



AUSTIN REPUBLICAN WOMEN

May 2009

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In This Issue

- May Meeting
- President's Letter
- ARW Directories
- Membership
- TPI Initiative & ARW Member Survey
- Real Story of the Tea Parties
- Caring for America
- Campus Leftists & Free Speech



"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free."

-Ronald Wilson Reagan



Bob Jones – May Meeting Speaker



Meeting: May 7 from 11:30 am - 1:00 pm at Westwood Country Club
Cost: \$20 payable at door (cash preferred)

Bob Jones's radio show "Common Sense" is heard throughout the Coastal Bend on station 1440 KEYS (Saturdays 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.), and he is the Host of the number one talk radio show in the Coastal Bend "the KEYS Morning Show" heard Monday to Friday from 5:30 to 9:00 a.m.

Bob has conducted on-air interviews with national figures including Ann Coulter, Susan Estrich, NPR's Juan Williams, David Horowitz, comedian Bill Cosby, U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft, Iraqi Air Force General Georges Sada, presidential candidate Pat Buchanan, etc. The Morning Show has become a national style program available to all on a local level.

We had asked Shannon Reeves of the RNC to speak at the TFRW Leadership Conference. At the last minute he couldn't make it and sent Bob Jones in his place. Wow! What a great surprise! Bob Jones is a fabulous, motivational speaker. All the TFRW members present were enraptured and petitioning to get his show to Central Texas. After hearing him, they used adjectives such as: humorous, entertaining, inspiring, informative, factual and tells it like it is. Do not miss our Texas talk show star who is Rated #2 after Rush and above Sean Hannity and Mike Savage in South Texas.

Reservation deadline is May 5

meetingsvp@austinrepublicanwomen.org or call: Deborah Bily @569-6146

President's Letter

This has been quite a month. Lots of working on bills, contacting the Legislature, attending hearings, two Tea Parties and Legislative Day where ARW and other TFRW members called on legislators giving out letters concerning bills and then were recognized in both the House and Senate Chambers. ARW members attending were: Shelia Glass, Carol Cates, Anne Barlow, Kelly Hoag, Gretchen Munday, Patricia Keith, Blaine Nelson,, Karen Speir, Terry Flow, Diane Fulton, Carole Hanle and Gail Suttle.

Later in the newsletter, we have an article by Ginger Loeffler about the Tea Parties that provides a clear picture of what happened at these events. We cannot let the Tea Parties be one time deals. Please do not let that happen!

Borrowing from Michael Quinn Sullivan's newsletter: "After The Tea Party, So now what? We must make sure our neighbors and friends passionately waving signs and cheering speakers on Wednesday will be actively participating in the political and policy process on Monday. Forward those friends the e-mails and news alerts you receive from Texans for Fiscal Responsibility, Texas Public Policy Foundation, Americans for Prosperity, and other groups. Help your friends be actively informed so they can take knowledgeable action. Devote your life to promoting liberty at all levels of government."

Please pay close attention to the legislation that is being worked on by our state Legislators...many bills are pending that will add to our tax burdens; these are in addition to those in the US Congress. When you receive emails about bad bills, please contact the state House or Senate members and pass the info on for others to do the same. I try to send those that come from the groups mentioned by MQS above that you, too, can receive. If you need another copy of the contact page for the Legislature, let me know, and I will forward it.

And then there were the pirates. I am adding a comment from an email regarding this:

"After having to wait four days without a commitment from DC, the captain of the Bainbridge decided that Captain Phillips was in imminent danger hence: 'It appears that Right Wing Extremist Terrorists (once known as US Navy Seals) wiped out the Potential Man-made Disaster Creators (formerly known as Terrorists or Pirates) without any positive involvement of the White House.'"

Although May 7 will be our last regular business meeting until September, we have events planned through the summer. I will be sending out information as these are finalized. Hope to see you May 7.

ARW Membership Directories

The ARW membership directories will be distributed at the May 7 meeting!

Membership

Please continue to spread the word about ARW. There are many ladies who are upset about what is happening and want to do something and be active. They just don't know we are here. Many of us meet them everyday. Keep your ARW cards handy. They are available at every meeting. Membership forms are, too, as well as on our website.

