SAN-BERN FRW CLUB REPORT FOR THE NMFRW FALL MEETING

ON OCTOBER 23 & 24, 2026 IN ROSWELL

It was a long hot summer, and we spent much of our time collaborating with the Republican Party of Sandoval County in their Outreach Project to the Native American pueblos. We participated in six Pueblo Feast Days at Cochiti, Jemez, Laguna, Sandia, Santo Domingo and Zia Pueblos! It was wonderful to bring the RPSC tents to areas that had not seen a Republican presence at their big annual event! The magnet that drew many people to our tents was Victor Rodriguez, Republican Candidate for Sheriff of Sandoval County! He energetically introduced himself and spoke about Public Safety. It seemed as if all the Security and Law Enforcement personnel came by for chats with Victor. He knew many of them. Ramona Goolsby, Didi Okpareke and Michael Perry came to one or two of the Pueblo Feast Days, too.

We participated in two Fourth of July Parades: Corrales and Rio Rancho, handing out small flags to children and adults who asked for them! I hope to walk in the State Fair Parade next year "riding" an elephant!

We greeted people from the RPSC tents at Sunday is Funday & Oktoberfest in Rio Rancho and gave them candidate information. We raised money at three Candidate Birthday parties, an Evening Speed Dating with the Candidates and a Fall Harvest Dance where Gregg Hull played guitar, sang with the band and danced with his wife!

SBFRW did not hold monthly meetings in June or July by tradition. We resumed in August, September and October on the third Friday of those months. We had many candidates at each meeting. We adopted two candidates: Nicole Chavez, HD 31, and Catherine Cullen, HD 57, who are in hotly contested races. We heard from them as well as Brenda Boatman, Ramona Goolsby, Didi Okpareke, Carolyn Stith, Rebecca Skartwed, David Atkins, Lawrence Griego, Larry Marker, Adam Prior and Victor Rodriguez. We contributed to all their campaigns!

Our major accomplishment was the collaboration with the Republican Party of Bernalillo County and the Republican Party of Sandoval County in their projects and events. The other major accomplishments were the many contributions we made to the candidates' campaigns.

We participated in many other events such as the RPNM Gala featuring Nick Shirley as the keynote speaker. We had a great time at the Americans for Prosperity (Bobbi Curtis) America 250 Gala as well as their Constitution Classes and a Tea Party with Martha Washington! We attended the Libre Initiative (Christie Martinez) Hispanic Heritage Celebration and the Rio Grande Foundation (Paul Gessing)'s Laissez Faire Soiree II. SBFRW member Pat Quick and her husband Col. (Ret.) Jim Quick chaired the very successful Folds of Honor Fundraiser Banquet giving scholarships to children of fallen service members and first responders.

One of the best candidate forums was organized by New Mexico Business Coalition. Carla Sonntag gave well-prepared job interviews to the candidates. The BASH(Business and Social Hour) drew wonderful attendance, and the candidates answered the tough questions very well. Larry Sonntag of Better Together New Mexico will be presenting their recommendations for judicial retention, state amendment questions and bond issues to SBFRW at our October meeting.

SBFRW volunteered hours at the RPBC and the newly opened RPSC offices putting together sample ballots, candidate palm cards and door hangers in packets for mailing and door knocking. I am a Precinct Captain for Adam Prior and will be walking my neighborhood contacting Republican voters. I have seven yards signs displayed in my front yard and two Hull, Yes! magnets on my red car! I am going to vote early this year even though I prefer voting on Election Day. I plan on spending Election Day Getting Out the Vote! I am leading by example. SBFRW is encouraging members by providing opportunities for Republican women to join us in active engagement in our political process!