



THE ELEPHANT'S TRUMPET
 THE AWARD-WINNING NEWSLETTER OF A DIAMOND AWARD CLUB!
 A Publication of the West Valley Republican Women Federated
 Founded in 1952
 Affiliated with National Federation of Republican Women,
 California Federation of Republican Women



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2025 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President

Robin McCarthy
928-699-0040

1st VP/Programs
OPEN

2nd VP/Membership
Kristina Jansons
408-637-0388

3rd VP/Ways & Means
JoAnn Destro
408-605-9608

Recording Secretary
OPEN

Treasurer
Shannon Wagner
408-655-8010

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Corresponding Secretary
OPEN

Parliamentarian
Julie Eckroat/Sue Moley

Reservations Hostess
Grace Russo
408-499-1695

CONTACT US:

West Valley RWF
westvalleyrwf@gmail.com

California Federation of Republican Women
<https://cafrw.org>

CFRW Region 3 Director
Kelly Radetich
kelly@kellyradetich.com

OUR NEXT GENERAL MEETING:

MARCH 20, 2025

Featuring



Shane Patrick Connolly

Former Santa Clara County GOP Chair, Shane Patrick Connolly, will share his views of the condition of our Republican Party in the County and in California, and where he thinks we should focus our volunteer efforts moving forward into the 2026 congressional election.

Blue Pheasant

22100 Stevens Creek Blvd.
Cupertino CA

11:30 Check-In
12:00 Call to Order

Cost of Program: \$34.00

Includes the program, lunch, coffee & iced tea, taxes & gratuity!

Menu Options

- Cobb Salad, or
- Pasta Primavera
- Bassa Filet & Fresh Vegetable

Must RSVP by Monday March 11th!

Lunches must be pre-ordered. Call Grace, 408-499-1695

Checks payable to "West Valley RWF" can be mailed to:
Grace Russo - 2393 Karen Dr. #3 - Santa Clara, CA 95050

Food is ordered in advance; no refunds will be issued for cancellations received after Monday, March 11th.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ROBIN McCARTHY
West Valley RWF President



ROAD TRIPS

As Far back as I can remember, road trips have been a big part of my life. Whether it be family vacations in a camper or trips with my mom from Arizona to California, road trips have been at the center. Of course, as the youngest child in my family, I was always in the far back of the station wagon, facing the wrong direction, trying not to ask the inevitable question “are we there yet?”, which when asked, received a resounding “NO!! @\$%” from my father. So, quietly, I studied the rear-view of my world.

There’s something exciting about the boring part of the road trip. With miles and miles of nothing but vast land, my imagination was free to think about the generations before me that traveled these same roads that were once just trails. The vastness of it all gave me a sense of awe over the American spirit of those first travelers that explored this great nation. Can you imagine heading west in a covered wagon, away from the conveniences of the “modern” world in the early 1900’s? Away from the family that you knew you would probably never see again and only being able to take the fewest belongings in lieu of necessities. Those books you cherish? You must choose only one. That beautiful dress you love? No, you can’t take that. And the organization of it all, trying to plan to feed a small family for up to a year while you made your way across country. But that pioneer spirit of perseverance of the families that made it. WOW! Where would we be without them today?

As I grew older, road trips continued to be a big part of my journey. My husband-to-be lived in California while I lived in Arizona. For the first eight years of our life together we either traveled to meet somewhere, or we traveled to places together. Road trips are the best opportunity to really get to know someone. The discussions you have while you stare out the windshield reveal a part of yourself that you normally wouldn’t share with anyone. Throughout these years of traveling across this country, as I grew older, I also became more aware of the issues important to our nation. For example, driving through Wyoming, it’s very clear that patriotism is alive and not to be threatened. The “don’t California my Wyoming” signs make it clear, if you’re not a conservative, keep your politics at home! Similarly, driving across the beautiful state of Colorado, it is easy to identify the political climate of “sanctuary state” by the billboards and road signs that support protection for those policies.

But today, as my husband and I are once again making our way from California to Arizona I’m feeling so encouraged. I’m seeing **Trump Won!** signs and support for patriotism everywhere. As always, in the farmland areas that need water, there are always signs that target the state’s policies. But this time, I’ve seen more signs for Trump and recall Newsom than ever before. The tide has changed for sure, and we are so back. I do not believe California is lost to the democrats. On the contrary, I believe we are becoming more organized as a republican party and using our collective voice for change. Our future is bright! ◆

COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS – JOIN THE WEST VALLEY RWF FUNDRAISER!

As we count our blessings this year, let's turn gratitude into action! The West Valley Republican Women Federated (WVRWF) invites you to participate in our "Count Your Blessings Tax Return" fundraiser—a lighthearted yet impactful way to show appreciation for the freedoms, comforts, and joys we often take for granted.

