



President's Message

"A leader is someone you choose to follow to a place you would not go by yourself."

Dear Friends:

In my lifetime the US has gone from a world leader, THE world leader, that shining city on a hill that will act as a beacon of freedom and hope in the world, to a "why can't we all just get along" member of a world community where everyone's view of government is equally valid and tolerated. Now our biggest sin is stepping on someone's toes, going it alone or heaven forbid not having a "fair" outcome.

Has America's leadership backtracking made the world more safe? Has it made other countries like us more and has this popularity benefited you? Is the world a more "stable" place because of our newfound appeasement and governing by consensus policies?

Mankind craves leadership and when a vacuum of leadership exists someone will fill it. We see this in the Arab states and wait breathlessly to see which groups and people emerge to lead their nations out of this tumultuous time. At the UN it seems as if the leadership deck of cards is being shuffled and a new hand is about to be dealt. And sadly I see this here at home and wonder why our President, the most powerful man in the world, is tying his own hands and not acting decisively and boldly.

There is strength in numbers and people will follow a leader to a place they would not go alone. As Republican women, *let's continue to act as leaders in our community.*

-Kim Chambers



Join us for our April Luncheon!

We are extremely fortunate to have Dr. Friedman as our luncheon speaker for our April meeting. He is in demand all over the world and is considered a leading authority on the global political situation and global intelligence. Bring friends, neighbors, and husbands. Everyone interested in global intelligence at this critical time will find his discussion interesting and enlightening.

Thursday, April 7, 2011
11:30am - 1:00pm
Austin Country Club
4408 Longchamp Drive
(off Westlake Drive at 360)
\$25 (cash preferred)



Note: Donations for the April 9th troop mail out will be collected and are greatly appreciated.

Sponsorship opportunities for our 2011 Membership Directory are available for as little as \$5.

There will be lots of fun accessories at the jewelry table so be sure to stop by!
Your purchases help fund ARW.

Dr. Friedman is the Chief Executive Officer and founder of STRATFOR. Since 1996 Dr. Friedman has driven the strategic vision guiding STRATFOR to global prominence in private geopolitical intelligence and forecasting.

Dr. Friedman is the author of The New York Times bestseller “The Next Decade: Where We’ve Been...and Where We’re Going,” which forecasts the major events and challenges that will test America and the American President over the course of the next decade.

A very popular keynote speaker, Dr. Friedman is in high demand at conferences and industry specific events for private organizations and government agencies. Dr. Friedman is frequently invited to speak in countries all over the world, including Turkey, Germany, Poland, Azerbaijan, Australia and New Zealand.

Dr. Friedman received his bachelor’s degree from the City College of the City University of New York and holds a Ph.D. in government from Cornell University.

Dr. Friedman will autograph his latest book, which will be available for sale, both before and after the meeting.

RSVP by Monday, April 4 at noon to: meetingsvp@austinrepublicanwomen.org

You do not have a reservation unless you have received a confirmation

Upcoming Events!

April 7th – ARW Lunch Meeting (Austin Country Club)

April 9th – Troop Packing Party (10:00am – 2:00pm, Carol Lyle's house: 2477 Waymaker Way Austin, TX 78746)

April 21st – April Board Meeting (5:30pm at the Kathy Webster's house: 10720 Bay Laurel Trail Austin, TX 78750)

May 3rd - 5th – TFRW trip to Washington DC

May 5th – ARW Lunch Meeting (Austin Country Club)

Thank You to our March Speaker, Ted Cruz



Caring for America

Care Packages for the Troops

This April we will be sending care packages to US Marines currently serving at Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan. These Marines have been in the very worst of circumstances and we have a chance to let them know that the *Austin Republican Women have not forgotten them!*

On Saturday, April 9th, ARW will be having a “Troop Packing Party.” The packing parties are a fun way to meet other ARW members while supporting our military. We hope you can attend and help us with this important work!



How You Can Help:

- 1) Cash or Check donations are appreciated - we will be glad to shop for you; cash also pays for postage!
- 2) Ask local elementary schools to write Thank You Letters to the troops, which will be included in each box
- 3) Come to the Packing Party on **Saturday, April 9th - 10:00am - 2:00pm** – Carol Lyle's house (2477 Waymaker Way, Austin 78746)

MAY DROP ITEMS OFF EARLY IF YOU CAN NOT COME TO PACKING PARTY
(or bring to the April 7th luncheon)

MOST URGENTLY NEEDED (NO Toothbrushes or fruit w/ juice in containers)

