

Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women

Representing 13 Counties of
Federated Republican Women

May 2022

President's Message

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Milestones. Accomplishments. Going forward.



**Tina Gibson, GHCFRW
President**

Dear GHC Family,

Happy 60th Anniversary!

Wow! 2022 is a great year to celebrate accomplishments of our Republican Women in the Greater Houston area. What a busy spring GHC has had.

The GHC Board is so honored to play a part in growing, training and supporting your club members as we blaze through this election season.

Thank you to members who attended the Nuts 'N Bolts workshop in March. We hope you went home with great information to share with your club. We're adding programs from presenters to the GHC website, so keep checking it for new materials. Several clubs have asked our presenters if they will come speak to their clubs. I know they will!

Thank you to the clubs that attended the Diamond at the Diamond luncheon at Minute Maid Park with speaker Kellyanne Conway. What a wonderful day! We will be posting photos of the day on the GHC website as they become available.

Be sure to attend our next GHC general meeting on Tuesday May 10, 9:30-noon at Mendenhall Center. We will be remembering Memorial Day and honoring our armed forces who died defending our freedoms with a moving ceremony and history led by veteran Dr. Milinda Morris. We will also celebrate GHC 60th Anniversary with historical memorabilia for viewing.

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President's Message, cont'd.

Congratulations to our 31 GHC member clubs! Please see their contact information in this newsletter. If your club has not yet turned in your contact information of your club President and Delegate, please send that information to VP Membership Amy Byers at ajbyers1348@aol.com.

There is a lot to celebrate this year. We honor your club's success in getting new members involved and working to elect our Republicans and GHC is proud to work alongside your clubs in this 60th Anniversary year. Our shared goal is to make our 60th anniversary not just a legitimate celebratory milestone, but also a year of extraordinary accomplishment.

Tina Gibson

President, GHCFRW



Armed Forces Honored at GHCFRW May 10 General Meeting



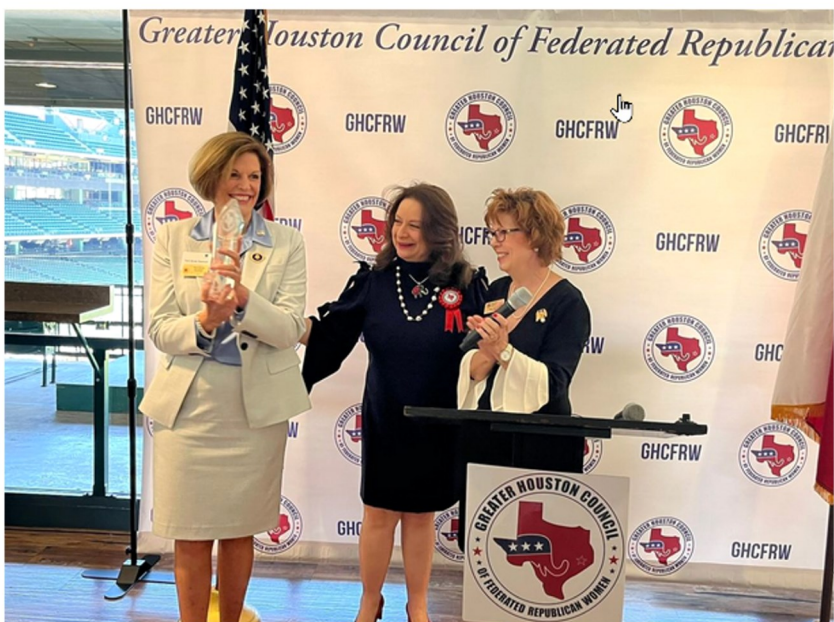
Called one of the “most moving” programs the GHCFRW has ever hosted, the Memorial Day ceremony led by veteran Dr. Milinda Morris will occur at our next general meeting Tuesday, May 10, 9:30-Noon at Mendenhall Center. Please plan to attend.



Pictures, story ideas, comments, criticisms to Fleury Sommers,
fsommers@sommersassoc.com

GCHFRW Website: <https://www.ghcfrwpac.org/>

Diamond Celebration a “HUUUGEE” Success



Continued next page

Diamond Anniversary

From the GHCFRW Luncheon Program



Dear Friends,

Today celebrates a great milestone in the history of Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women. In 60 years, we have accomplished so much in efforts to keep the counties in which we live safe, secure, a great place to raise

our families and freely worship. These safe communities have been most important in our lives.

Our country is now looking over the dreaded cliff. We have to muster the volunteers to take on every opportunity to keep us from falling off forever. It starts here in the Greater Houston area. It's time to hold our counties that are red and take back the others from the socialist left strangle hold.

Thank you for supporting Greater Houston Council financially and with your presence in all GOTV efforts. Republican Women are truly inspiring to all who watch us work.

Republicans will be victorious this year, thanks to you. Now, let's get to work!

Tina Gibson

President, Greater Houston Council Federated Republican Women

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About our Speakers



Kellyanne Conway served as Campaign Manager of the come-from-behind victory of Trump-Pence 2016, making her the first woman in U.S. history to successfully helm a presidential campaign. For nearly four years, Kellyanne served as Assistant to the President and Senior Counselor to the President at the White House, working on a range of issues affecting domestic and global policy.

She is the Founder and former President of The Polling Company, Inc./WomanTrend a privately-held woman-owned corporation she operated from 1995-2016. Kellyanne holds a law degree, with honors, from George Washington University Law Center and completed her undergraduate studies at Trinity College and Oxford University. Most recently, she started a new business, KAConsulting LLC, which provides clients advice, polling, and media training. Her memoir will be published in Spring 2022. She is a mom to four amazing kids.

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Honorable Steve Munisteri is an attorney who served as the Chairman of the Republican Party of Texas from 2010 to 2015. In 2017, Munisteri was appointed to the White House staff as Deputy Assistant to the President and Principal Deputy Director of Public Liaison in the Trump presidency. He served as Senior Advisor to Senator Rand Paul and Senator John Cornyn, RNC Chairman Priebus, the Texas Republican Senate Caucus and now serves as Senior Advisor to Governor Abbott.

The Texas RPT gives The Steve Munisteri Award each year in recognition and honor of his service when he was the Chairman of the RPT to the volunteer who made the greatest impact on the Republican Party of Texas.

GREATER HOUSTON COUNCIL of Federated Republican Women



Diamond Anniversary at the Diamond
Celebrating 60 years 1962 - 2022



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Diamond at the Diamond Committee Members

Dana Khan, Event Chair

Gayla Baker	Pearl Maggio
Carmen Crenshaw	Emely McHattie
Deb Cupples	Alice Melancon
Cheryl Dalton	Rachel Redus
Tina Gibson	Mary Sage
Micheline Hutson	SJ Swanson
Jennifer Knesek	Barbara Tague
Sophia Mafrige	Gwen Withrow



GREATER HOUSTON COUNCIL
of Federated Republican Women

Diamond Anniversary

Celebrating 60 years 1962 - 2022

Our History. Our Ancestors. Our Heritage.

