



**THE HEMET-SAN JACINTO CHAPTER  
OF THE  
CALIFORNIA CONGRESS OF REPUBLICANS**  
*Invites you and your friends*

*to the*

*February 23, 2026 General Membership Meeting  
At  
The Elks Lodge  
1305 West Florida, Hemet*

**SPEAKER**

**PAULA HIRN**  
**Topic: HEMET POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**K-NINE UNIT**



***Dinner Reservations Are a Must!***

*Social at 6 P.M.  
Dinner at 6:30  
Members: \$20  
Non-Members: \$22  
Program Only: \$5*

*Please RSVP  
By Thursday, February 19, 2026  
Joanne Dieleman: 951-663-7870  
[quiltersite2@yahoo.com](mailto:quiltersite2@yahoo.com)*



# HEMET-SAN JACINTO CONGRESS OF REPUBLICANS

A GRASSROOTS ORGANIZATION CHARTERED IN 1996  
AN AFFILIATE OF THE CALIFORNIA CONGRESS OF REPUBLICANS FOUNDED IN 1989

Editor: Charlene Stover

February, 2026

## 2026 OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**PRESIDENT**  
TOM WILSON

**IMMEDIATE PAST  
PRESIDENT**  
NORM KYRISS

**VP PROGRAM**  
DALE DIELEMAN

**VP MEMBERSHIP**  
ROBIN LOWE

**VP LIAISON/RWF**  
JOANNE DIELEMAN

**SECRETARY**  
SHARON DURBIN

**TREASURER**  
KEITH MEISSNER

**PARLIAMENTARIAN**

**BOARD MEMBERS:**  
KEN CAMPBELL  
DICK ENGLISH  
EILEEN GUARINO  
KEITH MEISSNER  
MARCIE MARTINEZ  
TODD STAMPS  
CHARLENE STOVER

**MEETING  
RESERVATIONS:**  
JOANNE :  
951-663-7870  
QUILTER:  
SITE2@YAHOO.COM

**NEWSLETTER  
EDITOR:**  
CHARLENE STOVER  
951-296-7138

**P.O. BOX 304**  
SAN JACINTO, CA  
92581



## PAUL HIRN AND DUKE TO KEYNOTE FEBRUARY MEETING

**Paula Hirn** will speak at the February 23 General Membership Meeting on her experiences as a volunteer in the K-Nine unit of the Hemet Police Department. Her faithful K-Nine, **Duke**, will assist her. We are all aware of the expertise the K-Nine units bring to search and rescue. Now we can hear it all first hand.

Bring a friend for an enjoyable, relaxing evening.

## 2026 HSJCR OFFICERS AND BOARD



President Tom Wilson, Todd Stamps, Ken Campbell, Treasurer Keith Meissner, Secretary Sharon Durbin, Installing Officer Valerie Vandever, Program VP Dale Dieleman, Joanne Dieleman, Marcie Martinez, Charlene Stover, Dick English, VP Membership Robin Lowe.

## A BILL ALERT

Monday, February 2, the California Assembly passed AB 1421, the mileage gas tax. The California Mileage Tax proposal would require tracking every driver's mileage and charging them a tax per mile driven. AB 1421 asks legislators to have a proposal ready by January, 2027 on how much tax to charge and how to collect it. This tax is on top of the .67 taxes charged on every gallon of gasoline at the pump.

Once AB1421 passes the Senate and is signed by the Governor, the legislature can dictate the amount to charge for each mile. Do we trust them???

There is also the reality that this is double taxation. One pays high taxes at the pump and then will be charged an additional tax or fee for using the gas!!!

Question arises as to how the mileage will be calculated. Will each auto have a tracking device installed by the Government? If so, they can also track individual's activities.

If you don't agree with AB1421, call **Senator Sabrina Cervantes, SD31, Chair of the Appropriations Committee**. She represents San Jacinto. Her number is 951-680-6750. Clog her phone lines.



## Meeting Information

The Hemet San Jacinto Congress of Republican's February 23 meeting is at **The Elks at 1305 West Florida, Hemet**. Check-in is 6 p.m. with the program at 6:30.

To reserve, contact Joanne at [quiltersite2@yahoo.com](mailto:quiltersite2@yahoo.com) or 951-663-7870. Please reserve by **February 19, 2026**. If you reserve and are unable to attend, cancel with **Joanne**.

The **HSJCR** is charged for all reservations which causes an unnecessary financial burden for the organization when members reserve and are 'no-shows'.

