



~ *Established in 1965* ~  
**SEPTEMBER 2024**

## *The Elephant's Tale*

VOLUME 31 • ISSUE 9

### **2024 Executive Board**

**PRESIDENT**  
Cretia Eyster

**FIRST VICE PRESIDENT**  
Shirley Appel

**SECOND VICE PRESIDENT**  
Nancy Carlson

**SECRETARY**  
Linda Smith

**TREASURER**  
Susan Calfa

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*You're invited by the Incline Village-Crystal Bay Republican Women to a luncheon . . .*

**Tuesday, September 10, 2024**

at The Chateau  
955 Fairway Blvd, Incline Village | 11:30 am to 1:00 pm

**To meet and hear**  
**Kit DiCarlo of Turning Point USA and**  
**Josh Skaggs of the Nevada GOP**



**T**hese two American Patriots will share their experiences as they helped the Trump campaign in Nevada. **Kit will talk about the importance of Voter Identification. Josh will speak about Rank Choice Voting.** Our speakers will share

these important issues that are facing Nevadans in the upcoming election.



**RSVP/payment of \$35 must be received by**  
**September 6, 12:00 noon!**

Email Nancy Carlson at [nmcarlson01@yahoo.com](mailto:nmcarlson01@yahoo.com), call (650) 255-1435, or purchase tickets on our website: <https://ivcbrw.org/> and click on "pay."

**RSVP** [nmcarlson01@yahoo.com](mailto:nmcarlson01@yahoo.com), (650) 255-1435, or purchase tickets on our website: <https://ivcbrw.org/>. Click on "pay."

**RSVP/PAYMENT must be received by 12 noon,**  
**September 6th, 2024.**



**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



Last weekend reminded us that Fall is just around the corner with very cool temperatures, wind, light rain and even a little dusting of snow on our highest peaks. Fall also reminds us that Election Day is not far off and the direction of our country will be decided!

Our July Garden Party at Cliff and Ellie Dobler's home was a great success with the appearance of Mark Amodei and Sam Brown along with Marsha Berkbigler County Commissioner candidate and two Republican IVGID candidates Harry Swenson and Frank Wright. We were forewarned that both Mark and Sam had additional obligations that evening, but when they mingled with our members and guests, they both decided to linger and each spoke at the podium about their goals and plans for their respective offices. We are very proud to have Marsha as our club member and both Harry and Frank as associate members. They all spoke about their ideas for our community and the leadership they felt was needed on the IVGID Board of Trustees. Our delicious BBQ was catered by Phil and Michele Hyatt, owners of Carson City BBQ. We had a wonderful dinner of chicken, ribs, salads and beans. Mark and Sam could not stay for the dinner but happily left with "to go" dinners prepared by Michele and Phil. A final thank you to

Cliff and Ellie for sharing their beautiful garden and home with our club.

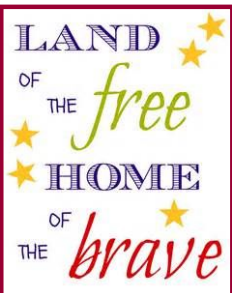
For the next two months of this year we will focus on electing every Republican candidate to office. I have attended several meetings and the most important and repeated message from all Republican organizations is the importance of "getting out the

vote!" In the last election many Republican candidates lost by a very small amount of votes. At our September meeting we will have voter Slate Cards and "Are you a Republican or Democrat" information cards in English and Spanish available for everyone to give out to friends and neighbors. **WE MUST TAKE AN ACTIVE PART IN THIS ELECTION** in order to save our country. Talk you your neighbors and friends and make sure they are voting. If they say, "I don't like the choices" or "it doesn't make a difference," remind them that people gave their lives for our freedom and the least they can do is vote. The old saying, "when the going gets tough, the tough get going" is more important now than ever! (For a preview of the election Slate Cards, see page 4)

Please do not miss our luncheon meeting at the Chateau September 10th. We are very fortunate to have two important speakers at this meeting: Kit Di Carlo of Turning Point will talk about Voter ID and Josh Skaggs Nevada GOP Legislative Director will speak about Rank Choice Voting. Because of this important election year we have moved our annual Fall Fashion Show and Silent Auction to our December Holiday luncheon.

Also coming up is our own election of officers for 2025. Our Nominating Committee would love to hear from you if you are interested in stepping forward and be an officer in our Club.

*Cretia Eyster*



**Help keep America free. Your vote counts!**

**2024 Meeting Calendar**

- OCTOBER 8 – Annual Business Meeting** at the Chateau.
- NOVEMBER 12 – Veterans Day Luncheon** at the Chateau.
- DECEMBER 10 Holiday Luncheon** – Fashion Show and Silent Auction at the Chateau.



ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS

**Kit Di Carlo**



**K**it Di Carlo grew up in Northern Nevada since she was seven years old in a Christian, conservative household. Politics is in her blood as her grandmother was the president of the Republican club in

Newport Beach and her dad taught her to love history and to be an independent thinker at a young age. She wanted to dip her feet in the water of politics this past spring by running for school board in the primary election acting on her desire to make a difference in the community. Now at twenty-two, she is the Turning Point Action Field Representative for Northern Nevada chasing the vote and ensuring this election is too big to rig in Nevada.

**Josh Skaggs**

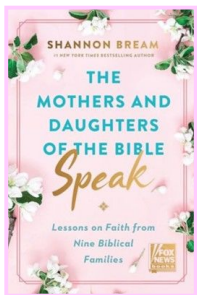


**J**oshua Skaggs graduated from Saint Louis University in 2014 with a Degree in Political Science. Joshua Skaggs worked for Chairman Michael J. McDonald and the Nevada GOP from 2018-2020 as a Regional Field Director and as the Legislative Affairs Director during the 2019 session.

After managing and strategizing for several campaigns across the country, Mr. Skaggs returned home to the Nevada GOP and Team Trump in 2024 as the Deputy Election Integrity Director covering Northern Nevada.

**A Book Review by Susan Calfa**

*The Mothers and Daughters of the Bible Speak* by Shannon Bream  
(Lessons on Faith from Nine Biblical Families)



**H**ow many of us have time to read the Bible? How many of us went to Sunday school and learned all the stories from the Bible, but just can't seem to remember?

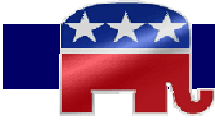
Shannon Bream takes little pieces and writes about the experiences of Mothers and Daughters, and sometimes sons! There are stories of Ruth and Naomi, Elizabeth and Mary, Rebekah, Esther – just to name a few.

She takes the approach of how it was during those biblical times and what must these women have been thinking. What was it like for a woman during those times. Being widowed, with no protection, and of course Mary, a young girl being asked by God to carry the Chosen One. The

information she gathers, is based solely on what is written in the Bible, as far as information goes, but she discusses each story in length. She also takes excerpts or verses from the Bible as it relates to each story. At the end of each chapter, there are study questions. This book would be great for a book club!

***This book is about Faith. We all need Faith in our lives, especially now with our upcoming elections.***

Shannon is also the Author of *The Women of the Bible Speak*. Another great book in similar format as stated above. I hope you will enjoy this book or perhaps both of her books on the subjects of women in the Bible!



GENERAL ELECTION OVERVIEW

The 2024 General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 5. Early voting begins on Saturday, October 19 and runs through Friday, November 1.

Preview of Slate Cards

STATE WIDE BALLOT QUESTIONS (continued) QUESTION 5 YES Resulting from the passage of SB428 At the General Election on November 5, 2024, a proposal must be submitted to the registered voters of this State to amend the Sales and Use Tax Act whether the Sales and Use Tax Act of 1955 should be amended to provide an exemption from the tax for child and adult diapers. QUESTION 6 NO Resulting from voter initiative Amends the Nevada Constitution to say "all individuals shall have a fundamental right to abortion performed or administered by a qualified health care practitioner". There is no age restriction or parental consent rights and the definition of qualified health practitioner includes the following, physician assistants, dentists, dispensing opticians, respiratory care practitioners, registered physical therapists, licensed marriage and family therapists, chiropractors, athletic trainers, perfusionists and doctors of oriental medicine. QUESTION 7 YES Resulting from voter initiative Amends the Nevada Constitution to require that Nevada residents present a form of photo identification to verify their identity while voting in person, or to verify their identity using the last four digits of their drivers license or social security number when voting by mail. 2024 NEVADA GENERAL ELECTION COMMON SENSE VOTER GUIDE The Nevada general election is on November 5, 2024 Early voting begins October 19, 2024 and ends on November 1, 2024 CHECK YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION AT www.nvsos.gov/votersearch/ VERIFY YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION AND VOTE EARLY Important Voting Information Open Now and VOTE EARLY

