



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

President's Message

Now that the Republican Primary has passed (and I hope you all voted!), we are heading toward our Republican Runoff Election on May 27th. Be sure to get out and vote! After the Runoff elections, please join together in supporting the chosen Republican Candidates in the General Election. If we are going to **Keep Texas Red**, it is up to all of us. We must work to keep Republicans in office and in control in Texas.

The statewide races that will be on the ballot are:

Lieutenant Governor (David Dewhurst, Dan Patrick)

Attorney General (Dan Branch, Ken Paxton)

Agriculture Commissioner (Tommy Merritt, Sid Miller)

Railroad Commissioner (Wayne Christian, Ryan Sitton)

Early voting will take place from May 19 to May 23.

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Comments, questions & suggestions are welcomed.
Thanks!

President's Message

Thank you to all our members who have renewed their membership and welcome to all our new members. A reminder to those who have not yet renewed ...please get your Membership Form in as soon as possible so we can include you in the Directory.

We have included the application at the end of the newsletter and we will also have forms at the April 10th luncheon or you can download one at: www.austinrepublicanwomen.org. (see the Membership link.)

Remind your friends and neighbors who have been meaning to join that they need to join NOW! Invite your husband, brother, or any other male friend to join as an Associate Member of ARW. It's only \$15, and we greatly appreciate their support of ARW. A larger number of ARW Members means a louder and stronger voice. Please help us grow.

If you are not sure if you have joined ARW for 2014, please contact Gretchen Munday, VP membership at membership@austinrepublicanwomen.org and she will check if you have renewed.

Please contact Carol Neal, 1st VP, at 1stvp@austinrepublicanwomen.org

if you would like information about placing an advertisement in this year's Directory.

Look in this Newsletter for the list of Luncheon dates for the coming months so that you can get them on your calendar.

I am looking forward to seeing you at our April 10th Luncheon. Thank you for supporting Austin Republican Women!

Michele Carlquist

2014 ARW President

I predict future happiness for Americans if they can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of taking care of them.

-Thomas Jefferson

April Luncheon News



Mr. Zeihan has spoken to ARW and returns by popular request. For this luncheon he will cover new topics and recent U.S. and world happenings. He will talk about a rival we all thought was gone and a rival we all think of as a clear and present danger who may be about to become one of our fastest allies? He will also touch on our economic forecast, national security and foreign relations.

Thursday, April 10, 2014

Please note day is second Thursday

11:30-1:00

Austin Country Club

4408 Longchamp Drive

\$27

A geopolitical strategist and forecaster, Mr. Zeihan combines topography, economics, demographics, history and culture to craft the future. He approaches the world from his clients' point of view distilling global complexities into actionable items, leaving audiences with clear of what cannot happen, what must happen eventually and what will happen very soon.

Mr. Zeihan is a frequent guest on national and international television news shows on CNN, ABC, Fox News and also is frequently interviewed for radio programs. He has been quoted in major print and on line publications including New York Times, Forbes, AP, Bloomberg, MarketWatch and many others.

Prior to launching his own consultancy, Mr. Zeihan was part of the core team that built Stratfor into a geopolitical consultancy and publishing house.

Mr. Zeihan's new book is: **The Accidental Superpower**

RSVP by Tuesday, April 8 at 12:00 pm to meetinrsvp@austinrepublicanwomen.org

You do not have a reservation unless you have received a confirmation

Caring for America

ARW Caring for America focuses on providing support to active duty, reserve troops, and veterans wherever we see the need. On Saturday, March 22nd, we responded to a request to help out an active duty Army Unit that is deployed to Afghanistan, by sending 36 boxes packed with **Texas Love!**

Our support went the 82nd Airborne Parachute Infantry Division men and women at Camp Phoenix near Kabul where a battalion (a military unit with 300 to 1,200 soldiers) is deployed. Based at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, the 82nd Airborne Division is the primary fighting arm of the XVIII Airborne Corps. The 82nd Division was started in 1917 and is an active airborne infantry division of the United States Army specializing in parachute landing operations.

