

DCRW NEWS

*The Latest From Douglas County
Republican Women*

January 2024

President's Message



First and foremost...Thank you all for your confidence and support in handing me the reigns to this dynamic club led for the past four years by the ever-capable and honorable Brenda Robertson and her board, big shoes to fill for sure. My promise to you is that I will do my best to make you proud of our Douglas County Republican Women's Club in our community endeavors and most importantly the roles we will undertake to ensure our Republican Nominees win and bad ballot initiatives like Rank Choice Voting are defeated this November. Your help and participation in making this happen is necessary to ensure life in our beautiful valley, state and nation remains FREE.

I am happy to report that fifteen ladies, mostly new to a DCRW Board, met for an all-day retreat at my home November 15th to layout a vision for our 2024-2025 term of office and embark on a path of success as a TEAM. June Shafer, Corresponding Secretary & Sunshine coined this board motto: TEAM: Together Each Achieves More!

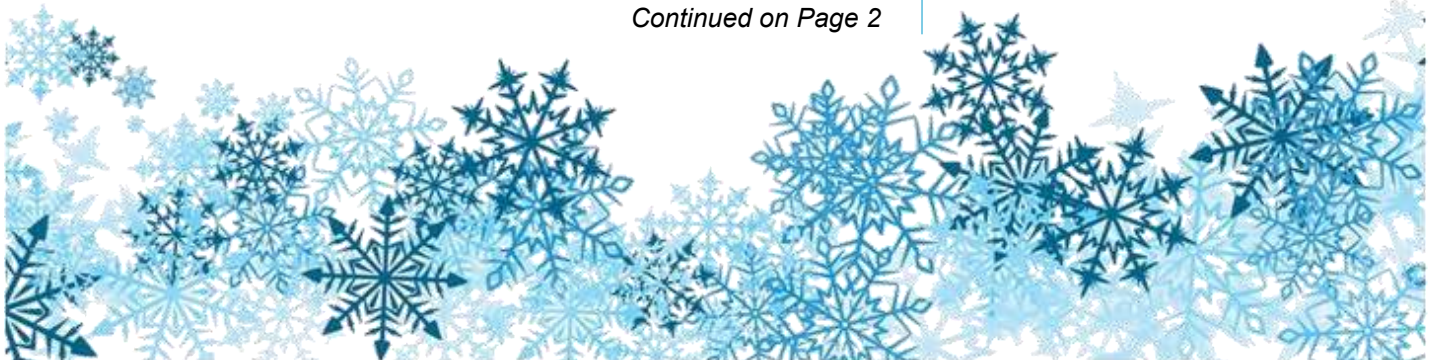
The retreat provided a wonderful opportunity for our Ladies to get to know each other on a professional basis and idea share all aspects of club operations. Be sure to see who is on your new DCRW Board later in this newsletter. You will notice there are some "to be determined/TBD" vacancies, so if you would like to step up, please let me know.

One of our first discussions centered around what we can do to attract new members. It's a given that "member referrals" are the

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President's Message (cont.)

best way to get new members. So, thinking out loud, after a potential new member hears about DCRW, where would they go to get more information? Today, that place is typically the organization's website and/or printed material such as the membership application and brochure, also housed on the website. So, the question for our board is, "Does DCRW have the information people are looking for **where** they are looking?" Is there a common look and feel to our web and printed information so it is readily associated with DCRW?

To assist the Board in answering these questions, we looked at our current website, reactivated very recently, and core club documents—then we reviewed what other NvFRW Clubs are doing on their websites. A plan was then put into place to upgrade DCRW's image via branding.

Most club websites home pages begin with statements of purpose and values called Vision and Mission Statements. Agreeing that DCRW's website should commence with the same, a sub-committee quickly formed: Virginia Starrett, Judy Brooke and Kathy Brownlee. I think you will agree once you see their completed work at the January 3rd meeting, they did a great job. And if the Mission Statement sounds familiar, it should; the values listed are taken from our club approved by-laws, Article II, Objectives.

Another item the Board noticed in looking at other club websites was their visual image or branding. Most had a unique banner across the top along with their unique logo. This "look" was repeated in their club application and brochure. Seeing an opportunity for improvement, the Board identified the Public Relations Committee as the group to tackle this objective.

Sometime in the next few months we will identify and gather artist members in our club (if this is you, let me know) to collaborate on creating branding options for approval by the general membership.

This way, all DCRW printed material and website will have a recognizable visual image in our community. And maybe after that, we can create some great logo merchandise including blouses, t-shirts and visors/hats. Always thinking about how we can raise funds!!!

This pretty much wraps up the Board's discussion about making sure DCRW has the support information "member referrals" are looking for—where they are likely looking, the internet. Other topics discussed ranged from the newsletter, fundraising opportunities, stand-alone annual DCRW financial health, and deciding on the charities to receive our general meeting table donations to name a few. You will hear more about these in the months to come.

As you know DCRW has awarded general meeting table donations to Boys and Girls Club and Honor Flight. Assigning the charities is the pleasure of the President; however, I put the question to the Board. Going forward we will award our table donations to three organizations aligned with NFRW Achievement Award categories: Armed Services: WAVE (Welcome All Vets Everywhere, the Douglas County Chapter); Caring for America: City of Refuge in Gardnerville; and Homeland Security: Douglas County Sheriff's K-9 Program which is not a budgeted program.

I know I speak for the entire Board in thanking and encouraging you to put your toe in the water to volunteer in some way for a committee or activity that brings you pleasure and satisfaction. This is a vitally important election year. WE MUST WIN—our Constitutional Republic depends upon it!