The emergence of the Republican Party as the dominant political party in Texas took over a hundred years of work, a changed political environment, and a re-educated voting base. It was the result of a long, hard slog over decades that closely involved the GHCFRW and its predecessor organizations. That history, and the vision that helped change entrenched Texan voting patterns, provide valuable lessons for framing today's political climate and for going forward.

Brief Background



Just as many people are surprised to learn that the Republican Party was founded as the anti-slavery party, people may be surprised to learn that the Republican Party of Texas was founded on July 4, 1867, by 150 black men and 20 Anglos in Houston Texas.

Dr. Tim Westley, Historian of the Republican Party of Texas, says that from the start, this “agrarian-based biracial nucleus intentionally reached out through the Freedmen’s Bureau and other organizations to the newly freed and newly enfranchised freedmen to ensure they were registered to vote.” In 155 years, technologies have changed but the goal --to register voters--has not.

That early Texas Republican effort to register voters is a direct ancestor to current TFRW and GHCFRW programs, including this year’s Texas Republican Voter Engagement Project (TRVEP) which is attempting to register 100,000 new Republican voters.

The Foundation

Between 1867 and the middle of the 20th century

the GOP was a negligible factor in Texas politics.



1854 birthplace of GOP

In 1947 the Republican Club of Texas was founded by Captain J.F. Lucey of Dallas, called an “internationally prominent oilman and friend of Herbert Hoover” by the *New York Times*. However, it was not until 1952 that the current governing body of

the RPT, the State Republican Executive Committee, was organized.

The National Federation of Republican Women had been organized in 1938, however, it was not until 1955 that Republican women’s clubs existed in three-quarters of Texas congressional districts, enabling the “federation” of the Texas Federation of Republican Women. For the discerning observer, the fact that by 1955 Republican women’s clubs existed in so many congressional districts at a time when Texas was deep blue may have been seen as a harbinger of what was to come.

But there were other organizations. On their website, the Village Republican Women, which celebrated its 60th-anniversary last year, says that “at that time in Harris County (1955), only loosely structured precinct organizations (for women) existed.



“The purpose of those groups was to assist the precinct chairman with voter registration, identifying Republican voters,

and fundraising on behalf of the Party. The original name of our organization was the Precinct 273 Republican Women’s Club (RWC) and our first President was Gerry Hardway.”

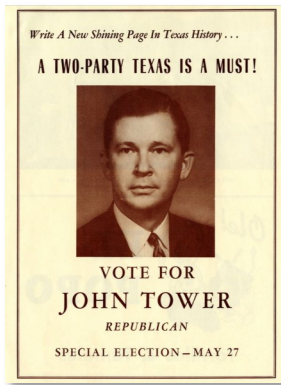
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Our Heritage, cont'd.

It was not until 1961 that the club was officially chartered as a member of the TFRW. (The Braes Republican Women's Club was chartered in 1960 and is the oldest active TFRW club in Harris County.)

A year later, in June of 1962, the Harris County Council of Federated Republican Women was organized. Gerry Hardway, Village Republican Women, would be the first president of the Harris County Council of FRW.

That organization was later renamed the Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women to better reflect the growth and location of member clubs.



Although there were some early successes, such as the election of John Tower to the Senate in 1961, Texas would remain a deep blue state until the 1970s. ***However, the foundational organizations that would help drive change were in place.***

Brick-by-Brick

In 2008, the GHCFRW celebrated its 45th anniversary. Researchers prepared a timeline which was incorporated into a pamphlet distributed at the luncheon. (We've printed part of that pamphlet in this newsletter.) A close look at the activities of the GHCFRW suggests that its leaders and the leaders of its associated clubs clearly understood the necessity of a brick-by-brick approach to building a strong and vibrant GOP in Texas.

In 1963, the new organization and the Village Republican Women began a fundraising effort to register new voters. Apart from necessary organizational activities, such as developing and approving the bylaws, *this was the first undertaking by what would be the GHCFRW.*

By 1965, dollars were allocated to placing books in Houston public libraries to increase awareness of the Republican Party and its philosophy.

Simultaneously, funds were raised through various activities – Red Garter parties, Pink Elephant balls, “Games” parties, and various teas – to support various candidates, including John Tower, the first Republican senator elected from Texas since Reconstruction.

From the start, the GHCFRW appears to have been purposeful about educating its members. Trips to Austin were organized. Speakers were solicited. By 2000, the *Nuts 'N Bolts* program had been created and presented to members. (In March 2013, *Nuts 'N Bolts* was mentioned by the Republican Party of Texas in its Resolution Honoring GHCFRW on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.)

Voter registration. Member and public education. Candidate support. These are the themes that run through every activity supported by the GHCFRW since its inception.

Blue-to-Red



GOP Party Historian Westley, among others, says that “Texas turned red in the late 70s and early 80s as a result of a population shift of Republican-leaning people who started

to populate the suburban (major) cities during the 70s and 80s. This trend included people relocating into Texas and many conservative Democrats shifting to the right and voting Republican.”

Regardless of the motivations, what cannot be ignored is the fact that organizations, including the GHCFRW and its member clubs, were already on-the-ground providing the outreach and education that would help attract these voters to the GOP.

The Future

Westley issues a stark warning for the future. Today, he says, “the irony is that many Californians (who tend to be left-leaning Democrats) are

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Our Heritage, cont'd.



Tim Westley, PhD

moving to Texas Metropolitan areas at a high rate. Cities in those areas have gone from Republican to Democrat and remain Democrat strongholds. The number of Californians moving to Texas has risen

over the past few years to the point that, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, almost 700,000 Californians have relocated to Texas since 2010.”

The “2021 Texas Relocation Report” by the Texas Realtors says that more than 500,000 people moved to Texas in 2019 and it is the “seventh year in a row that Texas attracted more than 500,000 new residents.” These numbers of course are pre-pandemic.

Conclusion

Back in 1867, the founders of the GOP in Texas conducted voter registration efforts in an atmosphere we can only imagine. Later, early GHCFRW voter registration efforts were conducted in a state that was so deep blue that GOP voter registration efforts might have been considered delusional. However, our GOP ancestors were undaunted.

If GHCFRW’s history of 60 years proves anything, it is that the gains we see today are the product of a refusal to give up by those who believe in Republican principles. During the most dismal years of Democrat control of Texas, GHCFRW members continued to knock on doors, and hold bridge parties and coffees, among other efforts, to register Republican voters.

