

GEORGIA FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN

Election 2016

VOICES **Magazine**

Inside The Stakes Are High

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Editorial

Be On the Offense

By Sherry Roedl

In this fall issue, we —along with the rest of the world—are focusing on **The Election** with articles about how the outcome of this election will affect the Supreme Court for decades to come and how to get out the vote.

You've heard it almost daily—"This is the most important election in our lifetime." Sadly, we have two presidential candidates with the highest unfavorable ratings in modern history. For many Republicans in this nation, their vote will not be in rousing support of the Republican candidate but more likely against the Democrat Hillary Clinton. While many of our Republican friends have expressed to us that they just can't vote for Donald Trump, we are challenged to convince them that it is the right thing to do for our nation—they *must* set their personal preferences aside. As I write this editorial, we are just 49 days to November 8. There is no time to lose.

While Trump was not my first choice for the Republican presidential candidate, I quickly realized that unless I backed him, I was essentially helping Hillary Clinton win the election. I certainly don't want Clinton as my next president. I don't want my adult children and my future grandchildren to live in a socialist country, which may be the ultimate outcome if Clinton is elected. I don't want my children/grandchildren to live in a country where there is no motivation to excel because whatever successes they achieve will be redistributed to folks with no ambition, no job, and high expectations that the government will take care of them.

What I can't seem to get my head wrapped around is: How can so many Americans favor her in the role as the leader of the free world and our commander-in-chief? The scandals and lies continue to mount, but nothing seems to stick. I cannot fathom why young people especially would support her given her track record of insignificant successes as a U.S. Senator, not to mention her own lack of judgment and untruths as Secretary of State in regard to her private server and emails, Benghazi, and a whole host of other issues that should disqualify anyone else as a presidential candidate.

I am saddened that voters treat the presidential election as a popularity contest. I am saddened that most (or at least a very large percentage of voters) don't bother to do their own research on a candidate and instead let the liberal mainstream media influence their decision. I am saddened that many Republicans have dug in their heels and say "Never Trump," including many prominent Republicans who should be setting an example by supporting the Republican candidate the voters have chosen in this race to the presidency. In fact, it was reported today by Rebecca Savransky in **The Hill** that "John Kasich says chances of voting Trump are Miniscule"—this after he took an oath, along with all the other Republican presidential candidates, to support the winner of the presidential primary.

I urge you to go to the GFRW website and pull up the **Winning Ways Guide** to get ideas on how to get out the vote in your area. To assist you further in defending your support of Trump, we have created another document for you which we call, "Arrows for your Quiver"—a compilation of talking points on various issues which may help you to play offense in this contest.

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Blackboard to Blacktop

**By Barbara Hickey
GFRW President**

Dear Ladies:

In 2012, I had the opportunity to attend the Republican National Committee's "2012 Blackboard to Blacktop Campaign School" in Washington, D.C. Sharon Day, co-chairman of the RNC, was the facilitator and did a fantastic job.

Chairman Day focused on leading us through the Electoral College and the impact of the "Battleground States." We were reminded that in order for a candidate to win the election, he/she must win an absolute majority of electoral votes—currently 270 votes—to ensure the GOP's path to victory. It was also interesting to learn about what traits are needed by volunteers in the grassroots effort to GOTV (Get out the Vote), voter ID using phones, and door-to-door voter contact.

I took lots of notes and would like to share the Dos and Don'ts that can still be used to ensure that on January 20, 2017, we have a Republican putting his hand on the Bible, swearing. . . *that I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States.*

- A Volunteer Should Be: Friendly, clear spoken, self-motivated, well trained, rehearsed, and presentable when going door-to-door.
- Early Voting Calls: Remind the voter when and where to vote early (critically important).
- Absentee Ballot Calls: When the necessity arises, ask the person if they need an absentee request form (know the absentee ballot deadlines).
- Get-Out-The-Vote Calls: Tell the voter to vote, where to vote, when to vote and keep calling until they vote. (Do not be discouraged if people say they have been called already.)
- Door- to- Door Voter Contact: Because of the use of cell phones, we need to renew our efforts and canvass door-to-door.
- **Don't:** Leave literature without knocking. Do not spend too much time at one house. Do not stop at houses that look unsafe. **Never enter a home.**
- **Do:** Prepare your volunteers to have comfortable shoes, appropriate clothing, a cell phone with numbers for contact person, headquarters, and designated driver. Have a snack and beverage, extra pen, a walk book, and literature. Knock on every door on your list and **talk** to the voters.
- Be Prepared for Inclement weather.
- Know your script.
- Most importantly: **Be positive, Be energetic and Be focused!**

A special thank you to the RNC staff for all they do and a special thank you to Sharon Day for a most informative and enlightening workshop.

This is one of the most important elections of our lifetime so, "Let's Do It.... Together!"



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2016 — 2017

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At Stake -- The Supreme Court and the Federal Judiciary

By Carrie Almond



Every four years, we hear the phrase, "This is the most important election in our lifetime." However, the 2016 election really is. After eight disastrous years of Obama's policies, how will our nation as we know it survive four or eight years of "Crooked Hillary?"

I am sure you can cite many reasons why Clinton's election will be a disaster. We won't be able to repeal Obamacare. ISIS will continue to grow with leadership that is more worried about offending Muslims than it is with protecting our national security interests. More regulations, higher taxes, more years of tepid or no economic growth. Veterans continuing to not get the care they deserve, and our military woefully unable to meet our national security needs due to inadequate funding.

How many more Benthazies will happen with a woman who does not care about the safety of the men and women in her care? And how can anyone think that the corruption that has followed the Clintons from their days in Arkansas won't continue if she becomes president?

However, for those still sitting on the fence, the biggest reason of all to defeat Hillary Clinton is the Supreme Court and the federal judiciary. Our Republican Senate has stood strong in not holding hearings on Obama's nominee to the Supreme Court. Federal judges have lifetime appointments. Obama already has had eight years to put extremist judges on the Supreme Court and other federal courts. Can you imagine more Supreme Court Justices like Elena Kagan and Sonia Sotomayor?

But the Supreme Court is just the tip of the iceberg. The formerly constitutionalist 4th Circuit now has a majority of liberal judges. It has spoken on issues from voter ID and redistricting cases in North Carolina, to transgender bathroom issues in Virginia. It has overturned popular laws among Democrats and Republicans. Without a conservative majority on the Supreme Court, these decisions will either stand or be upheld if more liberal judges are

appointed to the Supreme Court; and, we will risk every federal court having liberal majorities.

Donald Trump is right. If Clinton appoints judges, many of our constitutional rights will not be protected, as liberal judges are just the opposite of the late Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia. Scalia believed in the original intent and the literal intent of the U.S. Constitution and statutes. Liberal judges see the Constitution as a "living, breathing document" that should change with the times.

The Republican Senate is giving the American public the opportunity to weigh in on the next appointee to the Supreme Court by refusing to confirm Obama's appointee. It's time for us as Republican women to make sure that Donald Trump is elected president to prevent the demise of our Constitution and our American way of life.

Who Am I?

Carrie Almond was elected NFRW president at the 38th Biennial Convention in Phoenix and took office in January 2016. Previously, she served the NFRW as second vice president, treasurer, member-at-large, executive liaison to the Program and Public Relations committees, and director of Regions 4 and 8. She has been active in the NFRW since her involvement with the Missouri FRW, for which she served as president, first vice president, second vice president, and treasurer. Almond is also involved in her community of Chillicothe, where she served as treasurer of the Livingston County Animal Shelter for 10 years and has been active in the local arts council and rotary club. She was also the treasurer of Grace Episcopal Church and served as chair of the Audit Committee and three terms on the Vestry. Almond is an executive vice president of Citizens Bank & Trust, a northern Missouri bank with 20 branches in 19 towns. Additionally, she manages the family farm of more than 2,000 acres. Her banking career spans the states of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. After graduating from the University of South Carolina, she worked for the Union Bank of Switzerland in Lausanne.



At Stake -- What a Clinton Supreme Court Would Mean for America

By William Bennett

Former U.S. Secretary of Education

[Shared Facebook Post—August 23, 2016]

Source: Hansen Law Firm, Raleigh

People often ask me how I—a so-called conservative intellectual and author of “The Book of Virtues”—can support and vote for Donald Trump. I have many good reasons, but nothing on the home front is more important than the Supreme Court. Our country can survive the occasional infelicities and improprieties of Donald Trump. But it cannot survive losing the Supreme Court to liberals and allowing them to wreck our sacred republic. It would reshape the country for decades.

If Hillary Clinton wins the presidency, she will, without a doubt, appoint a dyed-in-the wool liberal to fill the [late Supreme Court Justice] Antonin Scalia's seat, thereby giving liberals a strong five-person majority on the court. It could get even worse if Justice [Anthony] Kennedy retires and Clinton replaces him with another liberal, giving them an unstoppable six seats on the Court.

We don't know exactly what a President Trump will do, but we do know that his list of eleven potential justices is very promising and a Vice President Mike Pence and a Republican Congress led by Speaker Paul Ryan will hold his feet to the fire for good appointments. On the other hand, we know exactly what Clinton will do.

Let's look briefly at what that will mean to us and our families.

Immigration: This past June the Supreme Court blocked Pres. Obama's executive order on immigration that would have allowed roughly four million illegal aliens to stay in the country and get work permits. The case was decided on a 4-4 split in Scalia's absence and, therefore, upheld the lower court's decision. Give Clinton a liberal majority on the Supreme Court and surely she would restart this program (or create one similar) and the Court would uphold it. Millions of illegal immigrants would be granted sanctuary in our country and given the legal ability to work, thereby seizing much-needed jobs and benefits from Americans. And it could all be done by a stroke of Clinton's pen and a pounding of the court's gavel; Congress would have no say in the matter.

Religious Liberty: In the highly-publicized case of *Burwell v. Hobby Lobby*, the Supreme Court ruled that closely held for-profit companies like Hobby Lobby could be exempt from laws that violate its religious beliefs, in this case Obamacare's contraception mandate. This was an enormous win for religious liberty, but it was only decided by a slim 5-4 margin. With a liberal majority, you can expect the court to rule against companies like Hobby Lobby or non-

profits like Little Sisters of the Poor. Religious corporations and organizations around the country would be forced to choose between violating their consciences or paying penalties that would likely put them out of business. If liberals have their way, say goodbye to many religious retailers, charities, bookstores, hospitals, medical centers, and so on.

Transgender

Bathrooms: Thirteen states are currently suing the Obama administration over its directive to public schools mandating that transgender students be able to use the bathrooms and locker rooms of their choice without having to prove their gender identity. Perhaps no issue more directly impacts the lives of our children than this. A liberal Supreme Court will undoubtedly uphold the Obama administration's rule and force states to comply. The consequences will be catastrophic. Don't be so naive as to think boys won't abuse these policies and force their way into female bathrooms and locker rooms. Parents and teachers won't be able to stop them. And aside from sexual misconduct and assault, this policy could mean the end of men's and women's competitive athletics as we know it.

(Continued on page 8)

By Randy Evans

**Georgia's National GOP
Committeeman**



At Stake -- The Balance of Power in the Supreme Court

[From the *Atlanta Business Chronicle*,
March 11, 2016, with permission of the author]

Amidst the clamor and bustle of the rough and tumble 2016 presidential primaries and caucuses, President Barack Obama and the U.S. Senate are set to do battle over the vacancy left by the death of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia.

Make no mistake, the Constitution empowers the president to nominate people to serve as justices on the nation's highest and most powerful court. The very same document leaves no doubt that the U.S. Senate has the right to confirm, reject, or simply ignore the president's choice.

As an interesting aside, the Constitution grants the Congress the right to decide how many justices serve on the Supreme Court. Originally, there were five associate justices and a chief justice for a total of six. The total reached a high of ten in 1863. The number has been nine since 1869.

Contrary to popular belief, there are no official qualifications to serve on the high court—not even a minimum age. The youngest was Justice Joseph Story, who was only thirty-two years old when he joined the court.

In fact, members of the high court do not even have to be lawyers. But the fact of the matter is that every person to serve on the Supreme Court has been a lawyer. Harvard Law School has had the most alumni serve on the court—twenty.

So far, 112 justices have been nominated by a president and confirmed by the Senate. This includes seventeen chief justices. Of the 112, only four women have served on the Supreme Court, with three of them serving now. Retired Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, appointed by President Ronald Reagan [in 1981] and confirmed by a 99-0 vote in the Senate, was the [first].

From the theater so far this year, some might think that this is the first time battle lines have been drawn over a Supreme Court vacancy with such serious consternation. Yet, believe it or not, seventeen presidents have submitted nominees who were not confirmed. (Indeed, the term “borked” came from the Senate’s refusal to confirm President Reagan’s nominee Robert Bork.)

In total, 151 people have been nominated to serve on the Supreme Court, but many failed to make it to the court for a variety of reasons. In most cases, the Senate either rejected or failed to confirm the nominee. In others, the nominee was withdrawn or withdrew on his/her own.

While not the rule, the simple truth is that the president does not always get to have his choice automatically confirmed to the court. In fact, some presidents had their picks rejected multiple times by the Senate. President John Tyler had four picks that did not make it—one rejected, two withdrawn, and one with no action taken by the Senate. Presidents Millard Fillmore and Ulysses Grant each had three failed nominations. Many more had two that did not reach the high court.

(Continued on next page)

From previous page. At Stake. The Balance of Power in the Supreme Court

The suggestion that the current battle over Justice Scalia's replacement is about President Obama ignores pretty settled history. Fights over seats on the U.S. Supreme Court between the president, the Senate, and sometimes the Congress have occurred since the court began. [In fact] President George Washington had two failed nominees—one withdrawn and one rejected.

Even the Congress has gotten into the fray on occasion. In addition to adjusting the number of justices up and down, Congress acted to prevent President Andrew Johnson from appointing anyone to the court. His nomination was voided by the Judicial Circuits Act of 1866 prior to his nominee's consideration by the Senate.

After all, nominations to the U.S. Supreme Court are serious business. Nominees, if confirmed, serve for life—subject only to removal by impeachment. Only one has been impeached by the House of Representatives (but not convicted by the Senate)—Samuel Chase in 1804. And, as life spans have increased, justices now serve decades after confirmation to

the bench. More significantly, rightly or wrongly, they can make as much or as little law as they choose; and, absent a constitutional amendment, there is little that the president or Congress can do about it.

So, not surprisingly, presidents, senators, and congresses care a lot about the people appointed and confirmed to the Supreme Court.

