

GALVESTON REPUBLICAN WOMEN

"INFORMED, INVOLVED & MAKING A DIFFERENCE" Since 1955

Senate District - 11

TFRW Region V

**John Tower Award 2014-15
*Joyce Bell, GRW Woman of Distinction Award 2023

Joyce Bell, Newsletter Editor www.galvestonrepublicanwomen.com



Be Sure to Look For:

Notice of Feb. 21 Meeting2
Feb. 26 Workshop3
Nuts & Bolts Registration4
Primary Election5
Fran Card, Third V.P6
Treasurer Report6
Legislative Report7
January 17th Meeting9
January 17th Minutes12
Calendar and Contacts13
GRW 2024 Officersand14 Advisory Board Members14
2024 Membership15
Application for GRW

Volunteer Hours
Please report your Hours
to Irene Henry
<u>irenem.henry@sbcglobal</u>
.net



GALVESTON REPUBLICAN
WOMEN
Message from the President

February 2024

Aaahhh! February, the month of love! We love all year long; but in February, the month with the hearts and arrows, the candy & flowers; love surrounds us. Who, What and How do we show our love, and what difference does it make? It makes a ton of difference when you hear....

"How do I love thee, let me count the ways". Sonnet 43 by Elizabeth Barrett Browning written in 1845-46.

"Greater love hath no man than he who..." John 15:13. When we hear of such actions our hearts break and surge. And the greatest one; "For God so loved the world..." John 3:16 Our Western Civilization is built on it.

Love is all around us; feel it, share it; live it. It makes a difference! You make a difference!

Enjoy our February 2024. We have an extra day this year; use it well.

Sylvía 💌



GALVESTON REPUBLICAN WOMEN

LUNCHEON MEETING

Wednesday, February 21st, 2024 San Luis Resort Hotel – Grand Ballroom 5222 Seawall Blvd, Galveston

Reception 11:15 a.m. - Luncheon Meeting 12:00 Noon \$30pp cash/check; \$33pp credit card

Reservation must be cancelled by February 17th in order not to be charged, as the hotel holds us responsible for headcount after this date.

*** LUNCHEON MENU ***

Tomato Basil Soup, Chicken Romano, Spinach, Finger Potatoes, Freshly Baked Bread with Butter, Dessert, Iced Tea, Coffee and Water

**SPECIAL DIET REQUESTS MUST BE MADE WITH RSVP **

PROGRAM SPEAKER

T'Neil Walea, Director of Innovative Technology for the Federal Government at Microsoft

Program Topic

Can Anything Good Come Out of Artificial Intelligence

T'Neil helps integrate artificial intelligence and quantum computing into Federal agencies. As an international speaker, leadership consultant and technology expert, she helps the Government navigate technological advancements. T'Neil previously worked as IBM's Chief Technology Officer for Global Governments where she also focused on artificial intelligence and quantum computing. With a strong background in team building and technology leadership, she is passionate about helping teams develop a healthy culture and adopt cutting-edge leadership and technology strategies. She loves mentoring and helping young women find their place in STEM-driven industries. T'Neil and husband Tyler serve as Pastors of First Church in Pearland, TX where they live with their three children.

RSVP by FEBRUARY 17TH to Tina Kirbie: rkirbie@comcast.net or Tel: 713.504.0304

Unfortunately, we can no longer accept Walk ins.



'PLUG IN WHERE WE FIT BEST' WORKSHOP

Date: Monday, February 26th

Time: 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Place: East End Historic Cottage, 1501 Postoffice St., Galveston 77550

We will be making decisions on our 2024 focus, events, community involvement, and Special Event guests.

This promises to be a fun-filled, casual time together. Some may not realize how important it is for the "laboring oars" to know you are supporting them.

There will even be a group interested in praying for our county.

If you are working and cannot join us, please let us know what interests you. We have the perfect place for you too.

Please register with Tina Kirbie to verify you are coming.

rkirbie@comcast.net or Tel: 713.504.0304

Name		
Address	City and State	Zip Code
Contact Phone #		
E-mail		

"Original" Nuts 'N Bolts Registration Form

Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women will be holding their "Original" Nuts 'N Bolts training workshop and recognition of Club Presidents on Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at the Trini Mendenhall Community Center at 1414 Wirt Road, Houston TX 77055. Check in begins at 8:30 am and the program will begin at 9:15 am. Coffee, Snacks and Lunch are included.