Today, in a far more benign and supportive environment, GHCFRW and TFRW leadership understand that new gains must be consolidated and built upon. It should also be noted that technology has made outreach swifter and easier than ever before. The Texas Republican Voter Engagement Project (TRVEP) is an example of a program in which most people can easily participate. And the women of GHCFRW clubs can take pride in the fact that these programs are direct descendants of those earliest voter registration efforts conducted so long ago and in such dark circumstances.

Fleury Sommers, editor



GHCFRW Past Presidents 1961-2021

"The very essence of leadership is that you have to have vision. You can't blow an uncertain trumpet."

-Theodore M. Hesburgh

2020 - 2021	Sophia Mafrige
2018 - 2019	Cindy Siegel
2016 - 2017	Cheryl Dalton
2014 - 2015	Barbara Tague
2012 - 2013	Sherry Peterson
2010 - 2011	Sylvia Manley
2008 - 2009	Pat Hebert
2006 - 2007	Carolyn Hodges
2004 - 2005	Sue Kikis
2002 - 2003	Peggy Mason
2000 - 2001	Mary Sergesketter
1998 - 1999	Jan Clark
1996 - 1997	Barbara Jordan
1994 - 1995	Jo Konen
1992 - 1993	Michelle Bain
1990 - 1991	Betsy Lake
1988 - 1989	Kay Shillock

1986 - 1987	Mary Karges
1984 - 1985	Rickey Thompson
1982 - 1983	Penny Butler
1980 - 1981	Peggy Engelhart
1978 - 1979	Vicki Hapke
1976 - 1977	Ann Watson
1974 - 1975	Barbara Cook
1972 - 1973	Carolyn Messenger
1970 - 1971	Florence Neumeyer
1968 - 1969	Jacquelyn Till
1967	Callie Robertson
1966	Eddie Nelzen Baker
1965	Peggy Brelsford
1964	Mary Wright
1961 - 1963	Gerry Hardway



A Look Back in Time

Milestones from our Sapphire Anniversary

On Thursday, January 31, 2008, the Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women held its “Victory ‘08” Kick-Off Luncheon at the Intercontinental Hotel. The luncheon was also a celebration of the GHCFRW’s 45th anniversary. Present at the luncheon was a “who’s who” of Texas Republicans, including Judges, State Representatives, County Commissioners, and more.

As a part of that celebration, a 12-page pamphlet was printed, including sponsors, guests, and speakers. Researchers for the luncheon also prepared a meticulous timeline of GHCFRW milestones, a year-by-year review of activities and events dating from its 1962 founding. We can’t reproduce the entire pamphlet; however, we’ve reproduced the cover page and the timeline below. Enjoy. (Use zoom button to enlarge.)

45TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

*Greater Houston Council
of
Federated
Republican Women*

**VICTORY '08
KICK-OFF LUNCHEON**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 2008
INTERCONTINENTAL HOUSTON HOTEL

History of Greater Houston Council of FRW

1962-1963 Republican Women's clubs in the Houston area first started as Precinct Clubs. The presidents of those clubs met at the request of TFRW to form what was then called Harris County Council of FRW. The first meeting was June 15, 1962, with bylaws approved on August 8. **Gerry Hardway** was the group's first president. She was also president of Village RW. In 1963, the group sold poll taxes in an attempt to register additional Republican voters and hosted the TFRW Convention in the fall at the Shamrock Hilton Hotel.

1964-1965 **Mary Wright** and **Peggy Brelsford** served as presidents and Pink Elephant Balls were held each year. The proceeds from the balls went to the campaign of John Tower and books were placed in public libraries to bring more awareness to the Republican Party and its philosophy.

1966-1967 Presidents were **Eddie Nelezen Baker** and **Callie Robertson**. More library books were donated and there was a Council Card Party at Battelstein's in Sharpstown. John Tower's campaign received \$150 as a result. There was a tea for Mrs. John Tower and over 300 attended. President Robertson donated a large U.S. flag to Council for permanent use upon leaving office.

1968-1969 Presidents began to serve two year terms and **Jacquelyn Till** was elected. The Nixon campaign was assisted by a fundraising dinner at the Shamrock, the first Council notebooks were assembled, and money was raised by selling poison antidote kits. On May 16, 1968, there were 4 teas for Mrs. John Tower and Mrs. Paul Eggers. Council later purchased a desk and folding chairs for Harris County RP Headquarters. Finally there were Republicans in the State Legislature – **Bill Archer**, **Jim Earthman**, **Edmund Jones**, and **Will Lee** in the House and **Hank Grover** in the Senate. Three bus-loads of members made a trip to Austin to see them in action.

1970-1971 **Florence Neumeyer** served as president and was active in Republican doings until her recent death. Under her direction, Council hosted **Cleo Bohls**, TFRW President, at a Lincoln Day luncheon and reception, held a Red Garter Party that netted \$191.52, held a tea for **Art Bush**, **George Bush**, **Bill Archer**, and **John Tower**, and was given a state flag flown over the Capitol by **Sonny Jones**. A “Games Party” and Luncheon in May, 1971 brought over \$400 to the treasury.

1972-1973 **Carolyn Messenger** was president and welcomed 3 new clubs - NW Harris County, Greater Tomball, and Ft. Bend. Also, Briargrove reactivated and Alief organized as well. **Hank Grover** received \$600 and a Membership Seminar was held. The group attended Legislative Day in Austin with the largest representation in the state – 77 riding buses to Austin. All 24 clubs helped host the TFRW Convention and **Nancy Palm** and **Carolyn Messenger** were named two of the 10 Outstanding RW at this time.

1974-1975 **Barbara Cook** served as President. Council held a tea to welcome Mrs. John Connally to the Republican Party. Also in attendance was Barbara Bush, wife of the Ambassador to Red China and Rita Bass, National Committeewoman. RW worked very hard to elect officials and for the first time at the county level, most especially Jon Lindsay, County Judge.

1976-1977 **Ann Watson** was elected president of Council and the group worked in the Congressional race for Dr. Ron Paul (CD 22). The Bicentennial of the U.S. was celebrated by attending a production of "1776" at Dunfee's Dinner Theater. There were 6 Republicans now serving in the Texas House - Milton Fox, Don Henderson, Chase Untermeyer, Bill Blythe, Frank Hartung and Brad Wright. Walter Mengden, Jr. served in the State Senate. Vera Carhart, Village RW, was elected President of TFRW.

1978-1979 **Vicki Hapke** was Council President and the first "No Lillies" Award was given to Village RW. Newsletters were regularly sent, legislative reports given, and dues were raised to \$15 per club. Eight new clubs joined, Lance Tarrance spoke about his polling firm, and a reception was held for Chet Upham, State Party Chairman, and his wife. The first Republican governor since Reconstruction was elected, Bill Clements. Christin Hartung was elected to City Council.

