



# Representing “11” Counties of Federated Republican Women Clubs

January 2017

## PRESIDENT’S LETTER



Happy New Year, my friends and fellow Republicans! What a glorious year we are anticipating in 2017 as we move into the Presidency of our new ‘Hero’, Donald Trump, as he takes office January 20, 2017. Good things are certainly in store as our country begins restoration under his leadership.

However, lest we become complacent in our excitement, DO NOT forget that the Dems are breathing down our necks trying to take over Texas and it’s up to us to stop them. So begin planning your year now to get out there and register new voters while encouraging them to vote Republican.

What a busy year we have ahead of us! Our biennial fundraiser will be October 6, 2017 at the Junior League of Houston for lunch where we will honor our Past Presidents and 55 years of political activism.....It is so interesting to go back in history and see how far we have grown, we will have lots of memorabilia on display for all of us to enjoy.

Then on October 19-21 TFRW will hold their 31st biennial convention in Dallas, TX.

On January 17, 2017, GHC will honor our Member Club Presidents and hold our annual Nuts N’ Bolts Leadership/ Workshop....Jan Ott, Chairman of the Committee, has put together a fabulous lineup of speakers and a special lunch speaker, Missy Shorey, Executive Director of Maggie’s List who locates and encourages women to run for Political Office. See the invitation in this NL.

Lots to do, so let’s roll up our sleeves and get busy....see you on the 17th

*Cheryl*

President Greater Houston Council

## **2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**PRESIDENT** - Cheryl Dalton, Village RW

**1ST VP PROGRAMS** - Bobbi Robinson, Village RW

**2ND VP MEMBERSHIP** - Janet Hoffan, Galveston RW

**3rd VP SPECIAL EVENT** - Diane Sloan, Village RW

**4th VP FINANCE** - Chris Parker, Kingwood RW

**RECORDING SECRETARY** - Susan Roshto, Chambers County RW

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY** - Karen McCarter, Fort Bend RW

