OCTOBER 2026

RANCHO BERNARDO Republican Women

REPUBLICAN REPORTER

Use this link to register for **OCTOBER luncheon:**
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/rancho-bernardo-rw-luncheon-and-meeting-tickets-2002666274738

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OCTOBER

- 3 **BALLOTS ARE MAILED** Voter Guides mailed
- 5 Board meeting
- 12 Columbus Day
- 16 Luncheon
- 31 Happy Halloween

NOVEMBER

- 2 Board mtg
- 3 **ELECTION DAY - VOTE**
- 11 Veterans' Day
- 20 Luncheon

2026 Meeting Dates
Dec 11 Holiday Bingo

CANCELATION POLICY
Cancelations made after the Friday before the meeting, will be billed to you. Thank you.

Ian Hamilton Trottier
October Speaker

Born in Oakland, CA, Trottier is a 4th generation Californian and 14th generation in North America. Having started the podcast ***Discussions of Truth*** on Wynwood Radio in Miami in 2016, Trottier quickly gained notoriety for his candid discussions of various political issues nationally and his staunch patriotic defense of our Constitutional Republic.

Trottier has made waves by attacking our country's enemies that lurk within and propping up those that seek to expose corruption. In 2020, Trottier was singled out of a crowd of 200 in Doral, Florida by President Donald Trump for his efforts to elevate the message of the Google whistleblower.

He is a modern-day patriot and Paul Revere with a warrior spirit. Ian Hamilton Trottier is a refreshing Florida radio personality, podcaster, entrepreneur, community organizer, and author of ***No More Lies*** and his latest book about John Brennan, ***High Stakes Treason."***

Coming in November
Carl DeMaio

Join us in November for an engaging presentation by Carl DeMaio, chairman of Reform California and a longtime advocate for government accountability, taxpayer protection and political reform. Drawing on his experience as a California State Assembly member, San Diego City Council member, and grassroots leader, DeMaio will share his perspective on the issues shaping California's future and the reforms he believes can make government work better for residents. To top it off, he will share his insights into the results of the November election.

527(n) Tax-exempt Organization
RbRepublicanWomen.org

RBRW Disclaimer: RBRW is in part the education arm of the Republican Party. In that endeavor, RBRW invites registered Republicans and Independents; and organizations vetted by the Board to our monthly meetings to inform and educate our members on a wide variety of topics. The information imparted is NOT to be considered as a position or endorsement by the RBRW Board or its membership. RBRW is a 527-political non-profit organization.

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PRAY FOR OUR NATION

Julie Carlson | Chaplain

Gracious God,

We ask for Your abundant blessings this October. Pour out Your favor upon us and our loved ones. Bless our efforts, our relationships, and our endeavors. May we experience Your goodness in every area of our lives. Let Your blessings overflow so that we may be a blessing to others.

Deuteronomy 28:2

"All these blessings will come on you and accompany you if you obey the Lord your God."

Amen

Check **RBRW** on **Instagram.** You can click on the link below in blue or take a picture on your cellphone of the QR code to the right. Both will take you right to our page. Then click on follow.

https://www.instagram.com/rbrepublican_women?igsh=NTc4MTIwNjQ2YQ%3D%3D&utm_source=qr

@RBREPUBLICAN_WOMEN

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Connie Munoz | President | info@rbrepublicanwomen.org

POLLS: Do you believe them or not??

Don't be discouraged and stay home!!

I've heard several talks on the radio that have said "don't pay attention to the polls! Some have been very wrong in the past when analyzing after the elections." That made me realize how important it is to recognize that polls really don't mean much, and can adversely affect someone's decision whether to vote or not.

The following is information taken from the AAPOR (American Association for Public Opinion Research)

"How accurate are pre-election polls in predicting election outcomes?

Pre-election polls can be helpful in thinking about what to expect on Election Day, but they are not predictions of the election outcomes. Polls provide a sense of what people would do in the election if they were asked to vote right now, using a group of individuals carefully selected to mirror the public.

