



BLACKHAWK REPUBLICAN WOMEN

BRW News



VOLUME 6 ISSUE 8

A DIAMOND AWARD CLUB

AUGUST 2010

The Annual

SUMMER * SOCIAL

A TASTE OF THE WEST

AUGUST 28

AT THE 4W RANCH * 2000 VICTORINE ROAD * LIVERMORE
4:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M.

\$35 PER PERSON

CASUAL ATTIRE



RSVP MARILYN BRADLEY * 116 SEDGEFIELD COURT * SAN RAMON 94583 * 925.828.2360

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

of persons attending _____

amount of check \$ _____





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Terri Cousins

Most of this is not original from me, but all of us experience it every day.

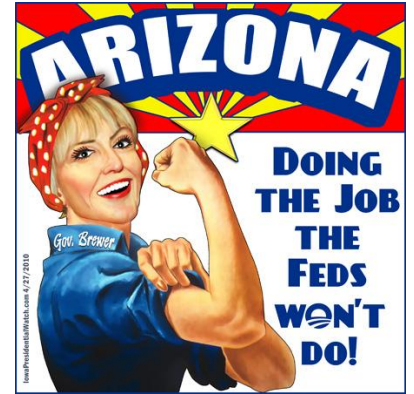
I am a legal American citizen and I must show my ID when:

1. Stopped by the police
2. Making purchases on my department store credit card
3. When I show up for a doctor's appointment
4. When filling out a credit card or loan application
5. When applying for or renewing a driver's license
6. When applying for any kind of insurance
7. When filling out college applications
8. When donating blood
9. When obtaining certain prescription drugs
10. When making debit card purchases
11. When collecting a boarding pass for airline or train travel
12. When reporting for the first day on a new job
13. Cashing a check at the bank or grocery store
14. Purchase liquor

The ruling by Judge Susan Bolton on July 28, 2010 that most of Arizona law SB1070 ([link to the law - http://www.foxnews.com/projects/pdf/SB1070-HB2162New.PDF](http://www.foxnews.com/projects/pdf/SB1070-HB2162New.PDF)) is unconstitutional is an outrage, especially since most of the law mirrors federal law.

It is a federal law that all legal aliens must carry their documentation at all times. Yet illegals don't have to per this ruling. Thank goodness for the great sheriffs in Arizona and what they are doing with a mess perpetuated by the Federal government's failure to secure our borders. President Obama told Gov. Brewer during their White House meeting in July when she invited and urged him to visit the US/Mexico border that he didn't have time to visit. Now it is rumored that the White House is floating an amnesty plan that they could "shove" down our throats without a vote by Congress. This President and his Cabinet have absolutely no regard for or willingness to follow the Constitution.

Gov. Jan Brewer will fight this decision all the way to the Supreme Court. Because the Arizona Attorney General (a democrat) refuses to represent the interest of the State and his Governor, Brewer has had to hire outside lawyers to represent the State. For updated information about the appeal, visit <http://www.keepazsafe.com> Jan Brewer is a politician to watch.



AROUND THE CLUB

On July 11, 250 people had the privilege of hearing member **Valerie Jo Remley** and Associate Member, the **Honorable Abram Wilson** sing our National Anthem in Walnut Creek at the opening of the CCRP Picnic.

BRW members enjoying the event along with **Valerie Jo** were **Cheryl Byl** with Chris Downs and **Loa Perkes**. **Terri Cousins** sold the drink tickets; **Jean** and **Rudy Forstner** enjoyed the lovely setting as did **Shirley** and **Alex Meloy** and **Peggy Pazzi**. **Peggy Stevens** was there with husband **Bud Warder** who helped with the great stage set up. **Yvette Abreu** was front and center, as always, doing anything and everything that needed to be done. **Darcy Linn**, being the Treasurer of the CCRP, was happy to take people's

money! **Mare Bradley** helped check people in.

The picnic was held at the Dollar Picnic Area in Rossmoor. The setting was perfect, the weather cooperated (not too hot!) and many were able to meet and greet several of the Republican candidates.