**TREASURER** - Cindy Siegel, Magic Circle RW

**IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT** - Barbara Tague, Tomball

### **STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN**

**BYLAWS/PARLIAMENTARIAN** - Pearl Maggio, Montgomery County RW

**CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES** - Debbie Guitian Roan, Bay Area RW

**PUBLIC RELATIONS** - Marie Maggio, Golden Triangle RW

**LEGISLATION** - Wendi Lojo, Ft. Bend RW

**LIAISON TO COUNTY CHAIRS** - Denise Truncale, Golden Triangle, RW

**NEWSLETTER** - Alice Melancon, Montgomery County RW

### **SPECIAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN**

**HISTORIAN** Gina Thompson

**HOSPITALITY** - Edie Holland, Bay Area RW

**HOSPITALITY ASS'T** - Givvie Searcy, San Jacinto RW

**SPEAKER'S BUREAU** - Janie Branham, Kingwood RW

### **PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTEES**

**ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT** - Sarah Von Dran, West Pearland RW

**CHAPLAIN** - Sophia Mafrige, Magic Circle

**GOTV** - Cindy Bennett Smith, Northwest Forest RW

**PARLIAMENTARIAN/BYLAWS** - Pearl Maggio, Montgomery County RW

**TFRW LIAISON** - Tina Gibson, Ft. Bend RW

**WEBSITE** - Lynne Skinner, Magic Circle

**WEBMASTER** - Adam Cunningham, West Pearland

**SOCIAL MEDIA** - Terry Leavitt-Chavez, Magic Circle

### **HONORARY EX-OFFICIO**

**TFRW President** - Theresa Kosmoski, Village RW

**TFRW PAST PRESIDENT** - Carolyn Hodges, Village RW



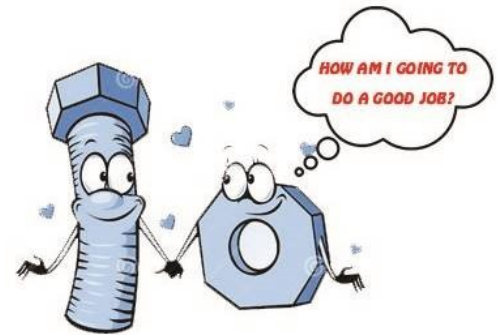
# Greater Houston Council

Presents

## Nuts 'N' Bolts

**"HELP!**

I am my club's President, Treasurer, Membership Chair, etc. etc.....". GHC and TFRW are here to help. Join us for a day of workshops and speakers. TFRW President, Theresa Kosmoski will tell you more about the Texas Federation of Republican Women and how we all work together. The workshops will help you learn more about how to do your job to make your clubs stronger and more effective.



**Not to be Missed!**

Dynamic Public Speaker Missy Shorey

Missy is the National Executive Director of Maggie's List. Their primary goal is to find, recruit and elect more Republican women to office. The secondary goal is to ramp up Republican appeal to women in general.



**When:** January 17, 2017

**Where:** Trini Mendenhall Community Center, 1414 Wirt Road, Houston

**77055 Time:** Check-in begins at 9:00 a.m. and the program starts at 9:30 a.m. Both snacks and coffee to start your day and lunch is included.

**Early registration deadline is January 7 for this important day of honoring club Presidents, workshops, and networking.**

See registration form or register online at

[www.ghcfrwpac.org](http://www.ghcfrwpac.org)

Questions? Contact Jan Ott, [janott-tfrw@wth](mailto:janott-tfrw@wth)

## Nuts 'N' Bolts Registration Form

Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women with TFRW will be holding their Nuts 'N' Bolts Workshop and recognition of Club Presidents on January 17, 2017 at the Trini Mendenhall Community Center at 1414 Wirt Road, Houston 77055. Check-in begins at 9:00 a.m. and the program begins at 9:30 a.m. There will be snacks and coffee to start your day and lunch is included.

Learn about TFRW with TFRW President, Theresa Kosmoski

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### **DYNAMIC LUNCH TIME SPEAKER!**

Missy Shorey, National Executive Director of Maggie's List

There will be two sessions of breakout workshops, please indicate on the registration form your preference of workshops to attend. Register Online at [www.ghcfrw.org](http://www.ghcfrw.org) or Mail with payment to: Cindy Siegel, 4615 Huisache St., Bellaire, TX 77401

\_\_\_\_\_ \$15.00 paid by January 7      \_\_\_\_\_ \$20.00 mailed after January 7

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Club \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation (required by TEC) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ President and Leadership  
Theresa Kosmoski, TFRW President

\_\_\_\_\_ Campaign Activities,  
Janis Holt, TFRW VP Campaign Activities

\_\_\_\_\_ Legislative Activities,  
Carolyn Hodges, TFRW Past President

\_\_\_\_\_ Fundraising and Special Activities, Karen  
Newton, TFRW VP Finance

\_\_\_\_\_ PAC Treasurer, TEC Reporting  
Patricia Harless, TFRW PAC Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_ Communications and Social Media,  
Melody Briggs, TFRW Website

\_\_\_\_\_ Treasurer, Accounting and Sales Tax  
Cindy Siegel, GHC Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_ Membership  
Buffie Ingersoll, VRW Club President

Questions? Contact Jan Ott at [janott-tfrw@wcthou.com](mailto:janott-tfrw@wcthou.com)

# COUNCIL NEWS

Please note the date for this great event has been changed due to a conflict with NFRW's calendar... don't miss being part of what we are planning to Celebrate our Past Presidents....volunteer today.



**GREATER HOUSTON COUNCIL OF FEDERATED REPUBLICAN WOMEN**

# **CELEBRATES 55 YEARS**

**Of**

**REPUBLICAN WOMEN'S POLITICAL ACTIVISM**

As members of your local clubs, you are members of Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women, Texas Federation of Republican Women, and the National Federation of Republican Women.

**WE ARE ONE TEAM, ONE VOICE**

## **SAVE THE DATE**

**FRIDAY**

**October 6, 2017**

**LUNCH**

**THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF HOUSTON**

All member clubs will join in this celebration and are encouraged to decorate their Clubs' tables.

