From Barbara Appelt, FCRW President

Dear FCRW Members,

Another busy quarter has flown by. In the last 3 months Deborah Frank organized a Republican entry in the Round Top 4th of July parade and volunteers to host a Republican booth for 4 days at the Fayette County Fair. A “Wine & Women” mixer for members and guests was hosted and held at Carole Bourlon’s home. Members attended the Commissioners Court open meetings regarding raising the FC property tax base rate by 2 cents. All five 2019 scholarship monies have been disbursed to the colleges. The FC High School Republicans held their first meeting and now have seven paid members, in addition to their 4 officers. The Fundraiser Committee, chaired by Rita Dernehl, provided details of their plans and progress for the FCRW Presidents’ Day Celebration to be held on 2/22/2020 at the Historic Casino Hall. All members are encouraged to participate. Contact Rita if you can assist with securing auction items. Sherrie Tolbert, our Literacy Chair, is coordinating our annual Dictionary Project with seven Fayette County elementary schools and the home-school organization.

This project is on track to complete by the end of October. FCRW will work with guidance from Eduardo Leal, the new Central District Regional Director for the RPT’s volunteer effort, to “Get Out the Vote”. Eduardo reports to Steve Munisteri. According to their analyses, we need to register 1.4 million more Republican voters to keep Texas “red” in 2020. Remember to vote Nov. 5th on the ten proposed Constitutional Amendments. An e-mail was sent to all members with the list of propositions along with other documents providing recommendations and explanations on each. God, please continue to bless the USA, Texas, and our great President Donald Trump.

Barbara Appelt

Revisiting our 3rd Quarter Monthly Meetings

No July meeting— As in the past several years, FCRW did not schedule a general meeting in July. Instead, members were encouraged to participate in the Fayette County Republican entry in the Round Top July 4th parade.

August 15 meeting – Held at the La Grange city hall, our speaker was Zeke Hilmo, an alumnus from Patriot Academy, which is an elite leadership training program for students 16-25 years old, specializing in applied civics with a Biblical, Historical, and Constitutional foundation. Patriot Academy is the premier political leadership training ground in the nation, with the most realistic simulated-legislative session available. It is so refreshing to see young people who love America and are willing to help educate others on our constitution and the need to get back to conservative values.

August 15 meeting – Held at Holman Valley Steakhouse, just south of La Grange. Our speaker was Fayette County Sheriff Keith Korenek, who gave us an update on crime in the county.

NEXT MEETING: Oct. 17, at La Grange City Hall. Speaker: Tom Maynard, District 10 Representative on the Texas State Board of Education.


Feb. 22, 2020 Presidents’ Day Celebration fundraiser.
In the early hours of August 17, five FCRW members - Barbara Appelt, Cindy Rodibaugh, Deborah Frank, Kimberley Rutledge and Bob Rutledge - traveled to Bay City to attend the third quarter Senate District 18 meeting. (Thanks, Bob, for doing the driving!). The meeting was hosted by the Matagorda County Republican Party. Our SD18 Committee woman, Edee Sinclair, and Committeeman, Rick Figueroa did a great job coordinating speakers for the event. As these SD18 meetings regularly are, this one was very interesting and educational. The main speaker was Samuel Briggs II, who is the officer in charge of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection station located in Corpus Christi. The Corpus Christi Station area of responsibility is comprised of 14 counties, 8,482 square miles (which is slightly more than half of the total Rio Grande Valley Sector area of responsibility), and a population of approximately 620,000 people.

The counties bordering the station's area of responsibility along the Gulf of Mexico from south to north are Willacy, Kenedy, Kleberg, Nueces, San Patricio, Aransas, Refugio, Victoria, and Calhoun. The Counties forming the northern boundary are Jackson, and Lavaca. Dewitt, Goliad, and Bee Counties form the western boundary. To the east of the coastal counties is the Intracoastal Waterway, which starts at the Port of Brownsville, Texas and runs north along the Gulf of Mexico to Orange, Texas. Over 130 miles of the Intracoastal Waterway is their responsibility. Also, to the east of the Intracoastal Waterway are the barrier islands of Padre, Mustang, San Jose, and Matagorda. Statutory authority for Marine Enforcement patrols extends to 12 nautical miles offshore. The Corpus Christi Station serves as a line watch station for the Gulf Waters, Intracoastal Waterway, and Padre Island, and as a backup station for the Rio Grande Valley Sector Checkpoints at Sarita, Texas, and Falfurrias, Texas.

Status of FCRW Fall Dictionary Project

Each fall, as part of FCRW's literacy programs, FCRW donates an encyclopedic dictionary to every third grader in Fayette County, including those who are home-schooled. Sherrie Tolbert, FCRW Literacy and Education Chair, reported that she has completed the student counts and formed her committee of members who will assist in presenting the dictionaries at the various schools.

Our sincere thanks to Sherrie Tolbert for doing an outstanding job in contacting the schools to get their head counts, ordering the dictionaries, and coordinating the presentations with each school or organization. Each year this project helps FCRW fulfill our motto: “Influencing Texans Through Education”.

