



Asian American Republican Council of California



December 2004



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President's Message

With the conclusion of the 2004 General Election, we can rest somewhat easier, secure in the knowledge that we have a President who means what he says, and whose actions are based on principle and the national interest.

Despite the efforts of major media and so-called "news" outlets to convince the nation that Kerry should and would win, President Bush is reported to have carried 2,542 of the nation's 3,153 counties vs. 611 carried by Kerry.

We are proud of and would like to thank the many AARCC members who worked hard to support the Republican effort. People like Joan Kawada Chan, who served as Bush-Cheney '04 California Central Region Asian Coalition Chair, Vicki Beaton, who reported on the election and Republican efforts in the Chinese press and Dan Nguyen, who helped mobilize the Vietnamese Community on behalf of the President, to name just a few.

As we close 2004 and look forward to 2005, we invite you to join us at AARCC's Holiday Party (see page 4), and more importantly, urge you to join us in helping those in need (see pages 3 and 5).

Ken Kobrin

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President George W. Bush

We had a long night -- and we had a great night. The voters turned out in record numbers and delivered an historic victory.

I want to thank our supporters across this country. At every stop I asked you to make the calls, put up the signs, talk to your neighbors, and get out the vote. And because you did your part, we are celebrating today. Thanks to you, we received more votes than any presidential ticket in history.

America has spoken. And I am humbled by the trust and confidence of my fellow citizens. With that trust comes a duty: I will serve all Americans, so help me God. I am proud to lead such an amazing country -- and I am proud to lead it forward.

Reaching our goals will require the broad support of Americans. A new term is a new opportunity to reach out to the whole nation. We have one country, one Constitution, and one future that binds us all. And when we come together and work together, there is no limit to the greatness of America.

A campaign has ended, and our cause is renewed. The United States of America goes forward with confidence and faith. I can see a new day coming, and I am eager for the work ahead. God bless you all, and God bless America.



Car Thief Takes From Struggling Family Of Marine Serving In Iraq

During the holiday season, it is always nice to give of ourselves to those that have come upon hard times. In the Sacramento Bee, there was an article about Marine Lance Corporal Bandon Drelinger who is stationed in Iraq. His wife, Susan, and 6 month old daughter, Rylee, had all of their belongings packed in the car and were moving to live with his mother, Sharon, and stopped at Target to buy some supplies. While in Target, the car was stolen, as well as all of the baby's clothes, blankets, car seat, Sharon's work clothes, letters from Corporal Drelinger in Iraq, and more.

We asked Sharon what they would like to help the family out. She said that the family is in desperate need of clothes for the baby and suggested a gift card from Target, Old Navy or Babys-R-Us for this purpose. Therefore, we are asking all AARCC members to find it in their hearts to donate whatever amount you can to help purchase a gift card for the family. We suggest a \$20 donation, but if you can only afford \$1 or wish to donate \$100 or more, please send what you can.

Checks should be made out to AARCC and sent as soon as possible so it is received by December 10, 2004, to: AARCC, 5960 S. Land Park Dr., #384, Sacramento, CA 95822. Please mark your checks "Drelinger Fund". We will then purchase a gift card with your generous donation and make sure that all of your names are on the card.

Please also reply to this email address to let us know your donation is on the way.

On behalf of the Drelinger family, thank you from the bottom of our hearts for helping out this family of a Marine serving his country in harms way.

AARCC 2004 Holiday Party With Ray McNally



From: Asian American Republican Council of California (AARCC)

Location: The Nine Doors Restaurant
815 11th Street, Sacramento, CA

When: Wednesday, December 15, 6:00pm

Phone: 916-391-0227

Please join us for our 2004 HOLIDAY PARTY with our Special Guest, veteran Republican strategist and political consultant RAY MCNALLY.

Be sure to join us to hear Ray's insights on the recent election and his thoughts on the impact of grassroots organizations, as well as a brief Annual Meeting to announce the results of AARCC's 2005 Governing Board election and an evening of fun, food and friends!

COST is \$27.50 per person and your payment (no cash, please) must be mailed so as to be received by December 8, 2004 at: AARCC, 5960 South Land Park Drive, #384, Sacramento, CA 95822. Please mark your checks "Holiday Party".

SPACE IS LIMITED and reservations will be accepted on a first come, first served basis, so be sure to make your reservations by calling 916-391-0227 now!

Please invite your friends and members of other groups to which you belong to join us and LET US KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WHETHER OR NOT YOU WILL BE ATTENDING, AND THE NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL PEOPLE WHO WILL BE COMING WITH YOU, BY USING THE RSVP FEATURE BELOW.

We wish you and yours Happy Holidays and look forward to seeing you there!



Toys For The Troops' Kids

By Lynn MacLean

The children of the military need presents for Christmas! Many military personnel live paycheck to paycheck and being deployed at Christmas time leaves their families with little money for presents.

CRVA Charities, Inc., (with co-sponsors Sunrise Festival, Sunrise MarketPlace and City of Citrus Heights) will be collecting money and toys for distribution to the Family Support Units at Travis Air Force Base, Beale Air Force Base and California National Guard for the children of military personnel deployed overseas on Christmas and for children of military personnel killed or wounded in action since 9/11/2001. Their goal is to surpass last year's amazing premiere drive by collecting \$500,000 worth of toys this year.

Toys may be brought from 12:00 pm Saturday, December 11 to 6 pm Wednesday December 24 to Sunrise Festival Shopping Center at the corner of Sunrise Blvd. and Greenback Lane in Citrus Heights. Toys and money will be accepted 24 hours a day with rotating volunteers and celebrities accepting them.

