September 2023



Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women

Upcoming Events

GHC General Meeting September 19

NFRW Convention Oklahoma City, OK September 28-October 1

TFRW Convention Irving Convention Center October 12-14

GHC Board Meeting October 17

Constitutional Amendment/ Various City Elections November 7

GHC General Meeting November 14

Christmas Luncheon and Board Meeting December 5



GHC September Newsletter President's Message 2023

Hats Off to Republican Women!

What a wonderful celebration of the 103rd anniversary of the 19th

Amendment we had at the Junior League of Houston. Thank you to our VP Special Events **Dana Kahn** and her committee for putting on a wonderful event!

GHC honored our trailblazing Republican Women from the past and the present. Our keynote speaker, **State Senator Joan Huffman**, spoke on the issues at the State House and legislation passed benefitting women and children. She was grateful for our Republican women's support and efforts to make good legislation passed into law. She also spoke on the women's suffrage movement in Texas and the trailblazing women leaders in Texas politics since the 1920s. We also honored our 40 Under 40 leaders who are GHC members and GHC Past Presidents.

It's always an honor to support our Republican women on the ground working to elect Republicans. Thank you to those who attended. If your club was part of the celebration, please send us your photos.

Upcoming Member Club Events and Conventions

Now that the summer break is behind us, your clubs will be out in your communities block walking for candidates and gathering that voter information. Clubs are also scheduling some great programs and meetings this fall.

Please get out and support our sister clubs! Greater Houston Council would love to share your club events on our website at <u>www.ghcfrw.org</u>, in our newsletter and on our Facebook page.

This fall will be busy for clubs who will be attending the NFRW and TFRW conventions in September and October. We hope you have a record number of delegates representing your clubs!

There's a lot of business at the TFRW convention to vote on, club management workshops to attend and a lot of fun activities. Your club delegates will be sitting together within your Senate Districts for all general sessions where you will be voting. Please stay on the last day of the convention to vote for your Senate District Director.

GHC General Meeting September 19th!

Don't miss the Greater Houston Council meeting September 19th at the Mendenhall Community Center in Houston. Club delegates, club members and Republican guests and candidates check in at 9:30 a.m., and the meeting and program begin at 10 a.m.

Tomball RW and Bay Area RW will be our breakfast hostesses. Thank you, ladies!

Please make sure your club delegates and members attend!

Since election season is in full swing, we anticipate several candidates will be joining us for the social time beginning at 9:30 a.m. so that you can meet them, and they will be recognized early in the program.

September Meeting

The Council has important business to conduct at this meeting, including the election of the Nominating Committee. This committee will select the slate of 2024-2025 GHC Officers that will be presented to the membership for a vote at our last meeting of the year on November 14th. Nominations for members of this committee will be made from the floor. Once selected, the Nominations Committee will elect its own Committee Chairman. Nominees will be posted in the November newsletter.

We'll also hear all about the successful and fun Hats Off to Republican Women anniversary luncheon we recently enjoyed. We'll also have another chance to view the wonderful slideshow featuring the history of the women's suffrage movement created by our talented Emily McHattie and some wonderful photos from our council's past events. Photos of from the Hats Off luncheon will be on display as well. SJ Swanson will give us an exciting presentation on the Greater Houston Council's history through the decades, and Sophia Mafrige will share her insight from serving on the Council board in several positions throughout the years.

There will be some fun door prizes, and an award for the club with the most members in attendance at the meeting. Anyone who wants to enjoy a Dutch treat lunch after the meeting across the street at <u>Fratelli's</u> is welcome to join in. See you soon!

It's that time of year. Please take a look at the GHC Nomination and Election Bylaws

ARTICLE VIII - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

- A Nominating Committee of five (5) members shall be elected by the Council at the September meeting in odd numbered years. Only one member from any member club may serve on this committee. The members of this committee shall elect a Chairman of one of their own.
- 2. The Nominating Committee shall submit one nominee for each of the following offices: President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Third Vice President, Fourth Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer. The Committee's written report shall be submitted to Council members at least two weeks prior to the November general meeting at which meeting the election of these officers will be held. No more than two nominees may be members of the Nominating Committee.
- 3. Nominations may also be made from the floor following the report of the Nominating Committee at the November general meeting. No one shall be nominated from the floor who has not given written consent to serve if elected.
- 4. Nominees shall be members in good standing of a member club. Only a president or a past president of a member club may be nominated for the office of Council President. No more than two officers shall be elected who are active members of the same club. No officer may succeed herself more than once.
- 5. If there is more than one nominee for any office, election shall be by ballot and a majority of all votes cast shall constitute election. When there is only one candidate for an office, election may be by voice vote.

