

# Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women

Representing 13 Counties of  
Federated Republican Women



May 2021 Issue

## President's message

Dear GHC Family,

'Thanks' is the theme for this month's letter!

Thank you GHC members! Thanks to the participation of your clubs, we had a full house for the March General Meeting, we honored 25 of our club presidents or their representatives, and Nuts 'N Bolts was a sold-out success! Through our donation drive for the Houston Food Bank, we were able to donate 391 pounds of food and necessities! You stepped up to the call where there was a need, as Republican women always do!



Thanks to the planning committee and speakers at Nuts and Bolts! Weren't the speakers wonderful? We hope you learned a lot and left inspired. Their efforts are appreciated!

Thanks to all your county parties for hosting fabulous Lincoln-Reagan dinners this year. It is a lot of work, but worth it to bring us all together as things re-open and we start looking towards the 2022 election. A special shout out goes to GHC's Chaplain, **Ann Lee**, for receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award at Harris County's Lincoln-Reagan dinner, presented by **Governor Greg Abbott** and HCRP Chair and GHC immediate past President, **Cindy Siegel**. We were all moved by the presentation to this legendary Republican Woman, whom we call friend!

Thank you to those who made the ultimate sacrifice and serve our country! For our May 18th General Meeting, we will pay tribute to our military and host Republican Party of Texas Chairman, **Lt. Col. Allen West** [retired], as our keynote speaker. I invite each Club President to bring an active military member or veteran as your guest to the meeting.

Thank you club presidents! It was great to honor you, and acknowledge the hard work and dedication it takes to serve our clubs. I will be working with Club Liaison, **Pearl Maggio**, to schedule a couple of luncheons with you over the summer. I look forward to resuming these luncheons after the shut downs of last year, and am looking forward to discuss your club activities and concerns.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for our **60th Diamond Anniversary** luncheon, which is scheduled for April 1, 2022. We are very excited about this event which will be held at Minute Maid Park! We hope each club will attend and participate as we celebrate 60 years of GHC! Your event Chair, **Dana Khan**, and the committee have been hard at work already to plan our 'Diamond' celebration. If you'd like to help, please contact Dana or any committee member. It will take all of us working together to make this a success.

Thanks to all of you for persevering through difficult times. We have much work to do in light of the current administration's actions. It's time to roll up our sleeves to keep fighting for our country and candidates! God bless Texas and the USA!

Warmest Regards,  
Sophia Mafrige  
President, GHCFRW 2020-2021

## Greater Houston Council Club Events

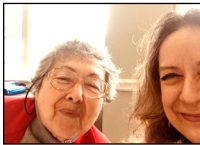


### Congratulations to Ann Lee!

Greater Houston Council FRW Chaplain and Memorial West RW member Ann Lee, was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award presented by Governor Abbott at the Harris County Lincoln Reagan Dinner in April.



Bay Area RW Breakfast with former RPT Chairman Steve Munisteri, GHC President Sophia Mafriqe and Edie Holland.



### Greater Houston Council Presidents Handbooks

Handbooks are ready to distribute to area club Presidents

Pick yours up at the next general meeting on May 18th.

If you can't make it to the meeting we will see that you receive it in the mail.

Contact Barbara Tague for more information at [4tague@sbcglobal.net](mailto:4tague@sbcglobal.net)

### Hospitality

Hospitality gives special thanks to **Magic Circle Republican Women, Northwest Forest Republican Women** and **The Yellow Rose of Texas Republican Women** for providing coffee and snacks for all attendees at the **Nuts and Bolts** workshop. Thank you, **Joan Buscher, Tracine Gibson** and **Kay Tyner** for organizing the pick-up and delivery on behalf of your clubs.

**Village Republican Women** and **Republican Women of Katy** have graciously offered to provide coffee and snacks for the next General Meeting on May 18th. Thank you!

If your club would like to assist the Hospitality Committee by providing coffee and snacks for a future meeting, please contact **Dana Khan** at [danak007@gmail.com](mailto:danak007@gmail.com). We hope to see you at the May meeting!



**Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women**  
**General Meeting Honoring Club Presidents and Nuts N' Bolts Seminar Minutes**  
**March 16, 2021**  
**Mendenhall Community Center, Houston**

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:30AM by President, Sophia Mafrige.
  2. Opening Prayer was led by 4th Vice-President Finance, Cheryl Dalton. Houston Councilwoman Amy Peck led pledges to the United States flag and the Texas flag.
  3. VP of Membership, Kittie Rice, called the roll of clubs and confirmed that there was a quorum of member clubs present.
  4. President Sophia Mafrige recognized elected officials and candidates, the event committee and hospitality hosts, Northwest Forest, Magic Circle and Yellow Rose of Texas RW.
- President Mafrige also thanked everyone who donated items for the Houston Food Bank.
5. Approval of minutes – Recording Secretary, Mary Sage, advised the minutes of the GHC General Meeting on January 12, 2021, were in the newsletter. There being no revisions or objections, they were approved as submitted.
  6. The Treasurer's Report was presented by Treasurer, Micheline Hutson, and approved as submitted. The proposed 2021 GHC Budget was presented by Treasurer, Micheline Hutson, and approved as submitted.
  7. First Vice-President of Programs and Chair of the Financial Review Committee, Gwen Withrow, announced that the committee had met and presented the Financial Review committee report. The report was approved as presented.
  8. Recognition and honoring of Club Presidents was conducted by President, Sophia Mafrige, SD4 District Director and GHC Club Liaison Pearl Maggio, GHC 2nd VP Membership, Kittie Rice, and TFRW President, Glynis Chester. Club Presidents or their representatives were presented with a GHC President's Pin, a rose and a set of flags for their club meetings. Photos were taken of the Presidents and their Representatives.
  9. Alice Melancon, GHC's TFRW Liaison and TFRW VP Programs, and SD4 District Director, Pearl Maggio, gave an introduction of the Nuts N' Bolts Program. Alice Melancon then introduced TFRW President, Glynis Chester.
  10. TFRW President, Glynis Chester, spoke of her 2021 vision for TFRW.
  11. President Sophia Mafrige recognized the seminar speakers and presented them with a gift.
  12. Breakout Sessions Began.
- 10:45 – 11:15 – Workshop Session 1 Treasurer and her duties and PAC Treasurer (Former GHC President, Cindy Siegel), The President and her Role (TFRW President, Glynis Chester), Communication and Social Media (GHC County Chair Liaison, Emely McHattie and GHC Social Media Chair, Jennifer Knesek)
- 11:20 – 11:50 – Workshop Session 2 Programs (TFRW Vice President Programs, Alice Melancon), Membership (Former TFRW 1st Vice President, Julie Faubel), Campaign Activities and Awards (TFRW Awards Chair, Janis Holt)
13. Lunch was catered by Mark Oster.
  14. During lunch, Jan Ott, TFRW Deputy President Region 17, introduced our Keynote Speaker, Jody Rushton, Past President of NFRW and TFRW, who spoke about NFRW membership increase. Together we will win elections. GHC President, Sophia Mafrige, presented Jody Rushton with a gift from GHC.
  15. Breakout Session 1:00 – 1:30 – Workshop Session 3 Fundraising (Former President Village Republican Women, Buffie Ingersoll), Small Clubs (East Montgomery County Republican Women's Club President, Crystal Moore)
  16. The meeting was brought to a close by President Sophia Mafrige, who thanked everyone for attending and announced that the next General Meeting on May 18th will be a Salute to the Military, featuring RPT Chairman Lt. Col Allen West.
  17. The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 PM.

Submitted by, Mary Sage, GHC Recording Secretary





# Greater Houston Council FRW Nuts 'N Bolts Seminar Events

## Honoring Our Club Presidents

Thank you to our Club Presidents for being part of Nuts and Bolts 2021. We were so happy to honor you and thank you for serving as your Club President this year!





# Greater Houston Council Nuts 'N Bolts Seminar a Big Success!

Thank you to all who attended and contributed to the Houston Area Food Bank!



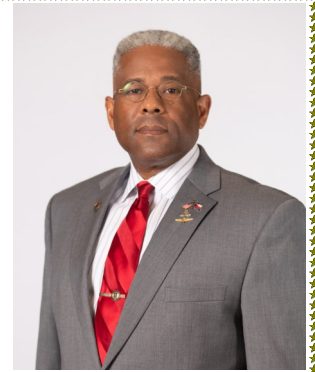
## Houston Food Bank Donation Drive 2021 GREATER HOUSTON COUNCIL DELIVERS.



Political advertising paid for by GHCFRW, Micheline Hutson, Treasurer, 11007 Wortham Blvd., Houston, TX 77065. Contributions are not federal tax deductible as charitable contributions. Corporate Contributions are not permitted. This is not an endorsement of GHCFRW, its President, or its Campaign Activities Chair, only candidate information to help you make an informed decision and get involved with the candidate of your choice.



