



~ *Established in 1965* ~
DECEMBER 2025

The Elephant's Tale

VOLUME 32 • ISSUE 12

2025 Executive Board

PRESIDENT
Suzi Cornell

VICE PRESIDENT
Patricia Moser Morris

CO-VICE PRESIDENT
Shirley Appel

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT
Mary Jane Swenson

SECRETARY
Cretia Eyster

TREASURER
Susan Calfa



In This Issue

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- ◆ Membership
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*The Incline Village-Crystal Bay
Republican Women's Club
Presents...*



**Our December Holiday Party
and Officer Installation
with Kit Waite**



Tuesday, December 9, 2025

The Chateau | 955 Fairway Blvd. | Incline Village | 11:30 am – 1:00 pm



Kit (DiCarlo) Waite has called Northern Nevada home since the age of seven, growing up in a Christian, conservative household that installed in her a deep appreciation for faith, family and freedom. Politics runs in her blood. Her grandmother served as president of the Republican Club in Newport Beach, California and her father nurtured her love for history and independent thinking from a young age. Kit currently serves as the Northern Nevada Field Representative for Turning Point Action and will be installing our 2026 Executive Board Officers.

**RSVP/payment of \$35 must be received by
Friday, December 5th, 12:00 noon**

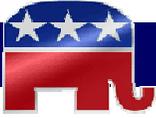
Email Mary Jane Swenson at
hnsvenson@comcast.net
or purchase tickets at: <https://ivcbrw.org/>
and click "pay."



RSVP hnsvenson@comcast.net,

or purchase tickets on our website: <https://ivcbrw.org/>. Click on "Pay."

RSVP/PAYMENT must be received by Friday, December 5th, 12 noon.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



luncheon meetings will resume in February, so stay tuned. I wish all of you a wonderful Thanksgiving, Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and Happy Holidays! Until we meet next year . . .

Your Lady in Red,

Suzi Cornell

775-813-0622

suzannemcornell@cs.com



Here it is the week before Thanksgiving, and we all know how quickly the time passes from now till the New Year.

Already we are planning the installation of Incline Village/Crystal Bay Republican Women officers for 2026 for Tuesday, December 9. We have a real treat planned as Kit (DiCarlo) Waite of Turning Point Action will be joining us as a speaker and presider over our Installation Ceremony. She will speak about her memories of Charlie Kirk and the legacy he has left behind. This is shaping up to be a very memorable afternoon.

I would like to thank the wonderful members of our 2025 Executive Board. They worked hard this year to provide exemplary programming with fiscal responsibility. They have donated thousands of hours to help with programming and charitable endeavors. They have done a marvelous job. Please be sure to thank our officers for their service this year.

Our oncoming board will be remarkably busy in 2026 as it is a Congressional election year. This is an opportunity for us to “seize the day.” Club members, as well as board officers, have an opportunity to shape our club’s programming, fiscal future, and charitable activities. Programming and budget committees will be meeting early in the New Year. If you would like to have input in these activities, please contact our First Vice President, Joane Palmi, or our Treasurer, Susan Calfa. The Finance and Budget Committee will be meeting after the Annual Board Meeting, Tuesday, January 6 at 1 p.m. at the Incline Library Meeting Room. Trust me, this is sooner than you think!

The month of January IVCBRW will not have a luncheon meeting for general members. Regular

2026 Newly-Elected Executive Board Officers
President – Suzi Cornell
1st Vice President – Joane Palmi
2nd Vice President – Shirley Appel
Secretary – Cretia Eyster
Treasurers – Susan Calfa and Trudi Adam
and our long-serving Parliamentarian,
Connie Skidmore

Legislative Corner – Your Federal Representatives

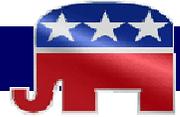
White House Switchboard (202) 456-1414
Comment Line (202) 456-1111
Capital Switchboard, Senate and
& House (202) 224-3121

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

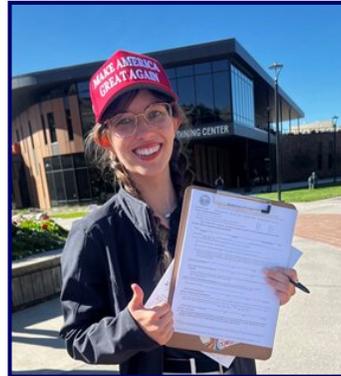


About our Speaker,
KIT WAITE

“Let’s keep Nevada RED,” says GenZ activist Kit Waite!



