

# **Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women**

Representing 12 Counties of Federated Republican Women

**President's Message** 





GHC Clubs Work is Never Done but Always Fun!

October was a busy month for all of our TFRW clubs, that ended with a fantastic 70th anniversary convention in San Antonio! GHC hosted a happy hour in the hotel on the first evening for all our GHC club members attending the convention. Several of our candidates and officials stopped by to celebrate with us. Thank you Emely McHattie for planning a really fun afternoon! Congratulations to our 2026-2027 TFRW officers! GHC looks forward to working with you.

You don't want to miss our Last GHC general meeting on Tuesday November 18 at the Mendenhall center. The speaker details are in this newsletter. West Pearland RW will help us celebrate Veterans Day. Club Presidents and Delegates, please be in attendance as we vote on our GHC board leadership for 2026-2027.

Just a reminder, GHC does not endorse candidates in contested Republican and non partisan races. All candidates are invited to attend our meetings and introduce themselves.

I look forward to seeing you all soon!

Tina Gibson
GHCFRW President



# **★ ★ ★ Mark Your Calendar ★ ★ ★**

Nov 4 Election Day	Nov 4	Elec	ction	Dav
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<b>Nov 18</b>	<b>GHC General Meeting, Officer Election</b>
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Dec 8 Primary Election Last Day to file for Office

Jan 6 GHC Board Meeting

Jan 8-9 TFRW 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Board Meeting

Jan 10 TFRW Leadership Day Jan 20 GHC General Meeting

## 2026-2027 GHC Slate of Officers

Come Vote for the GHC Slate of Officers on November 18



Renee Lunsford
President
Walker County RW



Elizabeth Walker
1st VP Programs
RW of Katy



Susie Cintron
2nd VP Membership
Kingwood Area RW



Buffie Ingersoll
3rd VP Special Events
Magic Circle RW



Deb Cupples
4<sup>th</sup> VP Finance
Memorial West RW



Lois Gremminger
Treasurer
Fort Bend RW



Recording Secretary Magic Circle RW



Amy Byers
Corresponding Secretary
Kingwood Area RW

## **1st VP Programs**

Elizabeth Hanson Walker, RW of Katy

vp-programs@ghcfrwpac.org



### Come And Join Us for the

# **GHC GENERAL MEETING**

#### **NOVEMBER 18**

TRINI MENDENHALL COMMUNITY CENTER 1414 WIRT RD, HOUSTON, TX 77055

Presidents, please bring your delegate and club members.

9:30 am, check in, light snacks and coffee

10:00 am - 12 noon, business meeting and speakers



Pastor Richard Vega - a proud Houston native, U.S. Army veteran, businessman, pastor, and nonprofit founder — dedicated to faith, service, and conservative values

"Preserving Freedom Through Faith"

Richard's commitment to service began early, with his enlistment in the U.S. Army. He served in the 1st Cavalry Division as a logistics specialist during the post-9/11 era. A serious injury during pre-deployment training left him a disabled veteran, but his spirit of service never wavered.

After his military career, Richard earned a degree in Business Management and completed advanced training in emergency preparedness through FEMA and the Emergency Management Institute, skills he uses today to lead crisis response, disaster relief, and community safety.

Richard is the founder and Executive Director of At His Feet Ministries, a nonprofit that serves the poor, ministers to prisoners, and brings clean water and hope to underserved communities in places like Haiti, Mexico, and Honduras. He also serves as Community Pastor at Community Transformation Church, leading local outreach and discipleship efforts.

Together with his wife, Joanna, Richard launched Justin's Well, a clean water initiative named after their late son—bringing physical and spiritual renewal to communities in need.

Richard is the author of The Journey, a personal memoir with a foreword by Charlie Kirk. The book tells his powerful story—from military service and personal loss to spiritual awakening and community impact.

Today, Richard speaks at churches, schools, and civic events across Texas, inspiring others to stand strong for faith, family, and freedom.

# **Membership**

Amy Byers, Kingwood Area RW vp-membership@ghcfrwpac.org





## **Member Club Dues are Due!**

GHC has such an exciting year planned, but to have our great programs, we need you!