**Greater Houston Council Tribute to Our Military**  
**Republican Party of Texas Chairman, Lt. Col. Allen West**  
**Greater Houston Council Speaker May 18th**



Please join us as we hear Chairman West's updates on the RPT Legislative Priorities for the Texas Legislative Session as it begins to wind down. We will honor all Veterans and Active Service personnel in our special tribute with an honor guard leading our program ceremony.



Please bring an active military member or veteran as your guest to the meeting as we celebrate these brave heroes and also remember our heroes who have passed on this upcoming Memorial Day.

**Check In Begins at 9:30 am, Program at 10:00 am.**  
**All Republican Women are invited to attend!**

**CLUB CAMPAIGN ACTIVITY HOURS AND AWARDS ARE DUE!**

TFRW is getting ready for our Biennial State Convention and we need your primary membership names, Campaign Activity Hours and Club Achievement Awards. Applications for 10 Outstanding Nominees, Best Club Newsletter, Americanism Awards and more are on the TFRW website!

100% of clubs and 100% member hours is our goal for **June 1st!!**

Let's BEAT California this year at the NFRW Convention!

Club Presidents, please notify your club members and go to [www.TFRW.org](http://www.TFRW.org) to get the forms you need and the deadlines dates for submittal.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**DAZZLE with TFRW at**  
**the State Convention at Kalahari Resort in Round Rock**  
**October 13-16, 2021**



Registration begins in May for the Early Bird price. Members can sign up now as a guest even if your club has not yet turned in a delegate list. TFRW will amend your title as the lists come in. View the TFRW Bylaws for club delegate requirements and talk this up with your membership! View the Convention video on our TFRW YouTube channel.



## ALLEN B. WEST Biography

Lt. Col. West believes it will be principled constitutional conservative policies, not politics, which secures a sound economic future for Americans – with growth, opportunity and returning the promise of the American dream for this generation and those to come.

He is the third of four generations of military servicemen in his family. During his 22- year career in the United States Army, Lieutenant Colonel West served in several combat zones and received many honors including a Bronze Star, three Meritorious Service Medals, three Army Commendation Medals, one with Valor device, and a Valorous Unit Award. In 1993 he was named the US Army ROTC Instructor of the Year.

In November of 2010, Allen was elected to the United States Congress, representing Florida's 22nd District. As a member of the 112th Congress, he sat on the Small Business and Armed Services Committees and was instrumental in passage of the 2011 and 2012 National Defense Authorization Acts.

He is a Newsmax TV Contributor, Senior Fellow of the Media Research Center, and author of **Guardian of the Republic: An American Ronin's Journey to Family, Faith and Freedom**, **Hold Texas, Hold the Nation: Victory or Death**, and **We Can Overcome: An American Black Conservative Manifesto**.

He is the former Executive Director of the National Center for Policy Analysis in Dallas Texas, and a former Director of the Booker T. Washington Initiative (BTWI) for the Texas Public Policy Foundation.

In July of 2020, Mr. West was elected Chairman of the Republican Party of Texas by and overwhelming majority of State delegates.

West is an avid distance runner, a Master SCUBA diver, a motorcyclist, and in his spare time he enjoys cheering his beloved Tennessee Volunteers.

Lt. Col. West is a commissioned officer in the Texas State Guard. Lt. Col. West is a legacy life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, life member of the American Legion, life member of the Association of the United States Army, the Society of the First Infantry Division, 4th Infantry Division, and 101st Airborne Division. He is Patriot Life Member (Benefactor) and Board of Directors member of the National Rifle Association and Life Member (Benefactor) of the Texas State Rifle Association. Lieutenant Colonel West is an inductee into the University of Tennessee Army ROTC Hall of Fame. He is on the Board of Advisors of Amegy Bank, Dallas Region. In 2016, Lt. Col. West was appointed by Texas Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick to the Texas Sunset Advisory Commission.

He is married to Dr. Angela Graham-West, a financial adviser, and they have two daughters, Aubrey, a Board-certified Physician Assistant, and Austen, a software sales consultant.