Jo Ann Erickson, 2nd Vice Chair of the Central Committee, is the Events Chair. The picnic leader was **Kathy Young** assisted by **Jean Meredith**, **Phyllis Stout**, **Sharon Samson**, **Becky Kolberg**, **Liz Summer** and those BRW members mentioned above. Also instrumental in making this a huge success were **Virginia Fuller**, **Yvonne** and **Jim Wood** and last, but certainly not least, **Lance Young**. The balloon arch on the stage

was the perfect touch, Lance! Thank you.



BRW at the Danville July 4th Parade



VOTER REGISTRATION

Shirley Meloy

Two members staffed the club table at the Hot Summer Night Car Show Thursday July 29th receiving three registrations and giving much PR for our party and club. You can take part of the next fun Danville event of "Summer Fest" Thursday evening August 5th or the "Art & Wine Stroll" on Thursday August 19th. Contact our [Voter Registration Chair](#) for more details.

Use RegTrax, a New Tool to Get Those Republicans Registered!

Take part in using a new technology tool from our state Grand Ole Party to enable us to get Republicans who have moved reregistered and ready to vote. The method uses our computers, phones and our warm personal touch. After you are registered to use *RegTrax* when convenient for you just log-in, input your closest zip code and how many names you want to call and follow up on, for instance three, then print out that information, along with the possible phone script.

When you contact one of those unregistered Republicans you'd introduce yourself, welcome them to the community and offer to make an appointment to register them at their home or coffee shop, or such. If you bring another club member the new resident can meet two *Blackhawk Republican Women*. After the form is filled out you could

talk up our club and offer our membership form, pointing out our web site address. After you leave make two copies of the form before mailing it off.

Now, for our club to receive \$5 bounty money you log back in (within 10 days) and using a copy input the affidavit number and so forth. This task electronically transfers the person from the unregistered Republicans to the registered ones in the data base and credits our club the bounty money.

Contact our [Voter Registration Chair](#) for more details and to be part of this new team!

Shirley Meloy, Voter Registration Chair
Blackhawk Republican Women, Federated
(925) 968-1550 or blessedm@sbcglobal.net

UPCOMING EVENTS

BRW Ladies,

New friendships are formed while interacting with like-minded women. A perfect way to have this happen is attending the Conferences, Conventions and Club events sponsored by CFRW, NFRW and CCRP. The following is your calendar for this very thing! PLUS – there is a Tea Party every Friday from 4:30 to 6:30 somewhere in the 680 Corridor. If you are interested, please contact **Sandi Tierney, 820-4329**; sandiknitz4u@aol.com for the coming location. They are very fun!

General Events

- ★ **Aug. 5th – David Harmer Luncheon @ Castlewood Country Club** harmerforcongress.org for info
- ★ **Aug. 8th – Day at the Ballpark Fundraiser for Abram Wilson in Danville – 5:30 to 7:30** (925) 847-0104 for info
- ★ **Aug. 13th – Candidate Boot Camp (see flyer in Newsletter)**
- ★ **August 20-22, 2010 – CRP Fall Conference San Diego**
- ★ **Nov 2 – CA General Election**

BRWF General Meetings

- ★ **August 23, 2010 – BRWF Board Meeting**
- ★ **August 28th -- BRW Summer Social(see front page)**
- ★ **Sept 16, 5:30 PM –Larry Greenfield**
- ★ **Oct 7 Evening**
- ★ **Nov 11 5:30 – Professor John Yoo**
- ★ **Dec 9 Luncheon – Installation of 2011 officers**

Barbara Boxer: Out of touch!

During a campaign stop in Inglewood, California this past weekend, Barbara Boxer's disrespectful attitude toward our armed forces was on full display when she equated the experiences of Members of Congress with the experiences of those who have put their lives on the line serving our country in uniform.

Boxer said this, at an event during which she was supposed to help break ground on new housing for homeless veterans:

"We know that if you have veterans in one place where they can befriend each other and talk to each other. You know when you've gone through similar things you need to share it. I don't care whether you are a policeman or a fireman or a veteran or by chance a member of Congress. Maxine and I could look at each other and roll our eyes. We know what we are up against. And it is hard for people who are not there to understand the pressure and the great things that go along with it and the tough things that go along with it."