Here are some of the benefits for joining GHC:

- Enjoy our speakers at our meetings and get ideas for your club meetings
- Get to know your Republican Elected Officials and Candidates at Get out the Vote Rally
- Become educated at The Original Nuts n' Bolts
- Share ideas with other clubs at Presidents luncheon
- Socialize with like-minded individuals from different areas
- Voting privileges on council business









The Original Nuts n' Bolts





Meeting Republican Elected Officials and Candidates







**Amazing Speakers!** 

Your 2026 dues are up for renewal. If you don't have your **Membership Club Dues** Invoice page, Amy Byers can email them to you, or they can be found on our website at **www.ghcfrwpac.org**.

Mail the forms, along with your check for \$30 (payable to GHCFRW PAC) to:

**GHC** 

c/o Amy Byers

4851 W. Fork Bld.

Conroe TX 77304



# Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women

#### 2026 Member Club Dues Form

Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women PAC (GHCFRW PAC) Club Annual Dues.....\$30.00

- 1. Complete the form at the bottom of this page and return with payment.
- 2. Attach your club's check for \$30, payable to GHCFRW PAC.
- Send form and check to: Greater Houston Council c/o Amy Byers, 4851 W. Fork Blvd. Conroe TX 77304

Club Name:		
Club Website:		
Club Email:		
Club's County and Senate District:		
Note: The county and SD should be the same as your TFRW Co	ounty and TFRW SD. This may not be the same as your voting information.	
Club President	PAC Treasurer	
Name:	Name:	
Email:		
Phone:		
Club Meeting Info	Newsletter Information	
Contact:	Editor:	
Date/Day:		
Location:	Email:	
Club Delegate Information		
Please pick members that are likely to attend GHC	C meetings	
Delegate	Alternate Delegate	
Name:	Name:	
P <mark>hone:</mark>		
Email:		
Please Note: Please do not list the President as a deleg	gate. The President gets 1 vote, and the delegate gets 1 vote. If the e gets 1 vote. Please list a delegate and an alternate delegate.	
FOR GHC ONLY: REC: RECEIPT: IN		

# **GHC at TFRW Convention**



# Happy Hour









































# Congrations!

# **2026-2027 TFRW Officers**



President - Jill Tate 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President - Bergundi Cain VP Bylaws - Tiffany Miller VP Finance - Kellye Duncan Garrett
VP Legislation - Robbi Hull
VP Membership - Anita Moore

VP Political Activities - Gail Teegarden VP Programs - Carol Anderson Secretary - Susie Cintron

# **TFRW Policy on Candidate Fairness**

#### Rules for Hosting Candidates During Primaries, Run-Offs and Special Elections

The Candidate Fairness Rule is often an issue for clubs. TFRW reviewed the TFRW club communications, experiences and TFRW documents concerning this topic.

TFRW Recommendation: In order to provide clubs with the most flexibility, simplify the policy, and adhere to advice of Counsel, TFRW will follow the Candidate Fairness Bylaw as its source of guidance on this topic.

**TFRW Bylaws: ARTICLE III – POLICY, 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.

When following this policy, it is the club's responsibility to know the candidate filing deadline and election completion date for the relevant election. The annual dates can be found on the Texas Secretary of State website at https://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/ important-election-dates.shtml. Please save this website information for reference.

Another area of concern is endorsements. For clarification, the Club Bylaws below represent the TFRW Club endorsement Policy.

**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 Political/Campaign Activities Chairs 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 2. Candidate Endorsement Exemption:** This article pertains only to contests between Republican Candidates for public office. An officer of this organization who is a candidate or whose husband or a member of her family is a candidate shall be exempt from this rule. Both policies are incorporated in the Federated Club Bylaws for all local clubs. Understanding them can prevent issues with candidates and within the club.