What factors can affect the accuracy of election polls?

Several factors influence the accuracy of election polls, including:

Sampling Methods: A poll's representativeness depends on the sample, which should reflect the population in terms of demographics like age, race, gender, and geography. Non-representative samples can lead to skewed results.

- **Response Rates:** Declining response rates have made it more challenging to ensure that polls are representative. Pollsters use careful sampling and weighting to correct for this, but low response rates mean that even small differences in who responds to a poll can introduce bias.
- **Turnout Predictions:** Not every American that is eligible to do so actually votes. Figuring out who is likely to vote is a major challenge in election polling. Many pollsters attempt to model which respondents are likely to vote, but turnout can be unpredictable. Underestimating or overestimating voter turnout for certain groups can alter a poll's estimates and undermine accuracy.
- **Question Wording and Order:** Subtle differences in how questions are asked can lead to variations in responses. For instance, most questions ask about how people would vote "if the election were held today," but some ask people how they plan to vote or even who people think will win.
- **Late Deciders and Changes in Opinion:** Some voters make their decisions about whether and how to vote in the final days of the campaign or even on Election Day, which can shift outcomes after surveys were conducted.

This information is just a small fraction of the vast amount of information and opinions on the internet about polling. It's an interesting subject.

Just remember:

In both the 2016 and 2020 elections, polls underestimated the support for Donald Trump in key battleground states.

Over the next month, if you hear negative polling of Conservative candidates you like and how the margin of error is within 5%, think of how polls can be skewed and ignore them. Vote your conscience and don't let the polls entice you to stay home because your candidate isn't polling well. They have been proved to be wrong many times.

Connie

VOTE

MEMBERSHIP

De Hunold and Lavada Jurscak | Co-2nd Membership Chairs | membership@rbrepublicanwomen.org

We are now at 137 full members and 20 supporting members.

Let's grow our membership! we look forward to welcoming even more new members in the months ahead!

- Bring in one new member and receive a MAGA hat keychain.
- Bring in two new members and receive a patriotic scarf.

October 1 marks the beginning of **2027 membership season**! Membership remains $35. All members—both new members and renewing—who join or renew between October 1, 2026 and January 31, 2027, will be entered into a raffle at our February 2027 meeting for a chance to win a complimentary RBRW lunch. Thank you for your continued support of RBRW and for helping our club grow. We look forward to another wonderful year together!

RENEWING THE TRADITIONAL WAY

If you prefer, you can download and print the form in this newsletter
Mail your form with a check to:
RBRW, P.O. Box 28422, San Diego, CA, 92198

RENEWING ONLINE

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2026-membership-drive-tickets-1860244554539G

When you select the button, you will be prompted to fill in the blanks and credit card information. There is a $4.14 convenience fee charge to renew online. Renewing online is safe, convenient and easy! You can also fill out a membership form and pay with Cash / Check / Credit Card at the luncheon.

Oct 2 Charlotte Leamy
Oct 4 De Hunold
Bennadine Johnson
Oct 6 Karen King
Oct 8 Pat Johnston
Oct 11 Dian Higginbotham
Oct 13 Jenny Cole
Oct 17 Karen Boyle
Oct 18 Therese Thinnes
Oct 21 Linda Hickman
Oct 26 Aly Dobek
Janet Winkowski
Oct 27 Anita Edmondson
Oct 30 Alice Wagner

Nov 2 Paula Carmichael
Nov 2 Barney Hunold -Supporter
Nov 7 Kimberlee Rizzuti
Nov 8 Charlene Bugaiski
Nov 16 Rosalind Duddy
Nov 17 Josephine Wraith
Nov 18 Sarah Morga
Nov 19 Cathy Rosenberg
Nov 25 LaJoyce Robinson
Nov 15 Mary Koning
Nov 23 Ningrit Flud

2027 Membership Application

Rancho Bernardo Republican Women

P.O. Box 28422, San Diego, CA 92198-0422

☐ RENEWAL APPLICATION
☐ NEW MEMBER APPLICATION
How did you learn about RBRW?