“President Obama’s new message to the American people is ‘things could be a lot worse.’ We’ve gone from ‘change you can believe in’ to ‘things could be a lot worse.’ The sequel is never as good as the original.”

—Jay Leno

Nancy Reagan attends ceremony honoring husband

Wednesday, July 28, 2010



Simi Valley, Calif. (AP)—

Former first lady Nancy Reagan joined Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger in Simi Valley for a ceremonial signing of a bill making it Ronald Reagan Day every Feb. 6 in California.

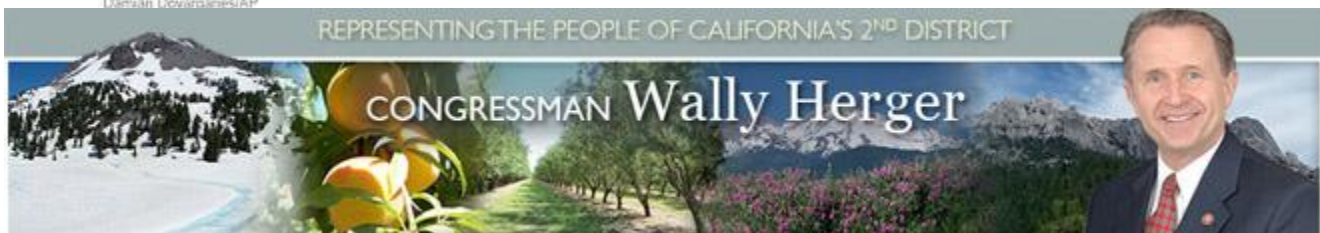
Reagan’s 100th birthday is Feb. 6.

The 89-year-old former first lady, wearing a yellow pantsuit, walked into the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library, and smiled as Schwarzenegger sat at a desk and ceremoniously signed a pair of bills Tuesday morning. He officially signed them July 19.

The other bill establishes a commission to plan Reagan centennial events.

Schwarzenegger told the audience, “Ronald Reagan is my hero.”

The governor says Ronald Reagan Day will allow schools to teach about Reagan and be a day in which Californians can remember his legacy.



Financial Reform Ignores Real Problems

Recently the House passed, on a party-line vote, the final version of the Congressional Democrats’ and President Obama’s “[financial regulatory reform](#)” legislation. The Senate also passed the bill and it will be presented to the President and enacted into law. I strongly opposed this legislation because I believe it represents another Big Government job killer that will do little to address the problems that caused our 2008 financial crisis, and in fact, will make future bailouts more likely by continuing the unwise “too big to fail” policy that rewards irresponsible behavior.

Hard-working families and small businesses should not be penalized for bad decisions made in Washington or on Wall Street, and they shouldn’t have to pay for future bailouts. By failing to address the real issues at the core of our financial crisis, this legislation virtually guarantees that large firms will get bigger and that taxpayers will be left paying for future bailouts. Simply put, this legislation makes credit more expensive for consumers and punishes businesses without reducing the likelihood of future bailouts.

Contra Costa Republican Party

Invites you to our “Candidate Boot Camp” Campaign School!

Friday, Aug 13th, 6PM to 9PM, Saturday, Aug 14th 9AM to 5 PM
San Ramon Community Center, San Ramon CA

If you are a candidate, interested in running for office,
or intend to work on a campaign this is the workshop for you!

Public Speaking: The Honorable Lynne Leach,
City and County Races: The Honorable: Allen Payton, Arne Simonsen, Karen Stepper, Mary Piepho
Campaign Finance: Kelly Lawler, Treasurer for JD Hayworth
Keynote Speaker: Tom Del Beccaro, CRP Vice Chair
New Media Strategy: The Honorable Pete Constant
Organizing Volunteers/Filing: Jean Meredith
Fundraising Events: Hueter & Associates
Fundraising Strategy: Elizabeth Sanford
Crafting your Message: Kevin McGary

To RSVP and Register please complete and mail or e-mail the form below.
For US mail- please send to Darcy Linn, 260 Chilpancingo Pkwy #23, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523.
For e-mail- please send to dplinn@aol.com.

