



We will never forget

THE VOICE

Diamond Award

September 2024

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& 2023

President's message,

To all members, associates, & friends,

As September 11th approaches, let's take time to remember all of the thousands of people who died as our country was attacked by terrorists. Please read pgs. 6&7.

We will be voting in just a few weeks!! It's clear to see that, as a country, we are standing at a precipice. Ballots will begin to be mailed out on October 7th. We must ramp up our efforts to make sure that strong Republican leaders are elected this November!! I am urgently requesting all of you to VOTE - AND VOTE EARLY!! Each one of us can do something: volunteer for a local Republican campaign – write postcards, go doorknocking, or make phone calls. Volunteer at the election polls. Whatever you do to help will add up toward winning!

Please note that at our September meeting, we will be asking for a total of 3 members, in good standing, to be a part of our Nominating committee for our 2025 Board of Directors. Also at the meeting, we will give instructions for members who are interested in running for a 2025 Board position. We cannot continue as a club without a full slate. And, our club's future depends on you, our members!

Thank you

Julie Carroll



Next Meeting: September 10th, 2024

Time: 11:30

Masonic Center of Modesto

800 Rose Ave , Modesto

*COST: \$22 per person

*RSVP (209) 567-3399 or

ModestoRWF@gmail.com

RSVP DEADLINE = SEPT 3RD!

Board of Directors:

President: Julie Carroll

1st Vice President: Vicki Godkin

2nd Vice President: Mary Ann Uyen

Secretary: Linda Countryman

Treasurer: Rachel Ludewig

Parliamentarian: Sue Houser

Armed Services: Karen Knox



UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS:

September 2nd – Stan GOP meeting

6 pm @ Masonic Center

September 10th – Luncheon Meeting

October 22nd – No Host Meet & Greet

“He changes times and seasons;

He deposes kings and raises up others.

He gives wisdom to the wise

And knowledge to the discerning.”

~Daniel 2:21 NV

Renewal = 79

New = 0

Associate = 11





SEPTEMBER FEATURED SPEAKER:

SHERIFF JEFF DIRKSE



Sheriff Jeff Dirkse was born in Southern California and raised in Denair. He graduated from Turlock High School in 1990 and the United States Military Academy at West Point, NY, in 1994, with a Bachelor of Science degree. He subsequently served in the US Army as an Infantry Officer in the 101st Airborne Division, 75th Ranger Regiment, 1st Battalion, 184th Infantry Regiment and finally in Special Operations Command, Europe.

Sheriff Dirkse began his career in Law Enforcement in 2007 with the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department. He served on Patrol and as a detective. He was promoted to Sergeant in 2013 and served on Patrol and in Internal Affairs. In 2015 he was promoted to Lieutenant and was appointed as the Chief of Patterson Police Services.

Jeff Dirkse was sworn into office as Sheriff-Coroner on January 7, 2019. He was re-elected in 2022 and is currently on his second term as Sheriff-Coroner.





Ballot Harvesting...Ensure a level playing field this November

Ballot Harvesting in California: What Republican Voters Need to Know:

As a Republican voter in California, you've likely heard about "ballot harvesting" and its impact on our state's elections. This practice has been a topic of heated debate within our party, but it's crucial to understand its implications for the 2024 election cycle and beyond. Let's dive deeper into what ballot harvesting means for us and how our party is adapting to this reality.

What is Ballot Harvesting?

Ballot harvesting, also known as ballot collection, is the practice of gathering completed mail-in or absentee ballots from voters and delivering them to election officials or ballot drop-off locations. In California, it's legal for anyone to collect and return ballots, as long as they don't receive compensation based on the number of ballots returned.

This practice became widespread after the California legislature passed AB 1921 in 2016, which removed restrictions on who could collect and return ballots. Previously, only family members or those living in the same household could return someone else's ballot.

Why It Matters to Republicans

1. Legal Reality: While many Republicans have criticized ballot harvesting, it's currently the law in California. As RNC Chairwoman Ronna McDaniel stated, "These are the rules that we have been given. And we have to play by those rules." We can't afford to sit on the sidelines while Democrats take advantage of this practice.

2. Democratic Advantage: Democrats have effectively used ballot harvesting to win close races, particularly in the 2018 midterms. In several California congressional districts, Republican candidates were leading on election night, only to see their leads evaporate as harvested ballots were counted in the following days and weeks.

3. Changing Voter Habits: With California mailing ballots to every registered voter since the COVID-19 pandemic, more people are voting early and by mail. In the 2018 general election, over 8.3 million ballots were cast by mail, up from 4.5 million in 2014. We need to adapt our strategies to this new reality.

California Republican Leadership on Ballot Harvesting

Our state party leadership recognizes the importance of adapting to the current electoral landscape. Jessica Millan Patterson, chairperson of the California Republican Party, has been at the forefront of this shift in strategy.

Patterson acknowledges the challenge: "It certainly is a challenge if you have people in your ecosystem saying, 'Don't vote early or don't vote by mail,' and those cross messages do have an impact." However, she emphasizes the need for change: "I don't think you're seeing that heading into 2024. I think you're seeing all of us singing from the same songbook."

Reflecting on past elections, Patterson notes, "We didn't do ballot harvesting in 2018 and got our butts handed to us." She's committed to a different approach this time: "As a Republican, I find my ballot sacred. We needed to make sure that people were not just showing up six weeks before an election and asking for a ballot."