Committees are being formed now: contact Diane Sloan, 3<sup>rd</sup> VP of Events at 281-948-1683 or

ladysloano@aol.com to volunteer for this fun and informative event! We need everyone involved.

Clubs: Please consider some type of sponsorship in your budget.

# COUNCIL NEWS

## MEMORABILIA NEEDED

**Alice Melancon**

During 2017, the Council will be celebrating its 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary and would like to make the celebration a special one. We will have a 55<sup>th</sup> celebration honoring our past presidents and would like to display Council and political memorabilia of the past 55 years. If you have something special that you think should be displayed, please contact Alice Melancon at [almelancon@sbcglobal.net](mailto:almelancon@sbcglobal.net) with Greater Houston Council in the subject line. Tell me a little about what you think we could use and I will get back to you. Please include your phone number in the email. ( Attaching a photo of the item might prove to be helpful.)

## CLUB INFORMATION NEEDED

**Karen McCarter**

!!!!Directories!!!!

It's that time again! Not only is it important that you get your membership and dues submitted, but please don't forget to update and get your club profile information sent in as well. I'm beginning the directory production in the next few weeks and want your club information to be accurate. Please get this information to me no later than January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

Also, we need all elected official's information for the directory (name, position, email, phone, title) – all of your elected officials by County (i.e., if you elected a new Republican County Chairman). Please contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you,  
Karen McCarter  
713-817-4545

## HOSPITALITY

**Eddie Holland**

**Givvie Searcy**

Thank you to Chambers County RW, Lake Conroe Area RW and Yellow Rose of Texas RW for the delicious treats they provided for the September 20 meeting and to Kingwood RW, Montgomery County RW and Fort Bend RW for the delicious treats they provided for the November 15 meeting.

Many thanks to all the clubs that helped with hospitality in 2016.

Your treats were enjoyed by all. We wish everyone a very successful New Year.

## NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

**Alice Melancon**

The Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women would like to include your club's news in our newsletter. If you have an article you would like published in our newsletter, please submit the article in a word or pdf document to Alice Melancon at [almelancon@sbcglobal.net](mailto:almelancon@sbcglobal.net). Please indicate Greater Houston Council in the subject line of your email. Any photos included should be in a pdf format. Articles are due by the first of each month.

# COUNCIL NEWS

## LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Wendy Lojo



If you keep up with the news, then you already know that Texas' Child Protective Services is completely broken. Heartbreaking reports of abuse, neglect, backlogged cases, missing children and the worst possible scenario, child deaths, fueled a federal lawsuit against the state. Texas is currently under a federal judge's order to immediately enact reforms to fix an underfunded system that is harming vulnerable children. Leaders from the Governor down have heeded the order and everyone is working diligently to protect children under the care of the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS). Unfortunately, the problems at DFPS are systematically flawed. They can't be solved solely by infusing money or policies into the system. Our elected officials, DFPS staff, child advocates and others involved in this issue are working tirelessly to identify reforms that will effectuate meaningful reforms that meet the needs of children. While this is a fluid and constantly changing issue, I'd like to point out two recent developments. The Senate Finance Committee recommended an additional \$75.3 million in emergency funds to allow raises for caseworkers and the hiring of more workers. Governor Abbott, Lt. Governor Patrick and Speaker Straus also jointly released a directive to DFPS to immediately initiate several actions to protect children in the Child Protective Services' care. They outlined the following steps they expect DFPS to take ahead of the legislative session in January 2017:

- Develop a plan to hire and train more special investigators, building on their law enforcement backgrounds and utilizing the safety and risk assessment tools available to find the children that the agency has been previously unable to locate.
- Develop a plan, including a strategic hiring and training schedule, which will ensure DFPS is staffing an increased number of the necessary caseworkers to account for the increase in workload and system backlog of serving children and families.
- Reinforce the culture of accountability at all levels of management by inspiring the DFPS workforce to rise to the challenge and embrace the commitment to the safety and risk assessment tools as an aid in their critical decision making.
- Build upon ongoing efforts to enhance more partnerships with local faith-based communities.

