



ATASCADERO REPUBLICAN WOMEN FEDERATED

2026 TRUMPETER

July, 2026

18 TIME DIAMOND WINNING CLUB

VOLUME 061-NO.07

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24th Congressional District
17th State Senatorial District
30th Assembly District

<https://www.atownwomen.com/>
www.facebook.com/ARWFclub

ARWF CALENDAR

We are meeting at the Atascadero Elks Lodge

1516 El Camino Real

ARWF General Meeting

Date: 4th Tuesday

July 28, 2026

Check-in: 11:00AM

Lunch: 11:30 AM

Speaker: District Deputy Dan Dow

Meeting/Luncheon Cost: \$26.00 You aren't just paying for a great lunch but also great speakers and some of our money goes to the Elks Lodge

Menu: To be announced



Location: Atascadero Elks Lodge at
1516 El Camino Real

Please RSVP through the Punchbowl Invitation. If you don't get it, email at arwfclub@gmail.com
ARWF Board Meeting You can also pay for the Meeting/Luncheon online

<https://buy.stripe.com/28E4gydCS0Ms3iN3IK6Zy03>

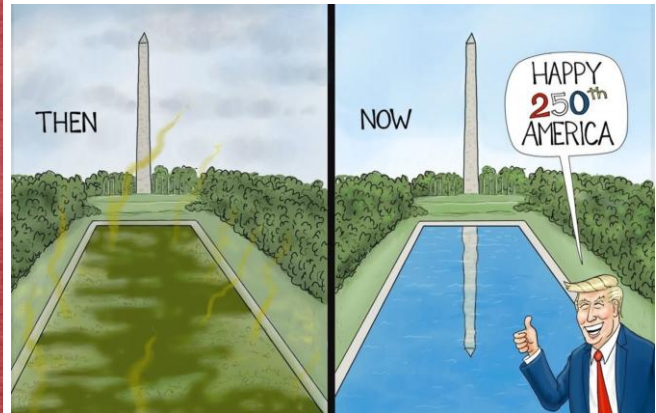
Date: Wednesday July 1 2026, 10:00am at the Atascadero Elk Lodge

Like us on Facebook!
[Facebook.com/ARWFclub](https://www.facebook.com/ARWFclub)



JULY

Don't forget to wear your Elephant Jewelry to the meeting. If you don't have or want more Elephant jewelry, check out the Jewelry Table. Barbara always has some beautiful jewelry available for sale



The Glorious Fourth

by Lenore Hetrick

In seventeen hundred seventy-six
A mighty document was born!
Around the table our forefathers
Gathered on that famous morn.
There before them lay the paper
With its words of lasting fame.
The Declaration of Independence!
Oh glorious Fourth of glorious name!

One by one our bold forefathers
Took the pen in hand to sign.
On that fine historic paper
All the names fell into line.
Fame eternal to the signers
Will be ever their reward!
On that eminent Fourth of old
They took a stand so bold.

Triumphant in our history,
And distinguished to the waiting world.
A new nation to the stars
And stripes the splendid flag unfurled.
In seventeen hundred seventy-six
Upon a day we love to praise,
The first heroic Fourth arrived –
And since, it's been our day of days!





President's Message – July—2026

Happy Semiquincentennial!!! Aka our 250th Birthday if you prefer!!

I just received the June/July 2026 issue of *Imprimis*, a publication of Hillsdale College. The lead article “How to Think About the American Revolution” by Christopher Flannery was thought provoking but the section about the Great Seal of the United States contained information I did not know.

On July 4, 1776, the very day the Continental Congress declared our independence from Great Britain, it appointed a committee to design and propose a seal for the United States of America. This seal was to be the official expression of the sovereign authority Americans were fighting for in the War for Independence. You may want to get out a \$1 dollar bill and look at the back.