Deadline for Registration: March 22, 2024.

1. REGISTRATION

Please fill out and email this form to Amy Byers at ajbyers1348@aol.com or mail to Amy at 4851 W. Fork Blvd., Conroe TX 7730

2. PAYMENT

Mail a \$25 check, made out to GHCFRW to: Amy Byers, 4851 W. Fork Blvd., Conroe TX 77304 make a Credit Card payment for \$27 to:





Name (please print):		
Primary Club:		
Address:	**	
Email:		
Occupation (required):		
Workshops – check one in each session Session 1-		
Addressing Political Issues OR	Treasurer/Finance 2 back to	o back sessions
Session 2-		
Social Media		
Session 3 Bylaws OR	Awards	
	Awarus	
Session 4- Newsletters-Getting Noticed OR	Fundraising/Campaign Activ	rities

Political advertising paid for by GHCFRW. Lois Gremminger, Treasurer, 9741 Katy Freeway, #272 Houston, TX 77024. Contributions are not federal tax deductible as charitable contributions. Corporate Contributions are not permitted. This is not an endorsement of GHCFRW, its President, or its Campaign Activities Chair, only candidate information to help you make an informed decision and get involved with the candidate of your choice. Copyright © 2023 GHCFRWPAC

Primary Elections will be held Tuesday March 5, 2024

The Primary election determines who from the Republican Party you want to represent you in the major General Election November 5, 2024. It is very important to know who is running in the Primary and to vote. Educate and share your knowledge with others. Early voting begins Tuesday, February 20^{th.}

Sample Ballots (https://sites.omniballot.us/48167/app/home)

currently available on line for the March 5th Primary Election Early voting begins February 20th.

- 1) Google Galveston County Current and Upcoming Elections
- 2) Enter Primary 2024
- 3) Sample Ballot
- 4) Enter Personal information (This is needed to pull up the ballot exclusive to you and where you live
- 5) Follow the Prompts

There are approximately 13 Propositions and numerous Republican primary positions on this ballot. Please become familiar with who and what you are voting for. This Primary is important to Galveston County and the State of Texas.

Help Take Back Our Courts

We will be voting this year for Justices to the Texas Supreme Court (Place 2, 4 and 6); Court of Criminal Appeals (Presiding Judge, Place 7 and 8); 1st Court of Appeals District (Place 2, 6, 7, 8 and 9); 14th Court of Appeals District (Place 3,4,5,6 and 8), and District Judges (10th,56th and 405th Judicial Districts). This is a PrimaryElection. You will be voting for a Republican, but which Republican do you want?? It is important to know your Republican Candidates.



Getting to Know....

Fran Card

3rd Vice President Public Relations

Fran Card hails from the far north, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. She has been a Registered Nurse for 50 years. She met her husband, Terry, in an auto body repair shop, they married and did some extensive travelling until 9/11. No more flying!!

After writing the International Nursing Exams and then the State Exam, Fran returned to nursing in San Antonio TX at University Hospital; fondly referred to as the 'Gun & Knife Club'.

On a two week holiday travelling up the coast from South Padre Island, they decided they loved Galveston. They retired and lived for several years on the Gulf in Spanish Grant. They have moved into the city to be closer to town.

Brenda Gutierrez, then president of GRW involved Fran in GRW, and she has been serving this group, ever since.





Name tags are available to order. They may be purchased at a cost of \$10.00. See Jane Rigsby for more information.

Treasurer's Report

Tina Kirbie, Treasurer Cash Balance Ending January 31, 2024 \$33,094.31

Remember to Keep Track of Your

POLITICAL AND CAMPAIGN VOLUNTEER HOURS

Please turn your hours into Irene Henry (irenem.henry@sbcglobal.net)



February 2024 Legislative Report Vice President Wanda Buttner

The following excerpts are prepared by 'The Texas Minute' and presented by 'The Texas Scorecard' that is written by Michael Quinn Sullivan

