

The Republican Club of Comal County

The **RIGHT**

WRITE-UP

A political group of conservative Republican men and women. Our goal is to inform about current issues and conservative candidates.

Volume 8, Issue 9

rcocc.org

October, 2023

OUR NEXT MEETING

THE REPUBLICAN CLUB OF COMAL COUNTY

will meet on Tuesday, October 24, at 6:30 p.m. (setup at 5:00, social mixer at 5:30) at the First Protestant Church of New Braunfels, 172 W. Coll Street. (Enter the parking lot by the Civic Center from Coll St.)

The Club will provide light refreshments such as veggie trays, snacks, and desserts. The Club will also provide utensils, water, tea, and coffee. Members and guests can bring salads and desserts to share, if desired.

We encourage members to arrive early. This will allow time to pay dues, greet friends and guests, and partake of refreshments before the meeting starts.

Please share this meeting announcement with friends and family. As we grow in numbers, our influence grows with our elected officials, and they will respond to our calls on legislative priorities.

Questions? Call or email our President, Al Highfield, at 830-255-1367 or at Albert.Highfield@yahoo.com.





Our guest speaker will be our freshman State Representative Carrie Isaac.

She will talk about her reflections on her first year as a state representative.

Please join us for this timely and informative talk.

(See page 3 for more information about out speaker.)

A Message from our Club President

Hello fellow Patriots!! We are currently in dire straights in the Republican Party and soon could be in the state also! The division in our own United States House of Representatives has given way to unrest in our party's ability to govern. We must strive to support our representatives and elect strong conservatives in 2024!!!!

I would encourage everyone to talk with relatives, friends, church members, and acquaintances about the need to vote. A well-known politician recently said that "Republicans eat their own nowadays!" Sad, but true. This fact, and I agree with it, needs to change if we are to keep TEXAS RED! Our in-fighting, backstabbing, and treating other conservatives with contempt must stop. Our country and the great state of Texas was founded by strong American values. Let's vote and "Keep Texas RED"!

The newsletter and lots of other good Club information can be found at rcocc.org. Also, there are lots of photos, videos, and events posted there!

President Albert F. Highfield

"GOD BLESS TEXAS"

OUR PATRON PROGRAM

The Republican Club of Comal County is thankful for those who have contributed to our Club through the Patron Program during 2023. Patrons donate \$100 per year per person to help us finance our election strategy.

Suzanne Badger	Helen Horvath	Austinn Pruneda
Robbie Borchers	Don Johnson	Leigh Ann Rowlands
Hoss Boyd	Barbara Layer	Craig Rowlands
Geneva Boyd	Susie LeCanu	Sylvai Sanchez
Edison Bryant	Donna Lee	Harold Sanchez
Chris Byrd	Kerry Ledford	Maria Seiler
Derick Carver	Doug Leecock	Patrick Seiler
Suzi Casey	Don Lieske	Joy Streater
Ruth Chambers	Al Malmsten	Christopher Suchil
Bill Cooley	W. Lindy Menefee	Anita Valdez
Mark Delaney	Sharon Hall Monge	John Walker
Steve Gallets	Mark Montgomery	Susan Walker
Fred Gibbons	Cindi Montgomery	Kevin Webb
Albert Haddad	Naomi Narvaiz	Deborah Wigington
Scott Haag	John O'Brien	John Young
Albert Highfield	Kathy Phillips	Diane Young
Vicki Highfield	Robert Phillips	-
Marty Hiles	Sue Piner	

Contact our Membership Chairman, Cindi Montgomery, at 214-908-7212, to become a Patron member or for more information. Patrons receive a special personalized Texas flag name tag.

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Our guest speaker for October: Representative Carrie Isaac

True to her Texas roots, Representative Carrie Isaac's commitment to service began early. One of her core beliefs is that nonprofits and churches serve those in need more effectively than the government. She has a long history of service in organizations making a positive difference in the lives of her neighbors. Prior to being elected to the Texas House, Representative Isaac worked with a variety of nonprofits that advocate to remove barriers and provide opportunities to promote prosperity, provide communities with a framework of compassionate care designed to assist neighbors in time of need, and focused on dramatically improving the landscape of health and wellness to help Texas residents thrive.

