

# Elephant Talk

Plano Republican Women

TFRW Region No: 3 Senate District No: 8

December 2022 / January 2023

## President's Byline



As my first year as president passed, I have thought carefully about what this county needs to move forward and become a cohesive, functioning nation. During the Holiday Season, we often see the best of America. We see food and toy drives to help families in need. The news is filled with stories of good Samaritans helping others. We see America at its finest.

On cue, the Biden Administration announced on December 19<sup>th</sup>, they will" take on the homeless crisis "in cities, ironically mostly Democrat run cities. Their first act of compassion towards homeless people or the "unhoused" as they now like to call them, is **not** to develop policies to tackle the homeless humanitarian crisis caused by mental illness, drug abuse and to a smaller extent economic hardship. Instead, they will focus on using "equity, evidence, and data evaluation" to offer housing support, crisis response, and prevention. All of that sounds familiar and it will be for an unnamed price tag that will most likely be in the billions creating more bureaucracy but impacting very few.

The Biden-Harris Administration new project is called All In: The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness, which aims to reduce homelessness 25 % by 2025. They call their plan the "*most ambitious effort by any administration to prevent people from becoming homeless, address inequities that disproportionately impact underserved communities, including people of color and other marginalized groups and help cities* (equity=wealth distribution) and states to reduce unsheltered homelessness.

It will do more than any previous federal effort to systemically prevent homelessness and combat the **systemic racism** that has created **racial** and **ethnic disparities** in homelessness."

This all sounds wonderful and uplifting but let's examine the usual problems with throwing money at complex problems. First, the Biden-Harris Administration want to focus on equity and diversity to fight homelessness. Which means more wealth redistribution not solutions. When the words equity and diversity are used, things are guaranteed to be unequal, racist, and disastrous. If someone is homeless long term, but they are white, will their needs be ignored because they are considered unimportant because of the color of their skin? That use to be called racism.

The All-In program wants to work on prevention by increasing the supply of housing with supportive services. Most big cities are already built out with no available land for large housing projects. Will this include more Section 8 housing by HUD or forcing landlords to extend deadlines on dead beat renters like during COVID, when no one could be evicted and didn't have to prove why they couldn't pay rent. Or will this be like in California where hotels are forced to house the homeless by government decree with little compensation for destroyed property. Is this being *equitable* to small time landlords who own one extra house for a modest income increase? Is this fair to businesses forced to house the homeless against their will?

We have all seen the homeless problem growing in the Dallas and Collin County, they are every where

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## Calendar of Events

**Board Meeting**  
January 3rd, 2023  
Napolli's Restaurant

**NEXT MEETING**  
January 17th, 2023  
PRW General Meeting  
11:30 Saltgrass - East Plano

## PRW Presidents Byline

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on all the major highways and under bridges, sad and destitute. I see people of all colors and ages. In different stages of desperation. Is the best way to help them is to single out a few who would make good photo ops and leave the rest behind? We had less homelessness when society relied on churches and charitable foundations. Faith based foundation work. Government programs only create more government programs.

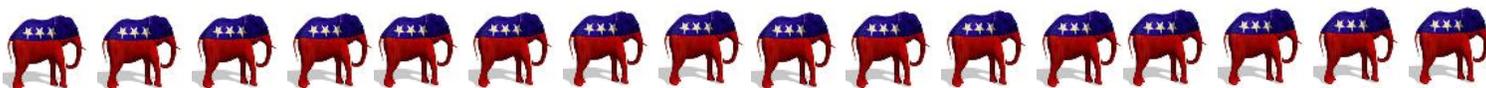
If we really want to come together again as a nation, we will remove the words equity, inclusion, and diversity from our national dialogue. These three little words spread racism, inequity, and undermines the fabric of what it means to be American. By focusing on so called marginalized groups and identity politics, are we really encouraging tribalism and less community interaction with one another. In 2023, it's time we start to examine what is really causing social divisions and unrest in our country.

We need to move forward as one people not a bunch of groups pitted against each other to keep one party or groups of people invested in misery for government profit in business.

Republicans have always stood against tyranny. We were the original abolitionists, Republican women, suffragettes. It's time we move forward with confidence and take down an old evil wrapped in the blanket of equity, and inclusion.

*Cleo Marchese*

[prw\\_president@planorepublicanwomen.org](mailto:prw_president@planorepublicanwomen.org)



The 88th Texas Legislature begins January 10th – and it is time to register for this year's **Legislative Day and our TFRW Capitol outing!**

TFRW's Legislative Day will be held in Austin on Friday, February 3rd, with events at the AT&T Executive Education and Conference Center. Our TFRW Capitol Outing will be on Thursday, February 2nd. Don't wait! We expect this event to sell out! Discounted ticket pricing of \$85 ends on Friday, January 13th. Regular registration is \$110 until Friday, January 20th, when ticket prices will go up to \$135. Ticket sales end Friday, January 27th.

**Don't forget to wear your RED! We look forward to seeing you in Austin!**

### Thursday, February 2nd

10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | Texas State Capitol Outing

- 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. | Members assemble in gallery/TFRW recognized in House chamber (Rep.Noble presents resolution)
  - 11:30 a.m. | Picture on Capitol Steps
- 3:00 – 5:30 p.m. | Early Registration – AT&T Conference Center, Zlotnik Ballroom Foyer  
6:30 – 8:30 p.m. | Capital Crime and Cocktails at Austin Club [Purchase Ticket Here](#)

### Friday, February 3rd

7:15 a.m. | REGISTRATION OPENS – Zlotnik Ballroom Foyer

7:15 a.m. | Breakfast (coffee and muffins/pastries)

8:00 a.m. | Welcome & Meet the Freshman

8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. | Educational Workshops including: Texas Legislature Online, Reliable Sources, Legislative Communication Strategies, Procedure in the House/Procedure in the Senate, Participate in a Mock Hearing

12:30 – 2:00 p.m. | Legislative Luncheon

\*Times are approximate and subject to change

\*\*There is no on-site registration

Please sign up, this is an exciting opportunity here:

[Legislative Day 2023 Tickets, Fri, Feb 3, 2023 at 7:30 AM | Eventbrite](#)

# Holiday High Tea for Plano Republican Women 2022

*Holiday High Tea*  
For  
*Plano Republican Women*

Tuesday, December 6th, 2022  
Time: 2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.  
Chocolate Angel Cafe & Teasoom  
@ High Street Antique Mall  
800 N Central Exp., Plano, TX 75074

Please join us for our Annual Christmas and Hanukkah Celebration at Chocolate Angel Cafe & Teasoom.

Shop, dine and enjoy the musical selections of pianist Carol Sage.

We will announce the Volunteer of the Year and the recipients of the Ann Harrington and Patsy Staudeler awards.

Tickets are \$35. Spouses and friends are welcome.

RVSP by Dec. 1st, to: [rvsp@planoRepublicanwomen.org](mailto:rvsp@planoRepublicanwomen.org)  
Mail your payment to: 4913 Angelina Dr., Plano, TX 75074



# PRW January Meeting



## NEXT GENERAL MEETING: January 17th, 2023

### Dr Dana Myers Vice Chair of the Republican Party of Texas "How Conservatives Win"

Dr. Dana Myers is a Medical Business Consultant for the health law firm Spiers Group. Dr. Myers works with a Texas-based investment and development group working to build a critical need medicine and saline bag manufacturing plant in Texas, rather than depending on China or other foreign countries. Myers received her medical degree from Boston University School of Medicine and completed her general surgery residency at the Michael E. DeBakey Department of Surgery, Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. Dr. Myers was an Associate Clinical Professor of Surgery and taught many surgery residents, medical students, and visiting medical and military medical personnel in the Texas Medical Center.

Dr. Myers is a two-term Vice-Chair of the Harris County Republican Party, former VP Membership for the Texas Federation of Republican Women Executive Board (TFRW), past Regional Director for the Republican Party of Texas/TFRW Strike Force for Harris and the surrounding counties, past HCRP Co-Chair of Engagement, past RPT Communications Task Force member, and two-term President of Magic Circle Republican Women's Club in Houston. Dr. Myers is married to Dr. Jon Spiers, a former Republican General Land Office Candidate, and is a longtime resident of Houston, Texas.

Dr. Dana Myers was elected by the delegates at the Texas State Republican Convention in June 2022 to be the new Vice Chairman of the Republican Party of Texas.

Through her proven leadership, Dr. Myers reorganized, streamlined, and increased transparency in the Harris County Republican party infrastructure during her first tenure as Vice-Chair while supporting and recruiting additional grassroots volunteers. During this time, Dr. Myers also served as the Regional Director of the Republican Party of Texas (RPT)/Texas Federation of Republican Women (TFRW) Voter Engagement Project effort to recruit volunteers from Harris and the seven surrounding counties to register new Republican voters. As part of this statewide effort, many of these volunteers later deployed to battleground districts in Texas during the midterm and general Presidential elections to help with GOTV efforts. This statewide project was responsible for almost 213,000 of the total 318,000 new Republican voter registrations, which managed to be the statistical vote difference to win four critical Texas Republican house seats.

During her second and current term as Vice-Chair of the Harris County Republican Party under Chairman Siegel, Dr. Myers once again helped to build and rebrand the party to increase its community engagement, communication, and voter registration efforts. With her special interest in training, recruitment, and increasing Republican voter turnout, Dr. Myers led an additional effort to recruit, train, and mobilize county and precinct chairs, and volunteers, across Texas using the latest technology.