**You can read Chairman West's Monday Messages on [www.TexasGOP.org](http://www.TexasGOP.org) . You will know where he stands on freedom in Texas and national legislation. See topic below on his April 12th Monday Message <https://www.texasgop.org/chairman-west-s-monday-message-4-12-21/>**

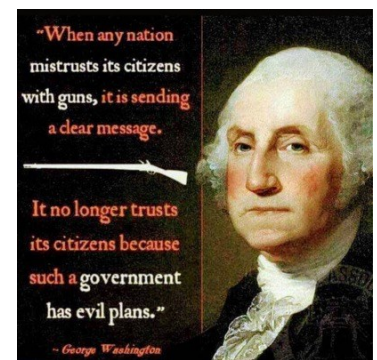
The Absolutism of Tyranny:

"So long as we govern our nation by the letter and spirit of the Bill of Rights, we can be sure that our nation will grow in strength and wisdom and freedom."

— President (General and Texan) Dwight D. Eisenhower

"No Amendment is absolute."

— Resident (and career politician) Joe Biden



## Advocate Like a Lobbyist

See Testimony Example in the March GHC Newsletter and Follow TFRW Action Alert Emails

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



TEXAS FEDERATION  
of  
*Republican Women*

### How Do I Find Out What's Going on at the Capitol?

Our representatives are working hard going into the final stretch of the Legislative session so please go to [www.capitol.texas.gov](http://www.capitol.texas.gov) to follow them.

Other Capitol websites: [www.senate.texas.gov](http://www.senate.texas.gov) or [www.house.texas.gov](http://www.house.texas.gov)

### How Do I Testify and Who Do I contact?

<https://capitol.texas.gov/resources/FollowABill.aspx>

To see upcoming hearings please visit <https://redistricting.capitol.texas.gov/2020s>

### What are the Legislative Priorities for the Republican Party of Texas?

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

#### Other Resources:

Texas State Directory Online - [www.txdirectory.com](http://www.txdirectory.com)

[www.Capitol.Texas.Gov](http://www.Capitol.Texas.Gov)

[www.Ethics.State.TX.US](http://www.Ethics.State.TX.US)

## Effective Communication Zoom Series

by Former RPT Vice Chair Amy Clark

Sign Up Today!

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAof--trzkuG9HURjdmdgmBjCVw7ItEscH>

Meeting topics and dates are as follows:

April 22 - Communicating Your Values

May 6 - Having Difficult Conversations

May 13 - Speaking to the Press

All meetings will begin at 7 p.m. CST.

TEXAS FEDERATION  
of  
*Republican Women*

## EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

WITH  
AMY CLARK

A THREE-PART  
ZOOM SERIES

APR 22  
Communicating Your Values  
@ 7 P.M. CST

MAY 6  
Having Difficult Conversations  
@ 7 P.M. CST

MAY 13  
Speaking to the Press  
@ 7 P.M. CST

WHEN YOU'RE READY TO BE HEARD

## TAD Talks



Please Join Toni Anne every Friday morning at 7:00 am on Zoom for TAD Talks. You will hear important updates on what is going on in the Texas Legislative session and the national government. Questions are requested ahead of the session but you can always comment on the Zoom Chat. If you can't get going that early you can always catch up at [www.toniannedashiell.com](http://www.toniannedashiell.com). It is well worth the time to be informed.



# Congratulations to Village Republican Women on the 60th Anniversary of Their Charter in the Texas Federation of Republican Women!



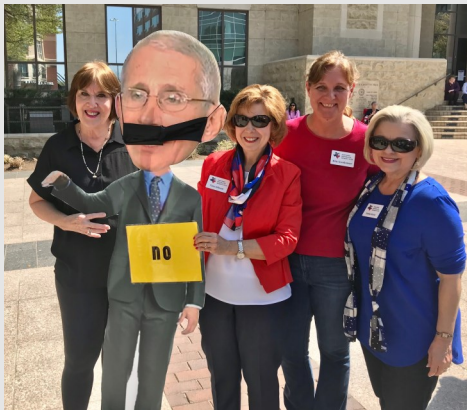
Past and Current Presidents of Village Republican women celebrating the 60th anniversary of the club. Back Row: Leslie Dickey, Carolyn Hodges, Theresa Kosmoski, Barbara Larson. Front Row: Buffie Ingersoll, Beverly Roberts, Lynn Hester, Deanna Harrington.

TFRW Past Presidents with TFRW President Glynis Chester: Carolyn Hodges, Theresa Kosmoski, and Deanna Harrington current VRW President and GHC President Sophia Mafrige.