Representative Isaac came from humble roots. After her father served in the Air Force, he worked as a welder and stainless steel worker for nearly 40 years. Watching his work ethic taught her the importance of a limited government and a low tax burden so that families can keep more of their hard-earned dollars.

Representative Isaac may not have had a lot of material things growing up, but her parents gave her something invaluable. They made sure she knew God's word. She has a strong moral compass. She will stand strong when others might waver because her faith is stronger than her fears and she knows who she answers to.

A first-generation college graduate, Representative Isaac embodies the American Dream. She worked and borrowed her way through college. She graduated cum laude from Stephen F. Austin State University with a Bachelor of Science and later earned a Master of Science from Purdue University Global. Through hard work, a "never quit" attitude, and perseverance, she has risen above her circumstances. She brings real-life experience to the office. She is totally committed to fighting skyrocketing property taxes, supporting reliable Texas energy, ensuring that every child in Texas receives a high-quality public education, securing our elections, and securing the border to keep our communities safe.

Representative Isaac has been a Republican leader in Hays County for many years. She is a founding member of Hays County Republican Women and has proudly served as a delegate to the Republican Party of Texas State Convention many times.

During college, she met the love of her life and husband of 22 years, Jason Isaac. They have two sons, Aidan (20) and Landon (18). Her proudest accomplishment is raising two strong, independent, faith-driven young men.

Carrie is an avid hunter, outdoorswoman and accomplished athlete. She completed a full-length 140.6-mile IRONMAN. She has the mental toughness and endurance to fight for our freedoms and values in the Texas House.

Grassroots America's Mission and Focus

Grassroots America – We the People, Inc. is the largest constitutional conservative citizen organization in East Texas and one of the largest in Texas. We are networked with more than 300 conservative groups across the state and nation.

Grassroots America works closely with statewide and national conservative policy groups and think tanks, and our executive director serves as an "issue coalition" partner with these organizations. In her capacity as the two-term chairman of the Texas Legislature's TEA Party Caucus Advisory Committee (elected by her committee peers), Chairman of Lt. Governor Dan Patrick's Grassroots Advisory Board, and a statewide leader in the Life, Liberty and Property Coalition, Grassroots America's executive director JoAnn Fleming is on the frontlines of state policy development and governmental reforms.

A non-partisan organization with a constitutional conservative focus, our mission is to advance the Cause of Liberty as rooted in limited government, personal responsibility, good citizenship, defense of traditional family values and the free market system, and a return to the U. S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights. In order to take public positions on issues and candidates, we are registered with the State of Texas as a General Purpose Political Action Committee and with the IRS as a 527.

We sponsor training on America's Founding Principles and Documents, the U. S. Constitution, Free Market Economic Principles, Monetary Policy, Government 101, and A Citizen's Guide to Open Government. GAWTP also sponsors conservative activist and candidate training and local government watchdog committees in active support of constitutionally-limited government, fiscal responsibility, and free market economic principles. GAWTP PAC recruits and supports constitutional conservative candidates and holds candidate forums.

Grassroots America's ongoing focus is to organize, educate, and inform citizens about public policy and to support the election of local, state, and national candidates who share the core values of constitutionally limited government, free markets (not corporate welfare), fiscal responsibility, and personal responsibility.

After all attempts fail to persuade that a course-correction is necessary, Grassroots America works to expose failures in political leadership that impair sound public policy and lead to government expansion and a loss of freedom. Conversely, Grassroots America supports and defends political leadership that works to restrict government to its constitutional limits, thus advancing individual liberty for all.

The Republican Philosophy

That the rights of the individual to achieve the best that is within him, as long as he respects the rights of others, is the source of our nation's strength.

That government exists to protect the freedom of opportunity in which each individual's creative ability can flourish.

That government activities should be limited to those things which people cannot do at all, or cannot do so well for themselves.

The most effective government is government closest to the people.