Hope to See You September 19th!



What a spectacular event at the Junior League in Houston!

The venue was beautiful, the turnout was tremendous and the hats... can we talk about the hats? The hats were amazing! We hope you all had a great time. The work of Dana Kahn and company was spot on! We also thank Sen. Joan Huffman for the keynote address. Thank you!











































Yay!!

Let's all give a warm GHC welcome to Waller County Republican Women!



GHC President's Networking Luncheon



GHC hosted its annual President's luncheon with 18 club Presidents and their representatives all sharing new ideas and experiences.

GREATER HOUSTON COUNCIL WHO ARE WE AND WHAT DO WE DO?

Greater Houston Council covers 12-13 counties that include TFRW clubs or club members. Currently there are 31 member clubs in The Council. We just added one this month! Waller County RW.

GHC is the TFRW bridge between clubs in a very large geographical area of Texas.

GHC is an Arm of TFRW/ What We Do:

• GHC leadership includes the Council Board of around 26 members which represents most of the council member clubs, and the Club member delegates which include every member club President and one delegate from each club. The voting members are the Board officers, Club Presidents and the club delegates.

We have a yearly membership drive of \$30 per club, which is an additional fee from TFRW individual member dues.

• With that membership we include club board member trainings, a yearly club President's manual, Council President pin and tabletop American and Texas flags with stands.

- The Council has 5 general meetings a year in a central county location which is in Houston at the Mendenhall Community Center.
- There are 5 Council Board meetings a year.
- · Council Christmas luncheon and Board installation ceremony at our December meeting.

Training

• We present training and development of our member club Board officers and club members with Nuts 'N Bolts workshops in March. GHC created the Nuts N Bolts workshops many years ago. The program has been so effective through the years that TFRW has now started our model of nuts and bolts form of workshops around the state within Senate Districts or Deputy President districts. The GHC incorporates breakout sessions in our workshops utilizing our local RW talent who specialize in various topics, along with some of our TFRW board members. The Council trains and supports your leaders in how to run your clubs efficiently.

At our general meetings The Council incorporates Mini Nuts 'N Bolts moments led by our Board members.

Camaraderie

- We promote camaraderie and communication with our member clubs.
- We host annual club Presidents luncheons which are always well attended. Lots of best practices and ideas are shared at these luncheons.
- · GHC supports events shared between clubs.
- We seek out and promote new Republican women leaders.

Communication

• We help your clubs grow and keep you up to date on what is happening in our area through the Council newsletters. We always contact your club newsletter chairs to share your information in our newsletters.

GHC has a website with updated information, including a club President password protected page.

Support

We support new clubs that have joined with starter seed money.

• We host big events to promote our area clubs , candidates and elected officials to celebrate RW success, bring Republican unity and help fund TFRW projects.

- We put on GOTV rallies to support and invite all of our candidates in our surrounding counties to participate.
- We host a yearly County Chair luncheon or breakfast to get to know our County Party leaders.
- Council members speak on behalf of GHC at RW meetings.
- The Council President attends TFRW quarterly Board meetings as a non-voting member.
- Finally! We get Republicans elected! Our main goal!!

GHC is Not:

- A Police or oversight group. If there are conflicts within clubs, those are handled by the District Directors and Deputy Presidents.
- We do not interfere with conflicts within clubs.

In Conclusion:

Greater Houston Council is a very busy organization. Our board members are very dedicated and offer a lot of their time and talent in addition to the time they spend volunteering for their individual clubs, for TFRW and in getting Republicans elected.

Many have been elected officials, County Chairmen, SREC members, TFRW District Directors, Deputy Presidents, TFRW Presidents and officers. We promote leaders!

There is always a place for you to join us on The Council and we hope you will soon! You never know where your talents will lead you.

September Spotlight on Mary Sage, GHC Recording Secretary



Currently, I serve as Recording Secretary for the Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women. I was 1996-1997 GHC Membership Chair and was a Delegate to TFRW and NFRW conventions.

My Republican roots were planted when my Dad took our family to the 1952 Republican National Convention in Chicago. Gen. Dwight Eisenhower was nominated for President and Sen. Richard Nixon was nominated for Vice President. My family moved to Houston from Kansas City, Missouri, and I graduated from Marian High School, attended the University of St. Thomas and worked for Magcobar and The Offshore Company.

I volunteered at the 1988 Bush-Quayle phone bank, the 1990 Economic Summit of Industrialized Nations Host Committee, the 1992 Republican National Convention Host Committee, and I was a full-time volunteer on the 1992 Bush-Quayle campaign.

