

REPUBLICAN WOMEN OF GREGG COUNTY

February 2023 Newsletter: Vol 2. NO. 3

The President's Talking Points

After being out of the country there is no place like home and Texas. Talking with the residents of South America I quickly learned they make an average of about \$300 per month. In Buenos Aires 17% of the city population of 43 million live in the slums, "well under the poverty level." Some voice their opinion that their type of government leads to a large dependent population and only a small portion of the people actually pay any taxes. The young gentleman, I spoke with, found this to be a weakness in his country's government, a Republic, creating an un-involved and un-educated people. Makes me thankful for the many opportunities we take for granted, that only require your passion and ambition to excel here in United States of America.

March brings us to the club goals of establishing a presence and laying the groundwork for success in 2024. You can assist the club by helping recruit new members or asking spouses to join as associate members. Their dues go straight to the club only. Our presence on social media is growing with 28% new visitors and 67% returning visitors to our *RWCGTX.com* website. You can help our presence by directing your friends to our club website through Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc. We need to be connecting with our community to show them we value them as conservative Christian women. Many of our committees do just that. Write your elected officials and let them know your concerns. And finally, we will be developing fundraising events to support the GOP and put their candidates in office. We need candidates that embrace conflict to find solutions not the intellectual abandonment or avoidance that seems to be a common theme on the Left. Don't talk about it and it will go away. We can no longer be the silent majority. Just like the people of East Palestine, Ohio with the train derailment, when it happens to you, you speak up.

Be sure to celebrate March 8th: -- International Women's Day -- to honor the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women.

God Bless You and America
Jennifer Kranzman
Republican Women of Gregg County – President



Communicating With Elected Officials

- Put yourself in the place of the elected official and their staff. “Do unto others as you would have others do unto you.”
- Don’t present your argument or information using your emotions.
- Do your homework. Make sure the information you are presenting is factual.
- Make sure they are the appropriate office for the issue. (City, County, State, Federal)
- Make your argument or present your information in short concise terms.
- Make sure what you are asking the elected official to do is legal under current law.
- Get to know the staff who works with the elected official. Build a relationship.
- Let the elected official hear from you both when they support things you favor and those things you oppose. Delivering “thank you” when appropriate helps you build a good relationship with the staff and elected official.
- Patience. Nothing happens overnight in government – nor should you want it to.

Patience + Strategy = Gratification

Strategy + Patience = Success

Our country and state function within a Constitutional Republic form of government. If we are honest with ourselves and with each other we would admit that we would all like to have a dictator in charge who could just make a decision and it is enforced. We just want to have our own personal dictator that agrees 100% with “me”. We all believe that “I”, “me”, “we”, are the “majority”. Elected officials are elected to represent a large number of constituents. Those constituents do not always have the same interests, values and needs. Many times legislation will help some and possibly have a negative effect on others.

Making sure your information is factual: This can be difficult in today's environment where truth has become hard to define.

Those who control the language control the truth.

As we become more and more polarized in our country it has become a common practice for people to gravitate to sources of news that agree with what they want to believe. It doesn't help that some who are in power within our government now change the language to force the "facts" to fit within their narrative and plans. An example of this would be changing the definition of when an economy is experiencing inflation or a recession. By changing the conditions necessary for those to occur from how they were always measured, you can declare that you are not experiencing those negative impacts within your economy. Accounting practices applied in different ways can change numbers and outcomes.

Make sure the sources you research are known for using factual information. We can all be deceived and have all been victims of receiving false information. You must do your homework.

Establish a good relationship with the staff in your elected official's office. The staff are responsible for researching legislation and briefing the elected official. Thinking you can only visit or present your case to the elected official will not serve you well. Their staff can help you. Be professional and polite when dealing with them. During session, they will work very long hours and sometimes 7 days a week. They get tired and hear from MANY people. Threats or telling them how much money you donated does not end with positive results.

Sending an email or a letter is encouraged to present your information and/or as a follow-up to a call with the staff or the elected official. Keep it short and concise. They will not read "your book."

