



The Voice



THE AWARD-WINNING NEWSLETTER OF A DIAMOND AWARD CLUB!
A Publication of the Modesto Republican Women Federated
Founded in 1953

Affiliated with National Federation of Republican Women,
California Federation of Republican Women

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Modestorwf@gmail.com

April 2025

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NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY, April 8, 2025

Featuring Turlock Mayor

Amy Bublak



SEE PAGE 3 FOR DETAILS

*** MASONIC CENTER ***

800 Rose Avenue
Modesto California

11:30 a.m.—Check In
12:00 p.m.—Call to Order

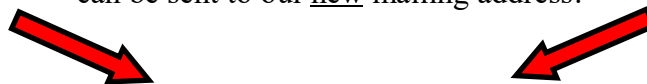
*** Cost of Program: \$25 ***

*Includes a delicious lunch, dessert, coffee or iced tea
(tax & gratuity are included!)*

Must RSVP by Friday, April 4th
Lunches are pre-ordered

Call Voicemail at 209.567.3399
OR Purchase on website at modestorwf.com

A check, payable to Modesto RWF,
can be sent to our new mailing address!



NEW! NEW! NEW!
Modesto RWF
P.O. Box 148 - Salida CA 95368

STANDING COMMITTEES

Americanism
Linda Countryman

Budget

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CALIFORNIA LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Provided by Amy Russell

The 2025 Legislative Session is underway in Sacramento with a variety of bills being proposed. This year will focus on AI, cap and trade reauthorization, labor issues, homelessness, and housing.

California is experiencing a notable increase in legislation concerning AI, a trend we expect to continue. In January 2025, several new bills related to AI were introduced, focused on regulating ethics, privacy, and security. Key proposals include:

SB 420-AI's Bill of rights, AB 1080-Workplace Discrimination, SB 53-Protecting Whistleblowers and Promoting AI Development, SB 243-Chatbots and Minors, AB 1064-Leading Ethical AI Development (LEAD) for minors. These bills are legislative proposals and potential gamechangers poised to shape California's technological landscape significantly.

Important Labor Law bills to monitor include SB 310, which addresses "Failure to Pay Wages" and undermines the Private Attorneys General Act reforms from 2024. It introduces an option for employees to recover unpaid wages through independent civil action, enabling them to sue their employers. SB 21 focuses on workplace development through poverty-reducing labor standards, creating the Equity Climate Resilience, and Quality Jobs Fund in the State Treasury, while withholding 1% of federal job-related funds. AB 1018 will implement statutory changes to the 2025 Budget Act. Additionally, AB 735 builds upon AB 98, which was signed into law in 2024 and addresses standards for warehouse construction and logistics, emphasizing gas emissions.

Lastly, SB 677 titled Housing Development: Streamlined Approvals, presents a hopeful opportunity for housing development in California and is well-timed after the LA fires. This bill seeks to streamline the building process while impacting the California Environmental Quality Act. It aims to make housing construction more cost-effective and timely for property owners. However, it also imposes strict limits on city and county housing laws, effectively reducing local control, which should be carefully considered in relation to the bill's overall context.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Julie Carroll, Modesto RWF President



Hello members, associates, and friends, We so appreciate Modesto City Council members Jeremiah Williams & David Wright for being our featured speakers! They gave us vital information regarding how their funds are managed, spent, and how they are

helping our community. Their efforts to tackle homelessness, theft, and drug problems, are just a few areas that they are working on to make our quality of life better in Modesto.

A special thank you to everyone who donated gifts and baskets to our Raffatunity last meeting! What a generous variety of gifts and baked goods. We do love our sweets. Let's keep that going in the future!

Speaking of sweets ~ Thanks to those attending our March 29 Meet & Greet at Pura Vida. What a nice place to meet! Thank you to those who bring friends and family to introduce to our wonderful club. Please continue to invite others you know to come to our meetings & events! *Remember: men are welcome to join us! The only requirement is that they must be a registered Republican. They can do everything our Republican women do – except they cannot vote. We love to welcome new members and associates!