NEVADA STATE OFFICES WASHOE COUNTY OFFICES STATE WIDE BALLOT QUESTIONS QUESTION 1 NO Resulting from the passage of SJR7 Proposes to amend the Nevada Constitution to remove the constitutional provisions governing the election and duties of the Board of Regents of the State University and to authorize the Legislature to provide by statute for the governance of the State University and for the auditing of public institutions of higher education in this State. (BDR C-944) QUESTION 2 YES Resulting from the passage of ARJ1 Proposes to amend the Nevada Constitution to add and revise terms relating to persons with certain conditions for whose benefit certain public entities are supported by the State. (BDR C-477) QUESTION 3 NO From the 2022 general election ballot Shall the Nevada Constitution be amended to allow all Nevada voters the right to participate in open primary elections to choose candidates for the general election in which all voters may then rank the remaining candidates by preference for the offices of U.S. Senators, U.S. Representatives, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, State Controller, Attorney General, and State Legislators? QUESTION 4 YES Resulting from the passage of AJR10 Proposes to amend the Ordinance of the Nevada Constitution and the Nevada Constitution to remove language authorizing the use of slavery and involuntary servitude as a criminal punishment. (BDR C-496)



# Membership



Our July Garden Party at Cliff and Ellie Dobler's home was a great success with the appearance of Mark Amodei and Sam Brown along with Marsha Berkgigler County Commissioner candidate and two Republican IVGID candidates Harry Swenson and Frank Wright.

By Nancy Carlson

### We Need You!

Your club is looking for new officers, can you step up and help us in 2025? Please respond to this message if you are interested in taking a more official role in your club. We have five elected officer positions: President, 1st Vice President (Programs), 2nd Vice President (Membership), Secretary, and Treasurer. If you are interested in taking on an executive role please contact Cretia, Shirley, or Nancy.

Are you interested in helping with the newsletter, membership activities, program activities, finance? Let us know, we can use your help!



### Your Federal Representatives

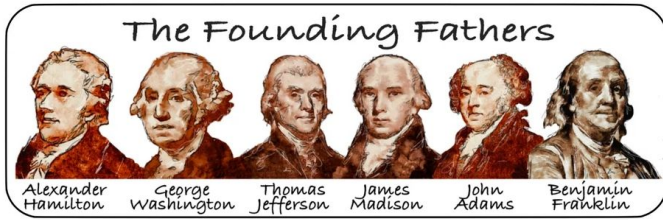
White House Switchboard (202) 456-1414  
Comment Line (202) 456-1111  
Capital Switchboard, Senate and  
& House (202) 224-3121

#### Senate

Jacky Rosen (D)  
Washington DC (202) 224-6244  
Las Vegas (702) 388-0205  
Catherine Cortez-Masto (D)  
Washington DC (202) 224-3542  
Las Vegas (702) 388-5020

#### House of Representatives

CD:2 Mark Amodei  
Washington DC (202) 225-6155  
Reno (775) 686-5760



## Republic or Democracy?

By Jay McConville

People often use the term “democracy” when referring to the United States. The distinction between a republic, which is technically what we are, and a democracy seems lost on those who intermingle the terms as if they were synonyms. If you note that we are not a democracy, but a republic, you risk being mocked as strict constructionists overly wedded to technical definitions and unwilling to acknowledge the importance of popular sovereignty and the will of the people in our system.

This is unfortunate, as the question of whether we are a democracy or a republic is an important one, complex, and reliant on clear definitions of words and their use. Strictly speaking, the United States is a representative Republic, not a democracy. The distinction has a difference. It greatly influenced the American Revolution, and arguably saved the future Republic from ruin in its darkest days.

First, some definitions. Merriam-Webster (MW) defines democracy, a noun, as “a government by the people” characterized by “rule of the majority,” and as “a government in which the supreme power is vested in the people and exercised by them directly or indirectly through a system of representation usually involving periodically held free elections.” This, of course, does a pretty good job of describing what most of us believe our government is. *We the People* are sovereign, and we exercise that power through elections. So far so good.



As for “republic” the definition is similar, but with several important additional elements. According to MW, a Republic is also a noun, meaning, “a government having a chief of state who is not a monarch and who in modern times is usually a president,” and “a government in which supreme power resides in a body of citizens entitled to vote and is exercised by elected officers and representatives responsible to them and governing according to law.”

From these definitions it is clear why there might be some confusion. A representative republic uses “democratic means” to manifest the consent of the governed. We vote for representatives, who vote on measures. Voting is democracy in action, but that does not make the United States a democracy. The measures that our representatives vote on are constrained by law and the Constitution. We do not have pure democracy or “rule by the majority” because we have constitutionally protected rights that cannot be voted away, operate under rule of law, and have, till recently, limited government with limited powers. We also have, however, an expanded voting population that is not limited by aristocracy, wealth, property ownership, or gender. **Any citizen, over 18 years of age, can vote.** One could say, therefore, that the United States is a democratic representative Republic.