_____

Are you a registered Republican? ___

Please Print

Name: _____

Address: _____
Street City State Zip Code

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Birthday (month, day, year): _____
(to verify voter registration)

Do you want your information (name, phone, email, birthday/month, year joined, and photo) to be included in the RBRW Directory?

☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ **Regular Member ($35 annually)** - Republican women who support RBRW with and without active participation. Regular members have voting privileges.

☐ **Supporting Member ($20 annually)** – Any Republican man in the County of San Diego, or Republican woman (or man) residing out of the County of San Diego. Supporting members are non-voting members.

Rancho Bernardo Republican Women (RBRW) publishes a monthly newsletter, which is available on their website. I, _____, hereby authorize RBRW permission to release my name and my image in photographs for publication in the RBRW Republican Reporter newsletter or other public places.

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

www.RBRepublicanWomen.org or contact: membership@rbrepublicanwomen.org

FOR OFFICIAL USE: Amount Recv'd _____ ☐ Cash ☐ Credit Card/Online ☐ Check # _____
☐ SDVOTE ☐ MailChimp ☐ Evernote ☐ Spreadsheet ☐ Photo (New Members Only) ☐ Welcome Packet

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Chairs: Paula Carmichael and Charlotte Leamy

A kindly reminder that we will be collecting donations for **Abraxas High School** in OCTOBER. Donations in the form of gift cards from retail and grocery stores, local restaurants, and monetary donations are so appreciated! (Checks need to be written to Abraxas High School Foundation with Student Services in the memo. These monies are tax-deductible as it is a 501(c) (3) organization.)

Connie is with Sophia Fang (middle) & Catherine. Sophia was the keynote speaker and spoke about Communist China's Organ Harvesting. So evil that this is allowed to continue.

Breaking News:

Sophia reported to us that the Senate Bill 4009 passed the Senate on Monday, September 28th. This bill, known as the Falun Gong and Victims of Forced Organ Harvesting Protection Act, aims to impose sanctions on individuals involved in organ trafficking in China. It seeks to address human rights abuses related to forced organ harvesting, particularly targeting vulnerable groups like Falun Gong practitioners. Now let's see that the House of Representatives does with this.

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WAYS & MEANS

Jenny Cole and Anesh Speck | Co-Chairs

The 250th Birthday has helped us focus on how this great country got started.

Grab a Pepsi and a Krispy Kreme donut, two popular products made in **North Carolina** as you read about the 12th State to join the Union in 1789. The Province of Carolina was formed in 1629 and No. Carolina was named after King Charles 1st. Early settlers in 1524 led by Italian explorer Giovanni da Verrazzano made this home followed by Sir Walter Raleigh's ill-fated Roanoke Colony in 1587 now known as the lost colony of Roanoke Island as everyone mysteriously vanished. The early native tribes in the area were the Algonquian. Small farms were plentiful growing Tobacco and Cotton. North Carolinians were among the first to voice open resistance to British rule. In 1774, local groups drafted the Rowan and Anson Resolves, denouncing unfair taxation without representation. Two key battles that helped win independence were the Battle of Kings Mountain (October 7, 1780): Fought on the border of North and South Carolina, Patriot frontier militia (the "Overmountain Men") surrounded and destroyed a large Loyalist force led by British Major Patrick Ferguson. This halted Cornwallis's first advance into North Carolina and turned the tide of the war in the South. and the Battle of Guilford Courthouse (March 15, 1781): General Nathanael Greene's American forces met British General Charles Cornwallis's army near modern-day Greensboro. While Cornwallis technically won the battlefield, he lost over a quarter of his army. The heavy casualties severely weakened the British forces, forcing Cornwallis to abandon North Carolina and march north to his ultimate surrender at Yorktown.

