



1st Quarter  
2021

# The Republican Forum

Fayette County Republican Women Newsletter

“INFLUENCING TEXANS THROUGH EDUCATION”

## FCRW President’s Message

### Special Interest Articles:

- It’s Time for Action
- RPT Chairman Allen West visits Fayette County
- Outstanding essay by Laura Beth James

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### FCRW Board Meetings:

Are held on the second Thursday of the month at La Grange City Hall, 155 E. Colorado, starting at 2 PM.

All members are welcome to attend and provide input.



Dear FCRW Members, 2021 began on a very sour note. January reporting of the confusion of the November election brought out the worst in people. It is difficult for me to understand why Republican Representatives didn’t challenge the certification of Electoral College votes that were based on illegal ballot counts. Many Republicans loyal

to the principle of voter integrity traveled from Texas to Wisconsin and Georgia to help with ballot recounts and listened to testimony of illegal shenanigans that occurred in the polling facilities to no avail. The extreme cold weather of February added to the turmoil of the pandemic by inflicting damage to property. Peter, Paul, and Mary asked, “Where have all our soldiers gone?” I ask, “Where have all our leaders gone?” My answer, “Gone to compromisers every one. When will they ever learn?” The Declaration of Independence established the sovereignty of the individual citizen over the institution of government. The Preamble of the U.S. Constitution states, “WE the people...” We are the citizen soldiers—the last line

of defense of freedom our founding fathers established. “When will we ever learn?” We face a formidable foe. We must not allow ourselves to get distracted or be manipulated by fear, or disillusion. We must resolve to speak truth to power. Resolve to hold elected representatives accountable for American values and principles. As LTC Allen West, (Ret.), RPT Chairman, has said, “If we don’t stand up and fight now, who will?” Our mission is to preserve “One nation, Under God, with liberty and justice for all.”

Continue to seek God’s mercy for our state and our nation.

*Cindy Rodibaugh*

## Recapping our 1st Quarter Monthly Meetings

**Jan. 14** – Our featured speaker was Kathy Haigler. She is one of the “Texas 8” who served as Republican observers in the Dane County, WI ballot recount. Kathy has been a Precinct Chair, County Chair, SREC Committeewoman, State Party Secretary, Election Judge, Poll Watcher, Ballot Board member and a Presidential Elector, among MANY other things. An unequivocal protector of ballot security, Kathy shares her

vast knowledge of Election Law, and her experience and skills for researching election records that led her to become an independent Election Administration Consultant.

**Feb. 18** – Meeting was cancelled due to the snow/ice storm.

**Mar. 18** – Meeting was held at the Wine Haus in Flatonia. Our speaker was Amy Mundy, TFCRW District Director. Topic: What Federation means for FCRW and how it

benefits our club; actions we’re required to comply with; relevance to Republican leadership and our impact on successful election and legislative outcomes.

### NEXT MEETING:

**Apr. 15, 2021, 6:30 PM at La Grange City Hall**

Speaker: Mark Goloby, Topic: Revealing and reducing taxpayer-funded lobbying. Also, Susan Friedrich, TFRW Treasurer, will present FCRW with our 20th anniversary certificate.

## Republicans on Fire After 2020 Elections

### ***NOW is the time to get politically active and Save our Country!***

FCRW Board members met on January 14 at the La Grange city hall and it was apparent from the start of the meeting that members were still in shock regarding the results of the 2020 elections. There was no doubt among us that the Presidential election was STOLEN by the overtly corrupt Democrat party. Our emotions ranged from depression to outrage, however, we are all determined to work even harder to take back the U.S. House and Senate in 2022 to SAVE AMERICA. While the 2020 federal elections did not go as we had hoped, it was the Republican Women who helped keep Republican majorities in the Texas House and Senate. We can accomplish much more as an affiliate of TFRW and

NFRW, than as individuals. This has spurred a growth in membership for both FCRW and FCRP. In addition to FCRW monthly meetings, there were many opportunities to get engaged this quarter.

Information on all these events was shared with our members:

Jan. 6 – Trump Train rally from Bastrop to the Capitol in Austin.

Jan. 9 – Republican Legislative Priorities rally at the Capitol in Austin.

Jan. 25 – Rep. Ben Leman's District Director was at the Fayette County courthouse for open discussions and listen to concerns from constituents.

Feb. 4 – TFRW Legislative Day in Austin.

Feb. 5 – Rep. Ben Leman met with Fayette County Republicans at the county courthouse to share information on the start of this year's Legislative session.

Feb. 27 – TFRW Nuts & Bolts Leadership Workshops in Burnet and, subsequently, via a Zoom call.

Mar. 20 – FCRP EC/General meeting with guest speaker RPT Chairman Allen West. All FCRW members were invited to attend.

March 23 – Texas Young Republicans gala dinner. Speakers included RPT Vice Chair Cat Parks, House speaker Dade Phelan. Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, and Gov. Greg Abbott.

Ongoing: Legislative hearings at the state capitol in Austin.

