

Plan Ahead and Save the Date

For New Braunfels Republican Women events!

Wednesday, January 4 - **NBRW Board Meeting**, 4:30pm - Comal County Republican Party HQ, 265 Landa Street, New Braunfels.

Monday, January 16 - **New Braunfels Republican Women Meeting**, doors open at 6:00pm - Seekatz Opera House, 265 W. San Antonio Street, New Braunfels. Guest speakers will be Pastor Adam Cork, offering a prayer blessing for our elected officials; and District Judge Dib Waldrip, speaking on the Drug Court.

Tuesday, February 7 - **NBRW Board Meeting**, 4:30pm - Location to be announced.

Monday, February 20 - **New Braunfels Republican Women Meeting**, speaker and time announced soon.

This will be your last newsletter if you haven't renewed your NBRW membership for 2017. You can renew now, before the end of the year, to get the current rates.

Rates for membership *dues will increase slightly beginning January 1, 2017. You can print the application and **mail in with paymnt or renew on our website.

***Patron dues will not increase and does not include your membership dues.**

****If you are mailing in your payment, please make sure the postmark is by December 31, 2016.**

Current primary membership dues - \$25

As of January 1, 2017 - \$30

Current Primary membership plus spouse - \$27

As of January 1, 2017 - \$35

Current Associate membership dues (men, or women who are primary members of another Republican Women's club) - \$10

As of January 1, 2017 - \$15

Current NBRW Patron dues - \$100 - no increase, but Patron dues are separate from, and does not include, your membership dues.

New Braunfels Republican Women Patron Program

The New Braunfels Republican Women Patron Program provides a unique opportunity to take your membership to the next level. This special sponsorship program helps NBRW complete its mission by giving direct financial support to the organization.

NBRW uses funds raised through the Patron program for candidate contributions, scholarships, supporting the Young Republicans, and other endeavors NBRW participates in throughout the calendar year.

A Patron membership term is from January 1-December 31 of the calendar year and does not include membership fees for NBRW.

**We recognize and thank the following members
for supporting the 2016 NBRW Patron Program**

Carolyn House Bateman

Ruth Chambers

Joni Crane

Lisa Dunn

Ann Hughes

Bobbie Koepp

Donna Lee

Jan Morton

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Joanna Lewis

Gayle Nelson

Mark Reynolds

Regina Salazar

Susan Sonier

Jennifer Tharp

Susan Walker

Kevin Webb

Joyce Yannuzzi

You can join or renew you Patron membership online.

Please go to our website, www.nbrw.com and click 'Join' at the top of the page or you can print the Patron application and mail in along with your payment.



Date _____

Ck/Cash _____

PP _____ SQ _____

Renew _____ New _____

NBRW Membership Application

PO Box 310008, New Braunfels, Texas 78131

“Working Today to Elect Conservatives Tomorrow”

Dues: ___ Primary - \$25 yr ___ Primary plus Spouse - \$27 yr
 ___ Associate: Republican Men - \$10 yr
 ___ Associate: Female Member of **ANOTHER** TFRW club - \$10 yr
 (Name of primary TFRW club: _____)
 ___ Affiliate: Young ladies 13-17 years of age - \$10
 (Dues cover calendar year-Jan 1 to Dec 31)

NAME & Spouse _____ / _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/ST/ZIP _____

County of Residence _____ Voting Precinct No. _____

PHONE _____ CELL _____

EMAIL _____

****NOTE: If you don't want your phone or email listed in the roster please () around it.**

OCCUPATION (required by law) _____

(Including student or retired)

Please indicate your areas of interest:

___ Membership	___ Young Republicans Outreach
___ Campaign Activities/Voter Registration	___ Women's Health Fair
___ Parliamentarian	___ Scholarship
___ Headquarters (every election year)	___ Literacy
___ Hospitality	___ Tour of Homes
___ Reservations	
___ Publicity/Social Media	

WE ASK ALL MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE/SUPPORT OUR CHRISTMAS TOUR OF HOMES AND OTHER NBRW FUNDRAISERS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR – THANK YOU!!

Date_____
Amount_____
Cash/Ch #_____
PP_____SQ_____
New_____Renew_____



2017 PATRON APPLICATION

New Patron_____ Renewing Patron_____

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

Home Phone_____ Cell Phone_____

E-Mail_____

Occupation_____

(This information is required by law for reporting purposes)

**Please note: The Patron Program is separate from, and does not include, your NBRW Membership dues.

Please make checks payable to the New Braunfels Republican Women PAC, in the amount of \$100, and note "Patron" in the lower left hand corner. Send checks to:

New Braunfels Republican Women
PO Box 310008
New Braunfels, Texas 78131-0008

Patron dues are from January 1 - December 31 of the calendar year

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Understanding the Electoral College

by David Walbert

(For the full article, go to <http://www.learnnc.org/lp/media/lessons/davidwalbert7232004-02/electoralcollege.html>)

The people of the United States elect a President every four years, but not directly. Here's how it works.

--In November of a Presidential election year, each state holds an election for president in which all eligible citizens may vote. Citizens vote for a "ticket" of candidates that includes a candidate for president and a candidate for vice president.

--The outcome of the vote in each state determines a slate of electors who then, in turn, make the actual choice of President and Vice President. Each state has as many electors as it has senators and members of the House of Representatives, for a total of 538. (The District of Columbia gets three electors even though it has no representation in Congress.)

--In December, the electors meet in their respective state capitols to cast their ballots for President and Vice President. States may or may not require their electors to vote with the popular majority, and they may or may not give all of their electors to the winner of the statewide popular vote.