Visualize Winning,

Mo Karas

President



DCRW 2024 Committees

Appointed Officers (AO)/Committees	Committee Chairs
Achievement Awards/Volunteer Hours	Sue Leinweber
Americanism	TBD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Armed Services 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caring for America 	Tina Nepl
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homeland Security 	
Budget & Finance	Cindy Arvayo
Bylaws	Virginia Starrett
Campaigns & Elections	TBD
Chaplain (AO)	Virginia Starrett
Fundraising Committee	Brenda Robertson
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly Table Donation Collection 	Nancy Kjeldergaard
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boutique 	Barbie Sisneros
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Silent Auction 	Susan Rayburn
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership Event 	Judy Marsh
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scholarship Fundraiser 	Laura Gardner
Historian (AO)	Ellie Lindberg
Legislation & Research	Virginia Nisse
Literacy & Education	Brenda Robertson
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scholarship Program 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MELP 	
Membership Committee	Chair: Judy Marsh Co-Chairs: Kathy Brownlee & Cathie Lund
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospitality 	Elinor Lacy & Gloria Darrington
Nominating Committee	Elinor Lacy
Parliamentary Procedure/Parliamentarian (AO)	Virginia Nisse
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sergeant at Arms 	Stefeni Luman
Programs Committee	Virginia Starrett
Public Relations Committee	TBD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corresponding Secretary & Sunshine 	June Shafer
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newsletter Editor 	Judy Brooke
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertising Sales 	Laura Gardner
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Press Releases (meeting/event announcements) 	Judy Brooke
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Webmaster 	Barbara Smallwood
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Media 	TBD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photographer 	Paige Shaw
Techology	Ilene Emmons



**President
Maureen (Mo) Karas**



2024 Officer Installation

What a great way to start the new year! We had over 90 members and guests in attendance at our January meeting that included the installation of our new officers. DCRW Officers were elected for their two-year term at the December meeting. Also, extend a big thank you to Ginger Starrett, 1st Vice President, for enlisting Megan Barth from the Nevada Globe as our guest speaker. Please give these new officers (below) a very warm welcome and a enormous thank you for stepping up to lead us these next two years.



**1st Vice President
Virginia (Ginger) Starrett**



**2nd Vice President
Judy Marsh**



**Secretary
Charlotte (Chari) Ursic**



**Treasurer
Tina Neppi**



Nicol Herris, former President of the Reno Republican Women and former 2nd Vice-President Nevada Federation of Republican Women, installing the DCRW 2024 Executive Officers.



January Luncheon & Officer Installation



(Center): Susan Jansen, President,
Douglas County School Board Trustees



(L-R): Laura Gardner, Commissioner
Mark Gardner and Douglas County
Assessor Trent Tholen



Senator Robin Titus



Leslie Burns and School
Board Trustee David Burns



January Guest Speaker, Megan Barth

Our guest speaker, Megan Barth, founding editor of The Nevada Globe (<https://thenevadaglobe.com>)

said her job is to provide information that is correct, fact-based, and currently available to the public. She shared so many important issues with us today while emphasizing the importance of state and local elections this year. Why is her emphasis on local elections? Because Megan believes it's that level of government official who will make decisions that will affect all of us and our families in the future.

Megan stressed the importance of our need for voting-in effective leadership in local positions because the State of Nevada is at stake. It is going to be hard to retain Nevada as a red state (even purple) since the 2020 census opened up the opportunity for our Democrat-controlled legislature to redistrict some areas providing them with more leverage and influence. According to

Megan, if the Democrats gain control of the Senate and maintain their super majority in the state assembly, Governor Lombardo could lose his veto power allowing the Democrats to pass any legislation they want.

Megan pointed out that we have a good opportunity to win some assembly seats back.

Unfortunately, as Megan so eloquently put it, "Common sense is not common today." A consistent message throughout her presentation is that everything the Democrats do they do by design, nothing is accidental or an afterthought. ♦



A Fond Farewell

After completing four successful years leading the Douglas County Republican Women, at the January meeting, Brenda Robertson transferred the gavel and responsibilities over to Mo Karas, our new President for the next two years. This doesn't mean our beloved Brenda won't be around! She quickly moves into the position of Immediate Past President.



The DCRW was pleased to honor Brenda's tremendous contributions and commitment to

educate and encourage club members in Republican values at the luncheon. Knowing that she is all about her grandchildren, the club was pleased to present Brenda with a gift certificate to Southwest Airlines. We are all hopeful that she will schedule her next grandkid fix in the very near future.

Once again, Brenda, from all of us to you, thank you for your leadership and commitment. It was very appreciated. ♦



Membership Report

LAST CALL FOR 2024 RENEWALS—PLEASE RENEW TODAY!

Renewal membership rules with the National Federation have changed:

- Members who have not yet renewed have until the end of January to be counted as “**Renewals**” for the 2024 Achievement Award.
- Members who pay for the 2024 year after January will be classified as “**Returning**” and, therefore, will not be included in the DCRW renewal rate.

Currently, DCRW has **58** renewed full members, we need 20 more renewals to make 70% of last year’s 112 full members.

Your help is needed for DCRW to continue to be competitive—and you know ***we strive to win!***

DCRW dues will remain \$40.00 for the year. You can mail your check to:

- DCRW, P.O. Box 1214, Minden, NV 89423

Or you can bring your check or cash and renewal application to our next monthly luncheon meeting.

