## NEWSLETTER

July 2025 Issue



## Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women

Representing 12 Counties of Federated Republican Women



## **President's Message**



Time to slow down. Time for visiting with family and friends while enjoying the freedoms we have in this great nation we love.

As we get ready to celebrate the 249<sup>th</sup> birthday of the USA remember that this country is a gift to be cherished and defended. No wonder the whole world would rather live here.

Be proud to be called an American and show your love for your country on Independence Day!

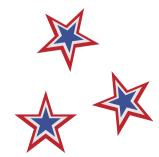
Before you go on vacation don't forget to buy your club's table at the GHC Summer Garden Party luncheon on August 26<sup>th</sup>. We will celebrate the 105<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment and Republican Women activists and leaders through the decades. Wear your best hat and sundress as we dine inside away from the Texas heat.

See the sponsor and table details in this newsletter and on the GHC website at ghcfrwpac.org. Use the QR code for faster ordering. Information on mailing checks is also on the QR code.

Thank you to the clubs who attended our May general meeting. It was a moving Memorial Day experience as we honored our fallen heroes, led by VP Programs Elizabeth Walker and speaker U.S Army Veteran Alexandra Mealer. See the photos in this newsletter.

Have a Great Summer!

Tina Gibson, GHC President



## $\star \star \star$ Mark Your Calendar $\star \star \star$

- Jul 15 Club President's Luncheon
- Jul 18 19 TFRW 3rd Quarter Board Meeting
- Jul 22 Club President's Luncheon
- Aug 19GHC Board Meeting
- Aug 25TFRW Membership Deadline
- Aug 26GHC Garden Party Celebration
- Sep 16GHC General MeetingSep 23TFRW Delegates & Alternates DeadlineSep 25 28NFRW ConventionOct 21GHC Board MeetingOct 22 25TFRW Convention & Board MeetingNov 18GHC General Meeting



Barbara Eddleman, President of Montgomery County RW receiving the 2025 Club Presidents Manual from Amy Byers, GHC VP Membership.

The 2025 Club Presidents Manuals are being distributed via the Club President's luncheons or in the mail to those who have not yet received them.



## GHC PRESIDENT'S LUNCHEONS - JULY 15 & JULY 22

## 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

## FRATELLI'S, 1330 WIRT RD. HOUSTON, 77055

Please join GHC as we host our annual summer Club President's luncheons. All Club Presidents are invited at no charge Contact Marga Matthews at <u>club-president-liaison@ghcfrwpac.org</u> to reserve your seat. **1st VP Programs** Elizabeth Hanson Walker, RW of Katy <u>vp-programs@ghcfrwpac.org</u>



## GHC MAY GENERAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS





































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foure Invite

GREATER HOUSTON COUNCIL OF FEDERATED REPUBLICAN WOMEN GARDEN PARTY

CELEBRATING GHC AND THE 19TH AMENDMENT AUGUST 26 11AM REGISTRATION 11:30AM PROGRAM & LUNCHEON THE BALLROOM AT TANGLEWOOD 5430 WESTHEIMER RD HOUSTON 77056

GUEST SPEAKERS



STACEY SCHIEFFELIN America First Policy Institute, Chair of the America First Women's Initiative & Senior Advisor to the AFPI Center for the American Worker, Director of Talent & Culture



JESSICA STEINMANN Executive General Counsel at America First Policy Institute & Former Trump Administration Senior Official at DOJ

SEE SPONSORSHIP SHEET FOR PRICING BEST HAT AWARD!



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## GREATER HOUSTON COUNCIL OF FEDERATED REPUBLICAN WOMEN GARDEN PARTY

## Rose

\$3000 Premier location reserved table at Luncheon of 10 Recognition in the program Recognition on sponsor board & special gift



Lily

\$2000 Priority location reserved table at Luncheon of 10 Recognition in the program Recognition on sponsor board & special gift

#### Sunflower

\$1000 Priority location reserved table at Luncheon of 10 Recognition in the program

#### Daisy

\$750

Reserved table at Luncheon of 10 Recognition at the event Table must be purchased by a GHC Club Can be split between two clubs

> Individual \$85



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## REGISTRATION FORM GREATER HOUSTON COUNCIL OF FEDERATED REPUBLICAN WOMEN GARDEN PARTY AUGUST 26 2025 11 AM THE BALLROOM AT TANGLEWOOD 5430 WESTHEIMER RD HOUSTON 77056

SPONSOR/CLUB NAME		
CONTACT PERSON		
MAILING ADDRESS		
CITY	STATE	ZIP
PHONE	EMAIL	

- ROSE SPONSORSHIP \$3000
- LILY SPONSORSHIP \$2000
- SUNFLOWER SPONSORSHIP \$1000
- DAISY SPONSORSHIP \$750
- INDIVIDUAL TICKET \$85
- I CANNOT ATTEND BUT WILL SUPPORT GHC
- LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE

## PAYMENT INFORMATION

 PAY BY CHECK, MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO GHCFRW.
 MAIL YOUR CHECK TO LOIS GREMMINGER, TREASURER, 1910 FAWN WAY CT, RICHMOND TX 77406
 PAY BY CREDIT CARD, PLEASE CONTACT LOIS GREMMINGER AT LAGREMMINGER@GMAIL.COM

