Dear FCRW Members,

KEEP TEXAS RED!
It looks good and it sounds good. However, it doesn’t happen by just printing and distributing a slogan.

We have a tough job ahead of us to get America back on track. FAYETTE COUNTY REPUBLICAN WOMEN is a good place to begin the job. Every member has talent and time to volunteer in some way. We need you to get involved.

GOD BLESS AMERICA

Judy Cook

Recap of our 2nd Quarter Monthly Meetings

Apr 20 – Arnold Romberg presented the program: “What YOU can do about it”. He pointed out that exchanging emails with complaints and opinions with like-minded associates is a waste of time. Changes must be made through the legislative process. Although we rely on our Representatives to be informed about the issues they vote on, they also want to hear from their constituents. He outlined the best ways to communicate with our Legislature and provided links to resources which we can use to stay informed on issues.

May 18 – Our speaker, Greg Stuessel, explained what we all need to know about the Constitution. We need to know what it says so we can defend the freedoms it provides. He had an excellent power-point presentation, along with taking questions and feedback from the audience. Greg advised that all of the information he presented is documented and accessible via his web site: www.smellthefreedom.org. All attendees were given a pocket constitution. It’s only 17 pages long. Read it!

June 15 – Our speaker, FC Attorney Peggy Supak, explained the functions of her office. She told us about her efforts to educate students, teachers and parents on various issues: identifying child abuse; identifying and avoiding involvement in gang activity; consequences and possible punishments for sexting, theft, and DWI. Peggy gave us a renewed respect for her and the work she does for this County.

NEXT MEETING: Aug. 17 at LG City Hall, 6:30-8 PM
2015 Scholarships Presented by FCRW

As our 2015 Scholarship Chair, Carole Bourlon, did an outstanding job of getting our FCRW scholarship information out to the five high schools in Fayette County, following up with the school counselors prior to submission deadline, accepting the applications, building and working with her committee members to make the final decisions on the recipients, and then coordinating with the FCRW members who volunteered to make the presentations at the various award or graduation ceremonies. One presenter, LaMorris Thompson, who has presented the Schulenburg scholarships for the past several years, enjoys it so much she has already volunteered to present next year! As in the past, we had outstanding candidates. The winners were selected based on their grade point average, their leadership activities in school and local organizations, recommendations from teachers and community leaders, and an essay written by the applicant demonstrating their conservative values and goals.

We were very pleased to be able to increase our scholarship amounts this year from $250 to $400 per recipient. Hopefully, we can increase them even more for 2016 with proceeds from our “Boots & Bling” fundraiser on Sep. 19.

FC Republicans Ride in Round Top July 4th Parade

By the time you read this article, FCRP and FCRW will have once again participated enthusiastically in the Round Top July 4th parade. This year we had a great group with lots of children! William and Brianne Bernsen brought their 5 kids: Caitlin, William, Abram, Aubrey, and Levi. They were all decked out in patriotic outfits (top), designed and sewn by Brianne. They are pictured with Senator Lois Kolkhorst who stopped by our float to say hello after the parade. Virginia & Wilson Huffer brought their granddaughter, Blaine. Shirley Pyburn came with her granddaughter Nicole Orr and her two children, Malachi and Makayla (bottom). Rock Laibson drove the truck. Other riders were Deborah Frank, Cindy & Scott Rodibaugh, Judy Cook, and Rhonda Hill. It was an excellent turnout. This Round Top parade is always fun because our float gets an excellent response from the crowds along the route, with lots of enthusiastic flag waving and cheers! I’m sure the Democratic float did not elicit the same response. (SMILE!)
The Federal healthcare-sponsored exchange losses escalated throughout 2014 to an estimated $377 million, based on quarterly reports with the National Association of Insurance and Commissioners. Only one, Maine’s Community Health Options, is operating in the black. CoOportunity Health in Iowa “burned through $145 million in federal loans before an Iowa State court ordered the organization to be liquidated”. Many more exchanges face the same demise. Members who signed up in Iowa were sent this message, “Your coverage with CoOportunity Health will stop, and claims will not be paid after cancellation. If you do not purchase replacement insurance, you may be penalized by the federal government.”

This scenario certainly does not reflect the “definitive American statement of the conditions of legitimate political authority, the ends of government, and the sovereignty of the people” which is James Madison’s description of The Declaration of Independence.

On July 4th we will celebrate the adoption of the Declaration of Independence. Thomas Jefferson describes it as, “an expression of the American mind, ‘intended’ to place before mankind the common sense of the subject in terms so plain and firm as to command their assent.” The document lists “Facts submitted to a candid world” regarding the abuses of the King of Britain. It is uncanny that some of these same abuses could be attributed to our current president:

- “He has erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance.”
- “He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his assent to their acts of pretended legislation.”
- “He has excited domestic insurrections among us….”

Based on the recent Supreme Court rulings concerning health care exchanges and same-sex marriages, the following statement is no longer valid: “A powerful line of judicial thinking holds that courts do not have a license to disregard or revise the clear language of a law.”

