



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

SEPTEMBER 2026

Edition XXVII, Number 9

***Please join us for FCCRWF's
September Luncheon***

Featuring guest speakers

KMJ 580 Radio Personalities

**CHRISTINA MUSSON AND
JOHN GERARDI**



“Ballot Initiatives 2026- Everything You Need to Know! “

With MIKE MURPHY, Republican Candidate, California Assembly District 27

Tuesday, September 22, 2026

Pardini's Catering and Banquets
2257 W. Shaw Ave., Fresno, CA 93711

**MENU: Main Option: Chicken Caesar Salad, Rolls, Fruit Cup,
Vegetarian Option: Portobello Stack**

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, September 15, 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



This month I am going to reprint portions of an article by California Assemblyman Carl De Maio (R-AD 75), chairman of Reform California.

“In late August Governor Gavin Newsom signed a controversial bill, AB 2624, into law, despite knowing there were serious objections to its violations of the First Amendment.

“Proponents say it protects immigrants by shielding nonprofits that serve immigrant communities from supposed harassment. What AB 2624 really does is shield these organizations from scrutiny, despite many of them receiving public money.

“Here’s how AB 2624 will play out in real life: An investigative journalist like Nick Shirley gets video of a phony daycare center defrauding taxpayers, but the scammer operating the center hands him a note demanding the video not be shared publicly. If the journalist posts it, he has violated state law and is subject to costly court orders and fines. That’s why when the bill was first introduced, I nicknamed it the ‘Stop Nick Shirley Act.’ Shirley drew attention to the problem of fraud among Minnesota nonprofit groups, and he came to California to investigate further.

“That’s when the Democrats decided to stop him.

“Instead of fixing rampant waste, fraud, and abuse, Newsom and his party are trying to punish the people exposing it. And so doing, they are blatantly violating our First Amendment.

“Newsom and his party know the ‘Stop Nick Shirley Act’ is unconstitutional, but they are trying to slow down investigations into the massive fraud problems they have allowed in state and local government programs.

“It is clear that they are trying to hide the true extent of the fraud problems we have in California and how they benefit politically from not only the fraud, but the far-left groups that pushed for the “Stop Nick Shirley Act” to be passed.”

I, Lois, also want to add that the law was co-authored by Mia Bonta, wife of the current Attorney General. AG Bonta is running against Michael Gates in the November election.

“How long, Lord, shall the wicked; How long shall the wicked triumph?” Ps 94:3

Respectfully,

Lois White, FCCRWF President



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



President Trump honored FCCRWF President Lois White with enrollment in the Republican Presidential Honor Roll in recognition of her “undying commitment, patriotic loyalty and dedication of service to President Trump and the United States of America.”

Sacramento rally to oppose the “Stop Nick Shirley Act,” now California law signed by Governor Newsom, got its message across

By Roberta Genini, Editor

The rally against our new California law, the “Stop Nick Shirley Act,” was well attended in Sacramento, and didn’t lack some thuggery opposition from Antifa. See <https://californiaglobe.com/articles/stop-nick-shirley-act-rally-at-the-california-state-capitol-sends-message-to-capitol-democrats/> for a thorough, quick look at this fine defense of First Amendment rights of speech and press.

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.

August Luncheon Recap

By Billie Sullivan, Assistant Editor



Fresno Republican Women enjoyed another “packed house” luncheon in August and enjoyed our very engaging and informative speaker Don Wagner, Republican candidate for Secretary of State, currently serving on the Orange County Board of Supervisors, District 3.

“No, I’m not running for Marco Rubio’s seat, though I have been asked if that was what I am campaigning for,” Mr. Wagner quipped. He acknowledged that he has not much name recognition, but then neither does his opponent, Democrat Shirley Weber, whose name may only be familiar in passing on voter materials we receive. The problem is the D after her name, which means every one of us must do what we can to support Don Wagner to succeed her.

Shirley Weber is a Newsom appointee who filled the seat left vacant by Alex Padilla, who entered the U.S. Senate as, guess what, a Newsom appointee when Kamala Harris hopped onto the Democratic ticket with Biden to be his vice-president in 2020. This was a Newsom daisy chain of appointments which ended with Kamala as unsuccessful presidential candidate in 2024.

Shirley Weber is on record opposing Proposition 39, Voter ID. “This tells us all we need to know about her fitness to serve,” observed Mr. Wagner. Attendees came away convinced of the importance of the state office of secretary of state and determined to do our part to see Don Wagner elected. Please visit <https://wagnerforcalifornia.com>



WELCOME!