# **TFRW Policy on Federal Candidates**

#### **Rules Regarding TFRW Clubs and Federal Candidates**

#### Background

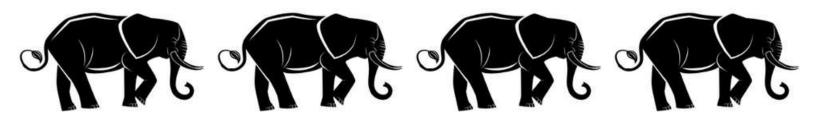
- 1. TFRW and its clubs are Texas state political action committees (PACs); they are NOT Federal PACs.
- 2. These rules pertain to candidates for Federal Elected Office President, U.S. Senators, and U.S. House Representatives; they do not apply to candidates for Texas state and local office.
- 3. Because of the different PAC types, Federated Clubs have different rules for working with Federal Candidates.
- 4. TFRW does not provide legal advice. TFRW strongly recommends that any club engaging in Federal activity beyond what is described below (Activities Clubs Can Do) seek legal advice at their own expense.
- 5. Violations of Federal Election law can carry penalties and fines. Be informed and be cautious. Clubs should be careful not to unintentionally violate Federal PAC/election laws by making In-kind or actual donations.
- 6. Candidate Fairness rules apply to working with Federal Candidates. Clubs, Club Presidents, Club Political Activities Chairs cannot endorse during the Primaries.

#### **ACTIVITES CLUBS CAN DO:**

- 1. Clubs may invite Federal representatives and/or candidates to speak at regularly scheduled meetings at their regular meeting location. This includes allowing elected Federal representatives to speak at club meetings about what they are doing in Washington, D.C. in that role. Candidates in a competitive race with other Republicans may speak on other topics or issues if they do not discuss their candidacy. Representatives and/or candidates should be given a time limit to speak and be reminded not to speak about their opponents.
- 2. Clubs may invite Federal representatives and/or candidate(s) to visit and mingle with club guests and to personally, or with the assistance of volunteers, hand out campaign material and ask for individuals' support. Campaign materials may be displayed on a table with other literature but should not be placed on dining tables or on dining chairs.
- 3. When Federal representatives and/or candidates are present at any event or meeting, the following disclaimer must be displayed: Solicitations made by Federal candidates and officeholders are limited by Federal law. The Federal candidates and officeholders are soliciting only donations of up to \$2,500 from individuals and up to \$5,000 from multi-candidate political committees. They are not soliciting donations in any amount from corporations, labor organizations, national banks, Federal contractors, or foreign nationals.
- 4. Clubs may place advertising received from Federal representatives and/or candidates in an event program, newsletter, vearbook, or other publication as part of the club's fundraising efforts.
- 5. Clubs may write news stories or articles about Federal representatives and/or candidates and publish such stories or articles in the club newsletter that is distributed via email or on the club website.
- 6. Club members may volunteer to assist the County GOP Chair and GOP Executive Committee with a Federal Candidate Forum.
- 7. Club members may volunteer to assist Federal representatives and/or candidates by block-walking, blogging, phone-banking, distributing signs, and other volunteer activities.

#### **ACTIVITES CLUBS CANNOT DO:**

- 1. Clubs should not make contributions to Federal representatives and/or candidates. This prohibition includes paying for Federal representative's and/or candidate's meals, parking, etc.
- 2. Clubs should not be the primary host Federal candidate forums. This includes inviting Federal candidates to speak at a state candidate forum.
- 3. Clubs should not publish news stories or articles about Federal representatives and/or candidates in materials that are distributed to the general public.



# **GHCFRW Meeting Minutes**

**September 16, 2025** 

#### **Ronnye Cowell, Recording Secretary**



The meeting was called to order at 10:06 am.

President Tina Gibson welcomed all in attendance at the meeting.

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

President Gibson thanked the two clubs providing our hospitality treat for today: Cy Fair Republican Women and Kingwood Area Republican Women.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Elizabeth Walker recognized elected officials and candidates who were in the room at today's meeting. Elizabeth then introduced today's program speaker Senator Joan Huffman. Senator Huffman gave a recap of important legislation she was involved with during the 89<sup>th</sup> legislative session which focused a great deal on crime prevention and procedures for judges. She also spoke of other highlights from the session and praised the collaboration between the Senate and House this session.

