



BRW NEWS

Senate District 17

Quarterly Newsletter

TFRW Region XVIII

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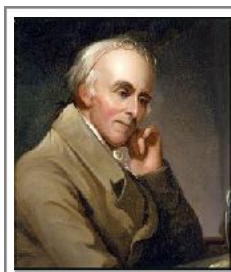
Diane Rinn, President

WELCOME TO SPRING, EVERYONE! It's the season of new birth, new growth, fresh air, brilliant colors--and Easter! The Trump team in D.C. has been busy since January 20 resurrecting the land that we love, while many of us here have been focusing since early March on how we personally can help. We know that each of us has unique talents, perspectives, and opportunities which we can use in many ways. For example, individually, we can contact elected officials and express support or opposition on a particular bill; collectively, we can work within committees to bring ideas to fruition. Whether separately or together, there are things that only you can do that no one else can do, because no one else is exactly where you are. Thank you for sharing your time and your heart with Brazosport Republican Women's Club. God bless you, God bless Texas, God bless America! And have a joyful blessed glorious Easter!



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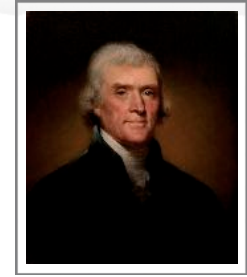


Left: Presidential Peacemaker, Benjamin Rush, M.D.-1818.
See story on page 2.

Peacemakers—Then & Now

By Linda Kellogg, BRW Chaplain

President Trump enjoys the role of a peacemaker. He prioritizes reconciling nations and aims for peace between nations at war. Jesus said, “Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called children of God.” (Matthew 5:9. NIV) While Trump reconciles nations, Founding Father Benjamin Rush reconciled two of America’s greatest Presidents.



Pres. Thomas Jefferson
1800

Benjamin Rush, John Adams, and Thomas Jefferson were close friends during the American Revolution, but Adams and Jefferson began to move in different political directions. In the presidential election of 1800, they faced off against each other in a bitter campaign. Adams lost his reelection and Jefferson became the 3rd US President. These two remained political enemies for many years.

Shortly after Jefferson left office in 1809, Rush had a dream about his two friends, which he wrote down and sent to Adams. The dream is as follows: (Excerpts from The Founders Bible, pp 1427-1430)

"Among the most extraordinary events of this year was the renewal of the friendship ... between Mr. John Adams and Mr. Thomas Jefferson, the two ex-presidents of the United States. They met for the first time in the Congress of 1775. Their principles of liberty, their ardent attachment to their country... being exactly the same, they were strongly attracted to each other and became personal as well as political friends...A difference of opinion ... separated them. [In the dream] Mr. Adams addressed a short letter to his friend Mr. Jefferson in which he congratulated him upon his escape to the shades of retirement and domestic happiness, and concluded it with assurances of his regard and good wishes for his welfare. This letter did great honor to Mr. Adams. It discovered a magnanimity known only to great minds. Mr. Jefferson replied to this letter and reciprocated expressions of regard and esteem."

They did again become friends as Rush’s dream predicted and corresponded several years.

Rush had written to Adams upon learning of the renewed friendship, “I rejoice in the correspondence which has taken place between you and your old friend, Mr. Jefferson. I consider you and him as the North and South Poles of the American Revolution. Some talked, some wrote, and some fought to promote and establish it, but you and Mr. Jefferson thought for us all.” And he wrote similarly to Jefferson, that they “animated with the same dispositions to serve their country...at the expense of innumerable sacrifices of domestic ease, personal interest, and private friendships. Posterity will do you both justice for this act.”



Pres. John Adams
1798

Strange but true, 17 years after Benjamin Rush’s dream, both John Adams and Thomas Jefferson died within 3 hours of each other on July 4, 1826 - the 50th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence!

This true story and these three amazing Founding Fathers remind us of President Donald Trump who makes “innumerable sacrifices” to Make America Great Again. He knows, as did our Founding Fathers, that without God’s help, we labor in vain. He, like Adams and Jefferson, think for us! Thank God for such a rich history of our great Founding Fathers and for today’s renewed hope and wise, brave leaders. May Posterity do President Trump justice. He should go down in history as one of America’s greatest Presidents and Peacemakers.

Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness. James 3:18 NIV

BRW Member Highlight:

Fatima Evans



In this issue, we highlight BRW Member Fatima Evans. Fatima currently serves as Hospitality Chair. She sends birthday, get-well, thank-you cards and condolences to members and elected officials. Please get to know Fatima, in her own words:

1. Where were you born? *In a Palm Oil Estate in Malaysia. My father was a supervisor and my mom was a stay-at-home mom. As a child, I never really understood or knew the struggles that my parents had raising us. My mother would do anything and everything to help out in finances. She was a nurse and delivered me and three of my siblings all by herself without any help.*

2. Where have you lived most of your life? *I left home when I was 18 and I've lived in a number of places. I lived in Singapore for 15 years, got married to Ken, and moved to Eureka, California. We lived there 23 years before moving to Texas three years ago.*

3. What was/is your favorite job? *I started my working life as a flight attendant and then became a teacher. I went back to work for Singapore Airlines for 15 years. After leaving Singapore, I worked in the hospitality industry. I even opened my own restaurant, The Banana Hut. It was enjoyable and challenging, yet very stressful. I loved it for the challenge and creativity it brought out in me. I also loved the friendships that we made with all our employees and patrons. It was like a big family. It was a sad day when we had to close our restaurant and leave California.*

4. What are your hobbies? *I love to cook, but my passion is mostly art-related. I love creating art from anything interesting in nature. I also make wax flowers from paper, wax and acrylic paint. I find it really calming to paint the flowers and create the vision of the piece I have in my head. I donated one of my art creations to the Lincoln/Reagan Day Dinner auction. The piece is entitled "Spring is Here!" and commemorates President Trump's 2024 election win. Some of my artwork is also in the art gallery in The Center for the Arts and Sciences at Brazosport College.*



**"Spring is Here!"
By Fatima Evans**

5. How long have you been a member of BRW? *Three years*

6. What brought you and your husband to Texas? *We moved from California three years ago because of the crazy liberals who were running and continue to run the state. When Ken did a Google search on "Best Place to Retire in Texas", Lake Jackson was number ONE on the list. So here we are! As some people would say: "WE ESCAPED CALIFORNIA!" We wanted conservative values. We were on a mission to help as much as possible to have President Trump as the 47th President. And with God's help, we all DID IT! Praise The Lord!*

TFRW Tidbits: Political Activities

Looking for political activities to do during the midterm election period? We must not be complacent! Here are some **political activities** that you can do to keep busy:

- Become a Volunteer Deputy Registrar (VDR) and do your Poll Worker/Poll Watcher training on the Secretary of State website in preparation for May local elections and for the 2026 election cycle. [VDR Training is available through the Brazoria County Clerk's office. See: www.brazoriacountyclerk.gov]
- Continue to follow and participate in the legislative session on Texas Legislature Online. See: capitol.texas.gov
- Block-walk and phone bank for local school board and community candidates.

When our members engage in political activities, we **Keep Texas Republican!**



Source: "Political Activities Update" by Robbi Hull,
VP Political Activities, TFRW Today, April 2025

Recent Events: Inauguration Watch Party

An Inauguration Watch Party was held on January 20, 2025 at China Star restaurant in Lake Jackson. Thirty BRW and ARW members, associates and family members were in attendance to watch the swearing-in of President Donald J. Trump and Vice President J. D. Vance. Those present cheered as Trump gave his inaugural address which emphasized making America great again, putting America first and acting as a "peacemaker and unifier".



Above:: BRW President, Diane Rinn, addresses the Watch Party crowd.



Above:: Vice President J D Vance takes the oath of office as his wife, Usha, looks on proudly.



Above: Watch party audience view the Inauguration at China Star in Lake Jackson.

More Recent Events:

Nuts 'N Bolts Workshop

Did you know that a club cannot conduct a raffle as a fundraiser? Or that a motion is not needed to pass minutes that have unanimous consent? What about how selling t-shirts can promote a club's mission statement or values? These are just SOME of the things we recently learned at the Nuts 'N Bolts workshop.

The "Original" Nuts 'N Bolts workshop is an annual event conducted by the Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women. The very informative, and fun, program was held on February 18, 2025 at the Mendenhall Community Center in northwest Houston and was attended by four BRW members. The GHC organizers pack plenty into the five hours (9 a.m. to 2 p.m.) at Nuts 'N Bolts. First, a light breakfast was provided at sign-in as GHC President, Tina Gibson, offered a warm welcome to all. Then, attendees left for break-out learning sessions of their choice. The sessions offered this year were: Hospitality, Newsletter, Presidents, Legislative Day, PAC Treasurer, Membership, Merchandising Made Fun, Awards, Programs, Community Engagement, Fundraising and Having a Healthy Board. As you can see, GHC offers something for everyone. All you have to do is decide on the four topics that interest you the most and attend the relatively short, but informative, sessions. Instructors for most of the sessions are TFRW officers or board members and they are very knowledgeable about the subjects that they teach. And, the 'classes' are small enough to allow attendees to ask questions specific to their club. Clubs from all over Texas attend this event.

