



1st Quarter  
2020

# The Republican Forum

Fayette County Republican Women Newsletter

“INFLUENCING TEXANS THROUGH EDUCATION”

## FCRW President’s Message



Dear FCRW Members,  
Prior to this current disruptive time, we were very busy this first quarter of 2020. And, yes, we will prevail. Here’s a snapshot of our activities. Several FCRW Members attended the TFRW Leadership Day in January, held in McKinney: Donna Barr, Deborah Frank, and Sherrie Tolbert; Many attended the luncheon at Frisch AUF! for Allen West on February 5, see

article on pg. 2; SD18 meeting was held in February in Gonzales. Barbara Appelt, David Barr-who gave the FC-RP report, Rita Dernehl, Jackie Matthews, Cindy Rodibaugh, Kimberly & Bob Rutledge, Sherrie Tolbert, and FCHSR Secretary Brooke Franzekos attended; The Fundraiser Committee, chaired by Rita Dernehl, did a stellar job in putting together the FCRW Presidents’ Day Celebration, see pg. 3; Jackie Matthews, Literacy Chair, composed a list of books that will be presented to FC’s four public libraries; FCRW approved more flexibility in determining how 2021 scholarships will be awarded and to include male students to participate in the scholarship; Carole Bourlon volunteered to host the 2nd annual “Women and Wine” mixer

in September to promote membership; Barbara Appelt, Cindy Rodibaugh, and Deborah Frank attended the Convention Training in March, held in Shiner. The training, presented by the RPT, included: What is a convention? What is a delegate? How do you become a delegate? What is the resolution process? And GOTV (Get Out The Vote). I want to express my sincere appreciation for the healthcare workers and first responders during the COVID-19 pandemic. I pray that the world is rid of this scourge soon. We plan to resume our General Monthly Meeting Thursday, April 16, 2020, unless otherwise advised. *God, continue to bless the USA, Texas, and our great President Donald Trump.*

*Barbara Appelt*

## Recapping our 1st Quarter Monthly Meetings

**Jan. 16** – We met at 6:30 PM at La Grange City Hall. Our speaker was Brooke Crowder, founding CEO of The Refuge in Austin. This organization is a long-term therapeutic care facility for domestic minors who are victims of sex trafficking. Brooke is an excellent speaker who made us acutely aware of this on-going problem, what their organization does, and what we can do to help.

**Feb. 20** – No meeting due to our intense final preparations for our Presidents Day Celebration fundraiser this month. See results and pictures on page 3 of this newsletter.

**Mar. 19** – This meeting was CANCELLED due to the COVID-19 precautions recommended by the CDC. It was scheduled to be at the Wine Haus in Flatonia, with speaker Becky Berger, Regional Director for Strike Force & Victory 2020.

**NEXT MEETING:**  
**Apr. 16, 2019, 6:30 PM at La Grange City Hall**  
Our speaker is Tara Mica who has served as State Director in Texas and a region of states for the National Rifle Association since 1997. She has worked with NRA members in the Lone Star State to pass landmark lawsuit preemption, Castle Doctrine, car carry, campus carries and open carry legislation.

### Special Interest Articles:

- Fundraiser SUCCESS!!!
- Primary Election Results
- Allen West visits Fayette County

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## Fayette County March 3 Republican Primary Results

***Congratulations to all the Republican incumbent candidates who will continue to serve Fayette County!***

There were only two contested races in Fayette County in the Republican Party March 3 primary elections. Both incumbent candidates won: Sheriff **Keith Korenek** won with over 89% of the votes countywide. Precinct 2 Constable **Roger Wunderlich** won with over 55% of the votes in that 3-way race. We greatly appreciate these officers continuing to serve our county, along with the other elected officials who serve Fayette County that, except for the County Attorney, are all Republicans.

Candidates on the ballot included offices from U.S. President all the way down to Fayette County Republican

Party Chairman, with several contested races at the state and national levels. Voter turnout in Fayette County was 37.58%, which was slightly higher than the statewide turnout.

In our county, 5,076 voted on Republican ballots; 1,243 voted on Democrat ballots. However, statewide, the numbers were much closer. This drives home the fact that Republicans MUST get out and vote in the November elections, if we are to keep our current majorities in our state and the US Senate and regain control of the US House of Representatives.

