March, 2023 Volume 55, Issue 3

Bay Area REPUBLICAN WOMEN

President's Voice

Hello BARW,

Oh, to have a President's message be about all the positive things going on in our nation. Wouldn't that be a blessing? Alas, this is not the month for that to happen! We can't even celebrate International Women's Day. The left has made a mockery out of that too, but I digress. Instead, it is about what are the biggest failures of our leaders exposed in the last few weeks. And they are failing us. They are allowing our freedoms to slip away without a fight.

The two BIG stories of the last few weeks are the hearing on the BigTech / Government censorship that went on during the Covid Crisis and the 2020 election and the release of the January 6 videos from inside the Capitol.

Listening to the congressional testimony of journalists Michael Schellenberger and Matt Tiabbi regarding the Twitter files that were released by Elon Musk is truly astonishing and the reaction to it is frightening. It is clear that the government orchestrated the censorship getting the companies to do what they are prohibited from doing. Think how many times "the government" said, "they're private businesses taking down posts not the government" Lies! Thank goodness for Jim Jordon and the Republican majority in the House, but this shouldn't be a Right/Left issue. Everyone should be outraged, and the Dems clearly are not. If you didn't see the testimony look it up.

Then we get the release of the complete January 6 videos! People are in jail because this exculpatory evidence was withheld. Why? Because it disproved the narrative? Why is it important that Jan. 6th be viewed as an insurrection and not just a mostly peaceful protest. It is disgusting and the fact that Republicans also decried the release is frightening as well. Bad things happened but it was not an insurrection. Since when is more information bad. In both cases more information and debate would have served us well. Thank you, Kevin Mc Carthy and Tucker Carlson. If you didn't see Tucker, listen to Michael Berry's March 7 & 8th podcasts. He covers it well.

We need fighters in Washington! Again, not a Left/Right issue, a Constitutional issue. If they can ignore the constitution on these issues, they can ignore it on other issues.

Remember, Venezuela had a constitution too.

Keep your eye on the ball. Don't hesitate to email or call representatives to give your opinion. They work for us.

See you on the 28th!

Debbie Roan
President, BARW

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Highlights from February 28, 2023

Clark Whitley was our recent speaker at our February meeting. He is a Development Officer on the Ministry Relations team for First Liberty Institute. If you have not heard of First Liberty, I bet you have definitely heard of many of the key cases they are pursuing, have pursued and won.

Defending the right of students to religious free exercise in school:

School Backs Down After Confiscating 2nd Grade Little Girl's Bible at School – a second grader in Illinois liked to bring her Bible to school and read it during recess. Sometimes she read it aloud, and sometimes other kids would listen in and talk with her about what she's reading but she had her Bible taken away by a teacher and was told, "You just can't be doing that."

Defending Religious Beliefs: Military vaccine case

First Liberty represents the 35 U.S. Navy SEALs whose careers and livelihoods are being threatened because of their religious beliefs because they chose not to get a vaccine due to their convictions of faith. Biden administration and military officials have pursued a punitive and vindictive approach toward service members who requested a legal, religious accommodation to the vaccine mandate.

Defending religious accommodation: The faithful Postal Carrier

Gerald Groff was forced to quit his job as a postal carrier because of his religious beliefs. He believes in the Christian Sabbath, but the USPS refused his religious accommodation request not to work on Sundays after initially granting his request. First Liberty is fighting this blatant discrimination at the U.S. Supreme Court, making it clear that federal law requires reasonable religious accommodations.

Defending private act of worship: Comeback Coach- Joe Kennedy

In 2008, Bremerton High School football coach, Joe Kennedy, made a promise to God that he would pray and give thanks after each game he coached, regardless of the outcome. This commitment to a simple, private act of worship caused him to be stripped of his position as a coach and forced him into a lengthy, ongoing legal battle against the school he faithfully served. Although the courts denied his constitutional rights, Coach Joe—a former Marine—didn't back down. And now, he's finally got victory at the highest court in the country - the U.S. Supreme Court.

Defend to end religious discrimination - Treat Children Fairly: Let Parents Choose

Maine's law blatantly discriminates against parents based on religion, providing some families with tuition support for the school of their choice but denying that same support to other families. The families who filed the lawsuit qualify for Maine's tuitioning program in all other respects, but they are excluded from participating only because they chose religious schools for their children.

