



AUSTIN REPUBLICAN WOMEN

December 2009

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"Man is not free unless government is limited.... As government expands, liberty contracts.

- Ronald Reagan



December Meeting and Christmas Luncheon

Austin Republican Women's Christmas Luncheon & Installation of Officers

Thursday, December 3
11:30 - 1:00

at the Home of Cindy Wilson
4601 Mirador Drive (in Escala)
Austin 78735

Ask for gate code when you RSVP to
Deborah @ 569-6146 or
meetingRSVP@austinrepublicanwomen.org



President's Letter

Diane Fulton

Well, here we are one year into this unbelievable administration. How fast time goes when one is having fun! We all awake each day wondering what new violations of our freedoms and destruction of our economy will we hear about today. Added to that is the irrational Obama decision to try the 9/11 terrorists in US District Court in New York granting them the full constitutional rights and procedural protections of American citizens. Meanwhile, political correctness caused this administration's FBI and Army commanders to consciously ignore and dismiss the obvious and blatant terrorist activities of an Army major that lead to the murder of 13 at Ft. Hood.

Thank you all who have worked so hard in writing and calling members of Congress. We can be thankful for our two Senators and some of our Representatives for looking out for us and voting the right way even though it couldn't quite stem the tide at the moment. Shame on those so-called Blue Dog Senate Democrats who waited until the last minute and voted for the Health Care fiasco. Now they can wait until after debate/cloture and vote against it when only 51 votes are needed to pass. They can then go home and tell their constituents, "I voted against it" assuming their constituents are too ignorant to understand what really happened. Let's not give up. 60 votes are still needed for cloture.

Thank you to Senators Cornyn and Hutchison and our Congressmen McCaul, Smith and Carter who have tried to stop this madness. Shame on Congressman Doggett...you are in our sights for 2010. We will help Congressmen McCaul and Smith in their reelection campaigns next year and work against Doggett and those like him. We even have a conservative Republican in CD 18 (Houston) John Faulk running against Shelia Jackson Lee. We need to help those in districts outside Austin with donations and phone calls. If we can unite and work together to elect at least 35 new Republican members of Congress across the country, these assaults upon us by the Democrats can be repealed.

On a lighter note, I attended the TFRW convention along with eighteen other ARW members. It was immensely informative as well as a great time had by all. There are a couple of articles by other attendees in this newsletter regarding their experiences.. Austin Republican Women won three awards at this convention. ARW received The John Goodwin Tower Award of Excellence, Caring for America Award and Achievement Award for Membership. Thanks belong to all of you for helping ARW attain these awards.

Finally, I hope you and your families all have a wonderful Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas, a Happy Hanukah and a joyous New Year. We have so much for which to be thankful living in this wonderful country. Let us work together, united to preserve it.

Please pray for our Armed Forces standing in harm's way around the world and for their families - especially families of those at Fort Hood and of those fallen Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airmen and Coast Guardsmen who granted their lives in defense of American liberty.

Christmas Packing Party for the troops!

Saturday, December 5th beginning around 9:30am

**Carol Lyle's home
2477 Waymaker Way 78746
328-4737**

If you won't be able to attend, and/or can't bring your items to the December meeting, you may leave them on Carol's front porch. If you don't donate items and/or cannot attend, we would especially appreciate your monetary donations to help cover postage, which usually runs about \$1000. Please make your checks out to ARW PAC, and in the memo space, write "for troops." You may mail those to Carol Lyle's address above (off Hwy 360).

We have several individual military men and women to send to, and also a great number of troops on the northern border of Afghanistan.

Two of these units are in need of everything for everyday as well as for the cold winter. All are under extreme stress from continual Taliban attacks. FOB Blessing is near the Kamdesh base, COP Keating, where they lost their 8 fellow 4th ID soldiers. The 1-17 has lost 11 men with numerous wounded in the past 2 months, have no food except what we send, no hygiene items. Nothing!

One unit is out of Ft Carson, Co, now operating in high and remote Hindu Kush, and the other is part of the first Stryker unit in the Kandahar area, home base Ft Lewis, WA.