Important Dates to Remember

May 1st through May 5th – Early Voting for Mayoral Race
May 7th – ARW Monthly Meeting
May 9th – Joint General and Special Elections for Mayor
May 22nd Memorial Day



What is the TPI Initiative

The TPI Initiative is an effort to educate our members by: Tapping their Talents, in order to encourage them in Pursuing their Passions, with the purpose of Increasing their political Influence. The strength of our organization is that our members have different talents, different passions, and different areas of political influence.

ARW's mission statement is:

"Through Political awareness, education, and community involvement, Austin Republican Women will be an effective and valuable support for Republican causes and candidates. We will empower our membership to be a force in fostering Republican ideals in the governance of our State and our community."

The TPI Initiative is a member education program. If ARW provides members with seminars, trainings, and focused-skill learning opportunities, then we will be better equipped to achieve our organization's mission. Expect to hear more about the Initiative in the fall of 2009 after the 2009 Membership survey has been completed.

ARW Member Survey: Be All That You Can Be!

All active ARW members will be receiving an email invitation to participate in the 2009 ARW Member Survey.

- The primary purpose of the survey is to gather information so that we can more effectively work toward achieving our mission statement.
- The secondary purpose is to provide an opportunity for everyone to share their ideas and suggestions about growing our membership and supporting the further development of members' political skills and abilities.

An independent research and program evaluation firm, Keith Research & Evaluation, LLC is responsible for developing the survey, analyzing the results, and reporting the outcomes. Trisia Keith, a new member, has been working with ARW Board members on this project.

This on-line survey will take about ten (10) minutes to complete; your responses will remain confidential and personally identifying information will not be released to the public. Expect to get the survey sometime in May. Survey results will be shared with the membership before the end of 2009.

Your responses to the survey are very important! Please complete the survey within five (5) days of receiving it.

The REAL Story of the Tea Parties

Ginger Loffler

Yesterday I participated in two Tea Parties here in Austin, Texas. If you only watch the mainstream media, other than the national Fox News network, you either saw no coverage of the Tea Parties or you saw derisive, mocking coverage that left no question about the unabashed, liberal bias in the media that has left it without an ounce of credibility. If you listen to the current administration, whose Department of Homeland Security issued a conveniently-timed document entitled "Rightwing Extremism: Current Economic and Political Climate Fueling Resurgence in Radicalization and Recruitment", you are made to believe that the Tea Party protesters (including our veterans) are all radical, right-wing extremists predisposed to violence and terrorist acts.



I am writing to tell you what REALLY happened at these Tea Parties.

First, it was an incredible experience. We had over 2,000 people show up to the first Tea Party at City Hall. The event didn't start until 11:30am, but when I arrived to help set up at 10:00am, crowds of people were already there, ready to make their voices heard. At the afternoon Tea Party, over 5,000 people (remember, this is one of the most radically liberal cities in the country!) rallied on the steps of the State Capitol. Due to the massive size of the group, the City shut down three lanes of Congress Avenue (the main downtown street for those of you living elsewhere), and we marched from the Capitol to the river for well over a dozen blocks.



The people who participated were not “bums” as I have heard many people say. Most of them have jobs and like me, felt that this was too important a moment in history to pass by. These people were not organized by a political party or a particular organization; they did all the organizing themselves. People heard about the Tea Parties through word of mouth, and all over the country, average people just like you and I began organizing. It was a grassroots movement in the truest sense.

Most of these people had never protested anything in their lives. I certainly have never marched in protest of anything before. But I know, as they know, that we can no longer sit on the sidelines and watch our “representatives” in Washington tear away at the foundation of this great nation.

Despite the characterization of this event as a “Republican” event, I can assure you that these were people from all walks of life and political persuasion. Their common factor was a patriotic duty to stop big government and the unprecedented spending that is going on in Washington.

The Tea Parties were nonpartisan, and I want to explain to you why.

