



TRUNKLINE

FRESNO COUNTY & CITY REPUBLICAN WOMEN FEDERATED

Affiliated with the California & National Federated Republican Women

THE LARGEST ALL WOMEN'S VOLUNTEER POLITICAL ORGANIZATION IN THE UNITED STATES

Lois White, President

Peggy Robbins, Membership Secretary, Treasurer

Roberta Genini, Editor • **Billie Sullivan**, Assistant Editor

Visit us on the web at www.fresnorepublicanwomen.org

AUGUST 2026

Edition XXVII, Number 8

*Please join us for FCCRWF's
August Luncheon*

Featuring guest speaker

*Candidate for
Secretary of State*

DONALD WAGNER



WEDNESDAY, August 26, 2026



Pardini's Catering and Banquets

2257 W. Shaw Ave., Fresno, CA 93711

MENU: Main Option: Grilled Chicken Penne Pasta served with Rolls & Fruit Cup

Vegetarian Option: Portobello Stack with Side Vegetable

Gluten-Free Option: Asian Chicken Salad

Check-in starts at 11:15 a.m. with lunch starting at noon.

All attendees must register for the luncheon.

Only members of FCCRWF and their guests may attend. No walk-ins allowed.

Luncheon costs \$30.

To make your prepaid reservation, please go to www.fresnorepublicanwomen.org

Paid registrations must be made on or before Tuesday, August 18, 2026.

Reservations must be prepaid - no exceptions

For more information or if unable to pay online, email us at fresnorepublicanwomen@reagan.com
or call Judy Harlan at (559) 360-5184, 6552 N. Gentry, Fresno, CA 93711.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As I write this, I have just watched the Senate hearing with Anthony Fauci, and I am wondering what we can learn from all of this. First, we were all lied to about Covid 19: the origin, the transmission, the vaccines, the rules to prevent the disease, and the governmental response to fear. Secondly, we were not allowed to disagree with dictated protocol or refuse a mandated vaccine. So many things were disastrous about this period in our lives, most of it coming from a man deluded by his own ego. Fauci started believing the flattery of sycophants, and in doing so, led our country into medical, economic, and psychological deterioration. Dissenting medical opinions were silenced, the stock market fell, businesses failed, mask wearing was enforced, and schools were closed. Because Fauci loved the adoration of celebrities and the media, he lied, and we all suffered.

“Pride goes before destruction and a haughty spirit before stumbling.” Proverbs 16:18

We all have horrific memories of this time in our lives, but what will we do next time? Shouldn't we have questioned one man's influence over our lives? Shouldn't we have had a choice over what we put in our bodies? Shouldn't we have refused to obey rules that kept us from worshipping? From celebrating holidays and special occasions with our family? From shopping and visiting beauty salons? Shouldn't we be wiser the next time we are told to “follow the science” or “the science is settled”? We know science is never “settled.” Science, by its nature, is always changing because knowledge is expanding. In the future, may we all be wiser and stronger in our dissent against that which we know to be untrue. “Buy truth and do not sell it, get wisdom and instruction and understanding.” Proverbs 23:23

Respectfully,

Lois White, FCCRWF President



President Lois White with Steve Hilton, Republican Candidate for Governor opposing Democrat Xavier Becerra on November ballot.



You are cordially invited

FCCRWF's Happy Hour Mixer

Friday September 11

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

*Pardini's Red Room
2257 W. Shaw Avenue,
Fresno CA 93711*

RSVP at fresnorepublicanwomen.org

Hosted by

*Lois White, FCCRWF President
and Sharon Gerardi, Parliamentarian*



Ready for a low-key way to meet the people who want to represent you, or to meet the ladies of Fresno County and City Republican Women?

Join us for a Happy Hour Mixer

Local elected officials and candidates as well as club members will be there to talk one-on-one. No speeches or formal program – just real conversation. Board members will be there to provide information about our club, candidates, and propositions.

This event is designed for busy working women (and your partners too) who are unable to come to our luncheons. This is a casual after-work gathering so come straight from the office if you'd like. Grab a drink, make new connections and leave knowing you are a part of the Republican Party and Republican Women of Fresno.