1980-1981 **Peggy Englehart** served as Council President and a "Peanut Stomp" t-shirt was sold to help bring defeat to Jimmy Carter by Ronald Reagan. Jack Fields was also elected to Congress in the 8th CD. In April, 1981, Council passed a resolution proposed by Carolyn Tarleton to be sent to the White House praying for the quick recovery of President Reagan and his press secretary, James Brady. Council members participated in Jon Lindsay's barbeque and speakers included DA Johnny Holmes and representatives from Joske's and Foley's discussing repeal of the Blue Law.

1982-1983 **Penny Butler** served as Madam President, and it was at this time that the name of the organization was changed to Greater Houston Council of FRW and there were 21 clubs included. Russ Mather, Harris County RP Chairman spoke and the proposed Houston Convention Center was debated by Alan Rudy and Jim McConn. Council donated \$25 for the purchase of an oil portrait of Ronald Reagan for Harris County RP Headquarters.

1984-1985 **Rickey Thompson** was elected president of our organization. There were four TFRW officers from the GHC area including Myrtis Gibson, Merle Carlson, Cindy Brockwell, and Marguerite Binkley.

1986-1987 **Mary Karges** was president and the new club presidents received Texas Sesquicentennial pins. Council sponsored a contest to get more participation in the precinct conventions, and Governor Bill Clements was re-elected. Council postponed its first meeting of the year so that members could attend his inauguration. While the U.S. Constitution celebrated its 200th birthday, Council celebrated its 25th anniversary and all former presidents received silver pins presented by Judge Jon Lindsay.

1988-1989 **Kay Shillock** was chosen to lead Council. Newly elected presidents received prisms and signature pens from Governor Clements. With the Super Tuesday primary in March, work started early for RW. Awards were given for highest member attendance at precinct conventions the day of the primary. The election season culminated with Houston's George and Barbara Bush becoming President and First Lady. Council made a statement about women's involvement in our political process with the Leadership '89 Seminar, "Women in Politics: Power and Persuasion." Sue Dronberger designed a new logo for GHC at this time.

1990-1991 **Betsy Lake** was elected president and at the end of her term was elected Harris County RP Chairman. There were 28 clubs in Harris County plus 7 in other counties. Council members attended Legislative Day in Austin and held another Leadership Seminar, "New for the 90's." Penny Butler was elected National Committeewoman and Beverly Kaufman was elected president of TFRW.

1992-1993 **Michelle Bain** served as Council President. Council celebrated its 30th anniversary lunch honoring past presidents in May, 1992. In August, the Republican National Convention was held in Houston where George Bush and Dan Quayle were re-nominated. Many RW served during the convention in many capacities. There was a tribute to Barbara Bush at the George R. Brown Convention Center. The big blow came when Bill Clinton defeated George Bush, but the former president returned to Houston and a number of RW began to work in his office here. The good thing about this election - Lloyd Bentsen moved from being a U.S. Senator to Secretary of Treasury, and a special election was held to replace him. Voila - our Kay Bailey Hutchison.

1994-1995 **Jo Konen** was chosen to lead our organization. At this time TFRW President Marcia Saunders asked Council presidents to serve on the TFRW Board as ex officio members. Council members traveled to Austin and heard Governor George W. Bush. Again, Council held a Leadership Seminar and Statewide Candidate Luncheon celebrating Armed Forces Day with over 200 in attendance. In 1995, First Lady Laura Bush's office asked Council to sponsor her first large speaking engagement in Houston. The event was held October 17, 1995, and local clubs were given the opportunity to raise money for their own clubs. Over 500 attended this event.

1996-1997 Serving as president was **Barbara Jordan**. The Greater Houston Council official pin/jewelry was designed and given to members while another Leadership Seminar was held. An old-fashioned political rally was held at the home of Catherine and Rob Mosbacher in conjunction with the TFRW April Board Meeting hosted by GHC. By 1997, the number of clubs had reached 40 and in September, 1997, GHC sponsored a luncheon featuring Governor George W. Bush where over 1000 were in attendance.

1998-1999 This was an exciting time for GHC with **Jan Clark** at the helm. The "Republican Women Care" t-shirt was introduced and proved to be a great fundraising item. In September, 1998, the "Victory '98" event made over \$25,000 for GHC. The extremely successful rally and seminar were attended by all statewide and local candidates. The TFRW Convention was held here in Houston, November, 1999, chaired by Barbara Jordan. This was another very successful event!

2000-2001 **Mary Sergesketter** was elected president at this time and two new offices were added to GHC leadership - Special Events and Ways & Means. An emphasis was placed on bringing young women into the political process with a special event, "Republican Women, Yesterday Today and Tomorrow." Focus groups were used to define our role for the future. "Nuts and Bolts" was organized by our TFRW deputy presidents and a special luncheon honoring Texas First Lady Anita Perry was held under the leadership of Deany Meinke, chairman. A record was set by the selling of "Bush" pins for the presidential election bringing in more than \$20,000 in profits. GHC sponsored two students from University of Houston to participate in the Bush Strike Force and also bought newspapers for students in underprivileged schools. Club members now numbered 41.

2002-2003 **Peggy Mason** was chosen to lead GHC. During her tenure, GHC began its website, our organization became a PAC as required by law, Republicans won by a landslide in November of 2002, and Republican Women began to greatly participate in the Dictionary Project as promoted by NFRW and TFRW. Some of the area clubs began to share ideas about outstanding projects they had in order to attract more members.

2004-2005 **Sue Kikis** was elected president of Council. Again, "Nuts and Bolts" seminars were organized by Deputy President Betsy Lake. A special event "March to Victory" was held with Ambassador Jean Phillips speaking for the Bush-Cheney campaign and Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs filling in for Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison who had been slated as the speaker. This event along with "Re-Elect Bush" and "Vote" pin sales greatly enriched our treasury. GHC donated over 600 books to Reach Out and Read, participated again in the Dictionary Project, established standing rules for the first time, and coordinated club efforts to donate to Operation Interdependence, a civilian to military delivery system for our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

2006-2007 **Carolyn Hodges** served as president of GHC. "Nuts and Bolts" seminars were held each year as is our tradition. Council hosted Senator John Cornyn at an evening event and Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison spoke at our Immigration Forum in October, 2006. Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist and his wife Karyn also attended. Generous donations were made to the Fisher House on the campus of the VA Hospital and to TFRW for its fundraiser and campaign management school held in Houston. GHC also sponsored a table at the charter ceremony for the Harris County Federation of Black Republicans. A special event celebrating Council's 45th anniversary and kick-off for "Victory '08" is being held today to culminate the activities for these two years.

This pamphlet was included in material donated by Dr. Edward and Eugenie Chen, Braes Republican Women's Club, to the Woodson Research Center, Rice University. (Ed was an associate member of the club for many years.)