We don't know their specific duties, we do know that the Spring fighting season is beginning. They will be prime targets as our enemies take advantage of the fact that we will be leaving the country soon! Although the troops don't get much down time, they requested some items to use during their breaks and to make the Game Room that they are setting up a great place to relax. We responded to their request for a microwave and a coffee maker which ARW purchased for them through Macy's, who shipped it free of tax or handling fee. Kudos to Macy's! The packages we mailed were filled with books and magazines, toys and games, snacks and toiletries. Many thanks to all of the ARW members who helped us with donations of items to send, cash donations, or donations to defray the cost of mailing. As you know, postal rates have gone up since our shipment last Fall, the cost of each large flat rate box is now \$17.50!



Our next mailing is planned for November when we will be supporting Texas Guard troops who will be deployed to Africa. We will also be supporting a **huge** Christmas party for the children of those Texas Guard. Start collecting items for the troops and for their children's Christmas Party!

Genie Sorensen, ARW Caring for America Chair.

Legislative Update

School districts will be putting bonds on the May 10 Local Election. We Republicans should be opposed to this. The school districts do not let voters know what type of bonds are offered. The capital appreciation bond is one type being offered which costs the taxpayers of current and future generations to repay far more than is originally stated. Please read the information below, be an informed voter and pass on the information.

From Fitch Ratings:



Capital Appreciation Bonds May Pressure School Districts

The issuance of capital appreciation bonds (CAB) is fairly common in municipal finance, particularly for issuers in rapidly growing areas. Fitch views reliance on CAB with concern, as they can materially weaken an issuer's debt profile.

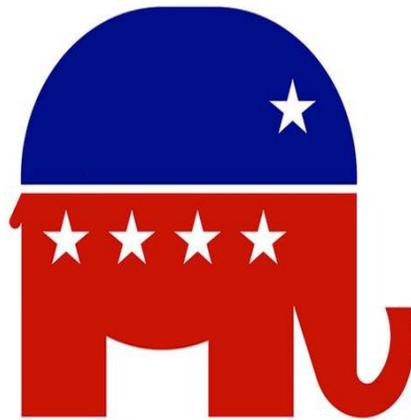
The primary feature of CAB is that both interest and principal payments are deferred until maturity. For rapidly growing areas, the primary appeal is that needed capital improvements can be funded immediately, but the repayment burden is shared with the larger future population. In addition, by delaying repayment, CAB provide a financing vehicle when tax rate or debt level restrictions would prevent issuance of current interest bonds.

CAB slow overall debt amortization and most are not callable, potentially constraining debt capacity for decades to come. Furthermore, in return for receiving no periodic interest payments, investors demand a higher yield. The higher yield, coupled with the longer repayment period, results in higher total debt costs for every dollar generated for projects compared to current interest bonds. As a result of these drawbacks, some issuers may find their tax rate capacity insufficient to meet subsequent capital demands. Since school districts tend to have large capital needs, especially when enrollment increases rapidly, school districts in rapidly growing states like California, Texas, and Florida have utilized this tool often. For districts with pressing capital needs that lack tax rate flexibility to issue traditional current interest bonds or seek taxpayer equity by deferring principal repayment to the future taxpayers, CAB can be an effective tool. However, reliance on CAB can present unique risks, and issuers could face materially weakened debt profiles as a result.

Fitch believes promised tax rates or legal "tax rate expectations test requirements" at issuance, coupled with enrollment growth, followed by stagnant or falling assessed valuations, are the primary drivers for increased CAB issuance for school districts in California and Texas in recent years. Regardless of the expected tax rates, once general obligation bonds are issued (whether CAB or current interest bonds), the issuer is obligated to increase the levy to repay the bonds.