What an awesome and historic event we witnessed, as the NASA Astronauts splashed down safely off the Florida coast on March 19th! Beautifully orchestrated with incredible precision. This gives us hope in American technology! With President Trump & Elon Musk working side by side for America - our future is bright!



Please be sure to renew your membership! We are at 59% of membership as compared to last year, so **we need ALL members to renew!!**

Please pray for our country, for Israel, and for our President Trump!

We, on the MRWF Board of Directors, wish each one of you and your families a very Happy Easter!



**Thank you ~ Julie Carroll,
MRW President**

APRIL GUEST SPEAKER!



Amy Bublack graduated from California State University Stanislaus in 1988 with a B.A. degree in Sociology and Criminal Justice. In 2005, she earned a Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.) degree in Urban Government.

As Mayor, Amy keeps her focus on the following goals:

Fiscal Policy, Public Safety, Economic Growth, and Government Transparency.

In addition to her time as Mayor and three terms on the Turlock City Council, Amy has served as: President of the Stanislaus County Red Cross, Vice Mayor of Turlock three times, member and chairperson of the Stanislaus Local Agency Commission, and the State Legislation Director for California Women for Agriculture.

On October 18, 2019, Amy was appointed by President Donald Trump to Attorney General William Barry's Social Problems Working Group, a subcommittee of the Presidential Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice.

Since her re-election as Mayor of Turlock, Amy Bublack, in collaboration with her council colleagues, city staff, and residents, has successfully led the city's financial recovery, bringing it back from the brink of bankruptcy. Under her leadership, Turlock has established a robust rainy-day fund, achieved full staffing for both the Police and Fire Departments, acquired two new fire trucks, and completed the reconstruction of Columbia Pool. For the first time in 35 years, Mayor Bublack has initiated a comprehensive effort to address the city's infrastructure needs by securing funding for critical road repairs.



Join us at our monthly General Meeting on Tuesday, April 8 at the Masonic Center on Rose Avenue. Check in and socialize at 11:30. Program and lunch begins at 12:00. Make your reservation by March 8. Amy will have time to answer your questions..... so have them ready. See you there?



CELEBRATING



Become a member of the Oldest and Largest Woman's Republican Organization in California



[JOIN NOW](#)



CFRW OBJECTIVES FOR 100 YEARS:

- promote an informed public through education and activity;
- increase the effectiveness of women in the cause of good government;
- influence legislation and maintain a CFRW presence in State government in accordance with CFRW goals;
- promote a wider knowledge of the principles and policies of the Republican Party;
- encourage active citizenship;
- cooperate with the California Republican Party and the County Central Committees for the election of Republican nominees;
- facilitate cooperation among Federated Republican Women's Local Clubs;
- foster loyalty to Republican candidates in all elections including nonpartisan elections.

A SMILE
By Jez Alborough

Smiling is infectious
 You catch it like the flu
 When someone smiled at me today
 I started smiling too
 I walked around the corner
 And someone saw me grin
 When he smiled I realized
 I had passed it on to him
 I thought about the smile
 And then realized its worth
 A single smile like mine
 Could travel round the earth
 So if you feel a smile begin
 Don't leave it undetected
 Start an epidemic
 And get the world infected



GOT GIFTS?



Your MRWF Board of Directors is collecting prizes for a *HUGE* drawing at our upcoming **1920's themed Centennial Dinner** (see flyer on page 5). If you have items you'd love to contribute, just let us know! We are especially looking for:

- Gallo Theater Tickets
- Gasoline, Home Improvement, Specialty Gift Cards
- Symphony Tickets
- Restaurant Gift Cards
- Vacation Getaway
- Special Wines
- Round of Golf
- Jewelry
- Complete Themed Baskets
- Hands-on Classes

If you own a business or know someone who does and would be willing to help us, please ask them!