--These ballots are opened, counted, and certified by a joint session of Congress in January.

--If no candidate wins a majority of the electoral votes or if the top two candidates are tied, the House of Representatives select a president from among the five candidates with the most votes. Each state's delegation has a single vote. The Senate selects a vice president by the same process. (This hasn't happened since 1876, but it almost happened in 2000.)

What does this mean in practice? As everyone learned or was reminded in November, the candidate who receives the most votes nationwide does not necessarily become President. There is no national election for President, only separate state elections. For a candidate to become President, he or she must win enough state elections to garner a majority of electoral votes. Presidential campaigns, therefore, focus on winning states, not on winning a national majority.

It also means that — at least in theory — electors can thwart the popular will and vote for a candidate not supported by the voters of their state. In practice, however, electors are pledged to cast their votes in accordance with the popular vote, and "faithless electors" who go against the popular vote are extremely rare.

In 1787, it wasn't at all clear whether democracy would work. In fact "democracy" was a bit of a dirty word in some people's minds: it raised fears of mob rule, as in fact had happened in a few places during and after the Revolution. The United States was intended as a republic, in which the people would govern themselves only through elected representatives. Because the role of the President was so important, most of the framers thought that the people couldn't be trusted to elect the President directly. Instead, they should elect electors, who would convene as a "college of electors" to consider the available candidates and pick the best man for the job.

Before the Revolution, the British colonists didn't have much consciousness of being Americans. They may have identified themselves instead with the British Empire and with their own colonies. Even after the Revolution, loyalty to one's state often still came first. The Constitution was intended to unite the states under a single national government — but not entirely. Small states like New Jersey feared that if they formed a union with the other twelve states, they'd be swallowed up under the influence of more populous states like Virginia and New York. Virginia and New York, of course, thought that they

should have the most influence. That's why the states have equal representation in the Senate but representation by population in the House of Representatives: it's a compromise that allowed large states to get their due but still allowed small states to keep their identities and fight for their interests.

When it came to voting for President, the framers of the Constitution decided that the states should do the voting, not the people. Remember, there was no consciousness of the United States as a single nation; it was, literally, a union of separate states. So voting for President was to take place by state, so that each state could have its say. The compromise between big and small states was extended to the Electoral College, so that each state has as many electors as it has senators and members of the House of Representatives combined. Big states still have the most influence, but small states aren't completely lost in the national vote.

It was up to the states to decide how they ought to vote for their electors — and to a great extent still is, in fact. There is no national election for President, but rather fifty-one separate elections, one in each state and one in the District of Columbia. In the beginning, state legislatures voted for electors, who in turn voted for the President and Vice President. Electors were free to vote for the candidate of their choice, but over time they were increasingly elected because they supported a particular candidate. By 1832, every state but South Carolina held direct elections for President, and electors were effectively bound to vote for a particular candidate. (South Carolina held out until 1864.)

Today, of course, every state allows citizens to vote directly for electors — as represented on the ballot by the candidates with which they are associated — but the electors are still not legally bound to vote for any particular candidate. An elector could, in theory, throw his or her vote to any candidate! Since each candidate has his or her own slate of electors, however, and since the electors are chosen not only for their loyalty but because they take their responsibility seriously, this almost never happens. (It last happened in 1988, when it had no impact on the outcome of the election.) Some states have laws requiring electors to cast their votes according to the popular vote.

In addition, a state doesn't have to throw all of its electors behind the candidate that receives the most popular votes in that state. Two states, Maine and Nebraska, assign one elector to the winner of each Congressional district and the remaining two electors to the candidate with the most votes statewide. After the 2000 election, there was some debate about whether that system would be more fair than the winner-take-all system used by the other 48 states and the District of Columbia.

The original Constitution also didn't take into account the development of political parties. Electors were to vote for two candidates for President. The man with the highest number of votes that was a majority became President, and the man with the second highest number of votes became Vice President. In 1800, however, the Democratic-Republican Party nominated Thomas Jefferson for President and Aaron Burr for Vice President, and because there was no separate voting for the two offices, the two men tied in the Electoral College. The House of Representatives had to decide the issue. Afterwards, the 12th Amendment to the Constitution was passed, changing the system to the one described above.

Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free.

Ronald Reagan

November Meeting & Officer Installation

NBRW installed the 2017 officers, with Susan Walker taking the lead as President. The 2015-16 board is proud to be leaving the club in very capable hands. NBRW also hosted Chairman Tom Mechler, Republican Party of Texas, at our November meeting. Chairman Mechler spoke on the (massive!) victory across the board for Republicans. There were unexpected gains for Republicans across the country, but be aware the Democrats are not going to slunk back and lick their wounds, but will regroup for 2018.



NBRW's First Annual Christmas Party

NBRW held our first club Christmas Party on December 8 at the Lake Breeze Ski Lodge on Lake McQueeney. Everyone had a wonderful evening visiting and enjoying the delicious food. We even had a surprise visit from Santa Claus! (more pics available to view on our Facebook page)



NBRW Board 2015-2016

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Joyce Yannuzzi

joyce.yannuzzi@gmail.com

Vice President

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2nd Vice President, Programs

Joni Crane

3rd Vice Pres., Membership

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General Election November 8, 2016

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<http://www.capitol.state.tx.us>

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Donna.campbell@senate.state.tx.us

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Doug.miller@house.state.tx.us
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Federal Government
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Note: Please contact Senators or Congressmen by e-mail or by phone at their Washington or local office. Due to security concerns, paper letters must go through special processing and testing and is not recommended.

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