Defend Faith without threats of retaliation - Read the case on The Gail Blair Case

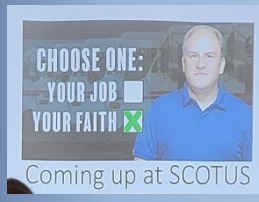
https://firstliberty.org/blind-faith/

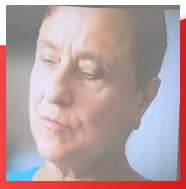
Kelly Shackelford is the President, CEO, and Chief Counsel for First Liberty Institute with a dedicated commitment to exclusively defend religious liberty for **ALL** Americans of any or no faith. All Americans have the fundamental right to follow their conscience and live according to their beliefs just as our nation's Founding Fathers established this right as our First Freedom nearly two and a half centuries ago.
First Liberty is comprised of a dedicated team of legal experts with a win rate of over 90% across all legal matters.

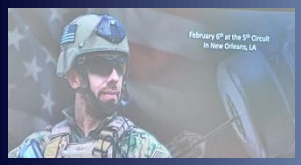
To learn more about Kelly, his team, their story and their mission to Restore Faith in America, visit their website: https://firstliberty.org. You can also sign up for the First Liberty's newsletter to get a first look the latest news about First Liberty cases along with an insider's perspective on the top religious freedom stories of the day which will help you better understand the ongoing fight for faith and First Liberty's role in it.

FIRST LIBERTY

Pictures from February 28 Meeting







Next Meeting – March 28, 2023

Constable Phil Sandlin

Phil was raised in southeast Houston attending school in the Pasadena Independent School District. Growing up, Phil was very active in Future Farmers of America raising livestock to show in the Pasadena Livestock Show and Rodeo. After graduating from Dobie High School in 1987, Phil attended San Jacinto College majoring in Criminal Justice. In 1990, he accepted a job with the Harris County Sheriff's Office as a civilian jailer. In 1991, Phil graduated from the Sheriff's Academy as a certified peace officer and was assigned to the Detention Bureau.

He left the Sheriff's Office in 1992 and accepted a job with the Harris County Precinct 8 Constable's Office as a patrol deputy. Over the years, he rose through the ranks at Precinct 8, being promoted to Corporal, Sergeant, Lieutenant and Captain. In February 2005, Phil was appointed to the rank of Chief Deputy of Precinct 8 where he oversaw the day to day operations of the agency. On June 1, 2011 he was appointed Constable by Commissioner's Court before winning the 2012 election decidedly to keep the position.

"I am proud to have served the citizens of this community for over 31 years and I want to continue serving as Constable. Giving back to this community, keeping our families safe and protecting our streets are my top priorities. I have always striven to build a strong relationship with both the citizens of this community and with the various other law enforcement agencies in our area. As a result, our department receives calls on a daily basis from citizens who know they can count on Precinct 8 to respond quickly to their needs. It is also common for other law enforcement agencies to call on us when they need assistance. I am proud of these partnerships and without a doubt; we have a solid reputation in this community. I intend to keep it that way".

"I entered this leadership position with somewhat of a unique perspective on what the job requires and what is expected of me. This is certainly not the time for an inexperienced leader who does not understand the complexity of running an agency. I have dedicated my career to serving the citizens of Precinct 8 and I believe in leadership through honesty, integrity, professionalism and fiscal responsibility. These are not just words to me but rather are the principles on which I have built my career. I have served over 20 years in a supervisory position, many of which have been in upper management and I know what it takes to run this department and do so effectively."

"With the overwhelming public support I have received, along with the hard work and dedication of the many fine men and women that make up the Precinct 8 family, I am proud to be leading this agency into the future. I do not take my oath of office lightly and I pledge to continue working hard every day to continue earning the trust of this community".

Over the course of his 31 year career in law enforcement, Constable Sandlin has been proud to serve the citizens of this community and volunteers much of his time to area civic groups and organizations. He and his family are members of South Main Baptist Church in Pasadena. He and his wife Nerissa, who is an In-Flight Supervisor for Southwest Airlines, reside in Deer Park and have two sons, Blake and Clayton. Phil is a member of the Pasadena Livestock Show and Rodeo and the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. He is a master mason and member of the Deer Park Masonic Lodge #1362. Phil has been a member of the Space Center Rotary Club since 2006 and is the Chairman of the Excellence in Public Service Committee. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with his family and traveling.