If you have not been receiving our informative emails, typically it is an indication that dues have not been paid, and you have been removed from our membership list. Staying informed is one of the biggest benefits of membership in the DCRW.

Emails come not only from DCRW, but also from our Nevada Federation and National Federation.



The 2024 year will be filled with political action. Our monthly meetings will provide interesting and informative speakers during this very important election year. Staying informed during this time is critical, and the calendar on [page 7](#) includes the dates for the upcoming Presidential Preference Primary and Nevada Caucus.

Please feel free to email me with any questions or ideas you may have at dcrwnv@gmail.com. You can also call or text me at 775•790•7725.

Your membership is very important to us, and we hope you consider staying with DCRW! ***Together we win!*** ♦

Judy Marsh

2nd Vice President—Membership





Sunshine and Stars

Happy New Year, everyone!

My name is June Shafer, your new "Sunshine and Stars" gal with which to correspond.

I enjoy lifting spirits when needed. When you know of any in our DCRW family who can use some loving tender thoughts, please email or call me. My phone number is 775•588•5352 and my email is junshafer@hotmail.com.

Please only use in your subject line to me, "Sunshine and Stars."

In November and December, I sent "thinking of you" notes on your behalf to the following who have had or having surgeries, or are recovering from being under the weather and more. They are:

Carol Colavecchio

Roseanne Farmer who lost her sister Sue Leinweber and hubby, Ron, who were in a car accident

Barbara Smallwood
and Jean Tomlinson

Please remember to keep them in your thoughts.

May the spirit of love and goodness in this new year bring to each of you inner peace to share. ♦



Items Needed!

The need for silent auction items is ongoing by DCRW. When cleaning out your closets or cupboards think DCRW! Your items should be in good condition, with an estimated value for your donated item(s).

Follow these three simple steps:

1. Contact either Susan Rayburn at susan.rayburn@aol.com or Barbie Sisneros at barbieshart@hotmail.com to let them know what you are bringing to auction off.

OR

2. Just bring your item(s) and give them to Susan or Barbie at the meeting. Please bring items by 11:00 a.m. so members have an opportunity to see and bid on the item(s).
3. They will write up the bid sheet on your behalf. ♦

Candidates Who Will Appear ONLY on the First in the West Caucus Ballot

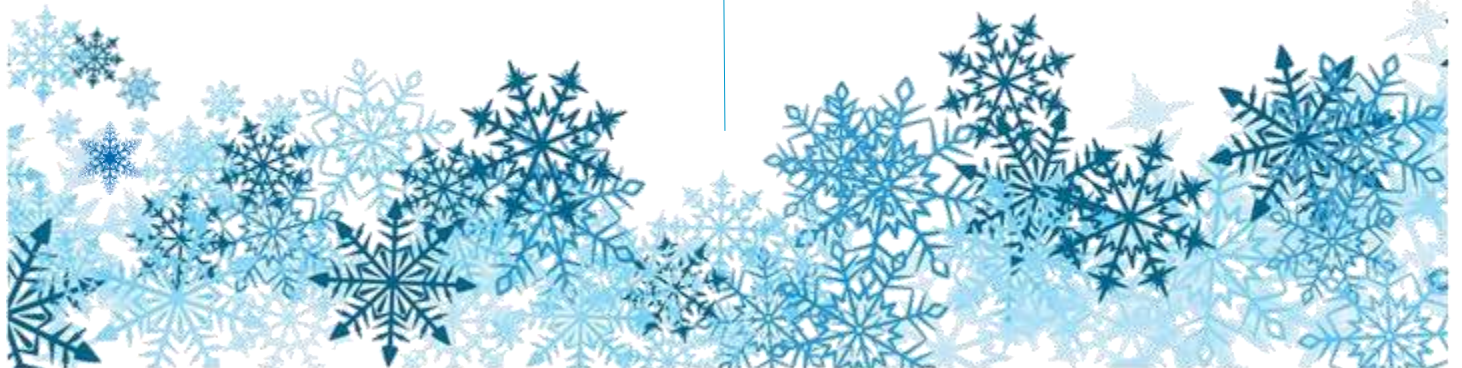
Ryan Binkley

Former Governor Chris Christie

Governor Ron DeSantis

Vivek Ramaswamy

Former Pres. Donald J. Trump



Nevada First in the West Caucus Info Sheet

NOMINATING PROCESS FOR US PRESIDENT

- ALL elected officials in the United States are elected by a direct vote of the people EXCEPT the President of the United States.
- Presidential candidates are nominated at each party's National Convention.
- Delegates at the National Convention are bound by the results of the caucus or primary held in each state.
- The US President is elected by a vote of the Electoral College.

NEVADA NOMINATING HISTORY

- 1864 Nevada gains statehood. From 1864 until 1948 Presidential Electors were directly elected by the people, except in 1912 when only the Democrats held a primary
- 1949 legislation was passed to have each party select their electors at their state convention
- Primary law was passed in 1953 but repealed in 1955, before the 1956 election.
- Primary law was again passed in 1976, repealed in 1981
 - ◇ Closed primaries held in 1976 and 1980
- 1984 until now Nevada has had closed caucuses to bind party delegates, except in 1996 only the GOP took advantage of a one time option for a mail in primary.
- 2021 Legislature passed a primary law for the 2024 cycle, but gave political parties the option of using the results for their nominations or keeping their existing process.

The caucus is the traditional way we have chosen our presidential nominee for decades. Contrary to reports that the NVGOP is trying to confuse Nevada Republican voters, the truth is that the 2024 primary is an all new, very expensive, and meaningless process.

