



Luncheon Meetings

are every first Tuesday
of the month at 11:30
am at the Clarksville

Country Club. Cost is **\$19. Make
check payable to MCRW** (separate
checks for all other items.)

When you receive your reservation
request email from **Joan Niles**,
please respond as to whether you will
attend or not, by clicking "Reply" with a
yes or a no and include your name.
You can made your reservation by
email joanniles@gmail.com or phone
616-450-2800.

Deadline for making reservations is
Wednesday evening **before** the date of
the meeting on Tuesday. Deadline for
canceling reservations is Sunday evening.
Remember that "a reservation
made is a reservation paid." If you
know someone who does not have
email, let her know to contact Joan by
phone.

2018 — 2019 Club Officers

President

Brenda Lewis Graham

1st Vice President—Programs

Pamela Johnson

2nd Vice President — Membership

Opal Kennedy

Corresponding Secretary

Elaine Tucker

Recording Secretary

Nancy Adkison

Treasurer

Juanita Golson

Assistant Treasurer

Syndi Carlson

Immediate Past President

Matt Throckmorton

Charter Schools And Education Reform



Matt Throckmorton brings extensive policy,
leadership and operational experience to the
Utah Military Academy. Matt's service began in
1991 as a volunteer office worker for United
States Senator Orrin Hatch. From there he be-
came very active in the Republican Party, which
included time spent on the State Central Com-
mittee, chairing the 2001 State Republican Party
Convention Balloting, and numerous other posts.

In 1999 Matt was elected to the Utah House
of Representatives, serving the 65th District. In
this capacity he served as Vice Chairman of the
Law Enforcement & Criminal Justice Committee,
Chairman of the Child Welfare Legislative Over-
sight Panel, Chairman of the Enhancement of
Public Education Task Force, and Regional
Whip in House Leadership. At different times he
was asked to represent the Republican Party,
State Legislature, and the State of Utah in vari-
ous capacities, to include the International Com-
mittee of Communities of Peace, which met in
London, England in 2000. In this capacity, he
worked with representatives of over 100 other
nations to discuss policy opportunities to
strengthen communities and families. For his
service, he received dozens of recognitions for
his tireless commitment to free enterprise, Sec-
ond Amendment Rights, Education Reform, and
advocacy for individual rights.

In 2002, Matt shifted his focus into a more
direct role, affecting public education. This in-
cluded serving as an Adjunct Professor of Poli-
tical Science at Utah Valley University, and as a
guest speaker on education reform for Stanford
University, Brigham Young University, Vanderbilt
University, Harvard University, and many others.
His involvement focused on supporting the for-
mation, growth and expansion of charter
schools, which includes engagement with over
one-hundred charter schools. From 2007 to

2013 Matt served on the State Leadership
Council of the National Alliance of Public Char-
ter Schools, where he helped set the national
agenda and policy initiatives for charter
schools across the Country. Utah Military
Academy Executive Director Hill Field Cam-
pus, Est 2014 Valdez-Peterson Campus, Est
2017 His policy work has included the pas-
sage of over one-hundred-fifty improvements
to public education law, specifically in Utah
and Tennessee, though many of his policy
initiatives have been replicated in over a doz-
en other states. He has worked with almost a
dozen different Governors on education re-
form, to include advising on charter school
policies, an overall education reform.

Most recently Matt served as the State
Strategist for the Ted Cruz for President, Utah
Campaign, where strategies he helped devel-
oped resulted in Senator Cruz receiving al-
most 70% of the votes in Utah, which was the
largest margin of victory for any candidate
during the 2016 Presidential Primary. Matt
received his B.A. in Political Science from
Brigham Young University. He served as an
M60A3 Patton and M1A1 Abrams Tank crew-
man, to include a Rotation at the vaunted Na-
tional Training Center at Fort Irwin, California.
His unit, the 116th Armored Combat Regiment
was thoroughly defeated by the OpFor, which
was a tremendous experience. Matt is current-
ly an Honorary Commander of the 419th FW,
flying the F-35 Lightning II. He is married to
the former Valerie Reynolds; they have two
daughters, Madilyn and Hannah.

Committee Chairs

Americanism
Willi Frank
 Armed Forces/ Homeland Security
Willi Frank
 Budget & Finance
Cheryl Chapin
 By-Laws
Teresa Tuttle
 Campaign Hours
Nicole O'Connor
 Caring for America
Diane Green—Chair
Marty Matthews—CoChair
 Chaplain
Barbara Corley
 Club Achievement Awards
Pat Allen
 Communications
Joy Huggins
 Facebook & Website
Marie Tillman
 Fundraising
Nicole O'Connor
 Historian
Juanita Golson
 Leadership
Niesha Wolfe
 Legislative
Ashley Elizabeth Graham
 Literacy/Education
Ellen Twombly
 Luncheon Reservations
Joan Niles
 Newsletter Editor
Marie Tillman
 Parliamentarian
Pat Allen
 Publicity
Joy Huggins
 Voter Registration
Peggy Vaughn

Please Pay your Dues for 2018. Just \$25 per year! Men may join as Associate Members for \$10 per year. Make all checks payable to MCRW and send to: **Opal Kennedy, 1151 Needmore Road, Clarksville, TN 37040.** You may also pay your dues at the Luncheon meeting.

