



NORTHWEST FOREST REPUBLICAN WOMEN

Potpourri

An Award-Winning Federated Club
Houston ~ North Harris County
Founded June 26, 1974

www.northwestforestrepublicanwomen.org
info@northwestforestrepublicanwomen.org

TFRW Region 17, Senate District 7

November, 2022

Volume 47, Issue 10

NEXT MEETING

Monday, November 14, 2022

Commissioner Tom Ramsey

Place: Shirley Acres, 217 Woerner Road, Houston, 77090

Time: 11:30 a.m. Call to Order, Program, Lunch, Business meeting 1:00 p.m. Adjournment

Reservations: [click here](#) by **9:00 AM, Friday, November 11th.**

Lunch \$25, or \$5 for beverages and meeting only.

Walk-ins \$40. **Make checks payable to "Shirley Acres."**

To pay 2022 dues, see Nancy Radcliffe, 2nd

VP/Membership at the membership table.

1ST VP/Programs

Tracine

For our November program, we invite you to join us as we welcome Commissioner Tom Ramsey. He was elected to serve as County Commissioner for Harris County Precinct 3 in November of 2020. His office is responsible for maintaining approximately 47% of all unincorporated Harris County roads. This includes 6,750 lane miles of roadway, 68 parks, 10 Community and Nature Centers, and 9 hike and bike trails, including the nation's longest urban-forested corridor: the Spring Creek Greenway. Commissioner Ramsey's Engineering team currently manages \$390M worth of construction in capital improvement projects.



As an award-winning civil engineer turned public servant, Commissioner Ramsey listens to you, his constituents, and ensures you're represented at every Commissioners Court. He has a long track record of improving the safety, infrastructure, livability, and financial health of the communities he serves. Ramsey continues to prioritize safer neighborhoods, lowering taxes, and improving infrastructure. He launched a Crime Task Force earlier this year, which is comprised of over a dozen law enforcement agencies from County and City jurisdictions, to combat the rising crime rate.

To find out more about what is going on in Commissioners Court, join us in November.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Sylvia Manley

The one thing Republicans cannot do is stay home on Election Day! It's been said many times,

"REPUBLICANS WHO STAY HOME, ELECT DEMOCRATS"

It's true. Good candidates have lost elections because R's failed to go vote. **VOTE RED!**

When this November newsletter is sent out, it will be right before November 8th. **PLEASE GO VOTE. It's your voice that needs to be heard!** There's a stealth, blank check bond issue of \$1.2 BILLION DOLLARS that needs your attention on this ballot as well as local county candidates that CAN TURN AROUND THE DISASTEROUS COURSE OF THE DEMS, plus statewide races for Governor, Lt. Governor, Land Commissioner, Agriculture Commissioner, Attorney General, Railroad Commissioner, and including State Representative races and State Senator races. **JUST DO IT! VOTE RED! TRY MAKING TEN PHONE CALLS TO FRIENDS AND FAMILY TO REMIND THEM TO VOTE PRIOR TO NOVEMBER 8th! Ask them to contact ten people. We need EVERY SINGLE VOTE.**



Hopefully along with Commissioner Tom Ramsey at the November 14th meeting, everyone will have something to celebrate! It should be a great meeting with a lot of good information. The December meeting is a HUGE EXTRAVAGANZA to "thank" our NWFRW members. Fun, Santa, children's choir, fabulous lunch, door prizes, a contest or two, and a LOT of "HO, HO, HO." Join us for these two terrific meetings.

The Nominating Committee presented the club with a strong slate of officers for 2023. They will do a fantastic job in 2023, and with members supporting the club, it should be a really great year. The 2023 year will find the club gearing up for the 2024 Presidential election. Always a surprise with candidates (both parties) who feel they should be your choice. If inflation and recession fears do not abate, it will set the tone for that election. Pay attention, ask questions, and find out everything you are able about whatever 2024 candidates emerge. It's still a great country and, with the right leadership, can be a world leader once again.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

NWFRW ELECTION OF OFFICERS AT THE NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING.

