Montana Federation of Republican Women

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NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2010

President's Message

Last month I represented Montana's Republican Women at the NFRW 2010 Spring Board of Directors Meeting in Oklahoma City. This was my first political women's meeting and I was amazed at the energy and enthusiasm generated by so many American Republican women leaders!! These leaders are fired up, convinced that we, as Republican women, can be a significant force in electing great Republican candidates in the mid-term elections and in the 2012 Presidential election. **Win Back America** is the NFRW slogan. Sue Lynch, NFRW President, and her committee chairs are launching a tremendous array of opportunities and resources for affiliated clubs to use in their pursuit to raise additional funds, sign up new members, and acquire an on-line presence. I encourage all of you to get online and visit the NFRW website under the members' only section and learn of these new opportunities. Think how your club can take advantage of and integrate these opportunities into your club plans and programs. Let's **Win Back Montana!!** Here are a few new opportunities already in place for you. Find out the details at NFRW.org.

- **Fundraiser: NFRW Women in Numbers "Win Pin".** Purpose is to energize and motivate women across the country to join together and Win Big in 2010! Women vote...use the power! Let's see all of our Montana Republican women wearing this pin, it is different, beautiful and a great conversation starter with potential members. It is marketed so all levels of our organization make a profit.
- **Membership recruitment challenge**. Materials almost ready to roll out. Watch for these NFRW programs in the next few months:
- **Nationwide Republican Women's Voter Registration Drive**. Start planning your drives now to coordinate with these dates.
  - May 9 - 15
  - Sep 12 - 18
- **NFRW White papers on national issues** Ladies, thank you for what you do: support our Republican principles; inform the citizenry; and increase the effectiveness of Republican women in the cause of good government through active political participation.

Remember, Now is the time to **Win Back Montana**!

Elizabeth Cargo

Elizabeth Cargo, President
Montana Federation of Republican Women

Upcoming Events

Save the Date
MTFRW
Spring Conference

Date: June 18-19, 2010
Billings, MT
Crowne Plaza Hotel
(In conjuction with the MT GOP Platform Convention)

Special Guest

Sue Lynch, NFRW President

Sue Lynch
President, NFRW

For details
www.mtfrw.org

MTFRW Strategic Planning Meeting

The MTFRW Executive Committee, District Directors, and Standing Committee chairs met in Helena to map an operating strategy through 2012. These ladies have been communicating with our club executive boards to answer key questions relating to the operation and focus they wish to see from their state federation. In the coming months, I will be communicating with each club the details of this new plan, and how we can best use our resources and organization to **Win Back Montana.**

What Can You Do to Make a Difference?

Thanks to the Heritage Foundation for this Publication and Congressman Denny Rehberg for Passing It On.

Get Involved:

- **Practice the Virtues of Self Governance:** 1) Be a responsible citizen; 2) Care for your family; 3) Practice your faith and defend your religious liberty; 4) Join organizations and volunteer in your local community; 5) Start a business and invest in America.

- **Voice Your Opinion:** 1) Vote; 2) Write letters and comment online; 3) Contact your elected officials; 4) Call radio shows; 5) Participate in local town-hall meetings, tea party activism and local assemblies.

- **Encourage Discussion:** 1) Start a blog or Web site; 2) Challenge liberals with fact-based arguments; 3) Encourage the media to represent conservative principles; 4) Encourage candidates and elected representatives to learn more about conservative ideas; 5) Get conservative editorials and letters in your local newspaper; 6) Support teachers, educational programs, and schools that teach the truth about America and its principles.

- **Spread the Word:** 1) Talk to your family and friends; 2) Join social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter; 3) Bring issues you care about to your civic, social, church, or business groups; 4) Celebrate America's heritage and distribute pocket Constitutions <https://secure.heritage.org/pocketconstitutions/>.

- **Join the Conservative Movement:** 1) Support think tanks and institutions fighting for conservative principles and polices; 2) If you are a student, apply for an internship, such as the year-round program at The Heritage Foundation. These programs are designed to foster young leaders and help them grow as part of the larger conservative movement.