[However], there is much more involved with this Supreme Court seat—Justice Scalia's seat. It reflects the balance of power between two very different factions of the court—the liberal wing and the conservative wing. While purportedly not partisan, the court is in fact divided and, for now, it is largely evenly divided. In many ways, it is reflective of just where the country is—largely evenly divided. In fact, it also reflects just where the other two branches of government are—evenly divided between a Democrat president and a Republican Congress.

Interestingly, when it comes to the other two branches of government, the American people get to weigh in and decide which direction to go next. As history now has it, the president and

the Senate have that same chance in this all-important election year—to hear from the American people about which direction to go next.

In November, just a few months from now, the American people will get the chance to voice their own opinions about which direction to go next. Why would the president and the Senate not want to hear what the American people have to say before such an important decision? After all, the Constitution does begin with "We the People of the United States...."

Who Am I?

Randy Evans, a partner with Dentons, a multinational law firm, served as outside counsel to speakers of the 104th-109th Congresses of the United States as well as senators, members of Congress, and elected officials in Georgia. He is a member of the board of the Newt Gingrich Companies. A frequent lecturer and author on subjects of professional liability and ethics, government ethics and politics, Evans is also Georgia's National GOP Committeeman.

(Continued from page 6 — What a Clinton Supreme Court would Mean to America)

Second Amendment: Without a doubt, the Second Amendment would become a primary target of a liberal Supreme Court. In recent years, two landmark decisions protecting an individual's right to own and bear arms—*Heller v. District of Columbia* and *McDonald v. City of Chicago*—were each decided by just one vote. (Are you noticing the 5-4 trend yet?) Given the opportunity, a liberal Court wouldn't hesitate to overturn those decisions. We got a glimpse of this in June, when the notoriously liberal Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that the Second Amendment does not permit the public to carry concealed firearms. A liberal Supreme Court would certainly uphold this ruling and continue to hack away at the rest of the Second Amendment.

Environmental Protection Agency: Over the past couple years, the only entity that has prevented the EPA from bludgeoning the American economy with crushing regulations and fees has been the Supreme Court. In two crucial 5-4 decisions, the Court dealt serious blows to both the Clean Air Act and the Clean Power Plan. Should these decisions be overturned, the EPA would be a regulatory

villain unleashed. Its mission to eradicate coal would be completed and Americans would be punished with skyrocketing utility costs as regulations choke out the fossil fuel industry—our primary means of electricity in this country.

Abortion: It was an activist, liberal Supreme Court in 1973 that decided *Roe v. Wade* and legalized abortion. A liberal Supreme Court in 2017 will only reinforce and protect that decision. It will likely strike down majority-supported, common sense abortion laws that have been passed in the states, like late term and partial birth abortion restrictions and pain-capable legislation. Just this June, the Supreme Court invalidated the Texas law requiring basic health standards for abortion facilities, a law passed to prevent another Kermit Gosnell house of horrors from occurring.

The list does not stop here. *Citizens United* would be overturned in a heartbeat, extinguishing the First Amendment rights of corporations, non-profits, etc... to express speech and political activity. Voter ID laws that have been implemented in states around the country would also be under assault.

Too many of our rights, liberties, and securities already hang by a one-vote thread. A Clinton Supreme Court would surely do away with them. It is a better bet that a President Trump together with Vice President Pence and a Republican Congress would ensure that Scalia's seat or any other open seats would be filled by a conservative. If you are a conservative who cares about the future of this country, there is only one choice. A vote for anyone else, third parties included, only helps Clinton and brings liberals one vote closer to ruining our republic as we know it.

Who Am I?

William Bennett is a former U.S. Secretary of Education and Chairman of Conservative Leaders for Education. [Bennett is an American conservative pundit, politician, and political theorist, who served as Secretary of Education from 1985 to 1988 under President Ronald Reagan. [Wikipedia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Bennett)]

[Source.
http://www.realclearpolitics.com/articles/2016/08/23/what_a_clinton_supreme_court_would_mean_for_america_131586.html]



At Stake -- The American Dream

By U.S. Senator David Perdue

As the only Fortune 500 CEO in Congress, it's clear to me that the perspective of an outsider in the White House will unleash the next economic boom in America.

Donald Trump is a political outsider and businessman who is listening to the American people. Trump tapped into a movement of disenfranchised Americans. Trump boosted Republican primary turnout by 60 percent, won nearly 14 million votes, and carried Michigan and Mississippi on the same day.

Trump has the perspective of someone who's spent a lifetime in business, not politics. He's created thousands of jobs and worked in a business environment that actually holds you accountable. We need someone in the White House who has lived and worked in the global economy, and who has seen what happens when Washington wastefully spends and excessively regulates.

Trump's perspective and experience stands in stark contrast to Hillary Clinton.

Not only does Clinton have a track record of questionable ethics and a lack of integrity, she has repeatedly pledged to go even further with [President Barack] Obama's radical agenda. Those policies have failed the very people Democrats claim to champion and have left too many Americans behind.

Today, America is experiencing the worst economic recovery since the Great

Depression. We haven't had three percent annual Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth in over a decade. Fewer Americans are working as a percentage than any time since Jimmy Carter was president. Forty-six percent of adult Americans recently said they could not meet an emergency expense of \$400, or would have to borrow money or sell personal possessions to do so. In another survey, two-thirds of young Americans said they do not believe the American Dream is attainable for them.

Failed liberal policies are holding the American Dream hostage.

Failed liberal policies are holding the American Dream hostage. Hillary Clinton is promising to give those policies a third-term.

It does not have to be this way. It must not be this way.

The choice is clear. Nothing in Washington will change with Clinton in the White House. The federal government will continue to be unaccountable to the American people. The Constitution will face assault from an activist Supreme Court. Liberal policies of higher taxes and more regulations will continue to suck the very life out of the free enterprise system and decimate the American Dream for the next generation.

It's not hard to imagine any of this. We've already lived it for the last seven years.

With Trump, we can turn the page from Obama's failed legacy. Trump provides a moment of opportunity to finally change the direction of our country.

Putting Trump in the White House, with Mike Pence as vice president, is our only chance to offer relief to millions of Americans struggling to get by under Washington's oppressive tax code and regulatory scheme. It's our only chance to restore America's role as a leader in the world. It's our only chance to keep balance on the Supreme Court for the next fifty years.

Working together, we sent a message to the Washington political class in 2014: Georgia is not up for grabs and we aren't settling for the status quo any longer.

I would not be in the United States Senate without you and the help of the Georgia Federation of Republican Women. My wife, Bonnie, and I will always be grateful for your thoughts, prayers, and hard work throughout my Senate race and since I took office.

We came together then and I know that if we work together now we can keep the House, keep the Senate, and take back the White House.

Thank you for all that you've done and continue to do.



By Congressman Tom Price (GA)

At Stake -- A Well-Educated Workforce

House Republicans are committed to moving our country forward and upward. In fact, we are offering a [Better Way](#) to ensure the American Dream is true for all. Our goal is to provide all Americans the tools and the opportunity to achieve a lifetime of success and prosperity.

Our Better Way plan realizes a quality education is where it can all begin. A well-educated workforce is a driver of strong economic growth, and an education can help those looking to improve their situation or build a foundation for success into the future.

We believe the federal role in education should empower states and local communities, not hinder them with regulations or strip away their power. Real gains in education come from the diversity and creativity of state and local educators. Centralizing rules and standards in Washington risks smothering effective and innovative practices.

Our Better Way plan includes:

- Measures to improve early childhood development, supporting ideas that work on the front lines, and making sure parents are fully informed about the choices they have for their kids' care and education.

- A more inclusive approach to help at-risk youth stay on the path to rehabilitation, tailoring benefits and services to each child's needs and challenges.
- Reforms to child nutrition programs [to] help the most vulnerable children—especially those in rural and low-income areas—get better access to healthy meals.
- Changes to improve job training so [...] more workers can be matched with the skills needed to fill jobs in their communities.
- A modernization of the Pell Grant program that allows students to use those grants year-round if they want to accelerate their coursework, and financial aid reforms to make it easier for students to pay for college and pay back their loans.

We know that a strong America is built on opportunity and the passion and talents of a free people who are empowered to pursue that opportunity, determine their own future, and achieve success.

You have a choice this November to vote for real, positive solutions for our nation. If we protect and nurture these fundamental ideas, we will grow in strength, security, and prosperity in the years to come.

You can learn more about our Better Way plan by visiting the [BETTER.GOP](#) website.



At Stake -- Safety and Law Enforcement

By Joe Arpaio
Maricopa County Sheriff

Greetings! You may or may not know that I run the third largest sheriff's office in the nation. The Maricopa County Sheriff's Office consists of 3500 employees, including [more than] 1000 women. We also have over 1000 volunteers in our posse. In addition to our patrol obligations, which consist of a land area larger than the state of New Jersey, we also run seven jails in the county jail system where [more than] 100,000 inmates are processed every year. The county itself has an annual budget of [more than] \$2.2 billion—again, a number that exceeds many state budgets.

In May of this year, two of my deputies were subjects of an ambush from separate perpetrators. On May 7, Deputy Bryan Wisda was shot by a man during a traffic stop in Tempe, Arizona. The suspect, who killed himself rather than face arrest during the course of our investigation, was enraged for having been stopped by a deputy for a DUI the day before. Thankfully, Deputy Wisda is recovering from his wounds.

The latest of the two attacks occurred at the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office District III substation in Surprise, Arizona. On May 20th, a suspect was arrested after firing numerous shots at a deputy entering the substation's main door. The deputy escaped serious injury or death when he managed to close the door that was equipped with bullet resistance glass as the shots rang out. The car the suspect

was driving was found to have two additional semi-automatic handguns capable of shooting 30 rounds. The suspect's own family said the man "hates cops."

I have been saying for quite some time now that there is a war on cops. These two incidents bring that reality very close to home. My overriding interest in verbalizing the "war on cops" to the media, both locally and nationally, include making the case to the highest levels of government that we need our most visible leaders to support law enforcement, and the work we do, on every possible occasion. I will not stop making this case until it bears results.

Now, the incidents I mention above are, of course, not the worst of what we have seen in this egregious nationwide problem. Dallas, Texas, and Baton Rouge, Louisiana, are two communities that suffered great loss at the hands of assassins who targeted police officers. An Honor Guard contingent from my office carried out its sad duty of attending five fallen officer funerals in Dallas and three fallen officer funerals in Baton Rouge. Upon returning from Louisiana, they were dispatched almost immediately to San Diego, California, after a police officer was shot and killed in the line of duty there.

As the November election draws closer, there is but one choice for those of us who care about safety in our communities and protecting our men and women in law

enforcement. My endorsement of Donald J. Trump for president of the United States was issued when he first announced and it still stands today. Now is the time to change the course of this country by electing a man I believe will have the backs of law enforcement personnel across the nation. Indeed, he will have all our backs.

**Elect a man who backs
law enforcement!**

Who Am I?

Sheriff Joe Arpaio has been called the "Toughest Sheriff in America"—a title coined by the media. He volunteered for the U.S. Army when the Korean War started. Arpaio served as a police officer in Washington, D.C., and Las Vegas, Nevada. For almost a decade, he was stationed in foreign countries where he headed the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) combatting the drug trade. He also served as a diplomatic attaché. Arpaio serves as Sheriff of Maricopa County. He was elected to an unprecedented sixth four-year term. He has more than fifty-five years of law enforcement experience. In August 1993, he started the nation's largest Tent City Jail for convicted inmates. Arpaio is known for his get-tough policies in his jails. He places veterans at the top of his hiring list and has hired more than 150 military men and women. Arpaio and his wife Ava have been married for fifty-nine years and have two children and four grandchildren.

2016 Presidential Election: Truly Schizophrenia

By Randy Evans
GOP Committeeman



With both the Republican National Convention and the Democratic National Convention getting off to rocky starts, the campaigns are beginning to implement their strategies for the fall election. Rarely in the history of presidential politics have the campaign strategies been so different with so much riding on the outcome.

Neither political party expected to get where it is in the way it got here. Democrats expected a relatively short primary with the early coronation of former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton as the 2016 Democratic presidential nominee. No one expected Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders to stand strong until the last primaries. Republicans expected a spirited contest among a whole host of political wannabes, but no one seriously thought Donald Trump would win the nomination.

The result of the nomination processes for both parties was a predictable nominee with a long record (Clinton) and an unpredictable nominee with no consistent record (Trump). Besides scaring political insiders to death, it makes development of a general election strategy for candidates up and down the ticket quite difficult.

Clinton's strategy appears to center on a theme of reliability and stability based on a proven track record of service. The problem is so few

Americans believe the country is headed in the right direction and most feel less secure now than before President Barack Obama took office in 2009. Indeed, every poll signals the over-whelming majority of Americans believe the United States is on the wrong path.

Trump's strategy appears to center on a theme of change based on how bad things have become. From terrorist attacks to a lumbering economy unable to gain strength, Trump insists he can make America great again.

Unfortunately, while correctly diagnosing voter sentiment of frustration and fear, so far he has not been very reassuring to the average voter. Meanwhile, the parties themselves are moving toward a realignment reminiscent of the 1964 campaign with the parties switching places on core issues. For years, Republicans have been the free trade party. Yet, in this election, Clinton has touted free trade deals which Trump has disparaged. The same has been true for many other issues from the invasion of Iraq to Planned Parenthood.

Further complicating the morass, Trump has made no secret that he believes that Washington, D.C., is broken and needs to be fixed. But, it is Republicans that control both houses of Congress.

On the other hand, Clinton insists America is still great and things are going well enough to continue the status quo. But, of course, the

status quo includes a Republican-controlled Congress.

Basically, the election has become a topsy-turvy affair even before weaving in issues like Benghazi, the private email server, and the Never Trump movement. Candidly, the parties, as reflections of a set of shared values defining all candi-dates in the party, have largely fallen into disarray. Meanwhile, the general election approaches. While the parties seem in disarray, the presidential campaigns are starting to signal how they expect to win. Democrats clearly plan to cobble together enough individual demo-graphic groups using micro targeting to win the White House. Micro targeting with single-issue voters worked well enough for President George Bush to win in 2004 and for President [Barack] Obama to win in 2008 and 2012. The key is to find the one issue for each demographic group that trumps (no pun intended) every other issue for the group.

For example, for most in the LGBT community, same sex marriage in 2012 was more important than any other issue including the economy or national security. As a result, no matter how much they agreed with Gov. Mitt Romney on the economy, terrorism, or any other issue, they disagreed on the issue that mattered most to them. And so, the group voted for President Obama.

Although the Republican National Committee has the same data at its disposal, Trump has so far taken a

very different approach. Instead, he has designed a campaign based on broad appeals without regard to any one demographic group.

