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### Republicans Believe In ...

- The U.S. Constitution
- Pro-Life/Family Values
- Right to Bear Arms
- Strong National Defense
- Smaller Government
- Balanced Budget/  
Cutting Spending
- Free Market System
- Decrease in Regulation
- Balance of Power
- Personal Responsibility
- Quality & Choice in Education
- Opportunity for All
- Freedom



*TFRW Region No. 7  
Senate District No. 22*

## *Newsletter— Spring 2022*

### A Message from our President, Patty Castillo

We're off to a roaring start!

Wow! It's already May and MCRW has been hard at work to make this year, 2022, the year we start to take back our country! And what a fantastic start it has been.

We worked hard in January and February to support all our Republican Primary candidates, and now we will work even harder to make sure that Republicans are elected up and down the ballot in November.

Then in March – WOW – we held our biggest ever fundraiser for MCRW by hosting “An Evening with Kayleigh McEnany” on March 19th at the Baylor Club. Thanks to everyone who made this fantastic event possible: our sponsors, our donors, our planning committee and of course our guests! Over 300 people attended the sold-out event where Kayleigh was inspiring, kind and gracious and took pictures with guests and signed her books. We are now well-positioned financially to fund those programs which will help take back the House and Keep Texas RED!

*See photos of our Kayleigh event in this newsletter.*

So let's get to work! What will you do?

We have many upcoming opportunities to work to support our Republican candidates.

**1. Be an informed voter!** You are leaders in our communities, whether you know it or not. Many of our members have told me that their friends and neighbors ask them for voting recommendations. Be informed and be their guide! And step up to reach out to others that you may meet and talk to them about the importance of voting their values. And tell them about the importance of

**2. Election Integrity** – Without free and fair elections we will not survive as a nation. Spread the word and work to keep the integrity of our elections. Join a weekly call on Election Integrity hosted by our Republican National Committeewoman Toni Anne Dashiell. [Register Here](#)

**3. Find a voting buddy or a few buddies.** These are friends, friends from church, or neighbors who will accompany you on this journey. You will motivate and help each other and have fun doing it!

**4. VDRs** - Our initial focus will be registering Republican voters. Are you a Volunteer Deputy Registrar (VDR)? If you would like to become deputized, email us at the email at the end of this section and let us know. We will hold several training sessions during the next few months.

**5. VEP** - You can help reach out to help register voters with our statewide Voter



Engagement Project. You will be contacting unregistered Republicans (by phone or by sending postcards). More details soon. During the 2020 election cycle, MCRW was part of a statewide effort where we registered over 300,000 new voters. Let's top this!

And that's just the beginning. During the next few months leading up to the November election we will be giving you information and training on other efforts to help elect Republicans in McLennan County AND statewide. You will be able to work on these efforts at home, in groups (fun), and throughout our community and state. Keep up to date on all our efforts by visiting our website and looking for the TAKE ACTION! tab which will be updated soon and will continuously be updated with the latest and most important efforts in which you can participate. We all need to roll up our sleeves!

A final thought ...

**We are fortunate to have a RED county here in McLennan County, but each year the liberals take more of our lead away. Let's not get complacent! We need for all Republicans to get out and VOTE! Statewide, each RED vote cancels out a BLUE vote in Texas. This means that each RED vote in McLennan County cancels out a BLUE vote in HOUSTON or AUSTIN. This is why we need to register voters and get them to the polls here in McLennan County and then work to help other BLUE counties in the state.**

**We want to hear from you! Please contact us at:**

[MCRWPAC@gmail.com](mailto:MCRWPAC@gmail.com)

[MCRWPAC.COM](http://MCRWPAC.COM)

I am energized by YOU, our members, who are here to work for our causes and for our Republican candidates. Let's show up and take back our country!

Patty

**Texas Federation of Republican Women  
Membership Recruitment  
Submitted by Kathy Endres, District Director, SD 22**

Texas Federation of Republican Women (TFRW) Membership Recruitment initiative is underway, and you are invited to participate! McLennan County Republican Women PAC has been provided a list of 1700 names of vetted Republican women in McLennan County who have voted in the last two Republican Primaries, but are not members of our club.

Between now and May 31, 2022, we will send pre-printed postcards to each of these women as a way of introducing ourselves and inviting them to join our awesome club.

