



# Cherry Tree Republicans

## Cherry Tree Republicans: A Profile

**Cherry Tree Republicans** (CTR) celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2017. It consists of conservative men and women in Northwest Harris County. The club supports conservative issues and is a pro-life, pro-family, pro-Israel Republican club. Its members believe in 2nd Amendment rights, marriage between one natural man and one natural woman, peace through military strength, strong national and border security, national sovereignty, fiscal responsibility, and the preservation of the Judeo-Christian heritage of the United States.

At our monthly meetings, we present excellent speakers, which include current office holders, candidates for office, strategists, and authors. CTR maintains a strong standing in Harris County and the state because of staunch relationships with local, state and national officials as well as the club's avid support of conservative political issues and causes. Therefore, Republican office holders, candidates, and other party activists are pleased to accept our invitation to speak at our monthly meetings and special events. At our Christmas Party in 2013, CTR was privileged to have then Senator Dan Patrick sign his paperwork to be a candidate for Lt. Governor of the State of Texas.

Cherry Tree Republicans has assisted in Get Out the Vote (GOTV) projects. Most notable was hosting a standing-room-only "Keep Texas Red" Rally in October 2018 at the request of Lt. Governor Dan Patrick.

In March 2019, CTR presented an Educational Forum, "Update: 20 Years into the New Millennium," with prominent speakers such as U.S. Congressman Dan Crenshaw, former Congressman Tom DeLay, and Pastor Rafael Cruz. Former State Representative Mike Schofield presided over this very successful event as Emcee.

To assist in the election of Republicans both locally and statewide, CTR hosts candidate forums and raises funds to support campaigns. We encourage our members to get involved in the grassroots political process. CTR members attend and actively participate in local, state, and national GOP meetings. Our members participate in phone banks and block walks. They are campaigners, candidates, active members of county boards of government, and elected national, state and local officials.

Cherry Tree Republicans is committed to serving our community. We are proud to continue to promote conservative principles and ideals and to work to elect conservative Republicans to all levels of government.

*Edith Gibson*

**President, Cherry Tree Republicans**  
egib@sbcglobal.net

## Meeting Information

### When:

Every third Tuesday of the month

★ 6:00 PM ~ Registration, Conversation, and Dinner (optional)

★ 7:00 PM ~ Meeting

### Where:

Don Ramon's Mexican Restaurant

5505 FM 1960 Rd. West, Houston, Texas 77069

### Cost:

Meeting and Dinner ~ \$20 or \$25 (*depends on entrée*)

Meeting Only (includes tea or coffee) ~ \$7



## 2019 Board Members

President	Edith Gibson
Executive Vice-President	<i>Open</i>
Vice President, Membership	Marc Katz
Secretary ( <i>pro-tem</i> )	Micheline Hutson
Treasurer, General Account	Micheline Hutson
Treasurer, PAC	Mark Klecka
Sergeant-at-Arms	Jarrod Compton
Director	Rodney Deschamps
Director	Pam Montgomery
Director	Helen Nixon
Director	Don Shackelford
Director	Mark Smith



## Cherry Tree Republicans History

In 1992 a group of like-minded individuals in Northwest Houston led by Lee and Becky James and Kelly and Marcie Fessler began meeting to talk about forming a new conservative organization. In the beginning, they met in the home of the James' followed by a series of meetings in the home of Dr. Gene and Reina Fontenot. As a symbol of honesty and truthfulness, they chose to name the club Cherry Tree Republicans. Soon afterward, Newt Gingrich issued his "Contract with America" and conservatives became determined to work together to claim a Republican majority in both houses of Congress. The timing for such an organization was perfect.

*"A nation without borders is not a nation"*  
— President Ronald Reagan

*"The price of freedom is eternal vigilance."*  
— Thomas Jefferson

## Membership in Cherry Tree Republicans

### Yearly Dues:

*Dues are by calendar year – Jan. 1 to Dec. 31*

- Individual – \$25 (over the age of 17)
- Family – \$35 (married couple over the age of 17 and their children under the age of 17)
- Student – \$15 (Any full-time student 12-17)



### Membership Benefits

#### ★ Men and Women Are Full Members at Cherry Tree!

#### ★ Eligibility to Hold Office in CTR and Vote in Club Elections (except Student members)

#### ★ Evening Meetings

Convenient for career members and busy schedules  
3rd Tuesday of every month at 6:00 PM for registration, conversation and dinner; 7:00 PM for Meeting

#### ★ Political Awareness

Candidate forums  
Educational forums with multiple prominent speakers

#### ★ Social Activities

Dinner Meetings  
Christmas Party

#### ★ Newcomers Club

Great place to meet your neighbors and make new friends

#### ★ Meet National, State & Local Leaders & Politicians

Meet your U.S. Congressman, State Representative and Senator, Sheriff, County Commissioners, Judges, and more!