The new Vice Chair's goal is to continue to strengthen the party, build the party infrastructure to amplify grassroots voices and goals, support the Chairman, party leadership, and the Republican party legislative priorities and platform.

### Location : Saltgrass Steakhouse Plano East

3320 North Central Expressway, Plano, TX 75074

**Time: 11:15 am: Arrive and check-in, 11:30 am: Meeting, Lunch & Program**

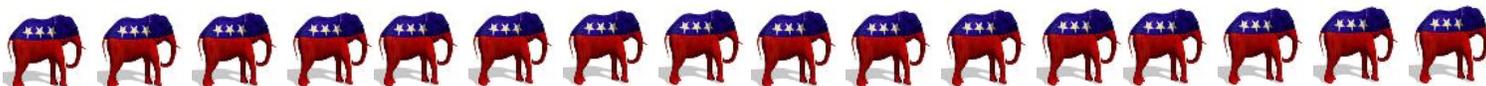
**Lunch is available for \$25.00 with RSVP, cash or check payable to PRW on arrival  
RSVPs for lunch must be made by 5 pm Friday, January 13th, 2023**

RSVPs to attend without lunch may be made up to 5pm the Monday before the Tuesday meeting

*We welcome guests and visitors to our General Meeting. Members, please bring a friend!*

To RSVP send an email to: [rsvp@planorepublicanwomen.org](mailto:rsvp@planorepublicanwomen.org)

Include your name in your email and specify whether you will/will not be having lunch





## Legislative Report

### **McCarthy Scrounges for Votes as G.O.P. Fight Over Speaker Enters Its 2nd Day - New York Times**

*The Republican leader wasn't able to secure a majority after hard-right lawmakers followed through on their threats to oppose him as speaker. That leaves the top job up for grabs as the party takes control of the chamber.*

WASHINGTON — Representative Kevin McCarthy of California grasped on Wednesday for the votes he needs to become speaker after failing three times to win the post, as Republicans began their second day in control of the House without a leader and deadlocked about how to move forward amid a hard-right rebellion.

Mr. McCarthy's successive defeats on Tuesday marked the first time in a century that the House has failed to elect a speaker on the first roll call vote, and it was not clear how or when the stalemate would be resolved. After adjourning abruptly on Tuesday with no leader, the House was set to reconvene at noon on Wednesday to try to resolve the impasse.

The Republican leader and his allies were working behind closed doors trying to secure the votes. Mr. McCarthy said he had spoken to former President Donald J. Trump, who had endorsed him but stayed silent on Tuesday throughout his humiliating series of defeats on the House floor.

"Some really good conversations took place last night, and it's now time for all of our GREAT Republican House Members to VOTE FOR KEVIN," Mr. Trump wrote in a social media post on Wednesday. He beseeched Republicans not to "TURN A GREAT TRIUMPH INTO A GIANT & EMBARRASSING DEFEAT."

"Kevin McCarthy will do a good job, and maybe even a GREAT JOB — JUST WATCH!" Mr. Trump added.

For now, a mutiny waged by ultraconservative lawmakers who for weeks have held fast to their vow to oppose Mr. McCarthy has paralyzed the chamber at the dawn of Republican rule, delaying the swearing in of hundreds of members of Congress, putting off any legislative work and exposing deep divisions that threatened to make the party's House majority ungovernable.

Mr. McCarthy has vowed not to back down until he secures the speakership, raising the prospect of a grueling stretch of votes that could go on for days.

"I'm staying until we win," Mr. McCarthy told reporters between the second and third votes on Tuesday. "I know the path."

House precedent dictates that members continue to vote until someone secures the majority needed to prevail. But until Tuesday, the House had not failed to elect a speaker on the first roll call vote since 1923, when the election stretched for nine ballots.

It was not clear how long it might take for Republicans to resolve their stalemate this time, or whether Mr. McCarthy's had a strategy for coming back from an embarrassing series of repudiations. His supporters suggested he was willing to drag out the process for some time, recognizing that his political career was on the line.

"I think that Kevin knows that this is his last shot, and so he's going to play this as long as" he can, said Representative Ken Buck of Colorado, who voted for Mr. McCarthy three times on Tuesday. "He withdrew once so that he would have this chance. He's not going to have this chance again."

No viable challenger has emerged, but if Mr. McCarthy continues to flounder, Republicans could shift their votes to an alternative, such as his No. 2, Representative Steve Scalise of Louisiana.

On Tuesday, right-wing Republicans coalesced behind Representative Jim Jordan of Ohio, a founding member of the ultraconservative



## Legislative Report

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House Freedom Caucus, as an alternative to Mr. McCarthy, but Mr. Jordan, a onetime rival who has since allied himself with Mr. McCarthy, pleaded with his colleagues to unite instead behind the California Republican.

But the party has so far refused to do so. The failed votes on Tuesday showed publicly the extent of the opposition Mr. McCarthy faces. With all members of the House present and voting, Mr. McCarthy needs to receive 218 votes to become speaker, leaving little room for Republican defections since the party controls only 222 seats.

He fell short again and again, drawing no more than 203 votes — far below a majority and fewer than the votes received by Representative Hakeem Jeffries of New York, the Democratic leader whose caucus remained united behind him.

The failed vote on Tuesday showed publicly for the first time the extent of the opposition Mr. McCarthy is facing in his quest for the speaker's gavel. Nineteen Republicans voted against Mr. McCarthy, instead throwing their support behind other conservative lawmakers.

Some of the defectors had telegraphed loudly that they would oppose Mr. McCarthy, such as Representatives Andy Biggs of Arizona, the former Freedom Caucus chairman, and Matt Gaetz of Florida. For weeks, discussions about defectors centered around a core group of five vocal conservatives.

But many others, such as Michael Cloud of Texas, who voted for Representative Jim Jordan of Ohio, and Josh Brecheen of Oklahoma, a freshman who voted for Representative Jim Banks of Indiana, had floated under the radar, and the number of defectors quickly approached what Mr. McCarthy's team had privately hoped would be the worst case scenario.

What was supposed to be a day of jubilation for Republicans instead devolved into a chaotic display of disunity within the party as it embarks on its first week in power in the House. And it all but guaranteed that even if Mr. McCarthy eked out a victory — an outcome that appeared remote, given the stalemate at hand — he would be a diminished speaker beholden to an empowered right flank

With Democrats holding together behind their leader, Representative Hakeem Jeffries of New York won more votes than Mr. McCarthy did for speaker — 212 to 203 — a symbolic victory since Mr. Jeffries did not have the support to claim the top job, but an embarrassing metric for the California Republican who has been campaigning for the post for years.

During the first vote, Mr. McCarthy sat placidly on the House floor, as an aide next to him, as well as two of his top deputies, quietly tallied the growing stack of votes against him.

In a room in the basement of the Capitol ahead of the vote, Mr. McCarthy privately made the case that the lawmakers opposing him were selfishly disrupting what was supposed to be a day of unity for their own personal gain

Here's my list of the defectors: 10 people (Biggs, Bishop, Clyde, Crane, Gaetz, Good, Gosar, Norman, Perry and Rosendale) voting for Andy Biggs of Arizona; six people (Boebert, Cloud, Luna, Mary Miller, Ogles, Self) voting for Jim Jordan of Ohio; one person (Roy) voting for Byron Donalds of Florida; one person (Brecheen) voting for Jim Banks of Indiana; and one person (Harris) voting for Lee Zeldin, a former representative and unsuccessful candidate for New York governor.

Mr. McCarthy said before the vote that he was prepared to fight for the speakership on the House floor until the very end, even if it required lawmakers to vote more than once. The failed first vote will likely set off a round of haggling, as Mr. McCarthy attempts to win over a critical mass of defectors.

Emily Cochrane, Stephanie Lai and Annie Karni contributed reporting.

# Holiday High Tea for Plano Republican Women 2022







## MLK Holiday Reflection

It is yet another year that we host events and programs. Church speeches are delivered, and school oratorical contests are held. People line the streets to watch parades that take place in honor of the transformational life of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. I am happy that our nation is observing this day in his honor.

However, this is just one day out of 365 days of the year. What I would like for you to consider is not what you are doing on this one day - King Holiday, but what are you doing the other 364 days of the year? To honor Dr. King one day and negate everything he stood for and fought for by living in fear, playing to our lesser angels, and using politics to divide us from our common interest is hypocrisy. I encourage you all to use the King Holiday to prepare yourself to be part of building his legacy.

Therefore, I bid you a happy MLK Holiday, but charge you to live the other 364 days of the year so that his dream doesn't become a nightmare.

Rev. Richie Butler

Project Unity Founder

2022

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[January 16, 2023] we reflect on the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. It is a day to honor a man who dared to sacrifice everything for the betterment of his country and community. A man who spoke wisely about courage, respect, forgiveness, kindness, equality and more. I was proud to learn that despite Senate objections in 1983, it was our beloved Ronald Reagan who signed the MLK holiday into law. Today, let us reflect on the sacrifices of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and also remember that we can use our own voices and experiences to bring positive change to your world.

- Kit Whitehill, TFRW Pres, 2022

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## Remembering Martin Luther King Jr.: 5 things I've learned curating the MLK Collection at Morehouse College

Vicki Crawford. Curator

For most of us, it's the voice that we remember most. We heard it in Washington, D.C. when he talked about a dream. We heard it in Memphis when he talked about a mountaintop.

Majestic in its language, searing in its clarity, it was the voice of Martin Luther King Jr. that underscored his message of non-violent protest that carried him to Oslo, Norway, where he won a Nobel Peace prize at the age of 35 years old.