- State the correct bill number or state the issue
- Give a brief reason you oppose or support
- Give bullet points or short explanations of support or opposition
- Give your name, address, telephone number and email so you can be contacted

Wording for a sample letter:

(Sample Letter to Elected Official)

February 14, 2023

The Honorable Jane Doe
Texas Senate
P. O. Box 12068
Austin, Texas 78711-2068

Re: Opposition for Bill 00000

Dear Senator Doe:

Let me begin by thanking you for working hard on behalf of your constituents in District 14. I appreciate your continued understanding and support for small business. In particular, I really want to thank you for your efforts on Bill #00000.

Please let me ask that you consider opposing Bill #00000. As currently written, this legislation would have a negative impact on many in your district. From what I understand about this bill it would:

- Impose a new tax on small businesses
- Make it difficult to recruit business to our district
- Raise fees and prices for the consumers

I would love to have an opportunity to visit with you or someone on your staff who can discuss this legislation with me.

Sincerely,

Teresa Spears
Street Address
City, TX 78701
Phone Number
Email Address

This letter tells the Senator everything they need to know. You are their constituent. You oppose the Bill. Why you oppose the Bill. How to reach you.

If you are going to be contacting elected officials on a regular basis, you might consider getting an online subscription to something like the Texas State Directory. You would have current updates on state, county and city officials and staff in Texas. You can also purchase a pocket/purse size Texas Legislative Handbook that will contain photos of elected officials, committee assignments, and contact information of all legislators. You can also create custom lists of elected and appointed officials in Excel format. Their website: <https://www.txdirectory.com/>

The following information is taken from The Texas State Directory and can assist in knowing how to address elected officials.

Finding your legislators

Who Represents Me?

This system from the Texas Legislature Online provides information about current districts and members of the Texas Senate, Texas House of Representatives, the Texas delegation to the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, and the State Board of Education (SBOE). You can search by street address, ZIP code, county, and/or city.

Contacting your legislators

By mail

You may write to your legislators at the following addresses:

The Honorable (insert name of Senator)
Texas Senate
P.O. Box 12068
Austin, Texas 78711-2068

The Honorable (insert name of Representative)
Texas House of Representatives
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, Texas 78768-2910

District office addresses are available on [Who Represents Me?](#) on Texas Legislature Online.

Complete rosters are available at the [Texas Senators](#) and [House Membership](#) web sites, in the Legislative Reference Library's [Chief Elected Officials of Texas](#) list, and through Texas Legislature Online's member listings for the [House](#) and [Senate](#).

By telephone

You may find Capitol and district office telephone numbers for your legislator by searching [Who Represents Me?](#) on Texas Legislature Online.

By e-mail

E-mail is handled by each office individually. There is not an official email directory for legislators or legislative staff. For e-mail options, see the [Texas Senators](#) and [House Membership](#) web sites.

Office	Envelope and inside address	Letter salutation	1. Introduction, one person to another 2. Conversation, subsequently
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FEDERAL

U.S. Senator	The Honorable John Doe ¹ United States Senate	Dear Senator Doe: ²	1. Senator Doe 2. Senator
U.S. Senator-elect	The Honorable Jane Doe United States Senator-elect	Dear Mr./Ms. Doe:	1. Mr./Ms. Doe 2. Mr./Ms. Doe
U.S. Representative	The Honorable John Doe United States House of Representative s	Dear Representative Doe: ³	1. Representative Doe 2. Representative
U.S. Representative -elect	The Honorable Jane Doe United States Representative -elect	Dear Mr./Ms. Doe:	1. Mr./Ms. Doe 2. Mr./Ms. Doe
Former U.S. Senator or U.S. Representative	The Honorable John Doe	Dear Senator Doe: / Dear Representative Doe:	1. Senator/Representativ e Doe 2. Senator/Representativ e