After President George H.W. Bush lost in the 1992 election, he returned to Houston.

I volunteered then served on his staff from 1993 until 2019. President Bush passed away on November 30, 2018, and the Office of George Bush closed in 2019.

Currently, I serve as Recording Secretary and Awards Chair for Magic Circle RWC.

I was 1995 President of Magic Circle after serving as Second Vice President-Membership, Recording Secretary, Ways & Means and Telephone Chair.

I served as 1996-1997 TFRW Senate District 17 Director, 1998-99 Vice President-Membership, 2000-2003 Awards Chair, 2004-2005 Resolutions Chair and 2013 Kay Bailey Hutchison Award Co-Chair. Also, I served as Entertainment Chair on the Houston Host Committee for the 1999 TFRW Convention, Texas Hospitality Suite Committee for the 1997 and 1999 NFRW Conventions, and the Literacy Committee.

In 2005, I was honored to receive the TFRW Ten Outstanding Award.

In 2000, I campaigned for Governor George W. Bush in the New Hampshire Primary

and November election in Des Moines, Iowa, with the "Mighty Texas Strike Force".

I worked on campaigns for Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, for Governor Jeb Bush in the 2016 New Hampshire Primary and numerous campaigns of Republican candidates.

Currently, I serve as Secretary of Ladies for Literacy, Co-Chair of the 2023 Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club Youth of the Year Brighter Futures Awards Banquet, a Diplomat at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo International Committee, a

member of the Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary and the Houston Symphony League.

I am a cantor/soloist at St. Cyril of Alexandria Catholic Church and studied voice at the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University. I sang the National Anthem at the NFRW Luncheon at the 2004 RNC Convention in New York City, and I sang at the 2001 NFRW National Convention in San Antonio. My son, Michael Lombard, is a Senior Funeral Director at Geo. H. Lewis & Sons.

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Go to <u>www.nfrw.org</u> for more information!

Let's stand with Needville RW and celebrate their Little League team and their amazing ride to the World Series of baseball in Williamsport, PA!

4th in the world is PLENTY to be proud of! Way to go!



Have you ever thought of being on the board or a committee with Greater Houston Council? Here's some reasons why you should!

Greater Houston Council and the sisterhood found in the federation of republican women is a unique opportunity of friendship, action and solidarity found over shared values. It is a chance to bring your talent and influence to help us election strong republicans to office-while ensuring women continue to have a seat at every table. The life long friendship I have found have truly changed my life. Jennifer K

From GHC's Original Nuts 'N Bolts to the phenomenal programs and speakers, I have learned so much since I've been on the GHC board. And these opportunities are open to every member of the 30+ council clubs! But more than gaining knowledge and experience, I've gained lifelong friendships with passionate like-minded conservative women and for that, I'll be forever grateful! Dana K

It's wonderful meeting folks across the surrounding counties working towards the same mission. We learn from each other about successes and failures-it's all a learning experience and along the way you make some nice friends. Emely M GHC helps our clubs support each other and it's individual members to achieve our likeminded goal of electing Republican women. Through this unity of purpose, we are strengthened to stand up for our conservative values in an ever changing world. Sophia M

It's truly an honor to serve with these wonderful patriots. The women tirelessly give of their time and energy to uphold our Republican Principles and our American Way of Life. Micheline H

I appreciate the Greater Houston Council's work across the thirteen counties, serving the 31 Republican women's clubs and their members with great programs, training, and information. On a personal note, it's an honor to work on the board and pleasure to get to know the other ladies doing so much for our party-so many new friends! We are making an impact every day-let's keep it going! SJ

Being part of GHC has changed my life! I needed to get out of my county bubble. The friendships I've made, meeting and collaborating with such great, smart and talented ladies has been a blessing. Being able to train and educate our clubs is one of my passions so I'm glad I have an outlet to do that. Amy B It's not too late to sign up for the biennial TFRW 2023 Convention. Hope to see you there!



TFRW 2023 Convention! Irving Convention Center at Las Colinas, Irving TX October 12-14, 2023

Please contact your Club President and let her know you would like to attend the convention as a Delegate or Alternate. Once your club has selected its representatives, the Club President will submit a credential form to the TFRW office. Your status will then be updated from "Guest" to "Delegate/Alternate" and you will be notified by email with the change.

Of course, members that would simply like to attend as a guest are welcome as well! Registration is \$250 per person. Please go to <u>TFRW.org</u> for more information.

> Above all, we much realize that no arsenal, or no weapon in the arsenals of the world, is so formidable as the will or moral courage of free men and women.