Rev. King had another voice as well, the one written in countless books, speeches, sermons, essays and newspaper and magazine articles. He was a prolific writer and voracious reader, and the books that fueled his curiosity are part of the enduring legacy that he left behind at his alma mater Morehouse College.

Few archives of historical papers compare with the importance of the Morehouse King Collection. Aside from King's life, the collection chronicles many of the major events that occurred during the civil rights movement.

### An avid reader

King read voraciously across a wide range of topics, everything from the "The Diary of Anne Frank" to "Candide." Of course, he also read about theology and religion and philosophy and politics. But he especially enjoyed literature and the works of Leo Tolstoy.

The Morehouse College Martin Luther King Jr. Collection includes approximately 1,100 books from King's personal library, many with his handwritten notes throughout.

Some of the titles: "Collected Works of Mahatma Gandhi," "Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar," "Deep River: Reflections on the Religious Insight of Certain of the Negro Spirituals" by Howard Thurman, "Invisible Man" by Ralph Ellison, "Kinfolk" by Pearl S. Buck and



# AMERICANISM REPORT

by Ellen Leyrer



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“Moral Man and Immoral Society: A Study in Ethics and Politics” by Reinhold Niebuhr.

Others include “Frederick Douglass, My Bondage and My Freedom,” “Silent Spring” by Rachel Carson, “Prison Notes” by Barbara Deming, “Killers of the Dream” by Lillian Smith and “Here and Beyond the Sunset” by Nannie Helen Burroughs.

## A celebrated writer

Following the 381-day Montgomery bus boycott, which started in 1955, King became a national figure whose ideas and opinions were heavily sought out by book publishers, newspapers and magazines.

He became a prolific writer and authored countless letters – arguably the most famous being “Letter from Birmingham Jail” – as well as several books, among the most notable “Why We Can’t Wait” and “Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community?”

But many Americans may not know that he wrote a regular column in Ebony magazine, the leading black national publication at the time. In his “Advice for Living” column, he took questions from readers and addressed a wide range of subjects, including personal questions about marital infidelity, sexual identity, birth control, race relations, capital punishment, and atomic weapons.

## A follower of Gandhi

In 1959, King and his wife visited India, where King’s commitment to the nonviolent teachings of Gandhi expanded and deepened. King always carried a note with him on a scrap of paper that read “Gandhi Speaks for Us. ...”

## A lover of music

Music formed an important part of King’s life, beginning with his childhood experiences in Ebenezer Baptist Church, where his mother, Alberta Williams King, was the church organist. Alberta King introduced young M.L., as he was called, to music as a child. He later sang solos and sang with the church choir. While a student at Morehouse College from 1944 to 1948, Martin Luther King Jr. sang in the renowned Morehouse College Glee Club as well as the Atlanta University-Morehouse-Spelman Chorus.

Following his marriage to Coretta Scott in 1953, King expanded his world of music even more. He met Coretta in Boston, where she was studying to become a concert soprano at the New England Conservatory of Music. Coretta introduced King to classical music. He came to appreciate both sacred and secular music and enjoyed jazz and blues as well.

Some of King’s favorite hymns and gospel songs included “Take My Hand, Precious Lord,” “How I Got Over,” “Thank You, Lord” and “Never Grow Old.”

King was also a friend to Aretha Franklin and her father, the Rev. C.L. Franklin, and gospel singer Mahalia Jackson. King felt that music was a powerful element in activism and nonviolent protest.

## A Nobel Prize winner

At the age of 35, King was the youngest person, the third African American, and the 12th American, to win the coveted Nobel Peace Prize for his steadfast belief that nonviolence was an integral part of obtaining full citizenship rights for Black people in America.

On Dec. 10, 1964, King announced that he was donating the Nobel Prize money to the civil rights movement.

***Take heart; be encouraged. Stand up, speak up, take action.***

***“Duty is ours. Results are God’s.” -John Quincy Adams.***

There are cycles – life, peace, elections, family, love. We are made to strive. Enjoy the journey.

Supporting troops at home and abroad, <https://www.gop.gov/supporting-our-troops-at-home-and-abroad/>

# TFRW Nuts and Bolts Training



TEXAS FEDERATION  
of  
*Republican Women*



**Register Now for TFRW Region IV**

## **Nuts & Bolts Training** **For All Club Officers and Club Members**

**Saturday, January 21, 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

Hilton Garden Inn Dallas/Richardson, 1001 President George Bush, Richardson  
[map](#)

Featuring:

Republican National Committeewoman Toni Anne Dashiell, NFRW Program Committee Chair Glynis Chester,  
TFRW President Kit Whitehill, Republican Party of Texas Vice Chair Dana Myers  
And many others!

**\$25/person (plus \$2 processing fees) includes lunch**

- General Sessions will cover topics important to every club member - membership, fundraising, campaign activities, awards, and much more!
- Star-studded lunch panel will clarify roles of the "alphabet soup" and how the Federation and Republican Party leadership fit with each other!
- Two Breakout Sessions, each with four program options, will target specific club functions.
- Federation and Republican Party leadership fit with each other!

[Register Here](#)



**Block of hotel rooms available:**

**\$116** - Regular room, 1 king or 2 queen beds

**\$126** - King suite

- Includes breakfast
- All rooms equipped with refrigerator, microwave and Keurig coffee maker

Use **code TFRW** for these special rates.

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# Holiday High Tea for Plano Republican Women 2022



# Elections, It's Not The Votes That Count, It's The Ballots That Count

By Ted Noel

Politics may be a blood sport, but frankly, when the stupid party (Republicans) insists on “issues,” the evil party (Democrats) quietly laughs. When you're at war, you must overwhelm the enemy, and that's what Dems do. With ballots, not votes. Ballots are the lifeblood of politics, while graft is the mother's milk. Get enough ballots, and you win. It's just that simple. Until the Republican Party understands this, it will always lose, and America can't survive much more losing.

Mail in ballots. In-person early vote ballots. Election Day in-person ballots. Ballots that arrive days after the election is “over.” Those are what get counted, and that's not what should be counted. The audit of the Maricopa County election in 2020 recounted all those ballots, and came up with...

Bupkis. The machines did a good job of counting ballots. They couldn't identify bad ballots because that's not what they're built to do. Is the problem that Republicans have “bad candidates?” That's what Cocaine Mitch says. But he's mostly wrong.

Theories about machine errors are a lost cause. We can prove that someone hacked the election, and no Court seems interested. As Ben Franklin supposedly said, “An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.” Or in legal terms, we are better off preventing a legal conflict than trying to resolve one in court.

Republicans try to get voters to the polls, while Democrats really don't care about voters. (You can take that any way you like, and you'd be correct.) They want to get ballots to the polls. Which again proves that Democrats are the evil party while Republicans are the stupid party. You don't fix food poisoning after you're sick. You use good food and cook it properly. The same applies to elections. Therefore, we must start with a [definition](#) that Trump attorney [Jenna Ellis](#) thought was actually important.

“An election is the counting of preferences expressed by eligible, properly registered voters in the time place and manner prescribed by the legislature.”

The first step must be to clean the voter rolls. One tool is databases that list change-of-address, utility service, driver's license changes, and so on. Unfortunately, there's a delay between those events and the time the information shows up. If you want to look a year later, you may get good data, but the election is long past. You can't mount a defense after the enemy has already overrun your position.



Image: [Stacks of ballots in 2016 all addressed to people living in one elderly person's apartment.](#)

One method was used in [Wisconsin](#). Using those databases—again less than timely, but working long before ballots are mailed—they identified 12,555 vacant addresses with registered voters in Dane and Milwaukee counties. Another 29,000 were in the NCOA database. Another 22,500 address errors were found. That's about 60,000 excess voters in just two counties. Donald Trump lost Wisconsin in 2020 by 20,682 “votes”—about one-third of just these excess “voters.” Curiously, after these counties were cleaned up, Republican Ron Johnson was re-elected by 26,718 votes. Did the Dems lose the ammunition they needed to win that battle?

This problem is widespread. [Judicial Watch has identified 353 US counties](#) with more registered voters than voting-age adults. Los Angeles County has 12% more voters than adult citizens. California has 101% of its adults registered. [Judicial Watch had to sue](#) to get the rolls cleaned up.

[Typical voter registration is about 75%](#) of eligible adults, and about 60-70% of them actually vote in a general election. With 30 million adults in California, these numbers indicate almost ten million excess ballots floating around. There's no surprise that Democrats win most elections there. The real surprise is that Republicans win any.

There are simple techniques to pare down the number of phony ballots available. Ground-level surveys can identify [non-residential locations where “voters” are registered](#). Many of these empty lots and businesses [actually voted](#) early and often.

Cutting out these fraudulent ballots would reduce the amount of ammunition available for the Dems to steal elections. But there's more. [We Are Speech](#) has done yeoman research on high tech fraud methods. In one county, just before time to mail ballots out, [zip codes for 31,500 voters were changed](#) in the voter database. Voters still got all of their other mail but not their ballots. A couple of days later, all the zips zipped back to their original number.

In theory, an undeliverable ballot should be returned to the elections office unopened. But are we stupid enough to believe that that's what really happens? Perhaps Democrats had a crew ready before making that zip code switch?

Someone at the local post office for that incorrect zip code was expecting those undeliverable ballots. Maybe, instead of returning them to the voting office as undeliverable, they got put in a box that was picked up and taken to a Democrat party office. Then, suppose that each

# Elections, It's Not The Votes That Count, It's The Ballots That Count

By Ted Noel

Continued from Page 13

of them was opened, "voted," and posted back to the elections office. Presto! Thousands of new Democrat votes appear, and no one knows because the same guy who switched the zip codes switched them back the day after the ballots were mailed out. No one was the wiser, and there were no breadcrumbs to follow to find the fraud. Every ballot was "from" a voter on the rolls.