UPCOMING EVENTS

PLAN AHEAD - MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

All General Meetings: Check-in 11:30am Adjourn 1:30pm

April 1	April Fool's Day
April 1 10:00 a.m.	Modesto RWF BOD Meeting
April 8 11:30 a.m.	Modesto RWF General Meeting with City of Turlock Mayor Amy Bublak Please RSVP
April 12	Passover Begins
April 15	Tax Day <i>(Have fun with your 1047 Form on page 7)</i>
April 20	Easter Sunday
August 16	Centennial Dinner - Save the Date! Speaker, Drawings, 1920's theme

TAX DAY!!



*Inspired by Robin McCarthy, WVRWF
 modified by Mary Ann Uyeno*

Instead of dreading tax season let's celebrate our blessings! Your Modesto Republican Women Federated 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. Simply fill out your "Blessings Tax Return" on page 7 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.

I added my blessing fees listed in the 1047 form on scratch paper.... it was fun! I'm super blessed, and my total "tax" was only \$20.25! I sent MRWF a check for \$20 though, so fingers crossed I won't be audited!

Why participate? Support MRWF initiatives - your donations help fund events, community outreach, and conservative values. Celebrate gratitude - reflect on and appreciate the many things we often overlook. Join in the spirit of giving with a lighthearted approach to fundraising. Just complete your 1047 tax form (page 7) and mail your donation this month. Make checks payable to Modesto Republican Women Federated and mail to our new address at MRWF P.O. Box 148, Salida CA 95368.

Thank you for getting involved.

You Make a Difference!



Modesto Republican Women Federated

Centennial Dinner

Tonight's Theme we are Roaring back to the 1920's.
(Period Attire Optional)



California Gubernatorial Candidate
Sheriff Chad Bianco

August 16, 2025

VIP Table - 8 Seats Donation \$600
(VIP Time includes appetizers and picture with Sheriff Bianco)

Individual Tickets Donation \$65

Masonic Center of Modesto 800 Rose Ave Modesto, 95350

Doors Open: VIP @ 5:00pm - General Admission @ 6:00pm - Dinner @ 7:00pm

For Tickets: modestorwf@gmail.com



Limited Seating Due To Venue
NO TICKETS SOLD AT DOOR



Welcome to April

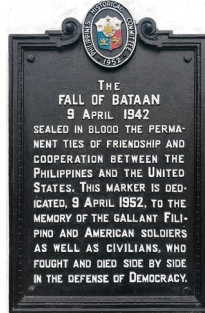
by Linda Countryman, Modesto RWF 1st VP

Highlighted April Historical Moments

- 4/15/1912 – The Titanic Sank
- 4/19/1775 – American Revolutionary War began
- 4/30/1789 – Our first United States President, George Washington, was inaugurated

Highlighted April Historical Trivia

4/9/1942 – The Day of Valor. Celebrated every year in the Philippines honoring the bravery of the Filipino and American soldiers during WWII.



One of the requirements of every citizen of the United States is to PAY TAXES. Here is a brief and limited overview of the evolution of taxation/tax system.

Early forms of taxation date back for centuries and varied by countries. Although, most ancient and medieval taxes were based on property, goods, and trade rather than personal earnings/income. Protests against the British taxation policies led to the American Revolution.

The main reasons for taxes in the United States, historically and the present, is to fund the government, its activities, and wars.

The US Constitution in Article 1, Section 8 assigns Congress limited ability, but the power to impose direct Taxes, Duties, Imposts, and Excises.

The federal government's largest source of revenue starting in the 1790's was from collection of tariffs.

In 1861 and in 1862 the United States government imposed its first federal income tax to finance the Civil War called the Revenue Act/s. The tax was repealed in 1872 but set a precedent.

In 1913 Congress was granted the power to levy an income tax when the 16th Amendment to the Constitution was ratified. The 16th Amendment allowed the federal government to levy income tax permanently.



