

WEST VALLEY

REPUBLICAN WOMEN FEDERATED



Founded in 1952

Affiliated with National Federation of Republican Women, California Federation of Republican Women
CFRW Northern Division, South Coast Region

THE ELEPHANT'S TRUMPET

THE AWARD-WINNING NEWSLETTER OF A DIAMOND AWARD CLUB!

VOLUME 66, Issue 10

www.westvalleyrwf.org

December 2018

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Membership: JoAnn Destro
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You are cordially invited to

West Valley
Republican Women Federated

Christmas Luncheon

\$15.00/Person

Payable to West Valley RWF

Your lunch includes: Assorted Wines & Other Beverages –
Assorted Hors d'oeuvres – Hot entree – Assorted Salads – Bread
w/Butter or Balsamic Olive Oil Dip And An Amazing Dessert
Assortment!

Thursday, December 12th, 2018
at Noon

Location: Lorene Milligan's Home
1755 Clarence Ct.
San Jose, CA 95124
408-996-1367

RSVP by December 5, 2018

There will be a prize drawing* that
includes a Free Lunch at one of our regular meetings!
*To have your name in the drawing, you MUST PAY
YOUR DUES for 2018 by December 5th!



Once again, in keeping with our 'Caring For America' program, we are supporting "Next Door Solutions", a local women's shelter, and "Young Life Capernaum", an organization that helps teenagers & young adults with special needs. Your financial donations, payable to either "Next Door Solutions" and/or "Young Life Capernaum", will be collected at the party. Your generous donations are greatly appreciated and truly helpful!

Please mail your check, payable to West Valley RWF, with this tear-off by December 5, 2018.
Mail to: JoAnn Destro – 1521 San Andreas Ave. – San Jose CA 95118

Name _____

Guest Name/s _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Total Enclosed for Lunch (\$15 per person): _____



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



No surprise we lost pretty big here in California in November, but the extent to which we lost is devastating. However, when you reach rock bottom, the only way to go is up. Our leadership needs to think out of the box. The majority of Californians do not want sanctuary cities or a sanctuary state or thousands of illegal aliens from Central American states walking into our state, let alone into our country. Combating illegal immigration is just one example of an issue where we must be on the offense.

Since we just celebrated Thanksgiving, it helps to ponder that for which we Republicans can be thankful. Being able to visit and converse with like-minded women through our Republican Women's club is top of the list. We picked up Senate seats in Congress. The economy is awesome. Our President is doing a good job in spite of how the media tries to spin the news. And we have a great Christmas Party to go to Wednesday, December 12th at Lorene Milligan's lovely home, so get your RSVP's in right away. See you there!

-Mayme Abbott

2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR INCOMING 2019 EXECUTIVE BOARD!

President – Mayme Abbott
1st VP/Programs – Jeanne LaKamp
2nd VP/Membership – JoAnn Destro
3rd VP/Ways & Means – Lorene Milligan
Recording Secretary – Jan Davis
Treasurer – Mary Goodman
Corresponding Secretary – Kris Saba
Director-at-Large – Kathie Topham

~ COMMITTEE CHAIRS ~

Achievement Awards:	Bunny Hacker
American History Outreach	Shirley Keller
Americanism:	Betty Faultner
Caring for America:	Mary Frazier
Central Committee:	Kay Young
Chaplain:	June Fromm
Historian:	Christine Austin-Walker
Hospitality/Luncheon:	Grace Russo
Legislation:	Sue Moley
Newsletter:	Bunny Hacker
Parliamentarian:	Julie Eckroat/Sue Moley
Phone Committee:	Betty Kaye Miller
Publicity/Facebook/Web:	Bunny Hacker
Voter Registration:	Shirley Keller

To: West Valley RWF, Attn: Kay Young

Hi Kay,

I wanted to thank the WVRW for such a gracious and warm reception today. What a great group. It is so encouraging and everybody was so kind. Please extend my gratitude to them.

Also, thank you for all you did - including recommending the sandwich!