Nancy Manter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), introduced veteran *Scott Besing* at our luncheon on November 11, 2025.



That’s Kit Waite’s call to Nevadans - well to anyone who will hear the call to keep freedom and liberty in our state and country! At a rally in a packed house at the Carson City Central Committee on September 25, 2025 she reported, “I am BEYOND honored to be the voice and the face for @TPAction in Northern

Nevada. We have a state to win and a country to save!”

Kit’s talking with folks and her success with registering people to vote for Donald Trump really paid off. Nevada voted for Trump in a big way and added to the Swing State wins to make Donald Trump the 47th president of the United States!

Kit Waite has called Northern Nevada home since the age of seven, growing up in a Christian, conservative household that installed in her a deep appreciation for faith, family and freedom. Politics runs in her blood. Her grandmother served as president of the Republican Club in Newport Beach, California and her father nurtured her love for history and independent thinking from a young age. Kit currently serves as the Northern Nevada Field Representative for Turning Point Action. Since joining the TPAUSA team, she has been a driving force, mobilizing grassroots efforts and contributing to the fight to keep Nevada **RED** in 2024-25 and beyond.





Membership Corner



Our next lunch is on Tuesday, December 9th

New Officers will be installed by Kit (DiCarlo) Waite from Northern Nevada Turning point USA.

The Menu is roast pork tenderloin, with apple cider reduction, broccolini, roasted potatoes and cheesecake.

Membership Drive 2026

To encourage everyone to renew before the end of the year we are having a raffle. Here are the details....

**You could win \$50 (regular members)
Or \$25 (associate members)**

If you join or renew by November 15, you are eligible for 2 chances toward the cash drawing. If you join or renew by December 20, you are eligible for 1 chance toward the cash drawing.

If you are joining as a new member, your membership status will take effect immediately and continue through the calendar year 2026!!

To be awarded at our February meeting, you need not be present to win ... **but we hope you will be at the first meeting of the year!**

You can register/renew and pay on the website <https://ivcbrw.org/> and click "Pay" or RSVP to hnsenson@comcast.net and mail a check to IVCBRW, PO Box 3009, Incline Village, NV, 89450. We will also be accepting checks at the December 9th meeting.



COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Well, here it is the end of another November and the official beginning of the Holiday Season. As I am writing this for the December newsletter it is almost Thanksgiving. So before I forget, Happy Thanksgiving to all of you. I am going to write about what went on in our Community in November and since I am also co-program chairman of our 2026 Executive Board, I want to let you know about our December 9th meeting.

This year has gone by so fast and we will be looking forward to installing our officers for the 2026 year. Our installation officer and guest speaker is **Kit (DiCarlo) Waite**. Kit got married this past year. Kit is currently the Northern Nevada Field Representative for Turning Point Action. After the installation I will ask her to talk about Charlie Kirk and what she has done to make/keep Nevada what it is today - **RED**. I'm sure we would all like to hear about her experiences working with Charlie. So please join us to welcome our new board and also Kit Waite.

Now to get to the community and what has been going on. With the holiday season on its way, there is a reminder from Waste Management not to throw fats, grease, cooking oil, chemicals, old medicine or solvents down the drain. This damages the sewer system.

The next IVGID board meeting will be December 10th for those of you who like to attend those meetings. There has been much discussion about the beach deed and non-resident employees being able to use our beaches.