Texas Won't Surrender Shelby Park

After a long wait, U.S. Customs and Border Protection has finally reported that the number of illegal alien encounters at the border for December 2023 broke the all-time record. Encounters with illegal aliens totaled 302,034—the highest ever recorded in a month. Border Patrol also arrested 19 individuals in December who are on the FBI's terrorist watch list. Meanwhile, Attorney General Ken Paxton is refusing to surrender Eagle Pass' Shelby Park to the federal government. The park has been a popular and convenient entry point for illegal aliens. The Biden administration's policy has been to meet the aliens there and then release the aliens into the country. The state took over the park on January 11 and has refused to allow federal agents in so that the illegals could be deterred—through barriers and blockades—or arrested for criminal trespass. The flow at the park has gone from thousands to a dozen. Now the Biden administration is demanding the state allow agents to enter the park so they can remove Texas' barriers. Paxton sent a letter to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security with his own demands—including that they provide an "explanation of where the Congress has empowered your federal agency to pursue this scheme "As I said before, this office will continue to defend Texas's efforts to protect its southern border against every effort by the Biden Administration to undermine the State's constitutional right of self-defense," stated Paxton in a letter.

Appeals Court Sides with Taxpayers on Debt-Hiking Constitutional Amendment Justices on the 7th District Court of Appeals ruled that a constitutional amendment put before Texans in 2021 by the legislature was not honest with the voters. Brandon Waltens wrote the story. At issue was Proposition 2, which passed with 63 percent of the vote. It authorized counties to issue bonds—taxpayer-backed debt—to fund infrastructure and transportation projects in underdeveloped, unproductive, or blighted areas and to use increases in property taxes from those areas to pay off the debt. The problem? The ballot mentioned nothing about new taxes and as such, a lawsuit was filed by grassroots organizations, and the program was put on hold. An identical proposal had previously failed at the ballot box when it included information about debt and taxes. In 2021, lawmakers simply removed that language. "Hidden from view was the ultimate responsibility for payment and its positioning over the voter's head like the sword of Damocles," explained the courts.

"The Texas Voice"

George Soros, the liberal New York billionaire and prolific political donor who has long sought to transform the criminal justice system, made significant investments into progressive political organizations in Texas last year. According to campaign finance reports filed with the Texas Ethics Commission, Soros donated over \$2.5 million to a handful of Democratic Party organizations and leftist political action committees across Texas during 2023. The Texas Voice previously reported on some of these donations, including \$100,000 to the Cameron County Democratic Party and \$250,000 to the Texas Organizing Project PAC. In addition to the donations to those two organizations, Soros' Texas donations during 2023 included: \$200,000 to the Dallas County Democratic Party \$50,000 to Planned Parenthood Texas Votes \$62,000 to the Texas Justice & Public Safety PAC \$1,400,000 to Texas Majority PAC \$300,000 to CTX Votes \$100,000 to First Tuesday \$100,000 to the Hidalgo County Democratic Party The Texas Tribune reported earlier this month that the Texas Majority PAC was recently formed by former staff members of Beto O'Rourke and the Texas Organizing Project in an effort to flip Texas to the Democratic Party. Texas Majority PAC reported spending over \$900,000 during the second half of 2023, largely on hiring staff and building organizational infrastructure ahead of the 2024 election.

Texas House Members Did Not Vote to Raise Their Pensions

In the ongoing Texas Republican civil war, groups seeking to unseat Texas House members who voted for Paxton's impeachment, have been sending mailers and running ads alleging that the House members voted to raise their pensions in the last session. The allegation is, at best, a gross misrepresentation. Ironically, the subject of the ads is a bill that never passed. Early in the session, a bi-partisan bill (HB438) was introduced which would have indexed judges' salaries to the Consumer Price Index. As the bill moved through the House, an issue was raised about whether this indexing would raise legislators' pensions because retired Texas legislators receive a pension that is based on what a district judge is paid. The argument by some was, therefore, that by raising judicial salaries, the legislators were indirectly voting to raise their own pensions.

When the issue was raised, the sponsors of the bill requested an opinion from the Texas Employee Retirement System, as to whether the bill would affect legislative retirements and were told that because the provisions were in different sections, the indexing would not affect their pensions. This is a clip from the House debate on HB438, in which Rep. Mike Schofield assured the members they are not voting to increase their pensions. By the way, Schofield is a Republican conservative stalwart who worked for Rick Perry for over a decade before being elected to the House.

GRW Mission Statement

Promote an informed public through political Education and Activity

Increase the effectiveness of women in the cause of Good Government.