Rediscover the Principles of Liberty:

- **We Still Hold These Truths:** The future of liberty depends on reclaiming America's first principles. Read *We Still Hold These Truths: Rediscovering Our Principles, Reclaiming Our Future* <http://westillholdthesetruths.org/> , a powerful overview of those principles-how they developed, what they mean, and the debate over their status today. Get a copy of the study guide that accompanies the book, appropriate for self-study, as a teaching manual or as the basis for a discussion group.

- **The Heritage Guide to the Constitution:** Free citizens must understand the extent of their rights and the constitutional limits on the powers of government. Get *The Heritage Guide to the Constitution* <http://www.heritage.org/bookstore> , an easy to understand line-by-line examination of the Framers' Constitution and its contemporary meaning.

- **Reading the Right Books:** Keep reading and learning! *Reading the Right Books* is an annotated bibliography of thoughtful books (on history, politics, literature, economics, statesmanship, religion, public policy, and modern conservative thought) recommended as a guide for intelligent, conservative-minded readers who want to prepare themselves for a public life of thought and action.

Announcements

MFRW Has New Acronym

The Montana Federation of Republican Women is changing their letters (acronym) which represent our organization. Please transition to using MTFRW on all of your correspondence, web site links, banners, or any place our acronym is used.

Interestingly, MFRW also represents the Maryland Federation of Republican Women. They were first in reserving this name for their website. When you Google MFRW, results take you to Maryland, not Montana!

Additionally, MFRW was not available when establishing our email address with Goggle mail. Consequently, your MTFRW Executive Committee and all members of the federation are transitioning to our new acronym, MTFRW. It provides clarity with NFRW and clarity among the state federations. Take note and make your changes today.

MFRW Officers

Elizabeth Cargo
President

Lois Lauman
Vice President

Dorothy Spika
Secretary

Idella Smithers
Treasurer

What Can You Do to Make a Difference? (continued)

Follow the Important Issues of the Day:

- **Stay Informed:** 1) Go to Thomas.gov <http://www.thomas.gov/> and review pending legislation; 2) Track local issues with organizations such as the American Legislative Exchange Council <http://www.alec.org/> or the State Policy Network <http://www.spn.org/> ; 3) Follow several organizations on Facebook and Twitter so you can get all sides to every story.

- **Find the Organization That Is Right For You:** There are many conservative organizations out there. Decide what issues matter most to you, and then support the appropriate institution. Check out <www.policyexperts.org> to help narrow your search.

- **Go to Heritage.org:** 1) Sign up for the Morning Bell at Foundry.org <http://blog.heritage.org/> ; 2) The Foundry blog at Heritage promotes conservative policies and principles by marrying the best in public policy research with every day's current events; 3) Read and share our Fact Sheets <http://www.heritage.org/research/all-research.aspx?categories=factsheet> , which give overviews of the complex issues of our day; and 4) InsiderOnline.org <http://www.insideronline.org/> maintains a searchable database of policy research, publications, and legal actions throughout the nation.

A Reminder - Redistricting

If you missed your opportunity to testify at the Redistricting Hearings you can still make your voice heard and be a part of assuring that the process is fair for all Montanans. The following are tips for your written testimony and the address where it can be sent. Remember, fairness is our guiding principle here. One person, one vote is as American as it gets. We want everyone to have an equal say in the Legislature.

(1) Districts should be as close to the same population size as possible. It's not fair if rural districts are packed full of more people than urban districts. Rural voters get a smaller say that way, because their Representative will have to speak for 9,500 people, when a city Representative might only have to speak for 8,500.

(2) Neighborhoods and towns should be kept together. It's not fair to split a town down the middle and make each half a part of an out-of-town district. People who live in towns and out in the country don't always have exactly the same interests, and each should get a Legislator who represents them.

(3) Partisan politics must not play a role in how the districts are drawn. The Montana Constitution says nothing about creating Republican districts or Democrat districts. It says the districts should be equal. So any use of past voting records of precincts, trying to make districts that are going to elect democrats or Republicans, is not the way it's supposed to work.

You may send your testimony to the Districting and Apportionment Commission using the contacts below before April 27, 2010.

Districting and Apportionment Commission
Legislative Services Division
PO Box 201706
Helena, MT 59620-1706
Phone: (406) 444-3064
Fax: (406) 444-3036 E-mail: districting@mt.gov

HELP!!

