



# AUSTIN REPUBLICAN WOMEN

February 2010

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"Here comes the orator! With his flood of words, and his drop of reason."

*Benjamin Franklin*

## President's Message

Dear Friends,

I want to thank you all for having me as your president again this year. I am very excited about Austin Republican Women and 2010. Thank you for all your hard work last year as informed Citizen Lobbyists. We all need to continue in this role as we go forth in 2010. Let us remember to be informed, to check things out, and not to believe something just because someone says it or you read it online.

In preparation for the March 2nd primary election, please remember this quote from Michael Reagan: "As we approach this new year and reflect upon 2009 and think of ways to improve our situations in 2010, I ask that my fellow Republicans join together to have a respectful debate during our upcoming primary process and then give their full support to our selected nominees even if there remain some philosophical differences. I know this is the approach my father personally took, and I cannot think of a better beacon of light than his legacy to help us once again find our way."

You will never agree 100% with any candidate unless you are the candidate for that office yourself. If we are not united behind our Republican candidates, we will allow the Democrats to win.

All of us on the ARW Board are looking forward to seeing you at our luncheons and other events. We have an interesting lineup of speakers and some great special events planned. We are asking for your support and involvement in all we do in 2010 and in helping our Republican candidates win in local, state, and federal races.

Diane Fulton

## Join us at our next ARW Luncheon

**Date:** Thursday, March 4, 2010

**Time:** 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

**Location:** Westwood Country Club  
3808 West 35th Street

**Cost:** \$20

**Speaker:** Michael Quinn Sullivan, Texans for Fiscal Responsibility

**RSVP:** To Nancy Lattin at [nancy.lattin@gmail.com](mailto:nancy.lattin@gmail.com) or 512-986-4518 **by Tuesday, March 2, 2010**; Cancellations after noon on Tuesday will be members' responsibility to reimburse ARW. Westwood must have final count Tuesday afternoon and charges ARW for that number.

**Michael Quinn Sullivan** is President and CEO of Empower Texans and its premier project, Texans for Fiscal Responsibility. The Fort Worth Star Telegram said Sullivan "slays taxpayer dragons in Austin. . . When the heat is on in Austin, Michael Quinn Sullivan knows how to make it even hotter." A graduate of Texas A&M University, Sullivan has worked as a reporter for two daily Texas newspapers and served as press secretary to a Member of Congress. He has worked in political campaigns and trained conservatives on effective communications strategies. Most recently, he spent five years with the Texas Public Policy Foundation, where he served as vice president. In late 2006, Sullivan was tapped to lead Empower Texans, launching Texans for Fiscal Responsibility and the Empower Texans PAC. Sullivan's commentaries have appeared in newspapers and magazines around the state and nation. He is a frequent guest on talk radio programs and regularly called upon to address policy and political issues before groups across the country.



**\*You can sign up for Mr. Sullivan's newsletter at <http://www.empowertexans.com/user/register>. He is a legislative and fiscal watchdog for Texas and a dynamic speaker, so be sure to get your reservations in early!**

### **ARW Membership Application/Renewal Reminder**

ARW's Membership Chair thanks all of you who renewed your membership for 2010. If you have not done so already, please send in your membership application or renewal today. Forms are available online at [www.austinrepublicanwomen.org](http://www.austinrepublicanwomen.org). The submission deadline for our member directory is February 26, so please get your membership application in by the deadline in order to appear in the directory.

## Mark Your Calendars: Upcoming Events

February 16-26, 2010	Primary Early Voting
February 26, 2010	Deadline for Submission of Membership Application/Renewal for inclusion in ARW 2010 Directory
March 2, 2010	Primary Election Day
March 6, 2010	Apostle Claver's "Bootcamp" training on how to launch the next phase of overcoming the demographic crisis of the Conservative Movement; details to follow
April 8, 2010	April Luncheon Meeting with Congressman Michael McCaul
May 6, 2010	May Luncheon Meeting with Alex Posey, Tactical Analyst for Security Issues for STRATFOR

## Volunteer Opportunities

Don't let the Democrats fill all the positions as election workers at your polling location on Primary Election Day! Judges, Alternate Judges, and Clerks are still needed for the Primary Election Day on March 2, 2010. You must be a registered voter in Travis County to participate as a judge or alternate judge, and you must be a Travis County resident who is at least 16 years old to serve as an election clerk. Please call Liz Tait at 512-302-1776, extension 3, if you are interested in one of these paid positions!

## Submission of Volunteer Hours

Each quarter our club submits our volunteer hours to the Texas Federation of Republican Women. ARW is recognized for our volunteer hours in two categories: "Campaign Activities" and "Caring for America."

**Campaign Activities** are political activities to promote the Republican Party. The hours counted include any work done for a candidate, county, state, or national party. It also includes training sessions, TFRW Convention, and your travel time for any of these activities. Additional information is listed in your ARW directory.