STATE

Governor of a state or territory	The Honorable Jane Doe Governor of Texas	Dear Governor Doe:	1. Governor Doe 2. Governor
Lieutenant Governor	The Honorable John Doe Lieutenant Governor of Texas	Dear Lieutenant Governor Doe:	1. Lieutenant Governor Doe 2. Lieutenant Governor / Governor (preferred in Texas)
Speaker of the Assembly or the House of Representative s	The Honorable Jane Doe Speaker of the Texas House of Representative s	Dear Mr./Madam Speaker:	1. Mr./Madam Speaker 2. Mr./Madam Speaker
State Senator	The Honorable John Doe Texas Senate	Dear Senator Doe:	1. Senator Doe 2. Senator
State Senator-elect	The Honorable Jane Doe Senator-elect Texas Senate	Dear Mr./Ms. Doe:	1. Mr./Mrs. Doe 2. Mr./Mrs. Doe
State Representative	The Honorable John Doe Texas House of	Dear Representative Doe:	1. Representative Doe 2. Representative

	Representative s The Honorable Jane Doe		
State Representative -elect	Representative -elect Texas House of Representative s	Dear Mr./Mrs. Doe:	1. Mr./Mrs. Doe 2. Mr./Mrs. Doe
Former State Senator or State Representative s	The Honorable John Doe (local address)	Dear Senator/Representativ e Doe:	1. Senator/Representativ e Doe 2. Senator/Representativ e

1. If writing to a legislator as *President Pro Tempore* of the Senate or as a committee or subcommittee Chair, include that title in your envelope and salutation greeting.
2. *Honor & Respect* recommends complimentary close of "Sincerely yours" or "Sincerely."
3. Per *Honor & Respect*, "Representative" and "Senator" are not traditional honorifics for members of the U.S. or Texas House of Representatives or the Texas Senate, but the author notes that many legislators prefer these titles over "Mr./Ms. (Name)." Common use in the Texas legislative community calls for "Representative [name]" and "Senator [name]."

Programs & Special Events

Rhonda Anderson

1st Vice President

Legislative Affairs Committee

Rep. Jay Dean HD7 gives a weekly Capitol report, you can sign up by visiting his website at

www.jaydeanfortexas.com

His latest bill that has been filed is HB748, this provides students with the option of a paper STAAR test upon request.

You can read all the latest bills using Texas Legislature online (myTLO)

Texas continues to fight for Election Integrity, the latest move is to remove Texas from the Electronic Registration Information Center, referred to as ERIC. A dedicated task force's hard work is paying off thanks to the support of Senator Bryan Hughes, who is a sponsor of SB1070. To learn everything about this important step, please join a zoom this Friday, 3/3 at 7a hosted by RNC Committeewoman Toni Anne Dashiell. You can sign up to get the link to register for these zoom meetings by visiting:

www.toniannedashiell.com or emailing Tad@toniannedashiell.com

Governor Abbotts Seven Legislative Priorities

Governor Abbott announced his emergency items for this legislative session during the State of the State address. This allows the Legislators to begin working before the 60-day restriction of regular house business.

1. Lowering property taxes
2. Ending Revolving Door Bail
3. School Safety
4. Fighting the Fentanyl Crisis
5. Ending Covid Restrictions in Texas
6. Education Freedom
7. Securing the border.

Other informative resources:

Texashousecaucus.com

Membership Report
Connie Wade 2nd Vice President

March Happy Birthday wishes go out to: Geraldine Moore on the 3rd, Jerri Moore on the 20th, Judi Morgan on the 24th, Louise Sims on the 25th and Cindy Bostick on the 27th.

I hope all of you are receiving via email Capital Connection from the National Federation of Republican Women. It is a very informative newsletter and a great way to see what other clubs around the nation are doing. I was particularly interested to see that Montgomery County Republican Women from Conroe, Texas were featured.

Thus far, our paid membership stands at 29. Twenty-two letters were sent out last week reminding those who haven't yet sent in their dues that we have an upcoming deadline with TFRW to meet. I encourage each of you to invite and bring a guest to our next meeting and encourage like-minded friends to join us.



CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES

Jennifer Kranzman

February was a busy month for many of our members. Please provide your February volunteer hours no **later than March 5th**. I just need your total hours. It is not necessary to send the hours collection tool. Use only as a reference. January hours can still be submitted. Send to etetetet@aol.com. Q&A 903 445 8627. Remember your political and club support hours, including travel can be submitted. It is not a perfect science. A best guess is acceptable.