Instead of dreading tax season, let’s celebrate our blessings! Simply **fill out your "Blessings Tax Return"** and make a small donation based on the many gifts in your life. Whether it’s a cozy home, a reliable car, loving family members, or the ability to worship freely, every small contribution adds up to support our important causes.

Why Participate? Support WVRWF initiatives - Your donations help fund events, community outreach, and conservative values. Celebrate gratitude – Reflect on and appreciate the many things we often overlook. Have fun with fellow members – Join in the spirit of giving with a lighthearted approach to fundraising.

Get involved today! Complete your **Blessings Tax Return** on page 7 of this newsletter; Mail your form and donation by **April 15, 2025**; Make checks payable to **West Valley RWF** and mail to JoAnn Destro, 1521 San Andreas Ave, San Jose CA 95118. Join us in **counting our blessings** and **making a difference!** ◆

CFRW ENDORSES CAGOP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CANDIDATES

Thank you to all of those that attended the CFRW Winter Board of Directors Meeting held on February 15, 2025. There was a tremendous amount of information and business that took place and CFRW appreciates all of you and your contributions to our common goal of helping to elect Republicans.

The California Federation of Republican Women Board of Directors and Local Club Presidents, or their designated alternates, who were in attendance at the virtual CFRW Board of Directors Meeting were eligible to vote. Congratulations to the endorsed candidates!

Lydia Kanno
CFRW President



SAVE THE DATES!

CFRW Summer Board of Directors Meeting &
Member Conference
June 6-7, 2025 - Atascadero CA
Marriott SpringHill Suites



CFRW Biennial Convention
& Celebration of our Centennial!
Mid-October 2025
Los Angeles County

ELECTED OFFICIALS

- **PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP**
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/Contact>
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500
202-456-1414
- **Vice President J. D. VANCE**
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20501-0001
Email: vicepresident@whitehouse.gov
- **Governor Gavin Newsom**
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814
916-445-2841
<http://www.gov.ca.gov>
- **U.S. Senator Laphonza Butler**
Phone: 415-393-0707
Email: www.feinstein.senate.gov
- **U.S. Senator Alex Padilla**
Phone: 415-981-9369
Fax (202) 224-0454
Email: www.padilla.senate.gov
- **CA State Senate**
<http://senate.ca.gov/senators>
SD-10 Dr.Aisha Wahab (D) 510-794-3900
SD-13 Josh Becker (D) 650-233-2724
SD-15 Dave Cortese (D) 408-558-1295
- **CA Congressional Representatives**
<http://www.house.gov/representatives>
CD-16 Anna Eshoo (D) 650-323-2984
CD-17 Ro Khanna (D) 408-436-2720
CD-18 Zoe Lofgren (D) 408-271-8700
- **CA Assembly**
<http://assembly.ca.gov/assemblymembers>
AD-23 Marc Berman (D) 650-324-0224
AD-24 Alex Lee (D) 408-262-2501
AD-25 Ash Kalra (D) 408-286-2535
AD-28 Gail Pellerin (D) 408-264-2848
- **Santa Clara County GOP**
Contact: <https://www.sccrp.com> (NEW SITE!)
Chair: Dave Johnson
- **Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors**
Contact: <https://board.sccgov.org/home>
District 1: Sylvia Arenas
District 2: Betty Duong
District 3: Otto Lee
District 4: Susan Ellenberg, Board President
District 5: Joe Simitian

VOICE YOUR CONCERNS TO OUR LEGISLATORS!

YOUR DUES ARE DUE!

Your 2025 Dues must be paid by March 1, 2025, to remain on the distribution list for NFRW and West Valley RWF communications. The return on investment is second to none - Memberships in West Valley RWF also enrolls you in membership with the California Federation and the National Federation of Republican Women! **Best deal in town!**

Founded in 1925, the **California Federation of Republican Women** celebrate their **100th Birthday in 2025**. You join a historic institution, founded by Republican Women with the mission of supporting and electing Republican candidates, and educating members in the principles of the Republican Party. We are a diverse demographic of Republican Women from all walks of life and welcome you to our nationwide network of over 60,000 members and growing!

A SPECIAL SHOUT-OUT & THANK YOU TO OUR SUSTAINING MEMBERS!

**CHERYL BOMBACK – JOANN DESTRO – KRISTINA JANSONS
RUTH PEDROZA-MOORE – FRAN WATSON**

*Sustaining Members are those who submit \$80 or more in dues to help fund the activities of the Club.
We appreciate you!*

JOIN OR RENEW NOW FOR 2025!

“If you’re not in a seat at the table, you’re on the menu!”

-Senator Shannon Grove speaking on the importance of getting involved.