Following the war, North Carolina initially hesitated to join the new federal government, demanding a stronger guarantee of individual liberties. After the Bill of Rights was promised, North Carolina officially ratified the U.S. Constitution on November 21, 1789, becoming the 12th state.

North Carolina is a diverse state for sightseeing, naturally divided into three distinct regions: the majestic Appalachian Mountains in the west, the historic and urban Piedmont in the center, and the pristine Atlantic Coast in the east. Asheville is home to the Biltmore Estate built by George Vanderbilt with its 250 rooms and the Great Smokey Mountain National Park is touted as the most visited park in the nation.

The Wright Brothers took their first flight in the Kitty Hawk in 1903. Industrialization came later. Charlotte has become the 2nd largest Banking center in the USA thanks to Bank of America. Some of the many products from the state are a cobbler known as Sonker, Bar B que sauces, Cheerwine, Livermash, Peanut Butter Crackers, Mt. Olive Bread and Butter pickles, Oysters, and Cheese Straws and as mentioned Pepsi and Krispy Kremes.

This colony basket will be on display along with some fun fall designed gift baskets as well. See you in October!!!

LEGISLATION

Pamela Candelore I Legislation

Sanctuary State on Steroids – Carl DeMaio says that the California Legislature is poised to pass a total of 26 bills protecting and providing for illegal immigrants. Follow Carl on Facebook or X.

Last Minute California Legislation Before Midnight Close of Session:
AB 502 Passed -This bill prohibits the distribution of materially deceptive content that is material to a voter's electoral decisions or to public confidence in an election's process or outcome, as specified. (Stifles election integrity)

AB 282 Passed -This bill makes it a felony to seize or assist in the seizure of ballots, election records, or certified voting technology before the election results are officially certified by the elections official. (Stifles election integrity)

AB 1627 Passed -Disqualifies federal immigration personnel from becoming peace officers in California if they have a history of "misconduct".

SB 1009 Passed - This bill prohibits courts from ordering a youth into detention facilities unless they explicitly find that less restrictive options are unsuitable. (Please note that for parole purposes, offenders under the age of 26 may qualify as "youth offenders".)
Assemblyman Carl DeMaio was able to *filibuster* in order to prevent the following legislation from passing: **AB 1421 – Mileage Tax, SB 1259 – Gas Cost Increase, AB 1128- Rent Control, SB 522 – Make Evictions More Difficult, AB 1231 – Criminal Diversion Programs Instead of Jail, AB 2384 – Seals Criminal Record, AB 596 – Makes it Harder for Citizen Initiatives**

2026-2027 Budget
Newsom approved a 352 billion dollar budget with about 13 billion going to provide health care for undocumented immigrants. The cost of private health care plans is expected to rise about $450 per person annually to pay for this.

What is a behested payment and why is it in the news?
A "behested payment" is a payment to a charity that is solicited by an elected official. Behested payments are a legal mechanism which allows politicians to:

- circumvent campaign contribution limits
- accept funds from politically undesirable sources like Big Oil, "But, it's for Charity!"
- create a loophole for political influence peddling
- line the pockets of close relatives and friends who hold paid positions in the charities.

Behested payments are legal in the State of California, but that doesn't mean that they are not controversial. Governor Newsom's wife, Siebel Newsom, operates a charity called California Partners Project which received 4.8M in behested payments. In typical NGO shell-game fashion, California Partners Project gave 3.7 million to the Representation Project of which Siebel Newsom is the COO and receives $161,200 in annual compensation. The Representation Project then paid Siebel $150K as director of the Girl's Club Film Production Company, for "writer/producer/director" services. The largest donor to the California Partner's Project, Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, behested 2.3M. In exchange, Newsom gave the tribe 136 acres of coastline in Bodega Bay and gave the group's chairman, Greg Sarris, a UC Regents appointment.

As Lieutenant Governor and now Governor, Newsom has solicited and received 1,325 individual behested payments totaling about 350M. Indeed, 52% of all behested political payments in California during this time period were solicited by Newsom. Our Governor has perfected the art.