MARCH

1	Martha Day
4	Steve May
8	Marilyn Fowle
8	Dana Stephenson
14	Sandra Salars
16	Marina Trevino
18	Sandy Vail
18	Jean Raffetto
24	Gloria Gibson
28	Tammy Barrier
29	Dennis Paul
29	Bobbie Moutz
31	Beverly Braden

Happy Birthday

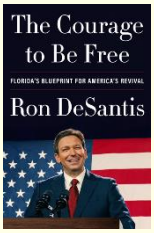
Jean Raffetto was recognized as the longest serving BARW member.

BARW 55 Years

Bay Area Republican Women was recognized for 55 years serving the Bay Area and the conservative cause!

Continue Learning

The Courage to Be Free by Ron De Santis



No American leader has accomplished more for his state than Governor Ron DeSantis. Now he reveals how he did it.

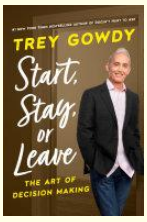
He played baseball for Yale, graduated with honors from Harvard Law School, and served in Iraq and in the halls of Congress. But in all these places, Ron DeSantis learned the same lesson: He didn't want to be part of the leftist elite.

His heart was always for the people of Florida, one of the most diverse and culturally rich states in the union. Since becoming governor of the Sunshine State, he has fought—and won—battle after battle, defeating not just opposition from the political left, but a barrage of hostile media coverage proclaiming the end of the world.

When he implemented COVID-19 policies based on evidence and focused on freedoms, the press launched a smear campaign against him, yet Florida's economy thrived, its education system outperformed the nation, and Florida's COVID mortality rate for seniors was lower than that in thirty-eight states. When he enacted policies to keep leftist political concepts like critical race theory and woke gender ideology out of Florida's classrooms, the media demagogued his actions, but parents across Florida rallied to his cause. Dishonest attacks from the media don't deter him. In fact, DeSantis keeps racking up wins for Floridians. In 2022, the governor delivered a historic, record-setting victory, winning by nearly 20 points and more than 1.5 million votes.

A firsthand account from the blue-collar boy who grew up to take on Disney and Dr. Fauci**,** *The Courage to Be Free* delivers something rare from an elected leader: stories of victory. This book is a winning blueprint for patriots across the country. And it is a rallying cry for every American who wishes to preserve our liberties.

Start, Stay or Leave: The Art of Decision Making by Trey Gowdy



In life, moments arise when you have to decide your next move. When choosing whether to accept a new job, purchase a house, attend a school, or start a relationship, how do you settle on which direction to take? Trey Gowdy has found that most consequential decisions boil down to three simple options: start, stay, or leave.

Gowdy first developed this decision-making tool in the courtroom during a federal murder trial, and it has guided his life ever since. The practical framework has helped him decide where to raise his family, when to leave his dream job, whether to run for Congress, and when to step away from political life.

Over the years, Gowdy has made some great decisions and some lousy ones (and he admits to both). In *Start, Stay, or Leave,* he shares his hard-earned wisdom. Filled with surprising insights and questions, this personal playbook teaches you how to

- **craft your unique vision of success**
- **consult your dreams with wisdom (and know when to revise them)**
- **assess the price worth paying to achieve your goals**
- **balance logic, emotion, and fear when facing a new challenge**
- **take the right advice, from the right people (and block out everyone else)**
- **chart the course of your life with the end goal in mind**

Reading *Start, Stay, or Leave* is like sitting on the back porch of a farmhouse chatting with a wise friend. Filled with humor, heartbreak, practical advice, and a lifetime's worth of storytelling, this book will teach you how to approach trajectory-changing decisions with confidence and the knowledge that, whatever happens, you've made the best choice you could.

BABY SHOWER

As announced at our last meeting BARW is having a "Baby Shower" for the **Beltway 8 Crisis Pregnancy Center**. We will be collecting items at the March and April meetings.

The following items are most in need. They are used for the "Diaper Bag Layette" that clients get after finishing 12 or more classes at the time of baby's arrival.