#### ★ Informative Speakers

Congressmen, State Legislators, Judges, Border Issues, Health Issues, Education Issues, and more!

#### ★ Discount Rate for Special Events



### Past Presidents

Edith Gibson	2018 –	Drake Cameron	2001, 2002
Dan Comstock	2015 – 2017	Cory Ortigoza	1999, 2000
Edith Gibson	2012 – 2014	Tom Moon	1997, 1998
Bill Drout	2009 – 2011	Mark Blackwell	1995, 1996
Mark Klecka	2008	Lee James	1993, 1994
Stan Stanart	2005 – 2007	Kelly Fessler	1992
Paul O'Finan	2003 – 2004		

**For more information about Cherry Tree Republicans, please visit our website at:**

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

**or E-mail:**

[ctr@CherryTreeGOP.org](mailto:ctr@CherryTreeGOP.org)

### A Partial List of Past Speakers *(Title at time of talk)*

- Dan Patrick, Lt. Governor, State of Texas
- Paul Bettencourt, State Senator, Senate District 7
- Ken Paxton, Attorney General, State of Texas
- Glenn Hegar, Comptroller, State of Texas
- Ted Poe, Congressman, 2<sup>nd</sup> District of Texas
- Dan Crenshaw, Congressman, 2<sup>nd</sup> District of Texas
- Michael McCaul, Congressman, 10th District of TX
- Gary Elkins, State Rep., District 135
- Dr. Tom Oliverson, State Rep., District 130
- Sam Harless, State Rep., District 126
- Mike Schofield, State Rep., District 132
- Dwayne Bohac, State Rep., District 138
- Debbie Riddle, State Rep., District 150
- Patricia Harless, State Rep., District 126
- Allen Fletcher, State Rep., District 130
- Jim "Mattress Mack" McIngvale, Houston Business Leader and Philanthropist
- Pastor Rafael Cruz
- Tom Mechler, Chair, Republican Party of Texas
- Steve Munisteri, Chair, Republican Party of Texas
- Ed Emmett, Harris County Judge
- Tom DeLay, former Congressman 22nd District of Texas; Republican Party House Majority Leader from 2003 to 2005
- Gilad Katz, Consul General of Israel for the Southwest United States
- Meir Shlomo, former Consul General of Israel
- Ron Hickman, Harris County Sheriff
- Mark Herman, Constable, Harris Co., Precinct 4
- Jonathan Saenz, President, Texas Values
- Lincoln Goodwin, Harris Co. J.P., Precinct 4, Place 1
- David Maulsby, Executive Director, PTSD Foundation of America, Camp Hope
- Paul Simpson, Chair, HCRP
- Kathaleen Wall, SREC17
- Grove Norwood, The Heart of Texas Foundation
- Pastor Mark Collins portrayal of George Washington
- Dr. Voddie Baucham, VBM Ministries
- Ignacio Ramos, former U.S. Border Agent
- Susanna Hupp, author, speaker, former State Rep., Dist. 54
- Kelly Shackelford, President and CEO, The Liberty Institute
- Richard "Mack" Machowicz, Former US Navy Seal, Television and Radio Host
- Eric Golub, Nationally known conservative speaker, blogger, author, entertainer
- Justice Dale Wainwright, Supreme Court of Texas
- Lavonne Cox, Chair and Founding President, USO Auxiliary
- Denis DeBakey, Founding Member, USO Auxiliary, Co-President, Harris County Hospital District Foundation
- Dr. Kenneth L. Mattox, Professor and Distinguished Service Professor, Michael E. DeBakey Department of Surgery, Baylor College of Medicine and Chief of Staff/Chief of Surgery, Ben Taub General Hospital