



# TEMPO

MAY 2018

## Message From the President



The membership reception on April 26th was an outstanding success. Dr. Gorka's speech was well received by an attentive standing room only audience. The Q & A that followed was informative and on target to current events. Everyone appreciated the extra time Dr. Gorka afforded us from his busy schedule to sign books and visit with attendees. Many thank to Kerri

Kupec, Linda App and Susie Miller for all they did to make this event so successful.

This past weekend Loree Gunn, Terri Hauser, Paula Potoczak, Suzanne Morrison, Susan Yonts-Shephard and I attended the Virginia Federation of Republican Women Annual convention in Richmond Virginia. We enjoyed hearing remarks from all three candidates for U.S. Senate, Former Governor Jim Gilmore, Congressman Dave Brat and numerous Republican Party officials. Our featured Saturday evening speaker was the entertaining Charlie Hurt, Washington Times Opinion Editor and Fox News personality. The Saturday General Session ended with a presentation on the Virginia Women's Monument in Capital Square by former First Lady of Virginia, Susan Allen and Colleen Messick, Chairman of the Capital Foundation. The monument called Voices from the Garden will acknowledge Virginia women and their contributions to the Commonwealth. The monument will be the first of it's kind in the nation recognizing the full range of women's achievements. At the May Membership meeting, the CRWC Board will recommend that the club contribute to this worthy cause.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the May 24th Membership meeting at Police HQ Community Room, 3600 Wheeler Avenue. Bring your spouse, a guest, a new member, all are welcome. You won't want to miss hearing our guest speaker Amber Smith, former Deputy Assistant to the Secretary of Defense and author of "Danger Close: My Epic Journey as a Combat Helicopter Pilot in Iraq and Afghanistan". Amber will talk to us about her book and her experience working for the Trump transition and administration. This will be our last formal membership meeting before our summer break – so don't miss it.

Eileen Brakens

## Commonwealth Republican Women's Club Thursday, May 24, 2018

**Alexandria Police Community Room  
3600 Wheeler Ave, Alexandria, VA  
22304**

**Speakers:  
Amber Smith**



Amber is the author of "Danger Close: My Epic Journey as a Combat Helicopter Pilot in Iraq in Afghanistan."

Amber also served as Deputy Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Outreach in Public Affairs at the Department of Defense for the Trump Administration.

***Politics make it possible,  
but women make it work!***







## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

*Linda App, VP Membership*

You ladies are amazing! I can't thank you enough! Our big event, the Annual Membership Reception at the Lyceum, was a huge success because you all did your part by preparing amazing food, contributing some fabulous wine, volunteering for different event duties, making our guests feel welcome and appreciated, and of course joining the after-party (also known as the clean-up crew). Check out the pics on the CRWC website. Special thanks to Eileen Brackens, Linda Greenberg, Jan Bates, Susie Miller, Kerri Kupec, Krista Price, Susan Yonts-Shepard, Loree Gunn, Gail Ledwig, Bill Cleveland, Suzanne Morrison, and Carrie Almond for helping out in awesome, key ways. We hosted a capacity crowd for our phenomenal guest speaker, Dr. Sebastian Gorka. Let's heed his rallying cry and get to work promoting and electing conservative/GOP candidates for the elections this fall.

New memberships are rolling in! Please welcome: Deborah McMahon, Jacqueline Condakes, Amanda Gordon, and Tara Cestero.

We still have a number of active 'regulars' that need to renew their membership by paying their dues, so please take care of that, folks. At the end of April, our membership count for paid members is:

Regular Members: 56

Associate Members: 17

## COMMONWEALTH CONNECTION *by Loree Gunn*

VFRW - the VFRW Convention was held May 5/6 2018 in Richmond, VA. NFRW President, Jodie Rushton installed the new VFRW Officers, Mary Franklin as President; Paula Steiner as First Vice President; Bonnie Burkhart as Second Vice President; Susan Cobb as Recording Secretary; Delores Switzer as Corresponding Secretary; and Beverly Cavatiao as Treasurer. The Convention heard from many wonderful speakers highlighted by Charlie Hurt, Former Governor James Gilmore, and Congressman Dave Brat of the Virginia 7th District. President Brackens and five CRWC members attended the convention as Delegates.

ARCC - in Sean's absence, the May meeting was run by Frank Fannon. We heard from candidates running for U.S. Senate and City Council.

### Christmas Ornament Sale

**See important change re when purchased with Pay Pal.**

CRWC has your 2018 White House Christmas ornaments and we need your help in selling the 500 ornaments we have purchased. They are exceptionally beautiful this year so they will be treasured by those you gift them to.