Cash donations may be sent anytime to: CRVA Charities, Inc., 815 University Ave., Sacramento, CA 95825. Remember, this is a non-profit corporation so all donations are tax-deductible.

Ms. MacLean is a member of the Asian American Republican Council of California's Board of Directors and President of Sacramento Business and Professional Women.

AARCC Members Help Get Out The Vote

By Vicki Beaton

Based in California's Capitol, Sacramento, the Asian American Republican Council of California has been part of a strong grassroots force for the GOP. AARCC members participated in much of the important work, which included the effort to recall Gray Davis and elect Arnold Schwarzenegger as the California Governor; and, most importantly, worked tirelessly for the Bush/Chaney 04 Campaign.



AARCC members helped get out the vote at KVIE phone bank

During the day of election, November 2, AARCC joined other Capitol Republicans as part of a phone bank at KVIE Channel 6 Studio making last minute phone calls. A team started as early as noon making calls to help get out the vote and continued working until the voting polls closed.

Ms. Beaton is a member of the Asian American Republican Council of California's Board of Directors and a journalist with The World Journal, the largest Chinese newspaper in North America.

First Asian-American U.S. Senator Dies At 97

Former U.S. Senator Hiram Fong, a Republican from Hawaii, passed away on August 18, 2004 at the age of 97. Senator Fong served in the Senate from 1959-1977 and was the first Asian American ever elected to the U.S. Senate.

Senator Fong was a supporter of civil rights and voting rights legislation and served on the Senate's Appropriations Committee. Prior to being elected to the Senate, Senator Fong, once a poor shoeshine boy, rose from the slums of Honolulu and served as a Member of the Hawaii Territorial House of Representatives from 1938-1952.

Antonovich Salutes Asian-American Soldiers In The California National Guard And State Military Reserve

In anticipation of nationwide Veterans' Day observances, Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich (center) recognized the outstanding contributions of Asian-American soldiers serving in the California National Guard and California State Military Reserve (SMR) at a ceremony held at his office on November 9, 2004. After the ceremony, Supervisor Antonovich presented commendation scrolls to the soldiers at the Board of Supervisors meeting.

Joined by California National Guard Brigadier General John Gong (second from right), Deputy Commander, Support, 40th Infantry Division (mechanized), Supervisor Antonovich presented commendations in recognition of the significant contributions made by Captain Russell Nakaishi (second from left), Chief Warrant Officer 2 James Chin (left) and Chief Warrant Officer Steven Cho (right), all State Military Reserve soldiers.

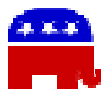


L.A. County Supervisor Mike Antonovich Honors Asian American Soldiers

Antonovich, a Lieutenant Colonel in the SMR, called the soldiers "patriots who have stepped up to serve our country with honor," and urged citizens throughout Los Angeles County to join in service to their country through the California state defense forces.

"The CA SMR has a long history of service to the people of California. Its members are citizen-soldiers committed to the preservation of freedom for our community," said Antonovich. "I encourage Asian Americans and others to join the ranks of patriots serving our state."

For more information visit the CA SMR website at www.calguard.ca.gov/casmr/.



AARCC Members Awarded Certificates of Appreciation



From left to right, Joan Kawada Chan, Ken Kobrin, Vicki Beaton, Mike Gubash and Lynn MacLean

AARCC members Vicki Beaton and Joan Kawada Chan were each awarded a Certificate of Appreciation by AARCC President Ken Kobrin at the November meeting of the Governing Board. Vicki was recognized for her outstanding media contributions to Bush-Cheney '04 during the 2004 General Election and Joan for her untiring efforts during the 2004 General Election and for her outstanding contributions as Bush-Cheney '04 California Central Valley Asian Coalition Chair.

Presentation of a Certificate of Appreciation to Dan Nguyen for his outstanding contributions to Bush-Cheney '04 in mobilizing California's Vietnamese Community during the 2004 General Election was postponed due to his inability to attend the November meeting.

Asian American Republican Club Of Nevada

By Elena M. Brady

The Asian American Republican Club of Nevada (AARCN) consists of Filipinos, Pacific Islanders, Chinese, Taiwanese, Koreans, East Indians, Vietnamese, Hispanics, and Native Americans. We accept membership of anyone who is a U.S. citizen and Republican, as long as his or her intention is to promote the Asian American Republican platform.

AARCN started in June 1, 2002, with the recommendation of the Nevada Republican Party. After talking with various leaders in our community, we conducted a rally to all interested community members and presented the idea of which was overwhelmingly considered. We worked on the necessary steps to start the organization, educated ourselves with the issues that affect our community, and hold meetings inviting different individuals to speak on topics we like to hear and know about. We also try to educate ourselves by attending functions of other Republican organizations to make sure we are on same page with different issues that we care about. This year we had representation in the County, State, and National Republican conventions. We kept the organization members informed through email and a newsletter.



AARCN Party for the President

The 2004 Presidential Election was the turning point of our organization. With a President who championed the advancement of many Asian Pacific Americans in all of U.S. History, we needed to return him the favor. We were in the threshold of making a mark for our organization in our State, to do something that our people in Nevada have never done before. We can help President Bush's re-election bid or we can completely be non-responsive - just watch and see what happen. We choose the high road of campaigning hard for President Bush re-election bid.



Laura Bush and Elena Brady

It was difficult to continue with the group early this year for lack of participation. I wanted to quit and go back to quiet life, until the call from Mr. Ross Mellor from the Bush-Cheney campaign. Mr. Mellor encouraged us to stay the course and facilitated a lot of the work that we did for the campaign. The NV GOP Chair, Earlene Forsythe, also gave us so much support and encouragement.

