



NORTHWEST FOREST REPUBLICAN WOMEN

Potpourri

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

www.northwestforestrepublicanwomen.org
info@northwestforestrepublicanwomen.org

TFRW Region 17, Senate District 7

September 2025

Volume 50, Issue 8

NEXT MEETING

Monday, September 8, 2025

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, Fri, Sept 5, 2025

Contact Judi Thompson with questions: 832-368-6848

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 Crosby, 2nd VP/Membership at the membership table.

1ST VP/PROGRAMS

Marcia Fitzpatrick

NWFRW is delighted to welcome the Honorable Sam Harless as the speaker for the September 8th meeting. Serving as the Texas State Representative for the 126th district, he was sworn in on January 8, 2019. During the latest 89th Texas Legislative session, Representative Harless served in the following capacities: Chairman of the Corrections committee, member of the House Administration committee, and member of the Licensing Administration Procedures.

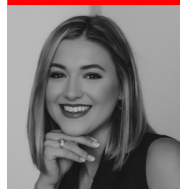


Having been a resident of Northwest Harris County since 1976, he actively gives back to the community by supporting the Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts, Northwest Assistance Ministries, The Centrum Arts League, Klein Education Foundation, and the Cy-Fair ISD Education Foundation. He touts the Fallen Warrior Memorial and Fallen Warrior Art Gallery as jewels of the community and as a tribute to fallen heroes. Being a strong law enforcement supporter, Representative Harless has served on the Harris County Constable Precinct 4 Training Advisory Board as well as the Harris County Sheriff Training Advisory Board, where he assists with community input on law enforcement.

As the last half of the year approaches and NWFRW gears up for 2026, there is much to do! Let's keep the momentum going to keep Texas RED and turn Harris County RED! Be sure to make your reservation to hear Representative Harless on September 8th, as he shares all of the inside happenings from the 89th legislative session and special sessions. Inquiring minds want to know! See you there!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Lauren Lothringer



Redistricting and special sessions and Democrats fleeing the state – oh my! As summer officially fades and fall arrives, the political landscape in Texas is anything but cooling down.

Governor Abbott has called the Second Special Session of the Texas Legislature, and one of the most closely watched issues is congressional redistricting. These new maps will have a significant impact on representation and the balance of power for years to come. [Here](#) is an article that includes an interactive map on the proposed new congressional districts.

On the club level, NWFRW is also gearing up for one of the biggest events of the year: the TFRW Biennial Convention! This gathering of Republican women from across Texas is a powerhouse of energy, training, and networking opportunities. It's your chance to connect with leaders, sharpen your advocacy skills, and be part of the movement shaping the next election cycle. If you haven't already registered, there's still time so don't miss out! Secure your ticket [here](#).

The decisions being made in Austin right now will influence Texas for the next decade. That's why it's critical to stay informed, connected, and proactive, not just during election season, but year-round. The strength as Republicans has always come from engaged, principled citizens who refuse to sit on the sidelines. Thank you for being part of that effort and for making your voice count!

Keeping Freedom Alive

THRIVE IN '25!



Save the Date

October 23-25, 2025

Texas Federation of Republican Women

***** 35th Biennial Convention *****

Grand Hyatt, San Antonio, TX

HOTEL RESERVATIONS AVAILABLE NOW

POLITICAL AD PAID FOR BY TEXAS FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN PAC



NWFRW BOARD 2025 OFFICERS

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Lauren Lothringer

1st Vice President Programs

Marcia Fitzpatrick

2nd Vice President Membership

Kathy Crosby

3rd Vice President Political Activities

Anna Vierling

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Susan Thompson

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Website and Social Media

Heidi Furlong, Nicole Peters

Yearbook/Directory

Marti Schwind

Immediate Past President

Nancy Radcliffe

MINUTES, August 11, 2025

Susan Thompson

Call to Order. President Lauren Lothringer called the NWFRW General Meeting to order at approximately 11:30 AM on Monday, August 11, 2025.

Invocation and Pledges. Pledges to the American and Texas Flags were led by Linda LeCroy on behalf of Chaplain Tracie Anderson.

Welcome. On behalf of 3rd VP Anna Vierling, Tracine Gibson greeted, then introduced newly elected officials, their representatives and candidates for office. She also welcomed all military veterans and members of other Republican clubs.

Meeting Program. 1st VP Programs Marcia Fitzpatrick introduced the Honorable Ted Poe, who was appointed to the 222nd Criminal District Court by then Governor Bill Clements in 1981. He was the first Republican Judge elected in Harris County. He spent 22 years in the Harris County Court House, trying serious criminal cases and never losing a jury trial. After serving as a judge, he represented Texas' 2nd congressional district in the U.S. House of Representatives from 2005 to 2019. Congressman Poe was the first Republican to represent the 2nd district.