We are going to make a party out of this activity, which will probably be three parties, in order to complete all cards by the end of May. There just may be a prize for the most postcards addressed and sent, and a bigger prize for the most new members as a result of your efforts!

Please call, text, or email me if you are willing to donate a few hours of your time in the next 45 days to help keep Texas Red, to help grow our club, and to make Republican Women in Texas the envy of the other 49 states.

**GAME ON LADIES!**

Kathy Endres 254-230-6891 or [kdepol18@gmail.com](mailto:kdepol18@gmail.com)



## Guest Columnist: Senator Brian Birdwell SD 22

During the 87<sup>th</sup> Legislature's 3<sup>rd</sup> Special Session last Sep-Oct of 2021, Gov. Abbott added to his original call for the 3<sup>rd</sup> special session the following:

Legislation establishing that no entity in Texas can compel receipt of a COVID-19 vaccine by any individual, including an employee or a consumer, who objects to such vaccination for any reason of personal conscience, based on a religious belief, or for medical reasons, including prior recovery from COVID- 19.



Gov. Abbott made this addition on October 11<sup>th</sup> with only 8 days remaining in the special session. On October 12<sup>th</sup>, Sen Hughes, the chair of Senate State Affairs, filed SB 51 in response to Gov. Abbott's additional call. On October 14<sup>th</sup>, the Senate State Affairs Committee heard SB 51 which was voted favorably out of the committee at the end of the hearing by a vote of five ayes; three nays; and one member absent. The bill was placed on the Senate's intent calendar but did not have sufficient votes for the Senate to consider the bill before the special session expired on October 19<sup>th</sup>.

Addressing a policy as influential as vaccine mandates requires the time to diligently work through the issue and forecast all outcomes. Given such a task within an expedited timeframe, the legislature was put in a difficult position. SB 51 required a considerable amount of deliberation due to the mechanisms we intended to use in order to pass this legislation. Although this bill did not make it to the Senate floor, I voted in favor of SB 51 in committee. During the bill's committee hearing, I read the following statement into the hearing's official record due to my concerns over the legislation's contents.

Today, Texans are preparing to face a sweeping executive mandate wherein certain businesses are being forced to enact oppressive and obtuse workforce vaccination policies. The state legislature is here today in reaction to this federal overreach because the President of the United States has forced Texas into this position. We are facing this circumstance because the current administration is using an unconstitutional power to coerce private companies to act in a manner commensurate with his worldview.

By passing this legislation, we are effectively responding to a constitutional crisis by exacerbating the problem using the same tactics as the federal government. In President Washington's farewell address to the nation he said: "Let there be no change by usurpation; for though this, in one instance, may be the instrument of good, it is the customary weapon by which free government is destroyed." If we allow ourselves to ignore the constitution in this one case to achieve our desired policy goal, we will have opened the door to continuous disregard of our founding principles, rendering them irrelevant. One unconstitutional mandate does not justify another just as one usurpation by the federal government does not justify a usurpation by the state. This legislation rightfully elicits constitutional criticism, while it seeks to respect an individual's medical circumstances and right to religious sentiment. This measure is distinct from the federal mandate in that it does not prohibit businesses from mandating vaccination. It allows the employer to create their own policy while still affording a modicum of exemption freedom to the employee.

The path before us affords us only two choices - we could acquiesce to the federal government's unconstitutional orders by not taking action or we can encroach upon business owners in a similar manner as the federal government to enjoin the court battle. In either case, both constitutions will be injured but with this bill, the state legislature can attempt to prevent the more grave moral injustice perpetrated against the citizens of Texas by the federal government.



The United States Constitution expressly protects the private property rights of its citizens, which includes the businesses they own. Within this bundle of property rights exists an individual's freedom of contract. Between an employer, who owns the property of the business, and an employee, vaccination status falls squarely inside the two parties' right to contract freely between themselves. When this freedom is disrupted by a government, that government begins to overstep its constitutional limits, which has been the case with the current presidential administration. We must now decide whether to respond to protect the best interest of our citizens while calling into question the relevant constitutional provisions or allow this federal mandate to play out in a manner which would be decisively detrimental to our citizens and their families. Both our action or inaction here will play out in court and a judicial decision is the least desirable place for a decision to be made.