We could have not done better than what we did, humbly speaking. I am proud of the AARCN members who worked hard, giving their heart and soul to the campaign. We worked hard with coordinating people, phone bank calling, fund raising, volunteering at big events, voter registering, and educating people of the issues that affect them. I have seen people like Alicia Clement who acted like

a Mom, lectured many members of our community about the difference between two Parties and the Presidential candidates. She was outstanding and 'loving'. We saw many people switched parties and then turned around telling people about what they did and in turn we registered record new voters and added more members to the Republican Party.

It all came together, we picked up the torch and carry it to victory for Pres. Bush in our State and gave him four more years of same outstanding leadership and compassion.

Ms. Brady is President of the Asian American Republican Club of Nevada.

AARCC Members Serve Governor Schwarzenegger



Sean Liou with Governor Schwarzenegger

AARCC member Sean Liou served as a member of Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's Transition Team, and was previously appointed to President George W. Bush's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

Other Asian American appointees of Governor Schwarzenegger include A.G. Kawamura (Secretary of the Department of Food and Agriculture), Lance Izumi (Member of the California Community Colleges Board of Governors), and AARCC members Mark Uyeda (Chief Advisor to the Commissioner for the Department of Corporations) and Susie Wong (Director of Communications for the Department of Corporations).

Life Interrupted: The Japanese American Experience In World War II Arkansas

By Joan Kawada Chan

On September 22, 2004, my aunt and I traveled to Arkansas to attend the conference entitled *Life Interrupted: The Japanese American Experience in World War II in Arkansas*. This conference, which was hosted by the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and the Japanese American National Museum with major funding by the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation, chronicled for the first time in six decades the untold story of the Arkansas internment camps at Rohwer and Jerome. Nearly 1400 camp survivors, family members and historians from 36 states and Japan attended the conference. Among the group, over 900 were either former detainees or direct descendants of detainees.



Rohwer Internment Camp

In August 1942, more than 120,000 Japanese Americans were sent from the West Coast to 10 internment camps. Eight camps were in remote sites in the West. The two Arkansas camps, Rohwer and Jerome, were the only ones in the South. Between 1942 and 1945, Rohwer and Jerome held over 17,000 detainees. Signs of the former camps are mostly gone - the barracks that once housed thousands of families have long since been torn down and the land taken over by cotton fields in Rohwer and soybean fields in Jerome. At Rohwer, 24 graves of the elderly and infants who died in the camp and two monuments erected by the detainees are all that remain. One monument

honors the 31 Japanese American soldiers from Rohwer who were killed during World War II. A monument shaped as a military tank honors the U.S. Army's segregated Japanese American 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the most highly decorated unit in the European theater, who received the Medal of Honor. At Jerome, only one lone monument denotes that there was a concentration camp there. Both Rohwer and Jerome housed over 8,500 detainees each. The detainees mainly came from Los Angeles, Fresno, Stockton and Sacramento. Before traveling to Arkansas, the detainees were assembled and housed in horse stalls and other unlivable conditions at either their local county fairgrounds or Santa Anita racetracks for about three months.

On September 26, 2004, more than 900 former detainees and their family members, many of them stooped with age, boarded a bus to Rohwer and Jerome. For many, this was their first time back since they left 62 years ago. Many left flowers on the graves and took pictures while sharing memories, hugs and tears. There were so many emotions flowing through us for different reasons. My aunt remembered the cross-country train ride from Stockton to Rohwer. With the shades pulled down, they rode for four days and nights and had to sleep sitting up. When the train stopped, they saw rows and rows of tar-paper barracks in swamp land surrounded by high barbed-wired fences and with machine gun

towers all around the camp. Multiple families shared the same barracks with no walls between them. They shared communal latrines and had to stand in line for hours to get their meals and do their laundry, only to have their clothes get dirty again immediately afterwards because of harsh dirt storms and flash floods.

There were many attendees in their 80's and some in their 90's, remembering those bleak years over 62 years ago. This was the first time my aunt, as well as many others, had been back to Arkansas since the war. My mother, her two sisters and brother, who since passed away, were not able to be there, but we felt their spirit. I saw the auditorium my uncle helped build, I saw pictures of the mess hall which also converted into the washing area and could picture my mother and aunts stooping over the sink hand washing their clothes and hanging them on the line to dry.



Jerome Internment Camp

Some of the men who were there, who were born and raised in America, had volunteered to serve in the U.S. military for the war. U.S. Senator Dan Inouye, who is from Hawaii and whose parents were not in camp, stated that he wondered if he would have volunteered to serve if his parents and family had been stripped of their civil rights and tossed behind a barbed-wire fence for no other reason than their race. He saw the Rohwer camp for the first time in 1943. "Rohwer has haunted me. I



Joan and her Aunt Aiki with U.S. Senator Dan Inouye

have always asked myself that if I were in that camp, would I have volunteered. I have always felt I may not have volunteered, I may have said 'shove it'," said Senator Inouye. "These guys were special. It is amazing that they would volunteer from behind barbed wire," said Senator Inouye, himself a member of the Japanese-American 442nd Regimental Combat team and a Medal of Honor recipient. Many, telling their story ever so quietly, stated that it was a matter of honor and pride to show that they were Americans. Senator Inouye said that his father's parting words before he got on the train were: "Do not disgrace the family and do not disgrace the United States."