Items:

The usual snacks foods: nuts, jerky etc that fit in a pocket to take on patrol
Swiss Miss hot chocolate mix - add water type only
Chocolate candy bars and nicer chocolate candy
Canned fruit - with spoon
Microwave meals with spoon/fork & a MW safe bowl if needed
Special snack Christmas candies and foods
Beef jerky
Beef log sausages, peanut butter, salmon, tuna type things

BBQ grill scrapers for use as mud/snow scrapers for boots
16 OZ stainless steel thermoses (no larger, this size fit in pockets) Cheap works as well as expensive
Hand/feet warmers
Fleece throws
Fleece PJ bottoms (they often have to jump out of bed in a night attack these days)
Fleece sleeping booties
Games
Paperback books
DVDs/CDs
Lots of AA & AAA batteries
Phone cards

These items must be at least 50% wool - or very heavy cotton
Fitted, cushy sole sox. Synthetic melts into skin in flash fire
Over the calf sox in black or the neutrals of tan gray or green in med or heavy weight with cushy soles - infantrymen walk a lot.
Snug stocking caps to fit under helmet
Scarf
Ski mask type hat of minimum 70% wool

Christmas decorations for their tree
2010 calendars of all sizes - freebies are fine
Current magazines - motorcycle, cars, hunting, computers, National Geographic etc
Everyday note cards to send home
Cards, games, sudoku and crossword puzzle books

Hygiene:
Body Wash - not too fragrant

Shampoo
Bar soap, each bar with a zip lock bag to store & keep grit out
Deodorant
Disposable razors
Shave gel
Antibiotic ointment
Foot Powder
Cough Drops
There Flu
Lip balm
Lotion for dry skin from the cold, wind & snow

And all the other items the ladies think of. 1-17 will be happy with food items - beef log sausages, peanut butter, salmon, tuna type things too.

Thank you for participating in this again; we couldn't have much needier soldiers if we tried to find them!

Membership

Gretchen Munday

As Membership Chair, I have been pleased with the new members who have joined the Austin Republican Women. To start the year 2010, ARW already has three new members. I say thank you to our regular members who joined this year. Please let me remind you that the 2010 membership applications will be at our Christmas Luncheon. So please take two, one for you and one for a new member. We are hoping that each member will bring in one new member this year. This coming year is so important and the more members we have the more we can do as a group for our city, our state and our country.

Our dues have not increased in several years, but membership dues have increased from \$30 to \$35 for 2010. This amount will cover a dues increase to NFRW and should remain the same for the next two years at least.

Introducing a new recurring fundraiser for 2010

Denise Jenkins

The new fundraiser - Deal of the Day - is an opportunity for ARW to raise funds to support Republican causes, candidates and community projects – while providing members a fun way to participate and contribute to the success of ARW.

So, how does Deal of the Day work?

At the monthly luncheon, members may purchase a card from a deck of cards. Once the purchase window has been closed, a new deck of cards will be opened – any unsold cards will be pulled from the deck, then a single card will be selected from the deck. Whoever purchased the matching card – wins!

One prize will be won each month. Prizes will include a wide variety of high end items appealing to both men and women.

Proceeds from Deal of the Day as well as all fund raising activities allows ARW to support Republican causes and candidates who epitomize the Republican philosophy – as well as supporting community projects such as Caring for America and Barbara Bush Literacy Program.

Thank you for your support. If you have any questions, please contact Denise Jenkins.

2009 Texas Federation of Republican Women Convention

Sheila Glass

This past week several of our members attended the convention in Galveston. There are many reasons I would encourage our members to attend our state convention. At the top of the list, building closer relationships among attending club members. This time together allowed us to get to know each other better as we laughed, conversed, and shared the convention events.

Second, it gave us an up close look at our elected officials and running candidates. This was a unique opportunity to hear these officials over a couple of days. Usually this takes attending many events over months. This experience has equipped us for the coming busy year as we encourage our members to be involved in supporting the Republican Party.

Third, hands on experience of the convention helped us first time attendees better understand the organization we support by our time, talents, and money.

The experience was wonderful. I feel blessed to be a part of something positive and patriotic that will encourage our county, state, and country to move forward in a positive direction.

2009 TFRW Convention: My Experience

Ginger R. Loeffler

The Texas Federation of Republican Women held its 27th Biennial Convention in Galveston on November 12-15. I was honored to serve as a delegate for Austin Republican Women, and I was especially excited about this convention because it was my first.

I personally was looking forward to the convention for the same reason that I look forward to ARW meetings and functions: I truly enjoy spending time with other like-minded, Republican women who work hard to promote the conservative values that mean so much to me. The TFRW convention was no exception, and I met so many wonderful ladies from Republican clubs throughout the state. Most importantly, I was able to grow closer to my ARW friends, whom I greatly admire not just for their political beliefs, but for their personal character and their kindness in welcoming me into ARW.

ARW sent 19 delegates to the convention, and we were treated to rousing speeches by numerous statewide and local elected officials like Governor Rick Perry, Senators Kay Bailey Hutchison and John Cornyn, Attorney General Greg Abbott, Railroad Commissioners Michael Williams and Elizabeth Ames Jones, and Congressman Michael McCaul. Convention delegates also participated in a variety of workshops on such topics as Empowering the People, Diversity in the GOP, Health Care Reform, and Beating the Dems at Their Own Game. These workshops allowed delegates to interact, discuss, and learn more about specific issues that were particularly important to them.

