

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Mona Graham

"I wanted to surround myself with people I could have a good conversation with - not a monologue - where we could share thoughts and ideas," said Mona Graham, SRWF member since August 2021. She was looking for people who understood each other and could talk peacefully about the issues of the day.

After retiring six years ago from her successful marketing and communications business, Mona and her partner, Jim, moved to a new house and began enjoying doing some travel. Among the many places they visited are: The Galapagos Islands, United Arab Emirates, Italy, England, Scotland, Whales, China, and a Remote Alaska Fishing Lodge (3X, cause once isn't enough!). Once Covid 19 hit, traveling had to be limited to Airstream Travel Trailer trips along the West Coast.

Now freed up, Mona settled into politics, which she had always loved – a passion developed in her teens as a campaign volunteer and put on hold for her career. Because of her love of people and her curious mind, "one thing led to another" as Mona found herself meeting more and more politically active people. She began serving on the Sacramento County GOP Central Committee, attending all the California conventions plus several CPACs. Mona serves on the school districts subcommittee. Explaining, "Our team reads the thirteen school board agendas for Sacramento County and sends out alerts to parents and concerned citizens who have signed up to receive them. They can then mobilize, and have their voices heard at School Board Meetings." Mona's compassion for the welfare of children stems from the loss of her only son, Glenn, to an accidental drug overdose at the age of thirty.

One day while perusing the Sacramento GOP website, she came across the SRWF and knew that she had "found her tribe." Attending her first luncheon, Mona was taken with the range of women attending.

"Politicians, homemakers, professionals, volunteers, mothers, and grandmothers, just to name a few. Always fun, every luncheon brings an interesting variety of great conversations and interesting speakers."

Having grown up as a first generation American, patriotism is very important to Mona. While her mother spoke eight languages, her father was insistent that his children only speak English.

"We were taught assimilation was the only pathway to experience the American dream." The proof of that is that Mona and her four siblings have all led motivated, successful lives.

Growing up in a family that struggled to come to America, and raise Patriots is both a source of pride and fear for Mona, "I am both proud to be living the American dream, and terrified that forces may be throwing our country away."