That those who cannot provide for themselves should be assisted by both government and society, but that every effort should be made to help them to become self-supporting, productive citizens with pride in their independence.

That equal rights, equal justice, and equal opportunity belong to all, regardless of race, creed, age, sex, or national origin.

That the preservation of our nation and the security of our citizens depend upon the constitution, the laws, and the courts, and that respect for them is the responsibility of every individual.

That government is accountable for maintaining sound money and a responsible economy. Individual rights, liberties, and properties are continually eroded when citizens are oppressed by excessive taxation, inflation, government waste, and over regulation.

That the government is responsible for national defense and that only a strong America can remain a free America.

That it is absolutely essential to maintain a strong national defense posture in order that we may at all times negotiate from a position of strength, not weakness, in our continuing efforts toward peace and friendship.

That these concepts are the foundation of our national strength and the Republican Party, which is committed to their preservation, is the party of today and the party of the future.

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Our Officers for 2023

President

Secretary

Treasurer

Al Highfield

Vice President Marty Hiles

Leigh Ann Rowlands

Patrick Seiler

Past President Mary Wohl

County Chair Sue Piner

Committee Chairs

Membership	Cindi Montgomery
Legislative Affairs	Don Johnson
Campaign Activities	Maria Seiler
Hospitality	(Currently vacant)
Parliamentarian	(Currently vacant)
Publicity Chair	Audrey Johnson Scheper
Facebook	(Currently vacant)
Newsletter Editor	Kerry Ledford
Associate Editor	Karen Hobson
Special Events	Donna Lee
Special Projects	Ruth Chambers
Patron Program	Cindi Montgomery
Web Master	Audrey Johnson Scheper
Sergeant-at-Arms	Marty Hiles
Chaplain	Steve Ceh

Comal County Precinct Chairs

Why do we publish the Comal County Precinct Chair List in the Republican Club Newsletter each month? Our mission as active Republicans is to support the political process. Each one of us should know what Precinct we live in and who serves as our Precinct Chair.

We should offer our assistance to our Precinct Chair for the elections. We can assist as an Election clerk or Election Judge on Election Day. We can offer to block walk to inform our neighbors of early voting. We can block walk for our chosen candidates. We can offer to take a list of Republicans to call with a reminder of the times and places to vote early. There are a number of ways an individual can help to assure a maximum Republican vote.

Studies show that when people intend to vote, but fail to vote early, a substantial percentage of that vote is lost on Election Day. There is a lot to be done. Please offer your help to your Precinct Chair.

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Precinct	<u>Name</u>
County Chair	Sue Piner
Vice Chair	Marty Hiles
Recording Secretary	Judy Walker
Treasurer	Don Johnson
Assistant Treasurer	Vicky Highfield
101	Sharon Hall Monge
102	Kaci Sisk
103	Laura Buske
104	J.B. Williamson
105	Ernie Lee
106	Chris Byrd
107	Anita Valdez
108	Albert Highfield
109	Clint Palpau
110	JoAnne Martin
201	Marty Hiles
202	(vacant)
203	James "Hoss" Boyd
204	Marlin Brown
205	Steve White
206	Kathy Phillips
207	John Brewer
208	Geri Baker
301	Will Moravits
302	Edison Bryant
303	Kenneth Kasper
304	(vacant)
305	Isabel Ibarra
306	Barbara Harrell
307	Timothy Davis
308	Mary Lou Erben
401	Robbie Borchers
402	Melinda Rapp
403	Carolyn Besselman
404	Teri Taylor
405	Molly Vogt
406	Joe Carroll Susan Walker
407 408	Don Johnson
400	Don Johnson

Our Mission

The mission of the Republican Club of Comal County is to promote "Faith, Family, and Freedom" by providing information and education about critical political issues, by encouraging active participation in the political process, by supporting conservative Republican nominees, and by fostering loyalty to the Republican Party and its conservative ideals.