Legislative Update

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Upcoming Events

Evening Event, May 15

Professor Jeff Addicott will return to ARW and speak on “Wars and the Warriors who Fight: How Political Correctness and Expediency Lead to Military Defeat.” He will bring with him Major Dave Staffel, US Army Special Forces, one of the many Prof. Addicott has successfully defended pro bono. Major Staffel, a decorated combat veteran will speak on the true story of how he and another Special Forces hero were wrongfully accused of murder for killing a senior Taliban enemy combatant. Like many other battle scarred heroes they were the victims of a politically driven system that often thinks nothing of sacrificing our fighting men on the altar of expediency and political correctness. In turn, Professor Addicott will expound on the issue of Rules of Engagement and how they led to military disaster in the real world of warfare.

ARW Oktoberfest Fundraiser Dinner, October 2

Please mark your calendars for the evening of Oct. 2, 2014 for the ARW Oktoberfest dinner and silent auction fundraiser to support Republican candidates and Caring for America projects.

Plans are underway for a fun filled evening and we are requesting your help to make this evening a huge success. To this end we are requesting donations of items for the silent and live auctions.

Items that would be great auction items are; art or decorative items, jewelry, vacation rentals, local restaurant and movie theater gift cards, symphony or opera tickets, wine tours and sports memorabilia.

If you have items that you would like to donate, please, contact Rossy Farina-Strauss, VP Fundraising. email: atfundraising@austinrepublicanwomen.org or phone: 512/794-1088

As always your contribution will be greatly appreciated!

Upcoming Events

Mark your Calendar for the following Luncheon dates;

Thursday, May 1

No Luncheon June

No Luncheon July

Thursday, August 14

Thursday, September 11

Thursday, October 9

Thursday, November 13

TBA Christmas Party



Membership News

Now is the Time to Increase your Club Membership!

We are excited to announce the 2014 TRFW Membership Incentive Competition!

TFRW has a goal to increase our membership numbers by 10%. This averages out to just 6 new members for each club. We can do that!

Hopefully this friendly competition is just what you need to motivate your club members to help you recruit new members and retain current members.

Clubs will be broken into 5 categories, based on size, and will be judged against other clubs in their category. Clubs will be judge on the percentage increase over their 2013 membership numbers.

The club categories are based on 2013 membership numbers are as follows:

Small = 10-30

Medium = 31-60

Large = 61-100

Jumbo = 101-200

Super Jumbo = 201+

The 1st place club in each category will receive a **\$200**. The 2nd place club will receive **\$100** and the 3rd place club will be given a **2015 Club Patron membership**.

Our generous sponsor for this competition will be announced soon so be on the lookout!

Good luck and let's work hard to increase every club membership numbers by 10%. Keep checking the President's Newsletter and Bullet Point Memos over the next few months for tips on how to bring in new members and renew current members. Good luck!

Kim Chambers vpmembership@TFRW.org



2014 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

OCCUPATION: _____
(Required by law for Political Action Committee. If not employed: Homemaker, retired, volunteer.)

SPOUSE: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY & STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ CELL: _____

E-MAIL: _____
(Please print e-mail and notify us of changes. This is our preferred means of communication.)

Type of Membership NEW: _____ RENEWAL: _____

_____ **Active Member - \$35.00**

_____ **Associate Member - \$15.00**
(Spouse, Men, Women with active membership in another Federated RW Club.)

_____ **\$8.00 ARW Nametag (___Magnetic ___Pin)**

_____ **\$5.00 Directory Sponsor (optional & appreciated!)**

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____ Check # _____ Cash _____

Please indicate the Committee or Committees in which you have an interest:

Campaign Activities _____ Community Outreach _____ Publicity/Media _____
Fundraising _____ Caring for America (Support the Troops) _____ Membership _____
Legislative _____ Hospitality _____
I can help where needed _____

Special talents (graphics design, website, database, editing, writing, etc.) _____

Please complete this application and mail with your check made payable to "ARW PAC" to:

Gretchen Munday
2327 Cypress Point East
Austin TX 78746

CHECK US OUT!

www.austinrepublicanwomen.org