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## **TFRW Awards Deadline Dates**

Award	Contact	ntact Email	
John Goodwin Tower Award (formerly Club Achievement Award	Patty Castillo, Awards Chairman	awards@tfrw.org	AUGUST 1
Americanism Recognition Award	Rebecca Vajdak, Americanism Chairman	rwvajdak@yahoo.com	AUGUST 1
Best Newsletter Award & Most Improved Newsletter Award	Crystle Cloud, Public Relations Chairman	pr@tfrw.org	AUGUST 1
	Carolyn Hodges, Presidents Council Chairman & TFRW Past President	chodges@hodgessw.com	
Legacy Leadership Award	Kit Whitehill, TFRW Immediate Past President	kbwhitehill@gmail.com	AUGUST 1
	Toni Anne Dashiell, TFRW Past President	tad@tdtexas.com	
Elizabeth Cady Stanton District Award	Ronnye Cowell, DD/DP Training Coordinator Chairman	ronnyecowell@gmail.com	AUGUST 1
Kay Bailey Hutchinson Leadership Award	Sylvia Gartner, KBH Leadership Award Chairman	smgartner@hotmail.com	AUGUST 1
Ten Outstanding Award	Gail Teegarden, Chairman	gailteegarden7@gmail.com	AUGUST 1
Shooting Star Award	Patty Castillo, Awards Chairman	awards@tfrw.com	AUGUST 1

## **NFRW Awards Deadline Dates**

Award	Contact	Email	Deadline
NFRW Club Achievement Award	Zenia Warren, TFRW President	president@tfrw.org	JUNE 1
Caring for America Award	Rachael Peters, Caring for America Chair	rachael.d.peters@gmail.com	JUNE 1
Armed Service Award	Brenda Howard	brendaghoward@protonmail.com	JUNE 1
Literacy and Education Award	Barbara Eddleman	bgetaxastech@gmail.com	JUNE 1
Americanism Award	Zenia Warren, TFRW President	president@tfrw.org	JUNE 1



#### **CONVENTION REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!**

ALL REGISTRATIONS WILL BE MADE ON ANEDOT - NO MAIL IN REGISTRATIONS OR ON-SITE REGISTRATIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE

Early Bird Registration \$195.00 – Ends July 31 Regular Registration \$250.00 – August 1 thru September 30

Late Registration \$325.00 - October 1 thru October 10



## **TFRW CONVENTION**

35<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention Grand Hyatt, San Antonio, Texas October 23-25, 2025

# Call to TFRW Convention will be emailed at least 60 Days prior to Convention on or about August 25, 2025.

- Everyone registers as a guest with the exception of Delegate-at-Large (TFRW Elected Officers, District Directors, and TFRW Past Presidents).
- Let your Club President know you have registered for Convention and would like to attend as a Delegate or Alternate. Consideration is made by your Club, check your Bylaws.
- Every member registering for Convention must register individually. \*\*\*Clubs may not register multiple attendees\*\*\*
- Your Club President is responsible for emailing Credential Form to TFRW and the Credentials Committee.

## **Registration Information**

- Early Bird registration expires July 31, 2025. There will be no extension on this date. Registration price will increase after this date.
- All Registration will be made online through Anedot.
- NO MAIL IN Registration will be available.
- NO ONSIGHT Registration will be available.
- Registration is not refundable.

## Last Day to register for Convention as a Delegate or Alternate is October 8, 2025. This Date is a hard deadline date.

## TFRW Awards – August 1 Deadline:

- All TFRW Awards are due August 1, 2025, and must be emailed to respective Awards Chairs by this date.
- No Award applications will be accepted after this date
- All Clubs requesting Bylaws approval must be submitted by June 30<sup>th</sup>.

## Membership Deadline date: Monday, August 25, 2025, by 4:00 PM CST

- Member must be submitted and paid by August 25, 2025, 4:00 PM CST. This date and time will be strictly enforced.
- This final number will determine your Membership to qualify for Membership Awards and your Club's Delegate Strength at Convention.

- An email will be sent to all Club Presidents noting your Club Strength and instructions for Delegate and Alternate Certification.
- It is the responsibility of every club President to complete the Certification form and email to the Credentials Committee and the <u>TFRW Office</u>.

#### **TFRW Convention Delegate**

- Each Club may send One Delegate and One Alternate for every ten members and are allowed one of each for a remainder of six to nine members.
- Member must be in good standing and club must be in good standing 60 days before convention, August 25, 2025.

Delegates and Alternates Deadline date: Tuesday, September 23, 2025

- Delegates and Alternates shall be submitted to the Convention Credentials Committee not less than thirty (30) days prior to the Biennial Convention.
- Delegates and Alternates will not be certified after the deadline date.
- Once Credentialed, Delegates and Alternates will receive an email from the Credentials Committee regarding their status at Convention.
- Alternates may not exceed the number of Delegates and should be listed in order of Delegate substitution.
- All Delegate and Alternate Registration must be done online not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the convention. Deadline date: Wednesday, October 8, 2025.