Further, the proposal before us is the result of the President's unconstitutional use of his executive power and the Governor's short-notice addition of this element in the latter stages of this 3<sup>rd</sup> called special session. The federal government has set a precedent of constitutional violation which we cannot allow to persist. I recognize that without legislative action, many Texans will be at risk of losing their livelihood due to choices of conscience or even unavoidable medical conditions. While the employee does not have the right to his employment, I will prioritize the security of citizens in the attempt to protect them from their federal government.

In my time as a lawmaker, I have been guided by our constitutions as ordained by God. I find myself torn between these two today. While it deeply wounds me to choose between the moral harm to my constituents and the precedential harm to our federal and state constitutions, I must side with my constituents who might suffer serious harm without our intervention. But let us be forewarned that we must never become comfortable inserting ourselves between the employer and the employee.



## 1st Vice President and Newsletter Editor - Barbara Cross



The election of 2020 was a huge disappointment, and quite frankly, a shock. We couldn't believe that our president – the man who helped lead our country to unprecedented economic growth, peace accords in the Middle East, oil independence, and soaring job opportunities for all Americans – could lose the presidency. We watched in horror as election laws were changed and/or violated throughout our country, as poll watchers were barred from voting locations, as drop boxes were left unattended and unwatched by video surveillance, and afterward, as video surveillance revealed election workers repeatedly feeding the same stacks of ballots into the counting machines. It was a discouraging and frustrating time, to put it mildly.

The results of the Biden administration have not been unexpected. We've seen the near collapse of our oil and gas industry including the plundering of our precious oil reserves, the debacle of Afghanistan, and the seemingly unending list of radical policies and executive orders, which on their face, seem contrived to send our country into social and economic decline and ruin.

The urge to do something – anything – to turn the tide for our country is overwhelming. We share our fears and frustrations with our families and friends. We listen to the news incessantly (Okay, that's probably just me!), and we rail against a system that seems to have turned on freedom-loving, flag-waving Americans. We grit our teeth as people who are less enthusiastic about politics shrug their shoulders and say there is nothing we can do. In the quiet, deep parts of our hearts, we know that is not true. We know we can and should do everything we can to make a difference.

That is exactly why we are in MCRW. Whether you have been a member for years or recently joined, you are part of the solution. You are making a difference! The articles in our newsletter this quarter help to answer the question, "What can I do?" We have suggestions for all levels of involvement. In the months leading up to the November elections – and the taking back of the House and Senate – we have so much to do. MCRW is working on all fronts to promote and support Republican candidates – and each other. This is an organization where you belong and where you will find other patriots who are willing to work, fight, and pray for our beloved United States of America.

In preparation for the newsletter this time, I asked our board members to share what they love about MCRW. Their responses shine a light on the best reasons to join or get more involved in our club. For each of us, the friendships we make and the sense of purpose that drives us makes this the best place to be. Together, we make McLennan County, Texas, and our beloved USA a better place. Never underestimate the power behind a coalition of strong women. We are a force for good!

We change the world by changing our little corner of it. We make the world a better place by making our city and communities better places. We **KEEP TEXAS RED** by sharing our strong, conservative, and patriotic beliefs with others. Working together, America will remain "the shining beacon on the hill" as Ronald Reagan so aptly stated. Thank you for taking on the challenge. You matter! You are important to the success of MCRW because together our influence reaches far and wide! Throughout the coming months and into the 2024 elections, I know we will all work together to take back our country. I can't wait!



## Campaign Activities, Angelika Hoehner

It is time to gear up our work to help Republican candidates win in November! You may be asking, "What can I do?" There are numerous opportunities for you to be involved; some do not involve leaving your home.

**Become a Volunteer Deputy Registrar!** - You can become a certified Volunteer Deputy Registrar (VDR) and get individuals to register to vote. The training to become a VDR only takes about 15 minutes, and you can get someone registered to vote for the November election.

**Help with TFRW Initiatives** - You can help with TFRW initiatives to make phone calls on behalf of candidates, send mailers, or participate in block walking.

**Stay Informed!** - Most of all, you can stay informed about the issues and about the candidates. *Knowledge is power!* Do your research!

**Help Others to Get Involved** - Find a voting buddy (or two) and discuss the candidates and the issues with them. Go to the polls together. Persuade three or four of your friends to work in some capacity to support Republican candidates. Do they want to work as a VDR or as a poll worker? Write letters? Make phone calls? Volunteer in a candidates' campaign? Help to clean up our voter rolls? Volunteer at Republican Party Headquarters?