It might be the perfect crime, but [We Are Speech](#) has people smart enough to look in the right places at the right time. It's quite simple to use computers to compare yesterday's database with today's, looking for changes. This sort of wholesale change is easy to spot, but you must be willing to look. The RNC hasn't bothered to look, and that's criminally negligent. When you compare the millions being spent on advertising, the cost of buying the database every day is chump change. And the Dems are doing it to make sure that they get every available ballot and every Dem voter on their side.

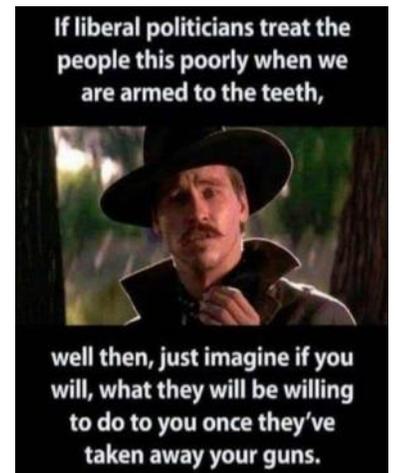
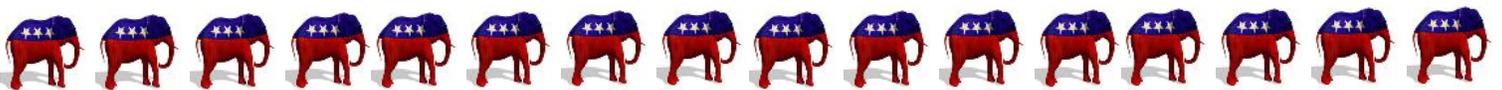
As you can now see, the fix is fairly simple. First, fire Ronna McDaniel. Either Mike Lindell or Harmeet Dillon would immediately start the intervention. Daily database comparisons would uncover this fraud almost everywhere, and local officials would start to see their malfeasance presented in court. The data is incontrovertible, and the scam would dry up as fraudsters find their address changing to the crossbar hotel.

You don't win a war on the front lines. You win it by wiping out the enemy's supply lines. Ukraine has prevailed so far by being able to strike Russian supply depots, preventing its soldiers from having adequate fuel, food, and munitions. We won World War II by obliterating Germany's industrial base with the Eighth Air Force. In the Pacific, our submarines strangled Japan by sinking oil tankers.

In elections, we must wipe out the Democrat supply of loose ballots so that the polls only record legitimate votes. If this happens, there will be a lot of surprise Republican wins, because Democrats won't be able to dump enough extra ballots to overwhelm legitimate votes. This process should begin immediately with the Republican National Committee. Other organizations such as [True the Vote](#) will assist. Ideally, the Secretary of State for every state will begin doing this as a function of proper state oversight. The SoS won't even need legislation. He (or she) can "Just Do It!"

Every time the Dems invent a new scam, we need to identify it soonest. Then we need to employ countermeasures just as quickly. We must win this war by starving the enemy. And make no mistake, the Democrat party is our enemy, not our opponent. They want to destroy us and America. It's time to stop being the stupid party.

*Ted Noel MD is a retired Anesthesiologist/Intensivist who podcasts and posts on social media as DoctorTed and @vidzette. His DoctorTed podcasts are available on many podcast channels.*



# Congress's Hidden Attack on Democracy and the Constitution

Rob Natelson, December 27, 2022

## Commentary

Lying deep within Congress's inflated and inflationary 4,155-page spending package is an attack on both democracy and the Constitution. Congress calls this nasty piece of work the "Electoral Count Reform and Presidential Transition Improvement Act of 2022."

The mainstream media would have you believe this measure merely updates an archaic law and forestalls another Jan. 6-style Capitol riot. They are misleading you.

In fact, this measure cripples state lawmakers' ability to address defective presidential elections. It also tries to re-write the Constitution. The "Electoral Count Reform and Presidential Transition Improvement Act" will foster confusion, injustice, lawsuits, and corruption—or all four.

## The Attack on Democracy

Imagine this hypothetical scenario (which from recent events we know isn't so hypothetical):

In the 2024 election, voters in State X cast ballots for presidential electors. A few days later, the election administrator of State X announces the results. But by then evidence has surfaced showing that the results are wrong: Due to the incompetence of election officials, particularly in the largest county, vote-counting was messed up. The announced tallies are close, but because of the confused situation, no one really knows whether the Republican or Democratic slate won.

Before the passage of this new law, the legislature of State X had several options. It could (1) wait for a recount or order one itself, (2) order a new, snap election limited to presidential electors—probably in early December, either statewide or in the corrupted county, or (3) if a new election is not practical, hold hearings to find out which slate probably won, and appoint that slate as presidential electors.

After the passage of the "Electoral Count Reform and Presidential Transition Improvement Act," the situation becomes radically different. Here are the options the state legislature now has: (1) do nothing and hope someone sues. Period.

It doesn't matter how bad the corruption has been. The new law says the decision of the executive officer is final. That's usually the same person who oversaw the defective election.

In theory, a losing candidate can sue in federal court. But that's unlikely to provide justice: The federal court rules governing post-election cases are too strict. The law effectively bans suits in state courts, even though state judges usually understand local election procedures better than federal judges do.

Thus, presidential election decisions are taken away from the people's elected representatives and are handed to administrators and judges. State lawmakers can do nothing to assure the people's will is respected. That's an attack on democracy.

## The Constitutional Background

The "Electoral Count Reform and Presidential Transition Improvement Act" is also an attack on the Constitution.

As I explained in a [2019 Epoch Times column](#), the Constitution's framers balanced many factors to arrive at a presidential election system that works. Here's a summary of that system:

The Constitution assigns some federal duties to assemblies that aren't part of the federal government. The courts call those duties "federal functions" ([pdf](#)). The Constitution assigns some of these "federal functions" to state legislatures. State lawmakers (1) act in the constitutional amendments process, (2) set the rules for congressional elections, and (3) set the rules for choosing the state's presidential electors. Before the 17th Amendment, the Constitution also empowered state lawmakers to select U.S. senators.

The Constitution says that, within some limits, Congress may override state rules for congressional elections ([pdf](#)). But it may not override state rules for presidential elections. The framers wanted to keep Congress out of presidential elections as much as possible. The risk of corruption was too great.

Accordingly, the Constitution permits Congress to intervene in only three small ways. First, Congress may designate a "time" (necessarily uniform) when we choose electors—that is, Election Day. Second, it may designate one day when the electors vote for the president and vice president. Third, a joint session of Congress under the chairmanship of the vice president counts the electoral votes. This also is a "federal function." This joint session is purely a counting body; it doesn't meet as the nation's legislature.

Under the new law, Election Day continues to be the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, but it changes the day for Electoral College voting from the first Monday after the second Wednesday in December to the following day. That's one part of the law that isn't a problem.

# Congress's Hidden Attack on Democracy and the Constitution

Rob Natelson, December 27, 2022

Continued from Page 15

Except for those three minor exceptions, the Constitution says state legislatures' control over the choice of presidential electors is virtually absolute. In the language of the Supreme Court, it's "plenary." Congress must stay out.

## What Is the 'State Legislature?'

When the Constitution gives a federal function to a state legislature, does "legislature" mean the representative assembly acting alone? Or does it mean the state's entire legislative process, including the governor's signature, initiative and referendum, and judicial review?

The usual answer is "the representative assembly acting alone." This was the rule when the legislatures elected U.S. senators. In 1920, the court announced it was the rule for constitutional amendments. In 1892, the court announced it was the rule for choosing presidential electors ([pdf](#)). The court reaffirmed the 1892 case in 2000 ([pdf](#)) and again in 2020 ([pdf](#)).

The principal exception to the "representative assembly acts alone" principle is in congressional elections. In 2015, the court decided by a 5–4 majority that when setting the rules for congressional contests, "state legislature" includes the entire state legislative procedure, including the governor, voter initiative, etc. ([pdf](#)). But that ruling is up for [reconsideration](#) this year, and it may not survive.

## Congress's Attack on the Constitution

The "Electoral Count Reform and Presidential Transition Improvement Act" attacks the Constitution in three ways. First, it purports to fix in law the procedures for future congressional electoral vote counting sessions. As I explained in a [March 2022 Epoch Times essay](#), federal functions usually can't be regulated by law. Any joint session of Congress can change its procedures on the spot whenever it wants. Still, this aspect of the new law is relatively harmless.

More seriously, the new measure purports to take away power the Constitution gives to state legislatures acting alone and give it to the state executive and the federal courts.

Finally, the new measure tries to deny the state legislature—even with the agreement of the governor and courts—the right to address voting irregularities. It does allow the legislature to respond to "force majeure" events, but that term usually means only natural catastrophes, not voting irregularities. And even in the case of force majeure, Congress now says the legislature must have predicted the emergency by enacting previous legislation!

There's more. Congress's new statute not only requires "the executive of each State" to certify the appointment of electors but also makes that certification binding even if it's clearly wrong.

In addition, the statute's various mandates on the state executives violate the Supreme Court's 10th Amendment precedents. Those precedents say that Congress can't turn state officials into its own servants.

And the law cuts state courts out from adjudicating election disputes, which isn't only foolish—state courts generally know their own election laws better than federal courts do—but may also be another constitutional violation.