Membership Report

By Peggy Robbins, Membership Secretary, Treasurer

Terrific, ladies! We added seven new members in August, listed [here](#). Also, **Sharon Garabedian** joined us in July but was not acknowledged in the last issue. Please help us welcome these new members and a special new associate member, **Sara Smith**, president of Visalia Republican Women!

Debra Pearce
Jone Phillips
Mary Beth Wynn
Marlene Fugman

Cyndi Tingey
Sally Norcross
Wendy Rose

Please note: September is the last month we do membership registrations until January!

**We exceeded our goal of 200 members!
We hit 217 in August with
18 associate members.**

By Billie Sullivan, Assistant Editor

We have added 99 new members in the first 8 months of 2026.

You have done it, ladies!! Thank you for making this happen by spreading the word and bringing guests to our luncheons. September gives us one more month to register and invite your friends to be included as members for 2026!

WAYS & MEAN\$ is always getting the ball rolling!

By Andrea Shabaglian, Chair, Ways and Means

Please consider joining Ways and Means to 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**

**Monday, October 5, 2026
10:35 a.m. -12:00 Noon**

7110 Fresno Street, Suite 100
Fresno, CA 93720

(A Conference Room on the first floor)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Mailed ballots to go out October 5

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@coomcast.net

America remembers on the 25th anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks on American soil

By Roberta Genini, Editor

By a joint resolution approved December 18, 2001 (Public Law 107-89), the Congress designated September 11 of each year as "Patriot Day." The observance honors the victims of the 2001 terrorist attacks and directs the U.S. flag to be flown at half-staff. It likewise directs moment of silence to be observed. We pray for all those directly and indirectly affected, and that our nation remain always under the protection of Almighty God.

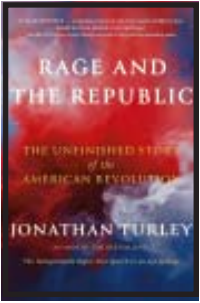
WE WILL NEVER FORGET
9-11 PATRIOT DAY



25th YEAR  ANNIVERSARY

“READ TO KNOW” BOOK CLUB

By Roberta Genini for Emily Wildey, Book Club Secretary and Hostess



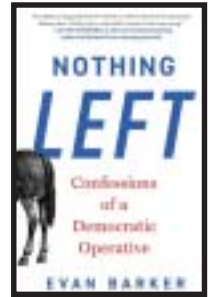
On August 17, nine members met to discuss 1-7 (parts I and II) of *Rage and the Republic: The Unfinished Story of the American Revolution* by Jonathan Turley. The author is familiar from many appearances on Fox News and noted for his evenhanded and numerous testimonies before Congress.

The group found the book very readable with its technique of contrasting the American Revolution of 1776 with the French Revolution of 1789 through the lens of a life story, that of Thomas Paine, writer of the world's first best seller, *Common Sense*, a 47-page political pamphlet that is credited with consolidating the opinions of Americans behind “Independency,”

The author follows Thomas Paine from his struggles in his native England through his many failures, his tragic experiences, his “discovery” in England by Benjamin Franklin, and his rapid rise in America to top “influencer,” although mistaken in his call for a unicameral legislature. It took his rise to “influencer” in the French Revolution as well (where he narrowly escaped the guillotine himself) to convince him that Madison and Adams were right about the need for checks and balances, as built into our Constitution, because pure democracy becomes mobocracy, which in turn ends in the tyranny of one. While France’s revolution brought the single man rule of Napoleon, the American Revolution brought the world’s longest lasting, most stable republican form of government.

Members enthusiastically discussed how the same call for unicameral government (no Senate), no electoral college, and pure democracy is evident today among Democrats, particularly Democratic Socialists of America.

Our next meeting will be **Monday, September 21 from 10:30 a.m. -12:00 p.m.** at 7110 N. Fresno Street, room 100C. We will be discussing Part III to the end 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! The book club’s selection for October is *Nothing Left: Confessions of a Democratic Operative* by Evan Barker. <https://maps.app.goo.gl/ezkLUnwyuFWAL3xS6>



***We remember
Charlie Kirk***

October 14, 1993 -

September 10, 2025

“With them that hated peace

I was peaceable.

**When I spoke to them they fought
against me without cause.”**

Psalm 119:7 (Douay-Rheims version)

**Spontaneous memorial set up at
CSUF within hours of Charlie Kirk’s
assassination a year ago this month.**



September Sunshine from FCCRWF

By Kathleen Lehman, Sunshine Committee

We send our warmest get-well wishes to Assistant Editor **Billie Sullivan** who is recuperating from a recent surgery.