July Luncheon Recap

By Billie Sullivan, Assistant Editor



Mindy Casto, Fresno Chief of Police

Oh my, if you missed the July Luncheon, you really missed a memorable event. FCCRWF came out in force to support the Fresno Police Department. More than 150 members and guests were in attendance. Our guest speaker was Police Chief Mindy Casto. She delivered an engaging, informative, and entertaining message about our law enforcement in Fresno. If it weren't for age restrictions several of us would be signing up to be police cadets.



Michael Gates, Candidate for California Attorney General

We were unbelievably honored by a special guest at our luncheon. Michael Gates, candidate for Attorney General, surprised us by asking if he could drop by to speak to our members. It was such a powerful addition to our luncheon having two speakers dedicated to law enforcement in Fresno and California as a whole. He will be our guest speaker at our October luncheon. He is an amazing speaker and provides a detailed inside look at the Attorney General's role in California. You can't miss hearing him in October.



FCCRWF's legislative table display

Don't forget to stop by the Legislative table at our next luncheon.



July centerpieces honored Fresno PD

Out and About

By Bilie Sullivan, Assistant Editor

Several members of the FCCRWF Board attended a recent fundraiser for Gloria Romero, who is running for Lieutenant Governor of California. The event took place on July 20 at the Casino One Event Center. Gubernatorial Candidate Steve Hilton was also present and offered his support for Romero's campaign. This gathering brought together board members and



Gloria Romero, candidate for California lieutenant governor



Left to Right, Billie Sullivan, Gloria Romero, Linda Dubbels, Judy Harlan and Gloria Ward



Steve Hilton backs Gloria Romero in Fresno with FCCRWF group

WELCOME!

Membership Report

By Peggy Robbins, Membership Secretary, Treasurer

WOW! What a great month.

**We added 10 new members
in the Month of July.**

**Please help us welcome these ladies
to our organization:**

**Reneeta Anthony
Yvonne Bessinger
Dawn Couchman
Susan Der Manouel**

**Kelli Eoff
Susan Ewell
Jance Hallaian
Sue Shehadey
Judy Theriot**

IMPORTANT NEWS!

By Billie Sullivan, Assistant Editor

We have reached our goal of over 200 active members in Fresno County and C Republican Women Federat...

As of the end of July, we have 209 active members and 17 associate members.

We have added 91 new members in the first 7 months of 2026.

Way to go Ladies!! Thank you for spreading the word and bringing your guest to our monthly luncheons. You made this happen. How many more can we add this year?



August Sunshine from FCCRWF

By Kathleen Lehman, Sunshine Committee

Join us in wishing a "get well quick" message to **Carrol Ann Sabatino**. Hope to see her again at our August luncheon.

Do you know of a member who has suffered a recent bereavement or illness, or someone who might just appreciate some cheering up or should be congratulated? Please submit notices to Kathleen's cellular phone, text or call (559) 906-7781, with complete contact information for that person. If you prefer, you may email Kathleen at kathleenelehman@yahoo.com

“READ TO KNOW” BOOK CLUB

Emily Wildey, Book Club Secretary and Hostess

On July 20, twelve members met to discuss *Killed to Order: China's Organ Harvesting Industry and the True Nature of America's Biggest Adversary* by Jan Jekielek. This book examines the practice of forced organ harvesting, focusing primarily on China, and presents it as one of the world's most serious ongoing human rights abuses. The book argues that medicine without informed consent is not healthcare but violence, warning that when physicians become accountable to the state rather than their patients, medical ethics collapse and healthcare can be transformed into a tool of oppression.

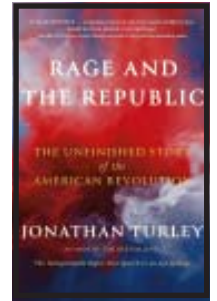
A central message is that dehumanization is the foundation of atrocities. By viewing people as problems instead of individuals with inherent dignity, societies become capable of accepting unimaginable cruelty. The author also argues that silence in the face of injustice enables evil to persist, emphasizing that ignorance does not eliminate responsibility.

