

TEMPO

JANUARY 2024



Commonwealth Republican Women's Club

"Our country is in serious trouble. We don't have victories anymore. We used to have victories, but we don't have them. When was the last time anybody saw us beating, let's say, China in a trade deal? I beat China all the time. All the time."

~ President Donald J. Trump

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Shirley Miles

Greeting members, friends, and colleagues. I am elated and feel blessed for the opportunity to serve as your 2024 CRWC new President. Thank you for your faith and trust in me to carry you forward in the new year of 2024. The installation of CRWC's new officer for 2024 went very well, as shown below:



New CRWC 2024 Officers installed by Monique Miles (second from right) are (L-R) Mary Froelich, VP of Membership; Laurie Kirby, VP of Programs; and (far right) Shirley Miles,

Former Alexandria City Council candidate Monique Miles led the installation of new officers for the next calendar year, making a particular point to highlight her mother, Shirley Miles, as the incoming President. Other incoming officers are Laurie Kirby, VP of Programs; Mary Froelich, VP of Membership; Suzanne Morrison, Treasurer; and Kira Sheaffer, Recording Secretary. Shirley Miles said, “We are going to have a very busy year in 2024, and we can’t wait to get to work.”

OUR GOALS

CRWC’s goals are to grow our base, support our conservative candidates, support selected Alexandria’s charities, support the VFRW/NFRW, and advocate for passing commonsense legislation that improves and protects the quality of life for our community, family, and country.

THIS YEAR’S OUTLOOK

This year’s outlook is exciting, challenging, and inspiring because we are in a Presidential election cycle. We are expecting a win in November 2024. The Iowa Caucus handed Trump a historic victory. What does this mean for Alexandrians? There is excitement among Republicans. The fire is starting to spark in the bellies. Democrats no longer have control of the Plantation; they have lost it! Many are jumping ship to

the Republican side, from top politicians to the younger voters who carried them in the 2020 election. We must cover all bases, such as supporting local candidates and reaching out to unchartered community territories to welcome our new families.

THE FIGHT FOR VIRGINIA

We were optimistic about gaining control of the Virginia House and Senate in the November 2023 election. However, that didn't pan out due to the lack of campaign resources and funding for specific campaigns. We are now advocating for Virginia's common sense Election Integrity bills and many others. That is why, on **Legislative Day**, we visited the office of our Legislators in Richmond and encouraged them not to give up hope. We joined many other VFRW members in advocating for our Legislators to stay the course for Quality Education, Safe Communities, Low Taxes, Job Creation, Enhancing Workforce Skills, and Election Integrity.

OUR OUTLOOK IS PROMISING

The younger crowd sees their income dwindling due to increased inflation and the high cost of essentials, making it more difficult for them to buy homes and start families. CRWC is working on solid programs and activities to attract this unique group to our club, where they can learn and make a difference in sustaining their future by actively participating in the political process where they have a voice in determining their future.

CRWC's COMMUNITY OUTREACH & CHARITABLE GIVING



Celebrating the generosity of local Republican women were: Assistant Police Chief Raul Pedrosa; Frederick Douglass Outreach Volunteer Bill Cleveland; CRWC 2023 President Connie Constance; Community Lodgings' Family Services Director Katherine Wiley; Alexandria Fire Foundation founder Marion Moon and Fire Department Community Outreach Coordinator Leslie Palucho.

ALEXANDRIA, VA – The Commonwealth Republican Women’s Club (CRWC) celebrated the Holiday season by donating to several worthy charities. The Outgoing President, Connie Cantrell, introduced the representatives of the organizations receiving the donations, which included the Alexandria Police Foundation, the Alexandria Fire Foundation, Community Lodgings, and the Frederick Douglass Foundation.

All representatives expressed their gratitude on behalf of their organizations. For those in attendance who were not familiar with the Frederick Douglass Foundation, Bill Cleveland discussed their conservative mission and recent U.S. Court of Appeals win for free speech in a case against the District of Columbia. He said, “This was an important win for faith-based free speech.”

ELECTION INTEGRITY

MAKE IT HARD TO CHEAT!!!

*****1ST VP OF PROGRAM REPORT – LAURIE KIRBY*****

We are excited to welcome Emily Lampkin, co-founder of Virginia ChangeMakers PAC, **to speak during our first member meeting of 2024 on January 25.** Emily will explain the origin of the PAC, its successes, and plans for the coming year.

Please plan to **arrive hungry between 6:30 and 7:00 pm at The Grill Room in Union Street Public House (121 South Union Street, Alexandria)** for socializing and to place an order for your dinner and beverage. We plan to begin our **formal meeting promptly at 7:30 p.m.** **RSVP at information@alexandriacrwc.org by January 23, 2024.**

In February, we will welcome native Virginian and author **David Shephard**, who will speak about **his book Elections Have Consequences, a Cautionary Tale**. It is a novel and a Virginia political thriller. It promises to be a most entertaining evening! Please **mark your calendar for Feb. 25** and watch your e-mail inbox for a message about our selected venue.

In March, we invited **Rosemary Gibson, author of ChinaRx**: Exposing the Risks of Americans' Dependence on China for Medicine, to present her findings. Rosemary describes herself as just an ordinary citizen who saw the need to sound the alarm about America's dependence on China for medicines. Her book is well-researched and has garnered much attention from the military, the U.S. government, and medical professionals. **Mark your calendar for March 28!** More information to follow!

2nd VP OF MEMBERSHIP – MARY FROEHLICH

Programs and activities are being developed to expand our membership in Alexandria's many diverse neighborhoods. Stay tuned.



BOOK CLUB

Susan Yonts-Shepard

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We are back from our December break and starting the new year with a NY Times bestseller.

Carol Roth, author and entrepreneur, investigates the “New World Order” and what the elites have in store for the rest of us. In her book, You Will Own Nothing, she explains who the World Economic Forum is, its members, and their plans to run the world according to them. She also suggests ways to protect yourself, your hard-earned wealth, and your children’s children from what the future will be if the WEF has its way.

The Book Club will meet at 1 pm on January 27th at Susan Yonts-Shepard’s house. Enjoy the book, and see you soon.

Jan 2024 School Board TEMPO – Deborah McKeeman

There was only one regular school board meeting in December. Public comments included an IA asking that instructional staff get fairly compensated, teachers lobbying for a union, one parent demanding solar panels be put on ACHS, another parent pleading for the School Board to look at their challenges and ask the City Council for the money necessary to fund the schools as it should. The Central Office gave a presentation updating the status of ESSR Funds. One SB question was whether or not the remaining funds could be reallocated to other areas if needed. Another presentation on the construction of the new Minnie Howard showed the project was on time and within budget. Dr. Kay Wyatt introduced members of FACE, now housed at Ferdinand Day, who gave a presentation on its operations, community engagement, and next steps. Last, the Chair congratulated Dr. Kay Wyatt on being nominated as the 2023 Superintendent to Watch by NSPRA. Please consider sitting in on one of these board meetings. Even an hour of your time (most meetings last 3 hours) will add perspective to what you thought was going on in ACPS schools. For more detailed notes about each meeting described, please email me at dmckeeman0002@outlook.com.

A frozen dessert shop becomes a snowy winter wonderland in Alexandria, in Del Ray. Photo by Dean Restivo



(www.AlexandriaCRWC.org and on Facebook as @AlexandriaCRWC) is the local chapter of the Virginia Federation of Republican Women (VFRW) and the National Federation of Republican Women (NFRW).