**Help keep HSJCR dues low!!**

## IN THIS ISSUE LOOK FOR.....

February Progra	Page 1
A Bill Alert	Page 1
Meeting Information	Page 1
HSJCR Courtest	Page 1
Membership	Page 2
CA Congress of Republicans	Page 2
RPRC	Page 2
January Meeting Recap	Page 2
President's Message	Page 2
CaGOP Convention	Page 2
Board of Directors Meeting	Page 2
Winners and Losers	Page 3
Big Win You Didn't Hear About	Page 3
Dates to Calendar	Page 3
February	Page 4
History of Valentines Day	Page 4
February Dates	Page 4
Quotable Quotes	Page 4
Trivia	Page 4

## HSJCR COURTESY

If you are aware of any member who is ill, has had surgery, gotten married, or just needs a card, please contact **Renee Campbell** at [reneec@harkway.com](mailto:reneec@harkway.com) or 951-442-6589.



## HEMET SAN JACINTO CONGRESS OF REPUBLICANS MEMBERSHIP

**TIME TO RENEW!!** Thanks to all of you who renewed memberships at the December and January meetings. The HSJCR has 55 renewals and 7 new members. For the remaining 37, please bring your dues to the February 23 meeting or mail them with the renewal form on page 3 to the post office box.

The HSJCR operates on a calendar year so dues are officially due in January. Dues remain at \$20 per person and \$35 per couple.

Thanks to the following who have renewed. New 2026 members are in **bold**.

Donna Cook	Reggie Mattox
<b>Amber Campbell</b>	Michael Mayers
Derrick Davis	Connie Meissner
+*Dale Dieleman	*Keith Meissner
*Joanne Dieleman	Bonnie Naumowich
Shaffer Dunaway	Mike Naumowich
*Eileen Guarino	Daniel Persgard
Frank Guarino	Lora Persgard
<b>Sharon Hawkins</b>	Andrew Pravecek
Emily Heebner	Betty Pravecek
Pablo Hernandez	Lois Reeves
Glenn Jones	Stewart Reeves
Denny Juhola	Chuck Ruiz
Saundra Juhola	Crystal Ruiz
Heidi Lilienthal	Eric Young
Malcolm Lilienthal	<b>Debbie Walston</b>



## CALIFORNIA CONGRESS OF REPUBLICANS

California Congress of Republicans Endorsing Convention is Wednesday, March 18, 2026 at 7:15 p.m. via zoom. The voting delegate count is based on membership. HSJCR is the third largest chapter of the California Congress of Republicans and has seven delegate seats plus one for a District Rep and one for **Robin Lowe**, a past CCR President.

If you would like to participate as a voting delegate, please send your name to **President Tom Wilson** or make your wishes known at the February meeting.

It is an interesting experience and an opportunity to hear statewide candidates.

Leading statewide Republican candidates will be given an opportunity to speak at a CCR zoom event for all CCR members in partnership with SPARC at 6 p.m. prior to the Endorsing Convention.



## REPUBLICAN PARTY OF RIVERSIDE COUNTY

The January 22, 2026 meeting of the Republican Party of Riverside County was held at the Ayres Hotel in Moreno Valley.

The main thrust of the meeting was the endorsement of three incumbents: **Supervisor Karen Spiegel** for Riverside County Supervisor; **Assemblymember Natasha Johnson, 63AD**; **Congressman Ken Calvert, 40CD**. All were unanimously endorsed in the closed session.

The February and March meetings are at the Corona office of **Congressman Ken Calvert**.

### JANUARY MEETING RECAP

The January 26 General Membership Meeting of the Hemet San Jacinto Congress of Republicans was very well attended. San Jacinto City Council member, **Crystal Ruiz**, gave an update on events in San Jacinto. Reports were given on the activities of the Republican Party of Riverside County and on Republican Women Federated. **Keith Meissner** updated the membership on HSJCR finances.

**Blanca Cervantes** from **My City Youth Center** gave information on the organization, its purpose, and the youth it serves in the San Jacinto Valley.

*Happy Valentines Day*



### BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING RECAP

The Hemet San Jacinto Congress of Republicans Board met at the Greater San-Jacinto Valley Chamber offices. Those in attendance were **President Tom Wilson**, **Sharon Durbin**, **Eileen and Frank Guarino**, **Dale Dieleman**, **Joanne Dieleman**, **Keith Meissner**, **Ken and Renee Campbell**, **Marcie Martinez**, **Charlene Stover**.

