



NORTHWEST FOREST REPUBLICAN WOMEN

# Potpourri

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

[www.northwestforestrepublicanwomen.org](http://www.northwestforestrepublicanwomen.org)  
[info@northwestforestrepublicanwomen.org](mailto:info@northwestforestrepublicanwomen.org)

TFRW Region 17, Senate District 7

December, 2024

Volume 49, Issue 12

## NEXT MEETING

### Monday, December 9, 2024

**Place:** Shirley Acres, 217 Woerner Road, Houston, 77090  
**Time:** 11:30 a.m. Call to Order, Lunch, Business meeting, 1:00 p.m. Adjournment  
**Reservations:** click [HERE](#) by 9:00 AM, Friday, December 6, 2024  
**Lunch \$32.00, or \$5.00 for beverages and meeting only.**  
**Walk-ins and late reservations \$37.00**  
**Make checks payable to "Shirley Acres."**  
**To pay 2025 dues,** see Kathy Mason, 2nd VP/Membership at the membership table.

### 1<sup>ST</sup> VP/PROGRAMS *Marcia Fitzpatrick*

NWFRW's Christmas Extravaganza is here! It is time to party and celebrate the Holiday Season, the RED wave, the officers completing their term on the board, and the hard work put forth by the club membership in 2024. **Be sure to get your reservation for the December 9<sup>th</sup> meeting in by Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am...you will not want to miss!** The festivities will include a Surprise Santa appearance, prizes for "Holiday Jewelry and Attire," and door prizes. Champagne will be available for \$5.00 a glass (cash).



Mr. Ben Miller will provide the entertainment. Having been a professional musician for over 10 years, Ben is currently the organist and leader of the praise band at Klein United Methodist Church and a full-time player at Two Tones Dueling Piano Bar. He is known for his energetic and fun performance style. **Please remember to bring your stuffed bears for the Constables. This annual NWFRW tradition is so important for the officers to be able to give stuffed animals to children in stressful situations.**

Wishing you a very blessed, happy, and safe holiday season beginning with Thanksgiving, Christmas, and the New Year. Be ready to get to work starting January 2025. There's still much work to do!

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *Nancy Radcliffe*

What a remarkable and fast-paced two years it has been! **Thank you for the opportunity to have served as the president of this exemplary organization.**

NWFRW accomplished much because of **your efforts** during this time period. The board and membership worked tirelessly to



make a difference in Harris County, the State of Texas, and at the national level. As witnessed in the recent election cycle, Republican women working together get positive results!

The 2025 officers were elected and installed at the November general meeting. Congratulations to: Lauren Lothringer – President; Marcia Fitzpatrick, 1<sup>st</sup> VP/Programs; Kathy Crosby – 2<sup>nd</sup> VP/Membership; Anna Vierling – 3<sup>rd</sup> VP/ Political Activities; Secretary – Susan Thompson; Treasurer – Lisa Migl; and PAC Treasurer – Gaynell Lira. They are going to do a great job to keep the momentum moving forward as they take charge come January 1.

**The regular session of the 89<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature is scheduled to begin on January 14, 2025, and lawmakers have already begun to file bills.** It will be interesting to observe what is happening in Austin during this time. Being a member of Northwest Forest Republican Women is one of the best ways to stay informed of all the important happenings. Along with receiving the *Potpourri* newsletter monthly and other emails, you also receive information from the Texas Federation of Republican Women and the National Federation of Republican Women. Be sure you take time to read these emails as they are filled with accurate and timely information.

**Northwest Forest Republican Women is known for providing a legacy of leadership and its mission of getting Republicans elected to office.** Thank you, again, for your many contributions. **Wishing your families and you a very Happy Thanksgiving and joyous holiday season.**

**UNITE!**  
**Soar in '24!**

**NWFRW BOARD 2024 OFFICERS****President**

Nancy Radcliffe

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Programs**

Marcia Fitzpatrick

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Membership**

Kathy Mason

**3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Political Activities**

Lauren Lothringer

**Secretary**

Merry Keith

**Treasurer**

Lisa Migl

**PAC Treasurer**

Gaynell Lira

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS****Americanism/Caring for America**