Capt. Justin Hayes, who recently returned from a three-month tour in Iraq, said the Japanese-American soldiers exemplified the U.S. Army ideal of "selfless service - the idea that a soldier gives to country without regard for personal interest." "I went to Iraq with full knowledge that my family was safe. It is amazing to me that these soldiers in World War II served while their families were exiled to remote swamps and deserts and these men would go on to serve in one of the most highly decorated units of the war," he said.

Mr. Nobie Asaki, while watching his wife place paper cranes on the graves, tried to explain the significance of the cranes, saying "they are symbolic of long life," before he began to shake and started to weep. Watching her father and crying herself, his daughter said it was the first time she had heard him try to talk about the camps. I think this is true for most of us. Our parents never spoke about the camps. Mr. Asaki, a World War II veteran who joined the U.S. military while in the camp, was among the hundreds of former camp detainees who returned for the first time since the end of World War II.

Mr. Sam Ozaki, looking at the 442 monument, recognized the name of his buddy who convinced him to join the U.S. Army's 442nd Regimental Combat Team. Mr. Ozaki's friend died fighting in France.

Mrs. Mary Asawa-Oye, 88, and her husband Joe Oye, 90, trudged through the rows of cotton that now surround the small cemetery. Mrs. Oye wore a t-shirt that she had made especially for her return to the camp. Painted in silver on her black t-shirt was 13-7-F, her family's former address in the camp, and 9-26-42, the date she arrived at Rohwer – exactly 62 years ago from her return visit. "Somehow this feels like this is where you've always wanted to come. To come back here and look at this place again. It's the opportunity for me to end this cycle," she said.

Too few know or understand this episode in American history in which loyal Japanese Americans were taken against their will to these inhumane conditions in concentration camps in the middle of no where without charge or trial but solely on the basis of race. The *Life Interrupted* conference, aimed to educate people about the internment camps which have been largely neglected in recent depictions of history, told a story of injustice and sorrow, perseverance and courage, through the eyes of those who lived the experience. Silent and silenced for decades, Japanese Americans share their memories in the hopes that the more we learn, the less likely such an injustice will happen again. Exhibits included stories from veterans of the 100th Infantry Battalion, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team of Japanese American soldiers and the Military Intelligence Service; a salute to the 24 Medal of Honor recipients from the 442nd Combat Team; Japanese Americans and American Jews who together experienced discrimination at war and at home; internment life through the eyes of both internees and Arkansans; paintings by Henry Sugimoto depicting his personal camp life experience at Rohwer and Jerome; student drawn murals shown for the first time; art which depicted the creativity of camp residents, despite a lack of materials to work with, such as furniture made from cardboard, flowers made from used paper and sculptures made from tree roots.

My eyes still swell with tears when I think about our four day experience. What is most amazing to me is that not one person had an unkind word to say about the United States government or how they were treated. "Shouganai" or "Shikataganai" - it couldn't be helped/that's just the way it was - was what they said.

Ray Johnston, Project Director of the Rohwer Relocation Center, said: "I was very agreeably surprised throughout the life of the Center at the excellent conduct of practically all evacuees. I do not believe that any other similar-sized segment of our population would have behaved themselves as well under similar circumstances. I feel that a group of average Americans, under similar conditions, would have been continually causing turmoil, strikes, and so on, and that administering such a Center would have been unbearable."

Over the years, I've read many books and articles about the internment camps and had felt that I intellectually and emotionally understood the heartache, but I couldn't have been

more wrong. Actually being there with so many internees and hearing their stories and experiences first hand--the impact on my heart was enormous. My parents instilled in me the importance of loyalty, respect, patriotism and pride. After being at this conference, I have a clearer understanding of these words and have a clearer view of what my parents (Nisei's - 2nd generation Japanese) and my grandparents (Isei's--first generation Japanese) went through to make life easier for the next generations.

PBS will be featuring a documentary about the camps entitled "Time of Fear". I hope you will watch it when it comes out next year.

Ms. Chan is the Founding President of the Asian American Republican Council of California, the founder and President of Integrated Solutions for Business and Government, Inc. and a former member of the U.S. President's' Council on the 21st Century Workforce.

Red States, Blue States, and the Regulatory State

By M. David Stirling

The most recent "red states – blue states" map demonstrates a vast difference in people's attitudes and thinking. Generally, people residing in urban-dominated and coastal counties voted blue, while residents of the more rural, interior counties voted red. Even within counties, it was primarily the population centers that colored a county's majority-vote blue, even though the geographically larger, rural portions of the same county voted red. The persistent gap between "blue" voters and "red" voters, however, runs deeper than their perceptions of whether George Bush is better at keeping us safe from terror or John Kerry is better able to create jobs. This attitudinal difference relates to a basic question that has been debated by man since his early ancestors first began to live and work together in groups – that is, the relationship between people and government.

As a microcosm of this gap between red and blue voters, King County, Washington, provides a remarkable example. Home to the city of Seattle, King County, together with the 11 more populated counties bordering Washington's coastal waters, push the state into the blue column on most political issues, including the recent presidential election. The state's 26 other counties, nearly all in Washington's rural interior, are consistently in the red column. But King County also has a suburban-to-rural area that lies outside Seattle's city limits, and the clash between red and blue voters has come to a post-election crescendo.

Last month, the county's elected governing council enacted a "critical areas ordinance" to regulate, for the purpose of growth management, how privately owned property can be used. Under this regulatory regime, owners of more than 5-acre parcels are required to set aside and preserve in their natural state -- indefinitely -- at least 2 ½ acres and as much as 65 percent of their property. Owners of five acres or less must preserve 50 percent of their property in its native vegetation. Token activity on a natural protection area such as walking, gathering firewood, or removing invasive plants is allowed, but any form of building, even of a woodshed, could bring county enforcement officers knocking on the owner's door. To be sure, the deep blue members of green organizations that pushed for the ordinance will be patrolling these rural areas in search of violators.