The following items were covered:

- Treasurer's Report by **Keith Meissner**
- **Program Chair Dale Dieleman** indicated the speaker for March is the Director of Valley Restart. He has also been in contact with **Brad Dacus of Pacific Justice Institute**.
- Fund Raiser ideas were discussed.
- An update was given on the **RPRC** January meeting and the candidates endorsed.
- The feasibility of setting up a Website for the **HSJCR** was discussed.
- The state **California Congress of Republicans** state Endorsing Convention via zoom was discussed (see article)



**HEMET-SAN JACINTO CONGRESS OF REPUBLICANS**  
**CALIFORNIA CONGRESS OF REPUBLICANS**  
**2026 MEMBERSHIP FORM**

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

I AM A REGISTERED REPUBLICAN (SIGNATURE) \_\_\_\_\_

**DUES: \$20 PER PERSON/\$35 PER COUPLE**

**AMOUNT ENCLOSED** \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE CHECK COMMITTEE SELECTION:**

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Hemet San Jacinto Congress of Republicans**

**WAYS AND MEANS  
SPECIAL EVENTS  
DINNER /HOUSE**

**PUBLICITY  
MEMBERSHIP  
VOTER REGISTRATION**

**PHONE TREE  
BY-LAWS**

**SEND MEMBERSHIP TO:**

**ROBIN LOWE**

**P.O. BOX 304**

**SAN JACINTO, CA 92581**

**Please e-mail my newsletter.**

**Please send my newsletter via U.S. Postal Service.**

### WINNERS AND LOSERS

Every week Jon Fleishman runs a column of the ten winners and losers of the week. Following are three for this week.

### WINNERS: GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM AND ATTORNEY GENERAL ROB BONTA

This week, they notched a courtroom win when the U.S. Supreme Court refused to issue an emergency order blocking the use of the Proposition 50 district lines for the 2026 elections.

Like it or not, that ruling locks in the political map Democrats helped shape and gives their party a clearer runway heading into the next cycle. For incumbents and allies counting on those lines, stability is a strategic advantage, and avoiding legal upheaval this late in the process is a victory.

### WINNERS: LOS ANGELES DODGER:

By deciding to visit the White House after winning the World Series, the team is once again making clear that championship traditions are bigger than partisan politics. Presidents come and go, but honoring a title season is part of the sport's long-standing civic ritual. Instead of turning a baseball celebration into a political statement, the organization treated it as what it is supposed to be — recognition of excellence on the field. In an era when everything becomes a culture war skirmish, keeping the focus on baseball counts as a win.

### LOSERS: POLITICAL LEADERS IN MERCED

For proposing that California's perpetually overbudget and unfinished high-speed rail project should be "extended" all the way to Yosemite National Park, local leaders in Merced have handed Californians yet another symbol of the boondoggle that has plagued the state for nearly two decades. With the rail line still years from completing even the Merced-to-Bakersfield segment, and with huge cost overruns, talking about a Yosemite link plays into fantasies rather than fiscal reality. Pushing for a rural "Merced-Yosemite" station plan underscores the lack of seriousness around this project and highlights how disconnected some local politicians are from basic transportation and budgetary realities.

### Big Win You Didn't Hear About: Trump's India Deal Hits BRICS and Puts America First

**NFRW President Martha Jenkins**

Sometimes so much is happening we lose sight of how consequential the times are we are living in.

An example of this is the recent trade deal President Trump reached with India. This deal is significant because the "BRICS" nations (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa and others) have been attempting to move the world away from the dollar as the world's currency and undercut the United States' place in the economic world. This is the third shoe to drop on BRICS nations — the first two being Iran losing its nuclear capability, the second being Venezuela losing control of their oil.

India has a population of 1.4 billion. Trump does not pay countries for favors India has a population of 1.4 billion.

(continued in column 3)

(continued from column 2)

Trump does not pay countries for favors (remember Obama sent pallets of cash to Iran). Instead, he leverages America's advantages. India will now be buying American energy instead of Russian oil. India also agreed to drop tariffs on American goods to zero, and to buy American technology and agricultural products.

By taking away a market from Putin's oil industry, Putin will lose a source of its war funding. India will now be a customer of the United States.

This is a huge win for America. And Trump hasn't stopped working for Americans. On Thursday he opened the **Trumprx.gov** website, which will give Americans access to large discounts with most favored nation pricing on drugs from these manufacturers - AstraZeneca, Eli Lilly, EMD Serono, Novo Nordisk, and Pfizer.

