



### From the President

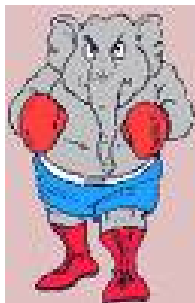
From my view of current events that are so-called newsworthy, I think there are folks who would like us to believe that the only people involved in questionable activity are those with an “R” by their name. Hmm... Does this send up flags for Conservatives or what? I say let all who serve get on the wagon, and he without any questions throw the first stone. I stated at the July meeting that we Conservatives seem to think people will figure out that there is an ALL OUT effort to discredit Republicans nationwide! We need to step up with our heads held high and fight back – by doing what we know is RIGHT: telling folks about our Republican Values, leading by EXAMPLE on a daily basis, and pointing out the good that comes from these fundamentals.

Sometimes it is easy to assume that people will realize the truth on their own. But while we wait for that to happen, others are busy in an ALL OUT effort working hard to spread even more bad will. I feel we need to come together as a TEAM and put our Republication Values in the forefront. Shout them! Show them! Live them by setting the example each day. I guess what I mean is Fight Back!

We have one of the largest clubs in ALASKA! We have many members with lots of family, friends, and others whom we see each day; be part of the TEAM and bring them to a meeting. Encourage them to share their time, energy, and values with other Republicans. Little things make the difference! If we all do a little, it will make a BIG difference.

A final note, don't forget to support the Republican Women's booth at the fair on the Purple Trail. We are the oldest booth at the Alaska State Fair!

Sincerely,  
Alice  
~ ♻ ~



### Guest Speaker Summary

The Alaska Republican Party's National Committee Woman, June Burkhart, was guest speaker for our July meeting. She covered a range of items and challenged our membership to get involved in several areas:

- ♥ Do what you can to **support our troops**, such as helping Tamie Miller with her “goody boxes” for the troops in Iraq and Afghanistan (cash donations are most needed) [see page 3].
- ♥ In addition to supporting our deployed troops, please **consider supporting family members** left behind [see page 3].
- ♥ **Visit a veteran.** For example, visit the Alaska Veterans and Pioneers Home in Palmer and simply take the time to talk to – and *listen to* – veterans [Contact info: 250 E. Fireweed, Palmer, 745-4241].
- ♥ Get out and **help recruit active Republicans** to join our efforts. Consider attending training for Voter Vault, a database tool that identifies registered Republicans in your community. Training is on Saturday, August 25, 8:30 am, at the West Coast International Inn in Anchorage. For more information, contact the Anchorage Republican Party at 276-4467.

Thank you, June, for taking the time to speak to us and offering your words of encouragement and inspiration!



June Burkhart and MSRWC President Alice Massie.

Check out the updated Alaska Federation of Republican Women Website at [www.akfrw.com](http://www.akfrw.com)!

## Welcome, New Members!

MSRWC welcomes four to our membership: Margaret Billinger, Dawn Brunett, Marilla Manuel, and Lee Fuller.

**Margaret Billinger**, long-time Republican, has been a club member in Florida and Valdez, and has been involved in several campaigns. She is a local Realtor with Prudential and has lived in Big Lake for the last 5 years. Margaret believes in improving the community and quality of life through organizations such as Red Cross, the Elks, and Chambers of Commerce.

**Dawn Brunett**, also a long-time Republican, was born and raised in Texas. She came to Alaska 2 years ago and settled here in the Mat-Su Valley. Dawn currently works for Mat-Su Health Foundation. She is also the owner of Jazzercise® and teaches classes at Sonja's Studio of Dance. She is anxious to get involved with the MSRWC and make our community a better place.

**Lee Fuller**, born and raised in Ohio, came to Alaska in 1964 and was a teacher in Point Hope, Gambel on St. Lawrence Island, and Nome. Lee is a life-long Republican *despite* the fact that her husband served 8 years in the Alaska Legislature as a Democrat! She now lives full-time in Wasilla. Lee is interested in improving education and is a supporter of the military.

**Marilla Manuel** came to Alaska with her husband in 1966 and lived in the Interior, mostly in Anderson. Not only a life-long Republican, Marilla was the first female elected in Anderson and served on their board! Later, she was awarded the "Citizen of the Year" award. She moved to Wasilla in 1988. Marilla is interested in visiting veterans, as suggested by June (see front page).



Above, left to right, our newest members are Dawn Brunett, Marilla Manuel, and Lee Fuller; left, Margaret Billinger.

### AFRW Panama Canal Cruise

January 19-February 2, 2008

There's nothing more fun than sailing with like-minded people!

Join Alaska Federation of Republican Women members from around the state on Celebrity Cruises' new 710 passenger ship, the Azamara Quest.

Visit <http://www.azamaracruises.com> for more information about the ports of call. Call or email Paulette Simpson if you would like to join the cruise: [paulettem@gci.net](mailto:paulettem@gci.net) or 907-364-3179.



## National Federation of Republican Women Convention

The National Federation of Republican Women (NFRW) is a national grassroots political organization with 100,000 members – one of the largest women's political organizations in the country.



The NFRW biennial convention will be held in Palm Springs, California, September 27-30, 2007. Members will join together and share their accomplishments for the 2006-2007 years. Monies raised for NFRW allow the national organization to support the local chapters through continuous education and training of tomorrow's leaders at their various conferences and conventions, as well as providing support through programs, handbooks, and information to the organization and the public. Attendance at this convention should reach over 2,000 political leaders and activists from all over the nation.