BUY 1,2,3,4,5,6 or 7 ornaments and pay \$25.00 each.

AND do we have a deal for you!!!!

**If you want to pay ONLY \$20.00 for each ornament, BUY 10 ornaments and pay \$200.00, thus you pay only \$20.00 each.**



The White House Historical Association is charging \$22.95 for the ornament this year. Remember shops in Old Town charged \$32.00 last year.

**Spread the word that ornaments can be purchased on our CRWC website [www.alexandriacrwc.org](http://www.alexandriacrwc.org) using Pay Pal for \$30.00 each when S&H are necessary or \$25.00 at events when purchased locally and S&H are not necessary and delivery can be arranged with Gail.**

Ornaments will be available on **May 24** at membership meeting.

For more information regarding your purchase contact Gail Ledwig.



## Minutes of the Alexandria CRWC General Membership Meeting April 26, 2018, The Lyceum, Alexandria, VA

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*President Eileen Brackens called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance.*

### Brief Remarks by Bill Cleveland

### Speaker Introduction

**Kerri Kupec, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, Program**

Kerri introduced our speaker for the evening, Fox news contributor and national security expert, Dr. Sebastian Gorka.

### Speaker

**Sebastian Gorka**

Gorka was a straight-shooting, forceful, yet motivational speaker to a packed-out audience of both men and women.

He relayed his experiences with then president-elect Trump, and how Trump hired him to be a national security advisor. Given Gorka's vast experience with teaching irregular warfare tactics, and military war theory to FBI agents and Marines, and his self-assured, no-nonsense style, he was a natural choice to advise the incoming Trump administration on national security issues. While he is no longer currently employed by the administration, he regularly advises those in places of influence.

Gorka went on to give a brief history of how our country has become the left-leaning, liberalized nation that it has. He mentioned a great book on this topic, Righteous Indignation by Andrew Breitbart that explains the left's well-planned and executed tactics to take control of our country.

But he also admonished everyone in the room that we all have a responsibility in having let this occur and it was our place to stand up, push back, and make our voices heard. We must be active and involved as the 2018 election is critical to our country's future.

He discussed some current issues such as the McCabe/Comey/FBI scandals, North Korea, the Iran nuclear debacle, how we can utilize social media to get our conservative values out there, and that we needed to support the president now more than ever.

He presented a wonderful analogy of Trump being the ice-breaking ship on a glacier, forging ahead and making new pathways, but if we are not the flotilla behind him, continuing to keep the course open and clear, the ice will just fold back around us and lock us in and we will be more stuck than ever. We have a unique opportunity to make a difference, and he encouraged us not to give up.

He also mentioned an interesting statistic related to the Heritage Foundation. Apparently, the HF drafts a document of their conservative policy recommendations for every incoming administration. For Trump, they had 255 policy recommendations. Gorka said that as of today, the administration has completed 60% of the policy objectives, which is unheard of. Of course, these things do not get any media attention.

Gorka went on to summarize Trump's two main goals: 1. To keep our citizens safe from terrorists, MS13, etc., and 2. For all Americans to thrive and prosper. Trump is obviously not in it for the money, or fame as he had those already; he truly wants to help our country get back on the right footing. And no matter the political party, religion, sexual orientation, etc., he is for the American people.

# 2018 Calendar

*Meetings, Events, Deadlines and Elections*



## MAY

24 Membership meeting

## JUNE

Jun. 12. Primary Election  
June 24 Trump Birthday Tea

## Celebrating the President's Birthday with Tea and Fashion Show at Trump

*Hotel By Linda App, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Membership*

We have just learned about a celebration being organized by *Virginia Women for Trump*. Here are a few details as we go to press. See the link for details and to RSVP.

**Date:** Sunday, June 24, 2018

**Time:** 1:00 Doors Open; 2:00 Event Begins

**Place:** Trump Hotel, Washington DC

**Cost:** \$100 tickets increase to \$125 on March 31

When you RSVP, tell them you want to sit at the CRWC table.