So the practical defect in the "Electoral Count Reform and Presidential Transition Improvement Act" is that it likely will increase cases of electoral corruption. The legal defect is that the Constitution assigns power over presidential elections to state legislatures—not to executives, bureaucrats, judges, or Congress.

## Was This Law Really Necessary to Prevent Another Jan. 6?

The answer is "no." To the extent that Jan. 6 rioters were merely trespassing, the answer is better law enforcement: For example, if the police don't want people in a building, then the police shouldn't let them in.

To the extent that the rioters wanted the vice president to stop the electoral vote count, that was impossible. He was the presiding officer of the joint session of Congress. If he tried to stop the proceedings, there would have been an appeal from the floor—that's standard parliamentary procedure. Then the Democratic majority would have reversed his decision.

And after the presidential electors voted on the nationally designated day, it was legally impossible to replace them anyway.

Competent and unbiased constitutional scholars understood all this under prior law. There was no harm in Congress affirming it. But there was no need to attack democracy and the Constitution.

## What Now?

In Congress's rush to cut a deal and continue its inflationary spending orgy, it has attacked a basic constitutional rule honored for over two

# Congress's Hidden Attack on Democracy and the Constitution

Rob Natelson, December 27, 2022

Continued from Page 16

centuries.

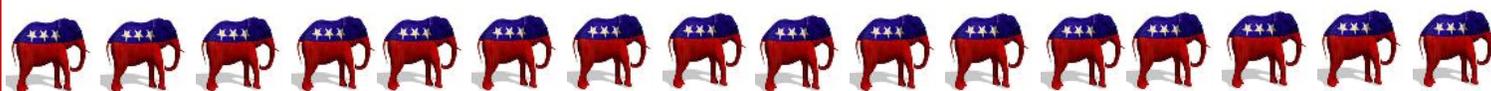
It has attacked every state lawmaker in the country. It has attacked democracy itself.

This is yet another example of congressional dysfunction—passing a huge and faulty bill “so we can see what is in it.” The fact that members of both parties voted for it shows once again that “electing good people,” while always a sound idea, isn't a viable solution for a structural problem.

A cure for congressional dysfunction will require the state legislatures to authorize a convention to propose constitutional amendments imposing term limits and other limits on our runaway Congress. Short of revolution—which no sane person wants—nothing else will suffice.

*Views expressed in this article are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Epoch Times.*

Robert G. Natelson, a former constitutional law professor who is senior fellow in constitutional jurisprudence at the Independence Institute in Denver, authored “[The Original Constitution: What It Actually Said and Meant](#)” (3rd ed., 2015).

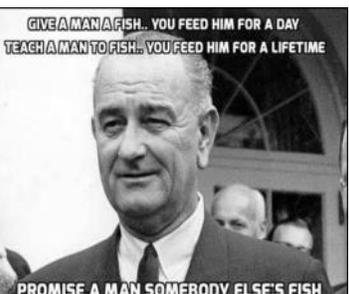
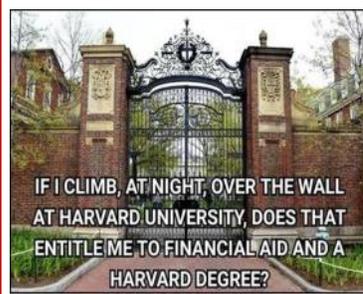


**THE ONLY REASON OUR GOVERNMENT WOULD WANT TO DISARM US AFTER 243 YEARS IS BECAUSE THEY ARE PLANNING ON DOING SOMETHING TO US THAT WE WOULD SHOOT THEM FOR. THAT FOLKS IS THE TRUTH!**

**Jeff Nelson @vegsources**  
Covid is a true killer. So far it's killed the flu, cancer, heart disease - it killed the ability to think, logic & common sense. It killed the economy, the working class, & millions of jobs. It killed millions of businesses, human connection, love and compassion.  
Oversat Tweet  
00.35 - 18.01.2021 - Twitter for iPhone  
1.608 Retweets 97 citat-Tweets 3.015 likes

**WITH THE USA SO DIVIDED I'M JUST GLAD TO BE ON THE SIDE THAT BELIEVES IN GOD, HAS THE MOST GUNS, AND KNOWS WHICH RESTROOM TO USE**

**IMAGINE IF YOU WILL A WORLD WHERE EVERY TWEET AND MEME MUST BE FACT-CHECKED, BUT NOT A BALLOT. They call it the Twilight Zone**





# Constitutional Minute Series

## The Respect For Marriage Act

By Jennifer Groysman

On December 13, 2022, the President signed the Respect for Marriage Act into law. This act has been called the Gay Marriage Rights Act or the Marriage Equality Act. What it should be called is The Repeating of Article Four Act or the Repeal of the Unconstitutional Defense of Marriage Act.

The Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) was signed into law on September 21, 1996 by President Bill Clinton. The law was a response to the [Supreme Court of Hawaii's](#) opinion that the state must show a compelling interest in prohibiting same-sex marriage. This decision prompted concern among those who feared that same-sex marriage would become legal in Hawaii, and that other states would be compelled to recognize those marriages under the Article IV, [Full Faith and Credit Clause](#), of the [United States Constitution](#).

Article IV Section 1 of the Constitution says, "Full Faith and Credit shall be given in each State to the public Acts, Records, and judicial Proceedings of every other State. And the Congress may by general Laws prescribe the Manner in which such Acts, Records and Proceedings shall be proved, and the Effect thereof." This section is why birth certificates, divorce decrees, Judicial decrees, and marriage licenses from one state are accepted in all states. In general this section makes perfect sense. Imagine the chaos that would ensue if one state did not accept the birth certificates or divorce decrees from another state. You could be divorced in one state and married in another to the same person.

DOMA was a clear violation of Article IV. DOMA basically said that the federal government would only recognize marriage licenses for heterosexual couples. It also said that other states don't have to recognize marriage licenses between non-heterosexual couples. This was totally unconstitutional and in 2013 the Supreme Court in *United States v. Windsor*, found Section 3 of DOMA, which denied federal recognition of a valid same-sex marriage license from the state of NY unconstitutional.

If a state doesn't want to accept lawful public records (marriage licenses) from another state, the Constitution must be amended. Congress cannot amend the Constitution by passing a law. Yet that is what it tried to do with DOMA. The only thing the Respect for Marriage Act did was to repeal an unconstitutional law (DOMA).

The government was not always in the marriage business. For most of US History, marriage was under the jurisdiction of religion and houses of worship would issue certificates proving the sacrament of marriage took place. In the Jewish faith we have a marriage contract called a Ketubah. According to my research, States that required couples to register their marriage would bring in the certificates from their houses of worship after the wedding took place. It was not until 1913 that the federal government formally recognizes marriage in law for the first time with the passage of the [Revenue Act of 1913](#) (an income tax law). To file as a married couple you had to prove you were lawfully married. After this law, States that had never issued marriage licenses started to. Some states started issuing marriage licenses with the requirement the couple get blood tests to prove both people did not have syphilis. By 1929 all states issued marriage licenses to couples. Rabbis, Priests, Ministers, and other faith leaders who wanted to legally marry couples had to get licensed by a state to do so. Have you ever noticed the person that marries couples say, "By the Power vested in me by the state of \_\_\_\_" (fill in the name of a state) at the end of the ceremony? People of faith, who wanted the benefits of government legally recognized marriage, demanded their faith leaders get licensed to perform them. This is when marriage went from the control of religion to the control of the government in this country. If you don't like the idea of governments defining marriage, religion must take back their power over it. Couples who want to be married in the eyes of their Lord can go to their faith leaders to get married in a faith based ceremony. If they want the government to recognize their union, they can be married by a judge or other representative of government.

The state of Alabama got out of the marriage licence business. In 2019 the state passed the Act 2019-340 which basically says people wishing to become married are no longer required to file an application for a marriage license with the county probate court, and the courts will no longer issue marriage licenses. Alabama probate courts will now be required to record marriage certificates from couples. So, Alabama has given back marriage to religion, where it should be. The only thing the Respect for Marriage Act does in regards to those marriage certificates in Alabama is the same thing Article IV does, makes every state accept those certificates that are recorded with the county courts.

# In the Season of Birth, Say No to the Culture of Death

Roger Kimball, December 27, 2022

## *Commentary*

Since Christmas is a holiday celebrating birth, I thought I would say a few words about the opposite current in our culture: that celebration of death known to the world under the antiseptic name of “euthanasia.”

Wesley J. Smith has frequently dilated in these pages on the normalization of this most abnormal practice, most recently in a column called [“Euthanasia Without Brakes.”](#)

Smith recalled that he had predicted in his very first column on the subject way back in 1993 that what was then called “assisted suicide” would promptly lead to a burgeoning business in organ harvesting.

He was widely dismissed as alarmist.

But here we are.

In Canada, you don’t have to be at death’s door in order to be killed by the state. Anyone can play.

The ironically named “Trillium Gift of Life Network” in Ontario, Smith reports, doesn’t offer suicide prevention.

On the contrary, it reaches out to “the soon-to-be-killed ... to ask for their heart, liver, and kidneys.”

It’s not only Canada, of course.

The Netherlands might be the world capital of euthanasia (though China probably holds the world record for organ harvesting).

[“Euthanasia”](#) is Greek for “good death.”

Many doctors have long colluded with death by silently upping the dosage of morphine or some other sedative for terminally ill patients who no longer wish to live.

But by legalizing euthanasia, one sets foot on the road to normalizing it.

I believe that the Netherlands was the first country, in the West anyway, to officially legalize the practice.