Ellie Skelton, Goldwater Girl and VRW Honoree Nancy Scott



## Greater Houston Council FRW Spring Club Events



**Village RW** donated and distributed Easter baskets to support West Houston Assistant Ministries in their help to assist families in economic distress. **Pearl Maggio** and **Jan Ott** received a charter for new club **Southeast Texas RW**, from President **Glynis Chester** at the TFRW Board meeting. **Fort Bend RW** at the Unite for Freedom Rally with Freedom Matters, peaceful protest over the mask mandates and one year since "15 Days to Stop the Spread" and **Fort Bend RW** visit to the Texas Capitol and Supreme Court. President **Glynis Chester** and Governor **Abbott** presenting a \$20,000 check to TFRW at the TFRW board meeting. **Cy Fair RW** enjoying the Harris County GOP LRD in Houston.



## Texas Legislative Update

### Texas Gains Two Congressional Seats in Census Update More Than Any Other State

Brad Johnson April 26, 2021

<https://thetexan.news/texas-gains-two-congressional-seats-in-census-update-more-than-any-other-state/>



Texas was the top recipient of the 2020 apportionment release by the U.S. Census Bureau, picking up two congressional seats.

After a three million population increase over the last decade, Texas will grow its congressional district total to 38.

The U.S. House of Representatives was constitutionally locked at 435 members with the Permanent Apportionment Act of 1929, meaning congressional seats cannot be created or destroyed — just transferred from one state to another.

Texas was one of six states to gain seats while seven lost one. Its total population increased nearly 4 million, topping out at 29,145,505.

Another part of congressional representation that changed was the constituents per district, increasing from 698,488 to 766,987.

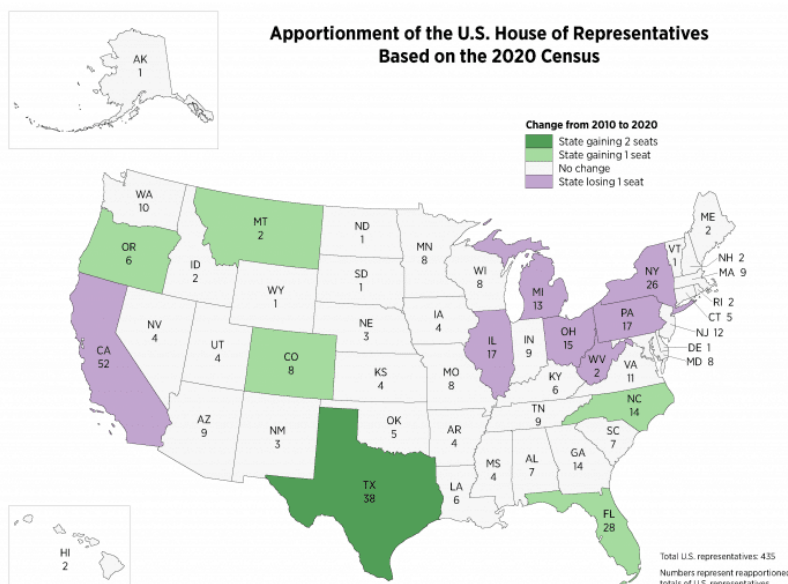
With the preliminary totals now available, the decennial process for redrawing Texas' congressional and state legislative districts will begin to speed up.

The number of Texas' state legislative districts, unlike its federal counterpart, is locked at 31 and 150 for the Senate and House, respectively. So, while the constituency per district will increase, the number of elected representatives will not.

The Texas Demographic Center estimated earlier this year that the state Senate districts would increase in size to just shy of 1 million residents per district — substantially larger than the congressional districts.

That projection overshoot the result by about 50,000 residents. The population per state House district will be just over 194,000.

Like most redistricting efforts, this year's is likely to be drawn out and bogged down with legal challenges.



Due to coronavirus, the Census Bureau's project was delayed and the delivery of its data to the states may not come until September 30. That means Texas will be behind the eight ball to draw its legislative districts before the 2022 primaries.

With a month left in the 87th regular session, it is all but certain that the state legislature will convene a special session just to tackle the issue — meaning that after a year of inaction, a dash to the finish is expected.

Texas' population is clearly growing at a significant rate — and with it, the state's political influence at the national level.

THE NFRW PROGRAM COMMITTEE PRESENTS



# BITE SIZE TOOLS YOU CAN USE



12 Noon  
Via Zoom

## NFRW Program Committee's Bite Size Tools

Join NFRW for a special edition of Bite Sized Tools for Clubs via Zoom

Hosted by Program Committee Chair Karen Newton, TFRW Past President

Classes are free, but registration is required.