FYI: Children's Back Packs are now in vogue for use as a Diaper Bag. Solid color or Black.

CLOTHES

- One outfit
- One gown or sleeper
- Three onesies
- Two pairs of socks

COVER

- Three receiving blankets

ACCESSORIES AND NOTIONS

- Two bibs
- Two baby bottles
- One pacifier
- One small package of newborn diapers
- One baby brush and comb set
- One Johnson's Take-Along Pack (shampoo, bath wash, lotion, Powder, diaper rash ointment)

From: Russ Long <russlong@reagan.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2023 5:36 PM
To: dgroan@comcast.net
Subject: **UPDATE: Heat Map of Harris County Election Ballot Paper Shortages**

UPDATE TO ELECTION BALLOT PAPER SHORTAGES – March 9, 2023

This week I received this email from Russ Long with the outrageous map of 121 Harris County polling locations which were undersupplied ballot paper, which coincidentally only occurred in Republican strong holds.

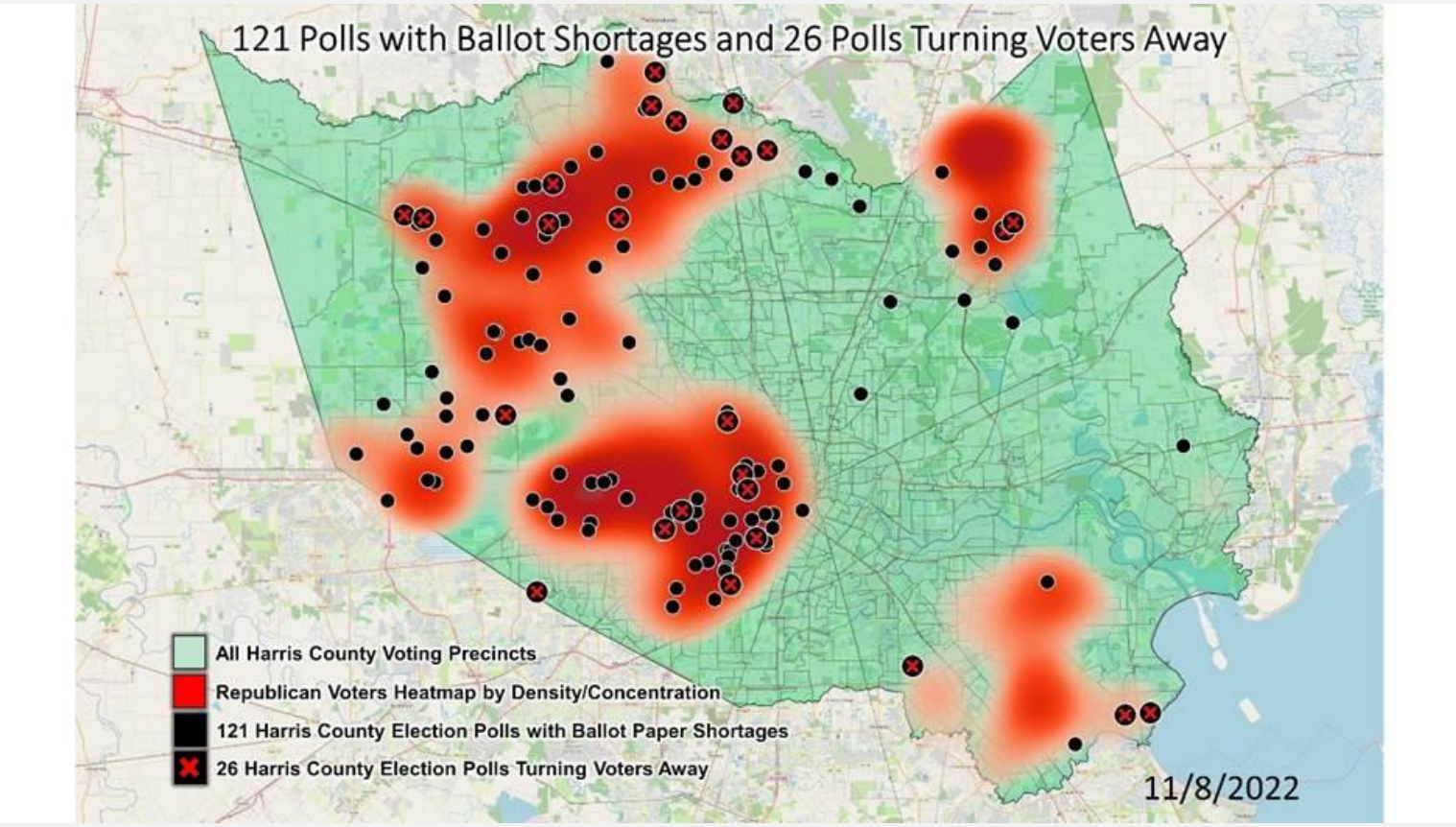
The link below is the investigative work of Wayne Dolcefino. Please take a look and pass this link to your circle of influence, friends, family, etc. We must publicize what happened to disenfranchised Republican voters. The HCEA is counting on Republicans letting freedom die in silence… don't let that happen.