LUNCH

Approval of the Minutes. The minutes of the NWFRW June 9, 2025 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's report was delivered by Lisa Migl, and it will be filed with the minutes.

1st VP Programs Marcia Fitzpatrick reported that during this second half of the year we must get ready for the mid-term races in 2026 to keep Texas red and help turn Harris County red. The Texas Legislature is still meeting, having been called to a special session by Governor Abbott. The scheduled speaker for the September 8th meeting will be the Honorable Sam Harless, Texas State Representative for the 126th Congressional District. He will fill us in on what is going on with the Texas Legislators. Members were encourage to mark their calendars for the biennial NWFRW fundraiser to be held on Thursday, February 12, 2026, at Northgate Country Club. More information will follow in the future.

2nd VP Membership Kathy Crosby reported that the Directory Addendum is available at the Membership table. A "Meet 'N Greet" for new members will be held on August 25th. RSVP's are required due to limited seating.

3rd VP Political Activities Anna Vierling's report was provided by Tracine Gibson. She announced that it is not too late to sign up for the TFRW Republican Women's Convention in San Antonio to be held from October 23-25, 2025. Go to www.tfrw.org to register for the event. The Judicial Signing event in June was a great success! One hundred people attended, and thirty plus judicial candidates were there to receive signatures.

COMMITTEE REPORTS There were no committee reports.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None.

NEW BUSINESS

The 2026 NWFRW Nominating Committee Election was held. Nominations were taken from the floor. The following people were nominated and approved by the club members to be on the 2026 Nominating Committee: Marcia Fitzpatrick, Gay Garrett, Tracine Gibson, Shirley Kitchens, LaDonna MacDonald, Nancy Radcliffe, and Mary Ann Vandermark.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Lauren Lothringer began the announcements by solemnly informing the members of the passing of longtime NWFRW member, June Nettles. She asked that we keep her family in our prayers.

NWFRW Board Meeting – August 18, 2025, 6:30 PM, GHWB Community Center, 6827 Cypresswood Dr., Spring, TX 77379

GHC Garden Party – August 26, 2025, 11:00 AM, The Ballroom at Tanglewood, 5430 Westheimer Rd., Houston, TX 77056

Moms for Liberty Movie Night – August 28, 2025, 5:00 PM, Trini Mendenhall Community Center, 1414 Wirt Rd., Houston, TX 77055

NWFRW General Meeting – September 8, 2025, 11:30 AM, Shirley Acres, 217 Woerner Rd., Houston, TX 77090

The Texas Federation of Republican Women 2025 35th Biennial Convention – October 23-25, 2025, Grand Hyatt San Antonio Riverwalk; register at www.tfrw.org

ADJOURNMENT

President Lauren Lothringer adjourned the meeting at approximately 1:00 PM.

2ND VP/MEMBERSHIP*Kathy Crosby*

It's time to begin gearing up for 2026! At the October meeting, NWFRW will start renewing members for the upcoming year; checks need to be dated November 1, 2025. Also, NEW members for 2026 will be accepted, but those checks must be dated January 1, 2026. As a result of this information, September guests interested in becoming a member are encouraged to come back as a guest and join at the October meeting. The cost is \$45 for primary membership 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. Please come by the membership table to pick up your 2025 directory and addendum to the 2025 Directory if you haven't had a chance to do so.

Now is the perfect time to bring family, friends, and acquaintances to NWFRW meetings and encourage them to join for 2026. Let's grow the club as we prepare for the election year ahead!

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call 713-501-1105 or email at kathyvcrosby@gmail.com.

**AMERICANISM/
CARING FOR AMERICA***Ana Carson
Merry Keith*

Thank you to those who continue to donate to Camp Hope at the monthly meetings. Your donations are always greatly appreciated. **Please note the list below for items to bring to the General Meeting on September 8th. Also, there is a Wish List on Amazon located by going to PTSDUSA.org and scanning the QR code, or call (832) 912-4429 for further information.**

Urgently needed items include: Gatorade Frost Riptide Rush Powder, 21 – ounce pouch; Nestle Coffeemate Coffee Creamer, liquid creamer singles; Cap'n Crunch cereal, original & berries; Post Raisin Bran cereal, 16 ounces; Vitamin C, 250 mg gummies; Hanes men's underwear boxer briefs, sizes L & M; Clorox splash-less bleach, Regular; Toilet paper, mega rolls; Domino sugar packets, 0.1 ounce; and candy mix variety packs, individually-wrapped.

Please remember checks made out to Camp Hope are needed and appreciated. These donations are also tax-deductible. Thank you for being so generous!