Beyond organ harvesting, the book explores how authoritarian governments can corrupt medicine and other institutions when political power overrides ethical principles. It traces these concerns through the history of the Chinese Communist Party, describing campaigns against religion, traditional culture, and independent thought that relied on fear, coercion, and ideological conformity to maintain control.

The book also discusses communist ideology and the CCP's use of the “Three Warfares”—public opinion, psychological, and legal warfare—to influence perceptions and advance strategic goals. Ultimately, *Killed to Order* serves as both an investigation into forced organ harvesting and a broader warning about the dangers of authoritarianism, ethical compromise, dehumanization, and public indifference to human rights abuses.

While many members were already aware of this practice, several were not, and were utterly shocked at not only the fact that it is happening, but that there is awareness (at the government level) that it is happening, yet nothing has been done to stop it.

Our next meeting will be **Monday, August 17** from **10:30 a.m. -12:00 p.m.** at 7110 N. Fresno Street, room 100C. We will be discussing chapters 1-7 (parts I and II) of *Rage and the Republic: The Unfinished Story of the American Revolution* by Jonathan Turley. All members and their guests are invited to attend. Feel free to bring your coffee and/or a snack! <https://maps.app.goo.gl/ezkLUnwyuFWAL3xS6>



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

By Billie Sullivan, Assistant Editor

We need volunteers! This is a very important time in California's history. A time for common sense to take back California. We can all help – there are so many volunteer opportunities available.

Please sign up to address post cards to registered Republicans in Fresno. The California and Fresno GOP are providing us with pre-printed postcards with postage already included. All we have to do is use the list of names and addresses they are providing to address these postcards. No standing, walking or being out in heat. We will provide a space and get together as a group to enjoy the companionship of fellow Republican Ladies as we contribute to making this election a Red landslide. Sign-up sheets will be available at the August Luncheon.

Contact:

Billie Sullivan, text (559)287-3734
or email smbjsull@pacbell.net
Or **Judy Harlan**, text (559)360-5184
or email harlan.j@comcast.net

WAYS & MEAN\$ is always planning for the next great thing!

By Andrea Shabaglian, Chair, Ways and Means

Now is a good time to come help us plan and prepare for FCCRWF's upcoming events. We would love to have you be part of it. Thanks to all our great committee members, and for those who haven't given this a try, come attend a meeting!

Ways and Means next meeting:

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

10:35- 12:00 Noon

7110 Fresno Street, Suite 100

Fresno, CA 93720

(A Conference Room on the first floor)



*"Our Constitution-- like the Declaration of Independence
before it-- was predicated on a simple truth: One's liberty, not to
mention one's dignity, was something to be shielded from--
not provided by-- the State."*

--Clarence Thomas

Legislative Report

By Gloria Ward, Chair

We would like to go back to February 14, 2026.

Let us review the transcript of Marco Rubio's remarks at MSC, 2026. (This is a small portion of the actual transcript.)

"For five centuries before the end of the Second World War, the west had been expanding. Its missionaries, its pilgrims, its soldiers, its explorers, pouring out from its shores to cross oceans, settle new continents, build vast empires, extending out across the globe. But in 1945 for the first time since the age of Columbus, it was contracting. Europe was in ruins. Half of it lived behind an iron curtain, and the rest looked like it was soon to follow. The great western empires had entered into a terminal decline, accelerated by Godless communist revolutions, and by anti-colonial uprisings that would transform the world and drape the red hammer and sickle across vast swaths of the map in the years to come.

Against that backdrop, then, as now, many came to believe that the West's age of dominance had come to an end, and that our future was destined to be a faint and feeble echo of our past. But together our predecessors recognized that decline was a choice and it was a choice they refused to make. This is what we did together once before and this is what President Trump, and the United States want to do again now, together with you. And this is why we do not want our allies to be weak. Because that makes us weaker."

We encourage you to find Secretary Rubio's full transcript remarks on the Internet and read them from start to finish. You will find his remarks quite inspiring.