**NWFRW BOARD 2022****OFFICERS****President**

Sylvia Manley

1st Vice President Programs

Tracine Gibson

2nd Vice President Membership

Nancy Radcliffe

3rd Vice President Campaign

Marcia Fitzpatrick

Secretary

Mary Ann Vandermark

Treasurer

Stephany Jackson

PAC Treasurer

Gaynell Lira

COMMITTEE CHAIRS**Americanism/Caring for America**

Jennie Kahanek

Awards

Tracie Anderson

Bylaws

Jo Konen

Chaplain

Jane Easterwood

Historian

Marti Schwind

Hospitality

Brenda Carmean

Legislative

Shirley Kitchens

Liaison to Council

Dana Khan

Newsletter

Linda LeCroy

Publicity

Barbara Young

Reservations

Sulane Roesler

Scholarship

Susan Langenheim

Donna Rubli

Voter Registration

Ana Carson

Website

LaDonna MacDonald

Yearbook/Directory

Rene D'Alessandro

2nd VP/Membership Nancy Radcliffe (for President Sylvia Manley) called the NWFRW General Meeting to order on Monday, October 10, 11:30 A.M. at Shirley Acres, 217 Woerner Road, Houston, Texas.

Chaplain Jane Easterwood gave the invocation and led the pledges.

2nd VP/Membership Nancy Radcliffe welcomed and encouraged our guests to join NWFRW. We started taking renewals and new memberships for 2023. The NWFRW membership forms were emailed to the members with the October *Potpourri*. Primary membership is \$45.00 and must be a registered voter. Associate membership is \$30.00 and is available to women who are already Primary members at another Federated Republican Women's Club. Checks need to be dated 11/01/2022. Name badges can be purchased for \$10.00. Nancy reminded those who have ordered badges to pick-up their badges today. Nancy celebrated becoming a grandmother. Congratulations!

3rd VP/Political Activities Marcia Fitzpatrick introduced elected officials and candidates.

LaDonna MacDonald (for 1st VP/Programs Tracine Gibson) introduced the guest speaker, the Honorable Dr. Tom Oliverson, Texas Representative H.D. 130. He represents Tomball, Cypress, Waller, and Hockley. He chairs the committee on House Insurance, serves on the Public Health and House Administration, as well as Chair of the National Association of Christian Law Makers.

LUNCH

Minutes for the NWFRW September 12, 2022, General Meeting were approved as printed in the *Potpourri*.

Pac Treasurer Gaynell Lira (for Treasurer Stephany Jackson) gave the Treasurer's Report and is filed with the minutes.

Pac Treasurer Gaynell Lira gave the PAC Treasurer's Report and it is filed with the minutes. The NWFRW Ethics report was filed with the Texas Ethics Commission (TEC) this month.

LaDonna MacDonald (for 1st VP/Programs Tracine Gibson) announced that Commissioner Tom Ramsey will be our guest speaker at the November 14th, 2022, General meeting.

2nd VP/Membership Nancy Radcliffe encouraged us to attend the NWFRW Christmas Party. The program will be fun and exciting! She thanked the Club for a remarkable 2022. We increased our membership while getting members engaged in getting Republicans elected.

3rd VP/Political Action Marcia Fitzpatrick announced the Midterm Elections are in sight. Early voting starts October 24th – November 4th with Election Day November 8th. She reminds us to vote the entire ballot and cast a vote in every race. Republican candidates are listed first on the ballot. Marcia thanked all who donated postage and volunteered for the Postcard projects. Approximately 7,000 postcards were mailed to "Vote Republican" and to get Commissioner Cagle re-elected to the Commissioner Precinct 4, Harris County Court. Vote Republican signs are available. Additional signs are \$5.00 each. She requested the members record their volunteer hours on the form on each table.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Gaynell Lira, Morman Campaign Liaison, reported she is needing member assistance in working the telephone bank to support Jack Morman for Commissioner Precinct 2, Harris County Court. She asked members to sign up for a contact list and script when leaving the meeting today.

Sue Kikis, The Dictionary Project Chairman, thanked the membership for the support of tax-deductible The Dictionary Project. 51 boxes of dictionaries were distributed to the local schools. Donations are still welcomed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

LaDonna MacDonald Chairman, NWFRW Nominating Committee, presented the report of the Committee. The committee was LaDonna MacDonald, Kay Shillock, Gaynell Lira, Tracie Anderson, Nancy Radcliffe, Merry Keith, and Donna Rubli.

NWFRW COMMITTEE REPORT

The Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following slate of officers for 2023:

President Nancy Radcliffe, *1st VP/Programs* Tracine Gibson, *2nd VP/Membership* Kathy Mason, *3rd VP/Political Activities* Marcia Fitzpatrick, *Secretary* Merry Keith, *Treasurer* Stephany Jackson, and *PAC Treasurer* Gaynell Lira.