\*Presidents: If you submit your certification incorrectly or find it necessary to delete a Delegate or Alternate you must email an amended certification. Deadline date: Tuesday, September 23, 2025.

Guest Registration must be done online. Anyone may attend as a guest. Deadline date: Friday, October 10, 2025.

Registration is not refundable. Transfers are allowed. Any transfer of registration must be submitted in writing and emailed to the TFRW office by October 16, 2025.



## Texas Federation of Republican Women 35TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION October 23RD – 25TH

Grand Hyatt 600 E Market St. San Antonio. TX 78205

## **Tentative Convention Schedule At-a-Glance**

\*Times subject to change.

	WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22ND	
Time	Event	Location
2:00 p.m 5:30 p.m.	Early Convention Check-In	Seguin Fl.4
1:00 p.m 2:20 p.m.	District Directors Caucus Training	Republic B/C Fl.4
2:30 p.m 3:10 p.m.	Executive Committee Meeting	Republic B/C Fl.4
3:15 p.m 4:30 p.m.	Board of Directors Meeting	Republic B/C Fl.4
6:00 p.m.	Convention Committee Reception	TBA (By Invitation)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23RD			
Time	Event	Location	
8:00 a.m 1:00 p.m.	Convention Check-In	Texas D Fl.4	
2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Convention Check-In	Seguin Fl.4	
8:00 a.m 6:00 p.m.	Exhibit Booths Open	<b>Texas Prefunction</b>	
8:00 a.m 2:00 p.m.	TFRW Booth	<b>Texas Prefunction</b>	
9:30 a.m 11:30 a.m.	Elected Official/Candidate Meet and Greet	Texas E/F Fl.4	
12:30 p.m 5:00 p.m.	Opening Session (Vote on proposed Bylaw Amendments)	Texas A/B/C Fl.4	
6:30 p.m 8:30 p.m.	Welcome Reception	Texas D/E/F Fl.4	
8:00 p.m 9:30 p.m.	TFRW Officer Slate Meet and Greet	Republic B/C Fl.4	



## Texas Federation of Republican Women 35TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION October 23RD – 25TH San Antonio, Texas

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24TH			
Time	Event	Location	
7:30 a.m 8:45 a.m.	Sponsored Breakfast	Texas D/E/F Fl.4	
7:30 a.m 4:00 p.m.	Convention Check-In	Seguin Fl.4	
8:00 a.m 6:00 p.m.	Exhibit Booths Open	Texas Prefunction	
8:00 a.m 12:00 p.m.	TFRW Booth	Texas Prefunction	
9:00 a.m 11:45 a.m.	General Session (Officer Election)	Texas A/B/C Fl.4	
12:30 p.m 2:30 p.m.	TFRW Awards Luncheon	Texas D/E/F Fl.4	
2:45 p.m 4:30 p.m.	Workshop (Up to three workshops to select from)	Texas A, B, or C Fl.4	
5:30 p.m 6:30 p.m.	10 Outstanding & Patrons Reception	Republic B/C Fl.4	
7:00 p.m 9:00 p.m.	10 Outstanding Banquet	Texas D/E/F Fl.4	

	SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25TH	
Time	Event	Location
7: <mark>30</mark> a.m 8:45 a.m.	Memorial Breakfast	Texas D/E/F Fl.4
8:30 a.m 11:00 a.m.	Convention Check-In	Seguin Fl.4
8:00 a.m 1:00 p.m.	Exhibit Booths open	Texas Prefunction
8:00 a.m 12:00 p.m.	TFRW Booth	Texas Prefunction
9:00 a.m 10:15 a.m.	Caucus Meetings (District Director Elections)	TBA BY SD
10:45 a.m 12:45 p.m.	Closing Session	Texas A/B/C Fl.4
1:15 p.m 2:45 p.m.	Installation Luncheon	Texas D/E/F Fl.4
6:00 p.m 7:00 p.m.	President's Dinner (Cocktail Hour in the Garden)	Menger Hotel
7:00 p.m 9:30 p.m.	(Extra ticket purchase required)	Minuet Room



## The 89<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session Update

Governor Abbott has called a special session for Texas Legislators to begin on July 21.

On June 22, 2025 Governor Abbot vetoed SB 3 which had been passed in the 89<sup>th</sup> legislative session. SB3 effectively banned all THC products in Texas. It appears that the Governor philosophically supports the bill but has concerns about the legality of the wording. He has called the legislators back to a Special Session to reconsider the construction of the bill. The Special Session will begin in July. Please see the Veto Proclamation by Governor Abbott which explains his thoughts on the matter on the next few pages.

Some other bills to be considered are:

- SB 648 relating to recording requirements on real property
- SB 1253 relating to authorizing a fee for certain water projects and wells
- SB 1278 relating to an affirmative defense to prosecution for victims of trafficking or compelling prostitution
- SB 1758 relating to the operation of a cement kiln and the production of aggregates near a semiconductor wafer manufacturing facility
- SB 2878 relating to the operation and administration of and practices and procedures related to proceeding in the judicial branch of state government

## **PROCLAMATION** BY THE GOVERNOT OF the State of Texas

#### TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 14, of the Texas Constitution, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby disapprove of and veto Senate Bill No. 3 as passed by the Eighty-Ninth Texas Legislature, Regular Session, because of the following objections:

Texans on each side of the Senate Bill 3 debate raise serious concerns. But one thing is clear—to ensure the highest level of safety for minors, as well as for adults, who obtain a product more dangerous than what they expected, Texas must strongly regulate hemp, and it must do so *immediately*.