> > -Ronald Reagan



Welcome to the Texas Federation of Republican Women's 40 Under 40 Award & Fellowship. With the 40 Under 40 award, we are honoring Republican women across the state of Texas for their accomplishments. Additionally, this fellowship is designed for mentorship, professional development, and networking for women. This award is designed for anyone interested in the political process at any level because we're committed to helping build the strongest leaders for Texas. TFRW provides the avenue for women to influence policy, develop candidates, and elect the leaders of Texas. We are a multi-generational, multicultural organization that provides the structure and support for political activists to learn, engage, and flourish.

Here are our GHC exceptional club winners!



















Remember to invite your veteran friends and neighbors to our Salute to Veterans meeting November 14th. We are so proud to recognize those who have served.

Congratulations on a successful Convention!

FORGING THE FUTURE TAKES COURAGE

GHCFRW represents 31 clubs in Southeast Texas. Visit us at www.ghcfrwpac.org



itson, Treasurer, 9741 Katy Freeway, #272 Houston, TX 77024, Contributions are not federal tax deductible as not permitted. This is not an endorsement of GHC/RW, its President, or its Campaign Activities Chair, only decision and out involved with the accordinate of wine relations for example 1703. CB/CR/MRW.

Club News...

W. Mi

Liberty Belles



Save the Date!

10/12/23 Dinner!

Congressman Morgan Luttrell will tell us all about his first months representing us in Washington DC!

See libertybellesrw.com

Village RW



Republican Women of Yoakum Area



Michael Quinn Sullivan and VP of Programs, Vicki Vickers

Michael Quinn Sullivan, publisher of the Texas Scorecard, was our August speaker. He did an excellent job motivating our ladies to get more involved and make a difference in our community.

For our September 13 meeting, we will welcome LJ Francis, member of the State Board of Education, District 2. Mr. Francis is the first Republican to be elected to the District 2 position.



LJ Francis, Texas Board of Education, District 2

Northwest Forest RW



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Montgomery County RW



CONGRATULATIONS TO MCRW MEMBER RACHAEL PETERS NAMED ONE OF TFRW'S "40 UNDER 40"

Rachael Peters, a member of MCRW, was chosen to be in the inaugural group of young women to be selected as TFRW's "40 under 40". Under this award, TFRW honors Republican women across the state of Texas for their accomplishments. Additionally, the fellowship is designed for mentorship, professional development, and networking for women. This award is designed for anyone interested in the political process at any level because TFRW is committed to helping build the strongest leaders for Texas.



Lake Conroe Area RW



Fort Bend Republican Woman

It is our honor to recognize and congratulate Marie Moffett, as the Fort Bend Republican Women Club PAC's Volunteer of the Quarter.

Marie Moffett joined the club in April 2021. Wanting to make a difference, she volunteered to be the club's Awards committee Co-Chair. Marie also made an impactful choice for Conservative causes by becoming a precinct chair for her area. In that role she routinely communicates to her precinct members on matters related to Fort Bend GOP events and meetings.



Donna Kwiatkowski, Awards Co-Chair; Marie Moffett, Recipient

Making phone calls for GOP 'Get Out To Vote' and working as a polling judge and clerk kept Marie busy during the last election cycle. Not only is Marie a regular at county level events for the GOP and our club specifically, she also has attended: the 3-day TFRW conference, the Fort Bend County Legislative Day in Austin, the Texas Constitutional Enforcement seminar on legislative actions and the GHCFRW - Nuts 'N Bolts training workshop. Looking forward, Marie is excited to represent the FBRWC as a delegate to the TFRW convention that will be held, Oct 12-14 in Irving.

Marie logged 128 hours utilizing, Clockify, the club's new time tracking application from her computer or phone. Marie's hours were reported to the Texas Federation of Republican Women Awards Chairman.

Visit the FBRWC website <u>www.fortbendrepublicanwomen.com</u> look under: 'Officers and Committee' tab for volunteer opportunities, and under 'Resources' tab for information on ways to make a difference and Clockify 'How To'.

Waller County RW



Waller County RW were delighted to attend the Friends of NRA Banquet and Live Auction. We were honored to be joined by Congressman McCaul's office who donated a flag flown over the Capitol for auction. All proceeds go to fund grants to promote and advance shooting sports. Locally, youth shooting sports clubs have received more than \$30,000 in the last 2 years from these grants.







East Montgomery County RW

ime well spent! As Republican Women of East County, we were well represented this Summer at three different field trips! Field Trip #1 started with a very informative tour guide, County Court at Law #1, Judge John Hafley & District County Clerk, Melissa Miller, along w/her great staff & other officials inside the MOCO Courthouse in Conroe, Texas.