The Importance of Trust and Community Relationships

Kim Alexander, president of the California Voter Foundation, offers insights that are valuable for our ballot harvesting efforts. While not a Republican leader, her non-partisan perspective highlights important considerations:

"I would always urge people to only turn their ballot over to somebody who they trust, and to make sure that person takes some time to fill out that information in their presence so they know that person is being accountable to them," Alexander advises.

This emphasis on trust aligns with the California GOP's new strategy. Patterson explains that the party has begun emphasizing community relationship and trust-building. This approach ensures that when we engage in ballot harvesting, we're doing so in a way that respects voters' concerns and builds long-term relationships within our communities.



BRING YOUR BALLOT!
WE WILL DELIVER IT
FOR YOU!!

MODESTO REPUBLICAN WOMEN FEDERATED

NO HOST MEET & GREET

**INVITE YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY
GUESTS ARE WELCOME

****EACH PERSON PAYS FOR THEIR OWN FOOD & DRINK:**

OCTOBER 22nd, 2024 / TIME: 5 PM

MARCELLA'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT 3507 TULLY RD, STE #10
MODESTO, CA

****RSVP DEADLINE: OCTOBER 15TH, 2024!**

*To RSVP: Include your name, phone#, & number of guests attending, by
calling: 209-567-3399 & leave a message, or email: Modestorwf.com

MEN ARE MOST WELCOME TO ATTEND!

*Time to celebrate membership and get to know each other. This is
an opportunity to build community, share goals and future activities.
This is for new, not-so-new, and potential members. Hope to see
you at this event!*





Remembering September 11th, 2001 (9/11)
Also known as Patriot Day with the slogan Never Forget.

This is not a public holiday, but special events are held to commemorate the annual observance of the people killed in a coordinated terrorist attack carried out by al-Qaeda against the United States.

September 11th, 2001 was the deadliest attack on American soil since the attack at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii on December 7th, 1941. For millions of people this day will be remembered as one of those significant days in history that changed our way of life. Glued to our TV's or listening to a radio station in disbelief, we can remember where we were at as this took place, how we felt as individuals, and the collective sense of outrage as a nation. We learned two separate hijacked commercial airplanes crashed into the North and South Twin Towers of the World Trade Center in New York City resulting in the total collapse of both buildings. As we watched in horror the smoking Twin Towers, another hijacked commercial airplane crashed into the Pentagon in Arlington, Virginia. As a result of heroic actions by some passengers on another hijacked airplane it crashed into a field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania. It is believed the plane's intended target was the White House or the Capital in Washington D.C. All airline passengers on these flights were killed and the remaining casualties were as a result of the plane crashes into the Twin Towers and the Pentagon.

Brief Timeline:

- The 1st plane crashes into the North Tower at 8:46 am. Building collapses 10:28 am.
- The 2nd plane crashes into the South Tower at 9:03 am. Building collapses 9:59 am.
- President George W. Bush is informed at 9:05 am of what is happening.
- The 3rd plane crashes into a section of the Pentagon building at 9:37 am.
- The last of the four hijacked planes crashes into a Pennsylvania field at 10:02 am.
- 9:45 am US airspace is shut down and all commercial and private aircraft are ordered to land at the nearest airport.

This is how serious the situation was. At 10:18 am by order of the President any non-grounded aircraft were to be shot down.

"Those terrorists wanted to destroy our country. But, on that day and every day since, the United States has demonstrated that we would never bow to fear and hatred."

Partial Quote from speech by Army General Mark A. Miley (2023)
(cont'd)





9/11 has had and will continue to have a psychological impact on the United States and the world. Countries no longer take for granted they are safe from these kinds of attacks. Since 9/11 we have increased security measures in the United States and all over the world such as at airports and events. There has been a positive impact with more global cooperation among countries regarding terrorism. Congress passed the USA Patriot Act in 2001 and the Department of Homeland Security was created in 2002. The United States and other countries officially established the Global War on Terrorism campaign. The 9/11 attack and the War on Terrorism lead us to wars in Afghanistan (2001) and Iraq (2003).

With sadness we remember the 2,977 victims who lost their lives, the 6,000 injured and the devastating impact on their families and friends. Let us not forget the selflessness and sacrifices of the citizen heroes who provided services during the attacks and afterwards. Let us not forget those who felt a call to duty and served in the military defending this country and honoring those who had lost their lives. Civic engagement and the American spirit still shine today for those who keep America and its citizens safe.

9/11 Memorial Museum posted quote: "No Day Shall Erase You From the Memory of Time"
-Box1X of "Aeneid" by the Roman Poet Virgil

Sources that you can use for further information about 9/11 are the National Archive website (Archives.gov) and the Miller Center website (millercenter.org).

Article by Linda Countryman
Recording Secretary of MRWF and Americanism Chair for CFRW

Articles are short and usually only barely touch on the subject. I do not claim to be an expert on any subject I write about and will make mistakes. I research and then write the article. My hope is that you will be inspired, check the facts, and look into the subject further to increase knowledge and/or form your own opinion.





SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS:



Lolaine Ruskin

Arlene Robbins

Julie Carroll



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



THANK YOU to all who generously donate
gifts for our opportunity drawing table at our
monthly meetings!!





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