For Trump followers, messages like building a wall, making America safe again, protecting the Second Amendment, putting people back to work, etc., do not target any one demographic group. If a voter owns a gun and wants to keep the gun, her or his race, gender, ethnicity, religion, or orientation do not matter.

And so, these two very different styles for the fall campaign begin to emerge. In college football, it would be like a meeting of a pure passing team against a pure running team. Trump has and likely will continue to throw the ball down the field. Secretary Clinton will likely continue to pound the ball up the middle, avoiding mistakes and moving the ball on the ground down the field.

The exciting part is that no one has any idea how this election will turn out. So far, nothing has gone as expected and there will undoubtedly be many more surprises to come. The presidential debates alone should make for some amazing entertainment. And that is before the final push when the campaigns and candidates pull out all the stops.

This really could be the year of a historical electoral transformation.

[Original article appeared August 2, 2016, in *The Forum*. Reprinted with permission of the author.]



FRAUD

By Catherine Engelbrecht
Founder and President
True the Vote

As [we] Americans prepare to choose our next president, news headlines openly questioning the legitimacy of our electoral process are now surfacing with increasing frequency. In fact, despite a disturbing resistance by our federal government to acknowledge the problem, election fraud is all over the map.

What exactly is vote fraud? Well, it exists in many forms—like voting more than once, voting under an assumed identity, paying or being paid to vote, and non-citizen voting, just to name a few. Then there's election fraud like electioneering, falsifying registrations, or vote buying by election officials, parties, politicians, or third-party organizations (ACORN and hundreds of similar organizations) intend[ing] to alter the outcome of an election.

Remember, you don't need a lot of fraud to swing an election—you just need a little fraud in the right places. And we know every vote counts. In 2000, the presidency of the United States came down to the wire, ultimately being decided by only a few hundred votes out of the millions cast. Today, it's said that you need to win an election by more than five percent just to account for the inherent margin of fraud—and that puts November's election well within striking range.

We have three big problems that prevent us from improving the state of our elections: an apathetic electorate, a lax electoral process, and chronic political correctness. The brutal truth is, most American voters don't really value their vote. This is evidenced by our

abysmal rate of voter turnout. In fact, our voter turnout rate ranks dead last when compared to that of any other industrialized nations in the world. When you don't value something, there's no incentive to improve it; so there it sits, weaknesses plainly on display. Increasingly lax standards in our election process inevitably produce increasingly unreliable results. [Moreover], the few conversations that are had about how to shore up these weaknesses are immediately seized upon by certain politicians and special interest groups and used against us as fuel to further divide voters based on drummed up race and class based narratives, stifling communication and leading to further voter disconnect. It's a vicious cycle, but it can be fixed if citizens wake up, stand up, and refuse to settle for a broken system.

Somewhere along the way, we started taking a hands-off approach to our elections, becoming spectators in a process that works best only when citizens stay actively engaged. Now we are faced with inaccurate voter registries, polling places without volunteers, and little political will to prosecute perpetrators of election fraud. That is reality—and—there is no resolution to the problem without citizens showing back up to work at the polls.

Our country needs millions, literally millions, more poll workers. Talk with anyone who works in elections and they will be quick to tell you, good volunteers are hard to come by. [However], when you're there working at the polls, you will be engaged in one of the most meaningful ways you can possibly be involved in your government. What future do we want for our country? Who among the candidates can be entrusted to carry

your convictions and make the kinds of decisions you would make for your family? Our vote is where the rubber meets the road; without it, what are we?

Friends, we stand at a precipice. We can participate in returning our country to its roots of liberty, or we can stand silently and watch as tyranny takes hold. Those are the only two choices we have—but, there is still the choice! These problems are resolvable. It will take all of us working to make it happen—but if we can restore integrity to our elections, the most fundamental process of government, then there is nothing we can't accomplish together—and that's something worth working for.

Who Am I?

Catherine Engelbrecht started *True the Vote* in 2009 as a citizen-led effort to restore honor and integrity to our electoral system. *True*

the Vote educates voters, researches the veracity of voter rolls, trains and mobilizes citizens to work at the polls, and advocates for election reform legislation. As nationally recognized spokesperson on voters' rights, Engelbrecht has appeared on television and talk radio, testified before Congress and state legislatures, and spoken to grassroots activists across the nation.



By Mark Rountree

Why Some Georgia Polls Are More Accurate



Predictions by polling firms are often like predictions by economists: ask five of them and you get five different answers.

[However], this is especially true for the state of Georgia. Georgia, in particular, is among the most difficult states to accurately poll: part of the reason for this is technical, and part of the reason is political, and these issues often can lead to different poll results.

With a population that is thirty-two percent African-American/Black, Georgia has among the highest minority population in the country. By November 2016, Georgia may have become the home to the second-highest percentage of African American/Black residents in the nation (behind Mississippi).

The “technical issue” facing Georgia pollsters is getting enough minority interviews for accuracy. Minority voters have disconnected their landline telephones in massive numbers and most now rely on mobile phones. Since it’s illegal for pollsters to use auto-dialers to call mobile phones, these voters become expensive and hard to reach.

Pollsters often “weight” their polls to try to counterbalance this issue, and done correctly, weighting is perfectly fine. [However], if the original raw data results were too small from the start to be accurate,

then weighting exacerbates the problem. Second, the “political issue” is that many non-Georgia based polling firms make mistakes in accurately predicting voter turnout among minorities. Since African-Americans historically award about ninety-five percent of their vote to Democrats, a turnout projection for black voters that is off by three percent will result in the Democratic poll number being three percent wrong—which can be significant. Many non-Georgia firms make this “minority turnout projection” mistake.

In the 1996 presidential election, just twenty years ago, nineteen percent of Georgia voters were black. In November 2016, that number will likely be about thirty-two percent, with the total minority vote (all races) at about thirty-eight percent of the vote.

With thirty-eight percent of Georgia voters being minorities, and with black voters historically awarding about ninety-five percent of their votes to Democrats (which currently appears to be the case again in 2016), and with approximately seventy percent of non-black minorities likely to vote for Democrats in November, it’s a simple math-fact that Georgia Republicans cannot continue to win statewide for very long unless that trajectory changes. However, I do believe that Republicans will likely win Georgia in 2016.

It’s my conclusion that Georgia-based polling firms, such as Landmark

Communications (my firm), as well as Rosetta Stone Communications and Opinion Savvy, are more aware of and sensitive to these methodology problems and account for them when releasing polls.

And per request, now my prediction as of eighty days before the election: Our Landmark polls have consistently shown a very close race in Georgia, most recently 45-45 percent on August 1 in a poll conducted exclusively for WSBTV Channel 2 News. As of the writing of this column, I think that Trump still likely wins Georgia’s electoral votes with a plurality of the vote, four points over Clinton—but ask me again in late October after a few dozen more scandals and campaign crises.

Who Am I?

Mark Rountree is the founder and President of Landmark Communications, Inc., a political consulting and polling firm based in Metro Atlanta. With more than 25 years and 1,500 elections experience, Landmark is Georgia’s most experienced political firm. Landmark regularly conducts public opinion polls for candidates and organizations and is a polling firm of record for WSB-TV, Channel 2 News.

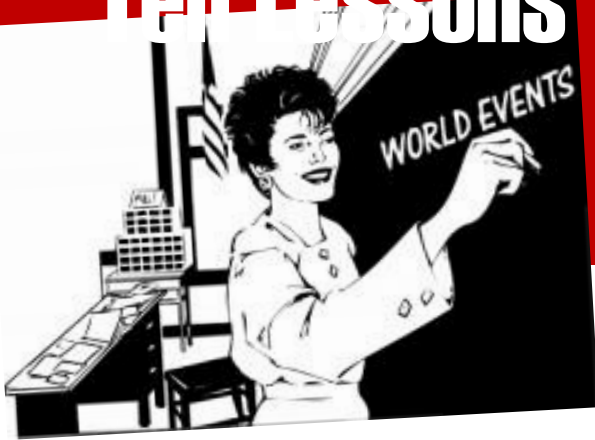


Ten Lessons for the Next President

By Laura Hollis

Opinion Columnist for
Creators Syndicate—reprinted

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Regardless of who wins the election in November, here are ten things that I think he or she should keep in mind:

—The old media rules do not apply.

Do we still have to emphasize this in an era of smartphones, Facebook and Twitter? You do not control the media, and the media does not control the message. Oh, I know that the Obama administration has made media manipulation an art form — and that the media has been more than happy to comply. But everyone is the media now. We found out about Hillary Clinton's pneumonia because of a man named Zdenek Gazda, who caught her now-infamous collapse on his cellphone. The days of a compliant press covering for FDR [Franklin Delano Roosevelt] or JFK [John Fitzgerald Kennedy] are over.

—The public no longer believes the media.

And while we're on the subject: A big part of why Donald Trump is the Republican nominee is because the public no longer trusts the press. A popular comment after the primaries was that Donald Trump got millions of dollars in free press coverage. Yes, but what no one talked about was the fact that most of that coverage was negative. So why didn't that hurt him? Because for millions of Americans, being criticized by a corrupt press is a badge of honor. The more the "mainstream media" criticized Trump, the better he did. And they apparently never learn — just this week, CBS selectively edited an interview with Bill Clinton in which he admitted that Hillary Clinton had "frequently" fainted.

—Stop pitting Americans against one another.

This has been going on forever. But it is deeply damaging, and it needs to stop. Mitt Romney had his "47 percent" remark, and Hillary Clinton just put her foot in it by characterizing millions of Americans as "deplorable" racists, sexists, homophobic, etc. Barack Obama has been just as bad, if not worse. Americans need to see our commonality. ...[A]s we remembered the 9/11 terrorist attacks, we could also look back and see that solidarity. It shouldn't take a terrorist attack to view each other as countrymen.

—Focus on the positive.

The president and his (or her) administration set the tone for the country from the top down. Barack Obama has spent far too much time criticizing Americans — religious people are "bitter;" those in small towns or remote areas hold "antipathy to those who aren't like them;" police "act stupidly;" Christians need to "get off their high horse" and remember the Crusades.

But not a day goes by that someone doesn't post a story on social media that demonstrates the small acts of kindness Americans do for each other every day: the UCLA fraternity boys who put lights on their house for a sick little girl across the street; the cop who bought shoes for a homeless man; the Georgia Tech students who bought a gift for the business school's security guard. Not to mention the millions of dollars that ordinary citizens have pitched in for victims of the Boston Marathon bombing, the Ferguson, Missouri, riots—and countless others. These are the things the president needs to turn our attention to.

—Every problem doesn't need a federal solution.

There are 300 million people in this country. Chances are we can solve a problem if given the chance. (Witness the flooding in Baton Rouge and the "Cajun Navy.") It makes far more sense for an individual school or school district to attend to the needs of the relatively small number of transgender students, for example, than for the Department of Education to issue a one-size-fits-all diktat.

—Don't apologize for the United States.
Our adversaries see it as weakness.

—Now that we know what's in it, we hate it.
Obamacare isn't working. It's time to allow Congress to fix it — in a bipartisan fashion, which is how it should have been done in the first place. And relatedly...

—Socialism does not work.

See Venezuela. And Brazil. No, not even for health care. The National Health Service in England is broke. Our efforts here are no better — as the Veteran Affairs and Indian Health Services demonstrate.

—Stop the identity politics.

Stop blaming people for things they didn't do, on the basis of the ethnic or racial group they belong to. This forces them into a defensive posture. What a waste of energy. Accusations polarize, empathy unifies. Appeal to people's empathy, their charity, and their goodness. You'll be surprised at what you see.

—You work for us.

You are not our boss. And you are not a legislative body. Stop telling the rest of us what to do. No more "executive orders" in place of legislation. Respect the Constitution and the limits it places on your office. The entire country is better for it.

Who Am I?

Laura Hollis is an Associate Professional Specialist and Concurrent Associate Professor of Law at the University of Notre Dame, where she teaches entrepreneurship and business law. She is the author of the forthcoming publication,

"Start Up, Screw Up, Scale Up: What Government Can Learn From the Best Entrepreneurs," © 2014. Her opinions are her own, and do not reflect the position of the university. Follow her on Twitter: @LauraHollis61 and visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com.





Meet Governor Mike Pence!

*WHY is **MIKE PENCE** running for GOP Vice President?*

Mike's faith and strong Christian values are what drive him to public service.

*WHAT makes **MIKE PENCE** a great candidate?*

Mike Pence's principles, professional background, and public service make him the perfect running mate for Donald J. Trump. Governor Mike Pence will work hard to take the principles he used to make Indiana greater to make America Great Again!

- **Proven Executive Results**: Mike Pence serves as Governor of Indiana, a top-five state in the country for job growth. He signed the largest tax cut in state history into law, helping attract investors and create more than 150,000 private-sector jobs. Under his leadership, Indiana's unemployment rate has been reduced from 8.4 percent to less than 5 percent; and unemployment among Indiana's veterans has fallen from 31st in the nation in 2013 to the 2nd lowest.
- **Strong Family Values**: Governor Pence and his wife of 31 years, Karen, have three adult children: Michael (25), Charlotte (23), and Audrey (22). Governor Pence often thanks people for their introductions and then explains he prefers a simple introduction, "I am a Christian, a Conservative, and a Republican in that order."
- **Dedicated to Changing Lives**: Governor Pence cares. He signed "Jenny's Law," extending the statute of limitations for filing rape charges in Indiana and ensured \$5 million in new funding (\$12 million in total) for domestic violence prevention and treatment. Governor Mike Pence created a task force on drug enforcement, treatment, and prevention, increasing mandatory minimum sentences for the most serious drug offenders, and providing \$30 million over two years to focus on extending treatment and prevention options.
- **Commitment to Our Children's Future**: Mike Pence, whose wife, Karen, is a school teacher, believes in investing in education. As Governor, he expanded Indiana's choice scholarship program to more than 32,000 low-and-middle income Hoosier students, while ensuring test results did not negatively impact public school teacher compensation and budgets.
- **Conservative Leadership**: Mike Pence has been a consistent fighter for sound fiscal policies. While in Congress, he co-sponsored legislation reforming earmarks, which sought to rein in wasteful, pork-barrel spending. Under Governor Pence, Indiana substantially increased funding for infrastructure every year since 2013, without raising taxes.