Interesting fact about **verification of citizenship** for voting in California:
One would think that the birth certificate and passport documentation that we shared with the DMV to obtain our Real ID's would be passed on to the Registrar of Voters to aid in verification of citizenship for voting. But no, California Vehicle Code Section 12800.7(b) forbids the DMV from relaying citizenship status to the Registrar of Voters.
Here's the Link: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?sectionNum=12800.7.&lawCode=VEH
The only citizenship information the DMV relays is a driver's license applicant's self-attestation of citizenship. Per California Elections Code Section 2111, "A person may prove he or she is a citizen by his or her certification under penalty of perjury on the affidavit of registration." Here's the Link: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=ELEC&sectionNum=2111

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LEGISLATION

Pamela Candelore I Legislation

CALIFORNIA VOTERS:
NO ON 40
YES ON 42

CALIFORNIA

HAVE YOU EVER REALIZED JUST HOW MUCH WE ARE BEING TAXED?

Take a look at this list:

1. **INCOME TAX**
   Taxes on wages, salaries, self-employment income, business income, and many other forms of taxable income (up to 13.3%).
2. **SALES TAX**
   State and local sales tax on most tangible goods (average combined rate ~8.75%).
3. **PROPERTY TAX**
   Annual real-estate property tax (average effective rate ~1.1%), plus voter-approved assessments, bonds, and special fees.
4. **FUEL TAX**
   State motor-vehicle fuel tax (~59.6¢ per gallon), plus other fees.
5. **VEHICLE FEES**
   Registration fees, Vehicle License Fee (based on value), and a Transportation Improvement Fee (up to $50 per year).
6. **CAPITAL GAINS TAX**
   Taxes on investment gains (up to 13.3%).
7. **BUSINESS TAXES**
   Corporate income tax, LLC fee, franchise tax, sales/use tax, and other business-related fees.
8. **PAYROLL TAXES**
   State payroll-related taxes, including State Disability Insurance (SDI) and unemployment insurance (UI).
9. **UTILITY TAXES**
   Surcharges and taxes on electricity, natural gas, water, and other utility services.
10. **PHONE SERVICE TAXES**
    State and local taxes and surcharges on landline, wireless, and internet services, including the California High Cost Fund.
11. **HOTEL & LODGING TAXES**
    Transient Occupancy Taxes (TOT) charged by cities and counties (often 10–15% or more).
12. **ALCOHOL TAXES**
    Excise taxes on beer, wine, and distilled spirits.
13. **TOBACCO TAXES**
    High special excise taxes on cigarettes and other tobacco products.
14. **CANNABIS TAXES**
    State and local excise taxes on cannabis products (often 15% or more, plus sales tax).
15. **ENVIRONMENTAL FEES**
    Fees on electronic waste, hazardous waste, tires, batteries, paint, and other products (embedded in the purchase price).
16. **NATURAL GAS SURCHARGE**
    California Climate Credit and other surcharges on natural gas.
17. **INSURANCE TAXES**
    Taxes on certain insurance premiums, including a 2.35% tax on most insurance (excluding some health insurance).
18. **TRAVEL & TRANSPORTATION FEES**
    Fees on air travel, rental cars, rideshare services, and various transportation surcharges.
19. **OTHER FEES & SURCHARGES**
    Documentary transfer tax (real estate), state park fees, court fees, regulatory fees, and many other industry-specific taxes and charges.

ACTIVISM

Jan Stewart | VP of Political Activities '

Ballots arrive this week!

Grab your Sample Ballot from the mail and go to www.SanDiegoElectionGuide.org or statewide at www.ElectionGuideCalfornia.org to identify which candidates are in your district. Share this info with your friends and neighbors and transfer that info to your ballot as soon as it arrives. Put it in the mail ASAP! Then you can spend the rest of the month knowing you've done your part and helping others to do theirs. Verify that your vote has been counted at www.TrackMyBallot.org

I'm shamelessly going to copy my rally cry from last month's newsletter to remind you of what is a stake:

A Pivotal Governor's Race! We need a strong leader who will start breaking up the Democratic Super Majority that is killing California! Let's elect Steve Hilton and his Golden Ticket to restore some sanity to our beautiful state.