Tracie Anderson, Ana Carson

**Awards**

Gay Garrett

**Bylaws**

LaDonna MacDonald

**Chaplain**

Cindy Eschenburg

**Historian**

Mary Ann Vandermark

**Hospitality**

Mary Ellen Cox

**Legislative**

Dana Khan

**Liaison to Council**

Dana Hines

**Alternate to Council**

Tracine Gibson

**Newsletter**

Judy Aswad

**Parliamentarian**

Sue Kikis

**Publicity**

Kathy Crosby

**Reservations**

Elaine Kisseberth

**Scholarship**

Paula Georgina, Barbara Young

**Voter Registration**

Shirley Kitchens, Donna Rubli

**Website and Social Media**

Linda LeCroy, Nicole Peters

**Yearbook/Directory**

Jo Konen, Marti Schwind

**Immediate Past President**

Sylvia Manley

**President Nancy Radcliffe** called the NWFRW General Meeting to order at 11:31 AM on Monday, November 11, 2024.

**Chaplain Cindy Eschenburg** gave the invocation. **The Honorable Lincoln Goodwin** led the pledges to the American flag and the Texas flag.

**Justice Goodwin** shared a tribute to veterans and stated that at 11:00 AM on November 11, 1918, the guns fell silent. It was the end of The Great War, World War I. He said there will always be those who will stand up and volunteer to serve our country!

**President Nancy Radcliffe** personally thanked and recognized all those who served as poll watchers, election clerks, phone bankers, block walkers, and wrote postcards to help with the Republican victories experienced on November 5<sup>th</sup>. There were over 200 new voters registered by our club, 1500 postcards sent out, and a minimum of six phone banking events!

**3<sup>rd</sup> VP Political Activities - Lauren Lothringer** greeted, then introduced newly elected officials, their representatives, and all military veterans.

**1<sup>st</sup> VP Programs - Marcia Fitzpatrick** introduced the speaker, Mr. Joshua Webb, from Crime Stoppers, who works with the Safe Community Institute and spoke on human trafficking. His email address is: [jwebb@crime-stoppers.org](mailto:jwebb@crime-stoppers.org). The Safe Community Institute, a nonprofit organization, was established in 2013, and expanded in 2022. Its purpose is to solve and prevent serious crime. It is open 24/7 and takes 2,500 calls a month. There are three ways to report a crime: 1) 713-222-TIPS 2) Mobile 3) Website.

**LUNCH**

**Approval of the Minutes** - Minutes from the NWFRW October 14, 2024, General Meeting were approved as printed in the *Potpourri* and will be filed with the secretary.

**Treasurer - Lisa Migl** gave the Treasurer's report, and it will be filed with the minutes.

**PAC Treasurer - Gaynell Lira** gave the PAC Treasurer's report, and it will be filed with the minutes.

**1<sup>st</sup> VP Programs - Marcia Fitzpatrick** announced that it is time to party...to celebrate Christmas and the RED wave! The entertainment for December 9<sup>th</sup> will be Mr. Ben Miller, who currently performs at Two Tones Dueling Piano Bar in the Woodlands. He has also played in the Praise Band at Klein United Methodist Church on Sundays.

The man in the red suit should make an appearance and there may be some surprises. Also, champagne will be available for \$5.00 a glass (cash). Make your reservations and plan to join us as we celebrate the holiday season.

**2nd VP Membership - Kathy Mason** welcomed the 25 guests who came to the meeting, and the many who decided to join before the meeting began! Annual membership is \$45 for a primary member and \$30 for men, or anyone that is a member of another Federated Republican Women's organization. If you are joining for the first time and paying by check, it must be post-dated January 1, 2025. Remember to check your information in the directory to make sure that it is correct for the new directory coming out in March.

**3<sup>rd</sup> VP Political Activities - Lauren Lothringer** reported that Christmas came early for the Republicans! Our club had over 5,000 volunteer hours over the last three months! Let's keep that up and continue to log our volunteer hours on the papers provided at each table during the meeting.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Greater Houston Council Liaison - Dana Hines** reported that the next Greater Houston Council meeting will be Tuesday, November 19, 2024, at the Trini Mendenhall Community Center. Social time begins at 9:30 AM with the meeting starting at 10:00 AM. Texas State representative Lacey Hull will be the speaker. Please bring a \$25 Walmart gift card to celebrate Veterans Day. If you would like to attend, contact Dana or Nancy Radcliffe to carpool.