-
- Yes! Please sign me up to attend the CCRP’s Candidate Boot Camp Seminar on Aug 13th and 14th. I understand the cost is \$100.00 per person, which includes breakfast and lunch.**

Name(s): _____ Email: _____

Phone: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ ZIP: _____

- I am paying by check. (payable to CCRP) \$ _____ I am paying by credit card \$ _____

_____ MasterCard _____ VISA

Credit Card #: _____ Exp Date: _____ Sec. Code: _____

Name as it appears on card: _____ Billing Address: _____

Employer/Occupation: _____

MY THREE WEEK JOURNEY ACROSS THE WEST

by Hilary Castles



I am a member of BRW across state lines. What I mean is that for most of the year, I reside at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. While I enjoy the conservative atmosphere on campus, the lack of protests and the large Christian student body, I do miss California's perfect weather, the rolling hills and mountains, and the well groomed streets and towns that put our lovely state in bankruptcy. But I digress... for the middle weeks of July, I and thirteen other students from ULL travelled from Louisiana to Seattle. "The American West" and "An Introduction to Public History" were led by the quirky Dr. Bob Carriker, his wife, Dawn, two children Ella (5), Leona (3), Dr. Mary Farmer-Kaiser, and her two children, Pete (8) and Irene (5). What I experienced over the course of the trip would reinforce my beliefs about the majestic and distinctive American experience.

The first few days were marked with soulful reflection and sadness as we visited Dealey Plaza, the site of President Kennedy's assassination, and the Oklahoma City Memorial. Our trip was marked with visits to many "firsts"; places where Americans experienced a new beginning; be it positive or devastating.

Dealey Plaza was an intense experience. Not our first Presidential assassination, but perhaps the most memorable in the minds of living Americans. Where were you? Everyone remembers when they heard. The most eerie thing about strolling across the grassy knoll is the realization that the street is still heavily used. Cars pass over the two x's marking the shots fired upon the President. More than anything, for me, it is hard to imagine such a beloved politician. Sure, he is idolized, and it's easy to do so years later, but to have such a love from a nation...well, I find it hard to fathom in this political climate.

The Oklahoma City Memorial sits between a block of the downtown; a garden, a landscape, a haunting testament to the destruction that occurred there. Where the building once sat, 168 chairs now sit, 19 of them smaller than the others. The sight of the children's chairs made my eyes water, and when I turned away I found refuge under the Survivor Tree, which still bears the scorch marks of the blast and the fires that followed. The memorial seems almost frozen in time, locked between the 9:01 gate and the 9:03 gate, each facing each other on the opposite street. In between them lies the reflecting pool, echoing the empty chairs on one side of it - chairs that remain empty at each of those person's family tables.

Stopping in Denver, passing up King Tut for the Denver Western Art Museum, we were told to throw all our previous images of the West - the Cowboy, the Indian, the romantic Frontier and all its associations - out the window. Our tour guides



at the museum gave us a detailed view of contemporary and classic Western Art. The 19th century artists found beauty in the enchanting landscapes, political motivation in the Indian depictions, and a strong connection between the West and a new, burgeoning American Spirit; one of individualism, independence, and the strong will to survive.

In Casper, Wyoming, we had an interactive experience at the National Historic Trails

Interpretive Center. Not quite a museum, it has a detailed and hands-on approach to telling the stories of the Oregon, California, and Mormon trails. This visit was on the heels of a hike up to see actual Oregon Trail ruts. I gained a new appreciation for the journey and hardship the pioneers on those trails faced.

I thought I knew what to expect on our long journey, a mere three weeks. But it ended up feeling like an eternity. The routine -getting up every morning, packing, heading out, and staying on the move--was not what I expected and took a lot more energy than what I had originally anticipated. It's hard to imagine it without cars, coffee, air conditioning, a daily shower, and the other modern marvels that kept me somewhat pampered and complacent. The fact that I picked up somewhere on the trip: the "\$1 Bath; Fifty Cent 2nd Bath, and Twenty-Five Cent 3rd Bath" once a month, has stuck with me and made me reevaluate every Western-themed film I've ever seen and the cleanliness the characters exhibited. The frontiersmen, the pioneers, the miners, and before them, Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery; these people did not by any means have it easy. The West, I soon discovered, was not easy.