Thank you to Rhonda Anderson, Nancy Holly and Gwen Wouri who represented our club in Austin for Legislative Day Feb 3rd. Gwen was a 1st timer who attended on a "fact finding mission". She quickly became infected by the positive attitudes, friendly, energetic Republicans who came great distances thru a challenging ice storm to attend. These patriots "wanted to stay involved". Nancy Holly was a repeat attender and said it was nice to network with friends. Through a mock trial" we learned how easily it was to have a bill taken down, and learned to appreciate the hoops you must jump thru.

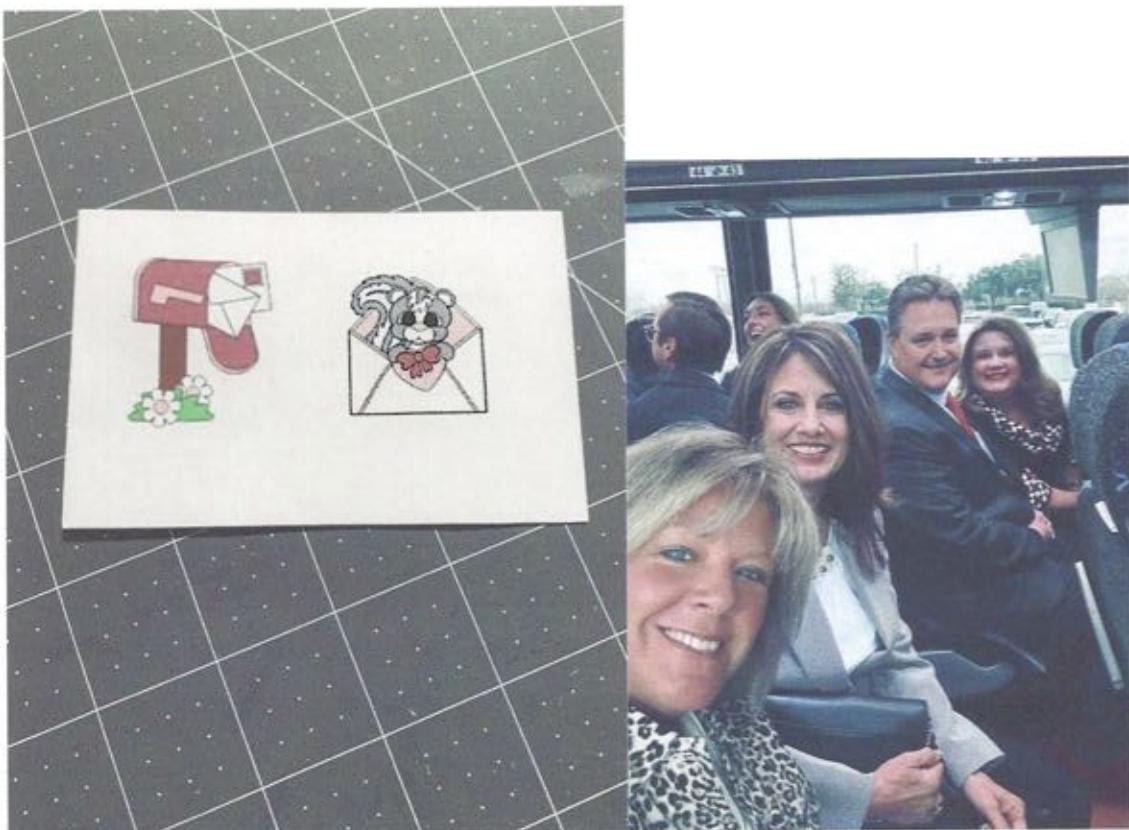




February Meeting with speaker Jackie Schelegel

Valentine cards from our club for Caring for America project

For 68 Pine Tree residents



Rhonda and Krista headed to State of the State in Austin

May 6, 2023 – City and School Elections

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THIS ELECTION:

LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE: Thursday, April 6, 2023

LAST DAY TO TURN IN AN APPLICATION TO VOTE BY MAIL:

