

THE VOICE

November 2023

Diamond Award
1993-2017 & 2021

Volume 59, Issue 11

President's message:

Dear Members, associates & friends

We greatly appreciate Chief of Staff for Assemblyman Juan Alanis – Josh Whitfield, for giving us his wonderful speech in October! He inspired us to coalesce and unite, despite any of our differences. He reminded us that, after serving in the military, and serving in a humanitarian mission to Ukraine – that there's no place like America.

Thank you to all of you who called the Republican Congress – we FINALLY have a new Speaker of the House! Pray for Speaker Mike Johnson: he loves God, the Constitution, family, and freedom. How refreshing!

Please continue to pray for Israel. We pray for the American and Israeli hostages, and the brutalization of so many elderly, adults, teens, children - and babies.

In remembrance of Veterans Day, we respect, honor, and love all of our veterans – because of their bravery to fight for our freedoms, their dedicated service, and their sacrifice.

“Honor to the soldier and sailor everywhere, who bravely bears his country's cause. Honor, also, to the citizen who cares for his brother in the field and serves, as he best can, the same cause.”

~Abraham Lincoln





CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW
2024 CFRW PRESIDENT:



LYDIA KANNO



These are pictures taken at the recent California Federation of Republican Women 43rd Biennial Convention in Sacramento, CA. The highlight of the weekend, was watching CFRW 2024 President Lydia Kanno and her new executive board being sworn in by Congressman Kevin Kiley! CONGRATULATIONS LYDIA!!!

*Also, at the Convention, Modesto Republican Women Federated was presented with a Diamond Award!! Congratulations and thanks to all members who choose to be active!





Next Meeting November 14th, 2023

Time: 11:30

[Masonic Center of Modesto](#)

[800 Rose Ave, Modesto](#)

[*COST: \\$22 per person](#)

[*RSVP \(209\) 567-3399 or](#)

ModestoRWF@gmail.com



****RSVP REQUIRED!! NO LATER than the Saturday PRIOR!**

Board of Directors:

President: Julie Carroll

1st Vice President: Vicki Godkin

2nd Vice President: Karen Knox

Recording Secretary: Linda Countryman

Treasurer: Lydia Kanno

Upcoming

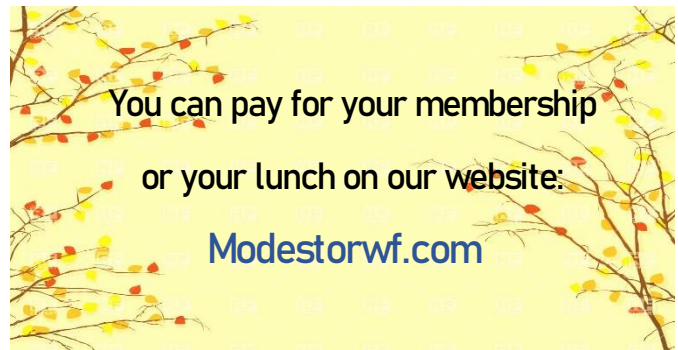
Dates/Events

November 5th – Daylight Savings

November 11th – Veterans Day 

November 14th – Luncheon meeting

November 23rd – Thanksgiving Day



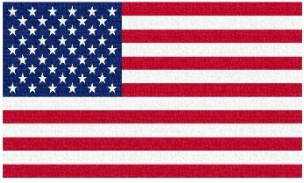
“The Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country, Your people and your father’s household to the Land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation, And I will bless you; I will make your name great, and And you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless You, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all Peoples on the earth will be blessed through you.”

~Genesis 12:1-3 NIV

Membership

Renewal =43, New=19, Associate =11





NOVEMBER FEATURED SPEAKER

MODESTO CHIEF OF POLICE

BRANDON GILLESPIE



Brandon Gillespie earned his bachelor's degree in criminal justice from San Diego State University, and his master's degree in leadership from Grand Canyon University. He has held the ranks of sergeant, lieutenant, captain, and assistant Chief of Police.

His family moved here from the Bay Area when he was one year old, so he considers Modesto his hometown. His entire career in law enforcement has been with Modesto.

He has held many leadership positions, which include SWAT Team Commander, Street Gang Supervisor, Investigative Services Division Commander – just to name a few!

Brandon Gillespie became Modesto's Interim Police Chief in December 2020. And, since August 2021, he became Modesto's Chief of Police.





California Federation of Republican Women

The **California Federation of Republican Women** **Stands with Israel** against the iniquitous attack on Israel by the terrorist group known as Hamas.