**Caring for America** are community projects chosen by the club. Our participation in the community is measured by the volunteer hours given by our members. ARW community projects include Caring for America, Barbara Bush Literacy Program, Community Outreach, and voter registration.

At the end of each quarter you will receive a reminder. One way to track your hours is to download the Activities Form from our website at [www.austinrepublicanwomen.org](http://www.austinrepublicanwomen.org). The form contains job specific information for your tracking purposes only. When reporting volunteer hours to the club, you do not need to report the specific jobs done but only the specific category for those jobs, either

Campaign Activities or Caring for America. Please email your hours at the end of each quarter to Sheila Glass at [campaigns@austinrepublicanwomen.org](mailto:campaigns@austinrepublicanwomen.org).

Let's get involved and be counted in 2010!

## **Volunteer Hours for 2009 Due**

Please send your volunteer hours for 2009 as soon as possible. We need to close out our 2009 records. Please break down your hours into two categories, "Campaign Activities" and/or "Caring for America," as described above. Please contact Sheila Glass at [campaigns@austinrepublicanwomen.org](mailto:campaigns@austinrepublicanwomen.org) for any additional information or questions.

## **Update from February Luncheon Meeting with Apostle Claver**

ARW members who attended the February Luncheon Meeting were treated to a dynamic and eye-opening speech by Apostle Claver, Founder and Chairman of [RagingElephants.org](http://RagingElephants.org), an organization based in Houston, Texas and dedicated to advancing the cause of conservatism by growing the ranks of conservative voters through racial diversity. ARW members donated \$1,342.00 to help RagingElephants.org achieve its goal of "Leading America's 2nd Emancipation."

Apostle Claver will hold a "Bootcamp" to train ARW members on how to help overcome the diversity crisis in the Republican Party on March 6, 2010.

More details to follow.



## **How can you get more involved in ARW?**

Do you want to get more involved in ARW but just don't know how? The answer is simple: join a committee! 2010 is an important year for Republicans, and ARW is committed to helping Republicans win at the local, statewide, and national levels. By joining a committee, you can help ARW and make a difference in this crucial election year. Read more below about what your ARW committees do and how you can get involved:

### **Membership Committee**

This year the Membership Committee plans to have the most active and successful year ever! Last year we were successful in welcoming sixty brand new members to our club. This year we want to top that number, and we can do it with your help!

This is an election year, and it is even more important to help our club grow in numbers and strength. The Membership Committee is challenging each ARW member to bring in a new member to the club this year. You can also get involved by joining the Membership Committee and helping us reach our goal to meet and welcome every new member. We are excited that so many of our members have volunteered for committees, and we look forward to your ideas and help with increasing our membership in 2010!

For more information, please contact Gretchen Munday at [gretchenmunday@gmail.com](mailto:gretchenmunday@gmail.com).

### **Fundraising Committee**

The key to fundraising is involvement and participation from the ARW membership, and the Fundraising Committee needs your help!

All fundraising activities allow ARW to support Republican values and candidates who epitomize the Republican philosophy. In addition to advancing Republican causes and impacting local, state and national politics, ARW fundraising supports community projects such as Caring for America and the Barbara Bush Literacy Program.

Ongoing fundraising activities include the sale of Republican and patriotic jewelry at our monthly luncheons, as well as a new program for 2010 called "Deal of the Day."

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 each monthly luncheon, members may purchase a card from a deck of playing cards. Once the purchase window has been closed, a new deck of cards will be opened and any unsold cards will be pulled from the deck. We will draw a single card from the new deck, and whoever purchased the matching card wins! One fabulous prize will be won each month. Prizes will include a wide variety of high-end items appealing to both men and women.

The Fundraising Committee also plans special events throughout the year to help raise money for our club and Republican Candidates. In 2009, ARW held a very successful fundraising event called "Meet the Supremes" where members and Republican candidates for the Texas Supreme Court and the Third Court of Appeals mingled and discussed Republican issues in the judicial elections.

Whether you purchase a beautiful Republican piece of jewelry, enter for a chance to win the Deal of the Day, or volunteer on the Fundraising Committee to develop and implement exciting fundraising opportunities and events, you are helping your club and your community. Thank you for your support of ARW's fundraising efforts, and we are looking forward to another successful year with your help!

For more information, please contact Denise Jenkins at [denise.jenkins@yahoo.com](mailto:denise.jenkins@yahoo.com).

### **Campaign Activities Committee**

The victories of Republicans Bob McDonnell in Virginia, Chris Christie in New Jersey, and Scott Brown in Massachusetts are examples of the tremendous opportunities that await Republican candidates at the local, state, and national levels in 2010. Republican victories cannot be won, however, without the continued support of volunteers in various campaign activities. The Campaign

Activities Committee provides information to ARW members on how to get involved in political activities to promote the Republican Party and its candidates. 2010 is going to be a busy year, and there is no better time for you to get involved in the Campaign Activities Committee!

For more information, please contact Sheila Glass at [sheilag18@gmail.com](mailto:sheilag18@gmail.com).