Charles Thomson, Secretary of the US Congress and a founding father most of us have never heard of, submitted a proposal for a Great Seal. On the front of the Great Seal we behold an American bald eagle bearing on its breast a shield with 13 vertical stripes; clutching in its left talon 13 arrows and in its right talon an olive branch; the eagle's head is turned right toward the olive branch; a scroll held in the eagle's beak bears the familiar motto in Latin, *E Pluribus Unum*; and a crest above the eagle's head contains 13 stars from which a glory emanates, breaking through a cloud. The olive branch and arrows denote the power of peace and war. The eagle's head is turned to the olive branch, the symbol of peace, rather than to the arrows, because we fight wars for the sake of peace. On the reverse side of the Great Seal we see “a pyramid unfinished. In the Zenith an Eye in a triangle surrounded with a glory proper. Over the Eye these words “*Annuit Coeptis*” which means He approves of what has been started. “On the base of the pyramid, the numerical letters *MDCCLXXVI* (1776) and underneath the motto “*Novus Ordo Seclorum*” which means “New Order of the Ages.” The pyramid signifies Strength and Duration. The Eye over it and the Motto allude to the many signal interpositions of providence in favor of the American cause. The date underneath is that of the Declaration of Independence and the words under it signify the beginning of the new American Era which commences from that date.”

“We still live in that new American Era....the earthly work of American freedom, aspiring to be worthy of divine approval is always unfinished. We have, since 1776, experienced many more “signal interpositions of providence in favor of the American cause. So long as we continue in good conscience to appeal, as we did in our beginning to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions we may with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, like Americans of all preceding generations, with good heart “pledge to each other our lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor in this greatest of earthly causes.”

May we have Independence Forever, as John Adams toasted in one of his last public acts.

Jan Wolff

With attribution to *Imprimis*, How to Think about the American Revolution, Christopher Flannery



Pictures taken by Lupe from our last meeting



John Whiteley, Loretta Ezzell, Janice Whiteley, Shelly Sterni



Dawn Merzon, JoAnn Conner, Susan Needleman, Rachel Gray



Cathie Lyon, Rose Wheeler



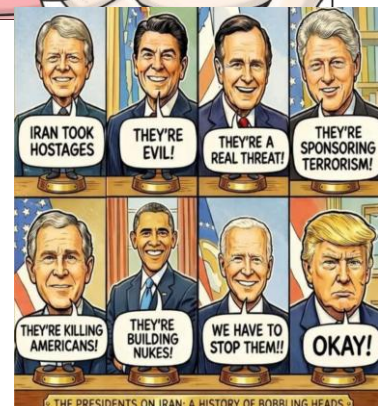
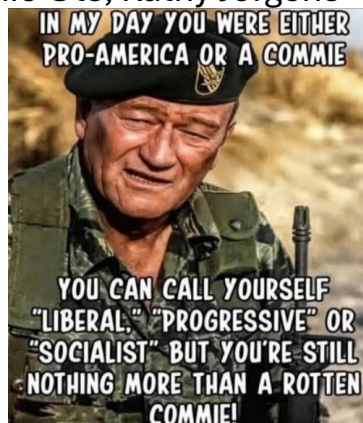
Sue Williams



Nancy and Mike Steinbock



Candy Wycoff, Vickie Oiler, Melanie Ots, Kathy Jorgens





SPEAKER FOR JUNE WAS ERIK GORHAM:

Our speaker for our June General Meeting was Erik Gorham, 5th District Chair (our district) of the Central Committee for the Republican Party of San Luis Obispo County.

Erik is often referred to as the voice of the North County. He knows everything there is to know about candidates, elections, and issues in our county. That is why he is often asked to be a guest on the Dave Congleton radio show and why he hosts informative radio shows on KPRL.

Erik, as 5th District Chair, seeks potential candidates to run for office. He said part of his job is to help vet potential candidates and then to get them elected. He talked about the Lincoln Reagan Dinner August 1st to be held at the Raven Ranch in Templeton this year and how important it is to come out and meet and greet our candidates and if we know of anyone interested in running for an office they can get in touch with Erik or RPSLO.

Erik informed us that we need two candidates for City Council in Atascadero. We have a Democrat incumbent running for a seat and a Republican leaving office. Heather Newsom is the Republican City Council Member leaving. So now is the time to look for good candidates. Erik said if we know of anyone, please let him know.