Although this severe regulatory scheme applies only in the county's rural areas, it received "aye" votes from all 7 blue members of the County Council whose districts lie within the city of Seattle. In contrast, each of the 6 red members of the council who represent the affected unincorporated portions of the county vigorously opposed the measure. Not only are red property owners screaming "land grab" and "theft," but they are demanding compensation for the "taking" of their property. They also resent the heavy-handedness and unfairness of the pollution-generator of the county, i.e., Seattle, imposing such draconian regulations on the rural areas – in the name of preserving the environment. The smug blue supporters respond with the collectivist mantra that personal property rights do not trump the right of a larger community to save the eco-system.

Even historically blue voters are revolting against excessive regulation. In the last election, 60 percent of voters in Oregon – the state with the nation's toughest land-use planning laws – enacted a strong property rights initiative. Measure 37 restores the rights of property owners subjected to King County-like regulations after they acquired their land, and requires the offending government to pay regulated property owners a fair value for the land they lost. As the proponents of Measure 37, Oregonians in Action, like to tell it, "In Oregon, when government steals your retirement nest egg, they call it planning."

Throughout the centuries, the question of the proper role of government in people's lives has occupied the great philosophers and caused some of history's bloodiest wars. Thomas Jefferson, who, as the author of the Declaration of Independence, understood the tyranny of oppressive government, warned of the constant tension between the people and their government when he said, "The natural progress of things is for liberty to yield and government to gain ground."

In the United States, where the founders envisioned "We the people" as the masters of the government, there is longstanding suspicion of government in general, and an increasing concern that government's intrusiveness into people's lives, livelihoods, and property is growing beyond reasonableness and fairness. This distrust of government overreach by more red voters is in marked contrast to blue voters' embrace – or at best, ignorant tolerance – of regulatory creep.

If blue voters and those they elect continue to promote an increasingly burdensome regulatory state, it should come as no surprise that "red states-blue states" maps in the future continue to resemble the last one. What may surprise the blue voters, however, is how many historically blue counties end up turning red with anger.

Mr. Stirling is vice-president of Pacific Legal Foundation, a public interest legal organization (www.pacificlegal.org) that has defended private property rights since 1973. PLF will challenge in court the King County ordinance described in the article.



2004 Election And The Vietnamese Vote

By Dan Nguyen

On July 29, 2004, Sen. John Kerry accepted the presidential nomination of the Democratic Party by saying that "I'm John Kerry, and I'm reporting for duty." And "Help is on the way."

To most Vietnamese, "Help is on the way." means "Communists are coming." as John Kerry has proven his relentless support for the communist government of Vietnam. The Communists did come on April 30, 1975. Thousands of innocent people were murdered and many Vietnamese girls were raped because too many Vietnamese naively reject the reality that Communists are committed to the elimination of Nationalists. Some were ordered to "Re-Education Camps" in the jungle due to their beliefs in free speech and religion. In search of freedom, hundred of thousands escaped by land or water and perished in the forest or on the ocean.

As John Kerry was accepting the nomination, Vietnamese asked themselves, "Why can't Americans remember what Kerry has done?" Determine to set the records straight, the Vietnamese community began to:

- ❖ Recruit Vietnamese volunteers
- ❖ Conduct voter registrations including Absentee Voting
- ❖ Mobilize Vietnamese political organizations and businesses in support the Bush-Cheney '04 Campaign
- ❖ Conduct rallies in support the Bush-Cheney '04
- ❖ Distribute Vietnamese voter guides on the web, via email, in community newspapers, on radio and television channels, and in person with flyers
- ❖ Conduct Get-Out-The-Votes operations

Our team made over 56,400 telephone calls; registered 28,700 new voters; distributed 126,000 voter guides in Vietnamese communities; distributed 187,000 voter guides as inserts in community newspapers and magazines; and posted 2,800 Bush-Cheney '04 posters in Vietnamese businesses! We even had a parade the weekend before the election!

The following are a few pictures that illustrated the campaigning activities in support of Bush-Cheney 2004:





Dan Nguyen is Membership Secretary of the Asian American Republican Council of California.

Honoring 150 Years Of Republican Civil Rights Achievements

By Congressman Christopher Cox

This year marks an important anniversary -- and it's a big one. Our party is a century and a half old this year. That is a big, big event: after all -- a 150th anniversary doesn't come along but once ... every 150 years.

It was 150 years ago this year that our party was founded in a small midwest town. Take a moment to think what was going on 150 years ago: John Phillip Sousa was born. Sacramento became the capital of our state. The San Francisco Gas Company illuminated its first gaslights. That's the world in which a few people in a schoolhouse in Ripon, Wisconsin came together to map strategy and to form the Republican Party.

The history of our party is as remarkable as it is untold, and it is under-appreciated for that reason. Just in the area of civil rights, there is no way in these brief comments that I can do anything like a comprehensive presentation. But I can tell you that for the last two years, the Republican Policy Committee in the United States Congress has been working to chronicle the Republican civil rights history, gathering thousands of facts, dates, and events. And today we are proudly issuing the 2005 Republican Freedom Calendar.

Unfortunately, the Republican Freedom Calendar has only 365 days. And so we have had to pick 365 out of hundreds and hundreds of additional civil rights accomplishments. It is truly

impressive to go through this. I have learned an extraordinary amount about our party as a result of this project.

