



**Walker County  
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# WCRW NEWSLETTER

## September 2023



FROM PRESIDENT **RENEE LUNSFORD**:

I stopped by *Farmhouse* Restaurant to visit with Bryan Koerselman and to thank him for the breakfast he provided for our Veterans Breakfast in August. As we discussed the “great generation vs. the generation of today,” I shared with him the photos I had taken during the event. He was so proud to see how many Veterans we were able to provide breakfast for. He was very appreciative that we help to sponsor this event each year and he is willing to provide the breakfast next year and continue the agreed amount as this year. I will be sending out an invitation for WCRW to plan a lunch at the *Farmhouse* to show our appreciation.

At this time of year everyone is gearing up for elections. I would like to share a message from *Tom Giovanetti* president of *Institute for Policy Innovation*, [tomg@ipi.org](mailto:tomg@ipi.org) from a recent zoom meeting. He suggests that Republicans, “be willing to compromise and win converts”. He described *compromise* as negotiating to win over hearts and minds to take people to the next step. Compromise means to sometimes “take a little and give a little” and not necessarily getting everything, we want all at once, but over a period of time. He emphasized that compromise is a necessary virtue in politics. I ask for prayers for our leaders in Washington as they make tough decisions on our behalf.

FROM VP AND PROGRAM DIRECTOR **SYLVIA ROSENBERGER:**

FASCINATING FACTS ABOUT THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

Did you know ~

The U.S. Constitution has 4,440 words. It is the oldest and the shortest written constitution of any major government in the world.

Did you know ~

Constitution Day is celebrated on September 17, the anniversary of the day the framers signed the document.

Did you know ~

Because of his poor health, Benjamin Franklin needed help to sign the Constitution. As he did so, tears streamed down his face.

Did you know ~

A proclamation by President George Washington and a congressional resolution established the first national Thanksgiving Day on November 26, 1789. The reason for the holiday was to give “thanks” for the Constitution.

Did you know ~

The U.S. Constitution brought together, in one remarkable document, ideas from many people and several existing documents, including the Articles of Confederation and Declaration of Independence. Those who made significant intellectual contribution to the Constitution are called the “Founding Fathers” of our country.



FROM TREASURER/PAC **SUSAN MILLER:**

Have you checked out the WCRW Web Page lately? Our Bling is now displayed! Let us know what you want, and we will reserve your items! As a matter of fact, we will have it packaged up and ready for you at our Next Meeting! All profits of merchandise sales go towards Member Education.

Do you ever wonder why we keep asking you to complete a form with your personal information when you pay for your lunch, merchandise, or give donations? WCRW is registered as a Political Action Committee (PAC) under Texas Federation of Republican Women (TFRW). Therefore, we must file detailed reports to the State of Texas twice a year that documents every penny we receive and who gave it to us. We also must report every penny that goes out of our club and any in-kind donations. If you have any questions, please let me know.

We want to thank everyone for their Lunch Orders in August at our General Meeting, as it covered the cost of the meeting room! We hope you will continue to support this effort at our next General Meeting.

FROM MEMBERSHIP CHAIR **TISH HUMPHREY:**

Hi from membership. If you missed the August meeting, here are a few WCRW tips to know and if you did attend, here are some reminders.



WCRW is a PAC-That is true, it is a Political Action Committee.

TFRW sends monthly emails covering areas of interest for Republican Women. This is true, Texas Federation of Republican Women sends a monthly newsletter with pages from all the committees updating. What have you learned?

Our website is [www.wcrwtx.org](http://www.wcrwtx.org) - YES, don't forget the TX.

PRE-Ordering lunch helps pay for room rental. Humphrey's does a great job and gives us a discount so we can help accumulate money to apply to our budget for meeting room rental.

Membership applications can be found on our website - be sure and invite someone every meeting! PLEASE look at our website and see meetings, bylaws and more.

Bonus! How many proposed amendments to the Tx Constitution are on the ballot? 10, 12,14, 16? COME to our October meeting and hear more and find out!

We are looking forward to your help in recruiting for 2024. Talk to you soon.

Tish



FROM LEGISLATIVE CHAIR **JULIA WOODS**:

Information for upcoming November 2023 Election:

- \*Last day to register to vote is Tuesday, October 10, 2023.
- \*Early voting begins Monday, October 23, 2023
- \*Last day to apply for a ballot by mail received not postmarked, Friday, October 27, 2023

### **Ballot Order for the Nov. 7 Constitutional Amendment Election**

**Proposition 1** – HJR 126 "The constitutional amendment protecting the right to engage in farming, ranching, timber production, horticulture, and wildlife management."

**Proposition 2** – SJR 64 "The constitutional amendment authorizing a local option exemption from ad valorem taxation by a county or municipality of all or part of the appraised value of real property used to operate a child-care facility."

**Proposition 3** – HJR 132 "The constitutional amendment prohibiting the imposition of an individual wealth or net worth tax, including a tax on the difference between the assets and liabilities of an individual or family."

**Proposition 4** – HJR 2 from the second special session "The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to establish a temporary limit on the maximum appraised value of real property other than a residence homestead for ad valorem tax purposes; to increase the amount of the exemption from ad valorem taxation by a school district applicable to residence homesteads from \$40,000 to \$100,000; to adjust the amount of the limitation on school district ad valorem taxes imposed on the residence homesteads of the elderly or disabled to reflect increases in certain exemption amounts; to except certain appropriations to pay for ad valorem tax relief from the constitutional limitation on the rate of growth of appropriations; and to authorize the legislature to provide for a four-year term of office for a member of the board of directors of certain appraisal districts."

**Proposition 5** – HJR 3 "The constitutional amendment relating to the Texas University Fund, which provides funding to certain institutions of higher education to achieve national prominence as major research universities and drive the state economy."

**Proposition 6** – SJR 75 "The constitutional amendment creating the Texas water fund to assist in financing water projects in this state."

**Proposition 7** – SJR 93 "The constitutional amendment providing for the creation of the Texas energy fund to support the construction, maintenance, modernization, and operation of electric generating facilities."

**Proposition 8** – HJR 125 "The constitutional amendment creating the broadband infrastructure fund to expand high-speed broadband access and assist in the financing of connectivity projects."

**Proposition 9** – HJR 2, regular session "The constitutional amendment authorizing the 88th Legislature to provide a cost-of-living adjustment to certain annuitants of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas."

**Proposition 10** – SJR 87 "The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation equipment or inventory held by a manufacturer of medical or biomedical products to protect the Texas healthcare network and strengthen our medical supply chain."

**Proposition 11** – SJR 32 "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to permit conservation and reclamation districts in El Paso County to issue bonds supported by ad valorem taxes to fund the development and maintenance of parks and recreational facilities."

**Proposition 12** – HJR 134 "The constitutional amendment providing for the abolition of the office of county treasurer in Galveston County."

**Proposition 13** – HJR 107 "The constitutional amendment to increase the mandatory age of retirement for state justices and judges."

**Proposition 14** – SJR 74 "The constitutional amendment providing for the creation of the centennial parks conservation fund to be used for the creation and improvement of state parks."

You can find information about the amendments and voting in Texas at [VoteTexas.gov](http://VoteTexas.gov).