With a “firm reliance on the Protection of Divine Providence”, the representatives of the first Congress declared themselves free and independent. The current administration has been extraordinarily successful in its many attempts to “fundamentally transform” this country because it maintains and promotes a humanistic worldview, which is antithetical to “the Protection of Divine Providence”. This worldview has been established and promoted in the public education system for many years and has permeated the minds of Americans in positions of leadership, Americans who see themselves as victims, and many others.

Humanity may change its character and circumstances. Divine Providence is the same yesterday and today and forever.
Save the DATE for FCRW’s 2015 “Boots & Bling” Fundraiser Event

Saturday, September 19th, is the date of FCRW’s annual fundraiser, “Boots & Bling”, benefiting FCRW Scholarships and Literacy Programs in Fayette County. Festivities will begin at 6:30 p.m. at The Weimary, just outside of Weimar, with a host reception and photo op with our keynote speaker and featured guest, Congressman Michael McCaul, Chairman of the House Committee on Homeland Security. The evening will continue with a dinner, silent auction, and entertainment.

The event is open to all Republican women and men who care passionately about the conservative cause. Education is FCRW’s mission. In support of that goal, this event will fund our annual scholarships and literacy projects. In 2011, FCRW initiated our Scholarship Program and has annually awarded a $250 scholarship to one graduating senior girl at each of the five Fayette County High Schools. We continued this amount each year through 2014. This year, we were able to increase our scholarships to $400 per recipient! With your help, we can continue, or even increase, the scholarship amount for next year.

We are proud of what we have been able to do for our community. We need to continue to grow the enthusiasm and success of these important programs and we can only do that through the generosity of individuals like you. “Boots & Bling” will be FCRW’s only 2015 fundraiser event to benefit these programs. I hope you will plan to attend. Perhaps even consider joining the host committee at $2,500, $1,000, $500 or $250. Any amount of support you give will go a long way in ensuring we have the resources to keep these educational programs strong. Thank you so much for all that you do. We look forward to seeing you on September 19th!
Regretfully, I must bid farewell to a valued FCRW Associate member. Charles Schmidt, the loving husband of long-time FCRW member Pat Schmidt, passed away on Tuesday, June 30.

I will always remember Charles as the most gracious man I ever met. Throughout the many years that Pat was involved in FCRW – first, as a charter member, later in several officer positions, including President and Treasurer - Charles was almost always at her side and supporting her efforts. He had a welcoming smile and kind words every time I saw him. Charles was diagnosed with brain cancer in early 2014, with a prognosis of only a few months left to live. With Pat beside him each step of the way, he bravely fought the disease with every treatment and protocol offered to him. Amazingly, his faith in God and his love for Pat sustained him for almost a year and a half. It was a long kiss goodbye for Pat, but Charles is now at peace with his Maker. I know he’s up there making new friends in heaven right now.

Please keep Pat and her family in your prayers as they adjust to the loss of their loving husband, father, and grandfather.

**In Memory of Charles Schmidt**
*By Deborah Frank*

Food for Thought... Cartoons extracted from Jonathon Garthwaite’s Town Hall web site: [www.townhall.com](http://www.townhall.com)

**Has history taught us nothing?**

Adolph Hitler was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 1939. The Holocaust followed...Think about that.

“Never forget that everything Hitler did in Germany was LEGAL”. **Martin Luther King, Jr.**

“You can’t be for Big Government, Big Taxes, and Big Bureaucracy and still be for the little guy”. **Ronald Reagan**

One of Bill Clinton’s first acts upon taking office in 1993 was to disarm U.S. soldiers on military bases. Makes you wonder what Hillary would do if she wins next year, doesn’t it?
The Fayette County Republican Women organization is affiliated with the Texas Federation of Republican Women, and the National Federation of Republican Women, a body of over 100,000 women who support Republican candidates and causes at all levels of government.

FCRW is open to all Republican women and men who care passionately about the conservative cause. Education is a very important aspect of our mission. In support of that goal, we have several activities which involve residents throughout the county. We held our first Tribute to Women brunch in July 2010 and continued this event annually through 2014. This is a non-partisan event with nominations accepted for any deserving volunteer in Fayette County. Our 2015 fundraiser will be a dinner event at the Weimary with live music and very special keynote speaker Congressman Michael McCaul. Our annual literacy projects donate select books to the five public libraries in the spring and present an encyclopedic dictionary to each third grader in Fayette County in the fall. In 2011, we initiated our annual FCRW scholarship program which is open to graduating senior girls in the five high schools in Fayette County. Initially offering $250 scholarships, in 2015 we were able to offer $400 scholarships. Beginning in 2013, we offered pocket-size copies of the U.S. Constitution to everyone stopping by our Republican booth at the four-day Fayette County Fair, held during Labor Day weekend. We plan to expand our efforts in education by providing the booklet “Now You Are 18” to all graduating seniors in Fayette County.

Please join us as we work to bring our Country back to conservative values and restore American freedoms!

God Bless Texas. God Bless America.

For more information about our organization, visit our web site: www.FCRWTX.org.

NOTE: Our monthly general meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of each month. The times and locations may vary but will be emailed to members and posted on our web site: www.FCRWTX.org and our Facebook page.

More Photos from Round Top July 4th Parade... Photos by Deborah Frank