Now let us look ahead to our November 3, 2026 elections.

October 5 Mail- in ballots will be mailed out.
October 5 Counties begin mailing vote-by-mail ballots.
October 6 Official ballot drop boxes open.
October 19 Last day to register to vote for the general election.
November 3, election day.

We continue to recognize the importance of registered Republicans **voting**.

Using 2024 California general election data, we can estimate fairly well voting participation by each party, as reported by the Secretary of State. As of October 21, 2024:

There were **5,638,209** registered Republicans in California.
Only **4,475,294** Republicans voted.
Republicans who did not vote: 1,162,915.

That is approximately **20.6%** of registered Republicans. So roughly 1 out of every 5 registered California Republicans did not vote in the 2024 general election.

California has **5,779,786** registered Republicans as of May 18, 2026. The June 2, 2026, primary had only 40.8% overall voter turnout, so turnout remains a major factor in what happens in November.

And we must not forget the Independents. As of the most recent California voter registration report, May 18, 2026. There are approximately **5,284,968** Independent voters.

continued

LEGISLATIVE REPORT *continued from previous page*
 We believed that it is of the utmost importance to reach the independents, also called the “no party preference” voters in California, with our message to **vote for our Republican candidates.**

In closing, our committee would like to thank Political Analyst and friend Shannon Major. The legislative committee was able to meet with Shannon recently. We continue to receive from her encouragement, new ideas, and clarity as we try to stay current with valuable information regarding our Republican political world.

We appreciate your time in reading our *Trunkline*. Thank you so much. And always feel free to reach out to us with questions and concerns. And one last reminder, feel free to attend any of our board meetings as well as our committee meetings.

Opportunities to Serve Fresno Republican Women

Every one of our Club members has experience, skills and talent that we need to make our club run smoothly and effectively. As Uncle Sam says, “We Need You.” Below are a list of Committees and all the jobs within those committees.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

Fund Raising
 Event Planning
 Raffle Promotions

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Trunkline
 Website
 Facebook (Social Media)
 Photography

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Hospitality
 Hostesses
 Sunshine
 Decorations

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Book Club
 Bylaws
 Parliamentary Rules
 CFRW/NFRW

AMERICANISM COMMITTEE

Veteran's Affairs
 Caring for America
 Community Outreach

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Voter Registration
 Campaigns/Elections
 Legislation Updates
 City/County Updates

What can you do for your club?

Text or email us with which opportunity best fits you:

Lois White text: (559)974-4181 Email: loiswhite11@icloud.com
 Billie Sullivan text: (559)287-3734 Email: smbjsull@pacbell.net

SAVE AMERICA ACT (H.R. 7296)

- Requires nationwide voter ID for federal elections, requiring photo ID for in-person voting and requiring mail/absentee voters to submit a copy of acceptable ID with their ballot materials
- Requires documentary proof of U.S. citizenship to register for federal elections
- Sets acceptable proof documents and provides a process to submit other evidence of citizenship
- Requires states to take ongoing steps to identify noncitizens on voter rolls and remove ineligible registrations
- Allows citizens to sue if officials register applicants without required proof

CALL YOUR SENATORS: VOTE YES ON THE SAVE ACT!

The House PASSED the **SAVE America Act** now the Senate MUST ACT.

ONLY U.S. CITIZENS SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO VOTE IN THE U.S. ELECTIONS

Contact your California U.S. Senators NOW and respectfully ask them to:

“Vote YES on the Save America Act.”

California U.S. Senators:

Alex Padilla: Fresno Ofc (559)497-5109

DC Ofc (202)224-3864

Adam Schiff: Fresno Ofc (559)485-7430

DC Ofc (202)224-3841

Keep up with legislative action and the political news that affects our lives!

The following are key sources for political news stories and action items of interest to you that you may not find elsewhere. You may find them by entering each in an online search bar, or you can click directly on them in your emailed *Trunkline's* article, “Legislative matters in California and beyond.”

Legiscan California

Leginfo California

California Federation of Republican Women

National Federation of Republican Women

Reform California

California Family Council

California Globe

Please note that donations may be suggested, but you have no obligation to donate.