The Republican Contract with America, 2022

- 1) A Safe and Law-Abiding America. Crime prevention and punishment is mostly a local and state affair. But the federal government promises to prosecute fully any criminal who crosses state lines or uses interstate communications to commit arson, public destruction, smash-and-grab looting, or general attacks on any federal property within the states.
- 2) Affordable Energy for an Energy-Independent America. Restoration of gas and oil energy independence; reopening of federal lands for new energy leases; fast-tracking natural gas and oil pipelines; encouragement and incentives to mine rare and precious metals inside the United States needed for batteries and new sources of energy.
- 3) A Secure Border. Immediate completion of the border wall. Deportation of all those who crossed illegally between 2017 and 2024 and all criminals convicted of felonies or serious misdemeanors; employer sanctions; an end to catch-and-release; all refugee seekers apply outside the United States; a tax on remittances sent south of the border on those here illegally and on public assistance; the end of the primacy of family considerations in fast-tracking immigration requests, replaced by meritocratic considerations of English facility, skill sets, and education. All immigration would be predicated on legality, diversity, meritocracy, and measured and manageable numbers necessary for assimilation and integration.
- 4) A Sacrosanct Constitution and Preservation of Long-Held Traditions. On record for no changes to the Constitution; no dismantling of the Electoral College; no federalization of states' voting laws; no increase in a nine-justice Supreme Court; no statehood for Washington, DC, and Puerto Rico; no end to the Senate filibuster.
- 5) The Restoration of Election Day. Encouragement to the states to limit mail-in balloting, return to the old notion of absentee balloting as an exception rather than the norm, and cut back on extended/early balloting with the goal that 60 to 70% of ballots cast are done so on Election Day.
- 6) A "Don't Tread on Me" Foreign Policy. Strong support for the sanctity of allied nations. Deterrence against Russia, China, Iran, North Korea, and other belligerents. A realistic foreign policy of "No better friend, no worse enemy." An end to optional large, on-theground military engagements in the Middle East. A return of Pentagon emphasis on battle readiness rather than social justice and woke agendas, with budgets redirected to missile defense and naval and air deterrence.
- 7) Towards a Balanced Budget. Expenditures must match revenues. An update of the Simpson-Bowles National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform or enactment of its recommendations, with the aim of achieving a balanced budget in four years.
- 8) Anti-Trust, Anti-Monopoly Legislation. An end to Silicon Valley's vast monopolies, cartels, and immunity from public-utility regulations.
- 9) Strict Enforcement of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Prohibition of the use of racial bias/ advantage/preference in the operations of public local, state, and federal agencies. No federal funds allotted for critical-race-theory indoctrination.
- 10)No Federal Funds for Lawbreakers. An end to federal support of state agencies and private institutions that violate federal statutes and the Bill of Rights, whether sanctuarycity jurisdictions or campuses whose speech and trial codes violate the First, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Amendments. Loss of tax-free status on income from university endowments of more than \$10 billion.

Leftists Attack, Then Blame Responding Conservatives as Culture War Aggressors

By Joshua Arnold, The Patriot Post, August 2, 2023

The Biden administration is the party guilty of injecting domestic culture wars into the national security conversation.

Old dogs sometimes do learn new tricks. And President Joe Biden is so pleased with his latest attainment — criticizing Senator Tommy Tuberville (R-Ala.) for delaying military promotions over the Pentagon's illegal abortion policy — that he is showing it off just about everywhere. This month, Biden has bashed Tuberville's courageous, one-man stand at a joint press conference with the president of Finland, a speech about "Bidenomics," and a Civil Rights Symposium.

Tuberville, the president keeps insisting, is "jeopardizing our national security over domestic social issues." Biden also suggested Tuberville was stubbornly refusing to negotiate, saying, "I'd be willing to talk to him [Tuberville] if I thought there was any possibility he would change his ridiculous position on this."

Biden's factually challenged attack doesn't even approximate the spirit of the actual situation. "I've said all along," Tuberville wrote in June, "that I will drop my hold on unanimous consent under only two conditions: Democrats can follow the law or change the law." In reality, the Biden administration is the party guilty of injecting domestic culture wars into the national security conversation, when last year it decided the Department of Defense (DOD) would cover abortion-related expenses, in violation of federal law. And the Biden administration is the party guilty of stubbornly refusing to modify its policy to allow military promotions to continue.