Senate Bill 3 is well-intentioned. But it would never go into effect because of valid constitutional challenges. Litigation challenging the bill has already been filed, and the legal defects in the bill are undeniable. If I were to allow Senate Bill 3 to become law, its enforcement would be enjoined for years, leaving existing abuses unaddressed. Texas cannot afford to wait.

This conclusion is not speculative. The only other State to attempt a ban like Senate Bill 3 is Arkansas. In 2023, Arkansas enacted Senate Bill 358, which (like this bill) would have criminalized hemp products that Congress expressly legalized in the 2018 Farm Bill. That federal law converted hemp and hemp products from contraband to lawful commodities. The Arkansas law was challenged, and a federal court swiftly halted it in its entirety, finding it was likely preempted by federal statutes and that its criminal provisions were likely unconstitutionally vague. *See Bio Gen, LLC v. Sanders*, 690 F. Supp. 3d 927, 941 (E.D. Ark. 2023). The result in Arkansas? Their law has sat dormant, meaningless, having no effect for nearly *two years* while further legal proceedings play out. That result must be avoided in Texas.

As a former Supreme Court Justice and Attorney General of Texas, I know that Senate Bill 3 is vulnerable to the same legal attacks. At worst, Senate Bill 3 would be permanently invalidated by the courts; at best, its implementation would be delayed for years as the case winds its way through the legal system. We can do better.

What is the legal problem with Senate Bill 3? As passed, it would prohibit *anyone* from manufacturing, distributing, or possessing consumable hemp products that contain "any amount of a cannabinoid other than" CBD or CBG—regardless of whether those products fall under the federally-mandated THC threshold. It therefore criminalizes what Congress expressly legalized and puts federal and state law on a collision course: Today, federal law promises Texas farmers that they may grow hemp without fear of criminal liability. But under Senate Bill 3, the seeds used to grow those plants are "consumable products"—currently available in stores—and they naturally contain cannabinoids. What's a Texas farmer to do? Trust the federal government's promise, or fear criminal liability from the State?

Senate Bill 3 not only invites potential criminal entrapment for Texas farmers. It would also make felons of other innocent Texans, like pharmacists stocking health supplements, veterans treating PTSD, and parents caring for epileptic children with FDA-approved medications. Possessing "any amount" FREE NTME OFFICE OF THE

FRED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE O'CLOCK amounts—of THC results in criminal penalties, despite federal law saying "No State ... shall prohibit" the transportation of hemp products.

In addition to the preemption issues that doomed the Arkansas law, Senate Bill 3 could also be an unconstitutional taking of private property. There are many bad actors who have abused the authority granted to them by both the federal government and the State of Texas. But there are also many Texans conducting business responsibly, who invested millions of dollars planting fields or opening up retail stores in reliance on laws making hemp a lawful product to "be sold at retail or otherwise introduced into commerce." TEX. HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 443.152(a). While States may restrict the use of dangerous contraband, it is a different thing entirely to change the rules in the middle of the game, thereby interfering with "distinct investment-backed expectations" in property. *Penn Cent. Transp. Co. v. City of New York*, 438 U.S. 104, 124 (1978).

Proponents of Senate Bill 3 have acknowledged this likelihood of litigation but may not have fully processed the consequences. Just two days ago, a group of plaintiffs filed a lawsuit in Travis County District Court arguing that Senate Bill 3 is preempted by federal law and would be an unconstitutional taking in violation of both the federal and state Constitutions. They assert that the bill will "turn farmers, business owners, and consumers into criminals, despite the protections for hemp products conferred by federal law." *See* Original Pet., *CBD Pros USA v. Texas*, No. \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_ Dist. Ct., Travis County, Tex., filed June 20, 2025). They are right.

Allowing Senate Bill 3 to become law—knowing that it faces a lengthy battle that will render it dead on arrival in court—would hinder rather than help us solve the public safety issues this bill seeks to contain. The problem THC poses for our communities is real. Earlier this year, a 15-year-old in Houston took a large amount of hemp gummies. When he suffered a "bad reaction," he called 911, then shot his mother and his sister repeatedly. Just this month, two teens distributed hemp products at a graduation party in Prosper. The celebration ended early when seven high school students had to be rushed to a hospital.

How did we get here?

In 2019, after the federal government passed the Farm Bill, legislators passed House Bill 1325, fixating on the *cannabis sativa* plant. Any plant variant with more than 0.3% THC by dry weight was deemed (illegal) marijuana; any variant with less was deemed (legal) hemp available to anyone, regardless of age. As it turned out, the smaller amount of THC in hemp could be multiplied and modified to make products stronger and more addictive than marijuana. Bad actors did what bad actors do—they took advantage. They engineered products with dangerously high concentrations. And they marketed lollipops and other products designed to mimic candies popular with kids. The current market is dangerously under-regulated, and children are paying the price. If Senate Bill 3 is swiftly enjoined by a court, our children will be no safer than if no law was passed, and the problems will only grow.