Lunch was provided after the first two sessions were completed. During lunch, a skit on Robert's Rules was performed to demonstrate the do's and don'ts while conducting a meeting. Breakout Sessions 3 and 4 followed lunch and soon after, the event was over and everyone left more informed and with useful tips and ideas for their local club. Plus, all attendees were provided with a USB drive that included all the instruction and Power Point slides that were presented in the workshop sessions. No note-taking needed!

Nuts 'N Bolts workshop is a great way to learn almost anything about organizing and operating a TFRW club. It also promotes networking with other clubs, seeing old friends and making new ones. See you next year!

Cindy White, Contributing Writer

Below: BRW club President, Diane Rinn, is welcomed at Nuts N Bolts



Below: Diane Rinn and Gayla Baker enjoy lunch at the annual Nuts N Bolts Workshop in Houston.



Below: GCH President, Tina Gibson, addresses the audience at Nuts N Bolts.



Below: BRW Members who attended the workshop: (L-R): Gayla Baker, Cindy White, Deanne Amerine and Diane Rinn.



Lincoln Reagan Day Dinner

Brazoria County Republicans were in a mood to celebrate the results of the 2024 November election at the Lincoln-Reagan Day Dinner held at the Lake Jackson Civic Center Ballroom on February 15, 2025. Great food and a patriotic community spirit was enjoyed by everyone. The evening began with a VIP cocktail hour followed by a dinner catered by On the River. The festivities continued with a welcome from Dr. Shayne Green, Brazoria County Republican Party Chairman. The Pledges to the U.S. and Texas Flags were led by Jay Burrridge, newly elected County Commissioner and Sherry Kersh, Brazoria County Justice of the Peace, respectively. Jon Baker, a Lake Jackson City Council member, led the crowd in singing God Bless America followed by Stephanie Tanner singing the Star-Spangled Banner. While everyone visited and ate around the festive round tables, the good cheer was evident reuniting old friends and making new acquaintances.



Christi Craddick
Texas Railroad Commissioner

Ticket sales for the event and proceeds from the live auction of donated items from various community organizations and individuals brought in much needed funds to help support the county's Republican Party for future elections. One of the items that brought the highest bids was the Evan Vucci photograph of President Trump with his fist in the air communicating to the crowd in Butler, Pennsylvania to fight on.

The first speaker of the evening was Dr. Shayne Green who presented a summary of the 2024 election campaign. The campaign expenses totaling \$200,000 were detailed and the general election results were enthusiastically celebrated. With 162,760 total votes counted, 62% in Brazoria County voted for the Republican candidates. The four county election headquarters in Pearland, Angleton, and Lake Jackson/Clute were recognized for their dedication in helping voter turnout at the polls. The Voter Guide mailed to 58,907 homes representing 93,825 voters was strategic in its aim to encourage Republican voters to cast their ballots. Text messages were also specifically sent to turn out the vote along with digital and social media ads. The 2024 election results of the campaign showed the money spent by the Republican Party in strategic and high-tech methods resulted in every Republican candidate winning, without exception.

The evening's keynote speaker was Texas Railroad Commissioner Christi Craddick. She began with her background and focused on her work with the energy sector. Deregulation for Texas taxpayers and businesses was the theme of her speech along with eliminating wasteful spending and corruption in Texas.

To end the night of celebration, Steve Munisteri, special advisor to Texas Governor Greg Abbott, spoke of his feeling of anticipation for America in the coming term and the hope that better days are ahead for our families and fellow citizens.

Dynise Finley, Contributing Writer

Below: Kacey Roman, along with others from Brazoria County...



Below: Brazoria County hosts "the world's largest shrimp cocktail", at the State Capitol in Austin.



Below: Brazoria County Day 2025 group photo.



Below: Rep. Cody Vasut, with officials from Brazoria County, addresses the audience in House Chambers at the Capitol in Austin.



Brazoria County Day 2025

A Tradition of Unity and Impact

As I reflect on the recent Brazoria County Day held on February 25, 2025, I am filled with pride and excitement about our County's remarkable representation in Austin. Having volunteered at the registration desk and visited legislators in their offices, I witnessed firsthand the power of our community's presence at the Texas State Capitol.