Don Jans



PATRICIA CALLAHAN – DECEMBER 3

MARGIE FULLER – DECEMBER 19

GRACE RUSSO – DECEMBER 27

*Please notify us if your birthday
is missing from our records!*

**WEST VALLEY
REPUBLICAN WOMEN FEDERATED**

Membership Information

2019 RENEWALS ARE UNDER WAY!

Early renewal is a tremendous help to our record keeping and is greatly appreciated.. All checks **must be received before December 5th** for your name to be on our RSVP list and entered into the drawing. For convenience, you may use the membership form at the bottom of this page.

3 Memberships in One! Members of West Valley RWF are also Members of the California Federation of Republican Women and the National Federation of Republican Women – the largest all-women political volunteer organization in the country!

Take advantage of EARLY RENEWAL and mail in your 2019 Dues today!

Regular Members who join or renew for 2019 before December 5th, will be entered into the prize drawing for one of our lovely prizes – one of which is a FREE LUNCH - at our Member Appreciation Christmas Luncheon!

Membership levels...

- **Regular Membership:** \$40.00/year
- **Sustaining Membership:** \$50.00/year (for members wishing to contribute additional financial support)
- **Associate membership:** \$15/year (*for women who are already registered members of another Federated club or for Republican Gentlemen)
- **Student membership: No Charge!** (for High School students with parental permission)
- **College Republican Women:** *Freshman thru Senior year – only \$18.00/year!* Members, gift your college daughters & granddaughters with membership in West Valley Republican Women Federated!

To join...

Please fill in the following information, and enclose with your check made payable to “West Valley RWF”.
Before December 5th, mail to: JoAnn Destro – 1521 San Andreas Ave. – San Jose CA 95118



Print Name: _____

- Renewal* \$40 *New Member* \$40 *Sustaining* \$50 *Associate* \$15 *College* \$18 *Donation* as you wish

Please give us your current contact information:

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____ Birth Month/Day: _____

[We do not use your e-mail for anything other than important Federation communications!]

(*Associate women, please note the name of the Federated club to which you are paying your regular membership dues: _____).

Please indicate here if you have included \$15 on your check as your RSVP to our Christmas Lunch! []

FLAWED MEDIA COVERAGE OF OBAMA HURTS AMERICA STILL

By David French – 11-17-18 – www.nationalreview.com



President-elect Donald Trump and President Barack Obama arrive for Trump's inauguration ceremony in Washington, D.C., January 20, 2017. (Photo credit: J. Scott Applewhite/Reuters)

I knew it. I knew the instant I saw Twitter erupt in outrage at the use of tear gas to disperse a crowd of people charging our southern border that someone would find an example of the Obama administration doing the same thing. And sure enough, there it was, shared far and wide within minutes, a San Diego Union-Tribune story from November 25, 2013:

“A group of about 100 people trying to illegally cross the border Sunday near the San Ysidro port of entry threw rocks and bottles at U.S. Border Patrol agents, who responded by using pepper spray and other means to force the crowd back into Mexico, federal officials said.”

Twitter existed in 2013. I was on it, and I certainly don't recall an eruption of outrage, followed by days of think-pieces explaining the horrors of pepper spray and the deep betrayal of American values. In fact, that November incident was hardly unique. As the Washington Times reports, *“the same tear-gas agent that the Trump administration is taking heat for deploying against a border mob this weekend is actually used fairly frequently — including more than once a month during the later years of President Barack Obama's administration.”*

But that was then. Sensible people understood that you can't just let a mob rush the border, and Border Patrol agents can and should use non-lethal means to protect themselves from rocks and bottles. And the pictures of kids in cages in the Obama era? Well, there was an “enormous spike” in kids crossing the border, and we “didn't have enough shelter facilities.” So kids had to be put in Border Patrol lock-ups. But that was temporary. The Obama administration took good care of kids after they left the lock-up, right? Well, not exactly. Some children faced a terrible nightmare. Here's a paragraph from a 2016 Senate report:

Over a period of four months in 2014, however, HHS allegedly placed a number of UACs [Unaccompanied Alien Children] in the hands of a ring of human traffickers who forced them to work on egg farms in and around Marion, Ohio, leading to a federal criminal indictment. According to the indictment, the minor victims were forced to work six or seven days a week, twelve hours per day. The traffickers repeatedly threatened the victims and their families with physical harm, and even death, if they did not work or surrender their entire paychecks. The indictment alleges that the defendants “used a combination of threats, humiliation, deprivation, financial coercion, debt manipulation, and monitoring to create a climate of fear and helplessness that would compel [the victims'] compliance.”
[Emphasis added.]