Election of officers will be at the NWFRW November General Meeting. Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the November Meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

October 17th 7:00 PM, NWFRW Board Meeting, Huntwick Clubhouse,

October 24th – November 4th Early Voting

November 8th – Election Day

Wreaths Across America,

Tom Nobis SD 7 SREC announced several up-coming Republican campaign events for candidates.

Adjournment was at 12:48 PM

2ND VP/MEMBERSHIP *Nancy Radcliffe*

It is that exciting time of the year when NWRW is taking renewals and accepting new members for 2023. If you haven't completed a 2023 membership form, please complete the one attached to the email with this newsletter, and mail it to the address on the bottom of the form OR complete it and bring with you to our November 14 monthly meeting. As a reminder, the cost for primary membership is \$45. To become a member, you must be a registered voter. An associate membership is \$30. Associate memberships are available to women who are already primary members at another federated Republican women's club or an enlightened gentleman. An associate member cannot vote, but all other privileges of membership are extended to associates. We can accept cash or checks. You are encouraged to invite your friends, family, neighbors, and co-workers to join us as well. Badges can be purchased for an additional \$10.



To give each of you a heads-up about our meeting December 12, Programs and Membership have teamed together to create a special **Christmas Extravaganza** for all of you. A committee of NWRW members has been working since late September to prepare for this event. You will NOT want to miss such a festive and fun meeting. Be thinking about what to wear that day paying special attention to your Christmas/holiday jewelry pieces. Prizes will be awarded for jewelry in the following categories: Most Festive; Gaudiest; Most Unique; Most Vintage; and for our gentlemen, the Merriest. There is also going to be a surprise guest making an appearance. We need to all be on our best behavior!

THE RIGHT TO VOTE, USE IT OR LOSE IT

Your right to vote gives you incredible power. With your vote, you can help decide laws and choose the people who will govern and will uphold those laws. The truism, "use it or lose it," applies to this priceless right to vote even more importantly than it does to your musculature. While none of us can imagine that aphorism applying to one of our most basic constitutional rights, students of history know it to their regret; so have citizens of other nations who lost their right to vote. Without strong voter input today, future generations of Americans might well be living in a dictatorship of tyranny.



Not only is voting a right, but it is also a responsibility. Americanism is not something just to be cheered from the sidelines. Each one of us must participate. If we abdicate our responsibility to vote, we are at the mercy of special interests. Citizens with special interests are zealots. They do not miss any chance to force their beliefs on others. And they vote! If we want to keep our government "of the people, by the people, and for the people," we must exercise our right to vote each and every time we can. No excuses!

With fewer people exercising their right to vote, special interest groups find that their ballots count even more. Therefore, those who get elected concentrate on the wishes of those groups, who are often not concerned about what is good for the majority. The complaint that "Congress is "run by special interests" becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy.

Remember, if you are not part of the solution to this national crisis of voter apathy, you are part of the problem.

3RD VP/POLITICAL ACTIVITIES *Marcia Fitzpatrick*

We are in the home stretch towards the midterm elections. Early Voting has already started and goes through Nov 4th, with Election Day Nov 8th. Just a reminder to get your friends and family to vote. Be sure to vote the entire ballot and cast your vote in every race. Vote like your life depends on it...*because it does*. Let's hope all our hard work pays off and we will turn Harris County RED and keep Texas RED.

A Big Thank You to all who donated postage and/or volunteered at our Postcard Project. We addressed approximately 7,000 postcards to Vote Republican and to get Commissioner Cagle re-elected as Harris County Commissioner Precinct 4. When Republican women work, we win. Hope we will be celebrating on Nov 8th.

VOTER REGISTRATION *Ana Carson*

INFORMATION FOR EARLY VOTING

Monday – Saturday October 24 – 29, 7AM to 7PM

Sunday - October 30, 12PM to 7PM

Monday - Wednesday - October 31 to November 2, 7AM to 7PM

Thursday - November 3, 7AM to 10PM

Friday - November 4, 7AM to 7PM

EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS

Barbara Bush Library, Elliot Room 6817 Cypresswood Dr.

Masjid Al Salam , Gym 16700 Old Louetta Rd.

Prairie View A&M University NW, Room 114, 9449 Grant Rd.

Above and Beyond Fellowship, Foyer 20498 Rhodes Rd.

Klein Multi-purpose Center, Rooms 401 and 402, 7500 FM 2920

MAIL IN BALLOT

October 28th is the deadline to submit a mail ballot application.