Erik went over the election, what is needed from us as Republican Women, who are supposed to support our local Republican Party by actively participating on all fronts where help is needed. Erik emphasized that the members of the Atascadero Republican Women Federated make a difference, more than we think we do. There are very simple things we can do to help our candidates.

Erik talked about what happened in this election cycle. One of the biggest things he saw was as an example Bianco and Hilton. Bianco brutally attacked Hilton even after he knew there was not a path for him to win. Erik stated that it is unfortunate when Republicans attack Republicans. He said that the attacks can get so bad that Republicans actually turn the win over to the Democrats. He has seen this time and again. We saw it in the Jones vs. Gibson Supervisorial race. Erik said that in this race that it got so bad, so bitter, and feelings were hurt so consequentially there were several Republican groups in this county who refused to help the Jones campaign, and we ended up losing by only 7 votes. Erik said we are seeing the same thing happen with Bianco vs. Hilton. Bianco is not giving up, he's still running, he's not giving up, he wants to run as a write-in. He's attacking Hilton bitterly if not worse than he ever has. Guess what, that does not get us elected anywhere. Erik said this happens all the time.

Erik cited an example with Geoff Auslin who was the Republican running against Dr. Jones in the primary. Geoff called Erik because he wanted to get a message to the Board of Supervisors. Geoff was under the impression that he and Erik were enemies. Erik said no. It was a race, that's all it was, because at the end of the day Erik loves strategy and politics. That is what he lives for. He loves election time and he said it was not about burning bridges and that is something we need to learn that.

Erik went over 3 races locally and what we have. He acknowledged Gaea Powell as one of the candidates who had for County Clerk-Recorder, in the audience and thanked her for running because it takes a lot to run for office. He said to get out there and throw your name in the hat and deal with what comes with that, you just must thank those people for doing that. Win or lose there is something about wanting to serve your community.



Erik said he could not hold anyone at fault for that. In this race there were three candidates, Vanessa Rozo, Gaea Powell, and incumbent, Elaina Cano which Erik said in his honest opinion, is the worst county clerk we have ever had in this county.

Erik said we have had predominantly Democrat clerk recorders that have been great. Tommy Gong, Erik said was a good person and ran our elections fairly. Erik also said that the Republican party did not chase Tommy out of office or the county, but the Democrats are still saying that is why Mr. Gong left. The facts are that Tommy's wife stole from the Booster Club and his son was caught with a camera taking pictures of girls in the girl's bathroom. He was supposed to apologize and refused. (It was Juanita's granddaughter). Tommy left to save face, and he had already secured a great job prior to his leaving.

Erik shared the numbers of the vote. Cano got about 63% of the vote, Rozo 26%, and Gaea, 10%. Interesting race because Erik did not see a lot of experience amongst the candidates. Looking at Cano, Erik said she was probably the most incompetent person in this office. Erik said there is a lot of talk about fraud but said that he cannot prove any of it so he cannot say there is fraud, because he has seen major incompetencies and weird things that have taken place. For instance, going back to the Jones race where they found 100's of votes in Atascadero a few weeks after the count, and they would let our campaign in to observe those ballots being opened. We get to watch all the ballots being counted. But we were not allowed to watch the counting of the "mystery" votes. Erik stated that while he cannot prove fraud, it is highly irregular. He said he can paint you a picture of how they got there, but he can't prove it and he will not accuse someone of fraud unless he can prove it. That's where he sits with it.

County Clerk Recorder race was a phenomenon, in that Erik said there was a lot of confusion amongst the electorate. People say they didn't know who to vote for because they didn't know if anyone of them were good choices. Erik said he felt Elaina would win because she was the incumbent with name recognition and that is very hard to overcome. Also, Erik said a lot of money would have had to have been spent to get that name recognition and hub bub going for the other candidates and he did not see a big expenditure. Also, people in this county do not know what a County Clerk does or a supervisor does. It is unfortunate.