President Gibson Senator Huffman for presenting today and for supporting GHC by sponsoring a table and attending the Garden Party held in August.

Vice-President of Membership Amy Byers conducted roll call of clubs and members present today. It was determined there was a quorum present. A quorum is one delegate from one-third of the member clubs present for voting. Amy explained that we would be taking a vote today and that each club President and delegate should have received a piece of paper when they came into the room for that vote. President Gibson then went on to further describing the procedures for voting at Greater Houston Council according to our Bylaws.

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 vote. The vote passed unanimously.

Treasurer Lois Gremminger was not in attendance, so President Gibson presented her report. We have a balance \$31,659.61 We had expenses of \$10,999.97 and income of \$9,555.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Elizabeth Walker spoke briefly about the Garden Party. She thanked everyone for coming and supporting GHC. She had a wonderful time, and she hopes everyone else did, too. Our next GHC meeting will be held on November 18<sup>th</sup> which will be right after Veteran's Day. Tomorrow is Constitution Day, and she is so excited about the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our constitution for the USA. Elizabeth then did a quick quiz for everyone to check their knowledge about the constitution. It was a fun way to help remember our founding fathers and the history behind the historical document.

Susie Cintron, Corresponding Secretary, shared that all Presidents books have either been delivered or mailed to Club Presidents. Susie also mentioned the scarf designed for the GHC Garden Party. She showed one on her handbag. The scarf is a fun way to celebrate being a Republican as it has all the flowers that were a part of the centerpieces for the GHC luncheon, and it even has four elephants embedded in the flowers. You can put it on your neck on your purse, on your wrist, in your hair and the cost is a \$20 donation. See Susie after the meeting if you would like one for your wardrobe.

1.President Gibson pointed out that Susie designed this scarf specifically for the Garden Party and she thanked Susie for her creativity. President Gibson then asked to move an agenda item up for voting on the nominating committee. She read the guidelines for how to elect the nominating committee in odd numbered years. The nominating committee consists of five members. After being elected at today's meeting, they will meet and decide on a chair. They will meet and help select the slate of officers for 2026-2027 to be presented at the November members meeting. They will select a President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President-Programs, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President-Membership, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice president- Special Events, 4<sup>th</sup> Vice President-Finance, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer. The slate is announced in the newsletter and voted on at the November members meeting. President Gibson reminded members that the President of GHC must be a past President or President of a Republican Women's Club.

The following members were nominated for the nominating committee:

- Susie Cintron
- Marga Matthews
- Elizabeth Walker
- Emely McHattie
- Donnie Lubeck
- Sophia Mafrige
- Mary Sage

Marga had served on the last Nominating Committee and is not eligible to run for this year's committee. Sophia Mafrige was not present to give her consent to be on the committee and it was uncertain as to whether she served last year. The name of Marga Matthews and Sophia Mafrige were removed. Deb Cupples made a motion that nomination cease. There was a second and the vote passed. Therefore, the Nominating Committee will be:

- Susie Cintron
- · Elizabeth Walker
- Emely McHattie
- Donnie Lubeck
- Mary Sage

President Gibson reminded them they need to meet and select a chairperson.

President Gibson added that the Garden Party had a great turnout. \$9,555 total was raised. \$1100 was raised with the purse pull run by Renee Lunsford, \$640 was made on the scarves designed by Susie Cintron, \$120 from books we sold.

Club President Liaison Marga Mathews spoke about the Presidents luncheons that were held over the summer. There was good input from all the presidents and the luncheons were informative. She feels like everyone left the luncheon and learned something new. It is important for us to share our stories and learn from each other's experiences.

Hospitality Chair Joyce Chambers thanked Cy Fair RW and Kingwood Area RW again for brining today's snacks and beverages. She asked that if anyone's club would like to donate refreshments for November's meeting, to let her know.

Emely McHattie created a video to honor the memory of Charlie Kirk. Tina Gibson said she met him in 2012 when he was just getting started at Westside Headquarters. He was invited by Magic Circle RW Club, Village RW, and Memorial West RW to speak to SREC members and club members. She recalled him telling all of them they were going about it all wrong when it came to elections! She said he was a great kid although she did not agree with him at that time.