Here is some information regarding Christmas trees. Check the websites for the locations where

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

you want to cut down your trees, because the Tahoe Basin Management Unit is not allowing tree-cutting this year on their forest around the basin. The only areas where you will be able to cut down a tree will be either Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land or Humboldt-Toiyabi forest land. You will need a permit and make sure they are allowing cutting.

There are some things going on at our Library. They will have a food barrel at the library and all food obtained will be given to the Northern Nevada Food Bank. Please make sure donations are non-perishable and not expired. Suggested items include canned vegetables, rice, and peanut butter. They will also have a gift-wrapping station beginning December 8-23. They will have all the supplies needed such as wrapping paper, ribbon, bows, tape and scissors.

There was much discussion from the different County boards this month, I will report on these issues as things happen.

So, until next year, I will sign off and wish everyone a very enjoyable Holiday Season and hope to see you at the installation luncheon on December 9th.

Shirley Appel



Uncle Sam is getting tired of the Left's lies and obstruction of our republic!

A COMMENTARY

Thanksgiving Socialism

by John Stossel

People are turning to socialism. Two-thirds of Americans ages 18-29 hold a “favorable view” of it. New York just elected a “proud socialist” mayor. Socialism has never worked. Anywhere! Yet Seattle too just elected a socialist mayor. “Let’s give socialism a chance,” said a student writing in *The Student Life*, a college newspaper.

Americans should know we already gave socialism a chance. The only reason we get to celebrate Thanksgiving with lots of food is because the Pilgrims learned (the hard way) that socialism doesn’t work. When they came to America, they first tried sharing land. Governor William Bradford decreed that each family would get an equal share of food, no matter how much they worked. The results were disastrous. Few Pilgrims worked hard, claiming “weakness and inability,” wrote Bradford. “Much was stolen.” The same plan in Jamestown led to starvation, the death of half the population, even cannibalism.

Learning from their mistakes, the Pilgrims tried a different approach: “Every family was assigned a parcel of land,” wrote Bradford. Then, he noted, Pilgrims “went willingly into the field.” (That’s capitalism.) Soon, there was an abundance of food. So much that the Pilgrims and Natives could celebrate Thanksgiving together. This abundance has only grown. We’ll feast on vast amounts of food this Thanksgiving that, despite media clickbait, is much more affordable than it used to be. Today Americans spend only 10 percent of our disposable income on food. [Our abundance] comes from millions of people practicing capitalism, making billions of voluntary exchanges. It comes from free people willing to innovate and take risks, in an

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



COMMENTARY *(continued)*

attempt to make more money by serving customers better than the next guy.

This process almost always works better than government central planning. Without central direction, farmers, truckers and grocers move food across the country with remarkable coordination and efficiency. Stores compete so fiercely that they sell turkeys at a loss, just to get you through their doors. Global competition drives airlines to lower their fares so it's cheaper for you to fly home for Thanksgiving. And despite the media's alarms about climate change creating food shortages, global agricultural output sets record highs year after year. Government didn't orchestrate any of that. Government can barely manage a DMV line. Markets create abundance because they quickly reward people who figure out how to make things cheaper, faster and better.

That's what I'm thankful for this Thanksgiving. The alternative looks a lot like Venezuela, Cuba, North Korea ... While we enjoy the gifts that free enterprise brings, AP reports that in Venezuela, "every meal is a struggle." NBC, before going on to write silly stories that practically promote socialism, admits that in Cuba, residents face "daily blackouts lasting up to 20 hours, mounting piles of uncollected garbage, and severe shortages of food and basic goods."

When politicians try to control the economy, the abundance you get ... is scarcity. We live in a country where choices overwhelm us, and shortages are something we read about in the news. It should make us grateful. Not just for the food, but for the free enterprise system that creates it.

This Thanksgiving, as you go around the table to say what you're thankful for, take a moment to thank the farmers, truckers, pilots, grocery workers, engineers, entrepreneurs, and most importantly, the economic freedom that makes it all possible. Let's not let socialist idiots kill it! Abundance doesn't

happen by accident. It won't continue if we forget where it came from.