The United States tax system imposes a tax based on individual income, corporations, estates, and trusts. The three types of the tax system are progressive, proportional, and regressive.

State taxes, and state sale taxes (started being collected in the 1930's) generally fund state budgets and are not part of the federal tax system.

Happy April Birthday
to our
Modesto RWF Members
Janice Garciaa
Donna Genasci

FRIENDSHIP: CHERRY BLOSSOMS & DOGWOODS

A Message from the NFRW President, Julie Harris

Spring has arrived in our nation's capital, and the peak bloom for DC's beloved **cherry blossoms** is just around the corner. Traffic is more congested than usual as tourists flock to the Tidal Basin to witness the beauty of the delicate pink and white flowering trees against the backdrop of the beautiful Jefferson Memorial. **Few may realize they're observing symbols of one of America's most enduring international friendships.**

DC's iconic cherry blossoms first appeared in **1912** when Tokyo's Mayor Yukio Ozaki gifted us 3,000 cherry trees from across the Pacific. It was a gesture of friendship between Japan and America. This followed an earlier attempt in 1910 when, unfortunately, a previous shipment arrived damaged by insects and could not be planted in American soil.

On a spring day, March 27, 1912, First Lady Helen Taft and Viscountess Chinda, the Japanese Ambassador's wife, came together to plant the first two cherry trees on the northern bank of the Tidal Basin. There were no grand speeches that day. **Instead, these two women from different worlds simply planted trees side by side.** This quiet and gentle act of friendship grew into one of Washington's most beloved traditions and transformed how we experience our capital city in springtime.

To reciprocate this act of friendship, President Taft gifted back to Japan flowering **dogwood** trees. These American trees, with their beautiful white and pink flowers, represented America's appreciation and commitment to nurturing the diplomatic relationship.

This botanical exchange has remained a powerful symbol of peace and friendship despite wars, political changes, and generations of leadership in both nations. When many of the original trees needed to be replaced in the 1950s, Japan once again shared cuttings from the original parent trees in Tokyo.

As we admire these beautiful trees framing our national monuments, we're witnessing something more meaningful than just natural beauty. When cherry blossoms reach peak bloom and dogwoods begin to flower across America, it is proof that **diplomacy and friendship** can outlast political tensions and war and remind us of our shared humanity.

No Label Required
Please print or type.

For the year Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2024		Due Date: April 15, 2025	
Your first name	MI	Last Name	No social security number required
Home address (number and street)		Apartment no.	▲ Important! ▲
City, town or post office	State	Zip code	

Dues Paid ▶ Note: Checking 'Yes' will not change your tax. Yes, I have paid my 2025 dues. No, I have included my dues check for \$ 3

Filing Status 1 new member 3 6-10 year member
 Check only 1 box. 2 1-5 year member 4 over 10 year member

Your Blessings



5	If you live in a comfortable house or apartment, enter \$1.00	5	.
6	If you can fly the American Flag, enter \$1.00	6	.
7	If you have one or more television sets, enter \$.50 per set	7	.
8	If you watch Fox News, enter \$.50	8	.
9	If you have Amazon Prime, Netflix, Hulu, TiVo or other streaming service, enter \$.50 per item	9	.
10	If you have one or more vehicles, enter \$1.00 per vehicle	10	.
11	If you have a bicycle, enter \$.25 per bicycle	11	.
12	If you have a motor home or boat, enter \$.50	12	.
13	If you can worship as you choose, enter \$.50	13	.
14	If you have a computer, enter \$.25 per item	14	.
15	If you have a cell phone, enter \$.25 per item	15	.
16	If you have a dishwasher, enter \$.25	16	.
17	If your home is air conditioned, enter \$.25	17	.
18	If you don't have to shovel snow, enter \$.25	18	.
19	If you have a washer and/or dryer, enter \$.25 per appliance	19	.
20	If you have a hair dryer, enter \$.25	20	.
21	If you have your hair done at a beauty salon, enter \$.50	21	.
22	If you have any pets, enter \$.10 per paw, wing or fin	22	.
23	If you have/had a loving mother, enter \$.50	23	.
24	If you have/had a loving father, enter \$.50	24	.
25	If you have/had a loving spouse, enter \$.50	25	.
26	If you have/had any brothers or sisters, enter \$.50 per sibling	26	.
27	If you have any children, enter \$.50 per child	27	.
28	If you have any grandchildren, enter \$.25 per child	28	.
29	If you have any great-grandchildren, enter \$.50 per child	29	.
30	If you have one or more credit cards, enter \$.50 per card	30	.
31	If your US Congressman is a Republican <input type="checkbox"/> enter \$1.00; if Democrat enter \$0.00	31	.
32	If your US Senator is a Republican <input type="checkbox"/> enter \$1.00; if Democrat enter \$0.00	32	.
33	If you plan to help change 31 and 32, enter \$1.00 per representative	33	.
34	I am especially thankful I live in the USA. Enter your value	34	.

