



TEMPO

January 2020

Message From the President



Get Ready for 2020

This will be the most exciting, challenging year in the history of American politics and CRWC has an important role to play in Northern Virginia. There is much to do, but many hands make light work. In the immediate term, we need to voice our opposition to the extreme liberal agenda of the Democrats in Virginia's General Assembly. We only have until the end of February, when the session ends.

Then we start preparing for November's Presidential election. We need to get every Republican vote we can for Northern Virginia, and win over some Dems, too. We've got lots of ideas and lots of teams to organize so we need 'all hands on deck.' This is going to be a fun, wild ride!

Please join us on January 23 for our first meeting of 2020, when we will discuss our strategic plan for the year.

Linda App

Commonwealth Republican Women's Club Membership Meeting

Thursday, January 23, 2020

7:00 Social and Refreshments

7:30 Meeting & Program

Alexandria Police Headquarters
Community Room

3600 Wheeler Ave, Alexandria, VA
22304

Panel Reports
CRWC's Strategic Planning for 2020
& VA Legislative Session Report



Alexandria Republican City Committee (www.AlexGOP.org) members and guests used the January 2020 meeting to display opinions on a variety of issues on their minds and currently being discussed in Virginia's 2020 General Assembly. Signs say: No Casinos; Stop Late Term Abortion; Free Speech on Campus; Keep Electoral College AS IS; Keep Single Family Zoning; NO Same Day Voter Registration; Right to Work; The Right to Bear Arms; and Don't Outlaw Self-defense Classes.

January Program Report *by Susie Miller, 1st Vice President, Program Chair*

I am very excited to announce our first program of the New Year.

We will have a panel of four of our very own members to give an overview of what is going on in Richmond with the new Democrat led House of Delegates and State Senate. So far, the ERA bill was ratified: it says men and women, not women.

Also, the governor seems to be preparing for a riot Monday, January 20, by law abiding pro-gun Virginians. There are many more items to be addressed: parental authority, single family zoning, the second amendment, casinos and voter fraud.

Bring your questions and comments to our CWRC meeting at 7:00, Thursday, January 23. It should prove to be a lively discussion.

MEMBERSHIP

We Are Growing! *by Laurie Kirby, Membership Chair*

Happy New Year to our current, former and prospective CRWC members! We ended 2019 with 72 members strong and look forward to surpassing that number in early 2020!

Please remember that we cannot be counted as members during any calendar year unless and until we pay our annual dues! If you have not yet done so, please print and send in your 2020 CRWC membership form and dues to Suzanne Morrison. The form may be found at the end of this and of each monthly Tempo.

Thank you to all who have renewed your membership for 2020! We need as many members as possible to join and/or renew during the first quarter of each year to ensure sending the maximum number of CRWC delegates to the annual VFRW convention.

Owing to an increase in the fee we must pay to the NFRW, we have had to increase our annual dues for the first time in more than 10 years. The new regular member dues are \$45 and the new associate member dues are \$20.

We are pleased to extend a warm welcome to our newest CRWC members: Elizabeth Darling, Barbara Najarian, Carla Pinto, Vanessa Sims and Noreen VanLeeuwen!

Please reach out to friends and family and encourage them to join CRWC—forwarding a Tempo is a great way to introduce CRWC to prospective members. And, we also have a terrific flyer which describes our club and its activities. Please let me know if you would like a flyer or two or whether you would like me to send one to someone you know!

Mark your calendar for April 23, 2020 when we will hold our Annual Membership Reception at the Lyceum—an always informative, joyous and well—attended event.

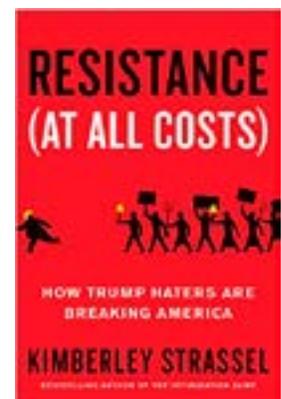
In the meantime, we look forward to welcoming you to our first meeting of the new decade at the Alexandria Police station on January 23, 2020!



CRWC Book Club *by Susan Yontes Shepherd*

The next Book Club will meet at the home of Susie Miller, January 25 at 1pm.