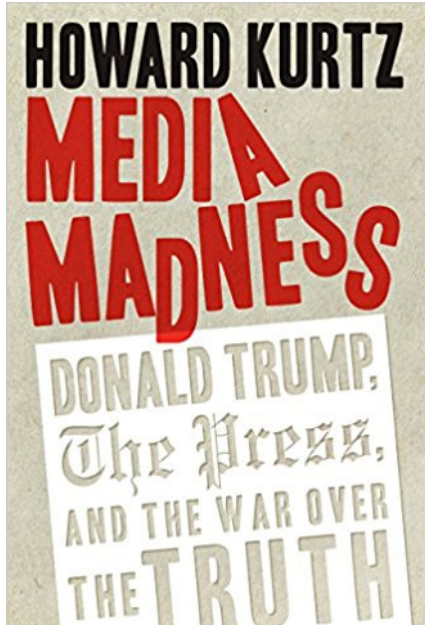
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tea-for-trump-birthday-extravaganza-tickets-42648662297>

[www.viriniawomenfortrump.com](http://www.viriniawomenfortrump.com)

Facebook is a wonderful networking and communication tool for CRWC. Through our CRWC facebook group we can instantly notify members of events or rallies where they could work to promote local candidates. There is a special tool to create event invitations which can be sent not only to group members but emailed to anyone. We also post information about the speaker for our upcoming meetings and links to information they have presented us. Photos have been added to our page from previous meetings as well as events, such as the George Washington Parade. Join us on Facebook: [CRWC - Commonwealth Republican Women's Club](#)

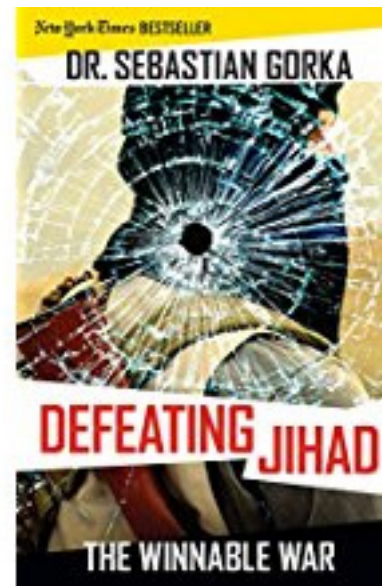
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## CONSERVATIVE BOOK CLUB *by Susan Yonts-Shepard*



Last month we read “Media Madness” by Howard Kurtz. We all liked the book, it is an easy read filled with lots of behind-the-scenes stories. The only problem was most of the stories we already knew because we watch Fox News. And it came as no surprise the media is biased against the Trump Administration. Kurtz does appear to try and be as objective as possible. He admits he believes a free press is free only because it does print the unvarnished truth regardless of political belief. He also is concerned the press has become a group of commentators and not independent news reporters. If the American public doesn’t trust the reporters to give them accurate news without the reporters opinion attached to it then the free press is no longer free. It becomes a “paid” commercial for some political party, or interest group.

For May we are reading Dr. Gorka’s book “Defeating Jihad.” Members of the book club all brought his book so we decided to read it! Our next meeting is May 19. Since that is also the Royal Wedding Day we decided to have an English tea along with our usual discussion. The meeting and wedding celebration will be at Susan Yonts-Shepard’s house ([seysrls@comcast.net](mailto:seysrls@comcast.net)). Everyone is invited even if you haven’t read the book you can be part of the celebration. We will be serving biscuits (cookies) sandwiches, cakes and of course tea. Join us for a toast to the royal couple and a discussion of Defeating Jihad.



## CRWC Out and About

*Peggy Hoffend celebrates Mother’s Day at the Trump International Hotel. Peggy’s children took her to the hotel for tea on Mother’s Day.  
l-r Tripp, Peggy and Carly*



## Commonwealth Republican Women's Club Membership Application/Renewal 2018

\*Required Information \*Date\_\_\_\_\_

\*Name \_\_\_\_\_

\*Address\_\_\_\_\_

\*City\_\_\_\_\_ \*State\_\_\_\_\_ \*Zip\_\_\_\_\_

\*Email \_\_\_\_\_

\*Phone(H)\_\_\_\_\_ Phone(C) \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_ City\_\_\_\_\_ State\_\_\_\_\_

New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ Membership: Full \$35\_\_\_\_\_

Associate Members: \$15 \_\_\_\_\_

If a woman, the name of Primary Republican Women's Club \_\_\_\_\_

### Make check payable to CRWC and mail to:

Suzanne Morrison

3812 Woodlawn Ct., Alexandria VA 22304

I am interested in participating in the following areas:

\_\_\_ Achievement Awards \_\_\_ Hospitality \_\_\_ By-Laws \_\_\_ Legislation & Campaigns

\_\_\_ Community Service \_\_\_ Newsletter \_\_\_ Fund Raising \_\_\_ Press/Public Relations

Other community, civic or club activities I am involved in:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Visit CRWC's media pages - website: <http://www.alexandriacrwc.org/>, twitter:  
[@AlexCRWC](#), and Facebook: CRWC - Commonwealth Republican Women's Club