[Courtesy of NFRW: An NFRW Profile. August 5, 2016]

Voice of the American Woman

By Cathy Lynn Taylor
Author and Commentator



In one of the most unusual, contested, and rhetoric-heavy presidential campaign seasons in history, a number of new voices have emerged: We've heard a new voice speaking for working class Americans; we've witnessed the rise of Black Lives Matter; and, we've experienced the terrifying clamor of ISIS' voice in America. [However], a voice from whom we haven't heard enough is the voice of the American woman, who wields unprecedented power in defining our world order. Advancing the political conversation with women requires a fresh approach predicated on understanding how we got here and discovering common ground to move forward in these uncommon times.

We live in a beautiful new dawn of women's achievement and empowerment, and women deserve to hear the substantive facts and arguments about the policies that shape our world. Today's women wield unprecedented power. More women than ever own businesses (31 percent), matriculate from medical or law school (47 percent), are the breadwinners of their households (a record 40 percent) and are the majority of voters (52 percent). Policies that don't work for women, won't work for America.

Far more American women identify themselves as Democrats than Republicans (52:35 of women lean Democratic, according to a July 2015 Pew study). For decades, if a woman considered herself sympathetic to the poor, sensitive to the environment, and an advocate for peace over war, she likely considered herself a Democrat. *Why do the majority of women identify as liberals, when they actually live more like conservatives?*

For too long, Democrats have been a lot better at talking to (and about) women. Democrats have effectively messaged that if you care about the world, you must be a Democrat. Conservatives have not as effectively listened to and connected with women, and we have a track record of humoring pundits who don't represent the views of the bulk of conservatives when it comes to women and women's issues. This may explain why so many women live like conservatives, but identify as liberals.

[However], an investigation into the best public policies for women unveils answers that defy a lot of "common wisdom" about how women should vote. Conservatism has done better in producing policies that

best empower women. Indeed, it was a Republican president (Ronald Reagan) who appointed the first female Supreme Court Justice, Sandra Day O'Connor. It was the Republican presidential reign of the 1980s and early 1990s that reduced government spending to less than twenty percent of GDP [Gross Domestic Product] to drive one of our country's most notable economic expansions. It was Republican president (George W. Bush) who will very likely go down in history for saving more female lives on earth through his President's Emergency Plan for Aids Relief (PEPFAR) than any world leader in history and who enacting the first education reform in forty years (despite Democrats controlling eight Congresses during that time), which has reduced female high school dropouts by almost half. And now, it is Republican women who are surging in the number of state legislature seats held, with ten percent growth in the past year alone, while Democratic women in the same offices have stagnated or decreased. In other words, it is conservatives who will likely be sending more women to Washington.

(Continued on next page)

Voice of the American Woman — continued

It's time to change the conversation—not just for the sake of all women, but also for America's future. [T]his president's policies have left women, minorities and our economy worse. Under President [Barack] Obama, two million women slipped into poverty; more than two million workers are expected to leave the workforce before ten years due to work disincentives implemented via the Affordable Care Act; one-half of all public school children in this country live in poverty; welfare spending has increased thirty-two percent, and we've seen more in-country terror attacks than ever before.

If, as conservatives, we could learn to interact with women in a way that would encourage them to listen, they will find that conservatism offers them a more powerful set of beliefs by which to enhance their lives, as I've found in my own life. From Klondike bars on Air Force Four to meetings with Saudi princes to billion-dollar mergers and acquisitions, I've witnessed first-hand the inner workings of policy-making and business and how both impact citizens. It didn't take me long to notice the discrepancy between many women's avowed Democratic affiliation and their actual conservative way of life. That's

why I know it is time for American women to embrace a policy doctrine that more accurately reflects their multifaceted, fabulous selves.

My new book, **Red Is the New Black: How Women Can Fashion A More Powerful America**, challenges the assumption that the Democratic Party is a girl's best friend. **Red Is the New Black** takes an in-depth look at major issues affecting us today to unveil the seven core conservative values that best empower smart, savvy, successful women. It turns out, if we focus on the values instead of arguing over the ideas, there's a whole lot of common ground upon which women can agree. By embracing the seven values of personal responsibility, financial independence, investment in opportunity, belief in the future, strength, diplomacy, and paying it forward, we begin a conversation with one another steeped in common ground.

Women all over the world are already discovering their power and coming together to better their own lives and the lives of others. These principles can help us close the gap between public policy and our private lives, by giving us a framework that applies just as much to political life as it does to personal life.

As we work to build a government that embodies these values, we can also inspire and empower the next generation of women as well.

As we head into Election 2016, let us not only remember our blessed good fortune of being an American with the right to vote, but [...] also remember our role in upholding the Constitution's promise to make this union as perfect as we can. Let us call on one another to begin and continue the conversation with women—across the range of the political spectrum—on how and why conservatism best empowers women. And let us do it with empathy, intelligence, respect, and contrition.

Who Am I?

Cathy Lynn Taylor is a policy expert, author, and commentator based in New York. She regularly appears on television, including Fox News, Fox Business, Newsmax, CNN, and CNBC where her experience working in the White House and on Wall Street make her qualified to provide expert analysis on a wide range of issues. She is also the author of the powerful new book **Red Is the New Black . . . How Women Can Fashion a More Powerful America** set for publication this fall.

Do club members receive what they pay for?

Ensure that your club members receive what they pay for.

Urge your club treasurer to send updates of the club roster and members' addresses to the GFRW treasurer. Include mailing addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses. Without e-mail addresses, members will not receive **VOICES Magazine**, **GFRW E-Newsletters**, **Legislative Updates**, **VOICESmail**, **FOCUS** or **NFRW's Republican Woman Magazine**.

Update address changes. When members move or change e-mail addresses, forward a copy of these changes to the GFRW treasurer so that members will continue to receive publications and notices.

Announce when new issues of the magazine are available. Put the links to the publication on your club website and in your club newsletter. Encourage members to click on the **VOICES Magazine** link in their e-mail announcement from GFRW.

Pass around a copy of VOICES Magazine during club meetings. Display **VOICES Magazine**, **The Republican Woman** magazine, or the latest **VOICESmail** on a laptop computer for members to view before or after club meetings.

Ask computer-savvy members to forward the VOICES links to their friends, neighbors, and local GOP members.



A Cup of Joe and Thoughts to Go

By Janet F. Haldeman

Refrigerator Art and Voting

Why They Go Together

This political season has been filled with tensions, mistruths, and angry words. Some of my friends have said they may not vote this year.

Perhaps you feel the same way. I will confess I had found myself thinking “*maybe I will just sit this year out and not vote.*”

I had been considering that..... until I came face to face (or, as I say, blue eyes to blue eyes) with a reason to vote.

My granddaughter recently turned seven. She began learning about her country at an early age and when she sees our red, white, and blue flag, she yells with great joy “*America! Look Nana, America!*”

For her..... America.....her America..... is the most wonderful place to live.

Even at this young age, her parents talk to her about current events—from sports (Go DAWGS) to our government. She knows an election will take place soon.

She recently asked me “*Nana, who are you going to vote for?*”

I looked at her face—blue eyes staring at me seriously—and realized I could not say to her..... “*Nana is not going to vote in this year’s election.*”

I could not say those words because she would ask me “*Why?*”

I tell her all the time how blessed we are to live in this country and it is important to obey the rules and be a good citizen. Even at her age, she knows being a good citizen means voting.

I may be able to explain to my tired, cynical, and jaded adult friends that I am not going to take advantage of my privilege to vote, but how do I explain that to a seven-year-old who looks up to me?

As her Nana, I view myself as a role model. She watches me and what I do closely—sometimes to my disadvantage! My car’s GPS screen shows the speed I am traveling and if I go over the posted speed limit, the MPH number turns red. She will recite (very loudly) all the red numbers on the screen until I slow down... if I do not slow down quickly enough, I hear the concern/nagging tone in her voice.

She remembers stories I tell, such as the time I got lost in Paris. She reminds me of that story when we are driving—she will say “*Are you lost, Nana? Like when you were in Paris?*”

The truth is—my words and actions are imprinting values on her.

What I cannot forget in all this election chaos is my words and actions might or might not shape world events but I know they can help shape her life.

So, with that in mind.....I have a plan.

My granddaughter loves arts and crafts. We have drawn countless pictures and put them on my refrigerator. We laugh about them and share stories.

Come November, I will help her draw a picture of me holding an American flag. After I vote, I will have her put my peach “I’m a Georgia Voter” sticker on the drawing. I will tell her this picture shows why America is the greatest country in the world.

No matter the political issues, I will not miss this opportunity to share American values with her and who knows it might be the most important picture we ever put on my refrigerator.

Who Am I?

Janet F. Haldeman is a long-time Georgia resident and author of the blog, *Faith and Courage: The Joys of an Ordinary Life*, which contains inspirational stories to brighten your corner of the world. (<https://janethaldeman.com/>) She enjoys spending time with her grandchildren, writing, and trying to live her life with her faith, joy, and courage intact.



Keep Georgia RED

Get Out The Vote

We need your help this fall! After nineteen months, seventeen Republican candidates, twelve debates, and primaries from coast to coast, we have our nominee and our mission this fall is crystal clear.

Peach State Republicans, who supported a variety of candidates during the primary process, are now united around Donald Trump and we are committed to keeping Georgia "Red" this November.

Our 2016 Victory Program, which is modeled after the same effort that earned Republicans up and down the ticket clear victories in 2014, is data-driven and robust.

With state-of-the-art technology, grassroots volunteers are identifying like-minded voters throughout the Peach State. Thanks to new technology upgrades, we are able to connect faster and more effectively with voters on phones, tablets, and laptops.

In Victory Headquarters throughout Georgia, Party leaders are training volunteers, organizing coalitions, and providing a central meeting point for grassroots operations and campaigns.

With strong candidates, top-notch technology, trained grassroots leaders, and conveniently located Victory Headquarters; we are ready to earn victory on November 8. **The only thing missing is you!**

As you know, this is the most important election in our lifetime. After eight years of President Barack Obama's failed agenda, our country needs bold, conservative leadership to reform Washington, grow our economy, restore respect abroad, and protect our people here at home.

The last person we need to "lead" America is Hillary Clinton. It's up to us to put a Republican back in the White House. It's our job to elect Donald Trump as the next president of the United States!

The weeks ahead are not going to be easy. We must work tirelessly to elect Senator Johnny Isakson and all of the Republican candidates on the ballot. Now is not the time to make excuses. We must work together to move our state and our country forward.

I encourage you to visit the Georgia Republican Party's website, www.GAGOP.org/volunteer, to sign up as a Victory Volunteer. Together, we can protect our "Red State" status. With your help, we can Make America Great Again!



Who Am I?

John Padgett, an entrepreneur, business owner, grassroots leader, and family man, is proud to serve as the Chairman of Georgia's Republican Party. Padgett has proudly worked in the grassroots of the Republican Party for thirty-five years, humbly serving as the Chairman of the Athens-Clarke County Republican Party four times, Chairman of the 11th and 12th Congressional District, Secretary of the Georgia Republican Party and member of the GAGOP Executive Committee. Padgett was elected to serve as Chairman of the Georgia Republican Party at the 2013 State Convention and re-elected in 2015. Above all, Padgett is a family man. Married to Mary for more than thirty years, the couple has three daughters and three grandchildren. The Padgetts are members of Highland Park Church and are proud to call the city of Athens their home.



Convention Reflections

By
Carolyn Hall
Fisher
Forsyth County

Georgia delegates to the 2016 Republican National Convention arrived in Cleveland with a sense of excitement and anticipation. It proved to be one of the friendliest cities I have ever visited, and the Quicken Loans Center was the perfect venue for a National Convention. The Georgia delegation was a mere three miles away from the center of activity. This was all due to the diligent work of our National Committeewoman, Linda Herren.

There was definitely a police presence everywhere and whenever possible, Republicans thanked them for their service and the protection they provided. The volunteers from Cleveland could not have been friendlier and the security getting into the arena, while thorough, was quick and easy.

Once inside the arena and on the actual floor, I was in awe of the size of the place and the wonderful seating that the Georgia delegation had. We were not far from the stage and could actually see the speakers.

I attended a National Convention in 1984 as a guest, but had never been on the floor. Being on the floor is quite an experience. You literally bump into people that you often see on television and for the most part, they are happy to have a photo made with you. I "bumped" into the likes of Bill Hemmer of Fox News, Sheriff David Clarke, sheriff of Milwaukee County, Wisconsin, Congresswoman Marsha Blackburn (R-TN), John Bolton, former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations and I was

even in Watters World [Fox News Channel] one night!

The highlight for me though was standing with my fellow Georgians under the Georgia standard and listening to our chairman, John Padgett, cast Georgia's votes for the next president of the United States. I had watched this take place during every National Convention since 1960. To actually be a part of it made me realize just how important the political process is and how each of us must encourage others to become involved.

We heard many speeches that week, but three of them really impressed me. Rudy Giuliani, former mayor of New York City, spoke from the deepest part of his soul, emphasizing the clear and present danger that we face in this country from those who seek to destroy us. His admiration of the police officers who protect us was evident. Chris Christie, governor of the state of New Jersey, spoke as though he were in a courtroom, calmly laying the groundwork for an indictment of Hillary Clinton. We all began to shout, "Lock her up!" "Lock her up!" It was glorious.

However, the best speech was that made by the nominee. During that speech, I remembered the horrible times we had during the Vietnam War, Watergate, the Ford years, and the Carter administration. I remembered Reagan and how he pulled us out of it all and instilled a sense of pride within us. As Trump spoke, I became hopeful and realized that Reagan's time has passed. Reagan was soft

spoken and compassionate. Donald Trump is Ronald Reagan on speed! I have met Mr. Trump. He is a good man who cares about this nation. After all, look at what it has done for him.

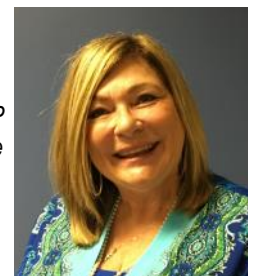
Do not believe the media hype. We had a great convention. The Georgia delegation had more media coverage than any other delegation. This was due to the excellent organization of our state GOP Chairman John Padgett and staff. To make things even better, we were one of eight states asked to certify Mr. Trump's nomination.

It is time for all of us to believe again, to regain our sense of pride, and to unite so that we can Make America Great Again!

Who Am I?

Carolyn Fisher, Ed.S., is the new chairman of the Forsyth County GOP and a member of the state committee.

She is also a member of the 2017 class of Republican Leadership of Georgia. Fisher is a graduate of the University of Georgia with a bachelor's and specialist degree in education. She also received her Master's in Education from Georgia State University. Fisher taught for 31 years. She also served as a teacher leader for Eisenhower's People to People program.





Where Do We Go From Here To Elect Trump As President?