One of the more frustrating aspects of our current political debate is the extent to which differences from administration to administration are exaggerated and distorted. Let's take, for example, media coverage of the Obama administration. To this day, the inaccurate picture of his presidency haunts American discourse. While there are obvious differences with the Trump administration, Obama was not exactly the man who many millions of Americans think he was.

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He was a peace president who ordered ten times more drone strikes than George W. Bush. He was the peace president who left office with American boots on the ground in Afghanistan, Syria, and Iraq, and scattered across North Africa. His administration refueled Saudi jets to enable the indiscriminate Saudi bombing campaign in Yemen. Oh, and he droned American citizens abroad without even a nod to due process. He was the environmentalist president so hostile to fossil fuels that he presided over an extraordinary boom in domestic oil production. He was the compassionate president who admitted a grand total of fewer than 2,000 Syrian refugees in the first five years of the Syrian civil war. He was the compassionate president whose deportations peaked at an average of 34,000 people in fiscal year 2012.

I share these facts not to argue that there aren't distinct and important differences between Barack Obama and Donald Trump. There are. And those differences manifest themselves in each of the policy categories outlined above. But when discussing differences, gravity and proportion matter. And they matter greatly. Indeed, I'd argue that both conservative and liberal media outlets had an interest in amplifying Obama's progressive credentials and advancing a fundamentally flawed narrative about the nature and character of his presidency. Exaggerating his progressive virtue (or vice) kept partisans engaged. It kept ramping up the stakes of our political conflicts, and it contributed immensely to the Flight 93 mentality that dominates politics today.

How much time did conservative media spend debating Obama's willingness to use the phrase "radical Islamic terrorism" even while he was droning, bombing, and shelling terrorists from Afghanistan to Libya? How much time did the liberal media spend amplifying Obama's desire for peace with Iran even as he helped Saudi Arabia wage its proxy war against Iran in Yemen, at a simply enormous toll in innocent human life?

By failing to provide perspective, the media creates a sense of outrage when none is justified and inoculates the public against injustice when injustice is real. The Left looks at the tear gas on the border and believes norms are being violated when they're not. The Right looks at critical reporting about Trump and starts to presume that it's illegitimate, even if the facts are egregious.

All too often, we act as if the immense American ship of state lurches from right to left with each new election, when the reality is often that the turns in crucial areas are gradual. Partisans who forget this fact find themselves condemning their opponents for behavior their own side engaged in when confronted by similar challenges. Reality has a way of constraining a government's options, even when very different people occupy the Oval Office.

Again, I'm not arguing there aren't important differences in the presidents. There are, and in some areas those differences are quite profound. It's worth exposing those differences, and it's worth debating those differences. At the same time, we cannot abandon historical perspective, a perspective that can and should grant a degree of humility.

The lesson? Before you express outrage at any politician for his egregious violation of "norms" or his "radical" departure from the rule of law, check recent history. You might be surprised by what you find.

David French is a senior writer for National Review, a senior fellow at the National Review Institute, and a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The 2018 Midterms: Why the House Moved Left and the Senate Moved Right

By Thomas Del Beccaro – 11-7-18 – theepochtimes.com

The 2018 Midterms are done except for some of the counting. The House moved Left and the Senate moved Right. Simplistic reviews will say that this election was just a referendum on Trump. Yes, the President was a factor. But it was not just about Trump. Indeed, six factors were at play that matter far beyond this presidency, and here they are.