"All Tommy Tuberville is doing is standing up for the law," remarked Senator Mike Lee (R-Utah).

Yet Tuberville is the one under attack.

This is not an isolated phenomenon. Examples abound of left-wing ideologues blaming conservatives for culture wars started by the Left.

The ongoing controversy over PEPFAR reauthorization illustrates the same pattern. The President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) is a successful, bipartisan program combatting HIV and AIDS among Africa's poorest inhabitants. The program's five-year, \$30 million reauthorization expires in September, and pro-life groups are now urging against a straight reauthorization, without additional pro-life protections. Naturally, the Left is blaming conservatives for politicizing a previously bipartisan policy.

In a lengthy report, The Washington Post painted a dire picture, suggesting Republicans were jeopardizing the future of PEPFAR over "allegations that the program's funding is being used to indirectly support abortions — claims that health advocates, Democrats and PEPFAR officials say are baseless." The 54-paragraph article devotes three clauses to describing prolife concerns with PEPFAR. Meanwhile, its "experts" allege that "it's really about the larger politics around abortion, electoral politics, and the partisan divide," "populism, nationalism, and polarization have undermined domestic collective action and solidarity," and "it's just dumbfounding to me that the charge has been taken seriously." According to their narrative, pro-life stalwart Rep. Chris Smith (R-N.J.) is a villain who switched positions to oppose PEPFAR.

Whether it's at The New York Times, Politico, or Voice of America, the rest of the Democrats' cheer squad is chanting in unison with this mischaracterization.

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There's more to the story they aren't telling. In 2021, President Biden rescinded the Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance Policy (PLGHA), which opened the door for organizations that carry out or promote abortion to obtain PEPFAR funding. Then in September 2022, the State Department published a document titled, "Reimagining PEPFAR's Strategic Direction." Under this strategic "reimagining" — on which Congress never voted — "PEPFAR will integrate HIV programming into strengthened public health systems to manage … sexual reproductive health, rights, and services ….." It would also "strengthen coordination between PEPFAR and other U.S. government global health and development programs, including for … sexual and reproductive health and rights … LGBTQI+, and human rights" (emphasis added). In other words, the Biden administration has unilaterally reinvented PEPFAR as a vehicle to promote abortion and its radical LGBT agenda.

Pro-life opposition to PEPFAR began after the State Department published it "reimagining" strategy. But the Left and the media are accusing pro-lifers of politicizing the issue.

Another controversy is over the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), an annual, mustpass bill to fund the military. The version passed by House Republicans included amendments which banned taxpayer funding of gender transition procedures, pornographic books in DOD schools, flying Pride flags on military property, and the creation or funding of DEI offices.

Yet again, Democrats depicted Republicans as culture war aggressors. National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan responded that an "extreme group of Republicans" — the bill passed 219-210 with four Democrats voting in favor — had passed "a set of amendments that try to mix domestic social debates with ... the security needs of our nation," and that these amendments were "never getting to the president's desk." Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) called the House-passed NDAA "race to the bottom ... partisan legislation that has zero chance of passing." The Senate passed a version of the NDAA that includes none of these amendments, and the two chambers will have to iron out their differences in conference.

But one feature gives away the game: all of these Republican amendments aim to prohibit the military from doing things it shouldn't be doing, and which for centuries it didn't do. These amendments would have been meaningless 30 years ago when the military did none of these things. The Biden administration, aided by a Democrat-controlled Congress from 2021-2022, initiated, expanded, or un-moth-balled (from the Obama era) these policies. House Republicans are merely endeavoring to claw back a tiny fraction of the woke expansion.

And Republicans are taking fire for trying to restore normalcy in the military.

This pattern is not restricted to the federal government. In recent years, state legislators have acted to protect children from gender reassignment procedures and LGBT indoctrination in schools. They have enacted protections for women's private spaces from male intrusion and women's sports from male domination. They have protected conscience rights, official ID documentation, and curriculum from trans ideology. Each legislative measure responds to leftist aggression attempting to politicize and dominate a new aspect of life. As thanks, left-wing advocacy groups slander these state legislators, depicting them as hateful bigots who "attack LGBTQ rights."