### **RPT Chairman Allen West Visits Fayette County**



Lt. Col. (Ret.) Allen West, State Chairman of the Republican Party of Texas (RPT), visited Fayette County on Saturday morning, March 20, as guest speaker at the Fayette County Republican Party Executive Committee meeting at Frisch Auf! Country Club. FCRP Chairman, Deborah Frank (also FCRW Publicity Chair), coordinated the meeting and his visit, inviting all FCRP and FCRW members to attend. Allen West is an excellent speaker who holds one's attention. He is knowledgeable on "all things Texas" and what is before the current legislature.

His main talking points began with encouraging us to find good, qualified, Republicans to run as candidates in Municipal Elections in Fayette County. This is the grassroots of the Republican Party and these candidates become the base as they perhaps proceed to other elected offices on the state and national levels. Allen stated that the most important position is that of School Board as they determine what is taught to the students. Chairman West then spoke briefly on each of the Republican Party of Texas Legislative Priorities: Election Integrity, Monument Protection, Religious Liberty and Freedom, Constitutional Carry, Pro Life, Child Gender Modification, School Choice, Taxpayer Funded Lobbying, and Executive Overreach. A very stimulated question and answer session followed his presentation.

## **Will We Live in Fear or Be Strong in Our Faith?**

***By Laura Beth James, FCRW Junior Member***

Fear.

A powerful tool.

A potent weapon.

A convincing storyteller.

A tactic wielded viciously by those greedy for control.

We've been slowly lulled into submission over the past year, deceived by perfunctory murmurs of sympathy and understanding from crooked politicians as they shut down our businesses and churches. We've passively allowed elected officials, Republicans and Democrats alike, to tiptoe away with the basic rights that Americans of a year ago would have never dreamed of losing. We've given up ground, inch by inch, until they've trampled our Constitution underfoot in their lawless pursuit of tyranny. We've been ridiculed, browbeaten, censored, and shamed for a privilege that doesn't exist and a debt that is not ours to pay. In a short period of time, we've become alarmingly similar to the socialist country that started it all.

Anyone who believes that this is solely about a virus with a 99% survival rate needs a wakeup call, and I'm more than happy to deliver. This lab-manufactured virus is nothing more than a hood for a social agenda to hide under as it creeps its way into our country. Liberal officials knew that any blatant attempts at a more authoritative government would be met with outrage and uproar. Their solution? Introduce it gradually by convincing everyone it's for the "greater good". If you don't wear a muzzle on your face, you might kill someone. If you have the nerve to go to church with your friends and neighbors, you're as good as dead. If you open up your business to feed your family, your selfishness could cost lives.

We've allowed them to frighten us into compliance. We've allowed them to strip away the qualities that constitute the essence of the United State of America. We are not China. We are not Cuba. We are not Vietnam. We have the joy of worshipping God whenever and wherever we please. We have the ability to open a business and run it as we see fit. We have the right to bear arms. We have the liberty to write and speak our opinions without being silenced or censored. And we have the freedom to stand up for the country our founding fathers knew and loved, not the country left-wing activists want it to be.

Now is not the time for passivity. Now is not the time to sit back and watch as our beautiful country is beaten and battered by power-crazed leaders on the hunt for an even stronger grip on our lives. Now is not the time to take the "high road" and boast of an indifferent attitude towards the current political atmosphere and the way we, the American people, are governed. It's overwhelming. I know. It's scary to envision a world where the rights we've always enjoyed aren't a given, and I believe that's why many choose not to think about it at all; unfortunately, this approach could be the very thing that transforms our country from one nation under God into something else entirely.

Political leaders are not our God. Earth is not our forever home. Jesus is our only hope in a truly broken world. These beliefs, however, do not grant us an excuse to remove ourselves from reality and shield ourselves from the truth. It saddens me to see many Christians disengage in political matters for fear of disrupting peace or idolizing worldly perfection. Being invested in maintaining our freedoms doesn't mean we have to be any less invested in maintaining our faith. We can give the battle to God while simultaneously giving the battle our all. We can pray as powerfully as we defend. We can work towards a better life on earth while understanding that something infinitely greater awaits us in Heaven. As Christians, we're called to be the hands and feet of Christ in this world. The socialist agenda being forced down our throats would only serve to bind our hands and feet, therefore rendering us incapable of completing the work we were put here to do.

Government officials may claim to have their hands and feet tied. Our hands are not. They may claim to not have a choice. We do. Self-governance or socialism? Civil liberty or censorship? Power to the people or to the politicians? Faith or fear? I hope, for the sake of our country, that we choose wisely and act accordingly.

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**Fayette County Republican Women  
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Visit us at:

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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 an 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 Presidents Day Celebration at The Historic Casino Hall in La Grange. Nick Adams, founder of FLAGUSA, was our keynote speaker.

These fundraisers support our annual literacy projects, scholarships, and candidate donations. 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 to \$800, then \$1,000. In 2021 we are offering one \$5,000 scholarship to Hillsdale College. Our scholarship criteria and application form are on our website under Education Projects.

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.

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

**God Bless Texas. God Bless America.  
And God Bless President Trump,  
the best President we ever had.**



“Those who would give up essential Liberty, to purchase a little temporary Safety, deserve neither Liberty nor Safety.”

***Benjamin Franklin***

“Man is not free unless government is limited. There's a clear cause and effect here that is as neat and predictable as a law of physics: As government expands, liberty contracts.”

***Ronald Reagan***