What should we think of that decision?

I believe we should think badly of it.

It’s easy, of course, to imagine plenty of circumstances in which we would rather die than be allowed to linger.

And it’s because we can easily imagine ourselves or someone we love in a hopeless condition of unbearable pain or degeneration that we—most of us, anyway—are reluctant to be too severe about the “unofficial” euthanasia that has always been practiced.

But granting euthanasia the patent of legality is very different from tolerating a practice we know to be ethically questionable.

In the one case, we make due allowance for human frailty and the weakness of the flesh.

In the other, we arrogate to ourselves—or to a medical bureaucracy—the right to end life when it’s deemed to be inconvenient.

Almost everyone has at least an intuitive grasp of this distinction.

Even the Dutch appeared to have some qualms about the step they took in voting to legalize euthanasia.

Consider the vague and somewhat tortuous language in which they set forth the conditions under which it would be legal for a doctor to kill a patient.

According to [a news report](#) at the time, “Patients must face a future of unbearable, interminable suffering and must make a voluntary, well-considered request to die. Doctor and patient must be convinced that there is no other solution, another physician must be consulted, and life must be ended in a medically appropriate way.”

Anyone can see that this list begs as many questions as it answers.

Who is to say what is “unbearable” suffering?

What counts as a “well-considered request to die?”

# In the Season of Birth, Say No to the Culture of Death

Roger Kimball, December 27, 2022

Continued from Page 19

How can we tell if doctor and patient are “convinced” that there is “no other solution”? (Ominous word, “solution.”)

What is a “medically appropriate” way to end life, Hippocrates? (Presumably the patient would not be shot with a gun, but with a hypodermic.)

The fuzzy language surrounding the law does tell us something.

In part, perhaps, it’s simply a way of insulating the medical establishment from legal redress by aggrieved family members.

But I also suspect that the tortuous language points to a recognition, however partial, that when we talk about power over life and death we are talking about a morally fraught issue.

Whenever the topic of euthanasia is broached, someone is sure to bring in the Nazis and their practice of killing the old, the mentally ill, the disabled.

That abuse was indeed horrific.

But there’s an important sense in which the whole question of the “abuse” of euthanasia is a red herring.

It’s a red herring because it distracts us from the deeper issue, namely, that the problem with euthanasia is not its abuse but its use.

What I mean is this: By legally sanctioning euthanasia we at the same time sanction a view of human life that is superficial at best and morally repugnant at worst.

At bottom, it’s a view of life that reduces the good to a calculus of pain and pleasure.

Life is held to be worth living to the extent that its pleasures outweigh its pains.

One problem with this philosophy of life is that it erases the claims of everything whose reality isn’t susceptible to the pleasure-pain calculus.

Considerations of honor, of virtue, of patriotism, of the sanctity of life: such values are what make us human.

And all such things are either ruled irrelevant or are redefined in such a way that they no longer exhibit their original weight and density. (If we try to define honor in terms of pleasure and pain, as some philosophers have done, we wind up with someone that has precious little to do with honor as traditionally conceived.)

I would hesitate to prosecute a doctor who, with the collusion of a dying patient, prescribed somewhat generous doses of morphine.

But by legalizing euthanasia we have taken a step down the road toward moral nihilism.

We have given aid and comfort to those for whom “the sanctity of life” is an empty phrase and who regard questions of honor and virtue as negotiable conventions, without intrinsic worth.

There’s much in our culture that conspires to encourage this dark and superficial view of humanity.

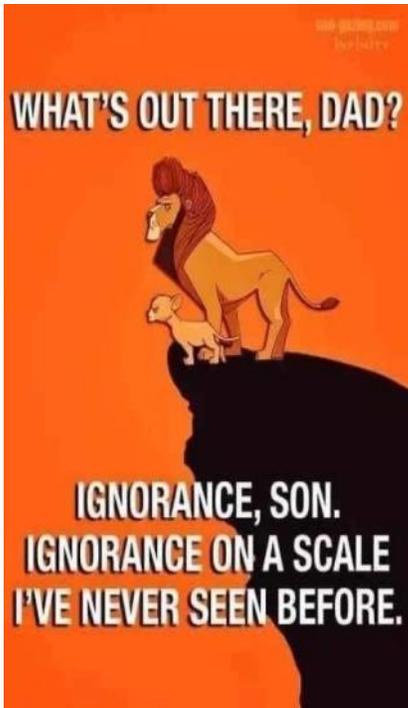
It behooves us to resist the inroads of nihilism by withholding the sanction of the law from practices that, however exigent, are never less than morally problematic.

By voting to legalize euthanasia, we have given a hostage to the very force we had hoped to placate: death.

*Views expressed in this article are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Epoch Times.*

Roger Kimball is the editor and publisher of The New Criterion and publisher of Encounter Books. His most recent book is “The Critical Temper: Interventions from The New Criterion at 40.”

# Political Cartoons



## UNDERSTANDING DEMOCRAT TERMS

Democratic Socialism = Socialism  
 Toxic Masculinity = Straight White Male  
 Political Correctness = Controlling Speech  
 Assault Weapon = Any Gun  
 Identify as = Pretending to be  
 Pro-Choice = Legalized Murder  
 Undocumented = Illegal or New Voter  
 News Reporting = Liberal Talking Points  
 Climate Change = Another Tax Opportunity  
 Inequality = Your money should be theirs  
 Racist, Fascist, Nazi = Anybody who disagrees with liberals.

IF 10 THOUSAND RUSSIANS CROSSING THE UKRAINE BORDER IS AN INVASION, THEN WHY ISN'T THE 2 MILLION PEOPLE CROSSING THE AMERICAN SOUTHERN BORDER NOT CALLED AN INVASION?



DAILYSSQUAT.COM  
Circuses struggling to find new clowns as top prospects continue to go into politics

**Friendly reminder that you're supposed to \*eat\* your vegetables - not elect them as President**



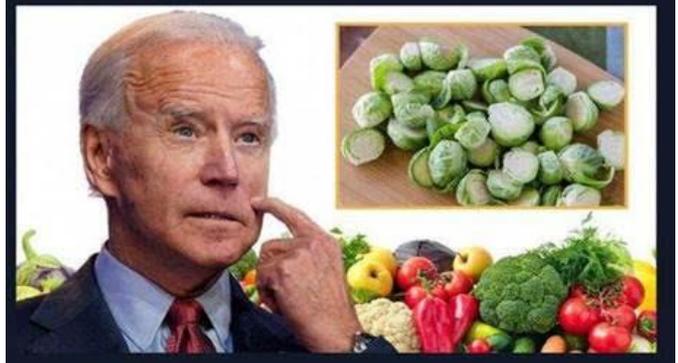
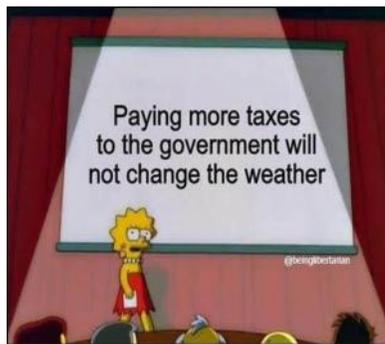
YOU CAME HERE FROM THERE BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T LIKE IT THERE, AND NOW YOU WANT TO CHANGE HERE TO BE LIKE THERE. YOU ARE WELCOME HERE, ONLY DON'T TRY TO MAKE HERE LIKE THERE. IF YOU WANT TO MAKE HERE LIKE THERE, YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE LEFT THERE IN THE FIRST PLACE.  
- Anonymous

You do realize that Democrats voted to penalize citizens if they didn't buy insurance and now offer it free to illegals  
 🤔  
**LET THAT SINK IN**

## Joe Biden Beats Out Brussels Sprouts For America's Least Favorite Vegetable

Politics  
January 28th, 2022 - BabylonBee.com

"They don't ban hate speech; they ban speech they hate." ~ Elon Musk.



# The Existential Threat From Communist China: Insights From a Former FBI Crisis Officer

By John Mac Ghlionn, December 27, 2022

## Commentary

The [threat](#) from communist [China](#) is real.

A quick look at The U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission's (USCC) [annual report to Congress](#) confirms this. The agency has identified various threats to the country, including the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) ever-evolving cyberwarfare and espionage campaigns. The report emphasizes the CCP's desire to become a "cyber superpower."

In this race for cyber dominance, China possesses "an asymmetric advantage over the United States," largely because Beijing remains unwilling "to play by the same rules," according to the report. CCP-backed cyber operatives now "pose a serious threat to U.S. government, business and critical infrastructure networks in the new and highly competitive cyber domain." As China continues to develop "sophisticated offensive cyber capabilities," the United States must prepare itself for [intellectual property](#) theft at an "industrial scale."

The alarm is being sounded, but is anyone actually listening?

For further comment on the threat from the Chinese regime, I reached out to [Jim DiOrio](#), a former [FBI](#) crisis manager who is very familiar with [the CCP's activities](#). A man who dedicated much of his life to assessing threats from abroad, DiOrio told me the regime is certainly "the biggest threat facing this generation and America's future generations."

The CCP, he added, is "ruthless, cutthroat, and committed in every aspect of what society considers 'success.'" Echoing the USCC report, DiOrio insists that "they are worthy adversaries who follow no rules but their own." The CCP has "threatened our health, our way of life, and our security." Rather worryingly, the threats, according to DiOrio, go well beyond cyberwarfare.