Erik went over the Supervisors races, Jimmy Paulding vs. Verdin, about 54% to 46% and Michael "Woody" Woodruff vs. Jim Dantona (a progressive). Erik said he felt Adam Verdin ran a very good race. He said what we didn't do as Republicans, Republican Women Federated, Conservatives, is we didn't get behind the candidates. Erik said there are little things we can do, like take a picture with a candidate and then post it on our social media platforms, consistently, not overwhelmingly, but consistently.

Erik said in every race here locally, we won in the polling and got killed in the mail-in. Erik educated us on curing votes rather than having recounts. Predominantly votes are held back because of a signature. The candidate gets a team of people together and they investigate that voter and if they then you go directly to that voter, tell them their vote wasn't counted and you are there to fix that. Have them sign the paperwork. That's it. Note that you also have to cure the opposition if the voter says that is who they voted for. It is illegal not to because in essence you would be taking that person's vote away. Erik told us about Lynn Compton curing over 100 votes and ended up winning the election by 60 votes. We are losing by very close margins, Erik said, so these things are very important.

Erik has a wealth of information to share with us and educate us. We'll definitely have to have him again in the very near future.

JULY'S SPEAKER WILL BE: DISTRICT DEPUTY DAN DOW

Dan Dow was first elected District Attorney of San Luis Obispo County on June 3rd, 2014, and assumed office on November 7, 2014. He was re-elected to a second term on June 5, 2018, and to a third term on June 7, 2022.

As a career prosecutor, Dan has focused on sexual assault, child abuse, and domestic violence cases. Throughout his career, Dan has dedicated himself to protecting victims, ensuring justice, and reducing crime in our community. He was instrumental in the creation of the San Luis Obispo County Veterans Treatment Court in 2013, he formed the SLO County Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force in 2014, created the Misdemeanor Diversion Program in 2015, and established the Central Coast Cyber Forensic Lab in 2017. Dan serves as the current (FY 2025-2026) President of the Board of Directors for the California District Attorneys' Association.

Dan has served in the US Army since 1989 and currently serves as a Colonel in the California Army National Guard where he is assigned as Staff Judge Advocate for the 40th Infantry Division. He has been deployed overseas three times since 9/11. He returned from a 7-month deployment to Kuwait and Jordan in April 2024 under Operation Spartan Shield. He was deployed to Iraq in 2010 under Operation Iraqi Freedom where he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal; and to Kosovo in 2003 under Operation Enduring Freedom.

Dan attended Santa Clara University School of Law earning his Juris Doctorate and California State University, Hayward where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, Pre-Law. Dan and his wife Wendy have been married for 33 years and have two children.



<https://www.facebook.com/SLODistrictAttorney/>

https://www.instagram.com/da_slocounty/

https://x.com/SLOCounty_DA



RPSLO Atascadero Headquarters
 7357 El Camino Real, Atascadero
 Hours are 12:00pm to 4pm Monday through Thursday
 Friday 9:00am-2:00pm



(805)541-4010—Office Manager—Cheryl Burbach

You can also register to vote at the RPSLO Atascadero Headquarters.
 If you know of someone who needs to register
 let them know to come on down.



2026 Caring For America

Hello members,

ARWF bucket donations for June totaled \$65.07. The donations for April, May and June totaled \$537.38, being given to the Tree of Life. The donations were dropped off immediately after our meeting on June 23rd and was met with great gratitude and sincerity from TOL.



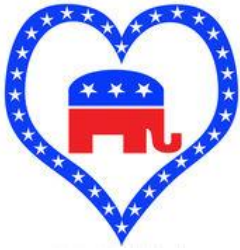
Wisdom of the Tree of Life

-  Symbolizes Interconnectedness & Growth
-  Balances Family, Love, and Strength
-  Inspires Renewal and Positivity

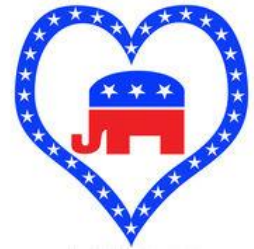
As I stated in the meeting, Veterans Helping Veterans will receive our contributions for the months of July through September, with a speaker coming in July to briefly summarize their services to our community.