1**4 Statewide Ballot Measures!** On 8 of them we need to vote NO and on 6 we need to vote YES, find out the details at www.SanDiegoElectionGuide.org! Let's stop the borrowing and cut the spending, secure our elections by requiring Voter ID (YES on 39), stop taxing ourselves unnecessarily, audit all new taxes and reduce housing costs, protect Prop 13 by voting YES on 43!

Local Ballot Measures! NO on A, NO on B, NO on ALL Local Tax Hikes!

Elect Local Leaders! Let's reward the citizens who step forward to run for local office. Poway Mayor Steve Vaus has been a strong leader for his city and Councilmembers Peter De Hoff and Chris Pikus, who both spoke at our September lunch are anxious to serve another term and continue their vision for the community. Jenny Maeda, a current Poway city council member, and also a Republican, is running in opposition to incumbment Mayor Vaus. Carl DeMaio is running for reelection for State Assembly in Dist. 75, and we need Carrie Villanueva to represent us in Dist. 76 and Trinity Hannaway in Dist. 77. Our North County members can help elect Rebecca Jones for County Supervisor. Elect Shirley Nakawatase to County Treasurer. Let's get Kristie Bruce Lane into State Senate Dist. 40 so she, Carl and the others can start Reforming California!

We need Brett Davis, Jason Bennett and Daniela Darling on our Poway Unified School District Board and Anthony Wiley on our Palomar College Board. We need strong leaders who stand for our values: economic prosperity; transparency in what our students are taught; fairness in women's and girls' sports; well-funded police and fire departments; truth in healthcare; free speech; and protection of the right to own and bear arms. Let's prevent the Democratic Socialists of America from undermining the principles on which our country was founded.

As always, I encourage all of you to assist Reform California in preparing the Voter Guide mailers. Please stop into the office this week at 1320 W Valley Pkwy Escondido 92029. New Hours - Mon-Fri 9-7pm, to help complete the stuffing of 3.2 million envelopes with the 2026 Voter Guide! Call the Volunteer Hotline at (619)354-7257. Another way to assist is volunteering to canvass "26 in 2026, visit a list of your Republican neighbors beginning Oct 4 with the Vote Guide/Prop 39 doorhanger. Contact William for more information at 619-354-9494. October BBQ Beer and Ballots events need help with greeting, serving food and room setup. Our local events begin Oct 5 in Ramona, Oct 24 in Poway, Oct 25 in Escondido, October 31 in Scripps Ranch and Nov 1 in Rancho Bernardo. If you would like to host an evet, please call Cameron Hooper at 209-744-6737 for more information.

Poway Fall Festival is this Sunday, Oct 4 9am-4pm. We need volunteers for 2 hour shifts at our RBRW booth. Watch your email to sign-up. Come join us and greet like-minded residents who may want to join our club. We will have Voter Guides to distribute to residents interested in voting the conservative agenda.

STAY INFORMED:

- 10/1/26 • 6:3-pm RB Community Council rbcommunitycouncil.com
- 10/6 and 10/20/2026 7pm Poway City Council 13325 Civic Center Dr Poway CA 92064 online at www.Poway.org, on Cox 24, Spectrum 19 or in person at 13325 Civic Center Dr Poway CA 92064
- 10/8/26 6-9pm Poway Unified School District Board meeting 15250 Avenue of Science, SD 92128. Or online www.powayusd.com

ACTIVISM

WAYS TO STAY INFORMED

https://reformcalifornia.org/volunteer
RBRepublicanWomen.org
https://reformcalifornia.org/campaigns
www.sandiegorepublicans.org
www.sandiegorepublicans.org/official-events
Election Integrity Project - CA
https://capoliticalreview.com
www.sandiegoyoungrepublicans.org/
https://thetransparencyfoundation.org