Whether you are a Republican or Democrat, the fact of the matter is that what is happening now is being done by Obama, Pelosi, Reid, and the other liberal Democrats in Washington because the fact of the matter is that Republicans do not have any control right now. As made clear by the “Stimulus” Bill, the Democrats do not even have to consult the Republicans about what they do because they simply do not need them. The liberals in charge of Washington are literally trying to change the foundation of this country from the Constitution to a massive, intrusive, socialist government.



But before my liberal friends reading this get too upset, I want you to know that the Tea Party protesters believe that it's not just Obama and the Democrats—they are fed up with Republicans losing sight of conservative principles and practicing their own form of fiscal irresponsibility for far too long. So when I say this event was nonpartisan, understand that I am being truthful: the protesters made it clear that anyone who supports this out-of-control spending and full-on war on capitalism, whether Democrat or Republican, will not keep their jobs the next go-around if they have anything to say about it. And they will.

I really feel such incredible pride for what happened yesterday all over this country in towns big and small, and I know IT IS JUST THE BEGINNING.

I think Arlen Specter is today's example of what Ginger is talking about. At 79 and with five terms in the Senate, this former moderate Republican has become an irresponsible liberal spender. He is now switching parties because he's terrified of not getting re-elected. How painfully self-serving and a good example of the need both for Republicans who can stick to their principles and for term limits.
DF

Caring for America

Recently, the Austin Republican Women sent 64 care packages to soldiers in Iraq. Since sending those packages, we have received 2 emails from soldiers. Those emails are below.

If you donated any items, please contact Terri Flow (tlflow0811@yahoo.com) because an In-Kind Donation form needs to be completed. Our next packing party will be in the summer. Check the newsletter for more details.

To the Austin Republican Women,

I want to forward my sincere and heartfelt appreciation for your box of goodies, arriving just in time for Easter weekend. The snacks are indeed great, but even better is your own caring and support for us. And best of all are the two notes from the first graders in Cedar Park. Please tell Jayli that yes, I do have a sister, and she likes to play soccer. And please tell Nicholas that I love baseball, too, and that I grew up an Astros fan but I also root for the Rangers.

It is indeed difficult to be away from home--I live in Fort Worth now, but I am from Austin--and the hardest thing about it is not the work or the climate or any of that, but simply being separated from my own Texas woman. Thank you for all that y'all do, and God Bless Texas!

V/r,

John T. Faller

I'd like to thank you for the wonderful care package you sent. I lead a team of 8 personnel at Joint Base Balad in Iraq, and such packages are always a welcomed treat, not just for the snacks, but also because it is good to know that people back home are still thinking of us and supporting our endeavors.

On behalf of my entire team, thank you very much!

V/R,

William W. Wenzel, Maj, USAF

I know the following article is going to make this newsletter lengthy, but quite a few of us from ARW attended this event and were amazed at the lack of respect for our rights. David Horowitz is being kind when he says this about the administration at UT: "This quieted the crowd enough that I could begin my talk, which proceeded without further serious incident." Although there were no really serious incidents, the administration took over 40 minutes to end the shouting and other interruptions, and the protestors never stopped making it difficult for him to speak and for us to hear. DF

From the Wall Street Journal April 18,2009: Campus Leftists Don't Believe in Free Speech

Conservative speakers now have bodyguards when they visit universities. - By DAVID HOROWITZ

I arrived in Austin, Texas, one evening recently to give a speech about academic freedom at the university there. Entering the hall where I was to give my speech, I was greeted -- if that's the word -- by a raucous protest

organized by a professor and self-styled Bolshevik, Dana Cloud. Forty protesters hoisted placards high in the air and robotically chanted "Down With Horowitz," "Racist Go Home," and "No More Witch-hunts."

Fortunately, a spokesperson for the administration was present to threaten the disrupters with arrest if they continued on this course. (The threat was administered very carefully, with three formal warnings before any action could be taken.) This quieted the crowd enough that I could begin my talk, which proceeded without further serious incident.