Since its humble beginnings in 1973, Brazoria County Day has grown exponentially, and this year's event was a testament to that growth. As I checked in attendees at the registration desk, I was struck by the diverse array of community members, which included business leaders, politicians, and educators, all united in showcasing our county's spirit. It was clear that our county's diversity - from historic farms and ranches to bustling suburbs - was well-represented and appreciated.

The highlight for many, including myself, was undoubtedly the world's largest shrimp cocktail. I joined the crowd marveling at this impressive display. The aroma of fresh Gulf shrimp filled the air, drawing legislators and staffers alike to our event, while we enjoyed being entertained by the Alvin Community College Band. It was an incredible opportunity to join like-minded people to celebrate Brazoria County. The sheer size and expense of the event is impressive but even more so knowing that it was completely run by volunteers! They truly showed the Capitol what great things can be done by the hard-working citizens of Brazoria County!

Brazoria County Day 2025 was more than just an event; it was a powerful demonstration of our community's unity, diversity, and influence. As we look ahead, I am confident that the impact of this day will be felt in legislative decisions and statewide perceptions of our beloved Brazoria County. It was an honor to be part of this historic day, and I look forward to our continued efforts to keep Brazoria County at the forefront of Texas' progress.

Kacey Roman, Contributing Writer

Legislative Corner

By Darlene Shue, Legislative Chair

The February edition of Imprimis, published by Hillsdale College, ends with a quote from the BBC production, *Civilization*, in which host, Kenneth Clark, “hailed energy and confidence as hallmarks of a vibrant civilization. The spectacle of Donald Trump’s boundless energy, and the energy he calls forth from others, is heartening. Among other things, it makes us appreciate how his revolution of common sense might not only spark a political restoration, but also a new cultural golden age.”



President Trump is the first President to post everything daily for all to see. By going to [whitehouse.gov](https://www.whitehouse.gov) one can monitor the daily news and issues straight from the White House. Contacting is as easy as the click of a button.

Governor Abbott has listed his priorities as: providing relief for Texas taxpayers by reforming the property tax system; legislature providing a method of funding new water supplies, water and wastewater infrastructure; legislature providing for a universal Education Savings program; legislature providing salary increases for teachers through merit-based compensation programs; legislature expanding career and technical education for Texas students; and legislature reforming the bail system in Texas to end the revolving door on bail.

Early in the 89th Legislature Regular Session, Rep. Cody Vasut co-authored HJR-98 which reinforces Texas’ commitment to support the Convention of States which is focused on term limits for federal officials and members of Congress and federal overreach. Texas was one of the first states to join the coalition. Other key bills filed by Vasut are: HB 165-Property Tax Elimination and HB-196 regarding teaching the beginning of human life in public schools. For a complete list of bills filed by Rep. Vasut, go to: <https://capitol.texas.gov/Vasut>.

District 17 Senator Joan Huffman has authored and co-authored 107 bills for this session. Many of the bills cover her long-standing focus on public safety, criminal justice and fiscal responsibility. Go to: <https://capitol.texas.gov/Huffman>. The 89th Legislature Regular Session ends on June 2, 2025.

TAD Talks (a weekly Zoom series hosted by Texas Republican National Committee Woman, Toni Anne Dashiell) is a useful tool for following politics in Texas. Live discussion is held by phone every Friday morning at 7:00. A recording is available on Facebook at TAD Talks.

I hope you will join me in monitoring what our elected officials are doing so we can help each other stay informed; and together, raise our voices to let them know what their constituents expect. Along with President Trump, we will make America great again!



Stay Informed with **TAD Talks**

Your Weekly Legislative Update

Your Elected Official: Constable Mike Fulton

*Each quarter, an elected official will be highlighted in **BRW News**. Fortunately, we don't have to look far since several of our BRW members or associates are elected officials. Mike Fulton, an associate member, took office in January as Constable of Precinct 1 in Brazoria County. The following update was written by Mike and provides insight to a new program, **Coastal Cleanup**, that he has initiated in the Constable's office:*



Mike Fulton takes the oath of office for Pct.1 Constable

As the oldest law enforcement agency in Texas, Texas Constables play a crucial role in maintaining public safety and serving our community with integrity. I am proud to launch my Coastal Clean-Up Program, which is not just a campaign promise but a commitment to preserve our local waterways and coastal areas for future generations.