RBCommunityCouncil.com
Poway.org/636/council-meetings

Senator Brian Jones
https://sr40.senate.ca.gov/legislation
PowayUSD.com
RBPlanningBoard.com
https://www.kristiebrucelane.com/

Supervisor Joel Anderson
https://www.supervisorjoelanderson.com
Carl De Maio Ca Assembly District 75
https://savingcalifornia.vote/

AMERICA 250

WAYS TO VOLUNTEER

REFORM CALIFORNIA

- Make phone calls
- Volunteer at events
- Work on mailing projects

1320 W. Valley Pkwy #304
Escondido CA 9202
1 619 354 7257

https://reformcalifornia.org/volunteer

AMERICANISM

Julie Carlson | Americanism Chair

The American Way

As we discovered during the World Cup this year, many visitors from around the world had some preconceived ideas about America. From worries about being shot to beliefs that Americans are inhospitable and arrogant, it was heart-warming to hear their comments about how kind and friendly Americans were. As Americans we do have differences from the rest of the world. Here are some examples:

Ice in Drinks
In many countries, ice is a luxury or even an oddity, with beverages typically served at room temperature. American beverages are often more ice than drink. The reasons might be cultural. A century ago, only the wealthy had ice in the summer. Now it's available to all. It might be tactile. We love the clink, slosh, rush, and sensation of ice on our lips and crushed between our back molars. Americans don't do l ukewarm beverages. Our coffee needs to scald, and our iced tea requires clinking ice.

Food Portions
In the fanciest and most exclusive American restaurants, teeny-tiny portions are served on huge plates. These dollops, often the size of postage stamps, are beautiful, but not what you'd call filling. Instead, at the bulk of American restaurants, we dive into mountains of food. Triple-decker burgers, lasagna bricks, loaded baked potatoes, racks of ribs, nachos grande, plates piled high.

Generosity
Americans give about $550 billion to charity every year, with most of it coming from individuals. Unfortunately, there are cynics who claim it's all a con job and all those good-hearted donors are just being suckers. It's possible that a portion of those donations end up funding administrative costs or ambitious projects that never quite come together. But wouldn't you rather open your heart to love and hope, instead of being a Scrooge-like miser that sees the worst in humanity and trusts no one?

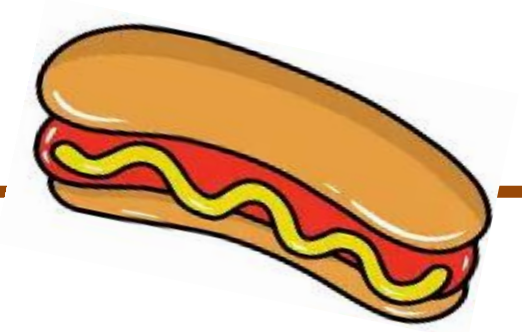
Polarized Politics
The current political climate in the US is often characterized by deep divisions and partisan gridlock. This may be the undergirding of the American Way. Debate – and even division – might be the crucial element in a healthy democracy. Political rivalry has shaped us for 250 years, forcing us to confront assumptions and craft more nuanced solutions. That's the whole point of checks and balances. The 3 branches of government, 2 chambers of Congress. That's why the power of the federal government is limited, leaving many decisions to be worked out in states and cities.

Silly Debates
A favorite activity of many Americans is debating issues that just don't matter. Here are some examples:

- Pineapple on a pizza?
- Is a hot dog a sandwich?
- Cats versus dogs?
- Should you clap at the end of a movie in a theater?
- Is it soda, pop, or coke?
- Are video games a sport?
- Can you put up Christmas decorations before Thanksgiving?
- Crunchy versus creamy?
- Does chili have beans?
- Is soup a meal?
- Toilet paper over or under?

As Americans, we celebrate how different we are than the rest of the world. You might want to consider how you contribute to this unique American identity.