NEVADA CAUCUS BALLOT

All Candidates Delegate Eligible
Ryan Binkley
Former Governor Chris Christie
Governor Ron DeSantis
Vivek Ramaswamy
Former President Donald J. Trump

STATE PRIMARY BALLOT

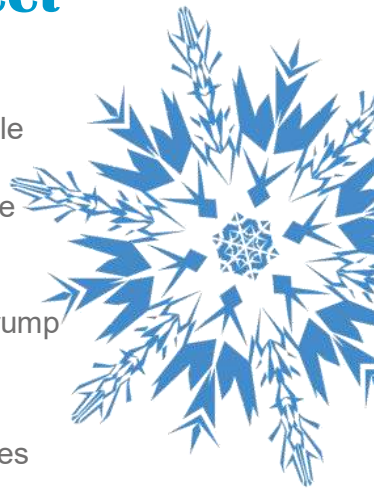
No Delegate Eligible Candidates
John Castro
Heath Fulkerson
Nikki Haley
Donald Kjornes
*Former Vice President Mike Pence
*Senator Tim Scott
Hirsh Singh

****Suspended campaigns, but will still appear on the Primary ballot.***

HOW DO I CAUCUS?

Arrive at your assigned caucus location. ([page 8](#) in this newsletter has caucus locations):

- Show your ID and sign in
- Receive your ballot
- You can mark your secret ballot and cast your vote and leave or
- Participate in your precinct meeting, Presidential Preference Poll and elect delegates to the county convention.
- The result of the presidential preference poll will bind the elected delegates to the winner to support them at the national convention in July of 2024
- Tabulation of ballots cast is transparent. Anyone participating is allowed to stay and watch the votes count. The votes are secret as your name is not on the ballot. The only



Nevada First in the West Caucus (cont.)

person who would recognize your ballot is you.

- Results will be reported by precinct, so you will know for certain that your vote was counted as you intended.

WHY CAUCUS ?

The caucus is the traditional way Nevadans have chosen our presidential nominee for decades. The state run, universal mail in ballot primary elections is unfortunately mandated by law. The Democrat legislature, under the direction of Harry Reid, forced AB321 through in 2021 with zero Republican support. The law made sweeping changes to how we hold elections in Nevada in the name of increasing voter turnout, but voter turnout has not increased. The nonbinding primary will cost you, the taxpayer, millions of dollars for undeliverable universal mail in ballots, vote centers, poll workers, partial voter education and the like. All for an election that will award the "winner" nothing but brief, meaningless bragging rights. The caucus features all the no nonsense protections republicans have championed for years, including in the 2023 session where Governor Lombardo and our legislators introduced a number of bills to safeguard our elections - Democrats refused to even hold hearings on these bills, which is why Republicans must hold elections using these features anytime the law allows us to:

- **Voter ID**
- **NO universal mail ballots**
 - ◊ Absentee voting is allowed for active duty military and their families.
- Paper ballots
- Transparent tabulation
- Same day results
- Precinct based voting

- Zero cost to taxpayers or to the state or county parties

FAQ'S

1. **What day is the caucus? February 8, 2024.** Check-in starts at 5pm. The meetings will generally start by 6pm, and should be over by about 7:30pm. Your assigned location will be listed on the website and communicated to you by the beginning of December for planning purposes. See [page 8](#) for locations.

2. Can I vote and leave? **YES.** Drop and go voting will be available from 5:00 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.

3. Can I participate in both the state run primary and the caucus? **YES**

4. Will I get in trouble for voting twice by participating in both? **NO.** One is a state run primary, and one is a party nominating process, so you are not double voting.

5. When is the last day I can register to vote to participate in the caucus? **January 8, 2024**

6. Should I verify my current voter registration status? **YES.** Under Democrat passed laws, your party registration can be changed without your awareness.

7. How do I check the status of my voter registration? Visit <https://registertovote.nv.gov/>

For more information, please visit this website, www.NevadaGOP.org, or contact the Nevada Republican Party by phone 702-586-2000 or by email at info@nevadagop.org ◊





Douglas County Republican Caucus and Precinct Meeting & Locations



Caucus Date: Thursday February 8, 2024 Time: 5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Precincts 1, 7, 15, 26 & 27

Douglas High School, 1670 NV-88, Minden

Precinct 2

EF Fish Springs Volunteer Fire Station #9,
2249 Fish Springs Road, Gardnerville

Precinct 3

EF Gardnerville Volunteer Fire Station #2,
1255 Douglas Ave, Gardnerville

Precincts 4, 14, 28, 30, & 31

Douglas County Community Center, 1329
Waterloo Rd, Gardnerville

Precinct 5

EF Genoa Fire Station #3, 2298 Main St,
Genoa

Precincts 6, & 13

James Lee Park Indian Hills Water District,
3394 James Lee, Carson City

Precincts 8, 9, 12, 18, 19, 20 & 25

Pa-Wau-Lu Middle School, 701 Long Valley
Rd., Gardnerville

Precincts 10 & 24

Topaz Ranch Estates Community Center,
3939 Carter Dr., Wellington

Precincts 11, 21, 22, 32, 33

Pinion Hills Elementary, 1479 Stephanie
Way, Minden

Precincts 16, & 29

EF Sheridan Volunteer Fire Station #8, 980
Centerville Lane, Gardnerville

Precinct 17

EF Rhenstroth Fire Station #10, 2008 Pinto
Circle, Gardnerville

Precincts 23, & 24

EF Sunridge Fire Station #12, 3620 Sunridge
Drive, Carson City

Precincts 35, 36, 37

Zephyr Cove Elementary School, 226 Warrior
Way, Zephyr Cove

Precincts 38, 39, 40, 41

Kahle Park Community Center, 236 Kings-
bury Grade, Stateline

To locate YOUR precinct, click on this link: [MY PRECINCT](#)