This initiative aims to reduce illegal dumping, enhance community awareness, and promote environmental stewardship. We will collaborate with local agencies, the district attorney, and both state and federal organizations to effectively tackle this issue. By working together, we can strengthen our efforts to keep our environment clean and safe.

I encourage everyone to report illegal trash or dumping you observe along our roadways and coastal areas. My deputies and I are dedicated to investigating these crimes and holding those responsible accountable. You can reach us by emailing cleanup@brazoriacountytx.gov or by visiting our department's section on the main Brazoria County website. (See QR code below.)

Thank you for trusting me with the honor of being your Constable. Together, with your vigilance and cooperation, we can make a difference and ensure that our coastlines remain pristine for generations to come.





Dome of the Texas State Capitol



Brazoria County GOP Chairman, Shayne Green, speaks at the Lincoln Reagan Day Dinner in February.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: APR-JUN 2025

Date	Event, Time and Place
APR 1	BRW Monthly Meeting, 6:00 pm, Lake Jackson Public Library
APR 14	Brazoria Cty Republican Party Monthly Meeting, 7:30-9:00 pm, Angleton Courthouse West Annex
APR 22-26	Early Voting - Times/Place: Braz Cty polling-places-early-voting
APR 28-29	Early Voting - Times/Place: Braz Cty polling-places-early-voting
MAY 3	Joint Local Election -Times/Place BC-polling-places-election-day
MAY 6	BRW Monthly Meeting, Texas Port Ministries 5:00 pm
MAY 12	BCRP Meeting, 7:30-9:00 pm, Angleton Courthouse West Annex
JUN 3	BRW Monthly Meeting, 6:00 pm, Lake Jackson Public Library
JUN 9	BCRP Meeting, 7:30-9:00 pm, Angleton Courthouse West Annex

Don't forget to VOTE on MAY 3rd





★★★★★
Save the Date
October 23-25, 2025

Texas Federation of Republican Women

★★★★★ *35th Biennial Convention* ★★★★★

Grand Hyatt, San Antonio, TX
(Details coming soon!)

Elected Officials Contact Info:



President Donald J. Trump	1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW Washington, DC 20500	www.whitehouse.gov/contact/	
Senator Ted Cruz	167 Russell Washington, DC. 20510	www.cruz.senate.gov/contact	202-224-5922
Senator John Cornyn	517 Hart Senate Office Washington, DC. 20510	www.cornyn.senate.gov	202-224-2934
Congressman Randy Weber	122 West Way S301 Lake Jackson, TX. 77566	RepRandyWeber@mail.house.gov	979-285-0231 202-225-2831
Senator Joan Huffman	129 Circle Way S101 Lake Jackson, TX 77566	senatorjoanhuffman@gmail.com	979-480-0994 512-463-0117
Representative Cody Vasut	222 N Velasco St S 25 Angleton, TX. 77515	www.house.texas.gov/members/4065/email	979-848-1770 512-463-0564



Contact Info & Helpful Links

BRW Officers & Special Committee Chairs

President	Diane Rinn	mddRinn@gmail.com
1st Vice President, Programs	Gayla Baker	gbsBaker@sbcglobal.net
2nd Vice President, Membership	Cecilia Gabba	GabbaFam@gmail.com
Secretary	Kacey Roman	fiveromans@gmail.com
PAC Treasurer	Cindy White	dwhite77485@comcast.net
Campaign Activities Chair	Deanne Amerine	m.d.amerine@gmail.com
Legislative Activities Chair	Darlene Shue	darleneshue1@gmail.com
Publicity/Newsletter Chair	Cindy White	dwhite77485@comcast.net
Social Media Platforms Chair	Kacey Roman	fiveromans@gmail.com
Historian	Gayla Baker	gbsBaker@sbcglobal.net
Chaplain	Linda Kellogg	linda.kellog50@gmail.com

Texas Legislature Online is a great source to track
legislation during the 89th Session. Just go to:

www.capitol.texas.gov

Find us on:



Comments or photos? Email us at:

brazosportrepublicanwomen@outlook.com



Brazosport Republican Women

BRW Campaign Activities

QTR	# HRS	# CALLS
4th Qtr '24	5437	2203
1st Qtr '25	4167	495

Texas Federation of Republican Women

www.tfrw.org

National Federation of Republican Women

www.nfrw.org

Greater Houston Council of Federated RW

www.ghcfrwpac.org

BRW typically meets every first Tuesday at 6:00 pm at
the Lake Jackson Public Library, 250 Circle Way.

Political Advertising paid for by Brazosport Republican Women.