Please note that FCRP meetings currently vary their locations. For information about the Fresno County Republican Party please visit www.fresnogop.org. You may sign up to volunteer and/or receive email notifications of events.



Tom McClintock (R-CA, 5th CD) 1020 15th St., Suite 11, Modesto, CA 95354, Phone: (209) 550-6910

Vince Fong (R-CA, 20th CD) 9700 Stockdale Highway, Suite 300, Bakersfield, CA 93311, Phone: (661) 327-3611

Legislative matters in California and beyond

The following websites can guide you to what is going on legislatively:

www.cafrw.org California Federation of Republican Women, of which Fresno City and County Republican Women Federated is an affiliate. Note that the website is easily confusable with that of an unaffiliated group.

www.californiaglobe Katy Grimes' sharp and accurate take on California government issues.

www.legiscan.com has lots of info on all California bills senate and assembly. Setting up an account is required but free.

www.leginfo.legislature.ca.gov gives info on the text of a bill, its history, analysis, and status. You only need to enter the bill number.

www.reformcalifornia.org gives information on a range of issues.

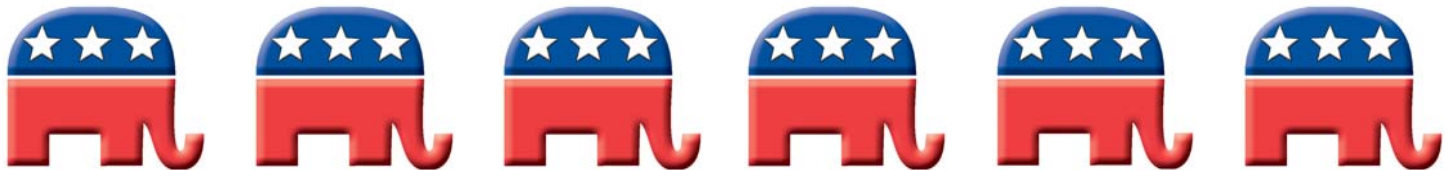
www.nfrw.org tunes us into the National Federation of Republican Woman. Links to legislative and other national concerns on its Face Book page and on X.

www.californiafamily.org/author/jonathankeller/ provides info on bills affecting families, children. You may subscribe to receive free updates.



Alternatively, you may access California Family Council by pointing your smart phone camera towards the QR code. The screen will display the code content. Tap on the code and the website will appear.

Please note that where these websites ask for donations, there is no obligation to donate.



CALENDAR *PLEASE MAKE PLANS!*

Monday, August 17 FCCRWF "Read to Know" Book Club, 10:30 a.m. -12:00 noon. Information this issue.

Tuesday, August 18 Deadline to register for FCCRWF August 26 luncheon.

Wednesday, August 26 .. FCCRWF Luncheon, Pardini's, 12:00 noon. Doors open 11:15 a.m. Details this issue.

Monday, September 7 ... Labor Day

Tuesday, September 8 ... Ways and Means meeting, 10:35 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Information this issue.

Friday, September 11 Happy Hour Mixer, Red Room, Pardini's, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

You Have a Voice

By Billie Sullivan, Asst Editor

Make your voice heard and stay informed about what is going on in our City and County behind the scenes. Listed below are the upcoming City Council Meetings for Fresno and Clovis, and for the Fresno County Board of Supervisors Meetings--

- ★ Fresno City Council: Council Chamber at City Hall, 2600 Fresno Street, Fresno. Meet on Fridays at 9:00 a.m. Upcoming Meetings: (Thursdays) August 13, & August 27, 2026.
- ★ Clovis City Council: Council Chambers, 1033 Fifth St, Clovis. Meet on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Mondays at 6:00 p.m. Upcoming Meetings: (Mondays) August 10, 2026, August 17, 2026, September 8, 2026.
- ★ Fresno County Board of Supervisors: Fresno County Hall of Records, 2281 Tulare St, Room 301, Fresno. Meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each Month at 9:30 a.m. Upcoming Meetings: August 11, & August 25, September 8, 2026.