**Braes Republican
Women's Club**
More than 60 Years of Service





Nuts 'N Bolts 2022 a "Model" For Other Councils



Editor's Note: We are reprinting GHCFRW President Tina Gibson's note to board members sent March 16. It precisely reflects the results of Nuts 'N Bolts 2022, the amount of work that enabled its production and the number of people behind the scenes who made it happen. Nuts 'N Bolts provides the essential knowledge foundation for TFRW Clubs to function effectively—and legally—for their members.

Board Members,

Thank you so much for hosting a great Nuts 'N Bolts seminar yesterday. I received many compliments from attendees and TFRW President Kit Whitehill. Kit wants to use GHC as a model for the Dallas and San Antonio Councils. That's a BIG compliment to all of you!

I especially want to thank Alice and Pearl for organizing and running the day, and Amy, Micheline, Sophia, Gwen, Jennifer, Milinda, Sherry, and Barbara for keeping up with the payments, attendees, Club Presidents, presenting a workshop, flowers, TRVEP sign up table and the AV and printing.

Thank you to Vanessa for taking photos and SJ for presenting awards and gifts. Thank you to Edie and Roxann for making sure we were well fed and for working with the caterer.

Y'all are wonderful. I am so happy to work with you.

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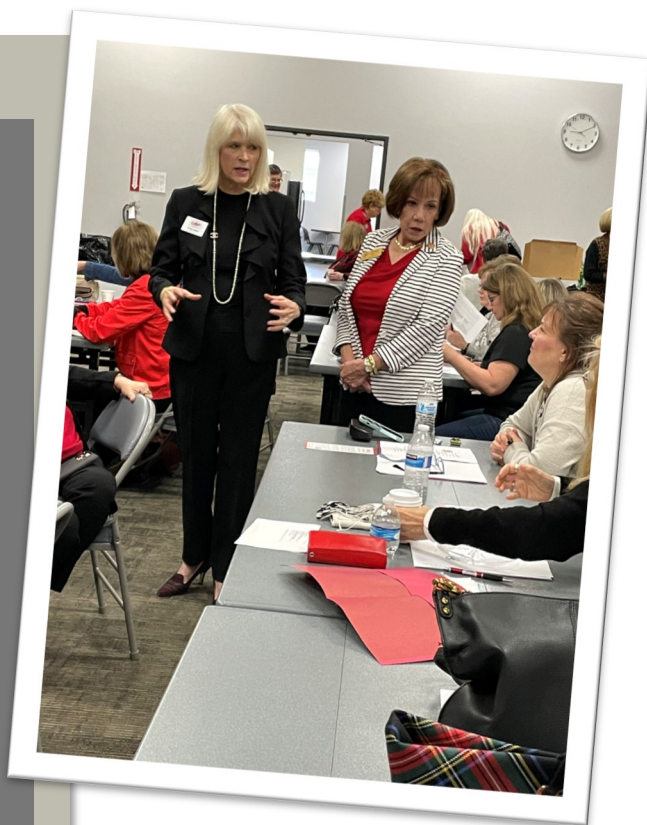
Tina Gibson

Texas Federation of Republican Women District Director
SD17

President, Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women

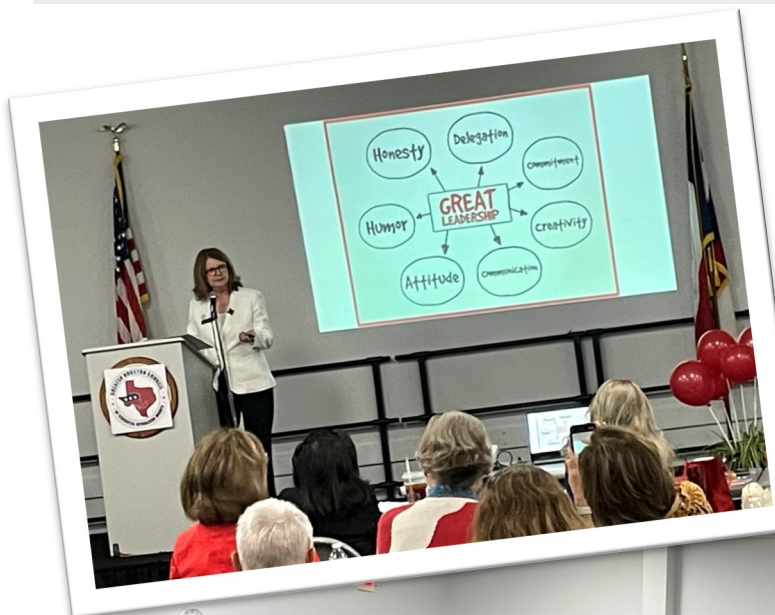
The Republican Women's Club of Katy

713-412-1620



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Nuts 'N Bolts Images Continued



News Briefs: Short But Important

Hospitality



Many thanks to all of you and your respective clubs, **Spindletop RW, Galveston RW, and Northwest Forest RW**, for helping with hospitality at the Nuts 'N Bolts seminar. The snacks and the coffee were all excellent and everyone enjoyed them.

An advance thank-you to **West Pearland RW, Magic Circle RW, and Cy-Fair RW** who will provide refreshments for the May 10 general meeting.

Your help with hospitality is truly appreciated.

Roxann Lewis & Edie Holland,
Hospitality Co-Chairs



GHCFRW Immediate Past President

Sophia Mafrige was presented with a large pewter platter sporting an elephant at the Nuts 'N Bolts seminar as a token of the respect and affection in which she is held and in acknowledgement of the service she has given the GHCFRW.

Pictured are Kit Whitehill, TFRW President, Gwen Withrow, GHC Past VP Programs, Sophia Mafrige GHC Immediate Past President, Tina Gibson GHC President.

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News Briefs, cont'd.



Well Done!!!

SJ Swanson, 1st Vice President Programs reports that the Village Republican Women fielded the most people of any GHCFRW club at the Diamond Anniversary Luncheon with four sold out tables.

Congratulations!

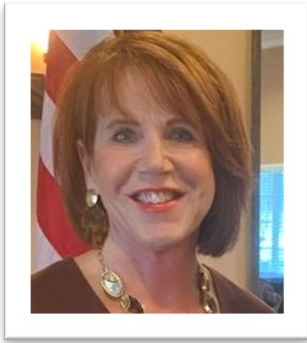


VILLAGE
Republican Women



August 23, 2022
Mendenhall
Get Out the Vote Rally

Details coming soon



Legislative Report

Republican Runoff Election Information by Bonnie M. Foster

Texas will hold its 2022 runoff elections **May 24** to finalize which Republican primary candidates will be on the ballot in the November general election. In 50 races in the March 1 primary, no candidate exceeded 50% of the vote, bringing about runoff races between the candidates who came in first and second. The winner will face the other major party nominee in that race, as well as possible Libertarian and Green party candidates. Independent and write-in candidates have until the summer to file their candidacies. Listed below are all of the candidates who will be on the ballot in the primary runoffs for statewide, congressional and legislative offices.