Check out the Dolcefino report at: https://youtu.be/NKEQgzB_ASw

As always, if you have any questions don't hesitate to reach out to me.

Respectfully,
Russ Long
HCRP Chairman Vacancy Committee
HCRP Chairman Precinct 0481
(832) 965-7316

This email, including any attached files, may contain CONFIDENTIAL and/or PRIVILEGED information and is for THE SOLE USE OF THE INTENDED RECIPIENT(S). Any review, use, distribution or disclosure by others is strictly prohibited except with Russ Long's authorization. If you are not the intended recipient (or authorized to receive information for the recipient), please contact the sender by reply email and delete all copies of this message.



Caring for America

Bay Area Republican Women donated $213 to Bay Area Meals on Wheels in February. Thanks to all who donated. It is very much appreciated. In addition, we will be sending $25 in the speaker's name.

One of our members, Margaret Sucre- Vail, belongs to a group called "100 Women Who Care". She encouraged Bay Area Meals on Wheels to make a presentation before their group. They did and won $8,400! What a wonderful gift to a very deserving group!

Jean Raffetto, Parliamentarian
Chair, Caring for America

Breakfast Meeting Minutes
Bay Area Republican Women
Tuesday, February 28, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 8:00 am by President Debbie Roan.

The monthly general meeting of Bay Area Republican Women was held at Bay Oaks Country Club.

Prayer-Invocation: Susan McCoy
Pledge of Allegiance to the US Flag: Kit Whitehall
Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag: Will Carter

PRESIDENT'S INTRODUCTIONS:
Debbie recognized new members, guests, elected officials and candidates.

Kit Whitehall – Texas Federation of Republican Women (TFRW) President
Will Carter – Representative from Congressman Brian Babin's office

Candidates
Peter Lauzon – Candidate for Clear Creek Independent School District (CCISD) Trustee District 3
Roy Morales – Candidate for Houston City Council At-Large positon 4
Paula Velasco for Pasadena City Council District G
Martina Lemond Dixon for Houston City Council Dist. E
Vickie Morgan – Position 7 Pasadena Independent School District
Fred Flickinger – Houston City Council District E, running for Dave Martin's position. Dave is retiring

APPROVAL OF JANUARY MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES:
The minutes prepared by Recording Secretary Carolyn Hopkins went out to everyone in the newsletter and a copy is at the check-in-table.

There were no corrections. Minutes were approved as submitted.

PRESIDENT'S MINUTE:

Lincoln Day Dinner (LDD) is scheduled for Friday, September 15th 2023. Please save the date and be thinking about an auction item for our silent or live auction. Team up with another member and make it special.

BARW celebrates 55th anniversary – Bay Area Republican Women was founded fifty-five years ago in 1968. Texas was Democratic at the time. Texas became Red in 1970.

Kit Whitehall, President of TFRW is with us today to help us celebrate our 55th Anniversary. We also want to recognize Jean Raffetto, who is one of earliest members.

Congratulations to Bay Area Republican Women for 55 years.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Marcella Irwin

Beginning Balance as of 10/25/22		$18,968.77
Deposits	-	272.50
Expenditures	-	439.00
Balance	-	$18,802.27

No corrections. Treasurer's Report submitted for review.