I was very impressed and proud to see how active ARW delegates have been in TFRW and at the convention. ARW President Diane Fulton made us proud by serving as District Director for Senate District 14 and giving the invocation at the TFRW Executive Board meeting. Diane also accepted the TFRW John Goodwin Tower Award of Excellence for 2009 on behalf of ARW.

Gail Suttle introduced Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison during the General Session. Carol Hanle served as TFRW Vice President for Campaign Activities and introduced Congressman Michael McCaul. Terri Flow served as a member of the TFRW Convention Committee for the Secretary and along with Suzy Morrison, received the TFRW Caring for America Award on behalf of ARW.

Kelly Hoag, U.S. Marine and Iraq War Veteran, gave a wonderful and moving speech honoring our fallen troops at the Memorial Breakfast. Sheila Glass served as Senate District 14 Chairman and conducted the election of our new District Director-Elect. TFRW also honored ARW with the 2009 Membership Award for increasing its membership numbers by at least 12% since 2007.

The 2008 elections taught conservatives that we can no longer be the silent majority—we have to be loud in our opposition to big government, wasteful spending, and liberal hypocrisy. My first experience at the TRFW convention showed me that Republican women in Texas are ready to fight back with all of the power and determination that make us such a force to be reckoned with.

The Primaries Are Coming!

Liz Tait

TCRP needs your help! The March 2010 Primary Elections are coming up quickly, and we need election Judges, Alternate Judges, Clerks and Poll Watchers. You can work in your precinct or any other. Judges and Alternate Judges must attend a training session; clerks now train on-line only. These are very important positions and we need to fill each one so we can be sure that every legal vote (only!) is counted. If you can volunteer or want further information, please contact Liz Tait at (512) 569-1185 or LizTait@austin.rr.com. Call a friend or neighbor and work the elections with them. Thank you very much.

Volunteer Hours for 4th Quarter Due Dec. 31st

Sheila Glass

As we wrap up this year, please look back over your calendar and turn in volunteer hours. If you have missed the past quarter deadlines to turn in hours, no worry. We roll them into the next quarter. Information on volunteer hours to be counted is listed in your directory. Our website also has a form you can use to keep a count of hours as well as refresh your memory of the type of volunteer hours we count.

If you have helped with a campaign, your hours count! If you are a volunteer for a fundraiser, your hours count. If you have attended a TRFW training session or other political conference, your hours count. If you have supported the Travis County Republican Party by answering phones, helped with “get out the vote”, or provided any services for them, your hours count. Your travel time counts as well. Don’t underestimate the work you do for the Republican Party, your hours count!

Please email your volunteer hours. They do not have to be broken down into specific jobs. If you’re not sure what counts, I will be glad to help.

sheilag18@gmail.com

Websites

Check out our website for up to the date information: www.austinrepublicanwomen.org

Travis County Republican Party: www.tcrp.org

Texas Federation of Republican Women: www.tfrw.org

2009 Board - Contact Us

Diane Fulton

president@austinrepublicanwomen.org

Kathy Webster

Programs@austinrepublicanwomen.org

Karen Speir

recording@austinrepublicanwomen.org

Pauline Stockbauer

asstreasurer@austinrepublicanwomen.org

Ginger Loeffler

literacy@austinrepublicanwomen.org

Ginger Loeffler

community@austinrepublicanwomen.org

Deborah Bily & Carolyn Barkley

hospitality@austinrepublicanwomen.org

Carolyn Barkley

directory@austinrepublicanwomen.org

Gretchen Munday

membership@austinrepublicanwomen.org

Sheila Glass

Campaigns@austinrepublicanwomen.org

Virginia Higdon

legislative@austinrepublicanwomen.org

Publicity

publicity@austinrepublicanwomen.org

Anne Barlow

1stVP@austinrepublicanwomen.org

Denise Jenkins

Fundraising@austinrepublicanwomen.org

Betsy Sapienza

treasurer@austinrepublicanwomen.org

Liz Tait

pastpres@austinrepublicanwomen.org

Terri Flow

caring@austinrepublicanwomen.org

Stacy Odom

PAC@austinrepublicanwomen.org

Terri Flow

newsletter@austinrepublicanwomen.org

Vickie Bardin

awards@austinrepublicanwomen.org

Carol Cates

correspond@austinrepublicanwomen.org

Carolyn Barkley

directory@austinrepublicanwomen.org

Carol Hanle

parliamentarian@austinrepublicanwomen.org

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