1. History

Since Eisenhower (the television era), the President's party has lost House seats in the first Midterm election EVERY time—but once. In 2002, Bush 43 and the Republicans picked up 8 seats in the unifying wake of 9/11. That particular 2002 dynamic, hopefully, will never be repeated. President Clinton's Democrats lost 54 seats in 1994 and Obama's Democrats lost 63 seats in 2010. Both times the Democrats lost control of the House of Representatives. The Republicans have now lost the House 8 year later, although their House losses were significantly less than the Democrats in 1994 and 2010. In other words, Trump did better than either Clinton or Obama. Even so, that dynamic certainly favored the Democrats this time around as it has the out-party repeatedly over the decades and will again in eight years.

2. The Democrats Media Advantage

Let's face it, the major media is heavily biased against President Trump. Studies show that over 90 percent of major media coverage has been negative for the President. There can be little doubt that that significantly affects the approval ratings of Trump and Republicans in general. Given how well the economy is doing, President's Trump's approval rating should well be higher than it is. The fact that Trump's approval rating is higher than Obama's for similar periods is a testament to how well his policies have been received. Long term, there is likely no end to that major media influence. It will be positive for Democrats and negative for Republicans for years to come. Because it is so lopsided, it is a very significant factor in our elections and will be so in 2020. Those first two dynamics should be a surprise to no one. Number three, however, was a game changer.

3. The Democrats Money Advantage—Despite Their Claimed Objection To Money In Politics

The Democrats now have a money advantage over Republicans. We can start with the three billionaires—Tom Steyer, George Soros, and Michael Bloomberg. Their huge donations to Democrat-aligned groups played no small role in Tuesday's results. As helpful as they were, it was just the start of the Democrats new-found money advantage. The Democrat House and Senate candidates nationwide outraised Republican candidates by over \$300 million. That is an enormous advantage—call it their “crowd sourcing” advantage. Whether it was for their Senate candidate in Texas or Arizona, or their candidate running for Florida governor, all of whom got far more than most of their contributions from outside their respective states, the Democrats now have a nationwide ability to support their candidates that far exceeds the Republicans' ability. Ten years ago, the Democrats elected President Obama with a huge tech advantage. The Republicans closed the gap over time. We shall see whether they close the gap in “crowd sourcing” fundraising.

4. Democrats Playing Defense in the Senate

The Democrats had to defend 26 of the 35 Senate races—many of those in red states. That alone favored Republicans—but it was more than that. The big picture is that the Republicans have what should be an enduring red state advantage. If we look at the hour hand of time, not the minute hand of this election, our red state/blue state divide is deepening. People are sorting themselves out by moving to states that have the people with whom they identify more. Going into this election, there were approximately 23+ reliable Red States (Trump won 30 in 2016) There also were 33 Republican governors going into this election. By contrast, there are only 16+ reliable blue states. That dynamic gives the Republicans a significant advantage with respect to the Senate over time. So much so, that Republicans should hold the Senate, all other things being equal, for years and years to come and should settle into as many as 54-56 Senate seats. Based on the above, it should be no surprise that the red state of North Dakota, which Trump won with 63 percent of the vote, elected a Republican Senator. The same can be said for Indiana and Missouri, and to a lesser degree Florida as well.

5. The Volatile House and Political Division

It is right to point out that the rash of early Republican retirements played a role in the outcome of this year's Midterms. However, there are greater dynamics in play as well. Chief among those dynamics is political division. We are in, what I call, the Divided Era of American politics. It is a period characterized as much by lasting political differences as by shared cultural values—a period with equal numbers on opposing sides of most political issues. Partisanship, sometimes bitter and often reflexive, is on the rise. That is reflected in our red state/blue state divide and in alternating control of the House

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of Representatives. The very large population of the reliable blue states gives the Democrats an advantage, not only when it comes to the Electoral College, but also with respect to the House. After all, just three states, California, New York and Illinois, have 98 House seats alone! That's 22.5 percent of all House seats from just three states. To be sure, not all those seats are held by Democrats—but the advantage is plain. Remember, LA County's population is larger than 42 States. Despite that population advantage, the country remains remarkably and almost evenly split as to who identifies as Democrats and Republicans. That certainly is part of the reason the Republicans have held the House since 2010, when the Democrats lost 63 seats—a historically high number. The larger dynamic, however, is the volatility of the House. Since 1994, control of the House has now flipped 4 times. Before that it had been in Democrat hands 38 straight years. Frequent changes in House control are hallmarks of divided eras, including this Divided Era. During the Gilded Age, from 1870 to 1900, the period most like our own historically, control of the House changed six times, including twice in back-to-back elections. We should expect more such changes to control of the House of Representatives in the not too distance future, if not in 2020.