2024 Calendar Of Events

January



- Jan 01 Happy New Year!
- Jan 03 DCRW Lunch Meeting @ VCF 11am
- Jan 09 Nat'l Law Enforcement Appreciation Day
- Jan 10 SNRW Meeting @ COD Casino 11:30
- Jan 11 DCRCC Meeting @ Elks Lodge 7:00pm
- Jan 15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day

February

- Feb 01 Black History Month
- Feb 01 National Freedom Day
- Feb 02 National Wear Red Day
- Feb 06 Presidential Preference Primary (PPP)
(Early voting begins 1/27 through 2/2)
- Feb 07 DCRW Lunch Meeting @ VCF 11am
- Feb 08 2024 PRESIDENTIAL CAUCUS**
- Feb 14 Happy Valentine's Day
- Feb 14 SNRW Meeting @ COD Casino 11:30
- Feb 18 Douglas County Lincoln Day Event
- Feb 19 President's Day

March

- Mar 06 DCRW Lunch Meeting @ VCF 11am
- Mar 10 Daylight Savings Begins
- Mar 13 SNRW Meeting @ COD Casino 11:30
- Mar 14 DCRCC Meeting @ Elks Lodge 7:00pm
- Mar 17 Happy St. Patrick's Day!
- Mar 29 Good Friday
- Mar 31 Easter Sunday

History of January

January was named for the Roman god Janus, known as the protector of gates and doorways, who symbolize beginnings and endings. Janus is depicted with two faces, one looking into the past, the other with the ability to see into the future. What a fitting symbol for this first day of the year; this month is our door into the new year.



The months of January and February were not originally in the ancient Roman calendar as the winter months were considered dormant, both in terms of agriculture and also in terms of making war. This was a time of peace.

Until 450 BCE, the Roman calendar was 10 months, beginning in March (*Martius*), due to the March Equinox. Remember, March was named for "Mars," the god of War who was also an agricultural guardian. ♦

Recipes for the Season



In the month of January, stay warm and cozy with soups, stews, and chowders. Here are a few internet favorites:

- [Potato and Kale Soup](#)
- [Italian Vegetable Soup](#)
- [Granny's Chicken Soup](#)
- [Vermont Butternut Squash Soup](#)
- [Kale, White Bean, and Sausage Soup](#)





Worthwhile Websites

Douglas County Republican Women:

www.dcrwnevada.com

Nevada Federation of Republican Women:

www.nvfrw.org

Nevada Republican Party:

www.nevadagop.org

**Douglas County Republican Central
Committee:**

www.douglasgop.org

Republican National Committee:

www.rnc.org

The Patriot Post:

www.patriotpost.us

Heritage Foundation:

www.heritage.org

News Max:

www.newsmax.com

Pacific Justice Institute:

www.pacificjustice.org

Nevada Governor:

<https://gov.nv.gov/>

*Note: All the above website links are clickable
and will take you directly to the website.*



**Christine Blackburn
Leslie Burns
Theresa DeGraffenreid
Janet Freixas
Vicki Galbraith
Laura Gardner
Frances Holden
Susan Jansen
JD Johnson
Tobianne Nal
Barbie Sisneros
Barbara Smallwood
Karin Zeller**

**NOTE: If your birthday is missing, please contact
Judy Marsh at judy.a.marsh@outlook.com.
Not all completed applications indicate a birth date.**





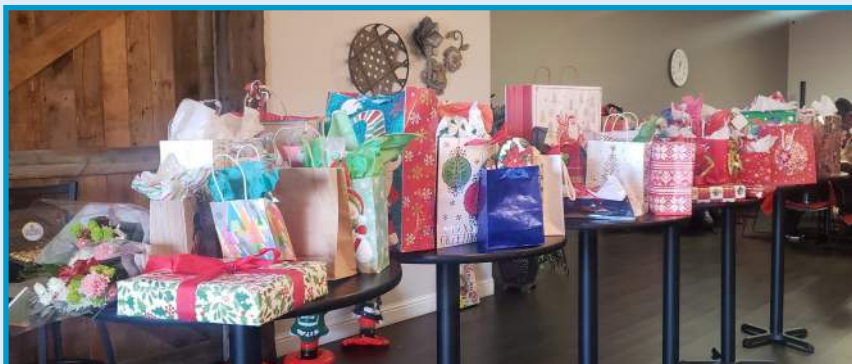
Christmas Party Cheer

On December 6th, DCRW held their annual Christmas Celebration kicking off “the most wonderful time of the year.” Over 85 ladies and guests were in attendance to enjoy the holiday festivities planned by Maxine Rodowicz, 1st Vice-President-Programs. There were games with chocolate prizes, a “Twelve Days of Christmas” chorus that needed some vocal help, ugly, festive, and joyful sweater competitions, and a delightful gift exchange. The Sierra Lutheran High School Band performed a Christmas carol medley and the wonderful VCF Kitchen Staff served a delicious pot roast lunch with a scrumptious pumpkin dessert.