No, it's LGBT ideologues who are attacking the very fabric of society.

Progressives expand the culture war into a new aspect of life, conservatives mobilize a response to restore normalcy, and the media behaves as if conservatives were the Mongol Horde of culture wars. Like naturally-occurring spirals or Fibonacci sequences, once this pattern is recognized, it suddenly begins to appear everywhere. The Left behaves like the child who punches his brother while mom's back is turned, then pays his third sibling to tell his version of events.

Alas, this tripartite pattern should surprise no one who is acquainted with the meaning of the words "progressive" and "conservative," and who is acquainted with the Left's revolutionary roots. Swallowing false accusations is simply part of the price the defenders of civilization must pay. But it doesn't mean that we have to shut our eyes to the fixed game the Left tries to play.

The Intolerant Left

by Gary Bauer, Aug. 2, 2023

The totalitarian left has no intention of letting us "live and let live."

Many reasonable people, including many well-meaning Christians, keep falling for left-wing arguments about "tolerance." They say, "Live and let live. Why are you such a hater?"

But it's all a lie meant to shame you. And once they have shut down the debate, they use the full power of government to make you bow.

The left often says, "Nobody is forcing you to get an abortion, so don't stop me from getting one." Many people bought into that argument and still do.

But now the Biden Administration is using your tax dollars, including our national defense budget, to subsidize abortions.

We've seen it with the marriage issue, too. Many people said, "It doesn't impact me if two men get married."

But over and over again, we've seen religious business owners dragged into court and ordered to provide services for same-sex weddings.

And because of our inability to hold that line, now we're fighting over men in women's bathrooms and boys in girls' sports.

Now the argument is, "Why do you hate trans children so much?"

In short order, that becomes a 16-year-old boy demanding to change in the same locker room as your daughter. If you don't agree with that, you're the bigot and your daughter will be suspended.

All of this may seem like a broken record, but it bears repeating: In this great battle over what America will consider acceptable and normal, only one side can win. No society has "moral neutrality" as its prevailing value. Every law in every culture is someone's idea of what is right and what is wrong.

Whoever wins this ongoing conflict will teach our children what to believe about life and death, love and sex, freedom and slavery.

Meanwhile, the Biden Administration has zero tolerance for your religious values. They are actually willing to punish hungry children at private religious schools unless those schools sacrifice their children to the demands of the radical LGBTQ agenda.

This is an outrageous assault on religious liberty, and it should be a warning to everyone who values common sense and normalcy that the intolerant, totalitarian left has no intention of letting us "live and let live."

You will bow or else!

RCOCC Community Outreach for 2023

New Braunfels Food Bank Partnership:

- Every dollar donated = 7 meals
- Need Food donated
- Volunteer opportunities (Packing Food & Garden)

Army Fischer House Partnership:

- Provides housing to Veterans whose families are getting medical attention at Brooke Army Medical Center
- Need monetary donations (tax deductible)
- Donations of supplies (toothbrushes, batteries, etc.)
- Volunteer opportunities as a team

Fourth of July Parade: New Braunfels:

- RCOCC Float
- Option to place Flags at one of the local bases
- We could partner with other Republican Clubs for the Flags

Freedom Walk: 9-11:

• Have RCOCC Members attend wearing RCOCC T-Shirts

Halloween: October 31:

- Have RCOCC Volunteers pass out Candy
- Collect Candy in September from volunteers

Christmas:

- RCOCC Parade
- Wreaths at Fort Sam or another military base
- We could partner with other Republican Clubs for the wreaths

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Being a Patron aid			
	Patro	on \$100	
A	vailable to V	Volunteer	
Legislative Liaison	Refreshments	Programs	Events
Training Media/Letters to Editor	_ Election Clerk	Phone Bank	Fundraising
Mail to: RCCC Membership Website: <u>www.rcocc.org</u> *Dues are paid annually by calendar year	265 Landa Street	New Bran	unfels, TX 78132