That is why I am vetoing Senate Bill 3 and calling a Special Legislative Session in July to craft a law that does as much as possible to corral the problems while also being structured so that it can go into effect this year.

Texas must enact a regulatory framework that protects public safety, aligns with federal law, has a fully funded enforcement structure, and can take effect without delay. Legislators could consider a structure similar to the way alcohol is regulated, with strict enforcement by an agency like the Texas Alcoholic

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE O'CLOCK Beverage Commission. A sample of potential regulations could include some of the following:

- Selling or providing a THC product to a minor must be punishable as a crime;
- Sales must be prohibited near schools, churches, parks, playgrounds, and other areas frequented by children;
- · Packaging must be child-resistant, tamper-evident, and resealable;
- Products must not be made, packaged, or marketed in a manner attractive to children;
- Any store selling these products must have a permit and restrict access to anyone under the age of 21, with strict penalties for any retailer that fails to comply;
- Products containing THC may not contain other psychoactive substances (e.g., alcohol, tobacco, kratom);
- Testing must be required at every phase of production and manufacturing, including for both plants and derivative consumable products;
- Manufacturing and processing facilities must be subject to permitting and food safety rules;
- Permit and registration fees must suffice to support robust enforcement and testing by the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, in partnership with other state agencies;
- An operator's permit and warning/danger signs must be posted at any store selling these products;
- Sales must be limited to the hours between 10:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m., and prohibited on Sundays;
- The amount of THC permissible in each product must be restricted and an individual may make only a limited number of purchases in a given period of time;
- Labels must include a surgeon general-style warning, a clear disclosure of all ingredients, including the THC content, and a scannable barcode or QR code linking to test results;
- Fraudulently creating or displaying manifests or lab results must be punishable as felony offenses;
- Public consumption, consumption on the premises of any store that sells these
  products, and possession of an open container in a vehicle must be punishable
  as crimes;
- The Attorney General, district attorneys, and county attorneys must have authority to pursue violations under the Deceptive Trade Practices Act;
- Local governments must have the option to prohibit or limit stores selling these products;
- Excise taxes must be assessed on these products to fund oversight and enforcement; and
- Additional funding must be provided to ensure law enforcement have sufficient resources to vigorously enforce restrictions.

This list, of course, is not exhaustive. But it may provide items to consider in a regulatory system that is strict, fair, and legally sustainable.

Passing a law is not the same thing as actually solving a problem. Texas needs a bill that is enforceable and will make our communities safer *today*, rather than years from now. Next month, the Legislature will have the opportunity to address this serious issue. I look forward to working with them to ensure that we get it right.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE O'CLOCK Since the Eighty-Ninth Texas Legislature, Regular Session, by its adjournment has prevented the return of this bill, I am filing these objections in the office of the secretary of state and giving notice thereof by this public proclamation according to the aforementioned constitutional provision.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have signed my name officially and caused the Seal of the State to be affixed hereto at Austin, this 22nd day of June, 2025.

Shbot

GREG ABBOTT Governor of Texas

ATTESTED BY:

lan NE NELSON

Secretary of State

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE O'CLOCK

JUN 2 2 2025

## **GHCFRW Meeting Minutes**

## May 20, 2025 Ronnye Cowell, Recording Secretary



The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am.

President Tina Gibson welcomed all in attendance at the meeting.

The prayer was led by GHC Chaplain Alicia Cantrell, and then Alicia also led the members in our pledges.

President Gibson recognized elected officials and candidates who were in the room. She also thanked NW Forest RW and Brazosport RW for providing todays hospitality items.

First Vice President of Programs Elizabeth Walker gave a brief summary about the focus of today's program which is celebrating both moms and women in our lives and honoring service men and women who lost their lives defending our country and made the ultimate sacrifice to protect our freedom. She gave a brief summary around the meaning of Memorial Day. She pointed out a display she created in the back of the room that displayed memorabilia and letters from men who were serving during various wars fought in our country. She encouraged everyone to look at these items before leaving today. Elizabeth then called upon Ronnye Cowell to introduce our program speaker for the day. Ronnye introduced Alex Mealer who is both a Veteran and a mom. Alex is a Westpoint Graduate who served in the Army as an Explosive Ordinance Disposal officer (Bomb Squad) and went on to earn her JD/MBA at Harvard. She is originally from California and she and her husband Clay have 2 beautiful children. During her presentation, Alex talked about the symbols and meaning of Memorial Day and what it means to her and her family. Her husband is also a Veteran. She shared stories about 2 people she served with in Afghanistan who lost their lives defending our country. She spoke of their families and broken dreams they were unable to fulfil because of that ultimate sacrifice. She said she thinks of them and many others who did not return from their tour of duty often, but especially on Memorial Day.

President Gibson thanks Alex for her heartwarming stories about her colleagues and thanked Alex for her service in the Army, as well. She then stated we would continue with our business meeting.