### DATES TO CALENDAR

**February 6: President Ronald Reagan's Birthday**

**February 12: President Abraham Lincoln's Birthday**

**February 14: Valentine's Day**

**February 16: President's Day Holiday**

**February 19: Greater San Jacinto Valley Chamber of Commerce Paint and Sip at the American Legion Post 53 on Ramona in Hemet at 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$35 per person and \$60 per couple. Reserve with Sharon at 951-765-7634 asap.**



**February 22: President George Washington's Birthday**

**February 23: Hemet San Jacinto Congress of Republicans January Dinner at the Elks Lodge in Hemet.**

**February 25: Hemet San Jacinto Valley Chamber of Commerce Mixer at Golden Era Golf Course at 5:30 p.m.**

**February 26: Republican Party of Riverside County February General Membership Meeting**

**March 2: HSJCR Board of Directors Meeting at 5:30.**

## FEBRUARY

February is the only month of the calendar that, once every six years and twice every 11 years consecutively either back into the past or forward into the future, will have four full 7-day weeks. This is the year!!!

The odds of being born on Feb. 29 are about 1 in 1,461. If you're born on a leap day, you're typically known as a "leaper" or "leapling." And depending on where you live, Feb. 28 or March 1 is considered your birthday in non-leap years.

Having only 28 days in common years, it is the only month of the year that can pass without a single full moon. This last happened in 2018.

Four presidents were born in February:

**George Washington, Federalist**, February 22, 1732 – December 14, 1799 was the first President of the United States from 1789 to 1797 and was one of the Founding Fathers.

**William Henry Harrison Sr., Whig**, (February 9, 1773 – April 4, 1841) was the ninth President of the United States (1841), and died 31 days into his term.

**Abraham Lincoln, Republican**, February 12, 1809 – April 15, 1865) was the 16th President of the United States from March 1861 until his assassination in April 1865. He was the first Republican President after the founding of the Party.

**Ronald Wilson Reagan, Republican**, February 6, 1911 – June 5, 2004 was the 40th President of the United States, from 1981 to 1989. Before his presidency, he was the 33rd Governor of California, from 1967 to 1975.

## HISTORY OF VALENTINE'S DAY

The history of Valentine's Day—and the story of its patron saint—is shrouded in mystery. We do know that February has long been celebrated as a month of romance, and that St. Valentine's Day, as we know it today, contains vestiges of both Christian and ancient Roman tradition.

One legend contends that Valentine was a priest who served during the third century in Rome. When Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and families, he outlawed marriage for young men. Valentine, realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret. When Valentine's actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be put to death.

## FEBRUARY DATES

**February 3, 1870** - The 15th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified, guaranteeing the right of citizens to vote, regardless of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

**February 3, 1913** - The 16th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified, granting Congress the authority to collect income taxes.

**February 14, 1929** - The St. Valentine's Day massacre occurred in Chicago as seven members of the Bugs Moran gang were gunned down by five of Al Capone's mobsters posing as police.

## QUOTES TO LIVE BY

"God intended America to be free, to be the golden hope of mankind."

President Ronald Reagan

"I know in my heart that man is good, that what is right will always eventually triumph, and there is purpose and worth to each and every life."

President Ronald Reagan

"Live simply, love generously, care deeply, speak kindly, and leave the rest to God."

President Ronald Reagan

"If you don't read the newspaper, you are uninformed; if you do read the newspaper, you are misinformed."

Mark Twain

"A liberal is someone who feels a great debt to his fellow man, which debit he proposes to pay off with your money."

G. Gordon Liddy

"A government big enough to give you everything you want, is strong enough to take everything you have."

Thomas Jefferson

"The government cannot give to anybody anything that the government does not first take from somebody else."

"When half of the people get the idea that they do not have to work, because the other half is going to take care of them, and when the other half gets the idea that it does no good to work, because somebody else is going to get what they work for, that is the beginning of the end of any nation!"

"For what avail the plough or sail, or land or life, if freedom fail?"

Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Discipline is the soul of an army. It makes small numbers formidable; procures success to the weak, and esteem to all."

President George Washington

## TRIVIA

Escapee captured after ten days on the lamb.

For the past three years, I have volunteered as a candy stripper in our local hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Garth Robinson request the honor of your presents at the marriage of their daughter Holly to Mr. James Stockman.

I find it ironic that the colors red, white, and blue stand for freedom until they are flashing behind you.

If you think nobody cares whether you're alive, try missing a couple of payments.

I was always taught to respect my elders, but it keeps getting harder to find one.

I got a job at a bakery because I kneaded dough.