Our next trip took us to the Commissioners Court with Prct. 4 Commissioner, Matt Gray. We sat in on one of the longest and most controversial courts over the past several years! We were also welcomed by the County Clerk, Brandon Steinman, MOCO Tax Assessor, Tammy McRae, & Chief Appraiser, Janet Jennings-Doyle. Lastly, field trip #3, landed us back in East County to listen to Judge Jason, Dunn's judicial wisdom! After hearing several different types of court proceedings, we ended our action-packed-day with lunch! Our "Back-From-The Summer Break", first EMCRW General Meeting, got off to a great start! "Meet the Mayor" was a huge success!

We learned much about the surrounding areas and their townships. We heard of the hard work our great Mayors have tirelessly put forth! (And most of them are Volunteer positions!!). We learned about grant money, FEMA, acquisitions, projected park updates, city lights that will be added to streets, road signs, and much much more! The Mayors that spoke & gave updates were: The Mayor of Splendora-Dorothy Welch, the Mayor of Patton Village-Scott Anderson, the Mayor of Woodbranch-Mike Tyson, and our "across the way" neighbor, the Mayor of Shenandoah, John Escoto!

Join us next month on September 12th Meeting w/our Guest Speaker, Fire Chief, Carter Johnson, w/updates on surrounding area fires and the necessary help our firefighters have given to the State of Louisiana!

Cy-Fair RW



Club Presidents...

Angleton Republican Women, Judy Schaefer

Bay Area Republican Women, Debbie Roan

Baytown Republican Women, Lillian Sockwell

Braes Republican Women, Cindy Riedl

Brazosport Republican Women, Diane Rinn.

Clear Creek Republican Women, Martha Bosworth

Cy-Fair Republican Women, Bonnie Foster

East Montgomery Co. Republican Women, Holly Juneau

Fort Bend Republican Women, Angela Hayes

Galveston Republican Women, Betty Henry

Great State Republican Women, Becky Berger

Golden Triangle Republican Women, Linda Brown

Kingwood Area Republican Women, Joyce Chambers

Lake Conroe Area Republican Women, Stephanie Johnson

Liberty Belles Republican Women, Charlotte Belin

Magic Circle Republican Women, Buckley Morlot **Memorial West Republican Women,** Annette Marek

Montgomery County Republican Women, Virginia Miller

Needville Republican Women, Carol Hamrick

Northshore Republican Women, Leigh Billingsley

Northwest Forest Republican Women, Nancy Radcliffe

Republican Women Club of Katy, Delia Dibrell

Republican Women of Yoakum Area, Diana Hawes

Texas Tea Party Republican Women, Venita Odom

The Woodlands Republican Women, Jessica Steinmann

The Yellow Rose of TX Republican Women, Mary Ann Jackson

Tomball Republican Women, Barbara Tague

Village Republican Women, Julie Jaehne

Walker County Republican Women, Renee Lunsford

Waller County Republican Women, Cassandra Posey

West Pearland Republican Women, Liz Sitta

Greater Houston Council Board...

Executive Board

President, Tina Gibson RW Club of Katy 1st VP Programs, SJ Swanson Magic Circle 2nd VP Membership, Amy Byers Lake Conroe Area RW 3rd VP Special Events, Dana Khan Northwest Forest RW 4th VP Finance, Barbara Tague Tomball RW Recording Secretary, Mary Sage Magic Circle RW Corresponding Secretary, Elizabeth Lauzon Bay Area RW Treasurer, Micheline Hutson Cy Fair RW Immediate Past President, Sophia Mafrige Magic Circle RW **Standing Committees** Bylaws, Debbie Cupples Memorial West RW Campaign Activities, Gayla Baker Brazosport RW Liaison to County Chairs, Emely McHattie Village RW Legislation, Bonnie Foster Cy Fair RW Newsletter, Amy Byers Lake Conroe RW **Special Committees** Club President Liaison, Marga Matthews Baytown RW Historian, SJ Swanson Magic Circle Hospitality Co-Chairs, Edie Holland Bay Area RW, Milinda Morris RW Club of Katy Advisor to President, Sherry Peterson West Pearland RW Chaplain, open GOTV, Milinda Morris RW Club of Katy Parliamentarian, Debbie Cupples Memorial West RW Protocol, Betsy Kindred West Pearland RW TFRW/NFRW Liaison, Alice Melancon Montgomery County RW Social Media, Jennifer Knesek Magic Circle RW Nuts 'N Bolts, Amy Byers Lake Conroe Area RW

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