Vice-President of Membership and Nuts 'N Bolts Co-Chair Amy Byers conducted roll call of clubs and members present today. It was determined there was a quorum present. We have 2 new clubs who are now members of Greater Houston Council. All clubs in our area have paid their dues for the year.

Recording Secretary Ronnye Cowell asked if there were any corrections to the minutes which were sent out to club Presidents and there is also a copy of those minutes on the registration table. Hearing none, President Gibson asked for a motion to approve the minutes. A motion was made by Lois Gremminger and seconded by Emely McHattie. The vote passed unanimously.

Treasurer Lois Gremminger presented her report. We had a beginning balance April 1 of \$19,763.10 Income of \$1,182.14 and Expenses of \$2,262.50. This leaves us with a balance of \$18,382.74.

President Gibson expressed relief that elections are over for right now, but now many are starting to run and announce their candidacy for the 2026 election. GHC will be celebrating their 63<sup>rd</sup> anniversary this year. TFRW will celebrate its 70<sup>th</sup>. This is the 105<sup>th</sup> anniversary for the Women's Right to Vote. She announced that two board positions had been filled since our last meeting. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of Programs Elizabeth Walker and Vice President of Finance Nancy Radcliffe. Tina announced 2 GHC clubs had received recognition from NFRW. Great State RW had top calls and hours for their sized club and two of their members were recognized, as well. Fort Bend RW's Marie Moffett was recognized for top number of phone calls made. Golden Triangle RW was recognized for their volunteer hours. She stated our clubs are doing great things for our state and their communities. She encouraged members to make sure their clubs are filling out awards information for both TFRW and NFRW Awards. TFRW and NFRW Conventions are being held this year. NFRW is in September in Orlando, Florida and TFRW is in October in San Antonio. Be sure to get registrations in for both conventions including the number of delegates and alternates you will be allowed to take. TFRW Hotel sign up is available right now. GHC will be hosting a Garden Party on August 26<sup>th</sup> as a celebration of Republican Women.

#### **OFFICER REPORTS**

Corresponding Secretary Susie Cintron presented the Presidents Handbooks. They have club contact information, GHC bylaws, history of GHC, and elected officials for all counties where our member clubs reside. Make sure to pick yours up if you are a club president. If your club president is not present, Susie will get them their copy at a later date.

#### COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Legislative Chair Renee Lunsford had a printed copy from the TFRW newsletter about legislation. She also gave some resources for members to get more information about what is happening in the legislature. Grassrootspriorities.com and TAD Talks are great ways to keep up with what is happening in the 89<sup>th</sup> Legislative session.

Marga Matthews, President's Liaison, said the Presidents Luncheons will be held on July 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 at Fratelli's and on July 22 in a location to be determined in another part of the Houston area. She asks that presidents RSVP and if they are unable to attend to send a representative from their club for sharing and networking with other GHC clubs.

County Chair Liaison Emely McHattie shared the purpose of our relationship with the county chairs is to help them share strategies and problem solve about issues they face as chairs of the party in their county. The lunch with the county chairs will be held at the end of June.

Garden Party chair Lois Gremminger spoke about some details regarding the event to be held August 26<sup>th</sup>. Members are encouraged to wear hats and make the event super festive. Hats will be judged, and prizes will be given for the best hats. There will be a "purse pull" and we will have 2 guest speakers. She encouraged members to have their club pick a decade and dress accordingly. There will also be a style show. Read your emails and look at the newsletter and social media for more details on how to register for or sponsor the event.

Hospitality Chair Joyce Chambers thanked Brazosport RW and NW Forest RW for providing our snacks and treats for today's meeting.

President Gibson thanked all the GHC committee chairs, GHC officers and the Garden Committee members for going above and beyond to support GHC. Some who had to leave early today.

Nuts "N Bolts Chair Amy Byers gave a quick summary of GHC program which was held in February. We had 120 guests attending. There were 3 rooms that included not only TFRW officers but also local leaders from our community to provide ideas for GHC members. The program was recognized at the TFRW Board meeting in March as having the largest number of members in attendance at our event. Sponsors helped defray the cost and she was grateful to everyone for pitching in to make it such a successful day.

#### **CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Cy Fair RW will be hosting an event on July 8<sup>th</sup> to celebrate 20 years of Cy Fair RW at Longwood Country Club with Steve Munisteri as guest speaker. Go to their website to sign up! Ft Bend RW will be holding an event on May 28<sup>th</sup> to honor their 2 scholarship winners, 1 from HS and 1 from College at Sugar Creek Country Club at 6:00 PM. You can sign up on their website. Magic Circle RW will be holding their fundraiser on September 10<sup>th</sup> at the Petroleum Club, and it will be a noon event. More details to follow. Renee Lunsford spoke about their club that meets at a location in Conroe where they play games and just have fun with club members.