### **Legislative Committee**

Does it seem like every time you turn around the Democrats in Washington are trying to pass some piece of legislation that goes against your Republican values? The Legislative Committee helps ARW members to stay informed about legislation at the local, state, and national level. The Committee also provides ARW members information on how they can impact pending legislation by contacting lawmakers and participating in the political process. We need help from ARW members to make the Legislative Committee as effective as possible, so please join our committee to get more involved!

For more information, please contact Susan Dinges Burak at [suburak@aol.com](mailto:suburak@aol.com).

### **Caring for America Committee**

The purpose of the Caring for America Committee is to support our troops. We will be sending care packages to troops currently serving in Afghanistan, and packing parties are tentatively scheduled for March, July and November. The Committee will announce details about dates and locations for packing parties at our monthly meetings and in the newsletter. The packing parties are fun and a great way to meet other ARW members!

This year, we are planning to reach out to our wounded military and their families. Through the Wounded Warrior Project at Ft. Sam Houston in San Antonio, we hope to plan luncheons, outings, a fashion show, and other events for the Warriors and their families, whose lives have been so disrupted by the injuries and illnesses of their loved ones. We will also reach out to the support units of Ft. Hood and Camp Mabry as well. The Committee needs your help in developing these projects, so please contact us to get involved!

The Chair for the Caring for America Committee is Kelly Hoag, and the Assistant Chairs are Genie Sorensen and Deborah Feil. We invite you to join us in providing support to our troops and their families. Please let us know of your interest and we will keep you informed of volunteer opportunities.

For more information, please contact Kelly Hoag at [jkhoag@yahoo.com](mailto:jkhoag@yahoo.com), Genie Sorenson at [genie.wayne@earthlink.net](mailto:genie.wayne@earthlink.net), or Deborah Feil at [dfeil54@austin.rr.com](mailto:dfeil54@austin.rr.com).

### **Barbara Bush Literacy Program and Community Outreach Committees**

ARW actively participates in the Barbara Bush Literacy Program and other outreach activities designed to promote our Republican values in the Austin schools and community. The Barbara Bush Literacy Program Committee donates a patriotic-themed children's book to a local elementary school each month on behalf of the keynote speaker at our monthly luncheon. Each speaker is asked to sign the book and write a dedication to help children aspire to the conservative values that ARW members hold dear. Committee members also volunteer their time in the elementary school library and at book fairs where we demonstrate our motto that "Republican Women Care."

The Community Outreach Committee participates in several projects, including the Dictionary Project, a national project to provide dictionaries to all third grade students, and the Constitution Project, which provides portable constitutions for elementary school students. The Barbara Bush Literacy Program and Community Outreach Committees are looking for ARW members to volunteer on these committees and help our club make a difference in the community where we live.

For more information, please contact Ginger Loeffler at [phillips\\_ginger@yahoo.com](mailto:phillips_ginger@yahoo.com)

### **Hospitality Committee**

A welcoming smile, a warm introduction, and friendly conversation all go a long way in attracting new members to ARW and making all our members feel welcome at our monthly meetings, fundraisers, and special events. Currently the Hospitality Committee for 2010 is chaired by Nancy Lattin and includes members Blaine Nelson, Kim Chambers, Judy Bollom, and Ronda Karam. The Committee is looking for volunteers who want to help us reach our goal of better communication and a more welcoming atmosphere at ARW functions. We will also be creating a payment system to suit all the needs of our diverse membership. Our first pilot program will be the introduction of luncheon tickets to ensure that all luncheons are pre-paid, and we will continue to explore avenues to reduce the loss of revenue at our luncheons.

For more information, please contact Nancy Lattin at [nancy.lattin@gmail.com](mailto:nancy.lattin@gmail.com).

### **Awards Committee**

To help align our activities and focus our efforts with other Republican women's clubs across Texas, ARW applies for awards based on the many projects we do throughout the year. Whether we gain new members that support our Republican causes, volunteer hours as precinct judges, help with a congressman's mail-outs, or volunteer to read to kids or help in the school libraries supported by the Barbara Bush Literacy program, we strengthen our conservative values and achieve our goals as a club. Did you know that in November, at the Texas Federation of Republican Women's Convention, we received three awards in recognition of all our hard work? Way to go ladies!! Please remember to keep a record of your hours of activity spent promoting Republican causes and submit your volunteer hours to the club in order to help ARW receive even more awards this year. Support your values and be active in our club!

For more information, please contact Vickie Bardin at [vickie@bells.com](mailto:vickie@bells.com).

### **Websites**

*Check out our website for up to the date information: [www.austinrepublicanwomen.org](http://www.austinrepublicanwomen.org)*

*Travis County Republican Party: [www.Traviscountygop.org](http://www.Traviscountygop.org)*

*Travis Republican Advisory Committee PAC: [www.gopTRACPAC.org](http://www.gopTRACPAC.org)*

*Texas Federation of Republican Women: [www.TFRW.org](http://www.TFRW.org)*

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