Attorney Laurie Trotter gave a short talk on our First Amendment rights which include: Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances. Laurie also reminded us how we live those six freedoms out in our daily lives. ♦



Christmas Party Cheer



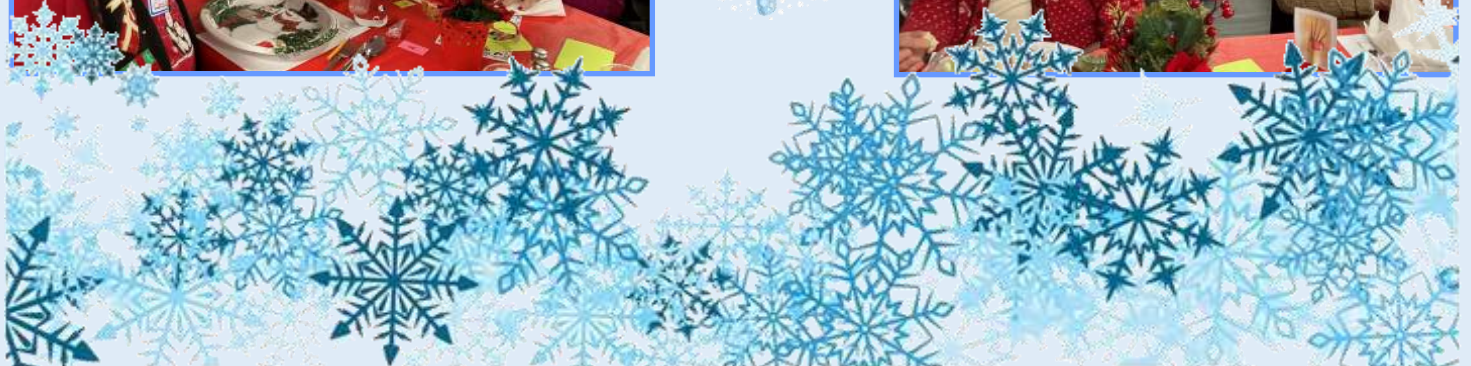
Christmas Party Cheer



The Boutique Babes (L-R): Incoming Chairs Susan Rayburn and Barbie Sisneros, and outgoing Chair Gloria Darrington.



These smiling faces greet us every month at the welcome desk (Back): Kathy Brownlee and Elinor Lacy. (Front): Tina Neppi and Judy Marsh.



Christmas Party Cheer



The Town of Gardnerville Lights up for the Holidays

Gardnerville Christmas Kick-Off



On November 30th, the Town of Gardnerville lit the way to the holidays with its 17th annual **Gardnerville Christmas Kickoff** at Heritage Park. There was food, entertainment, music, a Christmas light show, and fireworks. In addition, families could take an electric carriage ride around the park and build memories that will last a lifetime. The Heritage Park Pavilion was once again spectacularly lit, and the fireworks dazzled the spectators. Entertainment was provided by Controlled Burn, All About Dance, Northwest Martial Arts, and the Douglas High Dynamics. Dutch oven cobblers, hot cocoa, spiced cider, and popcorn tantalized everyone's tastebuds. The town of Gardnerville provided the spiced cider, and the Gardnerville Water Company provided the popcorn. Topping off the evening was a fantastic fireworks display provided by Pyro Guys. Brenda Robertson captured the fireworks while enjoying the festivities with friends. ♦

Gardnerville Parade of Lights



Gardnerville continued the Christmas cheer on Saturday with the annual Parade of Lights. The streets were lined with parade-goers all the way from Gilman to Minden. Kids had their candy bags ready and open to receive the Christmas confections being distributed by many



Parade of Lights (cont.)

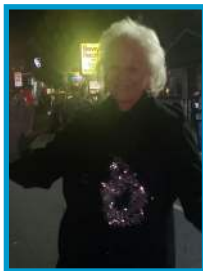
of the participating floats. More than 60 floats celebrated the black and orange parade theme 'Tiger Tidings: Spreading Championship Joy,'

One of many lights-blazing floats was the Hot Air for Hope float by Gardnerville's Balloon Nevada that lit up the night sky with their burners winning the award for best nonprofit.

"We experienced a large turnout for the 27th annual Parade of Lights, where the joy and unity lit up our community, resembling a scene from a Hallmark Christmas movie," said Carson Valley Chamber of Commerce Director Alicia Main. "With families with hot chocolate, and a lot of smiles, the parade themed 'Tiger Tidings: Spreading Championship Joy,' honored our state champions in girls' golf and softball, who served as grand marshals. Everyone dressed and decorated in orange and black, contributing to the spirited celebration." ♦



Riding on the Republican Party parade float



Brenda Robertson walking with the Boys & Girls Club.



Judy Brooke (R) enjoying the parade with a golfing friend.

Gallery of Trees



DCRW members decorated a Patriotic Christmas tree for the DC Historical Society Museum "Gallery of Trees" that was open from December 2nd thru the 23rd. There were many beautiful trees and Gingerbread houses on display. (L-R standing): Mo Karas, Cathy Davis, Maxine Rodowicz, Brenda Robertson, Janet Freixas, Teresa DeGraffenreid, Gloria Darrington, and Judy Marsh. (Seated L-R): Nancy Kjeldergaard and Elinor Lacy. ♦