Wyoming also gave us a hike to see Native American Petroglyphs, hope for a Harrison Ford sighting in Jackson Hole, and our first taste of the delicious huckleberry. We had a memorable sojourn in Yellowstone National Park, where our wake up times were later and our cabins overlooked Old Faithful. We took quiet hikes to see sulfur spots and timid buffalo, on one hike to an overlook of the great falls; I slid down the trail and off of the side of the switchback. After pulling myself back over the edge, I soon found my legs to be the first victim of an accident on the trip. I continued down to the overlook, took my pictures, and hiked back up to the car to dress my wounds. If we still had accidents on a paved, manmade trail, my mind wondered in what sort of trouble the pioneers before us found themselves, not to mention, Indians!

Through Montana we saw the industrious history of mining in Butte, America; toured an old brothel, saw the cringe-worthy Berkeley Pit, and ate at probably the worst Chinese restaurant in the West (and Dr. C could not live this down). And about this time, the older Dr. Robert Carriker and his wife joined us. "Papa C" as we came to call him, is a foremost expert on Lewis and Clark, and Western History Expansion. As we caravanned through Montana and Idaho, his voice would rattle over the walkie talkies for twenty minutes at a time, just to introduce the next site to us. Because the Carrikers are from Spokane, their connections in the Northwest really came through for us: we had a behind the scenes tour of the Grand Coulee Dam (as well as the Bureau of Reclamation in Denver, which

beforehand we named "B.O.R", but soon found it was actually one of the most interesting stops we would make on the trip). We also spent a day on lake in Coeur D'Alene, Idaho, rested in the dorms at Gonzaga University, and toured the grounds of the Cataldo Mission, where we discovered the older Dr. C was the principal historian of the site, and cited so in their introductory film. Two days of the journey was spent on the Salmon River, rafting over 40 miles and camping on the river's sandy beaches. The rafting company cooked us gourmet meals, provided tents, and though it seemed effortless, they chauffeured us through rapids and currents. On the first day, Dr. C made it his mission to pull me (the most experienced kayaker of the students) out of the raft first, though I would get my revenge the next day.

As we made our way to Seattle, our group was just about ready for the trip to be over.

As much as we liked each other, we didn't like each other after almost three weeks of nonstop contact. But we soon found ourselves reenergized with freedom to roam and explore in Seattle. We enjoyed an architectural tour of the city (given by Papa C), and a humorous but education Underground Tour. The one thing I had been looking forward to most: finding spots in the city that were featured in *Sleepless in Seattle*. After our food tour of Pike Place Market, a friend and found the Athenian Inn. Here, Rob Reiner coaches Tom Hanks on the dating scene over steamed clams and beer.

Here, my friend Sarah and I talked--almost about the same things--over steamed clams and wine.

As someone who considers herself a Westerner, I didn't expect to be too surprised by anything on the trip. What ended up sticking with me, more than the towering mountains of Glacier National Park, or the implications of the decommissioned missile silo of Northern Colorado - what I really walked away with was a greater appreciation for the American Spirit. As discussed in the first week of class, there is an attitude that most Westerners share to this day; one of individualism, independence, and the strong will to survive. Now, more than before, when my mind wanders over the term "The West", I think of an ideal. Not so much the classic, romantic images of Western culture, but more of the great things the peoples of the West accomplished - and a much greater appreciation for them.

All of the places we visited were steps in American History. From Dealey Plaza, to the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, to the Museum of Flight, there is a chronicle of great (good and bad) American experiences across the West. Each shows the determination of the American Spirit, a frontier spirit that has the courage to go places where we have not gone before.