This brings us to Mexico, a country with close ties to China. As you read this, Mexican cartels are [busy killing Americans](#) with fentanyl and other synthetic opioids. Last year, [about 71,000 people died](#) from overdosing on these drugs that are designed to mimic the effects of natural opioids. This year saw overdose deaths rise by [some 15 percent](#). As I [have documented](#), although the drugs come from Mexico, the ingredients come from China.

DiOrio noted that China is a "huge supplier of products that are used to produce deadly, illegal drugs—especially fentanyl—that is killing our citizens at a more than absurd rate." Moreover, he added, "the CCP launders money for the drug cartels—that is a fact."

He's right. [It does](#).

An Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agent checks pedestrians' documentation at the San Ysidro Port of Entry in San Ysidro, Calif., on Oct. 2, 2019. China was the first country to manufacture illegal fentanyl for the U.S. market, but the problem surged when trafficking through Mexico began around 2005. (Sandy Huffaker/AFP via Getty Images)



Meanwhile, less than 50 miles southeast of the Florida coast, the CCP also exerts a nefarious influence. Home to white sandy beaches and [cryptocurrency con artists](#), the Bahamas is also home to [countless Chinese investments](#). Of all the investments there, DiOrio encourages Americans to check out the Baha Mar, a 1,000-acre resort that oozes opulence. Built by Beijing-backed contractors, the CCP [views the resort](#) as a "state-owned asset." The CCP, in DiOrio's opinion, "is trying its best to damage the U.S. relationship with the Bahamas to exploit Bahamians and their proximity to the U.S."

Again, he's right. [It is](#).

Sadly, its efforts appear to be working. Last year, the Bahamian government signed a multimillion-dollar [economic and technical agreement](#) with Beijing. On closer inspection, right across the Caribbean region, from [Grenada](#) to [Saint Vincent and the Grenadines](#), the CCP is investing heavily. This has been the case for [more than a decade](#). If China can't control the United States directly, it will do all in its power to control its neighbors.

China's [extended spending spree](#) in the Caribbean (as well as [Africa](#) and [the Middle East](#)) appears to be part of a broader push to control the world's ports. Considering [90 percent](#) of the world's goods are carried by sea, this is a point that is worth repeating. In the Bahamas,

# The Existential Threat From Communist China: Insights From a Former FBI Crisis Officer

Continued from Page 22

By John Mac Ghlionn, December 27, 2022

China has [invested billions](#) in the Freeport Container Port, the country's largest port. The CCP has also paid tens of millions to [construct a port](#) off the Bahamian island of Abaco.



Downtown Nassau, Bahamas, on Dec. 3, 2022. (Nicholas Ewing/ The Epoch Times)

As is clear to see, China is undermining the United States on many fronts. Unfortunately, if Joshua Kurlantzick, a senior fellow for Southeast Asia at the Council on Foreign Relations and author of "[Beijing's Global Media Offensive: China's Uneven Campaign to Influence Asia and the World](#)," is to be believed, it has gotten plenty of help from U.S. media outlets.

In [a recent interview](#) with Radio Free Asia, the researcher discussed how the CCP has used "pernicious advertorials" to influence the American public. The CCP has put "China Watch inserts," little more than [glorified propaganda](#), into a host of major publications, he cautioned. These include the likes of The Wall Street Journal and the LA Times. This is part of Beijing's desire to create and control the overarching narrative.

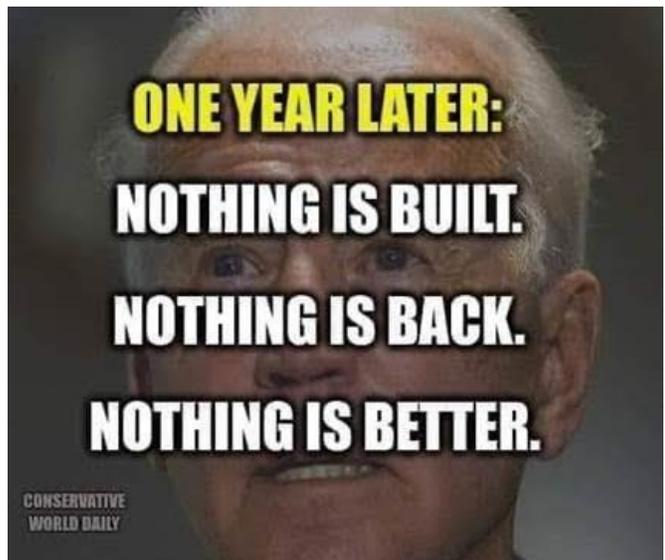
Regarding the dangers from China, I asked DiOrio, what, if anything, has the U.S. government gotten right. "Right, hmmm, not really sure," he responded. Not exactly an answer that should fill any American reader with a sense of comfort.

All, though, isn't completely lost. The FBI, he told me, "has really upped their efforts when it comes to investigating and prosecuting targets. We have learned more and more about the CCP's tradecraft and techniques."

Of course, the fact that the FBI is dedicating more resources to analyzing the threat from the Chinese regime is worth celebrating. However, one can't help but feel that this fresh sense of urgency has arrived about a decade too late.

*Views expressed in this article are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Epoch Times.*

John Mac Ghlionn is a researcher and essayist. He covers psychology and social relations, and has a keen interest in social dysfunction and media manipulation. His work has been published by the New York Post, The Sydney Morning Herald, Newsweek, National Review, and The Spectator US, among others.



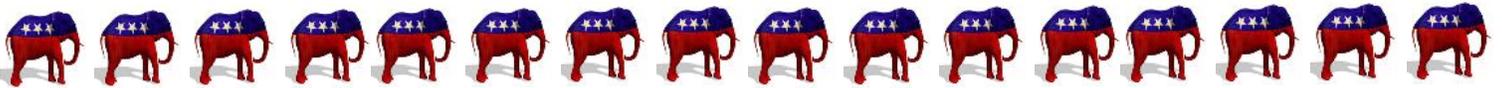
## You Are Invited to Join *Connections*



*Connections* was formed to help members get to know one another over a glass of tea and to complete a common goal. Join us after the **January General Meeting** luncheon at Saltgrass.

If you remember, bring a writing pen, pair of scissors, and stapler and you will be prepared for *any* task (arrive at the meeting and realize you've forgotten your supplies, no worries; extras will be available). Come sip tea or water and chat while working together on a task.

*"The tasks may change but the **Connections** will last."*



### PRW Caring for America, Brown Bag Project is underway!



*The January General Meeting is the last month to donate your school supplies to the The Brown Bag Project.*

PRW provides needed SPRING SEMESTER school supplies to a Plano elementary school with a large population that is eligible for subsidized lunches (Title 1).

Please help these students to finish the year well by donating:

- Crayola crayons, 24 Count
- Glue Sticks, Small
- Watercolor Paints with Brushes
- Large pink Erasers
- Crayola Washable Markers (8 or 10 count)
- Package(s) of Construction Paper, Assorted Colors , 12" x 18" (80 sheets)
- Box(es) of Facial Tissues (250 count box)
- #2 Yellow/~~Wood~~ Pencils Sharpened with Erasers (12 Pack)



## Guest GOP Elected Official Article

### Texas Secretary of State Releases 2020 Election Audit Report

Texas Secretary of State John Scott has released his office's Final Report on Audit of 2020 General Election in Texas. The audit was commissioned following the 2020 general election to "ensure that all Texas voters can have confidence in the elections systems in our state." It was conducted by the Forensic Audit Division (FAD) of the Texas Secretary of State's office over the past year, and examined election results in Collin, Dallas, Harris, and Tarrant counties, which represent the two most populous Republican counties and the two most populous Democrat counties in Texas.

Included in the report's findings are some strong words of affirmation for our Collin County Elections Department:

"Collin County proved to be the model of how to run elections in Texas. While not perfect, the county's records management, record quality, and procedures were unmatched."

December 2022

(Final Report, page 9)

Texas Secretary of State  
Final Report on Audit of  
2020 General Election in Texas

The FAD reviewed and evaluated many facets of the 2020 general election, including:

Polling location and tabulation data to perform basic reconciliation of the data on as many levels as possible from poll book check-ins through the canvass process, and all points in between, to ensure that the number of voters accepted matched the number of ballots cast;

The physical security of election equipment;

The adequacy of the counties' training materials;

The ballot-by-mail process in detail to ensure that ballots were issued and returned appropriately;

The provisional balloting process;

Certain aspects of voter registration, including whether or not voters were registered at non-residential addresses; and, Complaints concerning the 2020 General Election received by the four counties and the Texas Secretary of State.



Submitted by:  
John B. Scott - Texas Secretary of State  
Chad Ennis - Director of Forensic Audit Division  
Jacqueline Hagan Dwyer - Deputy & Legal Director of  
Forensic Audit Division



I invite everyone to download the full report or review the executive summary, both of which are available from the Texas Secretary of State. Here are some additional excerpts from the final report.

"Key Findings. When the Texas Election Code and local procedures are followed, Texas voters should have a very high level of confidence in the accuracy of the outcome of Texas elections." (page 6)

"Machines & Software. All voting equipment utilized by the four counties was certified by the Texas Secretary of State's office." (page 14)

"Security. Only one county – Collin – had a contingency plan in place that involved contacting the Texas Secretary of State's office in the event of an emergency or disaster." (page 33)

"Training. Overall, the four counties provided adequate training materials for election workers that addressed the statutory requirements in the Texas Election Code." (page 51)

"Collin County provided training materials that addressed every aspect of the election, and they also provided helpful videos that broke down parts of these trainings. The videos that Collin County provides to its poll workers add an extra layer of instructions regarding the election process." (page 58)

The report includes other findings that demonstrate additional room for improvement, and I assure you that our team at Collin County will be working diligently to make improvements.