The Republican Party, I am absolutely confident in saying, is the most effective political organization in the history of the world in advancing the cause of freedom. Frankly, we haven't had any competition.

The mission of our party was clearly stated by Abraham Lincoln: "to lift the artificial weights from all shoulders, and clear the paths of laudable pursuit for all." His use of the word "pursuit" recalls Thomas Jefferson's words in the Declaration of Independence. Just as America's founding document declared our right to pursue happiness, the Republican philosophy has always been focused on opportunity -- not equality of outcome, but equality of opportunity. The "artificial weight" that Lincoln is talking about is, of course, the weight of the state. In the most egregious form of statism, the government imposed slavery on millions of Americans.

Today, the animating spirit of the Republican Party is exactly the same as it was at its founding: free minds, free markets, free expression, and unlimited opportunity.

Leading the organized opposition to these ideas 150 years ago, just as today, was the Democratic Party -- in the form, then as now, of politically correct speech; a preference for government control over individual decision making (and of course slavery was the most extreme form of government control); government control of enterprise; and an insistence on seeing people as members of groups, rather than as individuals. It was that refusal to see the unique value of every individual that was at the heart of the Democrats' support of slavery.

So on this 150th anniversary, it is useful to look back. This morning, I will speak briefly on four of the significant accomplishments of the Republican Party in the area of individual rights and freedoms:

First, the role of our party in bringing an end to slavery in the United States.

Second, the role of our party in extending the right to vote to men and women of all backgrounds, of all races, and of all creeds.

Third, the leadership role of our party in ushering in the modern civil rights era.

And fourth, the leading role of our party in establishing an American policy of peace through strength that has freed hundreds of millions of people around the world from slavery and brought freedom, democracy, women's rights, and minority rights to the former Soviet Empire and across central and eastern Europe, Asia, and the Middle East.

From President Lincoln's victory in the Civil War, to President Reagan's victory in the Cold War, to President Bush's liberation of Afghanistan and Iraq, the policies of the Republican Party have brought freedom to a major portion of the planet's population that previously lived in slavery.

These astounding achievements are the result of our party's establishment with a fundamentally different vision than the Democrats whom we formed to oppose 150 years ago.

We started our party with the express intent to protect the American people from the Democrats' pro-slavery policies that made people inferior to the state. The Democrats didn't

just oppose Republicans, or merely tolerate racial discrimination; they were aggressively pro-slavery -- so much so that they were alternately referred to as the "Slaveocrats."

So on March 20, 1854, our founders decided to take them on. They drafted plans and platforms, and in the space of a few months, put together Republican Party organizations across the Northern and Western portions of the United States.

The first Republican state convention was held in Jackson, Michigan just a few months later in July. The first meeting of the Republican National Committee was two years later. Three months after that, the first Republican National Convention was held in Philadelphia.

That first Republican National Convention nominated our first presidential candidate, who -- as everyone here knows -- was a former U.S. Senator from California, John C. Fremont. He didn't win, but just four years later, a former member of the House did win, carrying the Republican standard. And not only did Lincoln win the presidency, but his coattails were so long and so broad that Republicans won majorities -- big majorities -- in both the House and in the Senate.

In fact, after the election of 1860, every single governor in every northern state in the United States was a Republican. This was phenomenal progress in the space of just a few years. It was possible because our party was based on such a powerful idea. We know now that we don't win elections unless we have ideas behind us. The history of the Republican Party is an amazing example of how much can be accomplished if your ideas are big enough.

These Republican majorities, and the strength of our ideas, enabled us to fight and win the Civil War. This same Republican commitment to individual freedom led our nation through Reconstruction, and guided our policies to the end of the 19th century and throughout the 20th century, to make the United States of America what it is today: a beacon of hope and freedom for the entire world.

Military histories of the Civil War are commonplace. There is an enormous industry dedicated to producing DVDs, videos, movies, and books about the military aspects of the Civil War. But all too little attention is paid to the political aspects of the Civil War. For many years after the Civil War, the history books accurately described the Republican Party's leading role in preserving the Union and ending slavery. But as history faded, and college professors became more partisan and politically tendentious, the facts were lost. "History" changed. The facts didn't change, but our history books did.

Today, students are taught that Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation was an eccentric individual act, and that Lincoln rose above politics in issuing it. In fact, the opposite was true. This was a profoundly political act, which had been expressly authorized by the U.S. Congress in a hotly debated law. Both the House and the Senate had solidly Republican majorities, which -- over strong Democratic opposition -- had passed the Confiscation Act.

That law stated very clearly that slaves belonging to rebels were free. By signing the Emancipation Proclamation, President Lincoln was implementing that statute. Freeing the slaves was thus a political question that every Republican in Congress voted for, and every Democrat voted against.

At the end of the war, despite their strong majorities, Republicans in Congress knew they wouldn't have a majority forever. Anticipating that the Democrats might someday come back into power, Republicans unanimously voted for what became the 13th Amendment to the Constitution -- thereby putting an end to slavery.

The Republicans in Congress went on to pass the nation's first ever Civil Rights Act, extending citizenship and equal rights to people of all races, all colors, and all creeds. Notice that Republicans didn't take the political approach that they might have, limiting themselves to saying that former slaves would now be treated equally, or only blacks or African-Americans would gain their civil rights. We said all people, all colors, all creeds -- because that's the way Republicans think. The founders of the Republican Party were simply putting in force the stated ideals of the Founding Fathers, so that our government would finally recognize that all people are created equal, and that all should enjoy the right to pursue happiness.