While some might wish to believe so, the Founders did not invent the concept of consent of the governed, nor was America the first democracy or republic. Discussion of such concepts had been going on for centuries and republics existed prior to the American Revolution. What the American Founders did do was expand the definition of a republic so that it gave more power to the popular will of the people. They were merging, more completely, the idea of a law-based government

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## Republic or Democracy?

with the concept of consent of the governed. While in retrospect we see their efforts as woefully incomplete, for the time it was a revolutionary step towards popular sovereignty. Many doubted such an expansion of representation could work over such a large population or territory.

The original text of the United States Constitution never mentions the word democracy, and only mentions republic as a form of government once in Article IV, Section 4 (“The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government...”). Interestingly, that clause refers to the states, and not the federal government itself. Throughout the text the founders refer to the United States as the “union” or as the “United States” but never a republic or a democracy. The Declaration of Independence does not use either term at all.

That said, the structure laid down in the Constitution contains the elements that MW described, including a “chief of state,” and that power lies with a body of “elected officers and representatives” who vote on the laws that govern the nation. All these officials govern according to law. That is a Republic, no doubt.

When asked by “Mrs. Powel” upon the passage of the Constitution in 1787 what we had created, Benjamin Franklin famously replied, “a Republic, if you can keep it.”

What Franklin was concerned about was the difficulty in preserving the union. That concern was not an idle one, as the Revolution had proven. To keep the union together required a structure that limited conflict and cooled the passions of the mob yet provided ample enough rights and liberties to both the citizen and the to the former colonies to make them support and adhere to the union.

In 1776 a stable union did not exist. What did exist was a loose confederation of militia forces and citizens from the thirteen colonies, operating under an ill-defined structure to which their commitment continually wavered. Support for the revolution was not, by any means, universal within these colonies, and the debate between revolution and compromise with Britain raged. To preserve the effort, the founders knew they had to promise both protections from mob rule and protections for popular sovereignty – not a trivial endeavor.

Alexander Hamilton wrote of the challenge in a letter to John Jay in November 1775. In that letter he addressed the “passions of men” which provided for a “great danger of fatal extremes.” Hamilton

was concerned about conflict between New York and New England, which threatened a united stance vis-à-vis England. To control intra-colonial conflict, he argued against too much popular sovereignty, i.e., too much democracy. He recognized the need to hold the passions of men at bay, and the skill

needed to do that while continuing to keep the support of the colonies.

As the American Revolutionary War against Britain intensified, George Washington was plagued by irregular support from both the colonies and the Continental Congress. His ability to avoid catastrophic defeat is legendary. What perhaps was his greater brilliance was the ability to hold the forces together, keep the states from fighting each other, and channeling the passions of his fighting forces away from each other and towards the enemy. As his letter to the colonies from Valley Forge attests, the distributed nature of the revolutionary coalition put the future of the war in great jeopardy.

Washington knew very well that a citizen force of volunteer militiamen, responding only to popular

“But a Constitution of Government once changed from Freedom, can never be restored. Liberty, once lost, is lost forever.”  
— John Adams

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## Republic or Democracy?

will, while appealing to the revolutionary impulse, was no substitute for a centrally commanded, resourced, trained, and managed force of professional soldiers. Once launched, support to the war had to be controlled by a chief executive and protected by a Congress of representatives whose laws mattered and lasted. Counter to popular legend, it was not the minutemen who won the war. Washington could never have achieved victory had he remained subject to the democratic vagaries of thirteen colonial assemblies guided only by majority rule. "Military necessity required American leaders to change their perceptions of standing armies and challenged their republican ideals of volunteer, part-time military service...ultimately it was the Continental soldiers that would secure victory..."

That the colonies agreed to the creation of the Continental Army is a critical component of the success of the revolution. It is also remarkable given the antipathy they held against standing armies. James Madison, years later during the debates over the Constitution, exposed that antipathy, stating that a "standing military force, with an overgrown Executive will not long be safe companions to liberty," and that the "means of defense against foreign danger, have been always the instruments of tyranny at home.... armies kept up under the pretext of defending, have enslaved the people." Yet, despite that view, such a force was authorized by the fledgling republic, saving the effort and leading to victory.

John Adams famously wrote, in a letter to John Taylor in 1814, "...Democracy never lasts long. It soon wastes, exhausts and murders itself. There never was a Democracy Yet, that did not commit suicide." In that same letter, he wrote, "the Athenians grew more and more Warlike in proportion as the Commonwealth became more democratic." The founders, students of history and great thinkers including those of ancient and classical history, knew the distinction. That they did, saved the new nation.