We are reading Kimberley Strassel's new book, **Resistance (at All Costs) How Trump Haters Are Breaking America.**



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Community Lodgings Thanks CRWC *by Linda Greenberg, Community Outreach*



**Thank you to the
Commonwealth Republican Women's Club**



Lynn Thomas, Executive Director, Community Lodgings, sent a big thank you to CRWC for our contribution to “over 150 children in our out-of-school-time program.” CRWC’s gifts and books gave the children an opportunity to “purchase gifts for their loved ones.” Children work throughout the year to earn “Behavior Bucks.”

Thank you, CRWC members, for bringing Santa to Community Lodgings. Susan Fitzgerald extending her thanks as well and appreciated being included at our Christmas/Holiday party.

At the December 13, 2019 Holiday Party and Installation of Officers, CRWC members display some of the gifts given by the club to the families at Community Lodgings, represented by Susan Fitzgerald. (L-R) Susie Miller, Debi Deimling, Ruth Cleveland, Fitzgerald, Georgen Newland, Jocie Kazanjian, and Terri Hauser.

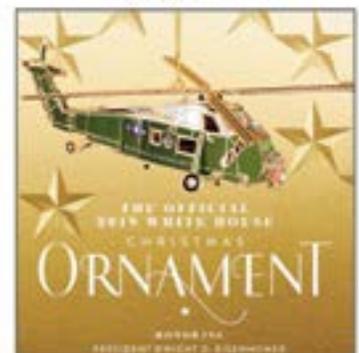


Kudos to Us All *by Linda Greenberg,*

Together we sold over 400 White House ornaments and brought in “a good pile of change.” Many members and friends purchased over 10 ornaments at a time. Our CRWC honorary member, Jean Klinge, outperforms her record each year. This year she sold over 130 ornaments!

Again, my thanks to everyone for going all out and purchasing “that cute little White House helicopter” for decorating and giving. This is our one annual fundraiser and members’ support was impressive.

The White House Historical Society
2019 Ornament



VFRW Legislative Day Report

Susie Miller, Lois Lipson and Eileen Brackens represented the Commonwealth Republican Women at the VFRW Legislative Day in Richmond on January 9th. The speakers at the morning breakfast were The Honorable C. Todd Gilbert, Minority Leader Virginia House of Delegates, The Honorable Kathy J. Byron, House Republican Caucus Chair Virginia House of Delegates and Martha Jenkins, Fourth Vice President National Federation of Republican Women. The breakfast was attended by many members of the House of Delegates. Due to scheduling members of the Senate were unable to attend.

The breakfast meeting was followed by a group photo and transportation to Capitol Hill. We visited several senator and delegate offices voicing our concerns about pending bills that would restrict 2nd amendment rights, ratification of the Equal Rights Act and revival of Delegate Kathy Tran's bill to remove all restrictions on abortion legislation that would allow doctors to allow babies to die even after they are born.

As it has been said, elections do have consequences. Let's hope and pray that our Republican Senators and Delegates can contain the damage that the majority party is planning to inflict upon our State.

Reporting from Alexandria's 2020 Housing Summit

By Linda App and Bob Wood

The audience at the city's Alexandria 2020 Housing Summit included members of CRWC and ARCC. We learned the city is on target to meet its goal for affordable housing units by 2024, if it can add 500 units in the next four years. Mayor Wilson explained that the number of affordable housing units decreased several years ago when rents 'shot up' and lost the designation as affordable due to the laws of supply and demand. Others remember this differently. The city sacrificed large number of affordable housing in the cause of up-zoned development supporting the "Beauregard Small Area Plan." The result was predictable due to the laws of supply and demand and aggressive city efforts to increase density. Unaddressed in all the discussions was how to actually make the increased "housing stock" affordable other than state and local subsidies, tax increases, and "the full range of zoning tools."

The Summit was billed as a listening session, but the presentation content seemed to be more along the lines of "This is what we are going to do, and here is how we will push it." Helen McIlvain of the Office of Housing referred to setting a 'bold new course.' One panelist's 'dream big' long-term thought was to get everyone on mass transit and reclaim the land for affordable housing that is currently used as roads for cars. Another speaker said that by reducing parking requirements, one can reduce developer's costs of construction and promote more density – (resulting in increased tax revenue – our added words). The solution for traffic woes they proposed were – rapid transit, road diets, micro modal transportation (bikes and scooters), and large increases in density proximate to mass transit hubs and routes.