Reports of Officers, Boards and Standing or Special Committees:

1st VP MEMBERSHIP Elizabeth Lauzon:

Full Members = 60
Associate Women = 5
Associate Men =11
Total = 76

PARLIAMENTARIAN/CARING FOR AMERICA: Jean Raffetto

Jean reminded everyone about the baskets on the tables for contributing to Meals on Wheels. Thanks for your contributions.

At a recent meeting, 100 Women Who Care organization recognized Meals on Wheels and donated $8,400.

CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES

Clear Creek Independent School District (CCISD) School Board Election is coming up on Saturday May 6th. Peter Lauzon is running for Trustee District 3. Please provide your support to Peter. This is an important election as we need more conservative Trustees on the school board.

Pasadena School Board will also hold their election on Saturday, May 6.

Awards/Volunteer Hours: Edie Holland.

Newsletter: Pat Adams, Editor. Another home run from Pat. Thank you.

1st VP Programs: Adrienne Sun – Adrienne introduced our speaker – Clark Whitley.

Clark represents First Liberty and is the Minister of Relations Development Officer.
First Liberty is a small organization defending our religious liberty. First Liberty Institute is the largest legal organization in the nation dedicated to exclusively to defending religious liberty for all Americans.

As a special thank you to Clark for his excellent presentation - BARW will donate to Meals on Wheels in his honor.

Our speaker for our March 28th meeting will be our own Constable Phil Sandlin.

Old Business:

Lincoln Day Dinner is scheduled for Friday, September 15th at Lakewood Yacht Club.

New Business:

Community Service Project Baby Shower for Beltway 8 pregnancy Center. Need a volunteer to spearhead the effort. We will collect the items at our March and April meetings. Need diapers, baby wipes, clothes, etc. Contact our President Debbie Roan if you can help spearhead this project.

CCISD Advisory Board is making decisions on capitol projects. Very important work and volunteers are needed.

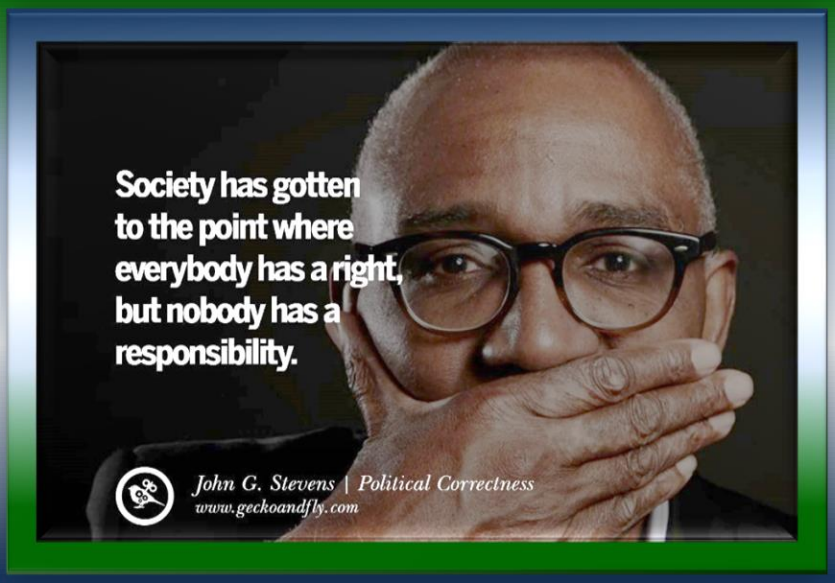
Our next general membership meeting is Tuesday, March 28th.

Please check the newsletter or the website for other Republican Women meetings.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 9:07 am

Respectfully Submitted,
Carolyn Hopkins
BARW Recording Secretary

May your troubles be less
And your blessings be more
And nothing but happiness
Come through your door
- Irish Blessing



BARW Purpose

The purpose of Bay Area Republican Women is to promote an informed electorate through political education. BARW works to increase the effectiveness of women in the cause of good government through active political participation. We strive to facilitate cooperation among Republican women of Texas, foster loyalty to the Republican Party and to promote its ideals, and work for the election of the Republican Party's nominees.

To join BARW, print and complete the Membership Application form in this newsletter (page 16) and mail it to BARW Membership Chair, P.O. Box 58103, Webster, TX 77598-8103 with your payment, or bring it to Elizabeth Lauzon at the next meeting.

Easter
is meant to be a symbol of
Hope, Renewal, and New Life.