As always, thank you for your generosity.
 Michele Nolan (Tabares-Nolan)
 Chair - Caring for America





ARWF



Our meetings are now going to be at the
Atascadero Elks at 1516 El Camino Real
P.O. BOX 1664
Atascadero, CA 93423

As of now, a total of 150 members have paid their ARWF dues for 2026. We have 12 Associate members. However, there remain 20 that have not paid, keeping you informed and engaged with our mission.

Welcome to our new members. If you see them at a meeting give them a hug and welcome them to our ARWF club.

Loretta Russell
Janice Chambers

Here is a link for the dues

<https://buy.stripe.com/fZe8z8g2Waow4GkeUU>

Here is the Associate Dues link

<https://buy.stripe.com/fZe8z8g2Waow4GkeUU>

or you can mail them in to

ARWF
P.O. Box 1664
Atascadero, CA 93423

Juanita McDaniel-ARWF 2nd Vice President



Annemarie Boyer	July	02
Kara Mugurian	July	02
Holly Martone	July	03
Dan Hathaway	July	04
Sonja O'Donohoe	July	05
Lisa Figg	July	06
Paul Bareis	July	07
Debbie Frye	July	08
Ann Spencer	July	09
Janice Nelson	July	10
Pat Stuart	July	30



Regular Member \$35 Name Badge (\$10.00)

Associate Member (Assoc. Members are men or members of another RWF club) \$15

Name: _____ Month/Day of Birth _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

I am a **NEW Member** who was referred by: _____

This is a **RENEWAL** I am a registered Republican

Checks payable to "ARWF", **Regular Membership \$35**, Associate Membership \$15 Mail to:
ARWF P.O. Box 1664, Atascadero, CA 93423



Republican Women Federated

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WE SHOULD SEND A CARD TO WHO IS SICK, BEEN INJURED OR FAMILY MEMBER PASSED? PLEASE E-MAIL THEIR NAME, ADDRESS AND REASON TO CAROL BRAZIL, CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, AT (lesbrazil@aol.com) or call (805)438-5398.

Name: _____

Address: _____

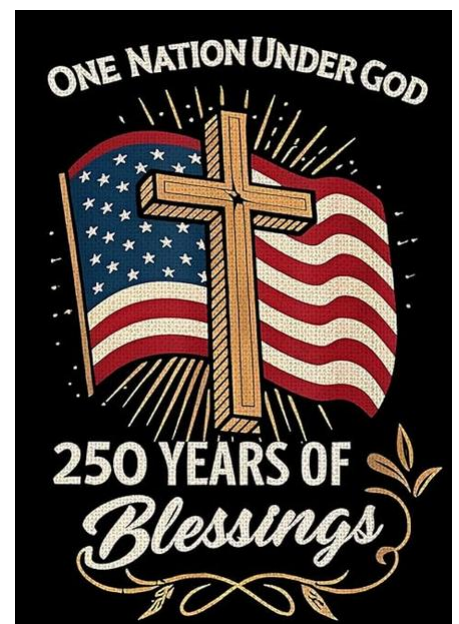
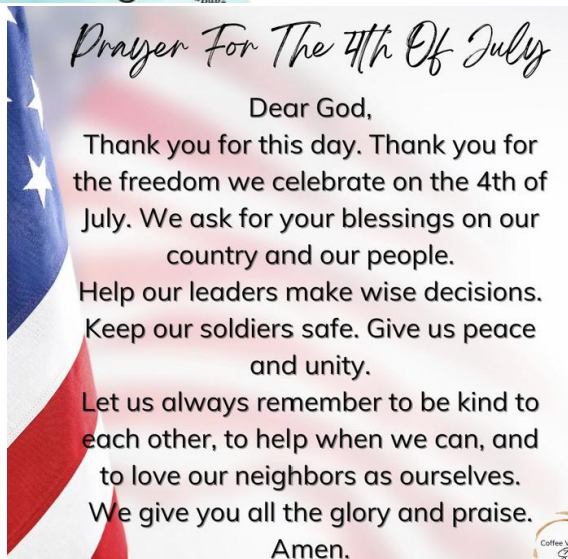
Reason: _____

Suggested by: _____

Barbara Tull's husband, Mel has pneumonia and is home resting after being in the hospital.