Regaining control of the House is the only way we are going to get Nancy Pelosi removed as

Speaker. She has done so much damage in the last 3 years. We simply cannot allow her to continue to manipulate the truth and lead the House in anymore partisan investigations and impeachment attempts, based on false allegations, fake documents, and out-right lies.

Please continue to support President Trump, talk to your friends and neighbors about his continued accomplishments and his love for America and its people. Re-electing him is our only hope of saving America from the power-hungry Democrats and Socialists eager and working hard to take control over all aspects of our lives. A strong Republican turnout CAN stop them.

### Allen West Visits Fayette County



Lt. Col. (Ret.) Allen West, who is a candidate for State Chairman of the Republican Party of Texas (RPT), visited Fayette County on Wednesday, Feb. 5. Fayette County Republican Party Chairman, Deborah Frank (also FCRW Secretary), was contacted by his campaign in early January and asked to locate a venue for his visit. A buffet luncheon was arranged at Frisch Auf! Valley Country Club and about 60 Fayette County residents attended to hear Mr. West speak and purchase signed copies of his book.

Mr. West stressed the importance of preserving our conservative fiscal and family values; of continuing Texas' pro-business, conservative, free-market policies; maintaining low taxes and limiting regulations in Texas. He stressed personal responsibility over government welfare.

His book, "Hold Texas, Hold the Nation: Victory or Defeat" talks about our state's political conservatism and how Texans have always fought to protect and defend our freedoms and values. He also explains how the Democrats have, unfortunately, make headway with their liberal ideology, in their efforts to turn Texas blue. Texas is the sustaining force for America, truly embodying the founding principles of our great country. We must stand together to protect these principles and stop the march of Socialism that the DEMs are trying to force upon us!



**Our 2020 Fundraiser was a SUCCESS!**

FCRW held its 2020 fundraiser event, with dinner, music, live and silent auctions, a fabulous speaker, and an outstanding emcee, with many of our elected officials and representatives attending.

In addition to everyone having a great time and our hearing from inspirational speakers, our proceeds exceeded FCRW's targeted goal. We made enough to fund our Literacy programs and scholarships for two more years, as well as support Republican candidates in this year's important elections.

**CONGRATULATIONS!!**

*Fundraiser Committee with President Trump: (L) Sherrie Tolbert, committee member, and Rita Dernehl, Committee Chair.*



**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

**Dynamic Speaker: Nick Adams, founder of FLAG – Foundation for Liberty & American Greatness**  
[www.flagusa.org](http://www.flagusa.org); Facebook: FLAGUSA1; Twitter: @1FLAGUSA  
**Emcee: Lt. Col. Vanessa Hicks-Callaway**  
Entertainment, Dinner, DJ, Live & Silent Auctions



Nick Adams and Senator Lois Kolkhorst



Lois wore "The Jacket" that former FCRW President, Judy Cook, had given her.



Above: Attendees were given masks of famous presidents to use in bidding.



Emcee: Vanessa Hicks-Callaway, retired Lt. Colonel, U.S. Army.

Deborah Frank with students at check-in.



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*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. Our 2020 fundraiser was a dinner party at The Historic Casino Hall in La Grange with Nick Adams, founder of FLAGUSA, as our keynote speaker.

These fundraisers support our annual literacy projects and scholarships. Each year FCRW donates select books to the four public libraries in Fayette County in the spring and an encyclopedic dictionary to each third grader in Fayette County in the fall. In 2011, we initiated our annual FCRW scholarship program which recognizes one

graduating senior girl in each of the five high schools in Fayette County. With those scholarships starting at \$250, we have steadily increased the amounts. In 2017 and 2018 they were \$800. For 2019 and 2020, we increased them to \$1,000.

We also offer pocket-size copies of the U. S. Constitution to everyone stopping by our Republican booth at the four-day Fayette County Fair. Our scholarship criteria and application form are on our website under Education Projects.

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

**God Bless Texas. God Bless America.**

*"Every step we take towards making the State our Caretaker of our lives, by that much we move toward making the State our Master."*

***– Dwight D. Eisenhower***



**FCRW hopes you and your families are well and following the guidelines and precautions recommended by the CDC, to help stop the spread of COVID-19. Please pray that God continues to give President Trump the strength to fight for our health, prosperity, freedoms, and safety.**

*Sincerely, Deborah Frank - FCRW Newsletter Editor*