In order to be one of the clubs with the highest membership in the TNFRW, we need everyone to pay their dues and recruit new members. We have **61 paid members and 6 paid associate members.**

Meet Your Officers . . .

Your new **Recording Secretary** is **Nancy Adkison**. Nancy was born at the Presidio of Monterey, Fort Ord Army base, California. She grew up in Berkeley, Walnut Creek (3 towns over from Berkely), and San Francisco and graduated from Acalanes High School. Nancy has first-hand knowledge of the riots of the 60's over Vietnam, hippy living and Black Panther movement in Berkeley and San Francisco as she attended college and worked in and around these events. Nancy holds an Associate in Arts degree, a B.A. in Literature and 60+ units in Early Childhood.

Nancy's husband retired with 25 years in the Air Force and they have four children, nine grandchildren and one great grandson. They moved to Tennessee in 2007.

Nancy was very active in the National Association of Young Children (NAEYC) in legislative work for young children, gifted and talented and special needs children in Maryland, Colorado and California. Prior to her move to Tennessee, she taught 1st grade and kindergarten. She has served in such capacities as center child care director, family child care base/post director and a training and curriculum specialist in Early Childhood (birth to age 8). She loves God, her "extra" families and friends, reading, teaching and learning. She looks forward to getting to know you and serving you as Secretary and all you will teach her.

Serving MCRWC as **Assistant Treasurer** is **Syndi Carlson**. Syndi was born at Fairchild Air Force Base, near Spokane, Washington where she grew up. She graduated from college with a degree in Culinary Arts just prior to her marriage when she moved to Utah for a brief time and became a stay at home mom.

Syndi has been married to her husband Eddie Carlson for 16 years and is a mother of two — a fourteen year old son and a three year old daughter. After Utah she returned to Spokane and began working as the Office Manager for a small trucking

company. They moved from Spokane, WA to Clarksville, TN in 2007 so she could continue working as the company was relocating and has been with the company since its start.

Syndi is the Cub Master for a local Cub Scout Pack running the official business of the Pack as well as stepping in as a Den Leader when needed. She enjoys crafting of a sorts, mostly paper craft, crochet and painting. She has very little experience with politics but recognized the loudest voices were being heard and they weren't always the best thing for her family and our country and decided to take the first steps toward getting involved and making a positive change.

*We will introduce **Pam Johnson**, 1st Vice President, in our next newsletter.*

*The Montgomery County Republican Women
 Invites you to our Meet the Republican
 Candidates Brunch and Debate/Forum.*

Please join us on **Saturday, April 7, 2018** at the Clarksville Country Club to meet the local Republican Candidates for the May 1, 2018 primary.

This will be an opportunity for you to meet candidates that will be serving you in your districts as commissioners and as officers in various Montgomery County Government positions. There will be a Question and Answer period and a question box will be available for those who would like to present questions for the candidates.

The program begins at 10 am with an optional brunch starting at 9am. The cost of the brunch is \$17 and a RSVP is required for the brunch by March 30th to Joan Niles (616) 450-2800 joan-niles@gmail.com.

Please put this on your calendar, invite family and friends, get the word out and most importantly, **plan on supporting it with your attendance.**

A Message from Your President

Happy Easter!

After a long, gray winter, spring has come and with it the joy of this precious season. Easter can be a time of dyed eggs and baskets full of chocolate, but it is also a time of great hope. By Easter Sunday, the flowers are in bloom, the trees are beginning to come alive again, and the birds sing back to us the promise that all shall not only be made well – it shall all be made new!

Spring, with her longer days and more sunlight, also seems to be the time we want to get back out and about after enduring the cold. We hope to see each other at our monthly meetings and we look forward to our yearly gathering with Republican women from across the state this month. Ladies Day on the Hill is always a special time of fellowship and of learning new things. I hope to see many of you in Nashville in a few weeks!

Events like Ladies Day on the Hill and our recent Montgomery County Reagan Day Dinner don't happen without a great deal of planning, work, and commitment. I appreciate all of our wonderful members who made our Reagan Day dinner such a success! It was an enjoyable evening and I'm grateful for so many in our club who attended.

Be on the lookout for more events to come this spring. And don't forget – if you're looking for somewhere to use your talents and gifts, we always have a place for you to serve!

I hope your Easter season is full of happiness and wonderful memories with your family – and maybe even a few baskets full of chocolate. It's a lovely time to spend with family and friends, and I'm grateful to spend a few days of it with you.

May the joy, hope, and love of this holy season remain with you all year –




Montgomery County
Republican Women

Brenda Lewis Graham
 President

Bigfanngirl51@gmail.com

Home: 931-552-7667
 Cell: 931-801-3654



The 110th General Assembly *Ashley Elizabeth Graham*
Legislative Committee Chair

As always, please feel free to reach out with any question about legislation. Happy to be a resource! And let me know if you're headed down to Nashville – I'd be glad to show you around.