**Wreaths Across America - Pam Hughes** reported that the deadline to pay for a wreath is November 28<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$17.00. Five dollars of the seventeen dollars goes to Camp Hope in our club's name. Wreath distribution will be on December 14<sup>th</sup>. The link for the form to donate is in the latest NWFRW Newsletter, but please be sure to mention you are part of NWFRW when you fill it out, so the \$5.00 will go to Camp Hope.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS - none****NEW BUSINESS****Election of the 2025 Officers - President Nancy Radcliffe**

President Nancy Radcliffe shared the slate of officer nominees. As per the club bylaws, she asked if there were nominations from the floor. There were none. President Nancy Radcliffe asked for a motion to vote for the 2025 slate of officers. **Marti Schwind** made a motion to vote for the 2025 slate of officers. No second was needed. President Nancy Radcliffe called for a vote by acclamation. The slate was unanimously accepted.

**Installation of 2025 Officers - The Honorable Jack Cagle**, Former Harris County Commissioner, conducted the installation of the newly elected NWFRW 2025 officers.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**President Nancy Radcliffe** announced that The Dictionary Project was recognized as a "Partner in Education" by the Klein Independent School District. Also, she shared that sadly, Mary Gubert, a longtime member of Northwest Forest Republican Women, passed away on November 6<sup>th</sup>. There will be further information to follow.

**Final NWFRW 2024 Board Meeting** - Monday, November 18, 2024, 6:30 PM, Hasta La Pasta, 6915 Cypresswood Drive, Spring, TX 77379

**Greater Houston Council** - Tuesday, November 19, 2024, 9:30 AM, Trini Mendenhall Community Center, 1414 Wirt Road, Houston, TX 77055

**Christmas Extravaganza** - Monday, December 9, 2024, 11:30 AM, Shirley Acres, 217 Woerner Road, Houston, TX 77090

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Nancy Radcliffe adjourned the meeting at 12:58 PM.

## 2<sup>ND</sup> VP/MEMBERSHIP

*Kathy Mason*

Hear ye! Hear ye! It is that time of the year to renew your NWFRW membership for 2025. We are off to a great start for the new year with 95 primary and 12 associate renewals. In addition, there have been 17 new primary members and 1 new associate who have completed a 2025 membership form. All of you have played a significant role in the positive elections results for 2024. Your continued membership and support are the keys to keeping NWFRW active and highly productive. New members may join in December if paying by **check**: it must be dated **January 1, 2025**. New members will start receiving all NWFRW communication **immediately**, but it will be January before you will become a member of the state and national federated Republican organizations. The cost for primary membership is \$45 and \$30 for an associate membership which includes women who are primary members in another federated club or an enlightened gentleman. Name badges are also available to be purchased for \$10. **If you have any questions, please contact me at 713.502.6194 or [kathleen.mason@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kathleen.mason@sbcglobal.net).** Keep the membership growing and bring a guest in December. Remember the club's membership motto is "Come a Guest, Leave a Member."

**Happy Holidays!**

## AMERICANISM/ CARING FOR AMERICA

*Tracie Anderson  
Ana Carson*

**Thank you for your ongoing efforts to support the heroes recovering at Camp Hope.** They are appreciative of NWFRW's support. Please continue to bring In-Kind Donations to the monthly general meetings and remember checks made out to Camp Hope are tax-deductible. Camp Hope has also requested members visit their website to see the Amazon Wishlist (updated daily). Here's how to find it: -go to Camp Hope's website (PTSDUSA.org) -click the menu bar in the top right corner, -click "Give Help", -scroll down until you see "In-Kind Donations", -click the Amazon link. Items will be shipped directly to Camp Hope. **\*\*Please enter "Northwest Forest Republican Women" in the notes. \*\***