Kudos to Collin County Elections Administrator Bruce Sherbet and his entire team in the Collin County Elections Department! Well done!

This article was courtesy of County Judge Chris Hill

# Political Action Hours

By Political Action Chair Jennifer Groysman



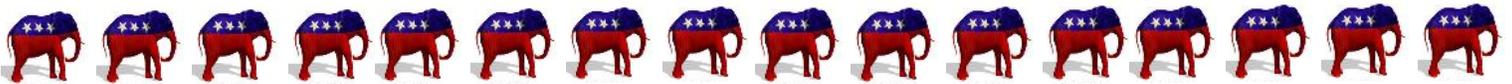
## Political Action Hours Report By Jennifer Groysman (PAH Chair)

As of December 20<sup>th</sup> our members and associates have accumulated 10,204 hours for 2022. Fantastic job everyone. If you have not sent me your hours please do so before January 1<sup>st</sup>. You can submit them on our website, [www.planorepublicanwomen.org](http://www.planorepublicanwomen.org) .

If you are an elected official, and your salary from that job is not your primary income, you can submit all your hours working that job as political Action Hours.

I would like to wish everyone a Happy Hanukkah, a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year. See you all in 2023.

**Keep the challenge going! 10 hours per month!**



 **Senator Rand Paul**   
@RandPaul

Speaking of which, buried in the foreign aid reports last year, I discovered something — we give foreign aid to China. So government is so dumb, it is literally borrowing money from China, to give it back to China, while paying interest on it.

**America's #1 New Weight Loss Plan**

 **VOTE DEMOCRAT**

- food shortages
- empty shelves
- prices you can't afford

"I voted Democrat and went from 165 lbs to 80 lbs in 6 months! Communist revolution makes it easy to lose weight fast!" - Useful Idiot

**Studies show starvation is the fastest way to lose weight!**  @fireduptxlawyer

why does cancel culture...



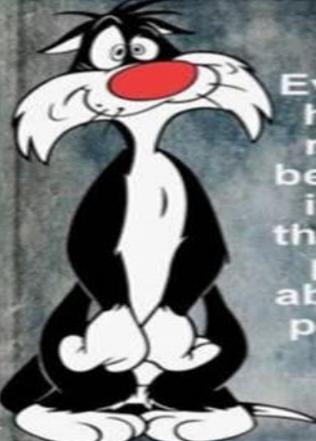
WE WILL ABOLISH...  
BOOKS THAT WE DON'T LIKE!  
THOUGHTS WE DON'T LIKE!  
RELIGION WE DON'T LIKE!  
THE PEOPLE WE DON'T LIKE!

sound so familiar?

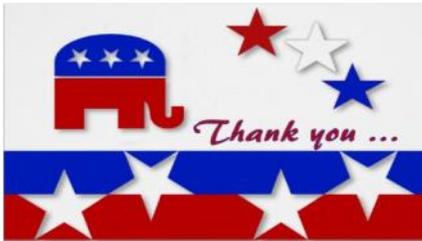
The ability to speak several languages is an asset, but the ability to keep your mouth shut in any language is priceless.



 HIGHER PERSPECTIVE  
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Everyone has the right to be stupid, it's just that some people abuse the privilege



# PRW PATRONS



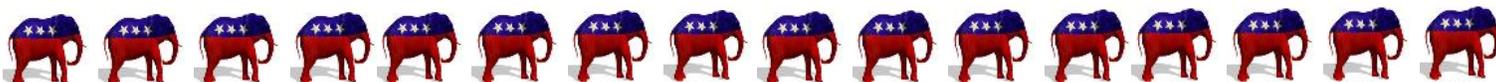
## Many Thanks To Our Club Patrons



**These members have donated \$100.00 in cash, given items to the club, or paid budgeted expenses valued at \$100.00 or more.**

**Debby Arrant  
Catherine Gibb  
Gerry Hudman  
Cleo Marchese**

**Lisa Babb  
Jennifer Groysman  
Donna Krauss  
Lynn McCoy**



## Membership Update



**Now accepting Renewals and New Memberships for 2023!**

In 2022, PRW set a goal to have 100 members, we surpassed this and have 102 members for 2022!

We hope that 2023 will bring even more women in to network and work together for Republican values and Republican candidates!

Membership dues can be paid at the meeting (via cash or cheque) or can be mailed to the PRW Post Office Box.

The Membership form is included in the newsletter, printed copies are available at the meetings.

### Memberships:

- \$40 Full Active Single Membership (PRW receives \$15, TFRW and NFRW receive \$25)
- \$45 Full Active Membership with Spouse
- \$25 Associate Membership – for Men or Active Members of other Republican Women Clubs
- \$20 Young Affiliate (young woman, age 10-17)
- \$140 Patron Member (includes Full Active Single Membership)
- \$145 Patron Member with Spouse

Check out the Frequently Asked Questions on our website:  
<http://www.planorepublicanwomen.org/frequently-asked-questions.html>

The next time you see these sponsors —shake their hand.

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
DISTRICT 67

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Court Administrator, Shannon Reynolds • Court Reporter, Stephanie Hunn  
Bailliff, Shane Capps

**Chris Hill**

Texas Conservative ➔ Collin County Judge

[www.chrishill.us](http://www.chrishill.us)




**Susan Fletcher**  
CONSERVATIVE  
REPUBLICAN  
Collin County Commissioner Pct. 1

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**Cheryl Williams**  
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jdwebb@collincountytexas.gov • www.collincountytexas.gov



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SHERIFF

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972.547.5303 Fax

sheriffskinner@collincountytexas.gov  
www.collincountytexas.gov/sheriff

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plano.gov



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Plano, TX 75074

P.O. Box 860358  
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**Officers and Birthdays**

**PRW OFFICERS for 2023**

- Cleo Marchese, President**  
[President@PlanoRepublicanWomen.org](mailto:President@PlanoRepublicanWomen.org)
- Jessica Bartnick, 1<sup>st</sup>. VP Programs**
- Lisa Babb, 2<sup>nd</sup>. VP Membership**  
[RSVP@PlanoRepublicanWomen.org](mailto:RSVP@PlanoRepublicanWomen.org)
- Debby Arrant, 3<sup>rd</sup> VP Awards**
- Catherine Gibb, 4th VP, Ways and Means**
- Semida Voicu, Recording Secretary**
- Sheila Patterson, Corresponding Secretary**
- Lynn McCoy, Treasurer**



**PLEDGE TO THE TEXAS FLAG**

**HONOR THE TEXAS FLAG; I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THEE, TEXAS, ONE STATE UNDER GOD, ONE AND INDIVISIBLE.**



**January Birthdays**

**Member Birthdays:**

<b>Madelon Issaeff</b>	<b>1/6</b>
<b>Sue Wood</b>	<b>1/9</b>
<b>Cathie Alexander</b>	<b>1/15</b>
<b>Peggy Threadgill</b>	<b>1/18</b>
<b>Lynn McCoy</b>	<b>1/26</b>
<b>Joan Hart</b>	<b>1/30</b>
<b>Joan Toplicar</b>	<b>1/30</b>
<b>Gela Ross</b>	<b>1/31</b>

**Associates & Sponsors Birthdays:**

<b>Pam Little</b>	<b>1/4</b>
<b>Cheryl Williams</b>	<b>1/8</b>
<b>Liesl Ricciardelli</b>	<b>1/14</b>
<b>Larry Little</b>	<b>1/21</b>
<b>Robert Groysman</b>	<b>1/24</b>
<b>Ann Huffines</b>	<b>1/28</b>



Please mail this form with your check made payable to PRW:

Plano Republican Women  
P. O. Box 940461  
Plano, Texas 75094

CORPORATE CHECKS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED

## PLANO REPUBLICAN WOMEN MEMBERSHIP FORM

**Year: 2023**

### Memberships:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$140 Patron Member (includes Full Active Single Membership)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$145 Patron Member with Spouse (includes Full Active Membership with Spouse)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$40 Full Active Single Membership (PRW receives \$15, TFRW and NFRW receive \$25)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$45 Full Active Membership with Spouse

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25 Associate Membership - for Men or Active Members of other Republican Women Clubs

\_\_\_\_\_ \$20 Young Affiliate (young woman, age 10-17)

### Additional (Optional):

\_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00 Magnetic PRW Name Tag      \_\_\_\_\_ \$4 Mail Delivery of the annual PRW Membership

TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_ Check #: \_\_\_\_\_

### PRW Membership Directory

Please provide the information to be included in the PRW Membership Directory

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City Zip code + 4

Phone numbers: (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Office) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Email\* \_\_\_\_\_ Precinct# \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday (month & day) \_\_\_\_\_

Associate Member Spouse Email\* \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday (month & day) \_\_\_\_\_

\* Email is used for newsletters and other PRW announcements

The information requested below is required by the Texas Ethics Commission:

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Employer \_\_\_\_\_



Plano Republican Women  
P.O. Box 940461  
Plano, TX 75094



## Plano Republican Women

meet the 3rd Tuesday of every month  
(except June, July & December)

Saltgrass Steakhouse Plano East

3320 North Central Expressway

Plano, TX 75074

11:15 am check-in

11:30 am meeting, lunch and program

Lunch is \$25 payable to PRW (Cash or Check) at the door.

You do not have to have lunch to attend,

But please RSVP to

[rsvp@planorepublicanwomen.org](mailto:rsvp@planorepublicanwomen.org)