3rd VP/POLITICAL ACTIVITIES Anna Vierling

As autumn approaches, the schedule is filling with important opportunities to *engage, learn, and lead*. Please mark your calendars for the following key dates:

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- ****Texas Federation Republican Women (TFRW) 35th Biennial Convention****
When: October 23–25, 2025
Where: Grand Hyatt, San Antonio, TX
Regular registration is available through September 30, and late registration closes Oct. 10. Go to www.tfrw.org for more information and to register. **YOU DO NOT WANT TO MISS THIS – important information and tons of fun!**
- ****2025 Texas Elections — Constitutional Amendments & Special Elections****
When: General Election Day – Nov. 4, 2025
On the ballot, voters will decide 17 proposed amendments to the Texas Constitution. At the same time, special elections will be held for:
 - A seat in the Texas State Senate, District 9 (vacated by Senator Kelly Hancock)
 - A seat in U.S. House, Texas's 18th Congressional District.

Prepare for 2026 by being involved with NWFRW and staying informed on Republican politics!

DICTIONARY PROJECT*Sue Kikis*

You have an opportunity to make a difference for third grade students! By donating to The Dictionary Project, you can help children in Title 1 schools become good writers, active readers, creative thinkers, and resourceful learners. Anyone interested in financially sponsoring this very worthy project, please see Sue Kikis at the September meeting. Donations are tax-deductible and checks can be made payable to **The Dictionary Project**. The books cost \$96 for a box of 24, and any donation is appreciated. Last year NWFRW greatly appreciated the many members who enjoyed distributing the books and giving presentations in the classrooms. Anyone willing to help this year, please contact Sue Kikis (suekikis@gmail.com or 281-379-6366).

Thanks to the generosity of NWFRW's members and friends, FOUR THOUSAND AND EIGHTY dictionaries were donated to third grade students in 12 Klein ISD and all 25 Spring ISD Title 1 schools last school year. In Title 1 schools, this dictionary may be the first book owned by the child and may be the only book in the home.

The 89th legislative session concluded on June 2nd and following the veto of several bills, Governor Abbott announced a special session which convened at noon on July 21st with 18 agenda items. The majority of Texas House Democrats fled the state on August 3rd, for nearly 2 weeks, leaving the House without a quorum. Speaker Dustin Burrows adjourned the special session *sine die* Friday morning, August 15th, and the Governor immediately called for a second special session to begin hours later at noon on the same day. Gov. Abbott said he will call as many special sessions as needed for the Legislature to pass the agenda items for Texans, including a redistricting map which would help Republicans win an additional 5 seats in next year's midterm elections. Immediately after the Senator adjourned on Friday, the State Affairs Committee began consideration of bills that were passed during the first special session. The House moved to reissue civil arrest warrants for absent Democrats, and Speaker Burrows noted absent members would be responsible for any state costs incurred by the quorum break. Although Democrats said they will return to Texas, most were still absent when the second special session convened on Friday, August 15th. The special session clock is now reset at 30 days; however, Speaker

Burrows announced he intends to get this session wrapped up by Labor Day.

The second session will address the same agenda as the first:

Flood Warning Systems; Flood Emergency Communications; Relief Funding For Hill Country Floods, Natural Disaster Preparation & Recovery; Eliminate Staar Test; Cut Property Taxes; Protect Children From Thc; Regulate Hemp-Derived Products; Protect Unborn Children; Ban Taxpayer-Funded Lobbying; Protect Human Trafficking Victims; Police Personnel Records; Protect Women'S Spaces; Attorney General Election Powers; Redistricting; Title Theft& Deed Fraud; Water Project Incentives; And State Judicial Department.

Resources:

Follow the special session: <https://capitol.texas.gov/>

Special session agenda: [Click Here](#)

PICTURE GALLERY

August Meeting



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

September 5: Reservation Deadline, 9:00 AM, Lunch Reservations link [HERE](#)

September 8: NWFRW General Meeting, 11:30 AM, Shirley Acres, 217 Woerner Road, Houston, TX

October 13: NWFRW General Meeting, 11:30 AM, Shirley Acres, 217 Woerner Road, Houston,

October 20: NWFRW Board Meeting, 6:30 PM, George H.W. Bush Community Center, 6827 Cypresswood Drive, Spring, TX 77379

October 23-25: TFRW 35th Biennial Convention, Grand Hyatt, 600 E. Market St., San Antonio, TX 78205

NORTHWEST FOREST REPUBLICAN WOMEN 2026 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 _____ Notary Public _____

Computer Skills: (Please list specifics) _____

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 Crosby, 2nd Vice President Membership

2 Oak Hollow Circle, Cypress, TX 77429

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