Republicans have always believed that every man and woman is created equal. This is not a choice that can be made for us by others. It isn't up to our government. So we required our government to fulfill that promise.

The same year as the first Civil Rights Act, Republicans in Congress wrote another constitutional amendment to extend even further the scope of our civil rights legislation. We extended the concepts of due process of law, and equal protection of the laws, to every state. Now, every state -- even those where Democrats held sway -- would have to implement these principles. No longer just at the federal level, but at the state level as well, the civil rights of every American individual would be protected.

This major civil rights advance -- what we now know as the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution -- is a purely Republican achievement, because every single Democrat in Congress voted against the 14th Amendment. That is another fact deftly omitted from American history textbooks these days: we owe our Constitution's guarantee of equal protection of the laws and due process to Republicans, and this bedrock of American civil rights was unanimously opposed by the Democrats.

Three years later, in 1869, the Republicans proposed yet another constitutional amendment, this one specifically guaranteeing blacks the right to vote. The same partisanship was in evidence: 98% of Republicans voted for it; 97% of the Democrats voted against it.

Seven years later, Republicans in Congress authored what was then, and what remains today, the most sweeping Civil Rights legislation ever enacted. The 1875 Civil Rights Act guaranteed the right of equal access to all citizens in all public accommodations -- whether or not owned or controlled by the government. Now that phrase, "public accommodations," is very familiar to us today, because it was at the heart of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, which became the focal point of the 1960s civil rights movement. The reason that this question was before the Congress again in the 1960s is that the 1875 Civil Rights Act only lasted for eight years before the Supreme Court declared it unconstitutional. What finally became law in 1964, therefore, was the original Republican legislation of 90 years earlier. Not surprisingly, in 1964 a significantly higher percentage of Republicans than Democrats voted for the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

The Democrats' opposition to Republican efforts to protect the civil rights of African-Americans lasted not just through the Reconstruction era, but well into the 20th Century. In the South, the terrorist wing of the Democratic Party, the Ku Klux Klan, virtually destroyed the Republican Party -- which did not recover enough to become a force in the region until President Reagan's message of freedom and equality for all prevailed in the 1980s.

Every single African-American in Congress, House and Senate, until 1935 was a Republican.

In 1872, the first black governor took office in Louisiana. I love his name: Pinckney Pinchback, a great Republican.

Our own state of California was the first to have a Hispanic governor. Can you guess his political party? Republican Romualdo Pacheco became governor in 1875, long before anybody had ever heard of Cruz Bustamante.

The first Hispanic U.S. Senator was elected from New Mexico in 1928. You guessed it -- he was a Republican, Octaviano Larrazolo.

Republicans led the fight for women's voting rights -- and the Democrats, as a party, opposed civil rights for women. All of the leading suffragists -- including Susan B. Anthony, Lucretia Mott, and Elizabeth Cady Stanton -- were Republicans. In fact, Susan B. Anthony bragged, after leaving the voting booth, that she had voted for "the Republican ticket -- straight."

The suffragists included two African-American Republican women who were also co-founders of the NAACP: Ida Wells and Mary Terrell, great leaders of our party, both of them.

The first women delegates to a national party convention did not go to the Democratic National Convention, they went to the Republican Convention. In fact, for years Democrats kept women out, while Republicans were letting women in.

The goal of the Republican suffragists, including their male Republican elected official friends, was to add an amendment to the Constitution that would give women the right to vote. Sadly, there is not a single California schoolbook in use today that tells students it was a Republican U.S. Senator from California, Aaron Sargent, who authored the women's suffrage amendment -- or that he named it in honor of another great Republican, Susan B. Anthony.

Senator Sargent introduced the Susan B. Anthony Amendment in 1878, but it didn't become the law of the land until 1920. Why? Because Republicans did not have majorities in both the House and the Senate at the same time, and the Democrats kept voting against it. But, in the meanwhile, in 1916, Montana -- which had by state law given women the right to vote -- elected Jeannette Rankin to be the first woman to serve in the United States Congress. She, of course, was a Republican.

In the national election two years later, in 1918, Republicans won majorities in both the House and the Senate. We then swiftly passed the Women's Suffrage Amendment. And 1920, therefore, was the first presidential election in which all women could vote. What do you think most women in America did? They voted for Warren Harding. In fact, I remember having a conversation with my grandmother about this. I talked to her about the first time she was able to vote, and I asked her, "Who did you vote for?" She looked at me as if I were crazy. "Of course," she answered, "I voted for the Republicans. They gave us the vote." That's why the Republican landslide for Harding was so big that year.

Meanwhile, in the face of the Democrats' continued terrorizing of Republican organizational activity in the South, many courageous Republicans were standing up nonetheless. One of the great Southern leaders of that era who was openly calling himself a Republican and drawing attention to his cause was Booker T. Washington, the famed educator and founder of Alabama's Tuskegee Institute. But even a man as distinguished as this, and even in the 20th century, was opposed by a still-racist Democratic Party. When Republican President Teddy Roosevelt had the temerity to invite Booker T. Washington to dine with him in the

White House, the Democrats raised holy hell through the media. They said it was a scandal, and outrageous, and an atrocity.

Republicans led the integration of pro sports. Branch Rickey, owner of the Brooklyn Dodgers, was a Republican businessman who hired his fellow Republican, Jackie Robinson. Together they integrated Major League Baseball when Jackie Robinson took the field in 1947 for his first game. In addition to being a great athlete, a great Dodger, and a great American, Jackie Robinson was a great Republican -- and a very outspoken one.