At the top of the list of our concerns is the intention to eliminate single family home zoning across the city. (There is Democrat-proposed state-wide legislation to do the same thing in the General Assembly, fyi.) It would render homeowners unable to contest a 3-4 unit structure replacing a single family home in their residential neighborhood. Andrea Brennan, Director of Housing Policy and Development, Minneapolis, MN, was the featured speaker. Her role and presentation on the Minneapolis 2040 Plan and its implementation left no doubt that the city is seriously considering this progressive remedy. Speakers did not mention any exceptions for charming Old Town, but perhaps they would be protected as 'historic' homes. Del Ray and the heart of Alexandria are likely targets.

The speaker from Minneapolis, where single family zones have been eliminated after a bitter political battle, explained how to fight the expected homeowner protests. The answer - Organize early, use data, and know your NIMBY opponents and suspect their likely motivations.

The issue of how to house a growing population in Northern Virginia is indeed topical and must be addressed, but the cart seems to be in front of the horse. Alexandria currently has overcrowded schools and over-capacity wastewater systems that should be addressed first. We also have the highest poverty rate in Northern Virginia (10.1% per the US Census Bureau). How many people can we handle in our 15 square mile city with a dense population of 160,000 (around 10,700 people per square mile), especially if we attract more lower-income residents? The data needs further analysis and the proposals need more citizen feedback.

To see video from the event: <https://www.facebook.com/HousingAlexandriaVA/>

VFRW representative installs CRWC 2020 - 2021 Officers and Board



The Commonwealth Republican Women's Club installed its 2020 officers at their holiday party. Seated: Eileen Brackens, Immediate Past President; Linda App, President. Standing: Paula Steiner, representing VFRW; Laurie Kirby, 2nd Vice President; Jan Bates, Corresponding Secretary, Susie Miller, 1st Vice President; Ruth Cleveland, Fundraising; Nadine Bacaj, Hospitality; Susan Yonts-Shepard, Recording Secretary; and Suzanne Morrison, Treasurer.

Republican Election Officers Needed to Ensure Voting Integrity

Judicial Watch has identified Virginia as one of 38 states with more registered voters than citizens of voting age (CVAs) in its 2019 Election Integrity Project. Almost 90,000 registrations fit that category Virginia-wide. In Alexandria, over 6,000 registrations fit that description. Scary, right? So we must all work to ensure election integrity. Being an Election Officer is one of eight key steps to stop voter fraud, according to Judicial Watch. Our local Republican party is trying to recruit more poll workers for Election Day because most of the poll workers in Alexandria are Democrats. We need to be represented to ensure fairness. Please consider being one of those patriots willing to work an entire day (about 5 am to 9 pm) to prevent voter fraud and ensure fair elections. Some CRWC members are Election Officers (Kimberly Pinter for one), and can let you know what it's like. Contact CRWC Leadership or ARCC Chairman Sean Lenehan so we can keep track of how many Republicans are signing up.



More info and sign up here:

<https://www.alexandriava.gov/Elections#BecomeanAlexandriaElectionOfficer>

New look for CRWC Website

by Jan Bates, Webmaster,

Our website has been given a new look thanks to some new web-building software from our provider homestead.com. You will find new photo-slideshows, drop-down menus, a new contact form, and a newer, somewhat cleaner look. You may find one or two links to photo albums that do not work yet, but they will be fixed shortly. Take a look (alexandriacrwc.org) and send your comments to webmaster@alexandriacrwc.org.



2020 Calendar

Meetings, Events, Deadlines and Elections

January

- 23 - CRWC Membership Meeting, Alexandria Police Community Room
- 25 - CRWC Book Club 1pm Susie Millers's home

February

- 6 - ARCC MONTHLY meeting and Election of New officers Minnie Howard, 7pm
- 8 - SUV Seminar on Running for Local Office
- 13 - CRWC Board Meeting 7 pm TBA
- 20 - CRWC Meeting 7 pm TBA
- 27-29 CPAC, National Harbor

March

- 3 - Democrat Presidential Primary Election (Open Primary)
- 5 - ARCC MONTHLY meeting Minnie Howard, 7pm
- 12- CRWC Board Meeting 7 pm TBA
- 26 - CRWC Meeting 7 pm TBA

April

- 23 - CRWC Annual Membership Reception, Lyceum

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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**Commonwealth Republican Women's Club
Membership Application/Renewal 2020**

*Required Information *Date_____

*Name _____

*Address_____

*City_____ *State_____ *Zip_____

*Email _____

*Phone(H)_____ Phone(C) _____

Employer _____ City_____ State_____

New _____ Renewal _____ Membership: Full \$ 45 _____

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](https://twitter.com/AlexCRWC), and Facebook: CRWC - Commonwealth Republican Women's Club