By Jeanne Seaver
GOP and Grassroots Activist

reminder would be helpful as we move forward and focus on the following to get out the vote!

once like in the United States where men were free."

- Hold voter registration drives and encourage voters to vote early.
- Wear Trump buttons everywhere you go—great exposure and it opens a dialog for support of Trump and has a "YUGE" impact on Getting Out the Vote!
- Walk door-to-door in your neighborhood or development and be the leader to keep all informed.
- Make phone calls—phone banking/an electronic system. All you need is a computer, tablet/iPad, and a phone. It is easy and simple from any setting you choose, including your own home.
- Distribute signs and bumper stickers in your area.
- Send out postcards to everyone you know asking them to get out and vote for Trump.
- Wave signs at high-traffic intersections.

I thought I would end with my favorite quote from former President Ronald Reagan that touches the heart and soul of every American Patriot. We must never forget our children deserve better!

"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was

Now, turn off your televisions and get out there and do all you can! Your efforts and actions will always be a part of history in the making.

Please feel free to email me at jseaverconsulting@gmail.com to share your thoughts or ask any questions you may have. Together—unified—we can Make America Great Again!

Our time is now to not just talk the talk, but to walk the walk. We have a lot to do and very few days remaining in this very important presidential election.

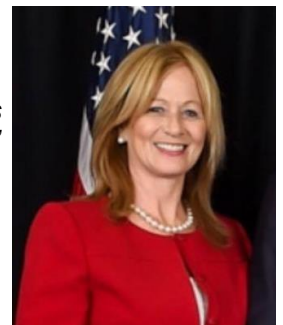
Our future and our children's future will be the result of our efforts. Our hearts and priorities are our families. The proof is in the pudding, our daily lives are full of these memories. Hey, just look at the pictures on your cell phones and Facebook posts. Yes, we all love our families and isn't that why you continue to stay involved? Can we say AMEN to that?

Donald Trump's platform touches all of us, as follows: keeping us safe by building a stronger military and greater attention to national security; healthcare reform; U.S. and China trade reform; taking care of our veterans and senior citizens; tax reform; protecting our second amendment rights; and enforcing our immigration laws, including building that wall, to name a few. He has promised to be the people's voice and our messenger. Anyone who has questions or wants information on Trump, please visit www.donaldjtrump.com. All your questions can be answered there.

Now, we come to what you can do. Although many of you already know, I thought a

Who Am I?

Jeanne Seaver has more than 32 years' experience as a legal administrator and comptroller. She is a former employee of Attorney F. Lee



Bailey. Seaver is in her 16th year at her current position as an Associate with a private equity company in the aerospace industry. In her position, she assists the team on transactions by coordinating the capital funding and facilitating the closings. Pre- and post-closing, she assists in analyzing the investments, insurance and HR benefits packages and is responsible for maintaining and managing the investment funds for the investors. Seaver is also a former committee member of one of the investment's multi-million dollar 401-K Plan.



Winning depends on how well we “get out the vote.”

- Be visible at community and political functions.
- Be vocal about election issues.

Be Visible

Look for opportunities to demonstrate—I am a Republican:

- Let your car become a campaign vehicle sporting bumper stickers. If you would rather not attach them permanently, display the bumper stickers inside—visible through the front or rear window. Instead of a sun reflector, promote your candidate by propping their campaign yard sign against the windshield to block the sun. Think how many people will see the signs when you park at the shopping center.



- Watch for announcements of family and school reunions, precinct parties, special candidate fundraisers, speakers' forums, style shows, fairs, church barbe-

cues, covered dish dinners, picnics, community celebrations, and parades. Take your friends and family and wear political T-shirts, campaign buttons, Republican hats, caps, jewelry, and lapel stickers.

Be Vocal

- Get informed! Become an expert on an issue that is particularly important to you. Build your arsenal of information around three to five major talking points.
- Review newspapers and websites offering reports on the issues of the campaign. Carry several copies of articles in your handbag or back pocket to give to friends.
- Participate in local political gatherings. Even though you feel you may be “preaching to the choir,” there might be one person at the gathering who has not made up his/her mind about the candidate. Your presence and opinion could help that individual make an informed decision, rather than voting on name recognition only.
- Carry a copy of talking points and emails with you and review these points frequently so that they become *your* talking points.
- Review the numerous informative links available and forward them along to others so they, too, can become informed voters.
- Even though many emails, opinion pieces, and editorials in your local

newspapers may reveal a liberal slant, get to know the opposition. If you are not familiar with the liberal point of view, how can you propose moderate or conservative alternatives?

- How vocal you choose to be will depend on how comfortable you are working campaign issues into a conversation or how comfortable you are writing and sharing your views through letters and emails. Pick the avenue through which you are most comfortable when sharing information.
- Appeal to reason. Whether vocally or in writing, allow your voice to appeal to common sense. Generally, common sense wins out in political discussions.

Carry a big campaign handbag or tote bag.

Dig out a souvenir tote bag and use it as your campaign bag (any big bag will do). Let it become your “Advocate Briefcase” as you tote copies of issues, communications, pamphlets, and the like. You never know when you may be seated next to someone who needs more information in order to become a better informed voter.



By Judy True
Editor-in-Chief, VOICES Publications

Courage to Stand for God and Vote: Conservative Christians Must Decide

Photo: Public Domain

**By Dr. Traci
McBride**

On June 25, 1962, the U. S. Supreme Court rendered a decision from a landmark case, *Engel v. Vitale*. In an 8-1 ruling, the court decided that the New York State Board of Regents' twenty-two-word prayer to be recited by each student was unconstitutional, a violation of the First Amendment's Establishment Clause. Thus, this decision, which essentially removed prayer from public school, and the subsequent ruling in 1963 against Bible reading in public school, entrenched the belief in separation of church and state that permeates society today.

Ultimately, these verdicts created a vacuum in schools. When a vacuum is created by the removal of one thing, another will quickly come in to fill the void. In this case, over the past fifty-four years, the incremental removal of prayer, Bible reading, God, and spirituality has been replaced by their antitheses, scientific reasoning and Humanism, "a progressive philosophy of life that, without theism and other supernatural beliefs, affirms man's ability and responsibility to lead ethical lives of personal fulfillment that aspire to the greater good of humanity" (<http://americanhumanist.org/>). Not only do these verdicts, in fact, violate the First Amendment, they have violated the Establishment Clause as well through the establishment of a *de facto* religion, Humanism, simply by promoting all things devoid of God entirely.

According to education expert William Jaynes, five negative developments have emanated from these verdicts in public schools: 1. Academic achievement has plummeted, including SAT scores; 2. Increased rate of out-of-wedlock births; 3. Increase in illegal drug use; 4. Increase in juvenile crime; and 5. Deterioration of school behavior (Starr, 2014). However, other organizations, such as Americans United and the First Amendment Center, dispute that these developments can be correlated or viewed as even causal with these rulings (www.au.org; Haynes, 2012). This debate underscores the crux of the matter: Do we accept God through faith and the possibility of the supernatural, or do we accept only those things that science determines as real through evidence?

In 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court decided yet another landmark case, *Roe v. Wade*, on the issue of abortion. In its 7-2 ruling, the Court deemed abortion a fundamental right under the Constitution, which, in essence, added abortion to one of the inalienable rights provided to us by our Creator. Not only did these Supreme Court justices render a decision on a faulty premise, for how can life and abortion both be inalienable rights since they are polar opposites, but additionally, the Court purposefully violated the Tenth Amendment through an egregious dismissal of States' rights.

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While these U.S. Supreme Court decisions have greatly impacted our country, whether for good or bad, no one can dispute the change. Also, no one can dispute that public schools devoid of God and His absolute truth now impart knowledge through a secular, humanistic lens via moral relativism and scientific reasoning, and abortions are acceptable over responsibility for one's actions. The dismantling of God from American life allows the rules to change dependent upon circumstances, causing our American society to no longer recognize itself or hold dear its founding fathers' unalienable rights of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" provided by the Creator. Even two of the individuals most affected by these rulings, William Murray, son of atheist Madalyn Murray O'Hair, and Norma McCorvey, a.k.a. Jane Roe, came to the realization that the court cases promoted in their names were terribly wrong. They spent many years after the verdicts to have them overturned, but to no avail.

Amazingly, many research studies show that prayer is good and provides hope and resiliency – isn't that what we want our children to exhibit? Likewise, 3D imaging evidence, showing the intricate human characteristics of a precious baby in the womb, causes abortion to be both paradoxical and counter-intuitive. If prayer is good and helps us live better lives yet society has deemed it unnecessary, shunning those who practice it, while society accepts abortion as the legal killing of innocent life, hasn't our collective American psyche lost its moral

compass and desperately needs a shift in heart, mind, and soul? We, the people, as a people, have clearly lost our way.

As the electorate head to the polls on November 8 to vote for either Hillary Clinton or Donald Trump, the U.S. Supreme Court appointees (lifetime positions) to be determined by the next president hang in the balance. Americans need to remember the Supreme Court decisions from the past and determine if the America of the future should continue to expel God from public school and the public square, disregard the sanctity of life, and promote man's rights over God's absolute truth from our Judeo-Christian heritage. President Barack Obama already appointed two liberal Supreme Court justices during his administration. If elected, Clinton's two to three more liberal appointees will transform the America we now know into a socialist progressive society that we will not recognize or comprehend. In the last election cycle, Obama was re-elected with less than two million votes, yet over twenty-five million Christians did not show up to vote. Isn't it time that Christian conservatives find the courage to demand the truth, stand for God, and exercise their right to vote? Christian conservatives must **make** the difference this time.

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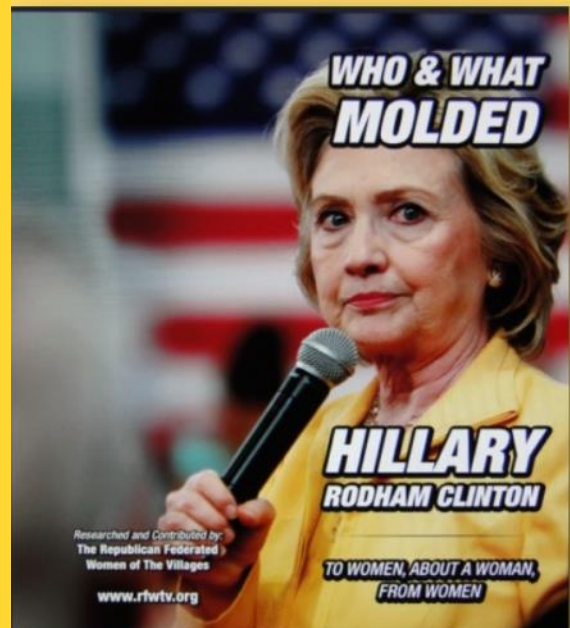
Who Am I?'

Dr. Traci McBride is a retired administrator from Hall County Schools and currently serves as Academic Dean of Lanier Christian Academy in Flowery Branch, GA. As a political activist and educational consultant for United Classrooms, Braselton, GA, McBride served as Lead Coordinator of the Educational Policy Advisory Committee for Dr. Ben Carson, Republican candidate for president. She is a charter member of the Republican Women of Hall, serving as the chapter's recording secretary.



Inform yourself. Persuade your neighbors.

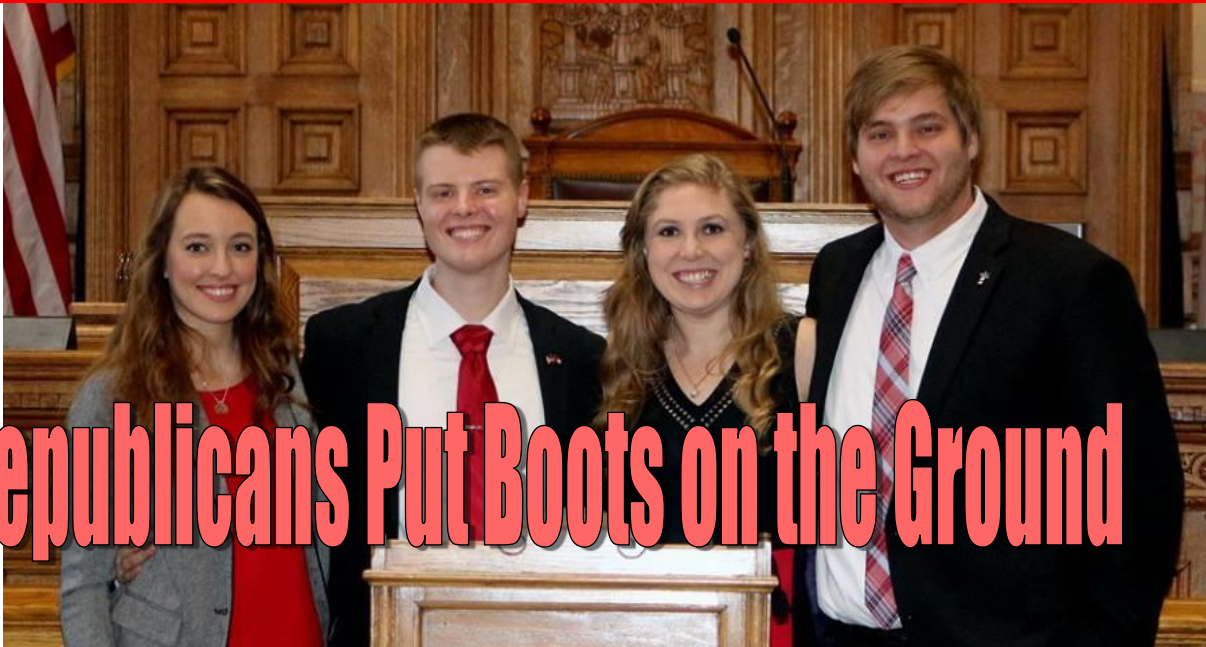
The Republican Women Federated of the Villages (FL) has developed a well-documented and informative brochure. *From Women to Women About a Woman* focuses on what and who molded the Democratic nominee for president and why women should consider their vote carefully this November. It is available to NFRW members [here](#)—use it to inform yourself and persuade your neighbors [to vote for Trump and the rest of the Republicans on the ballot November 8].