Early voting runs from **May 16-20**. If you voted in a party primary in March, you can vote **only** in that **same party's runoff**. Voters who didn't cast a ballot in the primary can vote in either party's runoff.

Statewide races

Every Texan voter can cast a ballot in statewide runoff races that include top state officials like the attorney general, lieutenant governor and railroad commissioner. There are four Democratic runoff races and three Republican races.

Attorney General Republican

CANDIDATES

- R** George P. Bush
- R** Ken Paxton Incumbent

Land Commissioner Republican

CANDIDATES

- R** Dawn Buckingham
- R** Tim Westley

Railroad Commissioner Republican

CANDIDATES

- R** Wayne Christian Incumbent
- R** Sarah Stogner

District-level races

Texas voters can vote in the U.S. House, State Board of Education, Texas Senate and Texas House runoff races that correspond with the district they live in.

District 13 - Republican

CANDIDATES

- R** Kathryn Monette
- R** A. Denise Russell

U.S. House

District 7 - Republican

CANDIDATES

- R** Tim Stroud
- R** Johnny Teague

Continued Next Page

Legislative Report cont'd.

District 28 - Republican

CANDIDATES

R Cassy Garcia
R Sandra Whitten

District 29 - Republican

CANDIDATES

R Julio Garza
R Robert Schafranek

District 30 - Republican

CANDIDATES

R James "J. Frank" Harris
R James Rodgers

District 32 - Republican

CANDIDATES

R Antonio Swad
R Justin Webb

District 35 - Republican

CANDIDATES

R Dan McQueen
R Michael Rodriguez

District 37 - Republican

CANDIDATES

R Rod Lingsch
R Jenny Garcia Sharon

Texas Senate

District 24 - Republican

CANDIDATES

R Pete Flores
R Raul Reyes
R Sara Stapleton-Barrera

Texas House

District 12 - Republican

CANDIDATES

R Ben Bius
R Kyle Kacal Incumbent

District 17 - Republican

CANDIDATES

R Stan Gerdes
R Paul Pape

District 19 - Republican

CANDIDATES

R Justin Berry
R Ellen Troxclair

District 23 - Republican

CANDIDATES

R Patrick Gurski
R Terri Leo Wilson

District 52 - Republican

CANDIDATES

R Caroline Harris
R Patrick McGuinness

District 60 - Republican

CANDIDATES

R Mike Olcott
R Glenn Rogers Incumbent

District 61 - Republican

CANDIDATES

R Paul Chabot
R Frederick Frazier

District 63 - Republican

CANDIDATES

R Ben Bumgarner
R Jeff Younger

Continued Next Page

Legislative Report cont'd.

District 70 - Republican

CANDIDATES

R Eric J. Bowlin

R Jamee Jolly

District 73 - Republican

CANDIDATES

R Barron Casteel

R Carrie Isaac

District 84 - Republican

CANDIDATES

R David Glasheen

R Carl Tepper

District 85 - Republican

CANDIDATES

R Stan Kitzman

R Phil Stephenson Incumbent

District 91 - Republican

CANDIDATES

R Stephanie Klick Incumbent

R David Lowe

District 93 - Republican

CANDIDATES

R Laura Hill

R Nate Schatzline

District 122 - Republican

CANDIDATES

R Elisa Chan

R Mark Dorazio

District 133 - Republican

CANDIDATES

R Mano DeAyala

R Shelley Torian Barineau

Disclaimer:

This information came from The Texan, the Secretary of State's office and the Republican Party of Texas.

Get Out The Vote Rally

August 23, 2022

Save the Date

Watch for Details

Below is a lightly edited press release issued by Senator Paul Bettencourt (R-Houston) that explains in clear language the benefits of Proposition 1 and Proposition 2. We thought this might be helpful with members who may have questions. — Bonnie Foster

Public to vote on Senator Bettencourt's Constitutional Amendments Proposition 1 and 2 on May 7, 2022.

The election will be held on Saturday, May 7th, and early voting will begin on Monday, April 25th.

"The Secretary of State has been sending calls to my office about Propositions 1 and 2. Many voters have been finding the ballot language confusing, and I want to clarify what these amendments actually do. Homeowners over the age of 65 will see their freeze values for school taxes actually decline, aka, ISD property tax bills if Proposition 1 passes! Also, if passed, Proposition 2 will lower independent school district property tax bills by increasing the homestead exemption that will save money for the 5.67 million homesteads in the State of Texas," stated Senator Bettencourt.

Below are some plain language talking points to answer many of the frequently asked questions.

Proposition 1 will benefit individuals with an over 65 or disabled exemption on their homestead.

- If an individual has an over 65/disabled exemption on their home and this proposition passes, they will receive a reduction on school district property taxes.
- HB 3 from the 86th Legislature compressed school maintenance and operation tax rates across the board except for over 65/disabled because their rate was already lower than the new compressed rate for everyone else.
- This amendment will provide for the same percentage reduction in an individual's school district tax rate that everyone else received in 2019.
- There are 1.8 million over 65 exemptions and 180,000 disabled exemptions, on average these households will see a \$110 reduction the first year and \$125 reduction in the second year; the reduction will continue to grow each year.
- If there is additional school M&O tax rate compression provided by HB 3 in the future, individuals with an over 65/disabled exemption will receive the same percentage tax rate deduction automatically if this amendment passes.

This amendment will become effective as of January 1, 2023, if it passes.

Proposition 2 will increase the homestead exemption by \$15,000.

- If this amendment passes the state homestead exemption for school district taxable value purposes will increase from \$25,000 to \$40,000.
- On average, the 5.67 million homesteads in Texas will see a \$175 savings in their school district tax bill at the current average statewide school property tax rate.
- This amendment will be effective as of January 1, 2022, if it passes, so homeowners will see the savings when they receive their property tax bill this fall.

This exemption increase is a permanent and ongoing benefit to homeowners.

If one or both of these amendments passes, no school district will lose any revenue they are entitled to receive from the school funding formulas. State dollars will replace any local dollars that a school district would otherwise lose from the passage of these amendments.

The following is a link to our original press release with more information: <https://paulbettencourt.com/2022/04/07/public-to-vote-on-senator-bettencourts-constitutional-amendments-from-sjr-2-on-may-7-2022/>



Conducting Candidate Events – Guide for TFRW Clubs

Corrine Miklosh VP Political Activities

Alice Melancon VP Programs

Editor's Note: In an overheated campaign season we are re-printing the Guide for TFRW clubs for conducting candidate events.

We are also printing the relevant sections of our by-laws concerning candidate endorsements, fairness and causes for removal.