[\(ashleyelizabethgraham@gmail.com\)](mailto:ashleyelizabethgraham@gmail.com).

Our Club Objectives

- To promote and inform public through political education and activity.
- To increase the effectiveness of women in the cause of good government.
- To facilitate cooperation among the National and State Federation.
- To foster loyalty to the Republican Party and promote its principles and candidates in all elections, including non-partisan elections.
- To support the objectives and policies of the Republican National and Tennessee Executive Committees and to work for the election of Republican Party nominees.
- To attain Diamond Award in 2018-2019.

CARING FOR OUR MEMBERS

There have been SO MANY sick among our group that we will not attempt to name them for fear that we will leave out someone. Please know, if you're among that group, that we wish you to regain your good health and come back and be with us again.

If you know of a current or former member who has been or is ill, has suffered a loss or could just use a little cheer, please give **Elaine Tucker**, Corresponding Secretary, their names and addresses so she can send them a card.

Please share your good news with us, too.



This is a recipe from an award-winning cook in our Club. We've all experienced some of her delicious cooking, and this will certainly be another one of her delicacies. Cut it out along the dotted lines and then fold on the solid line in the middle and you have another Recipe for your file box!

From our Cookbook...

Apple Topping

Joan Niles

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2 Tbsp butter
4 cups peeled and sliced apples

1/4 cup brown sugar
1 tsp vanilla

Melt butter over medium heat in a large sauce pan. Add the apple slices. Cook, tossing and stirring until apples are softened and juicy. Sprinkle on brown sugar and vanilla, tossing the mixture. When sugar is melted and bubbly, take pan off the heat and keep warm.

NOTE: Our family loves these tasty pancakes for Sunday brunch or supper. They pack a bit more protein than typical pancakes, with mostly low fat cheese and eggs. Some prefer plain applesauce or honey or sour cream on them. Serve smoked thick cut bacon with the pancakes and you'll enjoy a filling meal without feeling stuffed. Feeds three to four hungry people.

FOLD ALONG THIS LINE

From our Cookbook...

Ricotta Cinnamon Pancakes with Sautéed Apples

1 lb. part skim Ricotta cheese
4 large eggs
1/4 cup honey
2 tablespoons canola oil
1 teaspoon lemon juice

1/2 cup whole wheat or white flour
1/2 teaspoon baking powder
1 pinch salt
1 teaspoon cinnamon

Mix cheese, eggs, honey, oil, lemon juice, flour, baking powder, salt and cinnamon well. Preheat oven to 200 to hold the finished pancakes. Heat a griddle, cast iron or large non-stick pan over medium heat. When a drop of water skitters over the surface when dropped on cooking griddle/pan, it's hot. Brush a dab of oil on the pan and drop 1/4 cup of batter. When bubbles appear across the top of the pancake and the edge looks firm and cooked, flip the pancake. Cook for a few minutes more on the other side. The center will rise up a bit. Transfer to a platter and put in the oven to keep warm.

Serve with apple topping.

Would You Like to Have A Cookbook?

Still wondering?!!

Have we tempted you enough that you want to get a complete cookbook? There are sooooo many wonderful recipes that you will enjoy.

Copies are available at the Montgomery County GOP headquarters or contact Brenda Graham.

What's Going On . . .

Some of our State TFRW officers just attended the first **NFRW Board of Directors Meeting of 2018**, plus the always informative and beneficial Legislative Day at the U.S. Capitol. At this meeting, members of the Board of Directors come together to conduct important organizational business and plan the future of the NFRW. We will pass on to you the outcome of that meeting in regards to Awards and agenda for 2018-2019.

Several of our members are preparing to attend **Ladies' Day on the Hill on Monday, April 2, 2018**. It will be an exciting day and we are especially pleased that our Representatives, Curtis Johnson, Jay Reedy and Mark Green will be having lunch with us. Pictures and a report will be forthcoming.

MCRWC Regular monthly meeting has been changed from May 1 to **May 8, 2018** due to the May 1 Primary. Please mark your calendars.

The **Tennessee GOP Statesmen's Dinner** is planned for **Friday, June 8, 2018** at Opryland. More information will be coming for that event.

Regular Monthly Club Meetings

MCRWC — 1st Tuesday — 11:30 am
April 3, 2018
May 8, 2018
Clarksville Country Club

RRRW—3rd Saturday — 9:30 am
April 21, 2018
The Looking Glass

Montgomery County GOP
4th Tuesday — 7:00 pm
March 27, 2018
April 24, 2018
GOP Headquarters



Members and Associate Members attended the 2018 Montgomery County Republican Party Lincoln Reagan Day Dinner.

We are especially proud that our Club contributed to the success of this event.

The decorations, registrations, setup and cleanup all were done by this amazing ladies group.

We are especially proud of our members Joy Huggins, who put it all together and Sharon Grimes who chairs the Montgomery County Republican Party.