Undoubtedly, protecting Texas children in our Child Protective Services system is and will continue to be a priority issue in the Legislature until the system works.



# CLUB NEWS

## VILLAGE REPUBLICAN WOMEN



Photos from the Village Republican Women Christmas Party with Congressman John Culberson.



## MONTGOMERY COUNTY REPUBLICAN WOMEN

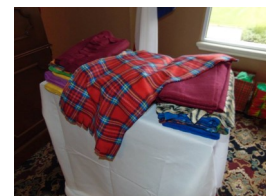


The Montgomery County Republican Women made donations to several worthy organizations at its December meeting. Receiving contributions were the Conroe Hispanic Task Force, the Conroe High School Republican Club, the Magnolia High Schools Republican Club and the Caney Creek High School Republican Club.

The Conroe Hispanic Task Force provides weekly citizenship preparation classes for those in Montgomery County. Some Montgomery County Republican Women volunteer by teaching these classes.

Pictured left to right are Marlen Tejada with the Conroe Hispanic Task Force, Trinity Tilling from Conroe High School, Reece Jones from Magnolia High School, Montgomery County Republican Women's Club president Pearl Maggio, and Montgomery County Republican Women's Club treasurer Melisa Miller who helped organize the club at Caney Creek High School.

Additionally, MCRW club members made scarves to be donated to the Salvation Army and Montgomery County Youth Services.



A few of the scarves made by MCRW members.



# CLUB NEWS

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY REPUBLICAN WOMEN CITIZENSHIP PREPERATION CLASSES



Marlen Tejada



### YOUR CLUB NEWS COULD BE HERE

The Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women would like to publicize the activities of your club, but we need your help. Please consider submitting articles about your club's activities and achievements to be included in our monthly newsletter.

Articles and photos can be submitted by emailing Alice Melancon at [almelancon@sbcglobal.net](mailto:almelancon@sbcglobal.net). Photos should be submitted in a pdf form and a listing of those in the photo should be included. The text of your article should be in Arial 12 pt Font. The deadline for article submission is the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month.

Our newsletters are a great way for our clubs to share ideas with one another and we look forward to reading your news.

Marlen Tejada, pictured above, is a member of the Montgomery County Republican Women. She co-founded the Montgomery County Hispanic Task Force over 25 years ago. Today, she serves as the volunteer City of Conroe Hispanic Liaison. She contributes to the creation and promotion of diverse programs related to the Hispanic community. Among these programs are free adult education programs such as English as Second Language courses, free GED classes and free citizenship classes.

Marlen leads a Citizenship Preparation class in Conroe each Saturday. Members of the community volunteer their services to assist in this class. As Ms. Tejada explains the program, "We prepare immigrants to pass the test, and then after that we fill out all the paperwork for free. The only thing they have to do is pay the fee to the immigration department."

For the past 2 years, the Montgomery County Republican Women have made monetary contributions for the Citizenship class. In addition, members of the club serve as mentors and tutors at the Saturday classes.

# PHOTOS



Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women's  
December Board of Directors' Meeting and End of Year Lunch-  
eon



Stan Stanart, Harris County Clerk and Paul Simpson, Harris  
County Chair speaking at Greater Houston Council Meeting

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 6, 2017	Board of Directors' Meeting Trini Mendenhall Center
January 17, 2017	Nuts N' Bolts Training and Honoring Club Presidents 9:00 AM Trini Mendenhall Center
February 21, 2017	Board of Directors' Meeting Trini Mendenhall Center
March 21, 2017	General Meeting 9:30 AM Trini Mendenhall Center
April 6, 2017	Legislative Day
October 6, 2017	GHC Fundraiser Celebrating 55 years at Jr. League of Houston
October 19-21, 2017	TFRW Convention in Dallas, TX

### Do you know?

The Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women has a Facebook page. Check it out!