Work for the election of Republican candidates to foster loyalty to the

Republican Party and to promote its principles

GALVESTON REPUBLICAN WOMEN

Wednesday, January 17, 2024

San Luis Hotel – GRAND BALLROOM 5222 Seawall Blvd., Galveston



Candidates and Elected Officials leading the pledge Next Month, February 21, Precinct Chairs will lead the pledge



Carrie Donnelly
Director of
ADRIA Women's Health

Their vision and goal is for Galveston County to become abortion free.

Brenda Weber introducing

Pastor Dan Cummings Founder of Capitol Worship

Capitol Worship
P.O.Box 1013
Weatherford, Texas 76086
Djcummins2@gmail.com
Capitol Worship.net



Wednesday, January 17, 2024 Meeting Continued....



Membership Table Toni Visage Tina Kirbie Linda Dreith



Terri Wilson and Kim Bonnen



Frances Morrell, Don and Carmen Pollock



Joe Giusti, Terri O'Connell, Paul Edinburgh, Jimmy Fullen, Rebecca Millo



Cathy Bassett
And Linda Buckley



Marilyn Harris, Donna Bumpas, Dr. Robert McLaughlin, Victoria Tebo



Victoria Tebo, Jennifer Ott

Wednesday, January 17, 2024 Meeting Continued....



New guests

Nisha Roady



Marie Robb Ann Winkleman Sa Brenda Atchley Dr. Maureen Hayes



Sarah Brown Chris Kinard



Jan Broussard and Tina Kirbie With new guests



Carol Jean Mulrain Teri Leo Wilson Harry Elmendorf



Jimmy Fullen Paul Edinburgh



Pam Schwertner I
Terri O'Connell

GALVESTON REPUBLICAN WOMEN Minutes

Wednesday, January 17, 2024

San Luis Hotel – GRAND BALLROOM 5222 Seawall Blvd., Galveston

President Sylvia Horne opened the meeting at 12:00 noon and welcomed all. Debra Jackson, Chaplain, gave the prayer.

Sylvia then asked the Elected Officials and Candidates to lead us in the pledges. After the pledges they introduced themselves and stated their office and/or what office they were campaigning for.

Sylvia, recognized GRW's 2024 Board, the 2023 new members and the 2024 new members.

Announcements from the Podium:

The Planning Committee will meet at 10:00, this Monday, January 22, 2023, at Bayou Vista's MUD Building, Room 12. A flyer is provided on each table for you to sign-up.

Also, from Sylvia, PLEASE – RSVP to our luncheon meetings in a timely manner so that the San Luis are able to provide the correct number of meals.

Carey Donnelly, Director of ADRIA Women's Health (409-945-2999), give a brief overview of her organization and how they benefit women's health in Galveston County. Their vision and goal is for Galveston County to become abortion free.

Don Pollock, from Mid County, reminded everyone of the debate among the candidates for Sheriff. The debate will be start at 6:30 on Tuesday, January 23, 2024 at The College of the Mainland.

We were invited to Adopt a Cop. Marcy Hanson (409-771-2401) has only 26 remaining policemen who need to be adopted for our full force to be recognized and appreciated.

Brenda Weber, 1st Vice President, Programs introduced our speaker for today. Pastor Dan Cummings and his wife, JoAnn launched "Come Pray with Me". For 12 years they have been making a difference every Wednesday evening with their worship services in the US Capitol. Pastor Dan Cummings, Founder of Capitol Worship gave an inspiring talk on "The Seven Feasts: Are Current Events Happening According to Ancient Patterns?"

Brenda Weber thanked our speaker, gave him a "thank-you" gift and adjourned the meeting at 1:00

After adjournment announcement: Kim Bonnen asked everyone to mark their calendars for an upcoming event with Governor Greg Abbot and Rep. Greg Bonnen to be held on February10, 2024 in League City. Additional information will be sent out from Rep. Bonnen's office.