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

EARLY VOTING DATES:

Monday, April 24 – Tuesday, May 2, 2023

(Weekdays)

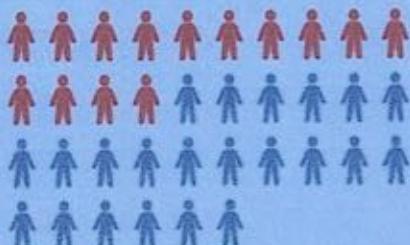
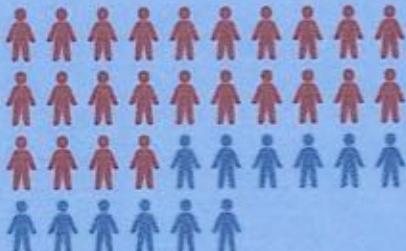
ELECTION DAY: Saturday, May 6, 2023

REPUBLICAN REPRESENTATION IN TEXAS HOUSE COMMITTEES



Committees play a crucial role in #txlege - This is how a bill travels from introduction to the House floor

26 Republican Chairs were appointed, 5 more than the 87th Legislative Session



14 Republicans were appointed to Vice Chairs for the 88th Session



TEXAS HOUSE COMMITTEES

A GUIDE TO THE 36 HOUSE COMMITTEES OF THE
88TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION

TYPES OF COMMITTEES

Standing Committees

Standing committees are permanent committees whose jurisdiction is identified in the Texas House Rules.

Procedural Committees

Procedural committees makes decisions chiefly about legislative process, calendars, or legislative administration in the Texas House.

Select Committees

Select committees are created by a resolution to review legislation on specific topics and are not renewed on a permanent basis.

**JAY
DEAN**

February RWGC Meeting Recap

The speaker at the February meeting was Jackie Schelegel, Executive Director of Texans for Vaccine Freedom. Jackie got interested in vaccine issues when her eldest daughter became medically handicapped after receiving 9 vaccinations in one day at 4 months of age. The current vaccine schedule recommends 78 doses before the age of 18. The 1986 National Vaccine Injury Act protects vaccine manufacturers from liability for damages from vaccinations. In 2021, as a direct result of Jackie and her organization working diligently to educate Texas legislators, the Texas House and Senate unanimously passed a bipartisan medical-protection bill, and Gov. Abbott signed into law a ban on vaccine passports. Jackie has 5 legislative priorities for the 2023 Texas Legislative Session, #1 being Transparency and Accountability of Covid-19 Vaccines. She asked us to urge Bryan Hughes to file Bill #2 on her list of priorities. For further info, see www.texansformmedicalfreedom.org

Top 5 Legislative Priorities Ms. Schelegel shared:

1. Transparency and Accountability of Covid-19 Vaccines: *Burrows HB 1313/ Springer SB 403*
 - Relating to a study on the side effects, adverse reactions, including death, and the effectiveness of vaccines against the SARS-CoV-2 virus or its variants.
2. Protect Religious and Medical Contraindications Exemptions for Covid-19 Vaccines: *House Bill Pending/Senate Bill Pending*
 - Relating to prohibited COVID-19 vaccine mandates and vaccination status discrimination and to exemptions from certain vaccine requirements.
3. Protect Informed Consent: *Harrison HB 81/ Middleton SB 177*
 - Relating to informed consent before the provision of certain medical treatments involving COVID-19 vaccination.
4. Expand Access to Care: *Swanson HB 44/(pending Senate Sponsor)*
 - Relating to provider discrimination against a Medicaid recipient or child health plan program enrollee based on immunization status.
5. Protect Religious Vaccine Exemptions: *Cain HB 1419/ (Pending Senate Sponsor)*
 - Relating to the repeal of certain limitations on bacterial meningitis vaccination exemptions for students at institutions of higher education

PLAN TO JOIN US FOR THE MARCH MEETING ON THE 15TH AT BJ'S AT NOON. ARRIVE AT 11:30 TO ORDER LUNCH

The program for the March meeting will include Mason Morgan: Run Gen Z. The next board meeting will be on March 1st at GOP office.