The bottom line is that YOU make a difference! YOU matter! We are counting on YOU! The opportunities to become involved and to make a difference are boundless. Let's work together to **Keep Texas Red!**



## Caring for America - Connie Stamps

A big thanks to all who have donated to our Caring for America projects this first quarter of 2022! Your desire to help others has been greatly appreciated by recipients of both crisis pregnancy and unwanted pregnancy situations.

We are hoping to have an opportunity to return to Friends for Life in the near future to assist clients with fun activities.

**THANK YOU!**



## Legislative Chair - Devvie Duke

From the grassroots perspective, our Legislative process begins with Resolutions that communicate to our Republican Law makers what it is we want to see in the form of legislation.

We began this process in March at our Precinct Conventions and our County Convention.

MCRW is proud to have many delegates/alternates to the Texas State Convention represented by members and associate members of MCRW. We all worked hard to represent our precinct and county at the local conventions in the month of March, and now we look forward to the State Convention June 16 –18. If you are a delegate or alternate, you should receive an email from the Republican Party of Texas (RPT) around April 15, which will contain all your sign-up and hotel instructions. We will offer a training for State Convention as the date gets closer.

## May brings 2 important election dates to put on your calendar!

This year's Uniform Election Day is **Saturday, May 7**. This is the Election Day that many local jurisdictions use. We have city council and school board candidates on various ballots. Remember the old saying, "ALL politics are LOCAL!" PLEASE GO VOTE! Our local elections are important, and your VOTE is important!

**Early Voting** will begin April 25. Dates, times, and locations can be found here:

<https://tx-mclennancounty.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/12898/Early-Voting>

You may view your sample ballot via the following link using your precinct number, which is found on your voter registration card.

<https://tx-mclennancounty.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/12954/Sample-Ballots-by-Precinct>

Additionally, Governor Abbott has called a Special Election on this same date, May 7, for two Texas Constitutional Amendments as a result of the Special Legislative Sessions. The propositions are as follows and will also be listed on your sample ballot.

### STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 1

"The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for the reduction of the amount of a limitation on the total amount of ad valorem taxes that may be imposed for general elementary and secondary public school purposes on the residence homestead of a person who is elderly or disabled to reflect any statutory reduction from the preceding tax year in the maximum compressed rate of the maintenance and operations taxes imposed for those purposes on the homestead."

### STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 2

"The constitutional amendment increasing the amount of the residence homestead exemption from ad valorem taxation for public school purposes from \$25,000 to \$40,000."

## RUN-OFF Election Day is Tuesday, May 24!

We have three statewide races that did not have a candidate with more than 50% of the vote in the Republican Primary, and now the top two from each race must face-off in the May 24 Runoff.

Those races are for Texas Attorney General, Railroad Commissioner, and Texas Commissioner of the General Land Office.

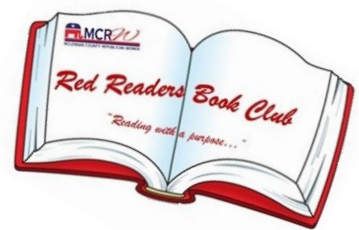
It is also time to lend your voice to the legislative process. While the Texas legislature is not currently in session, our legislators are working. Speaker Phelan has released the Interim Committee Charges for the Texas House of Representatives 87<sup>th</sup> Legislature. The period between Texas legislative sessions is referred to as “the interim.” During this period, senate and house committees are assigned certain topics to study, which are referred to as “interim charges.” You can find the “Interim Committee Charges” for the Texas House of Representatives at this link: <https://house.texas.gov/media/pdf/interim-charges-87th.pdf>

Lt. Governor Dan Patrick has released the 2022 Interim Legislative charges for the Senate, which can be viewed at this link: <https://www.ltgov.texas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/2022-Interim-Charges.pdf>

Also, the legislators are beginning to draft bills for the 88<sup>th</sup> Session. It’s time to start communicating with your representatives about potential legislation for the upcoming session!

## Red Readers, Sara Jones

Are you looking for a group of MCRW friends where you can talk about current events and books? If so, Red Readers Book Club is for you! Stimulating conversation combined with the great food at Our Breakfast Place is the perfect way to get to know each other. Through the years, we have read many topics that expand our knowledge not only of history but also our future. Learning should be fun and exciting, which is my hope you discover at Red Readers. We meet on the fourth Thursday of each month. Our April book is January 6 by Julie Kelly, and our May book will be Red-Handed by Peter Schweizer. Please RSVP to Sara Jones at 254-715-7265.