Important Dates

MARCH

12 Daylight Savings Time Begins

15 **Galveston RW,** San Luis Resort, 5222 Seawall Blvd., Galveston, 11:30am

17 Happy St. Patrick's Day

20 First Day of Spring
Texas Gulf Coast RW, La Escondida, 400 W. Parkwood Ave., Friendswood, 6:30pm

28 **Bay Area RW, Bay Oaks Country Club, 14545 Bay Oaks Blvd., Houston,** 7:30am Social, 8am Speaker, 9am Business Meeting. RSVP to barw.rsvp@gmail.com for breakfast. Continental Breakfast $13

APRIL

1 April Fools Day

2 Palm Sunday

5 Passover Begins

6 **Baytown RW**, 888 Chinese Restaurant, 4567 Garth Rd., Ste. 400, Baytown. 5:30pm **West Pearland RW,** Big Horn BBQ, 2300 Smith Ranch Rd., Pearland, 6:30pm

7 **Clear Creek RW**, La Brisa Restaurant, 501 Wesley Dr., League City, 11:30am
Good Friday

9 HAPPY EASTER

15 **Galveston RW,** San Luis Resort, 5222 Seawall Blvd., Galveston, 11:30am

17 **Texas Gulf Coast RW**, La Escondida, 400 W. Parkwood Ave., Friendswood, 6:30pm

25 **Bay Area RW, Bay Oaks Country Club, 14545 Bay Oaks Blvd., Houston,** 7:30am Social, 8am Speaker, 9am Business Meeting. RSVP to barw.rsvp@gmail.com for breakfast. Continental Breakfast $13

BARW 2023 Officers

	President	Debbie Guitian Roan
	1st Vice President	Elizabeth Lauzon
	2nd Vice President	Adrienne Sun
	Recording Secretary	Carolyn Sue Hopkins
	Corresponding Secretary	Debbie May
	PAC Treasurer	Marcella Erwin
	Immediate Past President	Beverly Ferguson-Cooper
	Advisor to President	Margaret Sucre-Vail

BAY AREA REPUBLICAN WOMEN'S CLUB

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership Dues for Current Year **November 1, 2022 through October 31, 2023**

Name: _____
(Please Print)
First Middle Last

Occupation: _____ **(Information Required by Texas Ethics Commission)**

Birthday_____ Spouse's Name: _____
Month / Day (If Applicable)

Address: _____ _____ _____ _____-_____
Street or P. O. Box City State Zip plus 4 digit extension

Telephone: **Cell**: (_____)_____

Home: (_____)_____

Office: (_____)_____

E-Mail: _____ **(Information Requested by BARW & TFRW)**

County & Voting Precinct #: (BARW By-Laws Article IV,Sect.1) Precinct#_____ Brazoria County Precinct # _____ Galveston County Precinct #_____ Harris County

Type of Membership:

☐

_____ **$ 35.00 Full Membership for Women** _____ **Renewal** _____ **New Member**

_____ **$ 20.00 Associate Membership RWC Members** _____ **Renewal** _____ **New Member**

Name of RWC Full Membership:_____

_____ **$ 20.00 Associate Membership for Men** _____ **Renewal** _____ **New Member**

Areas of Interest: _____Literacy _____Legislative _____Campaign Activities _____Fundraising

_____Events _____Membership _____Telephone _____Publicity _____Community Service

Other: _____

Please Make Checks Payable to: **BARW-PAC**
(CORPORATE CHECKS ARE PROHIBITED)
For Information Call:
Elizabeth Lauzon at **713-397-8270**

Date: _____ Amount Paid: _____ Check # _____

Send to:
BARW Membership Chair
P.O. Box 58103
Webster, Texas 77598-8103

Other Area Republican Women Groups

Baytown RW

Clear Creek RW

Galveston RW

Texas Gulf Coast RW

West Pearland RW

For meeting dates, times, and locations, please check the calendar on page 14.

Stay Connected

Bay Area Republican Women

- https://barw.org/

BARW Facebook

- https://www.facebook.com/Bayarearepublicanwoman/

#BAYAREAREPUBLICANWOMEN

Instagram

#bayarearepublicanwomen

Debra Risinger
Social Media

Local, State, Federal, & Other Informational Web Page Links

- https://barw.org/links/