Newsletter Name Contest

The general consensus is that "Newsletter", although factual, is just not an exciting name for this publication. So we are looking to you for help in thinking of a name that clearly represents the vitality and energy of MTFRW.

GRAND PRIZE!

Free 2011 Annual Membership

Email your entry to
betty.curry@gmail.com
or
send your entry to
Newsletter Name
516 Harrison
Helena, MT 59601
before
May 30, 2010

Please include your name and contact information with your entry.

The Executive Committee will judge the entries.

Montana Federation of Republican Women

MISSION STATEMENT

To see women from all age groups and walks of life as key players at the political table on local, state and national issues.

GOAL

Win in 2010

Bowen Greenwood, New Montana GOP Director

Bowen Greenwood is the new Executive Director of the Montana Republican Party. He's been working in Montana politics for 15 years, starting on legislative campaigns in the Billings area in the mid nineties. On a wider scale Bowen worked as Press Secretary on Rick Hill's campaign for U.S. House in 1996, as Denny Rehberg's Press Secretary in 2000, and as the Communications Director in the office of Secretary of State Brad Johnson from 2006-2008. He's also worked for Republicans in the Legislature and other conservative candidates.

Bowen, as a former journalist who wrote for the Yellowstone County Newsin Huntley, is a fourth generation Montanan. In his spare time, he enjoys backpacking, motorcycles, and woodworking.

Across Montana

Ravalli County Republican Women

Making an Extra Effort to Support Republican Principles

L to R: Terry Giles-Wagner (secretary), Rosemary Quast (treasurer), Carol Fowler (2nd VP), Suzy Foss (1st VP), Faithe Lake (president), Karolyn Simpson (past president)

Ravalli County Republican Women (RCRW) don't rest! Because of the critical 2010 election, they have decided to meet during the summer. In preparation for the summer/fall campaign they have joined forces with their Republican Central Committee to help fund office space for their campaign headquarters. They will be manning the headquarters and providing support for the candidates. The club will also provide all Republican candidates an opportunity to speak at their meetings throughout the summer and fall. Ravalli County races include positions for state legislature, county commission, Sheriff and county attorney.

Also on the docket for spring and summer is preparing a float for the Memorial Day parade in Corvallis as well as the Hamilton Fair parade this summer. In anticipation of bringing on some new members, the Ravalli club decided to make business-sized cards for their members to pass out with meeting location, time, and contact information. These cards were easy to make with a home computer, and very inexpensive.

To fund all of the clubs' activities they are planning their annual garage sale and barbeque on May 1st. Women throughout the county attend this event. Not only is there profit from things only others would want, but it is a wonderful opportunity to reach out to women to join them. Their other fundraiser that is always ongoing is sale of patriotic jewelry. They have profited over $2400. this year! If you are looking for something different to express your patriotism, you'll have a chance to see their jewelry selection at the upcoming GOP Platform Convention in Billings. If you are looking for a way to show support for conservative principles, join in the fun with the Ravalli County Republican Women. Contact Faithe Lake, President for information.

Flathead County Republican Women

Making a Difference in Their Community and World

The Flathead County Republican Women (FCRW) have several local projects which support local nonprofits. Last month they donated $200.00 each to the Flathead County Animal Shelter and the Northwest Montana Humane Society. Members brought canned and dry food, biscuits, toys, as well as blankets and towels for the furry residents taking up residence at the shelters.FCRW Director, Patricia Christopherson presents a check in the amount of $ 200.00 to Lori Heatherington, Director of the Animal Shelter (photo to the left).

As part of their Americanism Program, the club presented Paul and Muffin Vallely with a $500.00 check for the Scott Vallely Soldiers Memorial Fund. They purchase and ship items to the soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan, help local soldiers and their families and hand out scholarships to young Flathead Valley students joining the Armed Forces.

FCRW and Glacier County Pachyderm co-hosted a "Meet and Greet" for all Repubican Candidates at the Hampton Inn on March 18. All Republican Candidates were given the opportunity to tell a little about themselves and why we should vote for them. The event was well attended with over 125 in attendance.