Even so, there were occasional heckles and demonstrative cheers from the group when I mentioned the name of Sami Al-Arian (whose organization, Palestine Islamic Jihad, is responsible for the deaths of more than 100 innocent victims in the Middle East), Black Panther Huey Newton (convicted of killing an Oakland police officer in 1967, although he was eventually released on a technicality), or when I uttered the word "communist" -- even though I did so to remind the audience that communists killed 120 million people in the last century trying to implement Marx's ideas.

Among the organizations participating in these outbursts were the International Socialist Organization, whose goal is the establishment of a "dictatorship of the proletariat" in the United States; Iranians for Peace and Justice, supporters of Hezbollah and Hamas; and Campus Progress, the unofficial college arm of the Democratic Party.

One of the local members of Campus Progress had written a column in the campus newspaper attacking me in advance of my talk, and defending Sami Al-Arian as a victim of political persecution. The conservative students who invited me to the University of Texas told me that organizations such as the Muslim Students Association routinely join with College Democrats in protests against the state of Israel.

At the end of the evening, Prof. Cloud stepped up to the microphone to ask a question, which was actually a little speech. Even though the protocol for such occasions restricts audience participants from making their own speeches, I did her the courtesy she tried to deny me by letting her talk.

She presented herself as a devoted teacher and mother who was obviously harmless. Then she accused me of being a McCarthyite menace. Disregarding the facts I had laid out in my talk -- that I have publicly defended the right of University of Colorado's radical professor Ward Churchill to hold reprehensible views and not be fired for them, and that I supported the leftist dean of the law school at UC Irvine when his appointment was withdrawn for political reasons -- she accused me of whipping up a "witch-hunting hysteria" that made her and her faculty comrades feel threatened.

When Ms. Cloud finished, I pointed out that organizing mobs to scream epithets at invited speakers fit the category of "McCarthyite" a lot more snugly than my support for a pluralism of views in university classrooms. I gestured toward the armed officers in the room -- the university had assigned six or seven to keep the peace -- and introduced my own bodyguard, who regularly accompanies other conservative speakers when they visit universities. In the past, I felt uncomfortable about taking protection to a college campus until a series of physical attacks at universities persuaded me that such precautions were necessary. (When I spoke at the University of Texas two years ago, Ms. Cloud and her disciples had to be removed by the police in order for the talk to proceed.)

I don't know of a single leftist speaker among the thousands who visit campuses every term who has been obstructed or attacked by conservative students, who are too decent and too tolerant to do that. The entire evening in Texas reminded me of the late Orianna Fallaci's observation that what we are facing in the post-9/11 world is not a "clash of civilizations," but a clash of civilization versus barbarism.

Mr. Horowitz is the author, most recently, of "One-Party Classroom: How Radical Professors at America's Top Colleges Are Indoctrinating Students and Undermining Our Democracy" (Crown Forum, 2009).

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	Anne Barlow 1stVP@austinrepublicanwomen.org
Kathy Webster Programs@austinrepublicanwomen.org	Denise Jenkins Fundraising@austinrepublicanwomen.org
Karen Speir recording@austinrepublicanwomen.org	Betsy Sapienza treasurer@austinrepublicanwomen.org
Pauline Stockbauer asstreasurer@austinrepublicanwomen.org	Liz Tait pastpres@austinrepublicanwomen.org
Ginger Loeffler literacy@austinrepublicanwomen.org	Terri Flow caring@austinrepublicanwomen.org
Ginger Loeffler community@austinrepublicanwomen.org	Stacy Odom PAC@austinrepublicanwomen.org
Deborah Bily & Carolyn Barkley hospitality@austinrepublicanwomen.org	Terri Flow newsletter@austinrepublicanwomen.org
Carolyn Barkley directory@austinrepublicanwomen.org	Vickie Bardin awards@austinrepublicanwomen.org
Gretchen Munday membership@austinrepublicanwomen.org	Carol Cates correspond@austinrepublicanwomen.org
Sheila Glass Campaigns@austinrepublicanwomen.org	Carolyn Barkley directory@austinrepublicanwomen.org
Virginia Higdon legislative@austinrepublicanwomen.org	Carol Hanle parliamentarian@austinrepublicanwomen.org
Publicity publicity@austinrepublicanwomen.org	

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