Donna Ferrell is home from the hospital She is very weak keep her in your prayers

Becky's grandson, Brycen and her granddaughter need your continued prayers from Brycen's terrible accident that left him paralyzed. Prayers were already answered in that he does not have MRSA. He was released from Stanford June 30th and is home. <https://pasoroblesdailynews.com/fundraiser-launched-after-local-motocross-racer-paralyzed-in-crash/216887/>



Your Representatives:

City Council —

Meets: 2nd & 4th Tuesday @ 6 PM

Mayor **Charles Bourbeau** (805)470-3400

cbourbeau@atascadero.org

Mayor ProTem **Mark Dariz** (805) 462-9488

mdariz@atascadero.org

Council Member **Susan Funk** (805) 464-7709

_sfunk@atascadero.org

Council Member **Heather Newsom** (805) 470-3400

hnewsom@atascadero.org

Council Member **Seth Peek** (805) [470-3400](tel:470-3400)

speek@atascadero.org

County Board of Supervisors —

Meets Tuesdays @ 9 AM

Fifth District: **Heather Moreno** (805) 460-9537

hmoreno@co.slo.ca.us

First District **John Peschong** (805) 781-5456

jpeschong@co.slo.ca.us

State Senator – John Laird (D)

State Capitol Room 4066 Sacramento, CA 95817

1026 Palm St, Suite 201, SLO, CA 93401

(916) 651-4017 (805) 549-3784

Senator.laird@senate.ca.gov

Assembly Member – Dawn Addis (D)

State Capitol 1021 O St Suite 5350 , P.O. Box 942849

Sacramento, CA 94249-0030

Phone: (916) 319-2030 Fax: (916) 319-2135

857 Santa Rosa Street SLO, CA 93401

Phone: (805) 549-3001



Governor—Gavin Newsom (D)

First Floor, State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 445-2841

governor@governor.ca.gov

U.S. Senator— Adam Schiff (D)

2500 Tulare St., Suite 4290, Fresno, CA 93721

(559) 485-7430 or (202) 224-3841

B40B Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

<https://www.schiff.senate.gov>

U.S. Senator—Alex Padilla (D)

2500 Tulare St., Suite 5290, Fresno, CA 93721

(559) 497-5109 or (202) 224-3553

112 Hart Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510-0504

U.S. Representative—Jimmy Panetta (D)19th District

800 Pine St. Paso Robles CA 93401 (805) 400-6535

<https://panetta.house.gov>

Republican Party —

National: 310 First St., Washington, D.C. 20003

(202) 863-8500, www.gop.com

State: 1001 K St., Sacramento, CA 95814

(916) 448-9496 www.cagop.org

Local: RPSLO County 7357 El Camino Real, Atascadero, CA 93422

Chair Randall Jordan (805) 391-0209

randall@palomarhomes.com

Voters Registration —

<http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/>

Voter registration forms are available at the Republican Headquarters in Atascadero or you can also pick up one at your county elections office, library,

Department of Motor Vehicles offices, or U.S. post office. It is important that

your voter registration application be filled out completely and be postmarked

or hand-delivered to your county elections office at least 15 days before the election.

