

 <h2 style="margin: 0;">Washington County Republican Women</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SEPTEMBER 2009 St. George, Utah</p> <p style="text-align: center;">www.washingtoncountyrepublicanwomen.org</p> 

*“By all these lovely tokens
September days are here
With summer’s best of weather
And autumn’s best of cheer.”
Author Unknown*

What a sizzler of a summer – and I don’t just mean the weather! So much is happening on the political scene and with the healthcare debate it is hard to keep up.

Summer break is over and we’re ready to start up our fall programs. Bonnie Harrington is lining up some great speakers to address very relevant issues. Our September speaker is Terri Kane, CEO of Dixie Regional Medical Center. I’m most interested in hearing about how the proposed healthcare bill will impact our local medical facilities. I think Thomas Sowell sums up the debate quite well when he recently said: “It’s health care versus health control”. For October and November, Bonnie is working to line up some of our representatives to talk about state’s rights, healthcare, and other current issues. Gail Neumann and Bonnie are planning a wonderful evening event for a membership drive in late September, featuring Hyrum Smith as the guest speaker. You can be sure Hyrum will have his own perspective on the current political situation! In November, there will be mayoral and city council meetings in Washington County. Sounds like a jam-packed fall!

Your WCRW Board is trying to keep on top of the issues and we’ll be providing information and keeping you posted on upcoming events. We are beginning to do our planning for the 2010 election season – it will be a very important year for Republicans at the polls.

We’ll also have some fun with our October Bazaar. Hope you are thinking about what you would like to make to donate to the event. Based on the talent I know this club has, there will be a lot of great little gift items to purchase.

I’m looking forward to an exciting and fun fall. See you on Thursday, September 3rd. Have a wonderful Labor Day Weekend!

Susan Recknagel, President

NEXT MEETING
Thursday, September 10, 2009
11:30 AM
BEST WESTERN ABBY INN
1129 South Bluff – St. George

Our speaker will be Terri Kane, CEO of Dixie Regional Medical Center. One of the items she will cover is how the Healthcare Bill will affect DRMC and Intermountain Healthcare.

Buffet Luncheon - \$13.00
Please make checks payable to WCRW

**Minutes of the WCRW
Monthly Membership Meeting
June 4, 2009**

President Susan Recknagel called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m., welcoming members, new members, and guests. She announced the next WCRW meeting will be held in September; however the Dixie Republican Forum will be holding meetings throughout the summer

Prayer: Fae Reigle

Pledge of Allegiance: Wilma Courtney

March Meeting Minutes: Approved as written

Treasurers Report: Sandi Barrett. Sandi announced that the quilt fund raising effort had netted \$3606.00, with 932 tickets having been sold.

Hope Pregnancy Project: President Recknagel informed the group that "Clover Patch" in Santa Clara, gave the WCRW a great discount on flannel, and as a summer project, the WCRW will be making baby blankets. Everyone will be notified when the date for the project is determined.

June Conferences: Gail, Sandi and Susan are seeking volunteers to assist in staffing booths at the Business Women's Conference, and Chamber of Commerce Business Expo.

Craft Bazaar: President Recknagel reminded everyone to continue working on craft projects for the "Craft Bazaar" that will be held in conjunction with our October meeting.

Legislative Update: Sandee Card. Sandee reviewed her personal background in Health Insurance. She noted that the "cost of healthcare is high, so the cost of insurance is high also". She explained that the HMO system is co-pay focused, rather than paying attention to the actual costs. She said that cost, access and quality are connected. Sandee said that currently the Obama administration is on a "fast track" to do "something". She stated that we need to be aware and be vocal regarding the direction the current administration is pushing healthcare reform. The Legislative Committee is actively watching Washington DC, and will report to the group as information is brought forward.

Education Committee Report: The Education Committee has been working with the administration and honor students at Snow Canyon High School. They are developing a program in which returning military veterans will be interviewed. Video and books of the interviews will be taken to other schools to promote patriotism. The WCRW will be contributing financially to the project.

Guest Speakers:

Bonnie Harrington introduced Brynlee Anderson, a student at Snow Canyon High School, whom the WCRW sponsored for a trip to Valley Forge.

Brynlee explained the process she completed in order to be selected for the trip. She wrote an essay, had and needed to obtain a sponsor. She gave an emotional talk about her appreciation of "True American Heroes". She noted how special it was to be in a place that you hear so much about. She expressed her thanks to the WCRW for making the experience possible for her.

Bonnie introduced guest speaker Representative David Clark. Rep. Clark is currently the Speaker of the House.

Speaker Clark thanked Brynlee for her heartfelt talk. Speaker Clark said that after the gavel is down, the House has prayer, even though the members come from varying backgrounds, and then they say the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. He noted that he is "a Christian. Conservative and Republican". Speaker Clark reported on the States involvement in Health Care, and he expressed his deep worry about National Health Care. He stated that his belief is that Congress' goal is to do "something" fast, with the goal of giving Ted Kennedy a legacy.

Speaker Clark discussed the State budget, and the fiscal constraints and management. He noted that Utah is in better financial condition than other states, but still has been impacted by the economy. He explained the checks and balances between the Legislators and the Governor. The philosophy is "plan for the worst, and hope for the best". He said that Utah has a "Triple A" credit rating which is very important because it impacts the States borrowing rates.

He noted that much of the Government Stimulus Money went to existing programs. Speaker Clark said that he is deeply troubled about the Federal Government spending. He explained that Medicare and Medicaid is "really just a pass through system, there is no money set aside".

Speaker Clark said it is important that the voice of the people be heard. As a group we have more strength than as individuals.

Speaker Clark stated in closing that all of the Legislators have been challenged to provide 100 solutions and ideas on improvement by July 24th.

Questions were addressed.

Quilt Drawing: Winner, Noma Clark

President Recknagel thanked the speakers, and all of those in attendance.

Adjourn: 1:30 PM

Respectfully submitted by: Jeanne Hauze, Secretary

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

It's fall (almost) and exciting things are afoot for Washington County Republican Women! Next month we will begin our membership drive renewals, and in September we will reach our goal of 150 members with your help. Our membership currently stands at 130 regular members and 12 associate members.

The Board and membership committee have planned an exciting membership drive for Thursday, September 24, at 7 pm at the Gardner Center, Dixie State College. The ever generous Hyrum Smith, co-founder and Chairman of the Board of Franklin Covey, will speak for us on the topic of "Staying Focused in Challenging Times." We have an interesting evening planned with patriotic music, a color guard and the inspiring words of a real business leader. Please invite all your friends, young and old, male and female, to attend with you. Invitations for your use will be available at the September 3 luncheon meeting or by contacting Gail Neumann at 674-1415. See you there!

Education Committee Update

The "Thank you to the Military" video presentation, being prepared by the Honor Students at Snow Canyon Middle School, under the direction of Peggy Jardine, and Ms. Taylor, has been cancelled due to administrative changes. We will be refunded our donation to support this project, and we will be actively seeking another opportunity for a worthy "Education Project".

Karen Vint

OCTOBER CRAFT BAZAAR



It's time to begin working on items to donate for sale at the WCRW October Bazaar! Prior to our October meeting on Thursday, October 1, we'll have a gift Bazaar beginning at 10AM. Our regularly scheduled meeting will begin at 11:45A (buffet luncheon). As soon as our meeting adjourns, we'll go back to shopping until about 2PM. I'm sure there will be a lot of lovely hand-made items to purchase for your home, friends and family. Get started on Christmas early this year. We'll have more details at the September meeting.

LABOR DAY SEPTEMBER 7TH