Contact Ralene Sliter, Membership Chairman, 406-253-3998, or ksliter@hotmail.com, if you would like to visit or join a great group of Republican women leaders living in the Kalispel area.

Lewis & Clark Republican Women

PSC Candidates Speak at Luncheon Meeting

Lewis & Clark Republican Women's Club meets the first Friday of the month at noon on the 6th floor of the Montana Club. Reservations may be made by the Wednesday prior to the meeting by contacting shirley.herrin@yahoo.com

Bill Gallagher and Brad Johnson, candidates for the Public Service Commission (PSC), spoke at the April meeting about the crucial role the PSC plays in our lives. All of the local candidates were invited to the meeting for introductions, distributing election materials, and answering questions after the meeting. Our president and board provided an Easter memento, adding a festive atmosphere, for all who attended.

Helena Republican Women

Education Important Focus of Meetings

Helena Republican Women's Club meets the first Monday night of the month at Jorgensen's restaurant at 6 PM. Husbands are encouraged to join as associate members.

Senator Dave Lewis is teaching the members about the State of Montana budget. Educating members on candidates and issues is an important focus for the this group especially during the election year.

If you are interested in joining either of the Helena groups or receiving more information please contact cyndi-forbes@yahoo.com.

Get To Know Your Candidates

There are many opportunities for us to get educated, get involved and express our Republican beliefs during this primary season. Get to know the Republican candidates that have stepped forward to compete for the vacant seats in the Montana House and Senate, the Public Service Commission or judge, treasurer or other elected positions from your districts. Have them to your club meetings; provide them an opportunity to express their position on issues important to you. Ask them challenging questions.

Remember, during the primaries, we support all Republican candidates equally.

Join us by calling 406-431-8300 or emailing mtfrw1938@gmail.com

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No Club in Your Area?

Start a Republican Women's Club in Your Community

Contact
http://www.nfrw.com
or
Your State President to find out how!

Betty Pohlman
Newsletter Contact
406-431-8300
516 Harrison Avenue
Helena, MT 59601

Book Review

Courage and Consequence

My Life as a Conservative in the Fight - Threshold Editions, 567 pages, $30, Karl Rove

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Karl Rove's political prowess flowered early. At age 9 -- and already having "a nerdish fascination with our political system-- he became a spirited supporter of Richard Nixon in the 1960 presidential contest against John F. Kennedy. So intense was his devotion that he got his hands on a coveted Nixon bumper sticker and displayed it proudly on his bicycle basket -- until a little girl in his neighborhood who favored JFK beat the stuffing out of him, bloodying his nose and ego. "I've never liked losing a political fight since," Rove writes in his memoir, "Courage and Consequence."

Rove ran the national College Republicans at age twenty-two and turned a Texas dominated by Democrats into a bastion for Republicans. His political genius engineered George W. Bush's climb, first to the Texas governor's mansion and then to the White House earning his nickname "The Architect". But the figure who emerges in these pages has another side. In unexpectedly tender prose, Rove tells a poignant family story, which includes his father's long absences, his parents' divorce and his mother's suicide.

Because of his success, Rove has been attacked his entire career, accused of everything from campaign chicanery to ideological divisiveness. In this frank memoir, Rove responds to critics, passionately articulates his political philosophy and defends the choices he made on the campaign trail and in the White House.

As expected George W. Bush is paramount in these pages and Rove's admiration and respect for the 43rd President is apparent and refreshing after years of listening to biased media reporting to the contrary. Courage and Consequence is an intimate view from the highest level in the White House. Rove takes us through experiences that include 9/11, the decision to go to war in Afghanistan and Iraq, and the pain of three years of fending off an indictment by Special Prosecutor Fitzpatrick. Of special interest are the enthusiastic blow by blow accounts of election campaigns. He is candid about his mistakes both in the White House and on campaigns and ultimately about the joy of a life committed to the conservative cause.

Founder's Wisdom

"The power under the Constitution will always be in the people. It is entrusted for certain defined purposes, and for a certain limited period, to representatives of their own choosing; and whenever it is executed contrary to their interest, or not agreeable to their wishes, their servants can, and undoubtedly will, be recalled." ___ George Washington