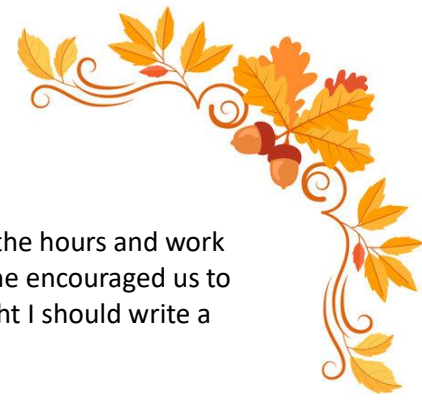
We condemn the brutal behavior of terror inflicted on Israel by Hamas in their killing of hundreds of innocent people, kidnapping, abducting children, and taking hostages by declaring these acts shall not be tolerated.

We support that the Nation of Israel has the right to defend their people and protect their homeland against terrorism.

We grieve for the families and mourn their loss of love ones killed, injured or missing.

We pray for Peace
As we stand with Israel





Women in 118th Congress

At our last luncheon meeting in October, our Treasurer Lydia Kanno reminded us of the hours and work that is done by the Republican Women on behalf of the Party, and its candidates. She encouraged us to get involved and stay involved especially with the upcoming 2024 elections. I thought I should write a brief overview and facts of the current status of Women in Congress.

Women in history covers so much ground. I would love to write about and honor the women of the past, and present, but for writing in this newsletter we need to focus on a specific area, women in politics. Republican women fundraise, canvas, work on behalf of candidates, support both financially and physically, and the list goes on as you well know. Women will continue to have a major impact on history, and in the political arena even though we are underrepresented, and undervalued. I might add underestimated as well.

Present: 118th Congress

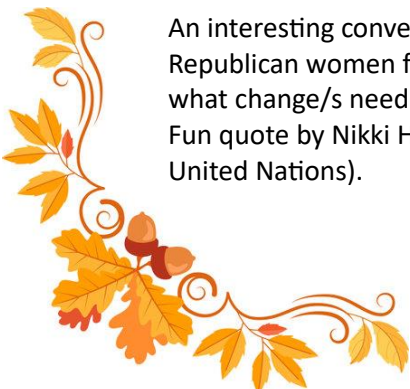
In both Chambers, there are 109 Democratic and 44 Republican women (153) (Pew Research Center). A record number of women are currently serving in the House (128), 28% of all members of the 118th Congress. In the Senate, 25 women are currently serving. 16 Democrats and 9 Republicans. (Rutgers) Women account for 43% of House Democrats and 31% of Senate Democrats, compared with 16% of House Republicans and 18% of Senate Republicans. Counting both the House of Representatives and the Senate, women account for 153 of 540 voting and non-voting members of Congress.

Interestingly enough, until the 1929 stock market crash, most of the dozen women elected to the House were Republicans, and for several decades afterward. During this time, the two parties' numbers were generally close in that chamber. The gap started widening in the 1970s and has persisted. As of March 2023, there are 42 Republican women serving in the 118th Congress, which is a new record high. This number includes 33 Republican women serving in the U.S. House (highest number ever) and 9 Republican women serving in the U.S. Senate. This representation is below the women's share of the overall population. That being said, the 118th Congress is the most racially and ethnically diverse in history.

A Bit of History Trivia: 1) The first woman to get elected, and serve in Congress was Montana Republican Jeannette Rankin, elected to the House in 1916. This was two years after her state gave women the vote. But women only began serving in more substantial numbers in the past few decades. (1992 to present). 2) 'Widow's succession' in Congress went on well into the 1970s, which was one of the most common ways for a woman to enter Congress was by succeeding her deceased husband or father, either by election or appointment. Less common in U.S. Congress than it used to be.

The gradual increase in the number of women serving generally parallels with the expansion of women's role in broader society, and we see more women in major political positions. Even though we are underrepresented, Republican women continue impact policy, serve in key positions, and provide invaluable contributions to our nation. **We are making progress.**

An interesting conversation to have with our fellow Republicans (especially women), would be why Republican women fall behind the Democrat women in the political arena? How do we address this and what change/s need to happen? Article by: Linda Countryman – Recording Secretary
Fun quote by Nikki Haley, Republican woman candidate for President (Former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations). "I wear heels. It's not a fashion statement, it's...ammunition."





THANKSGIVING FUN FACTS:

- 1. 40 million whole turkeys are eaten in the U.S. at Thanksgiving.**
- 2. \$96 million is spent on stuffing at Thanksgiving each year.**
- 3. 40% of Campbell's cream of mushroom soup sales occur around Thanksgiving.**
- 4. 80 million pounds of cranberries are purchased at Thanksgiving.**
- 5. In 1953, an employee at Swanson made a colossal error, and over-ordered turkey for Thanksgiving to the tune of 260 tons of frozen birds that were left sitting in 10 refrigerated railroad cars.**

Gerry Thomas, one of the few people who could be inspired by airplane food, had the bright idea to acquire 5,000 aluminum trays and create a simple meal of turkey, dressing, gravy, peas, and sweet potatoes, with individual pats of butter. An assembly line of women with ice cream scoops was set up, and the TV dinner was born.





Modesto Republican

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