6. What Didn't Happen

Election reviews often talk about what happened, but not about what didn't happen. In 2018, the Republicans failed to offer the voters a guide as to what they would do next. Elections are about the future and a roadmap to the future would have played well versus Democrat resistance. The failure of Republicans to nationalize this election with an agenda played a significant role in their losses.

In any case, it's on to 2020 now. Given the nature of the current Democrats in Washington, and the counter-puncher President Trump, you can expect a highly partisan two years—even more so than the last two years, as The Divided Era deepens.

Thomas Del Beccaro is the author of "The Divided Era" and former chairman of the California Republican Party.

CFRW CAPITOL UPDATE

ELECTED POSITIONS RESULTS

US Senate: Diana Feinstein held her position in Senate with 54.4% of the votes

U.S House: We won 10 House seats in Districts 1, 4, 8, 21, 22, 23, 39, 42, 45, and 50.

Governor: Gavin Newsom won with 59.4% of the votes.

Lieutenant Governor: Eleni Kounalakis

Attorney General: Xavier Becerra

State Senate: We won 7 seats in Districts 4, 8, 16, 28, 34, 36, 38.

State Assembly: We won 23 seats.

Overall, we put up a good fight this year, with many races being won in the margins. With five of our House races being in the top ten most expensive elections this year, it's easy to see why our voices matter. If we keep up this momentum going forward we can take back California in future elections.

BALLOT MEASURES RESULTS

Prop 1: Passed, this was the Housing and Veteran's bond that authorized a \$4 billion bond.

Prop 2: Passed, this was the millionaire's tax reallocation for homelessness.

Prop 3: Failed, this was the water bond and by it failing to pass saved us from an \$8.9 billion bond.

Prop 4: Passed, this was a \$1.5 billion bond for Children's Hospitals.

Prop 5: Failed, this was to allow property tax transfers for those older than 55.

Prop 6: Failed, this was to repeal the thirteen cents gas tax.

Prop 7: Passed, this made California's standard time, Pacific Standard time

Prop 8: Failed, this is good because it stopped an attempt to unionize dialysis clinics.

Prop 10: Failed, by this not passing, it saved California from appointed rent control boards across the state.

Prop 11: Passed, this gave EMT's a designated lunch break.

Prop 12: Passed, by this passing it imposes stricter space requirements for many farm animals, such as veal, chicken, and pigs.

WEST VALLEY

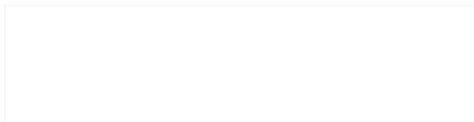
REPUBLICAN WOMEN FEDERATED

c/o Bunny Hacker

55 Church St., #1301

Los Gatos, CA 95030-6922

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED




**Season's
Greetings**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Don't sit on the sidelines...get involved!

December 2-10 **HANUKKAH!**

December 12 **WVRWF Members Christmas Luncheon** at the beautiful home of our member Lorene Milligan.

December 25 **CHRISTMAS DAY!**

January 1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY!**

January 17 **West Valley RWF Lunch Meeting w/TOM DEL BECCARO**, nationally known author and speaker, former CAGOP Chair, publisher of PoliticalVanguard.com, former candidate for U.S. Senate and friend of Republican Women Federated!

January 25-26 **CFRW-ND CONFERENCE & LEADERSHIP FORUM** at Marriott Rancho Cordova. Details coming soon to cfrwnd.org.

March 8-19 **CFRW WINTER CONFERENCE**
Details coming soon to cfrw.org



CALIFORNIA FEDERATION
OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN



*Informed - Involved -
Impactful!*

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