President Gibson then asked for any club announcements. Trish Powell shared about Cy Fair RW 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary and their upcoming High Heels and Tea on October 10<sup>th</sup>. The theme is "Roaring 20's" to honor their 20-year anniversary and Holly Hanson will be the keynote speaker. Barbara Meeks spoke about the CCRW fundraiser this Friday that will be called "CC Red White and Blue and You." Elizabeth Walker shared there will be a vigil at the Sugar Land City Center Town Square to honor Charlie Kirk at 7:00 PM. Emely reported that the vigil held in downtown Houston on Sunday was very impactful. Even though the news said hundreds were there it was more like over a 1,000. Charlie's impact was global as there have been vigils to honor him in South Korea, Spain, and the UK to name a few.

To close us out, President Gibson read something written by Dwight D. Eisenhower about our constitution. A motion to adjourn was made by Marga Mathews and seconded by Amy Byers.

The meeting adjourned at 11:19am

Respectfully submitted,

Ronnye Cowell

Ronnye Cowell GHC Recording Secretary





#### CLASSROOM & OFFICE SUPPLIES

- Postage Stamps
- □ Binders 2'
- ☐ Binders 1\*
- ☐ Ruler 12"
- □ Clipboard
- □ Composition Notebook
- □ Art Sketch Pad
- □ Copy Paper
- □ Backpacks

#### **FACILITIES**

- ☐ 13 Gallon Kitchen Trash Bags
- ☐ 30 Gallon Trash Bags
- □ Batteries AA & AAA
- □ Batteries C&D

#### VITAMINS & MEDICATIONS

- Voltaren Pain Gel
- □ Tylenol
- Excedrin Migraine
- □ Glucosamine/Chondroitin
- Melatonin 10mg
- ☐ Multivitamin (Men's 50+)
- □ Cold & Flu Day/Night
- Super B
- Loratadine
- Mucinex DM
- □ Naproxin Sodium 220mg

You may also scan this QR Code to get to the Amazon Wish list link

#### GIFT CARDS

- □ HEB or Kroger
- □ Home Depot or Lowe's
- □ Target or Walmart

#### MEORTANT INFORMATION

DUE TO OUR LIMITED STORAGE CAPACITY, WE DO NOT ACCEPT TRAVEL SIZE TOILETRIES OR USED CLOTHING.

You may contact us at: (832) 912-4429 or Donations@PTSDUSA.c

"Products containing Alcohol will not be accepted.

# Please visit our Amazon Wish list. It is updated daily!



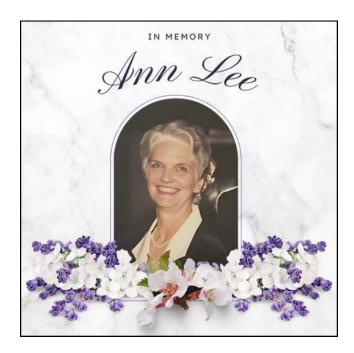
**Amazon List** 

# **Greater Houston Council Clubs News**

# **GHC Member Club Meetings**

	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	Clear Creek RW 11:30 pm La Brisa Mexican Grill, 501 N. Wesley Dr			
Saturday			Angleton RW 10:30 am Brazoria County Courthouse West Annex	

Note - Some clubs do not meet during the summer or change the date due to Holidays. It is recommend to check the clubs website and RSVP



Ann Edwards Lee, 96, passed away peacefully on October 25, 2025, surrounded by family at her beloved longtime home in Houston, Texas.

Ann was born September 9, 1929, in New Orleans, LA to Andrew and Helen (Seib) Edwards. She grew up in nearby Ponchatoula, where her father served as mayor. During her high school years, at the height of the second World War, she served as a plane spotter, watching the skies for Nazi aircraft. Ann proudly called Ponchatoula her hometown her entire life.

Ann graduated from Ponchatoula High School in 1946, then matriculated at the University of Texas in Austin. She was a member of the Chi Omega sorority and graduated with a degree in Education.