Please fill in the following information and enclose with your check made **payable to West Valley RWF**.
Mail to: **Kristina Jansons**, 1484 Pollard Rd. Suite 413, Los Gatos CA 95032

Send Membership questions to wvrf.memberships@gmail.com

Print Name: _____ **E-mail:** _____

I am registered as Republican

Address: _____ **City** _____ **Zip:** _____

Cell Phone: _____ **Home Phone:** _____

Renewal *New Member* *Sustaining* *Associate** *College* *+Donation*
\$60* \$60* \$80 or + \$25 \$27 as desired

[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 Primary Membership dues: _____).

* **Associate men:** Republican Gentlemen are always welcome to attend our General Meetings, and we invite you to join us in a supporting role as Associate Members!



State Senator introduces bill to narrow California's 'sanctuary law'

California's Senate Minority Leader said the bill came in response to San Diego County's vote to restrict local resources for immigration enforcement.

California Senate Minority Leader Brian Jones, R-San Diego, introduced a bill Thursday that would make it harder for local law enforcement in California to resist cooperating with immigration authorities.

On Friday, Jones was in downtown San Diego promoting his proposed changes to the state's so-called sanctuary law as a group of nearby demonstrators loudly voiced their opposition.

The California Values Act currently limits cooperation between local law enforcement and immigration authorities but makes exceptions in cases of people convicted of certain felonies.

SB 554, titled the **Safety Before Criminal Sanctuary Act**, seeks to mandate cooperation for those felonies, rather than giving local law enforcement discretion. The bill would also prohibit local jurisdictions from passing their own ordinances to impose additional prohibitions beyond those set forth in such state law.

Senate Bill 554 was introduced by Senator Jones (Co-authors: Senators Alvarado-Gil Choi, Dahle, Grove, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto and Valladares) You can continue reading the story at <https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/2025/02/21/state-senator-introduces-bill-to-narrow-californias-sanctuary-law/>



Trump says he will investigate California high-speed rail project

"The train that's being built between Los Angeles and San Francisco, It's the worst managed project I think I've ever seen, and I've seen some of the worst"



Click arrow in photo to watch, or go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bvb5IWILF8k>

Gov. Gavin Newsom asks Congress for \$40 billion in wildfire aid

By [Kaitlyn Schallhorn](#) / kschallhorn@scng.com / *Orange County Register*

Gov. [Gavin Newsom](#) officially requested nearly \$40 billion in disaster relief aid to help with recovery efforts after [massive fires](#) tore through the Los Angeles area earlier this year.

Newsom's request, made Friday evening, comes as [top officials in the Trump administration continue to say](#) they want to attach some sort of conditions to any disaster aid package for California, an unprecedented move. "It's all-hands-on-deck to support our fellow Americans and get them back on their feet to begin rebuilding as soon as possible," Newsom said in a social media post about his request.

In his letter, Newsom said more than 16,200 structures were destroyed in the catastrophic wildfires in early January and more than 16,000 personnel worked to extinguish the flames in a disaster made even worse by hurricane-force winds. At least 29 people died in the fires.

It will take years for the total impact on California's economy to be fully realized, Newsom said, but the nearly \$40 billion requested would support immediate and long-term recovery work. The request includes about \$16.8 billion in fire response costs, debris removal and infrastructure repair, including roads, public buildings and utilities, [according to the Washington Post](#). Nearly \$10 billion would be for housing costs and other infrastructure, \$2 billion for low-income housing tax credits over the next 10 years and more than \$4 billion for economic development grants to help businesses restart in fire-affected areas.

Newsom's letter was addressed to House Speaker Mike Johnson, R-Louisiana; Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries, D-New York; House Appropriations Committee Chair Rep. Tom Cole, R-Oklahoma; and House Appropriations Committee Ranking Member Rep. Rosa DeLauro, D-Connecticut. Both of California's U.S. senators, Alex Padilla and Adam Schiff, said Friday they fully support the governor's request. The pair and Newsom are all Democrats. And Rep. Brad Sherman, a Democrat whose district includes [the Pacific Palisades](#), where one of the worst fires erupted on Jan. 7, applauded the funding ask, "which my constituents urgently need in order to rebuild their homes and their lives," he said.

President Donald Trump, Johnson and other Republicans have suggested disaster relief for California should come with certain strings attached. Trump previously said — just ahead of his visit to the fire-damaged Palisades area last month — that federal aid may only be given [if California establishes a voter ID law](#) and changes its water management strategies.

Earlier Friday, Ric Grenell, a top Trump administration aide with ties to Southern California, [suggested cutting funding from the California Coastal Commission](#), a state agency that regulates land use and public access along the coast. Supporters consider the agency a key environmental watchdog, while critics say its strict rules block development.