This year, 2004, is the 50th anniversary of the modern civil rights movement, which most people date to the Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court decision. That opinion was written by a Republican Chief Justice appointed by a Republican President, Dwight Eisenhower. And of course that Republican Chief Justice had been our three-term Republican Governor here in California, and he'd been our Republican nominee for Vice President of the United States in 1948: Earl Warren.

Three years after Brown, President Eisenhower won passage of his landmark Civil Rights Act of 1957. Now remember, the nation had just ended a long stretch of Democratic administrations -- nearly four terms of FDR, and seven years of Truman -- and yet there had been no civil rights legislation at all. In fact, the Republican Civil Rights Act of 1957 was the first U.S. civil rights legislation in eight decades.

Another great Republican, U.S. Senator Everett Dirksen of Illinois, authored and introduced the 1960 Civil Rights Act. It was also he who was most responsible -- more than any other individual -- for the passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. As Republican Leader in the Senate, even though his party was in the minority, Dirksen crafted the strategy that overcame long odds and tenacious Democratic opposition.

The Democrats weren't just internally conflicted about the 1964 Civil Rights Act; a significant number of them actually filibustered it -- preventing an up or down vote on the bill. Eventually, however -- thanks to Dirksen's leadership -- this landmark legislation did get the vote it deserved. As with all of the previous civil rights legislation in our nation's history, it passed with significantly more support from Republicans than from Democrats. The same was true for the 1965 Voting Rights Act, which became law the following year.

Which political party gave our nation the first Asian American Senator in the United States Senate? The Republican Party -- and it was the esteemed Hiram Fong of Hawaii. The first African American Senator after Reconstruction? Republican Ed Brooke from Massachusetts. The first Asian American federal judge? Republican Herbert Choy, appointed to the U.S. Court of Appeals, by President Nixon, for whom I served as law clerk.

The first woman on the Supreme Court? Everyone knows that. But you may not have known that before she became a U.S. Supreme Court Justice, Arizona Republican Sandra Day O'Connor was the first woman to be Majority Leader in the legislature of any state.

The first Hispanic member of the President's Cabinet? Republican Lauro Cavazos, Secretary of Education under President Reagan.

It was President Ford who, in 1976, repealed FDR's notorious executive order interning 120,000 Japanese Americans during World War II.

We can be proud of Republican appointments such as Justice Clarence Thomas, the former Chairman of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; Colin Powell, the first African American to be National Security Advisor or Secretary of State; Condoleezza Rice,

the first woman to serve as National Security Advisor; and Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao, the first Asian American woman in any president's Cabinet.

This remarkable, unbroken 150-year string of civil rights achievements is the reason that, this year, we are so proud to publish the 2005 Republican Freedom Calendar. Our party has a great story to tell. There is also much work still to be done to secure the God-given rights of all men and women, and the Republican Party is leading the way.

Ronald Reagan was fond of saying that the United States of America is the only country on Earth, now or at any time in history, that was founded not on race or nationality, but on an ideal. Republicans, from the founding of our party to this very day, have been carrying forward this ideal of individual freedom.

Now, in our 150th year as a party, we have not only an opportunity to reflect, but also a chance to advance our cause of promoting freedom. This is a presidential election year, and the choice could not be more stark.

Today, our nation is carrying the torch of freedom to oppressed people across the globe. President Bush and the Republican Party have led America to throw off the "chains of oppression" in Afghanistan, and to free millions of women from the shackles of Taliban rule. Afghan women can now vote; they can go to school; they can practice their professions; and women are no longer required to be fully covered from head to toe when in public. In response to this American victory for human rights, Michael Moore, John Kerry, and John Edwards have only criticism.

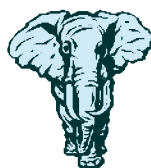
President Bush and the Republican Party have led America to liberate Iraq, freeing more than 24 million people from a brutal, murderous dictator who piled more than 400,000 men, women, and children in mass graves -- and who killed more than one million of his fellow citizens. Iraqi men and women are now building their own democracy, as a free people. But John Kerry, Michael Moore, and John Edwards say that spreading democracy in the Middle East is a fool's errand unworthy of America.

Republicans disagree, as we have for 150 years. We believe that governments have no right to enslave people, and that our own liberties are at risk when racists, theocrats, terrorists, and murderers go unpunished and unchecked. That is why, in the end, our Republican commitment to civil rights and individual freedom undergirds our policies of limited government and peace through strength.

This year, the cause for freedom can advance or retreat. With your help, it will prevail. Pick up a 2005 Freedom Calendar. Share it with a friend. Remember: if you don't spread the message of our party, the media, academia, and Hollywood won't do it for you.

Congratulations on being a Republican. And happy 150th Birthday!

Congressman Cox has served in the U.S. House of Representatives since 1988. He currently chairs the Homeland Security Committee and the House Policy Committee.



Upcoming Events

- Dec. 4 -- Elk Grove-Laguna Area Republicans Holiday Party. Call 916-682-9718 for further information.
- Dec. 7 -- Sacramento County Republican Party Holiday Party. Call 916-925-1850 for further information.
- Dec. 11 -- Log Cabin Republicans Holiday Party. Call 916-422-5328 for further information.
- Dec. 15 -- AARCC Holiday Party and Annual Meeting with Ray McNally at The Nine Doors** Restaurant in Sacramento. Space is limited. Call 916-391-0227 for further information.
- Dec. 17 -- Gold River-Rancho Cordova Republicans Holiday Party. Call 916-366-7080 for further information.