While at university, she met Robert "Bob" Lee of Waco and soon thereafter they were married and blessed with the first of five sons (James). The young family moved to Albuquerque, NM where another son (Michael) was born. Wanting to be closer to family in Waco and Ponchatoula, the family moved to a small (3br-1ba) house in south Houston. Ann was a school teacher while Bob was a successful salesman for a National Law Book Publisher, and three more sons were born (Robert, Richard and Donald). In 1968 the family bought land and built a larger house in the new Maplewood South subdivision West of Meyerland where she lived the rest of her life. Ann was a devout parishioner of the nearby St. Thomas More Catholic Church and played the organ during church services for many years.

Ann was a stalwart of the local, state and national Republican parties throughout her life – serving as a member and leader of numerous Republican women's clubs, a precinct chairman, an election judge, a two-term Treasurer of the county party, and a regular attendee at party conventions. She was honored for lifetime achievement by the Texas Federation of Republican Women and the Harris County Republican Party.

Passionate about contributing to civic life, Ann was also active in the Braes Bayou Association and helped successfully push for many drainage improvement projects. She personally requested the walking/running trail that so many now use along Braes Bayou. A statue of an owl now stands

as a monument to her contributions in Arthur Storey Park along Beltway 8. Ann was also committed to reforming marijuana laws and a co-founder of Republicans Against Marijuana Prohibition—pushing for reforms long before doing so was acceptable (reforms that are now being realized).

Ann was preceded in death by her parents, brother Wallace Edwards, her beloved husband Robert Lee, sons James Lee and Richard Lee and granddaughter Emily Szafarz. She is survived by sons Michael Lee, Robert Lee, and Donald Lee with his wife Susan Lee; three granddaughters; and six great-grandchildren.

Funeral Information: A Memorial Service followed by a reception will be held on Tuesday, November 18, 2025, at 10:30 a.m. at St. Thomas More Catholic Church, 10330 Hillcroft St., Houston, TX 77096.

# Walker County Republican Women



Walker County Republican Women made a donation to Nicolas Walker, a SHSU student serving an internship in Washington, D.C. this semester.









Walker County Republican Women celebrated our 25th TFRW Anniversary this past month. WCRW hosted a training presentation by the Republican Women of Trinity County. The training RW101 is a great introduction for local clubs to the connection with NFRW,TFRW and Republican party.







Walker County Republican Women presented Slate of Officers for 2026-2027 President Patti Utley Vice Pres. Alice Ellisor Secretary Linda McKenzie Treasurer Susan Miller (not pictured)



# **CY Fair Republican Women**



Cy Fair Republican Women 20th anniversary celebration and High Heels and High Tea Celebration











TFRW Kay Baily Hutchison Leadership Award Recipient
Texas State Senator Joan Huffman
Village Republican Women 2025 Nomination

VRW member State Senator Joan Huffman is widely regarded as a Trailblazer in Texas Republican Women's Politics. Senator Huffman was first elected to the Texas Senate in 2008 (Special Election for District 17). Huffman is among the Senate's most long-tenured members and the second-most senior Republican in the chamber. She served as President Pro Tempore of the Texas Senate from May 27, 2019, to January 12, 2021—breaking boundaries of long-established roles.

Senator Huffman broke ceilings in powerful chair roles. Senator Huffman championed criminal justice reform and harnessed a prosecutor/judge background into lawmaking and reform. As a former Harris County prosecutor (lead for over 100 jury trials) and Criminal District Court Judge, Huffman has authored key legislation including the 2021 Damon Allen Act (bail reform) and a 2023 law creating a criminal penalty for fatal fentanyl distribution. She is the only person to receive the Texas District & County Attorneys Association's Law & Order Award three times, recognizing her criminal justice work consistently across legislative sessions.

As Chair of the Senate Finance Committee, one of the legislature's most powerful positions, Senator Huffman has broad policy influence and drove high impact legislation across critical issues such as border security funding, including support for Operation Lone Star and resources for surveillance, personnel, and infrastructure. She was also the lead author of Texas's Voter ID and election integrity laws.