Author, John Stossel (JohnStossel.com) is an American libertarian television presenter, author, consumer journalist, political activist, and pundit. He is known for his career as a host on ABC News, Fox Business Network, and Reason TV.

Presidential Thanksgiving Proclamations

"It is eminently fitting that once a year our people should set apart a day for praise and thanksgiving to the Giver of Good, and at the same time that they express their thankfulness for the abundant mercies received should manfully acknowledge their shortcomings and pledge themselves solemnly and in good faith to strive to overcome them."

– President Theodore Roosevelt, Nov. 2, 1905

"I earnestly recommend that, withdrawing themselves from secular cares and labors, the people of the United States do meet together on that day in their respective places of worship, there to give thanks and praise to Almighty God for His mercies and to devoutly beseech their continuance."

– President Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1958

"On [Thanksgiving] let us gather in sanctuaries dedicated to worship and in homes blessed by family affection to express our gratitude for the glorious gifts of God; and let us earnestly and humbly pray that He will continue to guide and sustain us in the great unfinished tasks of achieving peace, justice, and understanding among all men and nations and of ending misery and suffering wherever they exist." – President John F. Kennedy, Nov. 4, 1963

"As was written in the first Thanksgiving Proclamation 120 years ago, 'No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God.' God has blessed America and her people, and it is appropriate we recognize this bounty." – President Ronald Reagan, 1982



AMERICANISM

A Brief History of Christmas Traditions at the White House

Historically the White House is full of rich Christmas traditions. Nineteenth-century White House Christmases, however, were not grand affairs. Some first families decorated the house with simple boughs of greens and wreaths. They often brought their own traditions with them and privately celebrated with family and friends.

According to later accounts, the first White House Christmas party was held in December 1800. President John Adams and First Lady Abigail Adams held it for their four-year-old granddaughter Susanna Boylston Adams, who was living with them. They invited government officials and their children to the party.

According to family tradition, President Andrew Jackson's 1835 "frolic" for the children of his household was one of the most elaborate parties ever held at the White House. It included games, dancing and a grand dinner, and ended with an indoor "snowball fight" using specially made cotton balls.

The first known Christmas tree in the White House was placed upstairs in the Second Floor Oval Room in 1889 during the Benjamin Harrison administration. The tree was decorated with candles in the then-used family parlor and library for the grandchildren.

Not all White House families after the Harrisons set up Christmas trees. The tradition typically depended on one of the following: the presence of young children or grandchildren; if the first families were in residence at the White House during the holiday; or if the family traditionally celebrated Christmas with a tree.

Documentation suggests the first electric lights on a family tree were used in 1894 during the presidency

of Grover Cleveland. (Electricity was installed in the White House in 1891).



This is a silver gelatin print of the Yellow Oval Room decorated for Christmas taken by Frank Boteler, ca. 1896. The Yellow Oval Room was used as a library/sitting room during the Cleveland Administration. This is one of the earliest known images of a White House Christmas tree; it is also one of the first photographs of an electrically illuminated Christmas tree. -- White House Historical Association

The Theodore Roosevelts traditionally celebrated the holiday with gifts, church service, and a family meal, but they did not celebrate with a tree. In 1902, Archie Roosevelt snuck a small tree into the White House and hid it upstairs in a closet. He later revealed the decorated tree to his family, starting a new family tradition. The president was amused and allowed it to continue while the family lived at the White House.

Historians, commentators, and writers later reasoned that Roosevelt didn't have a large tree because of his beliefs in conservationism, when in fact it was because the family did not traditionally celebrate Christmas with a tree. The custom of a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



Christmas Traditions at the white House

“Christmas tree” in every house is a relatively modern one.

The Taft children – Robert, Helen, and Charlie – placed the first tree in the Blue Room on the State Floor in 1912. President William Howard Taft and First Lady Helen Taft were away on a trip to Panama, so the Christmas tree was a surprise for the seven young Laughlin and Herron cousins, who with their parents were guests at the White House.