President Gibson thanked everyone for coming today. Our next meeting will be September 16<sup>th</sup>. Dates are on the back of your agenda for today's meeting. Sophia Mafrige made a motion to adjourn, and Gayla Baker seconded the motion. Motion passed with no dissention.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00am

Respectfully submitted,

Ronnye Cowell

Ronnye Cowell GHC Recording Secretary





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## **Greater Houston Council Clubs News**

## **GHC Member Club Meetings**

		1		
	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
Monday	Golden Triangle RW 11:30 am MCM Elegante Hotel Memorial W RW 11:00 am Los Tios Mexican	Northwest Forest RW 11:30 am Shirley Acres Waller County RW 6:30 pm Republican Women Headquarters in Hempstead	Walker County RW 11:00 am Gibbs Hall	Great State RW 7:00 pm St. Peter Fellowship Hall Magic Circle RW 11:30 am Maggiano's Post Oak
Tuesday	Brazosport RW 6:00 pm Lake Jackson Central Library	Cy-Fair RW 11:00 am Longwood Golf Club SE Texas RW 5:30pm Pompano Event Center E. Montgomery RW 6:00 pm Bull Sallas Sr Center Texas Tea Party RW 6:00 pm Los Reyes Mexican Restaurant	The Woodlands RW 11:30 am The Woodlands Country Club RW of Trinity County 10:00 am Groveton Community Center	Bay Area RW 11 am Bay Oaks Country Club
Wednesday	Northshore RW 10:45am Bentwater Country Club	RW of Yoakum noon City of Yoakum Community Center	Galveston RW 11:30 am San Luis Hotel	Ft. Bend RW 11:15 am Los Gallitos, 3385 State Hwy 6 Village RW 11 am Houston Racquet Club
Thursday	Baytown RW 6:30 pm Luby's, 1201 W. Baker Rd RW of Katy 11:00 am Palacio Maria West Pearland RW 6:30 pm 518 Event Studio	Liberty Belles RW 11:30am /5:30pm Panorama Village Golf Club	Kingwood Area RW 11:00 am Raffa's Restaurant Lake Conroe Area RW 11:30 am Walden Yacht Club	Montgomery County RW 11:30 am River Plantation Golf Club
Friday	<b>Clear Creek RW</b> 11:30 pm La Brisa Mexican Grill, 501 N. Wesley Dr			
Saturday			Angleton RW 10:30 am Brazoria County Courthouse West Annex	

## Cy Fair Republican Women





















The Bay Area Republican Women

# THE GOLDEN AGE

# SATURDAY OCTOBER



## 4 PM until 7 PM Silent Auction & Meet Candidates

The event will be held at the residence of Alan Swindoll & Kelly Clark Nassau Bay, TX

information coming

www.barw.org

**NORTH SHORE REPUBLICAN WOMEN** 9th Annual Golf Tournament, Auction & Dinner

# BENTWATER COUNTRY CLUB

800 Bentwater Dr., Montgomery, TX 77356

Monday, September 29, 2025





Funds raised go to NSRW's many activities and programs with contributions to candidates and charitable projects, as well as college scholarships to young Republicans graduating from Willis and/or Montgomery High Schools.
 All fifth grade students in Willis ISD receive U.S. Constitution booklets and all third graders receive dictionaries. We support homeless youth, new citizen and veterans groups, the Montgomery County Food Bank, Safe Harbor and other organizations.

Political advertising paid for by North Shore Republican Women, Chris Gurley, treasurer, 49 Fairfield Dr., Montgomery, TX 77356. A tax-exempt organization under Section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to North Shore Republican Women PAC are not deductible as charitable contributions for Federal Income Tax purposes. Corporate contributions are not permitted. Not authorized by any candidate or committee. Angleton Republican Women are celebrating 40 years during this

# All-American

Pie & Dessert Fundraiser Bar X Ranch Club House, 700 Bar X Trail, Angleton Saturday, September 13, 2025, 10:30 a.m.

We are celebrating our 1985 founding by remembering

## **President Ronald Reagan**

and

## the great decade of the 1980s!

Please join us!

Auction of pies, desserts and other items, including some '80s themed items!

Lunch will be served.

Tickets \$30

Information: Call Anita Bargas, 979-864-0132 or Judy Shaefer 713-522-7000.



## **Angleton Republican Women**



are celebrating 40 years during this



Pie & Dessert Fundraiser

Bar X Ranch Club House, 700 Bar X Trail, Angleton Saturday, September 13, 2025, 10:30 a.m.

We are celebrating our 1985 founding by remembering

President Ronald Reagan And the great decade of the 1980s!

Thank you for your support!

We Win, They Lose! - \$500 Sponsors Your name, organization, or campaign name will appear in our program. Table will be reserved in your name – eight tickets.

Duck Mr. President! - \$300 Sponsors

Your name, organization, or campaign name will appear in our program. Reserve four tickets.

For the Gipper! - \$100 Sponsors

Your name or campaign name will appear in our program. Reserve two tickets.

□\$500 □\$300 □\$100

Name:	appear on the program:		
	appear on the program.		
Address:			
City:		State:	Zip:
Phone:	Occupation:	Employer	1
We Win, They	Lose Sponsor (Table – 8 ticke	ets):	
Duck Mr. Presi	dent (4 tickets):		
For The Gipper	(2 tickets):		
Individual ticke	ets \$30 each:		

Please make checks payable to "Angleton Republican Women" and mail to Judy Shaefer, PAC Treasurer, 3606 Hummingbird, Alvin, Texas 77511.