Soap, Shower Gel, Baby Wipes, Razors/Shave Gel, Shampoo/Conditioner, Lotion (hand and body), Cold Remedies/Headache Meds/Allergy Meds, Anti-biotic Cream/Gel/Ointment (like Neosporin), Feminine hygiene items, Antiperspirant/Deodorant and Coffee

Other Desired Items

Coffee Creamer/Sugar/Artificial Sweetener, Beef/Turkey Jerky, Breakfast Bars, Hard Candy (NO Chocolate, it melts!), Coffee Mugs, Cookies, Fiber Bars, Foot Powder, Single Serving Drink Mixes (Gatorade, mixes you put in bottled water, etc. - NO liquids), Magazines (hunting, fishing, etc...), Microwavable popcorn, Regular Popcorn (for AIR Popcorn poppers—each FOB has one), Popcorn seasoning, Nail clippers, Sun Screen, Exlax/Stool Softener Type Medicine

MANY THANKS TO EACH OF YOU FOR HELPING US SUPPORT THE TROOPS!!

KELLY AND GENIE

***If you have not registered yet to be a
2011 member of ARW...***



We miss you and need you back!

2011 is an important year and Austin Republican Women needs you as a member. The saying is true – there is strength in numbers – and having you as a member enhances our image and adds to our strength.

Even if you can't attend every event, please rejoin Austin Republican Women and keep up to date on issues that are important to you.

Perhaps you've been meaning to join, but just forgot to get the application in. You can either mail your application (www.austinrepublicanwomen.org/membership) and a check for \$35 (payable to ARW PAC) to Carla Robinson or join us at one of our upcoming luncheons and renew your membership there.

Republican men can even join as an associate member for just \$15!

The 2011 ARW Membership Directory will be coming out soon and the deadline to have your information printed in the directory is April 14th. Don't procrastinate and miss this opportunity.

We're looking forward to having you with us again. We need you and welcome any input you many have.

Thank you,
Carla Robinson
VP – Membership
membership@austinrepublicanwomen.org

ARW Legislative Update – March 2011

Republican Activists and Texas voters have made passage of a Voter ID bill one of the defining issues of this legislative session. In January, the Governor designated this issue an "emergency" and the Legislature has taken quick steps to pass a bill that will restore integrity to our elections process in Texas.

For Republicans, Voter ID is about fair and credible elections but the Democrats fear it will disenfranchise their voters. For the past two legislative sessions we've had a healthy debate on the issue and we've seen the gamut of delays and parliamentary maneuvers, including points of order, amendments and "chubbing", from the opposing side - all tactics to delay the inevitable.

But finally we can celebrate! Our side has prevailed.

With a vote of 101-49, the Republican-led Texas house passed SB 14, the Senate's bill on Voter ID. They say elections have consequences...and they do.

Because of your hard work during the election, we now have a policy victory we can celebrate. But even more importantly, *we are on the path to an electoral system we can trust.*

- Suzanne Bellsnyder
ARW Legislative Chairman



If you would like to join our efforts, please email Suzanne Bellsnyder at legislative@austinrepublicanwomen.org with your thoughts and suggestions.

National Federation of Republican Women Briefed by Speaker Boehner at U.S. Capitol

U.S. House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH) privately briefed 225 Republican women leaders from across the country during the National Federation of Republican Women's (NFRW) biennial Legislative Day at the U.S. Capitol on March 9. Austin Republican Women's (ARW) president, Kim Chambers, was one of the ladies in attendance. Founded in 1955, ARW is the longest standing Republican club in Austin.

Referencing the House GOP's "Pledge to America" governing agenda unveiled last fall, Boehner gave an overview of some of the Republican priorities, which include controlling spending, overhauling the budget and entitlement programs, developing a viable energy policy, defunding President Obama's healthcare reform plan, and fixing the U.S. Congress, which he called a "broken" institution.

"The NFRW was honored to hear from Speaker Boehner first-hand," President Sue Lynch said. "Our leaders were thrilled that he shared his vision for Congress and for America, and that he took the time to answer their questions about policy and government."

In addition, the group was addressed by nearly 60 Republican congressional elected officials, including U.S. Sen. Kelly Ayotte (R-NH) and several other Republican women who were newly-elected last fall. Dressed in the traditional garb of red jackets, the "red coats" also met with their congressional delegations to advocate Republican issues and attended committee hearings and other legislative events.

In the evening, the NFRW hosted a reception honoring U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX), a long-time NFRW member and supporter who recently announced that she will retire from the U.S. Senate in 2012.



Founded in 1938, the NFRW has thousands of active members in local clubs across the nation and in several U.S. territories, making it one of the largest women's political organizations in the country. The grassroots organization recruits and elects Republican candidates, advocates the GOP's philosophy and initiatives, and empowers women in the political process.

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