Senator Joan Huffman has built a distinguished record. When Senator Huffman joined the Senate in late 2008, fewer than five women served at a time. Her election helped push female representation in the Senate higher, setting a record for that period (four women). In the broader context of Texas governance, women have historically been underrepresented—Joan Huffman's rise to key leadership positions and roles cements her as a trailblazer in Texas Republican Women's Politics.







## **Directory** 2024-2025 **Elected Officers**



#### **OFFICERS**

**President** 

Tina Gibson Fort Bend RW

president@ghcfrwpac.org

1st VP Programs

Elizabeth Hanson Walker

RW Club of Katv

vp-programs@ghcfrwpac.org

2nd VP Membership & **Nuts 'N Bolts Co-Chair** 

**Amy Byers** 

Kingwood Area RW

vp-membership@ghcfrwpac.org

4th VP Finance

Nancy Radcliffe

Northwest Forest RW

vp-finance@ghcfrwpac.org

**Recording Secretary** 

**Ronnye Cowell** 

Magic Circle RW

recording-secretary@ghcfrwpac.org

**Corresponding Secretary** 

Susan Cintron

Kingwood Area RW

corresponding-secretary@ghcfrwpac.org

**Treasurer & Budget Chair** 

Lois Gremminger Fort Bend RW

treasurer@ghcfrwpac.org

**Immediate Past President &** 

**Parliamentarian** 

Sophia Mafrige

Magic Circle RW

past-president@ghcfrwpac.org

#### STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**Bylaws** 

**Debbie Cupples** Memorial West RW

bylaws@ghcfrwpac.org

**Campaign Activities** 

Gayla Baker

Brazosport RW

campaign-activities@ghcfrwpac.org

**Liaison to County Chairs** 

**Emely McHattie** 

Magic Circle RW county-chair-liaison@ghcfrwpac.org

Legislation

Renee Lunsford

Walker County RW

legislation@ghcfrwpac.org

Newsletter

Laura Carlson

Magic Circle RW

newsletter@ghcfrwpac.org

**Public Relations** 

Mary Sage

Magic Circle RW

public-relations@ghcfrwpac.org

#### SPECIAL COMMITTEES

**Club President Liaison** 

Marga Matthews Baytown RW

club-president-liaison@ghcfrwpac.org

Historian

Gail O'Neill

Magic Circle RW

historian@ghcfrwpac.org

Hospitality

Joyce Chambers

Kingwood Area RW hospitality@ghcfrwpac.org

**Advisor to President** 

Carolyn Hodges

Village RW

president-advisor@ghcfrwpac.org

Chaplain

Alicia Cantrell Magic Circle RW

chaplain@ghcfrwpac.org

**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 **Speakers Bureau** 

Carmen Crenshaw

Magic Circle RW

speakers-bureau@ghcfrwpac.org

**TFRW/NFRW Liaison** 

Alice Melancon

Montgomery County RW

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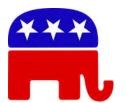
**Nuts 'N Bolts Co-Chair** 

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



Angleton RW Velma Pery



Bay Area RW Debra Risinger



Baytown RW
Denise Pratt



Brazosport RW
Diane Rinn



Clear Creek RW
Barbara Meeks



Cy Fair RW
Trish Powell



E. Montgomery County RW Holly Juneau



Ft. Bend RW Kim Icenhower



Galveston RW
Sylvia Horne



Golden Triangle RW Elaine Henderson



**Great State Republicans Lorena Kanak** 



Kingwood Area RW Kathleen Jordan



Lake Conroe Area RW Molly Adame



Liberty Belles RW Jane Williamson



Magic Circle RW

Alicia Cantrell



Memorial West RW Mary Sergesketter



Montgomery County RW Barbara Eddleman



North Shore RW

**Tammy Coleman** 



NW Forest RW Lauren Lothringer



RW of Yoakum Area Laura Wauson



RW Club of Katy Kristen McCarty



RW of Trinity County Cindy Holsinger



Southeast Texas RW Dina Carr



Texas Tea Party RW Venita Odom



The Woodlands RW Jordan Watson



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Waller County RW Cassandra Posey



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