**By Alaina
Spencer**

Vice Chairwoman,
Georgia Association
of College
Republicans

College Republicans Put Boots on the Ground



[L to R: GACR Officers—Kaylin Walden, Secretary; Brennan Mancil, Chair; Alaina Spencer, Vice Chair; Wesley Ross, Treasurer]

The school year has just started and Georgia College Republicans (GACRs) are already putting boots on the ground to ensure **Red** wins up and down the ticket this November. This summer began with a great start with fundraising efforts to ensure that our organization has the means to help out fellow Republicans this fall. On July 9, we hosted our first annual golf tournament in Fulton County and had a great turnout with many sponsorships from various state senators and representatives. Fundraising for our group is a large part in ensuring that Republican nominees win because without these funds, we would not be able to send our CR troops on express trips around Georgia for state elections and to nearby swing states for the presidential election.

Some CRs were out in droves supporting their favorite Republican candidate in their home districts during primary season and encouraging their friends and family members to vote through various social media sites. However, now that

runoffs are officially over and Republican nominees have been chosen, GACRs will be able to support the picks as an organization. That means we will be able to send CRs on weekend trips to door knock and phone bank for the Republican candidate in a particular district. Many CRs have opportunities to be a part of the local campaigns in the district that their college is located. That is how I became so actively involved in politics. Sometimes, I feel like I am more active in my college town politics than my hometown!

This fall, CRs are going to be volunteering endless days, nights, and weekends to ensure that everyone on the Republican ticket gets elected. GACRs will have its annual Fall Leadership Retreat once the fall semester begins. All of Georgia's college Republican chapter chairs will attend as well as the executive board for GACR. This will not only be a chance to bond with each other (we aren't always business), but it will be a chance to lay out the ground work for what exactly we as College Republicans can do to ensure that Republican nominees win this November.



Who Am I?

Alaina Spencer is Vice Chairwoman of the Georgia Association of College Republicans. She is a senior Psychology major with a Family Studies minor at Berry College in Rome, Georgia. Spencer joined Berry College's CR chapter her freshman year. She has held a leadership position with them until this past April when she was elected Vice-Chairwoman of GACR. Spencer says, "A lot of people think I'm crazy when I tell them how much I care about politics and what my major is, but my response is always **everyone** should care about our country's future. If you are paying attention, you can control what is happening around you."

Youth Vote. Political Identity.

FIGHTING FOR
OUR NATION

ONE CAMPUS
AT A TIME

By Joel Pollack
Southern Regional Director
of the Georgia Association of
College Republicans



I used to hate the word “conservative,” because I did not really know what it meant.

I’ve been a Republican for a long time, but I use to hate being called a conservative. It wasn’t until 2012 that I began to feel like a conservative. Since I was young, I had a passion for service, duty, and political theory; but, it was not until the 2012 election cycle that I found myself, i.e., I found my political identity.

In today’s political arena, there are many words thrown around—more words than I studied for the SAT exam. So what makes political identity so important?

Political identity provides a safety net, a sense of well-being or belonging; but, with this notion of identity, learning and education go hand-in-hand.

So what shaped my political identity? I discussed my identity with local leaders, friends, and family. With everyone I talked to, they shared something different. In civics, political identity is a way of life; it is how we interact and learn from one another. The biggest advice I received was to think for myself, put my morals and ethics above the norm, and *always* do what is right. This 2016 election year is a historic year. We

have the power to turn our nation back to the American people.

I intend to vote. Many people claim that our youth don’t go to the polls and, therefore, millennials are not worth pursuing. Millennials do see the impact of youth voting. According to a study by Cornell University’s Roper Center, in 2012, 46 percent of the vote came from ages thirty and younger. Incredibly, the youth vote shifted the outcome.

Prior to voting age, I knew that voting was an important right that could be taken away from members of a free society. Voting has important outcomes to us individually and to our nation as a whole. Today, probably more than any other time in our history, the future of my country is at risk.

President Ronald Reagan said, “Freedom is never more than one generation from extinction.” I take these words to heart. If we want to preserve our future, then we must invest in the future that generations from now would like to live in—the America that my parents knew as young adults. We must cast aside the mantra “live for today.” Enough living for today—we must strive to live for tomorrow. Tomorrow matters! Thinking about the world of tomorrow must influence the choices we make today.

Make no mistake, the youth vote is vitally important. Without it, we may sacrifice our freedoms at the expense of future generations. With political identity, we—the youth of today—are the best hope of preserving our future. As young American citizens, we have the opportunity to come together to strengthen our nation. If we want our nation to get back on the right path—and stay there, we must work together. Together, we can ensure a strong nation, where principles and ethics reign. Together, we—the young voters—are a better America.

Who Am I?

Joel Pollack is a junior Healthcare Administration major at Valdosta State University. He is an alumnus from Johns Creek High School where he served as Chairman and President of the Johns Creek Teen Republicans, the only teen Republican group in Fulton County at the time. In fall of 2014, Pollack joined the Valdosta State College Republicans and was on Valdosta State’s Student Government Association as a freshman Senator. In 2015, Pollack was elected chairman of the Valdosta State College Republicans and, in 2016, was appointed Southern Regional Director of the Georgia Association of College Republicans.



Bad officials are elected by good citizens

who do not vote! ~ George Jean Nathan, American drama critic and editor

Aloha in Hawaiian Can Mean Hello or Goodbye



*Thank You,
Linda Herren...*

for serving as Georgia's National Republican Committeewoman for the past twelve years. You represented us with grace, dignity, and honor — and— you made us proud on the national stage. All the best to you and your wonderful family.

By Linda Herren

With the constant urging (nagging) of members of the Stone Mountain Republican Women's Club— now Central DeKalb Republican Women's Club, I became involved again. With the support of my mentors and my many friends in Georgia Federation of Republican Women, I progressed from precinct leader to county chairman to district chairman and then served as 1st Vice President of the Georgia Party for several terms. Again, my GFRW friends suggested (nagged) that I run for RNC National Committeewoman. With their support, I was elected in 2004. With your continued support I served twelve years in this position.

This has been an incredible journey that would not have been possible without all of you. I made so many friends and had so many opportunities to help elect Republicans. Looking at what our Party in Georgia was in the '70s and what it has now become, makes it all worthwhile. I am deeply appreciative of the faith all of you had in me, as well as the mentoring and support along the way.

Aloha in Hawaiian can mean hello or goodbye. So ladies, I say Aloha (goodbye) to this part of my political life. I also say Aloha (hello) to the next episode. I am not going away. I will continue to support CDRWC, GFRW, and other political efforts in different ways.

Thank you for allowing me this grand opportunity to serve.

What an exciting and exhausting cycle this has been! With a record number of primary Republican candidates for president of the United States, spirited debates, and enthusiastic supporters for all, it certainly succeeded in energizing the Republican base. Despite the media reports to the contrary, the convention exhibited a unified support of Donald Trump and everyone is fired up to proceed to November.

I was honored to be elected to represent the Republican National Committee Southern Region on the nine-member site selection committee. After many meetings and much travel, the committee decided on Cleveland. I received a lot of comments on this choice, but those who attended came

away with a new appreciation of the rebirth of Cleveland as a great city. The involvement of the Cleveland business community, public safety groups, volunteers, and residents could not have made for a more delightful experience. I assisted the GAGOP with arrangements and events for the delegation. Only the most stalwart could attend all of the activities planned by the GAGOP, RNC, and other organizations.

As I leave as RNC National Committeewoman for Georgia, I am reminiscing on the 47+ years of my political involvement. It began innocently enough when my husband, Preston, and I joined the Young Republicans in 1968. As I often do, I got so involved I was named YR of the Year in 1969. Beginning in 1972, there was a move with Preston's job, graduate school, a new job, and a baby. My political activity was put on the back burner.

Accountability Courts

By Judge Mary Staley Clark

[Editor's Note: This is the second in a series showcasing the various special courts available for veterans and people facing mental health issues. If your county doesn't have these kinds of courts, perhaps the Veterans Court and Mental Health Court of Cobb County could serve as a model for your community.]

Services and interventions for individuals with mental health issues have dwindled dramatically. Often, the way mentally ill individuals get the medications and treatment they need is a result of being arrested. Tragically, the largest provider of mental health services in Georgia is the Cobb County Adult Detention Center. The Cobb County Adult Detention Center provides medication and support services to more than 30 percent of the detention center's population. What will happen to those individuals when they are no longer in custody? Some become participants in the Cobb County Mental Health Court.

The Cobb County Mental Health Court (CMHC) was created in April 2013. CMHC is an accountability court. Accountability courts have a demonstrated and documented pattern of reducing recidivism and moving individuals from the deficit side to the asset side in the community equation. The concept of accountability courts is simple. Participants receive incentives for compliant behavior and sanctions for non-compliant behavior. The incentive most appreciated by the participants is judicial praise. Many participants have never been positively recognized for anything. Having a judge—a person representative of accomplishment and success—express praise, brings big smiles and it serves as a continuing motivation to succeed.

The Cobb Mental Health Court reviews and accepts individuals who meet the criteria of: (1) having a severe and persistent mental illness; (2) have committed a felony criminal act; (3)

reside in Cobb County; and, (4) demonstrate, by their application to participate, a desire to address the issues that brought them into the criminal justice system.

Dwindling Services:

- **Closed—1997: Georgia Mental Health Institution**
- **Closed—1999: West Paces Ferry Medical Center**
- **Closed—1999: Kennestone Mental Health Mental Health unit**
- **Closed—2000: Northside Hospital closed its 25-bed inpatient psychiatric program**
- **Closed—2002: Parkway Hospital**
- **Closed—2011: Northwest Georgia Regional Hospital**
- **Closed (all but one unit)—2014: Central State Hospital in Milledgeville, Georgia's largest mental health facility**

CMHC partners with the Cobb/Douglas Community Services Board to provide group and individual counseling and medication management to participants. The major component of Mental Health Court is accountability. Being on time, attending appointments, daily life skills, and personal care are all things some of us take for granted. CMHC participants don't always have that luxury. Teaching these skills and fostering the ability to organize, process, and complete tasks is the first goal. Once participants meet this goal, the court expands the opportunities and options for participants. Assistance with employment, education, housing, vocational training, and accessing public assistance are available to participants.



The rigorous 18 to 24-month program allows participants, who otherwise may have never reached for their full potential, to do just that.

In order to successfully complete CMHC, participants must meet all treatment requirements, be employed, a student, or volunteer their time to the community, have suitable housing, and have a direct connection to community services for continued medication and therapy. Fifteen individuals have met all requirements of the program since inception. They include: a new home owner, a new college student, a college graduate, a new mother, and a supervisor of a very successful local company, just to mention a few of their accomplishments. Graduates state again and again that the life achievements they have now would not have been possible without the support and structure the Cobb County Mental Health Court has provided.

If you have questions or would like additional information about the Cobb County Mental Health Court, please contact Judge Mary Staley Clark at 770-528-1816 or Court Coordinator, Adrienne Bowen at 770-828-8106.

Who Am I?

Judge Mary Staley Clark earned her *Juris Doctor* from the University of Georgia School of Law in 1978. After graduating from law school, Staley Clark served as an Assistant District Attorney for the Cobb Judicial Circuit from 1978-1982. She was elected Magistrate Judge of Cobb County in 1982 and, in 1984, she was elected State Court Judge, Division I. Staley Clark was elected Judge of the Superior Court of Cobb County in 1992 and served as Chief Judge from 2005-2006. She is currently the presiding judge for the Cobb County Mental Health Court.



Free fotolia

By Richard Woods
GA Superintendent of Schools

The Vision: Preparing Students to Lead

Every day of learning is important, but September 16 was a particularly significant occasion for Georgia's students and teachers. It was Constitution Day, a time for our students to celebrate and learn more about the words that built America.

As a social studies teacher, as the child of a military family, and as a proud citizen of the United States, it's my strong belief that we should give our students every possible opportunity to learn about the Constitution—the bedrock of our beliefs and values as a nation. It is my commitment that the students of Georgia will carefully study our founding documents on Constitution Day and throughout the year. It has been my pleasure to work with many Georgia Republican Women's clubs to help make these documents available to our students.

The Georgia Department of Education's strategic plan sets forth our vision to create an education system that prepares students to lead—fostering soft skills, civic awareness, learning by doing, teamwork, innovative thinking, and real-world relevance and application. Knowledge of our founding documents gives students the foundation they need to become active participants in the civic life of their community, state, and nation.

This year, we joined with the Georgia Center for Civic Engagement to present workshops for hundreds of eighth-grade Georgia Studies teachers and high school government teachers. These workshops equipped our educators with fresh resources and ideas, which they will carry into the classroom as they teach students about the Constitution and founding

principles of our country. In classrooms all over the state on Constitution Day, teachers found innovative ways to bring the Constitution to life for students.

Fittingly, we are currently engaged in a process of representative government at work. Through the Every Student Succeeds Act—the replacement for the overly-prescriptive, restrictive, and top-down law commonly known as No Child Left Behind—jurisdiction over many education decisions is returning to the local level where it belongs. This happened in response to overwhelming feedback from concerned citizens at the state and local level, who informed the federal government that states and local districts—not Washington—are best equipped to educate students.

We are currently working on Georgia's plan responsive to the Every Student Succeeds Act, or ESSA. I'm absolutely committed to making this a plan that is for Georgians, by Georgians—just as the founding documents of our great nation commit us to government by and for the people. We need your feedback and I encourage you to get involved in shaping the future of Georgia's education system. Please attend a public feedback session (find dates and details at gadoe.org/ESSA) or send your feedback to essa@doe.k12.ga.us.

ESSA is still not perfect. There are still federal requirements and decisions that will be made at the Washington level, rather than the local level where they belong. I believe, however, that it is a step in the right direction.

Thank you for entrusting me with this opportunity to represent you at the state level. It is truly an honor.

Leaders Seldom Fly Solo

By Remington Youngblood

Photo: Public Domain

I believe a successful leader must be persistent, open-minded, and optimistic. There are two basic steps to good leadership:

First, is setting a direction and articulating a vision and, second, is empowering and developing a diverse group of young people, so that they can head in that direction and share the vision. Leaders seldom fly solo! Becoming a competent leader requires you to know yourself—what are your strengths and weaknesses? It's important to delegate, be a good listener, and teach others how to become leaders.

My nonprofit, Change 4 Georgia (C4G), has taught me how to be a leader. For the first year and a half, I was on my own. So basically, I started from the bottom and worked my way up to becoming the leader of my organization.

Change 4 Georgia is a student-led organization with a mission to inspire, connect, and foster the human spirit in young people by offering leadership and service opportunities in order to better the world we live in. Our team has raised more than \$2.2 million in cash and in-kind donations to assist others in need.

We provide leadership opportunities by implementing multiple projects that offer a continuum of service all year long. Our goal is to teach and encourage students to be problem solvers and to help alleviate societal issues.

We welcome ideas, provide tools, encourage action, and teach skills.