ARWF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

President: – **Jan Wolff** – 805-674-0447- janwolff@flash.net

1st VP: Programs: – **Becky Hallett** – 805-423-3241-becky@travelingpots.com

2nd VP: Membership: – **Juanita McDaniel** – 661-979-2068-juamcd12@sbcglobal.net

3rd VP: Ways/Means: – **Dena Snedden** – 310-625-2615-dsnedden@sbcglobal.net

Recording Secretary: – **Laurie Richards** – 805-441-2495-lauriejanrichards@gmail.com

Treasurer: – **Cheryl Wiczorek**—805-423-0502 – Cheryl.wiezorek@gmail.com

If you aren't already registered on NFRW go to <https://www.nfrw.org/Login/Registration?returnurl=%2F>

open camera to label

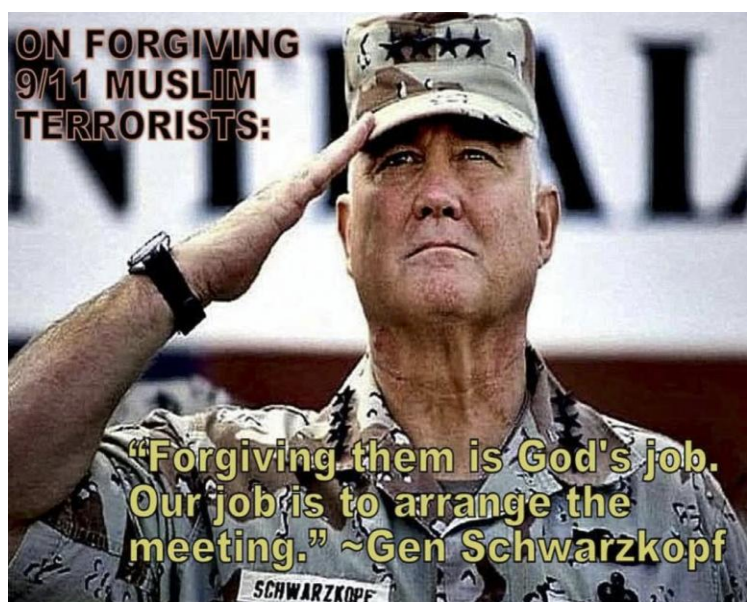


LOCAL REPUBLICAN WOMEN FEDERATED MEETINGS

Atascadero RWF, 4th Tuesday @ Atascadero Elks

Estero Bay RWF, 3rd Thursday @ Inn at Morro Bay

Paso Robles RWF, 3rd Monday @ Bellaserra hotel





2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 Happy . Birthday Sonija O'Donohue	6 RPSLO Hours 12-4pm Happy . Birthday Lisa Figg	7 RPSLO Hours 12-4pm Happy . Birthday Paul Barreis	8 RPSLO Hours 12-4pm Happy . Birthday Debbie Frye	9 RPSLO Hours 12-4pm Happy . Birthday Ann Spenner	10 RPSLO Hours 9-2pm Happy . Birthday Janice Nelson	11 Happy . Birthday Dan Hathaway
12 NATIONAL PECAN PIE DAY	13 RPSLO Hours 12-4pm International Kissing Day NATIONAL FRIED CHICKEN DAY	14 RPSLO Hours 12-4pm WORLD CHOCOLATE DAY	15 RPSLO Hours 12-4pm	16 RPSLO Hours 12-4pm National Sugar Cookie Day	17 RPSLO Hours 9-2pm National PINE SODA DAY	18 ALL AMERICAN PET PHOTO DAY
19 NATIONAL ICE CREAM DAY	20 RPSLO Hours 12-4pm NATIONAL MOON DAY	21 RPSLO Hours 12-4pm COW APPRECIATION DAY NATIONAL MAC & CHEESE DAY	22 RPSLO Hours 12-4pm NATIONAL HOT DOG DAY	23 RPSLO Hours 12-4pm WORLD SNAKE DAY NATIONAL VANILLA ICE CREAM DAY	24 RPSLO Hours 9-2pm Cousins Day National Tequila Day	25
26 Happy PARENT'S DAY	27 RPSLO Hours 12-4pm Grandparents & Elders Fellowship	28 ARWF Meeting 11:00am Atascadero Elks RPSLO Hours 12-4	29 RPSLO Hours 12:-4pm NATIONAL LASAGNA DAY	30 RPSLO Hours 12:-4pm Happy . Birthday Pat Stuart INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP DAY National Cheesecake Day	31 RPSLO Hours 9:2pm NATIONAL AVOCADO DAY	