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

Legislative Report

By Gloria Ward, Chairman, Legislative Committee; Allison McAdams, Co-chair; Lacey Phillips, Co-chair

Granted, it is difficult to follow all the candidates, bills, propositions, and new laws throughout our community and nation. However, we can follow some. For California, I would suggest giving Steve Hilton the “big push” over the goal line for governor. He needs our financial resources big time. Second in importance would be support for any and all Republican candidates in California.

CA State Propositions on the November 3 ballot – Some recommendations

4, NO A NO vote keeps current prohibition in place. State and most local governments would remain unable to use public funds for candidates’ campaigns.

39, YES In-person voters would have to show government-issued identification before voting. Mail-in voters would provide the last 4 digits for a government-issued identification number on their ballot, which election officials would verify.

40, NO It could result in billionaires leaving California, reducing expected revenue. It could discourage wealthy people from starting or maintaining a business in California. Valuation of privately held businesses and other assets could be complicated. There are significant constitutional and legal questions surrounding the tax.

43, YES Local special taxes proposed through citizens’ initiatives would require two-thirds voter approval. This would apply to taxes for specific purposes, such as transportation, public safety, schools, or other designated programs. This is a proposition intended to SAVE Prop 13.

Follow the Proposition Voter guide that was given at the last Republican Women’s Luncheon and pass those fliers to anyone you can. Find time to campaign for Republican candidates.

We encourage all of you to attend our monthly Republican Women (and Gentlemen’s) luncheons. Let’s keep the momentum going.

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!

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

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

Please note these important dates for the midterm election November 3:

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

November 10 Last day to receive Vote-By-Mail ballots postmarked no later than November 3.

Remember *Taxman* by George Harrison?
A good one to keep in mind when voting November
3....With just a couple of changes:

One, two, three, four
One, two (one, two, three, four)
Let me tell you how it will be
There's one for you, nineteen for me
'Cause I'm the taxman
Yeah, I'm the taxman
Should five percent appear too small
Be thankful I don't take it all
'Cause I'm the taxman
Yeah, I'm the taxman
I'll tax the street
(If you try to sit, sit) I'll tax your seat
(If you get too cold, cold) I'll tax the heat
(If you take a walk, walk) I'll tax your feet
(Taxman)
'Cause I'm the taxman
Yeah, I'm the taxman
Don't ask me what I want it for
(Ah, ah, Newsom)
If you don't want to pay some more
(Ah, ah, Becerra)
'Cause I'm the taxman
Yeah, I'm the taxman
Now my advice for those who die (taxman)
Declare the pennies on your eyes (taxman)
'Cause I'm the taxman
Yeah, I'm the taxman
And you're working for no one but me (taxman)

Get to Know Your Board

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Gloria Ward and Lacey Phillips

Media & Technology

Roberta Genini and Billie Sullivan

Parliamentarian

Sharon Gerardi

Reservations

Judy Harlan



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

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.

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.

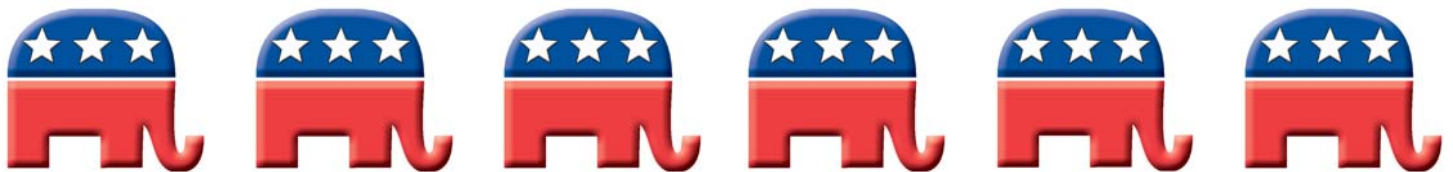
www.nfrw.org tunes us into the National Federation of Republican Woman. Links to legislative and other national concerns on its Face Book page and on X.

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, September 7 Labor Day

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

Friday, September 11 Patriot Day

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

Tuesday, September 15 Deadline to register for FCCRWF September 22 luncheon.

Monday, September 21 FCCRWF "Read to Know" Book Club, 10:30 a.m. -12:00 noon. Information this issue.

Tuesday, September 22 FCCRWF Luncheon, Pardini's, 12:00 noon. Doors open 11:15 a.m. Details this issue.

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) **September 17, October 8, October 22.**

★ Clovis City Council: Council Chambers, 1033 Fifth St, Clovis. Meet on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Mondays at 6:00 p.m. Upcoming Meetings: September 8, 2026 **(Tuesday); September 14, September 21, October 5 (Mondays).**

★ 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: **(Tuesdays): September 8, September 22, October 6, October 20**