Amount You Owe

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

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.

Your signature	Date	Your occupation	Daytime phone number
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Please enclose your check(s) and mail by April 15, 2025 to:

**Modesto Republican Women Federated
P.O. Box 148
Salida, CA 95368**



**CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF THE
CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN**



The California Federation of Republican Women



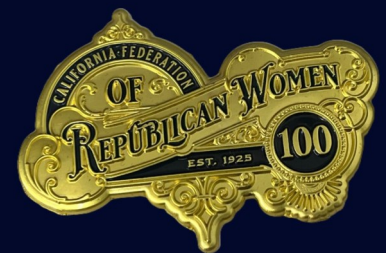
Supports and Thanks Elon Musk



**Celebrate CFRW's 100th Anniversary
with a beautiful
CFRW CENTENNIAL BROOCH!**

Limited edition Centennial Brooch is 2-1/2 inches wide, good quality, and held by a magnetic bar. They are \$35 each which includes shipping and handling.

To order, go to: <https://cafrw.org/shop/>



MODESTO RWF

c/o Julie Carroll, President
P.O. Box 148
Salida, CA 95368



**RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED**



2025 ELECTED OFFICIALS

**U. S. President
Donald J. Trump (R)**

The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500
202.456.1414
president@whitehouse.gov

**U.S. Vice President
J.D. Vance (R)**

Old Executive Office Bldg
Washington, D.C. 20501
202.456.2326

**U.S. Senator
Alex Padilla (D)**

331 Hart Senate Office Bldg
Washington D.C. 20510
202.224.3553

**U.S. Senator
Adam Schiff (D)**

Hart Senate Office Bldg #112
Washington, C.C. 20610
202.224.3841
schiff@senate.gov

**U.S. Congress
Tom McClintock (R-5)**

2256 Rayburn House Office Bldg
Washington, D.C. 20515
202.225.2511
1020 15th Street Ste #11
Modesto, CA 95354
209.550.6910

**U.S. Congress
Adam Gray (D13)**

1230 Longworth House
Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-1947
90 S. First Street
Turlock, CA 95380
209.226.6880

**California Governor
Gavin Newsom (D)**

1021 O Street Ste# 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814
916.445.2841

**State Senator
Marie Alvarado-Gil (R-4)**

1021 O Street Ste# 7240
Sacramento, CA 95814
916.651.4004
1021 15th Street Ste# 21
Modesto, CA 95354
209.576.6001
senatorialvarado-gil@senate.ca.gov

**State Assembly
Juan Alanis (R-22)**

P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249
916.319.2022
1010 Tenth Street Ste# 5800
Modesto, CA 95354
209.521.2201
ad22.asmr.org

**State Assembly
Heath Flora (R-9)**

P.O. BBox 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249
916.319.2009
578 N. Wilma Ave. Ste B
Rioon, CA 95306
209.599.2112
ad09.asmr.org