ANGLETON REPUBLICAN WOMEN PAC CANNOT ACCEPT CORPORATE CHECKS, CASH, OR DONATIONS OF ANY KIND.

Information: Anita Bargas, 979-864-0132 or Judy Shaefer 713-522-7000.

## Directory 2024-2025 Elected Officers

## **OFFICERS**

**4th VP Finance** Nancy Radcliffe Northwest Forest RW <u>vp-finance@ghcfrwpac.org</u>

Recording Secretary Ronnye Cowell Magic Circle RW recording-secretary@ghcfrwpac.org

**Corresponding Secretary** Susan Cintron Clear Creek RW <u>corresponding-secretary@ghcfrwpac.org</u>

**Treasurer & Budget Chair** Lois Gremminger Fort Bend RW <u>treasurer@ghcfrwpac.org</u>

Immediate Past President & Parliamentarian Sophia Mafrige Magic Circle RW past-president@ghcfrwpac.org

## **STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Liaison to County Chairs Emely McHattie Magic Circle RW <u>county-chair-liaison@ghcfrwpac.org</u>

Legislation Renee Lunsford Walker County RW legislation@ghcfrwpac.org

## **SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

Chaplain Alicia Cantrell Magic Circle RW <u>chaplain@ghcfrwpac.org</u>

GOTV Chair Elizabeth Hanson Walker RW Club of Katy gotv@ghcfrwpac.org

Protocol Betsy Kindred West Pearland RW protocol@ghcfrwpac.org

Social Media Michelle Martin Lake Conroe Area RW social-media@ghcfrwpac.org Newsletter Laura Carlson Magic Circle RW <u>newsletter@ghcfrwpac.org</u>

Public Relations Mary Sage Magic Circle RW <u>public-relations@ghcfrwpac.org</u>

Speakers Bureau Carmen Crenshaw Magic Circle RW <u>speakers-bureau@ghcfrwpac.org</u>

**TFRW/NFRW Liaison** Alice Melancon Montgomery County RW <u>tfrw-liaison@ghcfrwpac.org</u>

Nuts 'N Bolts Co-Chair Amy Byers Kingwood Area RW <u>nuts-n-bolts-1@ghcfrwpac.org</u>

Nuts 'N Bolts Co-Chair Betsy Kindred West Pearland RW <u>nuts-n-bolts-2@ghcfrwpac.org</u>

President Tina Gibson Fort Bend RW president@ghcfrwpac.org

**1st VP Programs** Elizabeth Hanson Walker RW Club of Katy <u>vp-programs@ghcfrwpac.org</u>

2nd VP Membership & Nuts 'N Bolts Co-Chair Amy Byers Kingwood Area RW vp-membership@ghcfrwpac.org

Bylaws Debbie Cupples Memorial West RW bylaws@ghcfrwpac.org

Campaign Activities Gayla Baker Brazosport RW <u>campaign-activities@ghcfrwpac.org</u>

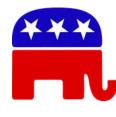
Club President Liaison Marga Matthews Baytown RW <u>club-president-liaison@ghcfrwpac.org</u>

Historian Gail O'Neill Magic Circle RW <u>historian@ghcfrwpac.org</u>

Hospitality Joyce Chambers Kingwood Area RW <u>hospitality@ghcfrwpac.org</u>

Advisor to President Carolyn Hodges Village RW <u>president-advisor@ghcfrwpac.org</u>

## **GREATER HOUSTON COUNCIL CLUBS AND PRESIDENTS 2025**



**Angleton RW** Velma Perv



**Cy Fair RW Trish Powell** 



Kingwood Area RW



E. Montgomery **County RW** 





**Baytown RW Denise Pratt** 



**Brazosport RW Diane Rinn** 



**Clear Creek RW Barbara Meeks** 



**Great State** Republicans Lorena Kanak



**Kathleen Jordan** 



**Holly Juneau** 



Ft. Bend RW **Kim Icenhower** 



**Liberty Belles** RW Jane Williamson



**Galveston RW** 

**Sylvia Horne** 



GALVESTON

Magic Circle RW **Alicia Cantrell** 



Golden

**Triangle RW** 

**Elaine Henderson** 

Memorial West RW Mary Sergeskétter



Montgomery **County RW Barbara Eddleman** 



**North Shore RW Tammy Coleman** 



Texas Tea Party RW Venita Odom

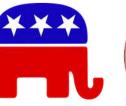


Lake Conroe

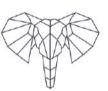
Area RW

**Molly Adame** 

**NW Forest RW** Lauren Lothringer



The Woodlands RW Jordan Watson



**RW of** Yoakum Area Laura Wauson



Village RW **Joanie Bain** 



**RW Club of** Katy **Kristen McCarty** 



Walker **County RW Renee Lunsford** 



**RW of Trinity** County **Cindy Holsinger** 



Waller **County RW Cassandra Posey** 



**Southeast** Texas RW **Dina Carr** 



West **Pearland RW Karrie Hurd** 





## Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women

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