Pictured Below: Cindy Rodibaugh, Kimberley Rutledge, Deborah Frank, Barbara Appelt, and Bob Rutledge. Above: FCRW with officer Samuel Briggs II
The Fayette County Republican Party and Fayette County Republican Women once again joined forces and manned a Republican booth at this year’s Fayette County Fair. Throughout the four-day event, Aug. 29 – Sep.1, members worked 3-hour shifts. THANK YOU to: Cindy Rodibaugh, Kimberley & Bob Rutledge, David & Donna Barr, Ken & Rita Dernehl, James Gillum, Ed Dykes, Barbara Appelt & Frank Forestier, Joe & Carolyn Bailey, Carole & Harold Bourlon, Sherrie Tolbert (brought FCHSR members Zoe Wilie and Karina), Pat & Ken Topping, and Peggy Brisgill. Finally, thanks to Rock Laibson for helping set up and take down the booth. Based on feedback from our workers, there were good crowds every night and almost everyone who stopped to chat with them was concerned about next year’s elections. They agreed that Texas Republicans are going to have to work very hard to KEEP TEXAS RED and not allow the DEMs to force our great country into Socialism. When asked by the FC DEM Party Chairman, why we had signs for candidates not up for re-election, Deborah responded: “Just BRAGGING”. We also received a lot of positive reactions and encouragement from the crowds to our Republican entry in the Fayette County Fair parade that Saturday morning.

**FCRW’s First “Wine & Women” Event**

On September 12 Fayette County Republican Women hosted our first “Wine & Women” event at the beautiful home of board member Carole Bourlon, outside of La Grange. The purpose of the get-together was to provide an opportunity for like-minded women to visit in a casual atmosphere, get to know each other, and share ideas. It was a relaxed evening to discuss political opinions and suggest strategies for the 2020 election season. Several of our FCRW members brought guests who are now potential FCRW members. Wine and non-alcoholic beverages, along with appetizers, were provided by attending board members: Carole Bourlon, Barbara Appelt, Kimberley Rutledge, Deborah Frank, Jeanne Raley, Cindy Rodibaugh, Donna Barr, Sherrie Tolbert, and LaMorris Thompson. The evening was so much fun the board agreed that we will plan to host similar events in the future. Cheers!
Donald Trump’s strategy: forcing Democrats to reveal who they really are and what they really believe is paying dividends as normal Democrats become uncomfortable with their own party.

As Republicans and Trump supporters this is great news. Now we must ask, “What type of events can we invite them to?”

Remember… They are not Conservatives or Republicans. They are simply unhappy, scared liberal Democrats.

Most Republican Executive Committee meetings and GOP events are red-meat fests for the base and may scare off those testing the waters away from the Democrat Plantation.

The same is true for the many incredible Trump Clubs across the nation. Most of these Democratic refugees do not like President Trump, many detest him, and the Trump clubs overflow with our love and adoration for #45.

GOP Leadership and activists will need to be very creative to create “Welcoming Places” for the nervous Democrats.

The reality is… We have to offer them “Safe Spaces.”

Happy hour meet-ups, barbecues, social media group get-togethers and networking events can all be effective in letting nervous Democrats connect with us and get their questions answered.

At a recent such event, attended by several young people running away from the Democratic Party, they were shocked that the Trump supporters were so nice and educated and diverse as well as open-minded.

Remember, the media has them convinced that ALL Trump supporters are white racist, illiterates that hate everyone and have no teeth.

Donald Trump will shake the normal people loose from the Democrat Plantation. It is our job to have places that welcome them.

Alan
Fayette County Republican Women
cordially invite you to our
PRESIDENTS’ DAY CELEBRATION
Saturday, February 22, 2020   6:00 pm – 10 pm
HISTORIC CASINO HALL
254 N. Jefferson Street, La Grange, Texas
Emcee: Lt. Col. Vanessa Hicks-Callaway
Entertainment, Dinner, Dancing, Live & Silent Auctions
For more information contact:
Rita Dernehl, rd@yahpp.com, 713 376-9033
Sherrie Tolbert, satolbert@yahoo.com, 713 962-8452
Donna Barr, barrdm1@aol.com, 713 962-4311

Come help us celebrate the Spirit of
Patriotism and the Blessings of Being an American
Attire: Patriotic / Business Casual
**About Our Organization...**

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 (as associate members) who care passionately about the conservative cause. Education is a very important aspect of our mission. In support of that goal, we have annual activities which focus on education and community service. We held our first Tribute to Women brunch in July 2010 and continued this event annually through 2014. This was a non-partisan event with nominations accepted for any deserving volunteer in Fayette County. Initially offering $250 scholarships, we are now able to offer $1,000 scholarships as of 2019. Beginning in 2020, we plan to donate pocket-size copies of the U. S. Constitution and the booklet “Now You are 18” to all high school 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. **MAGA**

For more information about our organization, visit our web site: [www.FCRWTX.org](http://www.FCRWTX.org).

“In the end, you’re measured not by how much you undertake but by what you finally accomplish.”

– **Donald Trump**

“A man's rights rest in three boxes. The ballot box, jury box, and the cartridge box.”

– **Frederick Douglass**