Notably, [not all Republicans are on board with attaching conditions to disaster aid, particularly those who represent districts in Southern California.](#)

Rep. Young Kim's district last year saw the Airport fire, which spread across more than 23,500 acres for 26 days in Orange and Riverside counties, destroying 160 structures and damaging another 34, according to Cal Fire's estimate. She said setting conditions now would set a "bad precedent" for future disaster relief requests. Rep. Ken Calvert, R-Corona, is also a no on conditions for aid, his spokesperson, Jason Gagnon, previously told the Southern California News Group.



For the year Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2024

Due Date: April 15, 2025

No Label Required

Please print or type.

Dues Paid

Form with fields for first name, MI, Last Name, Home address, Apartment no., City, town or post office, State, Zip code.

No social security number required

Don't you wish the real tax forms were this easy?

Yes, I have paid my 2025 dues. No, I have included my dues check for \$60.

Filing Status

Check only 1 box.

- 1 new member, 2 1-5 year member, 3 6-10 year member, 4 over 10 year member

Your Blessings



- 5 If you live in a comfortable house or apartment, enter \$1.00
6 If you can fly the American Flag, enter \$1.00
7 If you have one or more television sets, enter \$.50 per set
8 If you watch Fox News, enter \$.50
9 If you have Amazon Prime, Netflix, Hulu, TiVo or other streaming service, enter \$.50 per item
10 If you have one or more vehicles, enter \$1.00 per vehicle
11 If you have a bicycle, enter \$.25 per bicycle
12 If you have a motor home or boat, enter \$.50
13 If you can worship as you choose, enter \$.50
14 If you have a computer, enter \$.25 per item.
15 If you have a cell phone, enter \$.25 per item
16 If you have a dishwasher, enter \$.25
17 If your home is air conditioned, enter \$.25
18 If you don't have to shovel snow, enter \$.25
19 If you have a washer and/or dryer, enter \$.25 per appliance
20 If you have a hair dryer, enter \$.25
21 If you have your hair done at a beauty salon, enter \$.50
22 If you have any pets, enter \$.10 per paw, wing or fin
23 If you have/had a loving mother, enter \$.50
24 If you have/had a loving father, enter \$.50
25 If you have/had a loving spouse, enter \$.50
26 If you have/had any brothers or sisters, enter \$.50 per sibling
27 If you have any children, enter \$.50 per child
28 If you have any grandchildren, enter \$.25 per child
29 If you have any great-grandchildren, enter \$.50 per child
30 If you have one or more credit cards, enter \$.50 per card.
31 If your US Congressman is a Republican enter \$1.00; if Democrat enter \$.00
32 If your US Senator is a Republican enter \$1.00; if Democrat enter \$.00
33 If you plan to help change 31 and 32, enter \$1.00 per representative
34 I am especially thankful I live in the USA. Enter additional value

Table with 2 columns: Line number (5-34) and Amount (all zeros).

Amount You Owe

- 35 Amount you owe. Add lines 5-34
36 Estimated penalty for forgetting to appreciate all you have. Enter your value
37 Total amount you owe. Add 35 and 36 (checks payable to West Valley RWF)

Table with 2 columns: Line number (35-37) and Amount (all zeros).

Sign Here

I declare that I have examined this return and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct and complete.

Signature, Date, Occupation, Daytime phone number fields.

Please enclose your check(s) and mail by April 15, 2025 to:

JoAnn Destro, 3rd VP Fundraising
1521 San Andreas Ave. - San Jose, CA 95118



WEST VALLEY RWF

c/o Bunny Hacker
55 Church St., #1301
Los Gatos, CA 95030-6922



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



UPCOMING EVENTS

PLAN AHEAD - MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

All general meetings: Check-in 11:30am and Adjourn 1:30pm

- March 5 West Valley RWF Board meeting, 10:00am, Boulder Ridge Golf Club, San Jose CA
- March 17 **St. Patrick's Day**
- March 19 **CFRW Distinguished Speaker Series** presents **Sheriff Chad Bianco**, Candidate for CA Governor via zoom, March 19th 6:00-7:00pm. **Members Only**, register at <https://www.cognitofirms.com/CFRW1/GubernatorialCandidateSheriffChadBianco>
- March 20 West Valley RWF General Meeting w/SCC GOP Chair Shane Patrick Connolly
- April 1 **April Fool's Day**
- April 2 West Valley RWF Board meeting, 10:00am, Boulder Ridge Golf Club, San Jose CA
- April 17 West Valley RWF General Meeting w/**Nan Su**, **"U.S. Position on Taiwan Independence"**
- April 15 **Tax Day** (*Let's have some fun with it – see page 7 of the newsletter for our "Count Your Blessings" tax form and help support the activities of West Valley RWF!*)
- April 20 **Easter Sunday**



Email:

westvalleyrwf@gmail.com

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/westvalleyrwf>

Instagram:

https://www.instagram.com/west_valley_republican_women/