Respectively Submitted Lizette Gaudin, Recording Secretary

Calendar of Events

This Month, February 21, Precinct Chairs will lead the pledge

Save The Date

1st Monday Galveston Republican Women Board Meeting

3rd Wednesday Galveston Republican Women Meeting

1st Thursday
1st & 3rd Thurs.
1st & 3rd Thurs.
1st Thursday
1st Thursday
1st Friday,
2nd Tuesday
3rd Monday
Tri-County Republican Women
Clear Creek Republican Women
Mid-County Republican Network
Texas Gulf Coast Republican Women

3rd Thursday The Republican Network of Galveston County

4th Tuesday Bay Area Republican Women

Republican Contacts:

Galveston Republican Women: www.galvestonrepublicanwomen.com

Bay Area Republican Women: www.barw.org

Galveston Island Pachyderms: www.galvestonpachyderms.org

Clear Creek Republican Women: www.clearcreekrw.org

Mid-County Republican Network: Facebook Tri-County Republican Women: Facebook

West Pearland Republican Women: www.wprw.org Texas Gulf Coast Republican Women: www.tgcr.org

Galveston County Republican Party: www.galvestoncntygop.com

Greater Houston Council: www.ghcfrwpac.org

National Federation of Republican Women: www.nfrw.org

Republican National Committee: www.gop.com Republican Network of Galveston County: Facebook

Republican Party of Texas: texasgop.org

Republican Hispanic Citizens in Action: Facebook Republican National Hispanic Assembly: www.rnha.org Texas Federation of Republican Women: www.tfrw.org

Teenage Republicans: teenagerepublicans.org
Texas Public Policy Foundation: www.texaspolicy.co
Young Republicans of Galveston County: Facebook

Political Advertising paid for by Galveston Republican Women PAC. Tina Kirbie, Treasurer, 908 Layfair Place, Friendswood, TX 77546. Contributions are not Federal Tax deductible as charitable contributions.

2024 Elected Officers



President Sylvia Horne 713-252-0858 sylviahorne@yahoo.com



1st Vice President –
Programs
Brenda Weber
281-485-1700
brendaweber@comcast.net



2nd Vice President – PAC Chairwoman Campaign / Legislative Wanda Buttner 409-939-1931 wbuttner@yahoo.com



3rd Vice President Public Relations Fran Card 409-632-0400 pelicanway88@att.net



Recording Secretary Lizette Gaudin 713-557-0599 <u>lizettegaudin@gmail.com</u>



Treasurer
Tina Kirbie
Also serves as GHC of
Federated RW Delegate
713-504-0304
rkirbie@comcast.net

2024 Advisory Board Members



Immediate Past President Betty Henry Facebook and Outreach 817-996-3452 henrybetty@att.net



Past President Jeannie Koenig 512-567-8975 <u>lloyd.koenig@sbcglobal.net</u>



Chaplain Debra Jackson 832-201-1778 <u>Ddjackson1951@icoud.com</u>



Past President Irene Henry 281-844-0598 <u>irenem.henry@sbcglobal.net</u>



Hospitality
Janice Broussard
281-352-6848
Janicebroussard1947@gmail.com



Membership Linda Dreith 214-649-2583 claylin7@gmail.com

2024 Advisory Board Members continued



Co-Chair Fundraising Sandra Pollock pollock.sandra@gmail.com 713-202-5616





Parliamentarian Jane Rigsby 409-599-7960 jarigsby720@yahoo.com



Co-Chair Fundraising Carol Jean Mulrain Caroljeanhebert@yahoo.com 409-309-6289



GRW Call List Coordinator Nisha Roady 409-771-8694 nisharoady@gmail.com



Website Tess Stone 469-955-7034 tess@rdsol.com



Newsletter Editor Joyce Bell 832-443-2831 joycebell309@aol.com

2024 Membership Chair Linda Dreith

2024 (as of January 31, 2024) Membership......105
Regular Members 63
Associate 42



GRW-PAC MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION 2024

Dues for the 2024 Membership Year are payable NOW.

Please complete the membership information and return this form with your check payable to GRW-PAC to:

Tina Kirbie 908 Layfair Place Friendswood, Texas 77546

(No business/corporate checks please)

Name		Spouse		
Address				
City and State		Zip Code		
Contact Phone #		Senate District #		
Employer		Occupation		
E-mail		Newsletters are sent electronically.		
Select Type of Membership:				
Regular Member (\$45)				
Associate Member (\$20)	·			
Women who are a member Please print name of Organ Men who wish to be associated Young women (Age 13 thrust)	nization		_	
Referred By:				
am willing to help with the fAwardsBylawsCampaign ActiviCommunity ServOther (please spe	ties	Finance Fund-Raising	Membership Phone Program Public Relations	
or GRW use only:				
ash/Check amount:E-mail ListTFRW Submission #	Check #	Date:		