By Jay Payleitner, Happy Semiquincentennial, America! 2025



VETERAN OUTREACH

Karen Boyle | Chair

Keisha Javis-Jones,
Director of Community Partnerships FFWW and
Karen Boyle,
representing RBRW at the 10th Anniversary

On September 17, 2026, **The Foundation for Women Warriors** celebrated its 10th Anniversary, having served over 10,000 women veterans and children. They honored some of their sponsors at a reception at their headquarters in Vista, CA. It was attended by various representatives of organizations who support the Foundation and its mission.

As women transition out of the military, they often do not have support or a clear direction or purpose in their lives. The Foundation provides community support for women veterans and their children. They provide not only financial assistance and childcare assistance, but connection to seminars and programs that help develop job skills training and mental health referrals. Their warehouse holds and distributes:
hygiene supplies, diapers, children's clothing and toys around the holidays. We have been supporting them with monetary donations, new toys at Christmas, custom designed Easter baskets and sending them supplies their Amazon wish list.

The Foundation has a group list on Amazon.com, where you can select from their list of needed items and have the item delivered directly to their warehouse in Vista, CA. They do not take used clothing or used toys.

At our regular meeting on November 20th, we will be collecting new, unwrapped toys to donate to the Foundation for their Christmas toy drive.
FoundationforWomenwarriors.org

Website for Foundation for Women Warriors:
foundationforwomenwarriors.
Address to ship items: 1185 Park Center Dr. Suite R Vista, CA 92081

Luncheon Program Highlights

Christopher Pikus, Candidate for Poway City Council, District 1

Volunteer to get these various candidates elected.

Jan introduced all candidates including Peter De Hoff, Candidate for Poway City Council, District 3

Jason Bennett, candidate for Poway Unified School District Board of Trustees, Area C

At every meeting, Audrey enlightens us with the history of America's original flags.

Trinity Hannaway represented Reform California and encouraged us to come in and help with the Voter Guide mailings.

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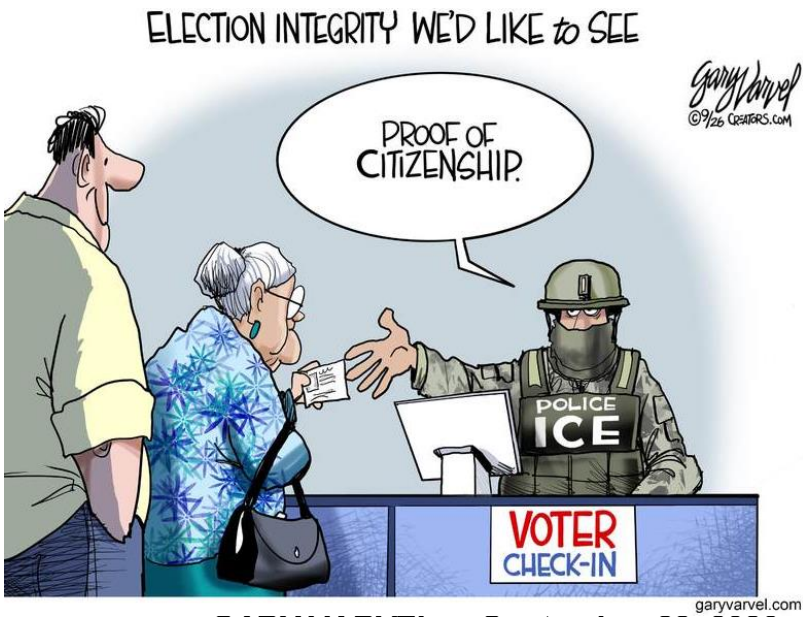
Just for fun!

(taken from Townhall)

GARY VARVEL • September 26, 2026



GARY VARVEL • September 22, 2026

TOM STIGLICH• September 24, 2026

JOHN RUSSO • September 21, 2026

GARY VARVEL • September 17, 2026

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