Campaign season presents unique opportunities for clubs. One of those is introducing candidates to the membership. This is done in several ways; you can host a meet and greet, a candidate forum, or possibly a debate.

What's the difference?

A meet and greet is generally an informal event. Candidates are usually introduced and allowed to speak for an allotted period.

A candidate forum is an event typically facilitated by a moderator which includes questions posed to candidates with a set time to respond and possibly rebut.

A debate is a more structured event where questions regarding issues are discussed in greater detail, followed by each participant responding and rebuttals given.

Guidelines for events

Decide what kind of event you want to host - Remember that TFRW clubs cannot host events for federal candidates; this includes Presidential, Senatorial, and Congressional candidates.

Plan your event, type, location, time structure, and moderator.

When planning time for the event. Start with the total time allotted, calculate how many participants

and how long you will allow for introductions, questions, answers, and wrap-up comments.

Other questions that require consideration are:

- Will the candidates introduce themselves?
- How many minutes are allowed for the introduction?
- Will the candidates be allowed time for a closing statement?
- How many minutes will candidates be allowed to answer questions?
- Are rebuttals allowed? How long? Is there a limit to the number of rebuttals?

Remember that:

- All Republican candidates for an office must be invited to attend.
- The invitation to the event should have the guidelines of the forum spelled out.
- Determine in advance if candidates be allowed to display and distribute campaign material.

Moderator, timer, and questions

The moderator should be someone who can keep things moving and controlled.

A separate person should be the timer to keep time and notify candidates of time left and signal when time runs out. She should be visible to the candidates and will work with the moderator.

Continued Next Page

Candidate Events, cont'd.

Some clubs ask for input from members to develop questions to identify areas of interest. If time allows you may solicit questions from the audience.

Table Space Sales

Some events allow for the sale of table space by candidates to display campaign materials.



Following these simple guidelines will ensure compliance with TFRW rules for candidate events.

Corrine & Alice



TFRW Bylaws:

ARTICLE III - POLICY

Section 1. Candidate Endorsement: The President of the Texas Federation of Republican Women, the Vice President – Political Activities, all other currently elected TFRW officers and local federated clubs, their Presidents and Campaign Activities Chairmen shall not publicly endorse any candidate for public office in contested Republican Primaries, Runoff Elections, Special Elections and/or non-partisan elections when more than one Republican is in the race. No candidate shall use the TFRW logo in any political advertising, and any political advertising shall contain the following disclaimer: “This endorsement is given by the individual(s) only, NOT the Texas Federation of Republican Women.”

Section 5. Candidate Fairness: After the end of the candidate filing period for any office and ending the day after the final election for that office, it is the policy of TFRW that all Republican candidates for that office shall be treated fairly and equitably. When one Republican candidate for an office is invited to speak at a Federation or local club meeting, then all Republican candidates for that office shall be offered equal presentation time at the same meeting or another meeting before the election.

ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP Section 1. Eligibility:

Section 9. Removal of Local Clubs: The Texas Federation of Republican Women may remove local clubs from membership by two-thirds (2/3) vote of its Executive Committee present and voting. A. Causes for Removal:

7. Publicly endorsing or working for a known candidate of another party in a partisan or non-partisan race where one or more Republicans are in the race, or endorsing a candidate in a contested Republican Primary, runoff or special election by the club, its President or Campaign Activities Chairman. Exception: other than at a regular club meeting, a club is allowed to be involved in a voter education program or forum that concerns a non-partisan election and the candidate's party affiliation is not announced. If the President or Campaign Activities Chairman violates this policy, it shall fall to the local club to remove her from office. Failure to do so will result in the removal of the club from the Federation.

**I'm so
gonna
vote.**



**Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women
Honoring Club Presidents and Nuts 'N Bolts Seminar & General
Meeting Minutes
March 15, 2022
Trini Mendenhall Center**

Mary Sage

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM by President, Tina Gibson.
2. Opening Prayer & Pledges were led by Dr. Milinda Morris.
3. VP of Membership, Amy Byers, called the roll of Member Clubs and confirmed that there was a quorum of Member Clubs present.
4. The Treasurer's Report was presented by Treasurer, Micheline Huston, and approved as submitted.
5. Recognition of elected officials and candidates by President, Tina Gibson.
6. Tina introduced Gwen Withrow, Chair of the Texas Republican Voter Engagement Project. Tina encouraged members to register for the Red Dialer Program.
7. Special Presentation – Tina commended Past President Sophia Mafrige for her leadership of GHC through Covid and presented a gift to Sophia.
8. Tina presented a Charter to Needville RW, a new TFRW and GHC Club.
9. Recognition and honoring of Club Presidents was conducted by President, Tina Gibson, SD 4 District Director, Pearl Maggio, TFRW President, Kit Whitehill, TFRW VP Membership, Dana Myers, and GHC 2nd VP Membership, Amy Byers. Club Presidents were presented with a President's Pin, a rose and a set of flags for their club meetings and a photo was taken of each Club President.
10. Nuts 'N Bolts Chairs Alice Melancon and Pearl Maggio welcomed everyone to the Nuts 'N Bolts Workshops and invited members to remain for the panel discussion following the workshops.
11. Alice Melancon, TFRW VP Programs, gave an introduction of the Nuts 'N Bolts Program, and, introduced TFRW President, Kit Whitehill.
12. TFRW President, Kit Whitehill, addressed the members. Alice Melancon presented TFRW President, Kit Whitehill, with a gift from GHC.
13. President Tina Gibson recognized the seminar speakers and presented a gift to them.
14. Breakout Sessions Began.
 - 10:45 – 11:15 – Workshop 1
Treasurer and PAC Treasurer – Carla Birk, TFRW PAC Treasurer
President – Kit Whitehill, TFRW President
 - 11:20 – 11:50 – Workshop 2
Programs – Alice Melancon, TFRW VP Programs
Membership – Dana Myers, TFRW VP Membership
15. Lunch was catered by Mark Oster. A portion of the catering cost was underwritten by Commissioner Jack Cagle, Harris County Precinct 4. Tina thanked Commissioner Tom Ramsey, Harris County Precinct 3, for stopping by our meeting.
16. During lunch, SJ Swanson, GHC VP Programs, presented a gift to Rebecca Lunsford who had traveled the farthest to our meeting. Golden Triangle RW had the most members attending our meeting.
17. President Tina Gibson gave the history of GHC.
18. Our Keynote Speaker, TFRW President, Kit Whitehill, spoke about her 2022 vision for TFRW.
19. Breakout Session
 - 1:00 – 1:30 – Workshop 3
Political Activities – Corrine Miklosh, TFRW VP Political Activities
Communication and Social Media – Jennifer Knesek, GHC Social Media Chair
20. A Workshop Panel Q & A followed.
21. The meeting was brought to a close by President, Tina Gibson. She thanked everyone for attending and announced that the next General Meeting will be on May 10th.
22. The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 PM.