MSRWC is fortunate to have four of our very own members attending this event: Alice Massie, Judith Carmony, and Glenda Ledford as delegates, and Pat Purcell as Alternate.

## Support Family Members of Deployed Troops

President Theodore Roosevelt said, "Do what you can, with what you have, where you are." Here is our opportunity to support our troops by helping right here in our own community. As encouraged by June Burkhart (see page 1), I would like to start some sort of volunteer effort to help military Valley families who are managing homes alone while their partners are in Iraq or Afghanistan ensuring our freedom.

At our July meeting, Club Secretary Karen Tucker told a heart-tugging tale of her young neighbor out mowing her lawn juggling her infant in one arm. For me personally, I am a grandma-wannabe who would love to coo over a baby OR read a story to some toddlers while a mom or dad with a deployed spouse mows the lawn, shops for groceries, or even takes a soothing bubble bath alone and in relative silence.

If this moves you to action, please contact me and let's get something started! Some brainstorming ideas include:

- ❑ **Back-to-school morning break** – wherein we (MSRWC volunteers) baby-sit the non-school-aged kids while moms and dads take their school-aged children to school on the first day (August 20 for grades 1 through 12, August 27 for kindergarten).
- ❑ **Monthly 2 hours of Whatever** – wherein we (MSRWC volunteers) baby-sit so that parents can do "whatever" or we volunteer the time to help them do "whatever" (cook, clean, shop, talk, listen). We could pair up volunteers with a military family member to "adopt" or ...?
- ❑ **Let's here your ideas!** – what do you think? What can you do? When can you do it?

If you would like to get involved in this volunteer effort, contact Margaret at 746-1036 (evenings) or email anytime to [sharpeandfree@yahoo.com](mailto:sharpeandfree@yahoo.com).

"It is one of the most beautiful compensations of this life that no man can sincerely try to help another without helping himself."

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

## Free Fare to Fair (if you do your share)

Volunteer to (wo)man the MSRWC booth during the Alaska State Fair, August 23 through September 3, and receive a free pass for that day. Scheduled times are in 2-hour increments, but you are welcome to serve more!

Duties include registering people to vote, answering questions from the public, and selling items in the booth. Please contact Judith Carmony, [jhollin@gci.net](mailto:jhollin@gci.net) or 376-7163 to schedule your time. For those who have already signed up to help, Judy soon will be mailing you a schedule and your ticket(s) for your assigned date(s).

## Good Job, Good Boxes

With MSRWC help, and the dedication of Tamie Miller, troops overseas receive much-appreciated necessities, such as cotton socks and foot powder, as well as some nice items from home, like candy and comic books. These Goody Boxes are sent to troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Donations other than MSRWC have come from Action Apparel, The Carpetmen, Gibson Roofing, Sue Ellis & Company, Drs. Birch and Leonard Yuknis of Yuknis & Yuknis dental practice, Annabells Bargain Books, and Eagle Glass.

Tamie's current focus is to raise funds to include "Recon-Wrap" (see photo below), a multi-season, multi-mode, one-piece head gear that provides comfort and concealment in all conditions. It can be used as a sweatband, balaclava, neck gaiter, helmet liner, face cover, goggle cover, etc., and will protect our troops from dust, heat, and dirt (sand).

If you can help Tamie through labor or cash donations, please give her a call at 376-7163.

- ★ High-tech micro-fiber is as comfortable as cotton but offers synthetic performance.
- ★ Effective in hot and cold weather conditions.
- ★ Kind of spendy – so we need \$\$\$ donations to get these out to the troops.
- ★ One size fits all.
- ★ Made in USA!!!



Works with almost any headgear.

Source: [www.specopsbrand.com](http://www.specopsbrand.com)

# Calendar/Upcoming Events

## AUGUST

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## SEPTEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	*22*
23/30	24	25	26	27	28	29

- ▶ **Back to School** – 8/20/07 & 8/27/07; see page 3 – can you help a military family on this day? Contact: Margaret Sharpe, sharpeandfree@yahoo.com or 746-1036.
- ▶ **State Fair MSRWC booth** – 8/23/07-9/3/08; We need volunteers to run the booth; Contact: Judith Carmony, jhollin@gci.net or 376-7163 – **PLEASE VOLUNTEER!**
- ▶ **Republic Forum** – NO FORUM FOR AUGUST; 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of each month at Evangelo's Restaurant, 12:00 noon; Contact: Tamie Miller, 376-5636
- ▶ **\*No MSRWC Meeting\*** for August; September meeting is scheduled for 9/22; Contact: Alice Massie, abm\_51@yahoo.com or 376-5667

## Still Need a Name

Several members have offered the following name suggestions for our newsletter. If you have a bright idea for a name or would like to vote on your favorite from the list below, please contact Margaret S.

Conservative Crier	Mat-Su Meridian	Elephant Ear*
Mat-Su Review	MSRWC Watch	Republican
WriteValley Sights	Valley Vibes	Valley Views
Valley Vindicator	Valley Voice	Republican Ramblings

\* *Board favorite*

## Looking Down the Road...

**MSRWC Board Elections** – October/November. If you would like to run for the board or nominate someone, please inform a current board member.

**Lyda's Shopping Spree** – A wonderful opportunity for Christmas gifts at the home of Alaska State Senator Lyda Green, usually early December (TBA).

**Lincoln Day Dinner** – February 22, 2008 (tentative)

## MSRWC

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