

Mark
your
calendar:

- Monday,
March 9th
MCRW
Luncheon
at noon,
Masonic
Lodge.
- Friday,
March 20th
MCR
Luncheon
at noon,
Two Rivers
Convention
Center.

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MESA COUNTY REPUBLICAN WOMEN

Volume 3, Issue 2

'Educate and Inform'

March 2009

President's Message

By Ruth Ehlers

Unless you've been out of the country for the last month, or have deliberately ignored the daily news, you, like me, have been hearing how our economy is going to be saved by the gigantic "Stimulus" package which Pres. Obama signed into law. The jury is still out on what the results will be, and we really won't know whether it will or will not work for some time.

My personal negative feelings about this bill aren't entirely about the tremendous debt placed on generations to come, but the hidden social aspects contained in it.

Edwin J. Feulner, Ph.D. wrote a piece entitled "*An Open Letter to the Congress and the President of the United States*" which was published on The Heritage Foundation website. In it he states:

"The bill reverses the bipartisan and highly successful welfare reforms of 1996 and drastically expands the welfare state. For instance, it will start rewarding states for adding people to their welfare rolls, rather than for helping them find gainful employment. And contrary to long-established practice, it will entitle able-bodied adults without children to receive cash assistance.

It does extreme violence to the concept of federalism – bailing out states that have spent irresponsibly at the expense of taxpayers in states that have been fiscally prudent. It greatly shifts the responsibility and power over health care delivery and decision making from individuals to government. Among other things, it would create a new federal health



board to decide which medical services are "effective" in America, paving the way for government effectively to overrule the clinical decisions of private physicians. It deliberately censors religious speech and worship on school campuses by prohibiting use of any "stimulus" funds for facilities that are used for sectarian instruction, religious worship, or a school of divinity."

Other provisions in the bill allow for in-state tuition for "illegal immigrants", amnesty from back taxes, but making them eligible for income tax credit.

Senator Bennet's visit to Grand Junction was supposed to assure us that "even though this wasn't a perfect bill, SOMETHING had to be done". I must be really out of touch with the way things ought to be done, but it seems to me that if just ONE Senator had voted "NO", Congress could have gone back to the drawing board and written a bill that did not include social programs which have no benefit to the economy.

It becomes quite apparent that we cannot afford to ignore anything that is happening in our nation's capitol and continue to contact our representatives in Congress. The contact information for our Senators and Representative are listed elsewhere in this newsletter. Don't hesitate to use them!

The only positive I find in this bill would be the campaign issues it gives us to support our Republican candidates for Senate and House District 3 next year.

Luncheon Highlight

The March 9th lunch speakers will be the GJ City Council candidates:

- Sam Susuras
- Bill Pitts
- Bonnie Beckstein
- Tom Kenyon
- Reford Theobald

R.S.V.P. for the next MCRW luncheon by calling Sue Stitt!

WOMEN'S FORUM

SAVE THE DATE:

March 31, 2009

5:30pm to 6:30pm

At The Gala Cafe



By Heather Benjamin

The following speakers will be presenting at the March MCRW luncheon on their platform and reason for running for various seats on the Grand Junction City Council Board. The election will be held April 7, 2009, with ballots going out in the mail around March 7th or you can cast your vote at the Mesa Mall, if you are a Grand Junction City resident.

Sam Susuras is running for the At-Large seat. He touts his economic development experience as beneficial



for serving on City Council. In addition, Sam currently sits on the Mesa County Planning Commission and the Budget Committee for School District 51. Sam currently does eco-

nom ic development covering 18 counties in Western Colorado. He has a B.A. degree from Oklahoma Wesleyan University, where he was named Alumni of the Year in 2008. He also is a graduate of the School of Banking from the University of Colorado. To contact Sam about his campaign, call: (970) 275-2265.

Bill Pitts, also running for an At-Large seat has been a real estate broker for The Right Realty since 1998. He began

his business career in the Grand Valley with the purchase of General Business Machines Inc. in 1967. Bill was honorably discharged from the Army in



1956 after serving two years. He went on to attend the University of Kansas City, majoring in Business Administration and Accounting.

Bonnie Beckstein is running for re-

election to District D. She touts 40 years of deep roots in Mesa County, raising a family and now enjoying grandchildren. Bonnie has been an active Republican since high school, serving as Precinct Committee Person, District

Captain and Treasurer of the Republican Party. In addition, Bonnie has been a board member of MCRW and is a past President.



Get Plugged In, Join MCRW

By Cathy Percefull

EVERY REPUBLICAN WOMAN SHOULD BE A MEMBER OF MCRW! Women benefit tremendously from their membership no matter how much time they have to be involved. Membership offers The Republican Woman magazine, Capitol Connection, Political Briefings, and our MCRW newsletter – these give every member the opportunity to know the facts about issues of importance to our world.

Every new member makes MCRW stronger and strengthens our voice at the local, state, and national levels. Any RW you know not a member of MCRW may only need to be invited to join our group. They may never have been asked to join MCRW. Now is the time to invite them!

If you haven't renewed your membership, please, do so today. As of this writing, we have 78 full members – a terrific start towards our goal of 200! And, we have 22 associate members! Members can be as involved or uninvolved as they like. As an American, it isn't enough to just show up on Election Day. It's vital that we learn and educate. One way to ensure power for our party is to strengthen our individual votes by standing together with others of like minds. MCRW fulfills that need. Your loyalty as a Republican Woman is deeply appreciated!



We have a wonderful product to sell – membership in an organization that meets the needs of RW. **Let's make MCRW #1 in Colorado for increasing our membership! Get your friends plugged in – join**

MCRW!

MCRW EXECUTIVE BOARD 2009-2011



Thank you

Sharon

Sollenbarger

and the Gala

Café for your

support!

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Cathy Percefull

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US Senator Michael Bennett
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MCRW'S Newest Members, THANK YOU!

FULL MEMBERSHIP

Kathryn Allen
Patty Bradshaw
Gina Cantrell
Dr. Angela Christiansen
Maxine Clark-Allen
Barbara Cotting
Rita Crumpton
Sherryn Eberly
Wendy Elliott
Teresa Fulmer
Victoria Gigoux
Laureen Gutierrez
Cynthia Hand-Treece
Bobbie Horton
Evette Lee
Karen Lee
Mildred Mahannah
Ginny McGriffin
Sylvia Morrison
Gladys Nielsen

Linda Patterson
Carol Pavlisick
Karen Powell
Cecilia Spangler
Sue Stitt
Cathie Swenson
Sheila Warner
Joan Kenyon
Sandy Peeso
Heather Benjamin
Rebecca Spiess

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Tom Kenyon
Steve Acquafresca
Gary Brewer
Harold Moss
Gary Parrott
Shawn Allen
Edwin Ahlers
Mary Lu Graham
Doug Nielsen

To save money and trees, MCRW would like to send you the newsletter via e-mail. If you have an e-mail address, please provide it to Cathy Percefull.