Your MCRW Board meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. at the Waco Central Library.



## MEMBERSHIP



### Chair, Cheryl Lenamon

A friend asked the other day, "Why didn't I see any publicity about the Kayleigh McEnany event in the newspapers?" I told her it was primarily a members - only event, a way for us to say thank you to our loyal and supportive members. Speaking as part of the planning committee, we were thrilled to bring about this magical evening for our members to enjoy.

That is only one of the ways we serve our membership though. Part of our mission is to educate and empower women to become a force for better government. That's what I personally love about MCRW. In a world where we are maxed out on fake news and questionable information, I know that each month I will receive truth that relates to the world around me. Truth that I can measure and trust. I also love that we are a community of like-minded individuals who motivate and inspire each other. When we act, we charge full speed ahead as a group and get things done. If it were up to me, I would not know how to begin on my own.



Others apparently are hungry for what I see in MCRW because **our membership numbers are soaring**. I love when a new member comes in and the next month, she brings in her friends and now her tribe is part of our larger community. Working together, we become the force that makes the difference.



**Congratulations Augusta Barron, our 300<sup>th</sup> MCRW Member in 2022! As I write this our membership stands at 332 – only 18 members away from our yearly goal of 350!!! So, you know I'll have to increase that to 400.**

Why do we need so many new members? Because it's an extremely important election year, and we have tons of work to do. Our **GET OUT THE VOTE (GOTV)**

Committee is already working hard to organize our efforts. I read that Texas is only years away from becoming a Blue state, and WE ARE NOT GOING TO LET THAT HAPPEN. But we need active members to jump on board. So please reach out to *your* friends!

## MCRW Calendar of Events

May 7 – Election for Local Offices and Texas Constitutional Amendments

May 10 – MCRW General Meeting “China’s Influence in America”

May 24 – Runoff Primary Election

May 27 – Red Readers Book Club – Red Handed

June 16-19 – Republican Party of Texas State Convention – Houston

NO JUNE GENERAL MEETING – due to timing with the RPT Convention



May 10 Guest Speaker

**Ashley Smith Thomas**

Founder & CEO

Freedom’s Fund USA

“China’s Influence in America”



**2022 TEXAS GOP  
CONVENTION**  
**JUNE 16-18 ★ HOUSTON**

**LIFE ★ LIBERTY ★ TEXAS**

## Member Relations - Ellie Cates

Thanks in advance for helping to streamline check-in at our meeting so that everyone with paid reservations will be accommodated quickly.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE:

**We appreciate all of you who pay for your tickets online with our easy tickets link. Our policy is and has been to ONLY accept online pre-payment for our meetings. We have allowed for a few exceptions to date, but in order to accommodate our increasing attendance, we will be strictly enforcing this policy effective immediately, no exceptions. If you have difficulties in using the online tickets link, please email Ellie Cates [elliecates302@gmail.com](mailto:elliecates302@gmail.com) and she will gladly walk you through the process. We truly appreciate your cooperation.**



### Here's a shout-out to my volunteers!

To my great helpers at the check-in table before meetings: Nikki Console, Angelika Hoehner, Karen Lane, Sharon Lee, Connie Stamps and Faye Wagner. **I appreciate you**, and those who faithfully call members before each meeting:

Sandra Caruso, Poet Colliver, Nikki Console, Sandra Crevier, Jackie Etchison, Robin Hartberg, Angelica Hoehner, Barbara Kent, Nancy Little, Patty O'Day, Terry McDonald, Max Nolen, Susan Raphael, Suzy Robinson, Jane Smith, Mollie Smith Kay Sparks, Connie Stamps, Jayni Sykora, Faye Wagner.

There are so many reasons I love MCRW and talk to as many people as I can about why they should join. I love our country, and I love Texas. I can't imagine living in a state that promotes abortion or the woke culture. I love that MCRW is active, and our members are doing everything we can to fight for my conservative values and **KEEP TEXAS RED**.

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Texas Federation of Republican Women: [www.tfrw.org](http://www.tfrw.org)

National Federation of Republican Women: [www.nfrw.org](http://www.nfrw.org)

Republican Party of Texas: [www.texasgop.org](http://www.texasgop.org)

Republican Party of McLennan County: Email: [info@mclennanrepublicans.org](mailto:info@mclennanrepublicans.org)

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