**URGENT NEEDS: sandwich bags, dental plackers, athletic shorts/shirts (M,L,XL,2XL), running shoes (10,11,12), toilet brush, 13-gallon trash bags, sheets/blankets/comforters (twin), backpacks, batteries (9V/AAA), candelabra light bulbs (small base), Spartan mosquito repellent, distilled water, glucosamine, and fish oil. All items should be NEW and unopened. Thank you! What a remarkable way to end the year!**



## 3<sup>rd</sup> VP/POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

*Lauren Lothringer*

**Congratulations to every single Republican candidate and elected official who won their race, whether opposed or unopposed!**

Locally and nationally, a red wave was evident. Being cautiously optimistic (given the outcome of the 2020 election), President Donald Trump was re-elected by over 3.5 million votes and finished with 312 electoral votes, Senator Ted Cruz dominated Rep. Collin Allred by almost 1 million votes, Republicans swept the 1st and 14th Court of Appeals and gained 10 District and County-at-law benches, as well as countless races for current elected officials and candidates that represent NWFRW.

**A link to the election results for Harris County can be found [here](#).**

**A link to the election results for the state can be found [here](#).**

As some of you may have heard, the race for Harris County's 133rd Civil District Court has drawn attention due to its "flip" from a Republican (Michael Landrum) victory to a Democrat victory. The HCRP Chair, Cindy Siegel, has said all options are being explored including funding a recount. Holly Hansen with *The Texan* has [reported](#) on this issue more in depth.

NWFRW and many other Republican Women's clubs across Texas continue to show up and show out for Republican elected officials and candidates. **Let's get excited for the work ahead in 2025!**

## THE DICTIONARY PROJECT

*Sue Kikas*

Thank you to the following additional donors to The Dictionary Project: School Sponsors: John and Peggy Field, Sandy and Tom Darst; Classroom Sponsors: George Peckham, Betsy Calabro, Nora Murphree, Crystal Molen, Wanda Kannarr, Tracie Anderson, Gaynell Lira, and Jane Easterwood. At our October meeting, we collected \$1,152.00, to buy 12 more boxes of dictionaries for third grade students in Spring and Klein school districts. **Thanks also to all the volunteers who are helping to deliver and make presentations to the students.** These include Sue Ann Lurcott, Mary Ann Vandermark, Gay Garrett, Wanda Kannarr, Connie Clancy, George Peckham, Karen Fisher, Wanda Bamberg, John Cozart, and Tom and Sue Kikas.

We are thankful that 20 of the 25 Spring ISD schools will receive dictionaries by Thanksgiving. Anyone else interested in financially supporting this project, please see Sue Kikas at our December meeting or mail your check to Sue Kikas, 20323 Evergreen Springs Lane, Spring, TX 77379. Donations are tax-deductible and checks should be made to "The Dictionary Project".





November 12th was the first day lawmakers could file bills they hope to pass when the Texas Legislature reconvenes on January 14<sup>th</sup>. Lawmakers in the Texas House and Senate filed more than a thousand pieces of legislation on Tuesday, giving a glimpse of issues lawmakers want to prioritize when the 89<sup>th</sup> legislative session begins. Lawmakers typically file thousands of bills during a legislative session, and most never make it to the Governor’s desk. The lowest bill numbers are reserved for the highest priority bills set by the House Speaker and Lieutenant Governor, who leads the

Senate. Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick announced that his top policy priority will be Senate Bill 2, which allows families to use tax dollars to pay for their children’s private schooling. Other priorities have yet to be announced. According to State Comptroller Glenn Hegar, the state is expected to have plenty of cash to fund new mandates, with a \$20 billion surplus at the start of the 2025 session.