Laura Gardner



Janet Freixas



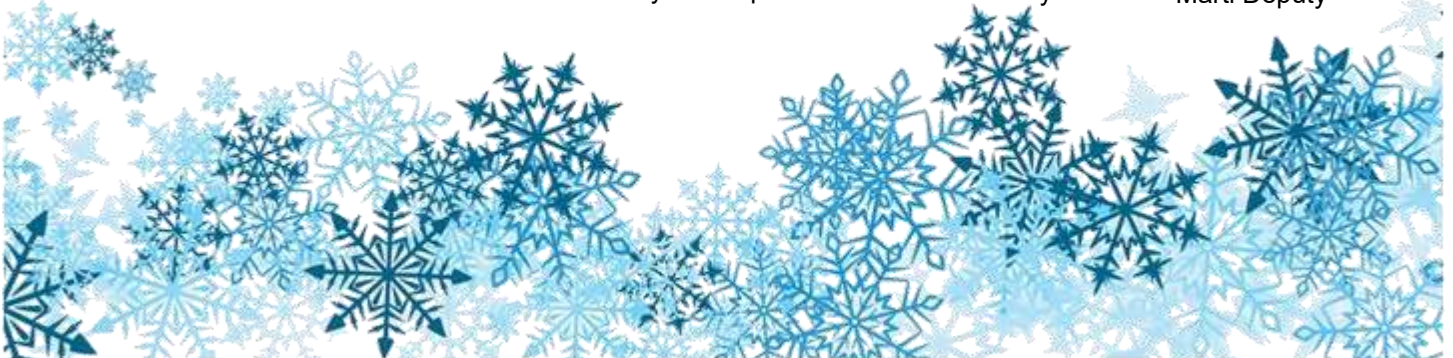
Wendy McKalip



Elinor Lacy



Marti Deputy



Amodei Reports



WHERE ARE WE NOW



Regular order – individual consideration and full passage of all 12 appropriations bills – is the ideal version of the congressional budget and appropriations process that breaks the federal budget into more manageable pieces and facilitates greater transparency and oversight. Unfortunately, a bleak, but familiar pattern in the appropriations process has replaced regular order over the last few years. Most appropriations bills pass the House only to die in the Senate, which responds by jamming the House with massive omnibus packages at the end of the year.

Fortunately, the House is continuing work to break this cycle and has passed more standalone appropriations bills for Fiscal Year 2024 – voting to fund more than 80% of the federal government thus far. For the House to keep working to return Washington to regular order, Congress passed a short-term spending agreement to keep the government open and prevent a holiday omnibus.

Last month, Speaker Johnson proposed a bifurcated continuing resolution (CR) that creates two separate funding deadlines to set up more targeted goals to work towards. I supported this legislation because government shutdowns are costly and disruptive, and this CR puts Congress in the best position to avoid the holiday omnibus tradition. In addition, separating the CR from the ongoing debate over supplemental funding priorities eliminates the ability to use a looming government shutdown as a bargaining chip. With the national debt spiraling out of control, the emergency at the border, and several wars raging abroad, these crises must be attacked head-on.

During his time, I have been impressed with Speaker Johnson and his commitment to restoring regular order and avoiding a disastrous Christmas omnibus monstrosity – something we've become all

too familiar with. I believe he has earned the right to some leeway – he inherited a budget mess and understands the harm a shutdown would cause. I've said it before, and I'll say it again: government shutdowns are not a responsible or effective tool for negotiation, and they are fiscally reckless. Don't believe me? The numbers speak for themselves.

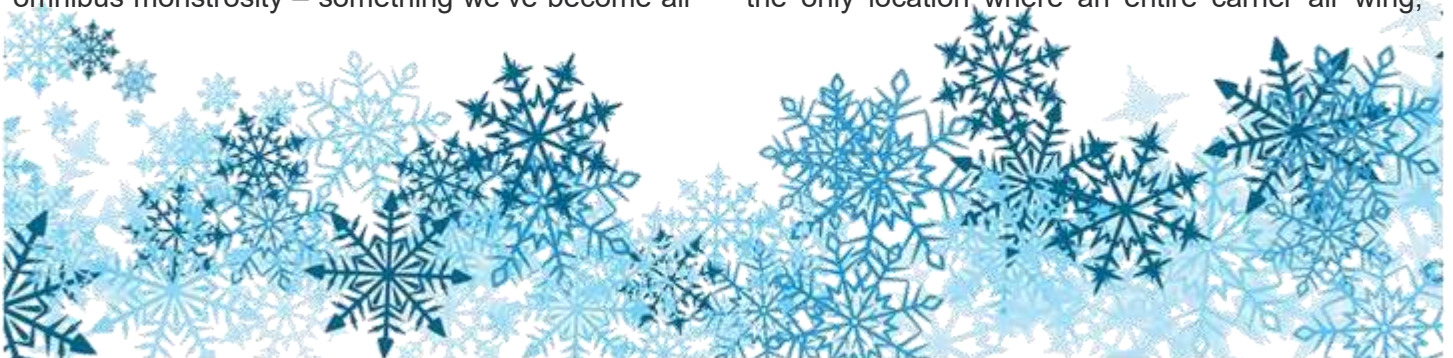
Evidence from previous government shutdowns shows they reduce economic growth, cause unnecessary government spending, and add to the budget deficit. The 2018-2019 shutdown? Reduced economic output by \$11 billion. The 2013 shutdown? Cost us \$2 billion. If we truly want to get serious about cutting back federal spending and reducing the deficit, shutting down

NEVADA DOING ITS PART



After years of collaboration and negotiation, the Nevada-generated solution to the Navy's proposal to modernize the Fallon Range Training Complex (FRTC) was included in the Fiscal Year 2023 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA; P.L. 117-263). This represented one of the most significant pieces of Nevada lands legislation in the State's history and provided the FRTC with more than half a million acres of BLM land for military training vital to our national security. The implementation of this agreement will not only enhance our national security, but also serve as an economic driver for our region.