Submitted by,
Mary Sage, GHC Recording Secretary



TEXAS FEDERATION
of
Republican Women

Help Register 100,000+ New Texas Republican Voters

Reprinted from TFRW <https://www.tfrw.org/vep/>



VEP STATEWIDE DIRECTOR OF VOLUNTEERS

Rhonda Lacy

rlacy@txvoterengagement.com

Voter registration is critical to winning in November.

Not only will we be working to register new voters, but we will also be rolling out an incentive program for members to become involved in other ways.

Red Dialer is a phone banking program for computers or smart phone app that allows you to easily “phone bank” from your home.

It’s a powerful tool that allows us to be engaged in the fight for 2022, so you should learn to use it! It’s easy to use, and the VEP staff are ready to help you with training and answer any questions you may have.

It just takes three easy steps to help Keep Texas Red from home:

1. Download the Red Dialer presentation and video tutorial.
2. Contact your regional director to request Red Dialer credentials
3. Call, call, call to keep Texas RED HOT!

Weekly Zoom Training

Training are held weekly by VEP Volunteer Coordinator Amariah Pinchback. If interested in attending, please reach out to your regional director for more information. Our regional director is Tina Gibson tinamgibson80@gmail.com

Visit <https://www.tfrw.org/vep/> for more information and links.

CRITICAL INFORMATION

Forms. Contacts. Announcements. Calendar. More.

- GHCFRW Leadership
- General and Board Meeting Dates
- Voting Calendar
- Roll Call—List of Clubs, Presidents & Contact information
- Village Republican Women: May Mega Forum

Greater Houston Council FRW Website

<https://www.ghcfrwpac.org/>

Texas Federation of Republican Women

<https://www.tfrw.org/>





G H C F R W L E A D E R S H I P

Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women

2022 Board of Directors

President	Tina Gibson, Republican Women's Club of Katy RW
1 st VP Programs	S.J. Swanson, Village RW
2 nd VP Membership	Amy Byers, Montgomery County RW
3 rd VP Special Events	Dana Khan, Northwest RW
4th VP Finance	Barbara Tague, Tomball RW
Recording Secretary	Mary Sage, Magic Circle RW
Corresponding Secretary	Elizabeth Lauzon, Bay Area RW
Treasurer/PAC Treasurer	Micheline Hutson, Cy Fair RW
Immediate Past President	Sophia Mafrige, Magic Circle RW

Standing Committee Chairmen (Voting)

Bylaws	Deb Cupples, Memorial West RW
Campaign Activities	Gayla Baker, Brazosport RW
County Chair Liaison	Emely McHattie, Village RW
Legislative	Bonnie Foster, Cy Fair RW
Newsletter	Fleury Sommers, Braes RW
Public Relations	Carmen Crenshaw, Magic Circle RW

Special Committee Chairmen Ex-Officio (Non-voting)

Hospitality	Edie Holland, Bay Area RW Roxann Lewis, Clear Lake RW
Historian	Vanessa Ingrassia, Magic Circle RW
Club Liaison	Marga Matthews, Baytown RW

Presidential Appointees Ex-Officio (Non-Voting)

Advisor to President	Sherry Peterson, West Pearland RW
Chaplain	Ann Lee, Memorial West RW
Protocol	Betsey Kindred, West Pearland RW
TFRW/NFRW Liaison	Alice Melancon, Montgomery County RW
GOTV	Milinda Morris, Republican Women's Club of Katy
Social Media	Jennifer Knesek, Magic Circle RW
Parliamentarian	Debbie Cupples, Memorial West RW
Nuts 'N Bolts	Alice Melancon & Pearl Maggio, Montgomery County RW



Greater Houston Council 2022 Calendar of Events

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

General Meetings 9:30 am – Noon

May 10, 2022

September 20, 2022

November 15, 2022

Executive Committee Meetings 10:00 am

August 16, 2022

October 18, 2022

For more information go to www.ghcfrwpac.org or contact

President Tina Gibson at ghcprez2223@gmail.com

Victory 2022 Calendar

April 25-May 3 – Early Voting

May 7 – Election Day/Constitutional Amendments

May 16-May 20 – Early Voting for Run-off Elections

May 24 – Primary Run-off Election

August 23—GOTV Rally

October 24-November 4 – Early Voting

November 8, 2022 – Election Day

*A working retreat for board members is planned for June 25. Details to come, however the venue will be other than Mendenhall.

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.

Solicitations made by federal candidates and officeholders are limited by federal law. Federal candidates and officeholders are soliciting only donations of up to \$2,500.00 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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Roll Call: GHCFRW Clubs

Angleton RW	Judy Schaefer*
Bay Area RW	Deborah Guitian Roan
Baytown RW	Marga Matthews
Braes RW	Fleury Sommers
Brazosport RW	Pam Mahon
Chambers County RW	Loretta Emmons
Clear Creek RW	Roxann Lewis
Cy-Fair RW	Bonnie Foster
East Montgomery RW	Trish Almond
Fort Bend Republican Women	Angela Hayes Bushnell
Galveston RW	Irene Henry
Golden Triangle RW	Linda Brown
Kingwood Area RW	Joyce Chambers
Lake Conroe RW	Lorena Garcia
Liberty Belles	Dar Kurtz
Magic Circle RW	Buckley Morlot
Memorial West RW	Annette Marek
Montgomery County RW	Alice Melancon
Needville RW	Connie Hall
Northshore RW	Christy Tatum
Northwest Forest RW	Sylvia Manley
RW of Katy	Delia Dibrell
RW of Greater Fish Creek	Rachel Clark
Spindletop RW	Cathy Hidahl
Southeast Texas RW	Pat Greene
The Woodlands RW	Lisa Gilmore
The Yellow Rose of Texas RW	Kay Tyner
Tomball RW	Barbara Tague
Village RW	Julie Jaehne
Walker County RW	Renee Lunsford
West Pearland RW	Mopsie Thornborrow

**Club Presidents*

Village Republican Women



presents

MAY MEGA FORUM

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11

OMNI HOUSTON HOTEL

4 Riverway

Houston, TX 77056

**FEATURING *Runoff* Candidates
for**

**Harris County Judge
&
Texas House District 133**

Special Appearances By:

Senator
Paul Bettencourt
SD7

Commissioner
Jack Cagle
Pct. 4

Commissioner
Tom Ramsey
Pct. 3

\$40
*per
person*

REGISTER HERE:
VILLAGEREPUBLICANWOMEN.ORG/EVENTS/

Check-In 5:00pm
Mix & Mingle 5:00-6:00pm
Light Bites Served / Cash Bar
Program 6:00-8:00pm