To read more about the trip, visit the class blog: historyonthemove.blogspot.com

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD SPOTLIGHT: *Shirley Meloy*

Spotlights - Focus on the ladies who help make the Achievement Award Possible by Ronnie Wanetick. This month meet Shirley Meloy. Her inspiring and beautiful blessings herald the BRW meetings to come. Shirley also works in the heat of summer and cold of winter getting Republican voter registrations. Shirley is a dedicated and hard working BRW leader.



R. What have you done in the club and for Republicans?

S. Just a few months after I joined the club, Trudy Larson, the friend who had invited me, moved away. She was the Chaplain and asked me to take her position, which I did about six years ago. After just a few times of staffing a Voter Registration table for our club, the then Voter Registration Chair, Jennifer Gartung, asked if I would take her position, which I did about five years ago now. Teresa Rodgers assists by taking care of the bounty that we receive from the state and county levels for each valid registration. I am now looking for someone to help with the new technological tool of RegTrax, where we can download names and phone numbers of Republicans who have moved to reregister them. Both of these positions of Chaplain and Voter Registration Chair enable me to be on the Board of Directors. My most rewarding effort for the club was to chair the successful 2008 Summer Social at the home of Kathleen and Thomas Georgen. Members have been quite warm to me, which spurs me to do likewise.

I have also campaigned for several candidates and helped to "get out the vote". I recently went to targeted Republican homes to add "Vote by Mail" to their existing registrations. My husband, Alex, and I have enjoyed many Contra Costa Republican Party fund raising events, which inform and motivate us.

R. Can you tell us something about your life and background?

S. I am a native Bay Area Californian, degreed in Business Administration, and raised three children with my first husband. I volunteered with Birthright, a pregnancy support service, in almost all positions, for 22 years. I was active in a computer club during the exciting '90's. Of my different employments I most enjoyed being a Technology

Assistant for the Cupertino Union School District, training students and often teachers too. After being widowed for only 20 months I married Alex in 2001, a friend and classmate from Alameda High School.

R. What are your hobbies and interests?

S. Alex and I enjoy hiking, dancing and riding his two motorcycles. Human relationships get my attention, especially relating Bible passages to them.

R. Who do you admire and why?

S. I highly esteem my late great uncle, George Demont Otis, 1879-1962 American Impressionist. He conveyed such love toward my childhood family. Mr. Otis captured and expressed the essence of God's handiwork in his oil paintings. He was active in the community of Kentfield, Marin County and he helped others to develop their artistic skills.

R. Who was the greatest influence on your life?

S. I feel that Jesus the Christ, as described in the New Testament, has influenced me the most, especially in my adult years. I look for His ways through the Holy Spirit and the scriptures and try to

recognize them in the words and actions of various people. Also, my mother was optimistic and I can see that trait in me.

R. What would you like people to remember you by?

I'd like to think others would say that I truly enjoyed being alive.

R. What are your goals for the future?

S. I believe in goals, as they are motivators, but don't have any personal goals right now. I am thankful that I am so satisfied.



**BLACKHAWK REPUBLICAN
WOMEN
60 WHITE PINE LANE
DANVILLE, CA 94506**

*Blackhawk Republican Women is affiliated
with the California
Federation of Republican Women
and
the National Federation of
Republican Women.*



IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2010.

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND MAIL IT TO MARILYN BRADLEY

(address below)

BLACKHAWK REPUBLICAN WOMEN, FEDERATED

NAME _____

TELEPHONE: _____ CELL: _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

HUSBAND'S NAME _____

CHECK ENCLOSED: \$40.00 ANNUAL DUES . ANNUAL ASSOCIATE DUES:
\$20.00

I AM A REGISTERED REPUBLICAN: _____

Make check payable to: BLACKHAWK REPUBLICAN WOMEN, FEDERATED

Mail check to: Marilyn Bradley, 116 Sedgefield Court, San Ramon, CA 94583

**Are you interested in serving on a committee? _____ If yes, please
indicate:**

Membership Legislative Campaign Program Telephone
Hospitality Achievement Award Voter Registration Newsletter
Directory Ways and Means Other: _____

Do you have ideas you would like to share with the Club?

Check us out at www.blackhawkrwf.org

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