If you need more information or directions to a poll, please contact me. Ana Carson - Mcarson92@att.net 281-467-3443

AMERICANISM *Jennie Kahanek*

It's **teddy bear time** again so start thinking about those cuddly creatures and bring them to the December Christmas party. Having something of their own to hold close is so important and can make such a difference in a child's life. Please keep this in mind as you check out the teddy bears and start the pile growing. Looking forward to a big load and hearing about children's smiles.



Camp Hope: Please take a look at the items needed for Camp Hope. We are making progress in keeping them supplied although there's always more needed. I wish all of you could see how excited they get when I arrive with a car full of their requests. Heartwarming would be a good description. The people are wonderful and truly care about the men they are working to help.

So, let's do our part. I have a big truck and would love to fill the entire bed and have an overflow. We can do it!

Sliced bread, bottled water, eggs, butter, milk, paper towels, laundry detergent, running shoes – mens size 9-13, stamps, spiral note books, twin sheets, standard pillows, and twin blankets.

You can also donate to Camp Hope when you order through AmazonSmile.com for your Amazon purchases.

GOD BLESS OUR VETERANS!

LEGISLATIVE

Shirley Kitchens

The Radical Laws of a radical-led Congress.

While most Texans are focused on painting Texas Red, the U.S. Congress was busy creating laws to strip the United States citizens of their ability to be solvent in retirement or protect themselves or family.

One such bill is the Social Security Fairness Act of 2021-2022. With mounting pressure from current and retired public employees to repeal the Social Security's Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government Pension Offset (GPO), Congress has written a bill (H.R. 82) to provide workers, who did not pay into Social Security for most or all their careers, windfall benefits. These workers had other pensions that were meant to replace Social Security which is why they were exempted from paying the S.S. tax. The pensions given to local, state, and federal employees are typically substantial and are higher than the average Social Security retirement benefits. The fallout of this change in the current law would deplete Social Security benefits, which is already facing a shortfall, and move up the Social Security's trust fund depletion date by one or more years. Current projected date is 2035 and create a \$1.5 billion initial debt.

Also on Capitol Hill, bipartisan efforts are working to create legislation to combat violent gun crimes. While improving background checks, raising the purchasing age from 18 to 21, or banning military-grade assault weapons may be necessary, "Red Flag" Laws are controversial. Why? "Red Flag" Laws would allow anyone to "petition a court to have firearms taken from someone they consider to be a possible threat to themselves or others," according to KXAN Austin. Judges could take away the right to a firearm from an individual, regardless of the person's criminal record or mental health history with NO NOTICE to the affected person. Although an appeal may be possible, those efforts could take weeks and prove costly.

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Dr. Oliverson at the podium flanked by LaDonna MacDonald and Nancy Radcliffe

NWFRW ELECTION OF OFFICERS

NWFRW 2023 Officers will be elected at the November General Meeting.

Nominations will be accepted from the floor> Any additional nominees must have given permission to be nominated and assurance that they will serve if elected.

If there is more than one nominee for a position, the voting must be by ballot, according to our Bylaws.

The Nominating Committee submitted the following slate at the October Meeting:

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| President | Nancy Radcliffe |
| 1 st VP/Programs | Tracine Gibson |
| 2 nd VP/Membership | Kathy Mason, |
| 3 rd VP/Political Activities | Marcia Fitzpatrick |
| Secretary | Merry Keith |
| Treasurer | Stephany Jackson |
| PAC Treasurer | Gaynell Lira |

Pictures from the October General Meeting



LaDonna MacDonald, guest Dr. Oliverson, Nancy Radcliffe



Dr. Oliverson chatting with ' Jim Huggler

Visit www.northwestforestrepublicanwomen.org for useful information and informative articles

This is not an endorsement by the President, the Campaign Chair, or the Club. It is information for members to be engaged and stay informed.

Pol. Ad. paid for by Northwest Forest RW PAC, Gaynell Lira, PAC Treasurer, 15455 Canterbury Forest, Apt. 314, Tomball, TX 77377

Contributions are not federal tax deductible as charitable contributions. Corporate contributions are not permitted. Solicitations made by federal candidates and officeholders are limited by federal law. The federal candidates and officeholders are soliciting only donations of up to \$2800 from individuals and up to \$5000 from multi-candidate political committees. They are not soliciting donations in any amount from corporations, labor organizations, national banks, federal contractors, or foreign nationals.

**Nov. 14 NWFRW General Meeting Shirley Acres, 217 Woerner Road,
Nov. 11, 9:00 a.m. Meeting Reservation due. Lunch reservations [click here](#).
Nov. 21, 7:00 p.m., NWFRW Board Meeting, Huntwich Clubhouse**