May 25, 2021 01:00 PM

Jun 29, 2021 01:00 PM

Jul 27, 2021 01:00 PM

Aug 31, 2021 01:00 PM

Sep 28, 2021 01:00 PM

[https://nfrw.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcqdOqvrjgrHdDhkSD8\\_pDB6r8QDANMrnOt/success?user\\_id=W2527DciReysLJ\\_5Hhb-uw&timezone\\_id=America%2FNew\\_York](https://nfrw.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcqdOqvrjgrHdDhkSD8_pDB6r8QDANMrnOt/success?user_id=W2527DciReysLJ_5Hhb-uw&timezone_id=America%2FNew_York)

## NFRW Launching Leaders! National Convention

September 23-26, 2021 in Orlando



National Federation of Republican Women

Orlando, Florida

September 23-26, 2021



WE ADMIRE ART TOGETHER!

TO JOIN THE FUN VISIT  
[NFRW.ORG/CONVENTION-ORLANDO](https://nfrw.org/convention-orlando)





## **GREATER HOUSTON COUNCIL OF FEDERATED REPUBLICAN WOMEN**

### **2020/2021 Board of Directors**

President	Sophia Mafrige, Magic Circle RW
1st VP Programs	Gwen Withrow, Spindletop RW
2nd VP Membership	Kittie Rice, Spindletop RW
3rd VP Special Events	Dr. Milinda Morris, Texas Tea Party RW
4th VP Finance	Cheryl Dalton, Magic Circle RW
Recording Secretary	Mary Sage, Magic Circle RW
Corresponding Secretary	Edie Holland, Bay Area RW
Treasurer/PAC Treasurer	Micheline Hutson, Cy Fair RW
Immediate Past President	Hon. Cindy Siegel, Magic Circle RW

#### **STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN (VOTING)**

Bylaws	Barbara Tague, Tomball RW
Campaign Activities	Gayla Baker, Brazosport RW
County Chair Liaison	Emely McHattie, Village RW
Legislative	SJ Swanson, Village RW
Newsletter	Tina Gibson, Fort Bend RW
Public Relations	Carmen Crenshaw, Magic Circle RW

#### **SPECIAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN EX-OFFICIO (NON-VOTING)**

Hospitality	Dana Khan, NW Forest RW
Historian	Jennifer Knesek, Magic Circle RW
Club Liaison	Pearl Maggio, Montgomery County RW

#### **PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTEES EX-OFFICIO (NON-VOTING)**

Advisor to President	Jessica Colon, Texas Tea Party RW
Chaplain	Ann Lee, Memorial West RW
Protocol	Barbara Tague, Tomball RW
TFRW/NFRW Liaison	Alice Melancon, Montgomery County RW
GOTV	Rachel Redus, Tri-County RW
Social Media	Jennifer Knesek, Magic Circle RW
Parliamentarian	Debbie Cupples, Memorial West RW

# Greater Houston Council Calendar of Events



All General and Executive Committee Meetings at  
Trini Mendenhall Community Center  
1414 Wirt Rd. Houston 77055

**General Meetings 9:30 am—noon**

May 18, 2021

September 21, 2021

November 9, 2021

**Executive Committee Meetings 2021, 10:00 am**

August 17, 2021

October 19, 2021

For more information go to [www.ghcfrwpac.org](http://www.ghcfrwpac.org), or contact President Sophia Mafrige at  
[ghc2020prez@aol.com](mailto:ghc2020prez@aol.com)

## Victory 2021 Calendar

- ☆ **May 18—GHCFRW General Meeting, Tribute to Our Military and Speaker RPT Chair Lt. Col. Allen West**
- ☆ **September 21—GHCFRW General Meeting**
- ☆ **September 23-26—NFRW National Convention in Orlando, Florida**
- ☆ **October 13-16—TFRW State Convention at Kalahari Resort in Round Rock**
- ☆ **April 1, 2022—SAVE THE DATE! GHCFRW 60th Anniversary Celebration at Minute Maid Park**

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Solicitations made by federal candidates and officeholders are limited by federal law. The federal candidates and officeholders are soliciting only donations of up to \$2,500.00 from individuals and up to \$5,000.00 from multi-candidate political committees. They are not soliciting donations in any amount from corporations, labor organizations, national banks, federal contractors, or foreign nationals.

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