Maître d’ and butler Alonzo Fields recalled President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s cherished Christmas family tradition in his memoir, My 21 Years in the White House (1960): “They always braved the hazards of fire by having a Christmas tree lighted with candles in the East Hall. The family tradition included reading of Charles Dickens's Christmas Carol by the president. The gathering of the family with the President and Mrs. Roosevelt, the president's mother, the children and grandchildren made a comely family group of four generations.”

President Calvin Coolidge was the first chief executive to preside over the National Christmas tree lighting ceremony, doing so on the Ellipse in 1923.

Today, the Christmas Pageant of Peace, held there annually since 1954, includes the lighting of the National Christmas Tree. This interdenominational celebration features the appearance of the first family for the lighting, as well as musical and dance performances.

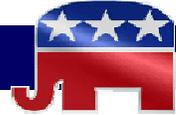


The record for the number of trees in the White House was held for many years by the Dwight Eisenhower administration when 26 trees filled the Executive Mansion in 1959. That mark has been eclipsed on a number of occasions: the Bushes’ “Nutcracker Ballet” theme (47 trees) in 1990; the Clintons’ “’Twas the Night Before Christmas” theme (32 trees) in 1995; the Bushes’ “Home for the Holidays” theme (49 trees) in 2001; the Obamas’ “A Timeless Tradition” theme (62 trees) in 2015; and the Trumps’ “American Treasures” theme (41 trees and more than 40 topiary trees in the East Colonnade) in 2018.

Notable: On November 24, 2025, **First Lady Melania Trump** received the official 2025 White House Christmas tree, which is from Korson's Tree Farms in Michigan.



Melania Trump oversaw the arrival of the 2025 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree as it was lifted off the flatbed of a truck on the West Front of the U.S. Capitol on November 21, 2025. This year’s Capitol Christmas Tree is a 53-foot red fir from the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest in Nevada. (Anna Money-maker/Getty Images)



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*

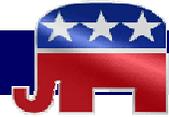
CHECK AREAS OF INTEREST:

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <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



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:

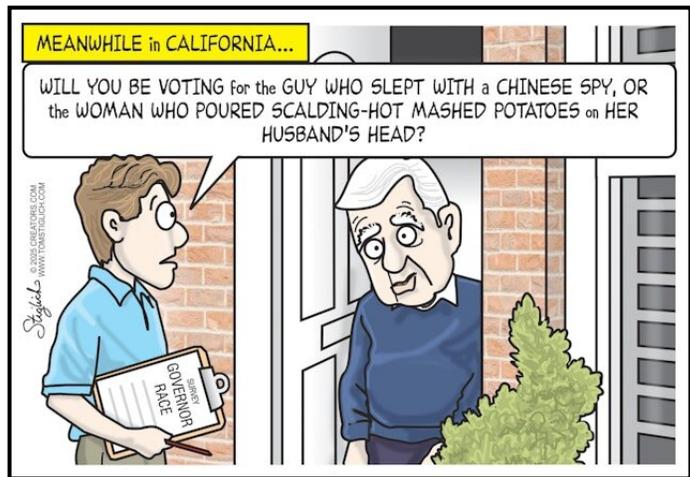
- Support the election of conservative Republican candidates.
- Educate club members and local voters.
- Communicate with local, state and federal legislative bodies to enact constitutional, conservative legislation.
- Collaborate with Nevada Republican Women's clubs to leverage best practices to improve 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.



happy
Birthday
to You!

DECEMBER 2025 Member Birthdays

Jane Barnhart.....	3
Joannellen Slocumb	4
Patti Clark.....	12
Silvia Leth.....	19
Sara Schmitz.....	28



THE WISDOM OF THOMAS JEFFERSON

“One single object ... [will merit] the endless gratitude of the society: that of restraining the judges from usurping legislation.” — (1825)



Incline Village • Crystal Bay

The Elephant's Tale

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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.