Here are the areas we have impacted the greatest:

1. Collected and distributed more than 213,000 books.
2. Awarded \$8,500 in student veteran scholarships.
3. Collected more than 4,328 boxes of oatmeal for our soldiers.
4. Delivered 5,000 bouquets of flowers to senior residents.
5. Donated more than 800 Christmas gifts for military families.
6. Participated in Keep Forsyth County Beautiful Adopt-A-Road Program.
7. Delivered 4,352 cookies to first responders.
8. Collected more than \$24,000 of food and personal items for the homeless veterans shelter.
9. Donated 211 sleeping bags and blankets to homeless veterans.
10. Sent \$42,000 of "Wish List" items to our troops overseas.
11. Sent 4,112 cards and letters to soldiers overseas.

12. Read to hundreds of preschoolers, and helped them write cards to our troops.

13. Increased our membership to 118 enthusiastic and energetic students.

Short-term plans for C4G are to continue to grow our membership and add community service initiatives. Long-term, I'd like to take the organization concept to the collegiate level.

Leaders seldom fly solo! It really does take a village, so we built one!

Check out our website at change4georgia.org. Follow us on Facebook and Twitter at [change4georgia](https://www.facebook.com/change4georgia).

Who Am I?



*President and Founder of Change 4 Georgia (C4G), **Remington Youngblood**, is only a sophomore at Lambert High School, but he has already been running his non-profit organization for five years. He serves on*

the Advisory Board of AboutFace, a veteran support program; the Junior Advisory Group of Kids Business Expo; and, he just finished his term on the Junior Board of Children Helping Children. Youngblood is Teen Editor of Voices magazine, and he recently completed a Human Interests internship for a morning radio show.

By Sally Snyder
GFRW 1st VP

How Can I Help Make My Club Better?



So, you are sitting at your kitchen table thinking about your Republican Women's club and you wonder how you can make it better. There are so many tasks that need to be addressed and only a few members to do them. You ask yourself how you can make a difference. This article addresses a few things that will, hopefully, improve your club's programs and make a positive difference for members and prospective members.

What kinds of programs do you want your club to offer?

Think about issues that are important to you that could be addressed. Perhaps you are concerned about how the Affordable Care Act addresses women's health issues, or you have a burning desire to know the strategies the state GOP or your local party will use to get out the vote in November. Maybe you want more information about your club's bylaws and the guidelines they provide regarding backing the candidate of your choice. Or, is there another topic that is being talked about in your community that could be addressed?

Do others in your club have the same interests or are there other topics of interest?

Talk to others in the club at a meeting and ask what they are interested in. Generate a list so you are sure these are the subjects that would get folks out to a meeting. If you are in a state that has district director positions, ask your district director to brainstorm with your club. If not, invite an officer/committee chair from your federation to provide support.

Will your club work toward the National Federation Achievement Award (NFRW) in 2017?

If so, download the club achievement award criteria from the NFRW website and review the program ideas in each section. With your club's executive committee, decide on possible meeting topics for the next three months.

Do you only want meeting speakers or are there other activities with which to get involved?

At your executive committee or your regular club meeting, ask if there are others who would like to **do** something during the month or during the meeting. This time of year is key to planning Caring for America projects, voter registration drives, volunteering in campaigns or at your local GOP office, having your legislative committee chair review carried-over bills in your state legislature so you can think about whether to support or change them, plan for a Positive American Day, create ways to thank our veterans, and more.

What is the next step in the planning process?

With others, brainstorm a possible calendar that includes programs and activities for the coming months.

How can you make things happen?

After you have a calendar of events, the next step is generating ideas for speakers and determining who will contact them. If you have decided the club wants to do an activity, then the committee chair, a volunteer, or a club officer should provide a plan, timeline, cost (if anticipated), and how members can be involved.

Who else wants to be involved?

In order to answer this question, the activity plan and timeline has to be communicated to members with the type of volunteers sought. For example, for the past few years, my club has had a Caring for America project to adopt and shop for a foster child for the holidays in December. The club must budget for this \$100 project or hold a special fundraiser. A designated person must plan to shop and then be reimbursed by the president/treasurer. If desired, take photos and use them on your club's website or newsletter, or submit them to the media.

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To be effective, communicating volunteer opportunities needs to be more than an announcement during the club meeting. The lead person for the activity should provide a brief, written timeline for the project with her name and contact information to include in the newsletter or on a website to provide notice to others who couldn't attend the meeting and as a record of activities planned from year-to-year.

Do we ask other women in the community to get involved?

Asking for volunteers on our website or in a newsletter is one way to get prospective members involved. Members can give a copy of the newsletter or website link to other women they know who might be interested in participating. If members are involved with other groups in the community that they think might want to participate, a request for volunteers can be sent to the group's leadership for publication in a newsletter or announcement at an upcoming meeting. Maybe a joint project can be initiated. Reach out to your county and Congressional district organizations. Flyers for volunteers can be provided to interested women in these groups.

Look at your club's organization.

If you or your club wants to be "doing," look at the committee chair positions. Are there key committees that don't have a chairperson? Do you want to contribute, but don't think you have time? Look for positions where you can get involved, but aren't demanding of your time.

Want to make a real difference and have time to make it happen? Consider getting involved with membership, legislation, campaign activities, or your club's newsletter.

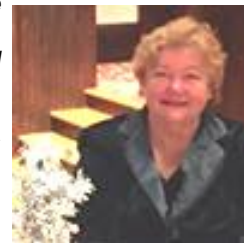
What about assuming a leadership position?

Have the same people been in elected positions in your club, district, or GOP organizations for a period of time? Do you have the time and energy to work with other women to grow your organization? Some leadership positions take a few hours per month to make a difference while other leadership positions require more time, travel, and money, but are well worth it.

There are lots of possible ways you can make a difference. Pick one or more and jump in; the water is invigorating. You will be glad you did.

Who Am I?

Sara (Sally) Snyder serves as GFRW's 1st Vice President. She has held every office in her club, Gwinnett Republican Women. Snyder also served as Treasurer of the Gwinnett GOP, and a precinct and area manager, as well as various offices in her Congressional district. She currently serves as Second Vice Chair, 4th Congressional District. She is also on the State Committee. Snyder volunteers with the Coast Guard Auxiliary where she is currently Flotilla Commander, Flotilla 29 Lake Lanier. She is retired from a long career in special education at the local, state, and college level. Snyder holds a B.S., M.Ed., and a Ed.S. degrees from Georgia State University. She has two sons and four grandchildren.



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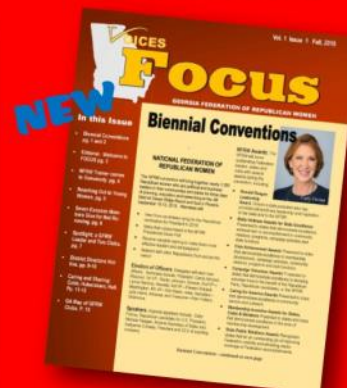
MAGAZINE



WEEKLY NEWS YOU CAN USE



NEWSLETTER





Tips for Hosting a Social Media Workshop

By Mary Van Brink

[Editor's note: Due to the strong interest of GFRW members to learn more about social media this year, Cindy Theiler, editor of GFRW's FOCUS Newsletter, asked Mary Van Brink, 2015 CCRWC publications chair, to share best practices from CCRWC's experiences for developing and coordinating a successful social media workshop for clubs.]

The Cobb County Republican Women's Club (www.ccrwc.org) held a 2.5-hour social media workshop last December with about twenty-five people in attendance, including a few candidates who were running for local office.

The goal of the workshop was to help members and associates understand the power of using social media to promote relationship building and sharing. By learning to use social media effectively, we can help Republicans get elected at the local, state, and federal levels. As Erik Qualman says, "We don't have a choice on whether we do social media. The question is how well we do it." Here's an astounding 2:18 video about the explosion of social media and its impact on society: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jottDMuLesU>.

The following information was covered during the workshop:

- Understanding the importance of using social media for an election campaign
- Messaging: What to do and what not to do
- Creating and maintaining a Facebook account
- Creating a Twitter account and following others

- Creating an Instagram account and interacting with followers
- Creating an invitation using Eventbrite
- Learning about Hootsuite as a way to manage your social media accounts

Tips for planning and hosting:

- Find a knowledgeable trainer to facilitate a session.
- Locate and book a community meeting room (i.e., public library) to hold the workshop. Electrical outlets for plugging in members' personal devices are required. Prepare or bring any signage to post at the meeting facility.
- Develop presentation and any handouts to give to members
- Communicate about workshop and what will be covered to your members and others through emails or other established communications. Ask members to bring their laptops and cell phones to participate in this hands-on workshop.
- Purchase and bring any refreshments to the workshop for attendees.
- Set up equipment and ensure it's working before the session begins. If you desire Internet access, ensure that is available and that a screen is available for projecting the presentation.
- Get feedback from members before the workshop begins about what should be covered.
- Build in time for lots of questions.
- Upon conclusion of workshop, request feedback and answer any follow-up questions.

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Social Media Workshop—continued

Republican Principles and Values: Here is the list of principles and values that people around the country have posted on the GOP website (<https://www.gop.com/platform/>). The link also includes more details about the GOP Platform. As you post content through various forms of social media, think of ways to share these concepts with others.

As Republicans, we believe . . .

- Our country is exceptional.
- The U.S. Constitution should be honored, valued, and upheld.
- Leaders should serve people, not special interests.
- Families and communities should be strong and free from government intrusion.
- The institution of traditional marriage is the foundation of society.
- Government should be smaller, smarter, and more efficient.
- Health care decisions should be made by us and our doctors.
- Paychecks should not be wasted on poorly-run government programs.
- Our military must be strong and prepared to defend our shores.
- Our culture should respect and protect life.
- Children should never be left in failing schools.
- Veterans should have the best care and opportunities in the world.
- Social programs should help lift people out of poverty.
- America should be energy independent.

Next Steps: You can print the workbook and walk through the steps at your own pace by clicking [CCRWC Social Media Workbook](#). Be sure to jump right in and join the conversation using various forms of social media to get your message out and to promote Republican values and principles.

Connect: **Facebook:** Mary Van Brink, Cobb County Republican Women's Club, and Recipe Hounds / **Twitter:** @MaryVanBrink / **Instagram:** mrvanbrink

Amplify Your Message through Social Media

By Jeanne Billa

Chair of GFRW Public Relations Committee

["The National Federation of Republican Women] has a long history of helping bring women into the political process while promoting the Republican cause." Laura Bush, wife of President George W. Bush, 2004

Social media gives us the opportunity to continue to bring women into the political process while promoting the Republican cause. Are we using it wisely and to the fullest extent of its capabilities? One in five mobile minutes is spent on Facebook and Instagram. Are we taking advantage of this opportunity to spread a conservative message?

For Facebook fans, who hasn't "Liked" or "Shared" a post of puppies, kittens or laughing babies? Where possible, are all members of the Georgia Federation of Republican Women "Liking" and "Sharing" posts on the GFRW Facebook page? Does your local club "Like" the GFRW page? What does all of this mean and how do we amplify our message?

A Post "Reach" is the number of unique people who have seen the page post. For the month of September, the GFRW Facebook page reached 35,903 total individuals, a 42 percent increase since June, perhaps the result of the additional postings on #MondayMotivation and #Throwback Thursday. The September 11 posting *Honoring our Heroes* reached 568 individuals and the August posting of *Women in History, Amelia Earhart* posting reached more than 660. That is by far the largest single day number GFRW has experienced.

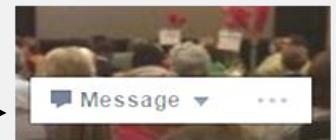
"Likes" is the number of unique people who have "liked" a page. GFRW's Likes have increased 12.7 percent this year. The "like" is the thumbs up symbol, but Facebook has now added more symbols so individuals can share their feelings about a page post and thousands more are available for your personal Facebook page.



Engagement is the number of unique people who have clicked, liked, commented or shared a post. It's important to post content that will engage our audience. For the month of September, the GFRW Facebook page has engaged with 1,879 unique individuals.

Impressions – the number of times a post from the page is displayed, whether it is clicked or not. Impressions will be greater than engagements, because a post can be shared multiple times by friends and will then show up multiples times on the primary Facebook page. There was a lot of sharing of content in September with 19,104 total impressions!

Individual county clubs should "Like" the GFRW Facebook page so that postings to either can be shared repeatedly. To "Like" the GFRW Page, click on the 3 dots and "Like" as your Page and the two pages will then be connected. →



This same process can be used to "Like" NFRW's page and other Republican groups that have Facebook pages—Georgia Young Republicans, for example.

The numbers continue to increase so let's use this very important tool to amplify our message and continue to promote the Republican cause.

Post Share Tweet Like Follow Friend?

**By Prisca
Villa**



In today's world, social media is nearly as common as having an email address or phone number, but it wasn't always that way. Prior to 2008, most social media sites restricted access to students, often college students, and the world believed these sites were just another fad bound to go away eventually. It didn't. In fact, Barack Obama's 2008 presidential win was attributed to the effect of social media—*U.S. News* even called it the "Facebook Election." The surprising bit? In 2008 only 25 percent of American adults used social media and only 34 percent of American adults even used the Internet.

When only a quarter of the voting population was on social media, it changed the course of an election and, as a result, the course of an entire nation.

Pew Research has conducted surveys and research projects investigating the connection social media has to elections and found that nearly 26 percent of voters in 2012 actually changed their minds based on what they read on social media. Fifty-five million people actually became more involved in politics after reading about issues, news, and events through social media. The growth of social media has paralleled the growth in Internet access; and, today nearly 65 percent of all American adults use at least one form of social media regularly.

Social media is a powerful force, but just like the statistics prove that social media can't be ignored in political planning, the statistics also show that Republicans are falling far behind on actually using social media. Democrats are far more likely to use social media to encourage friends to go vote, take action in an issue that is important to them, and "like" posts to promote them to others. Republicans win in areas of reposting political

content and barely tie Democrats in using social media to promote personal thoughts and views.

The problem with the Republican approach is that we fail to do what Democrats have become masters at. We fail to share what is important to us in a way that motivates others to join our cause. We fail to show our social media networks the thing that made our followers and friends pay attention to us in the first place: us. I put it in this way in a presentation to members of the Georgia Federation of Republican Women recently, "You are the reason that people follow you on social media. People care about you. That's why they follow you. Share You. Not someone else." Notice what Democrats dominate in? They tell friends to go vote with an emotion to which their friends and followers can't help but respond. They "share" issues that are important to them and the reasons why they, and others, should care. They connect their message to their audience. In contrast, Republicans try to connect the audience to the message, often expecting the audience to conform to the message, rather than the message speaking to the audience.