Our founding was saved by the skill of our "political pilots" to craft a compromise between popular will and the rule of law. We are democratic, but we are not a democracy. We the People are those whose consent is required, but the Constitution is the Supreme Law of the Land.

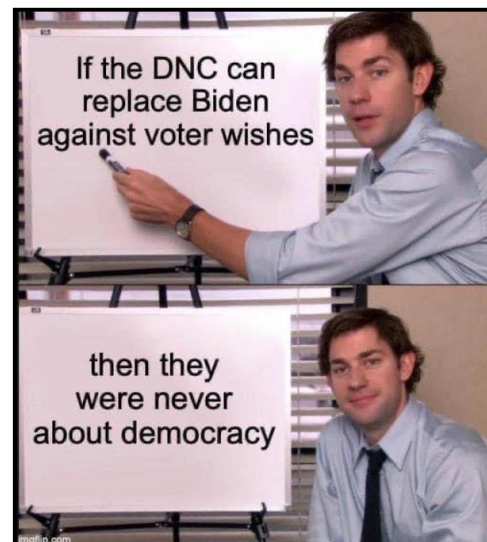
We would have never made it otherwise.



*Noteable: This article has been condensed for inclusion in The Elephant's Tale.*

*Author Jay McConville is a military veteran, management professional, and active civic volunteer currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Public Policy and Administration at the L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs, Virginia Commonwealth University. He serves on the Operating Board of Directors of Constituting America. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Government from George Mason University, and a Master of Science in Strategic Intelligence from the Defense Intelligence College. Jay lives in Richmond with his wife, three children and four grandchildren.*

Source: <https://constitutingamerica.org/90day-fp-republic-or-democracy-classical-history-republican-governing-as-adopted-united-states-american-revolutionary-war-guest-essayist-jay-mcconville/>







### Membership Application

New Member     Renewing Membership

*If you receive this application/renewal form via email, please print a copy and mail with your check to the address below.*

NAME as it appears on VOTER REGISTRATION: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME as it appears on your NAMETAG: \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS(es): \_\_\_\_\_

PHYSICAL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone with Area Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday (Month, Day) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address (for roster and newsletter):  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Please print*

**MEMBERSHIP STATUS , PLEASE CHECK ONE:**

- Active \$50, any woman registered as a Republican
- Associate \$20, any woman with a full membership in another Republican women's group,
- \_\_\_\_\_ OR any man registered as a Republican
- Primary Club Membership*

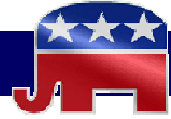
**CHECK AREAS OF INTEREST:**

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art or Graphic Art Work | <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising        | <input type="checkbox"/> Greeter at Meetings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Budget/Finance          | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership         | <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bylaws                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity          | <input type="checkbox"/> Phone Committee     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Campaign Work           | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations   | <input type="checkbox"/> Email               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Service       | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Coordination | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter          |

**MAIL APPLICATION AND CHECK** to the following address:

Membership Chairman  
IV/CB Republican Women  
P. O. Box 3009, Incline Village, NV 89450

*Always more information for you at our website: [ivcbrw.org](http://ivcbrw.org)*



## Incline Village-Crystal Bay Republican Women Vision and Mission Statement

**Vision:** To support individual freedom and responsibility under the Constitution of the United States and the Declaration of Independence by making Nevada a Red state again and keeping it that way.

**Mission:** To promote the principles and philosophy of the Republican Party at the local, state, and federal levels by taking action to:

- Support the election of conservative Republican candidates.
- Educate club members and local voters.
- Communicate with local, state and federal legislative bodies to enact constitutional, conservative legislation.
- Collaborate with Nevada Republican Women's clubs to leverage best practices to improve club effectiveness.
- Promote Republican and conservative values through social media, print media, and community participation.
- Effect change in our schools to support conservative and constitutional values.
- Protect the integrity of local, state, and federal elections.

### September Member Birthdays

Tanya Berwager	1 September
Todd Leutheuser	3 September
Mary Jane Swenson	9 September
Mabel Morse	10 September
Trudi Adam	10 September
Janet Pahl	15 September
Susan Parks	22 September
Kathi Congistre	29 September

**When the Amish get involved you know there is something seriously wrong with the other side.....**



### *The Elephant's Tale*

is published monthly by Incline Village/Crystal Bay Republican Women

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*The articles and opinions expressed within this newsletter were selected for their relevant content. The publishing of such articles and opinions do not necessarily reflect the official views, opinions and practices of the Incline Village-Crystal Bay Republican Women.*