The FRTC has served as the Navy's premier training environment for naval aviation forces for 75 years and is used extensively by the Navy to conduct mission training in advanced strike warfare, air warfare, electronic warfare, and tactical ground mobility, including live-fire training. The complex is the only location where an entire carrier air wing,



Amodei Reports (cont.)

consisting of more than 60 aircraft and associated support crews, can work together and train. The Navy needed to modernize the FRTC to address significant gaps in its training capabilities, and the agreement included in the FY23 NDAA approved the proposed expansion of land ranges and modernization. Modernization efforts include:

- Renewal of the Navy's existing public land withdrawal.
- Land range expansion through the additional withdrawal of public lands and the acquisition of some non-federal land.
- Airspace expansion and modifications.
- Upgrades to range infrastructure.

I am proud that Nevada represents a vital piece of our overall national security. We are living in a time of great global uncertainty, which is why it's more important now than ever to ensure the readiness of our forces. Many factors contribute to military readiness, like the quality of our personnel, strong leadership, modern equipment, adequate installation and base infrastructure, and effective education and training. Of these factors, none is more essential than realistic training. Training areas and ranges provide controlled and safe environments that enable military forces to conduct combat-like training as they undergo all phases of preparation needed for combat-ready deployment. The modernization of the FRTC ensures our forces have access to the ranges and operating areas necessary for realistic training to ensure combat readiness.

Since the modernization agreement was signed into law, the Navy has been working to meet the commitments necessary to complete the FRTC modernization project, such as establishing an Intergovernmental Executive Committee (IEC) made up of those that may be impacted by the proposed changes across Northern Nevada,

making payouts to Churchill County, the Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe, and the Walker River Paiute Tribe, and establish a Tribal Liaison Office. In addition, the Fiscal Year 2024 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) includes \$29 million in funding for the FRTC. I will continue to advocate for the FRTC to ensure our nation's military readiness. Even more so, I will continue to exercise my oversight authority over the Navy's continued implementation of the FRTC expansion

In addition, the FY24 NDAA included H.R. 6070, a bill I introduced with Representatives Horsford and Lee. This legislation amended the Military Lands Withdrawal Act of 1999 (P.L. 106-65) to clarify the authority of the Department of Defense to conduct certain military activities at the Nevada Test and Training Range (NTTR). H.R. 6070 allows for the United States Air Force to place up to 15 small thread emitter pads (up to 150x150 feet) within the Air Force's joint operating areas of the Desert National Wildlife Refuge as part of NTTR. This authorization will allow the Air Force to carry out critical mission training for our nation's fighter pilots with improved threat simulations.

Furthermore, Reps. Horsford, Lee, and I supported two amendments to require the completion of an Interagency Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Air Force and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to ensure adequate access for FWS to the joint use area, as well as require the submission of a report from the Department of the Interior (DOI) describing the status of a Cooperative Agreement between the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) for wildlife management activities in wilderness areas. The success of these measures is a testament to the effectiveness of our delegation when we work together ♦



Let Them Hear from You



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2024 is here! This “New Year” truly needs to be a reNEWal YEAR.



The America inspired by Judeo-Christian principles is slipping away.

Despite what may be asserted on CNN and its fellow dispensers of fake news, America has a heritage steeped in religious faith. God’s wisdom and guidance was foundational in the actions and philosophies of our founders—consider the fact that at least 50 of the 55 men who framed the Constitution were professing Christians.

And consider also that our first settlements were Christian based: Those landing from Spain in 1592 in what is St. Augustine named their landing site *Nombre de Dios*, which means, “Name of God.” The first act of the settlers arriving in what became Jamestown in 1607 was to erect a large wooden cross and hold a prayer meeting, and in the Mayflower Compact, the Plymouth Rock arrivees in 1620 stated they had undertaken their voyage for the “glory of God.”

Accountability to God has been confirmed through the years by actions of Presidents, Congress, and the Supreme Court. It is also evident on the walls of our national monuments/buildings and in our national anthem, seal, pledge, motto, and hymns.

Yet, sadly, we find ourselves ever more aware of how far away from God our nation is moving. Let’s all make a New Year’s Resolution that 2024 will be a turning point back to God and that our “right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness” will once again be on the right track. ♦

Ginger Starrett

*1st Vice President
and Chaplain*



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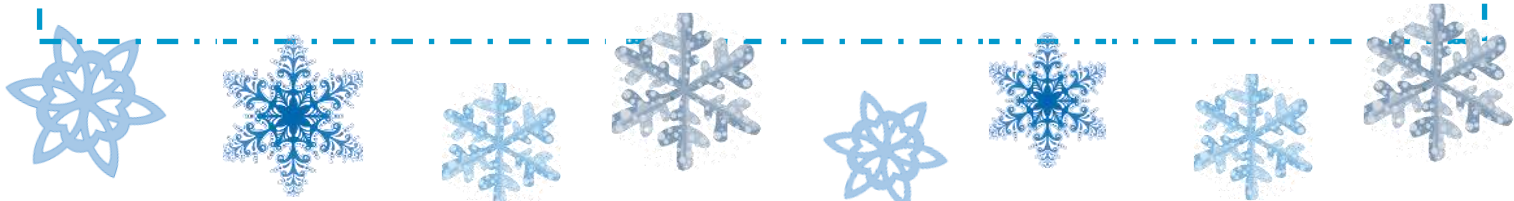
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