This kind of approach to communication makes people believe that Republicans are disconnected, angry, uneducated, and boring. Social media can help us change the narrative. It can help us reconnect with those online who only know about what a conservative or Republican is from what they see online; and, given that Democrats are online more than Republicans, what people see is not a true representation of what we stand for and what our hearts long for.

So how do we begin to reconnect with the world at large? There are three strategies that anyone can use with any social media site they choose.

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First, tell it, don't echo it. People want to hear from you why you are sharing content. They are following you for who you are to them. They are not following you because they think you're Ted Cruz, Donald Trump, or Marco Rubio, so why would they want to see your account reposting everything from those accounts? People want to hear you tell them why an issue matters or why a candidate is better than another in a way that speaks to the reason they are connected to you.

This flows into the second strategy, keep what you post relevant and rational. If in the process of sharing why something matters we are virtually screaming or using derogative language, our friends are going to tune us out. Just like the angry coworker who complains about everything, our messaging goes in one ear and out the other. Same for if what we are saying is too literary, too long, or just plain too boring.

This is where the third strategy comes in. Whatever we do, whether its a post, tweet, picture, or comment, make it interesting. There are so many resources out there for keeping content online from becoming one string of text or reposted news story after another. Throw in a political cartoon that conveys what we're thinking better than our words can. Use a cool picture to show how much fun everyone's having at the Memorial Day parade. Set up events and be sure to include everyone we can on the invite list—and encourage them to invite their friends too. Keep conversations open, friendly, engaging, and representative of why people became our friend in the first place.

In conclusion, the key to using social media to reach people politically is to remember why we all joined social media sites in the first place: to connect with the world at large and with our local friends at home. If we can find common ground, be sociable and friendly, people will be interested in hearing and reading about our opinions on everything from new shoes to voting. Social media will continue to play a vital role in elections; and, if we want to avoid another "Facebook Election," or maybe a future "Instagram Election," we as Republicans need to be online connecting personally with the nation at large and countering the narrative that we are disconnected from the people of the modern world.

Happy posting!

Who Am I?

Prisca Villa has been involved with Georgia politics since 2012, though her awareness of what was going on politically in the country began during her years at Georgia Tech when social media became a vital part of any truly connected young person's life. After years of using social media, Villa considers herself quite addicted to the daily check-ins and updates gleaned from social media browsing, but it is the impact social media can have on a community that truly keeps her plugged in. Her passion for rational, fun, and envelope-pushing discussion has led to a lively social media life, and she uses that passion to encourage others to engage online as well. Outside of the virtual world, Villa works as an IT project manager in a payments processing company and serves as Treasurer of the Georgia Young Republicans. You can find Villa online through Facebook (Prisca Villa), Twitter (@Prisca_Villa), or Instagram (@Prisca_Villa).



Need TALKING POINTS?

A "One-Stop" Shop for 2016 Election Talking Points

The Georgia Federation of Republican Women brings to you this resource of information to use as you prepare for this important election. Select the points of most interest and importance to you personally. Become a resource and share the information with your friends, family, neighbors and acquaintances.

Go to www.gfrw.org/voices-magazine/ — "Arrows for your Quiver."

By Miranda Childers
Cobb County Republican
Women's Club

The Value of Club Forums

The Cobb County Republican Women's Club (CCRWC) hosted three candidate forums last April to allow candidates seeking upcoming election the opportunity to inform and interact with voters. As one of the largest Republican Women's groups in the state of Georgia, the CCRWC sought to inform residents of the community about all upcoming elections. The various candidates provided the public with information on the issues that mattered to them.

Candidate forums have been a time-honored tradition within the CCRWC for almost twenty years, originating in the mid-1990s by two veteran members of the CCRWC, Rose Wing and Millie Rogers. They believed that a forum would be an excellent way for voters to have important facetime with candidates.

The CCRWC forums were held in the Cobb County Commission meeting room and were televised live on Channel 23. It took a lot of work to pull together the volunteers, audience, and candidates to produce this event.

Staying neutral on the issues in an effort to allow the candidates to represent themselves was key. Generally speaking, there is only one moderator. In the event that there are fewer than five candidates at each forum, a member of the CCRWC is enlisted to help the moderator facilitate the event. The moderator is chosen for his/her expertise in a field relevant to the types of candidates that are invited to each forum. There is also careful consideration given to the member asked to join the moderator. The CCRWC strives to have moderators who represent the makeup of the club. Therefore, special consideration is given to choose women, when multiple moderators are used. The member is chosen because of her work in the community and her knowledge of the office sought by each candidate.

For the candidates, it is a wonderful opportunity to showcase who they are and where they stand on various issues. More importantly, the candidates have an

opportunity to interact with members of CCRWC, their invited guests, and other residents of the county.

WHY SHOULD YOUR CLUB HOLD A FORUM?

- They are easy to organize with the right people on your team and inexpensive to operate.
- They promote two-way communication between citizens, elected representatives, and government officials, which can help people understand competing perspectives on an issue.
- They raise awareness of particular issues and call on a wide range of experts to participate in addressing those issues.

Creating an event like this can be an effortless task with the help of members who put in the appropriate time and effort. The women of CCRWC believe it is important for all GFRW clubs to host candidate forums.

There are some essential factors to consider when hosting a successful candidate forum. The most important factor is organization.

The following ten rules are necessary to ensure a successful event:

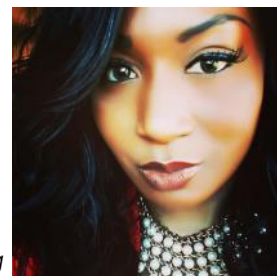
1. Decide on content and format;
2. Carefully choose candidates and a moderator. Seek advice from those at the top of their field;
3. Determine potential dates;
4. Finalize date, time, and location;
5. Invite participants;
6. Ask for volunteers. (Choose those who are energetic and active on social media to get the word out.)
7. Get the word out about the forum;
8. Assign members to complete set-up, organize and assign volunteer tasks and produce an agenda for the day of the event;
9. Have a mixer to create buzz; and,
10. Enjoy your successful forum and follow up!

Our forums were a success because we were able to work together as a team to accomplish all of our goals. Each forum was fun and lively and offered the candidates an opportunity for their voices to be heard. We spearheaded interest in our forums with a festive Saint Patrick's Day party prior to the event.

In the words of CCRWC President Wynn McCurdy—"Republican women are a powerful force and if we truly focus on getting out a positive message and vetting the candidates we can make a difference."

Who Am I?

Miranda Childers, serves as editor and communications chair for the Cobb County Republican Women's Club. She is a former recipient of a Babe Atkins-Byrne Scholarship award bestowed to deserving young women by her club. She earned a B.A. in Spanish Education from Methodist University. Childers has also completed degree programs at the University of Buenos Aires (Argentina), Harlaxton College (Grantham, England) and, most recently, a focused study through Harvard University at its sister school, MXAT (Moscow, Russia). She is the creator and owner of Book of Eve Cosmetics, and a contributing writer for "Elite Daily," "Thought Catalog," and several political blogs. Childers currently teaches Spanish in the Georgia Public School System and is an active volunteer with the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure Foundation.



Did you know . . . ?

There are fake/hoax news websites.

“Fake/Hoax News sites are satire sites that are not funny. They are an attempt to play on gullible people who do not check sources and will just pass the news on as if it were really true. Below is the list of known Fake/Hoax News Websites:”*

AmericanNews.com
BigAmericanNews.com
Cap News (twitter.com/
capnews)
ChristWire.org
CivicTribune.com
ClickHole.com
CreamBMP.com
DCGazette.com
DailyCurrant.com
DCClothesLine.com
DerfMagazine.com
DrudgeReport.com.co

DuhProgressive.com
EmpireNews.com
EnduringVision.com
Indecision Forever
(www.cc.com/indecision)
MSNBC.co
MSNBC.website
MediaMass.net
NationalReport.net
NewsBiscuit.com
News-Hound.com
NewsMutiny.com
PoliticalEars.com

Private-eye.co.uk
RealNewsRightNow.com
RileNews.com
Sprotspickle.com
TheNewsNerd.com
TheUsPatriot.com
WitScience.org

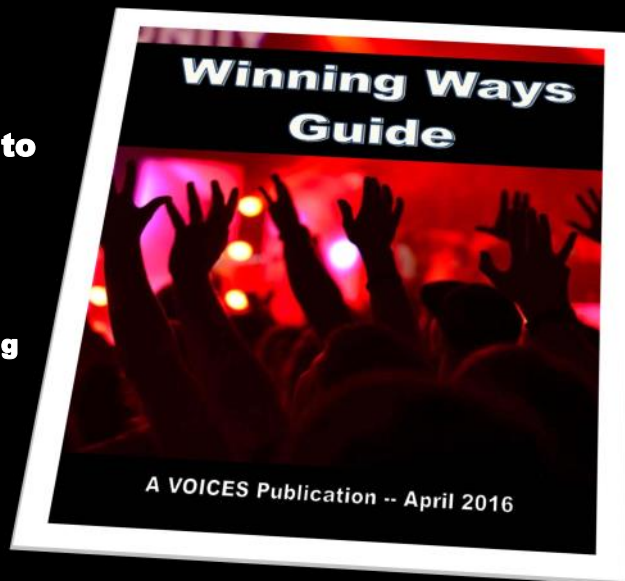
[*Source:
Last updated: 01/18/2016 –
www.fakenewswatch.com/]

Go to YOUR Winning Ways Guide

See the following articles for what YOU can do to help win this election!

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Pg. 17 | Be an informed voter |
| Pg. 22 | Emails in an election year |
| Pg. 27 | Importance of early voting and advanced voting |
| Pg. 29 | Lots of voting options |
| Pg. 30 | What your club can do on election day |
| Pg. 43 | Counting your campaign hours |
| Pg. 47 | GA Voter Information Guide |

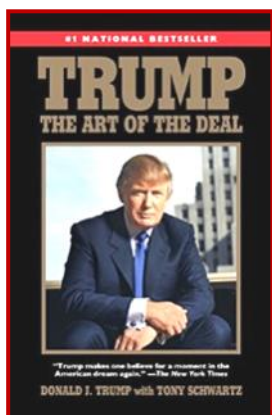
Available at www.gfrw.org. Also available at the link below
<http://voicespublications.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/The-WINNING-WAYS-GUIDE-Final-layout.pdf>





By JD Van Brink

The Art of the Deal



Introduction – The name Donald John Trump has been a household word ever since he and Tony Schwartz co-authored the *New York Times* #1 best-selling book, **The Art of the Deal**, in 1987. After Trump became the 2016 Republican Party presidential nominee, I wanted to read this book to get a sense of the younger man and see how it squared with his current persona. While reading the book, I imagined the 2016 Donald Trump speaking the words and I was impressed with how much the younger man sounded like the older man.

Content – The book, dedicated to his parents Fred and Mary Trump, is part autobiographical and part business handbook. What shines through from beginning to end is Trump's love for his family, especially his father and children. The first chapter covers what Trump considered to be a typical week in his life with him making (but mostly receiving) phone calls and attending meetings. During the week, he discusses the details of several deals, switching from one to another throughout each day. His work ethic and stamina were invigorating. The second chapter is where he starts to dish out business advice, including that you should think big, protect the downside and the upside will take care of itself, maximize your options, know your market, use your leverage, enhance your location, get the word out, fight back, deliver the goods, contain the costs, and have fun. In the third chapter, he discusses his childhood, giving great credit to his father for giving him good genes, setting a good example, and for teaching him lessons that helped him to become successful in life and business. It was easy to see where Trump learned his admiration and respect for hard work and for the people who do it. While he was always a leader, he was also very strong-willed, so much so that his father sent him to the New York Military Academy from eighth through twelfth grade, which is where Trump learned discipline and how to channel his aggression into achievement. After graduating from the Academy in 1964, and after attending two years at Fordham University in the Bronx, Trump attended and graduated from the Wharton School of Finance in Pennsylvania, which is where he says he learned not to be overly impressed by academic

credentials. To this day, he has a low opinion of high-priced consultants. After discussing Swifton Village, an apartment building deal in Cincinnati, Ohio, that gave him the seed capital for his future ventures, he spends the next few chapters discussing his Manhattan real estate deals and Wollman Rink (google it—great story), as well as his deals in casinos and the United States Football League, all of which were fascinating and nostalgic.

Conclusion – For a book that was written in 1987, **The Art of the Deal** seems fresh because it deals with many of the same issues we still deal with today, such as government bureaucracy, incompetence, and corruption. The most prophetic words in the book come near the end when he says, "The biggest challenge I see over the next twenty years is to figure out some creative ways to give back some of what I've gotten. I don't just mean money, although that's part of it. To me, what matters is the doing and giving time is far more valuable than just giving money. In my life, there are two things I've found I'm very good at: overcoming obstacles and motivating good people to do their best work. One of the challenges ahead is how to use those skills as successfully in the service of others as I've done, up to now, on my own behalf." It looks like he found a "yuge" way to fulfill his goal.

♦♦♦♦ Kindle: 402 pages /
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Who Am I?

John David (JD) Van Brink earned his MBA from Tennessee Technological University. He has worked at Olin Corporation, EDS, General Motors, IBM, Barclay's American Bank, Duke Power, and The Institute for Nuclear Power Operations (INPO). Van Brink now works as a software developer at one of the largest credit card processing companies in the world, Total System Services (TSYS), in Kennesaw, GA. He is also the Chairman of the Georgia Tea Party™ and The Simple Tax. He enjoys reading books on a variety of topics including history, economics, politics, and philosophy.

Reagan Club

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Photo: Presidential Library

Want to be a Reagan Club member for 2016? Annual dues are \$100. In addition, your local club can join the Reagan Club. If you want to learn more about Reagan Club, please contact Rosan Hall at rhall2@aol.com.

The Reagan Club was started by Emma Hinesley, a GFRW past president. Thank you to those who have joined since the first of 2016 and I hope we can count on many more to participate.

~ Contributed by Rosan Hall, Reagan Club chair

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“...when our citizens are abused or attacked, anywhere in the world on the direct orders of a hostile regime, we will respond so long as I am in this Oval Office. Self defense is not only our right, it is our duty.”

“I warned that there should be no place on earth where terrorists can rest and train and practice their deadly skills. I meant it. I said that we would act with others if possible and alone if necessary to ensure that terrorists have no sanctuary anywhere tonight.”

“A true leader is decisive, direct, and someone who commands attention.”

~ Ronald Reagan