The *Texas Tribune* shared some of the topics covered in the first day of filing for the 2025 session:

- [• Property taxes](#)
- [• Higher education](#)
- [• Elections](#)
- [• Criminal justice](#)
- [• Guns](#)
- [• Abortion](#)
- [• Border and immigration](#)
- [• LGBTQ+ rights](#)
- [• Energy](#)
- [• Workers’ wages](#)
- [• Public education](#)
- [• Marriage](#)
- [• Health](#)
- [• DEI](#)

Throughout the legislative session, bills introduced or filed, along with the status of bills, may be followed by clicking this link: <https://legiscan.com/TX/legislation/2025>

\*Resources:  
<https://www.texastribune.org/2024/11/12/texas-legislature-bills-filing/>  
<https://legiscan.com/TX>  
<https://capitol.texas.gov/>

**PHOTOS FROM THE NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING**



Visit [www.northwestforestrepublicanwomen.org](http://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.*

December 6: Reservation Deadline, 9:00 AM, Lunch Reservations link [HERE](#)  
 December 9: NWFRW General Meeting, 11:30 AM, Shirley Acres, 217 Woerner Road, Houston, TX 77090 **Christmas Extravaganza**  
**No Board Meeting in December**  
 December 12: 2025 NEW Board Retreat 9:00AM George H.W. Bush Community Center, Room #141, 6827 Cypresswood Drive, Spring, TX 77379  
 January 13: NWFRW General Meeting, 11:30AM, Shirley Acres, 217 Woerner Road, Houston, TX 77090

**NORTHWEST FOREST REPUBLICAN WOMEN  
2025 MEMBERSHIP & RENEWAL DUES FORM**

**MUST BE A REGISTERED VOTER\***

**OCCUPATION REQUIRED\***

**PLEASE PRINT**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Subdivision: \_\_\_\_\_

Registered Voter?\* Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Your Senate District # \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday (Month & Day) \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Must be Registered Voter to join)\**

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone:\* \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation:\* \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address:\* \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(NWFRW Newsletter and information, including National and State Federations, news is sent to you by email.)*

**Membership Fees:**

Primary \$45 New \_\_\_\_\_ Renew \_\_\_\_\_ Check# \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Credit \_\_\_\_\_ Badge \$10 \_\_\_\_\_

Associate \$30 New \_\_\_\_\_ Renew \_\_\_\_\_ Check# \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Credit \_\_\_\_\_ Badge \$10 \_\_\_\_\_

*(Available to men and to women who are primary members of another Federated Republican Women's club)*

*NWFRW offers many opportunities to volunteer. Please let us know your interests and your skills:*

**Please check the following committee(s) on which you may wish to serve:**

- Americanism – Promote Patriotism
- Historian – Compile a scrapbook for the President's term of office
- Hospitality – Meet and greet members and/or collect money for luncheon
- Legislative – Track pending Bills in the Texas Legislature and Congress
- Membership – Record membership and plan occasional events
- Phone – Relay information to members
- Political Activities – Assist with getting Republicans elected to office and informing membership
- Publicity – Disseminate NWFRW information to the community
- Scholarship – Annual NWFRW Priscilla Petty \$1,500 Scholarship
- Voter Registration – Be deputized voter registrar
- Ways & Means – Help plan and execute a biennial fundraiser

**Skills:**

Attention to Details \_\_\_\_\_ Bookkeeping \_\_\_\_\_ Computer Work \_\_\_\_\_ *(Please detail programs & proficiency):*

Marketing \_\_\_\_\_ Organizational Skills \_\_\_\_\_ Planning \_\_\_\_\_ Public Speaking \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Signature:\* \_\_\_\_\_ Member who referred you: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Required to comply with the Texas Ethics Commission and publication of our members' info in our Directory.*

**Please mail this form with your check, payable to "NWFRW PAC" to:**

**Kathy Mason, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Membership**

**8807 Kennet Valley Road, Spring, TX 77379**

*Political Advertising paid for by Northwest Forest Republican Women PAC*

**Don't Miss Out!**  
**Northwest Forest Republican Women**  
**Christmas Extravaganza**



**Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup>**

**11:30 am – Shirley Acres – Luncheon Meeting**

**A special THANK YOU to our members for a GREAT 2024!**

- **Festive Decorations**
- **Fabulous Entertainment**
- **Sensational Drawings**
- **Phenomenal Prizes for Holiday Jewelry and Attire**
- **Special Visit and Photos with Santa**

**\*\*REMEMBER TO BRING BEARS FOR THE  
CONSTABLES\*\***

**Champagne for Purchase (\$5.00) CASH by the Glass**