  
 SECOND VP (Campaign Activities): Kristie McCrary  
 THIRD VP (Membership): Cynthia Howard  
 FRIENDS OF PCRW: Debbie Georgatos  
 NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Ruth Chambers  
 RECORDING SECRETARY: Candy Ward  
 TREASURER: JoAnne Kroener  
 BYLAWS: Kristina Kiik  
 HISTORIAN: Lisa Luby Ryan  
 PARLIAMENTARIAN: Cindy Clendenen

**2010 Board Members and Standing Committee Chairmen**

<b>Board Members</b>	<b>Standing Committee</b>
President: Cindy Clendenen	Arrangements: Claudia Armstrong
Vice President, Programs: Kimber Hartmann	Budget: Jennie Gilchrist
Vice President, Campaigns: Kristie McCrary	Holiday Luncheon: Carmen Glenn
Vice President, Membership: Judy Bennett	Internal Review Co-Chair: Barb Olsen
Friends of PCRW: Lisa Luby Ryan	Database: Jennifer Lang
Newsletter Editor: Kristina Kiik	Member Relations: Claire Boston
Recording Secretary: Candy Ward	New Member Packets: Leanne McKinley
Treasurer: JoAnne Kroener	Student Outreach: Natalie Harper
Bylaws: Angie King	Publicity: Jennifer Pyka
Historian: Sandy Ammons	Yearbook: Tiffany Wyde
Parliamentarian: Debbie Georgatos	Young Professionals: Ericka Salinas
	Website: Victoria Larroca