



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

January 2026

Volume 51, Issue 1

NEXT MEETING Monday, January 12, 2026

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., Jan. 9, 2026
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

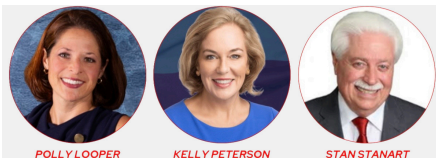
Make checks payable to "Shirley Acres."

To pay 2026 dues, see Kathy Crosby, 2nd VP/Membership at the membership table.

1ST VP/PROGRAMS

Paige Harr

2026 Texas House, District 126 Forum! January 12th Meeting - Be there!
Moderator: Laryssa Korduba, J.P. Precinct 4, Place 2. Candidates (in alphabetical order): Polly Looper, Kelly Peterson, Stan Stanart.



POLLY LOOPER

KELLY PETERSON

STAN STANART

Polly Looper holds associate degrees in Applied Science in Police Science and in Security Loss Prevention and Terrorism. She completed her Bachelor's

Degree in Organizational Leadership from Texas A & M University - Commerce and her Master of Science in Criminal Justice at Texas A & M International University - Laredo. Polly has served as a Police Officer in Wisconsin, a Fraud Investigator for the Oneida Nation Tribe of Indians, a Civil Process Server, and is owner of Trace Investigations.

Kelly Peterson served as District Director for State Representative Sam Harless, HD 126, and holds a BS degree in Gerontology and a Master's degree in Education, both from the University of North Texas. She currently is Executive Assistant to the President of J. Allen Kent Development, supporting contract acquisitions and major operations. She is also the Owner of KPDC, LLC, providing creative opportunities for adults with special needs.

Stan Stanart was elected as Harris County Clerk in 2010 and served until 2018. He is a graduate of Oklahoma State University with a BS in Electric Engineering. He worked in the aerospace industry and at Compaq. He was hired by Senator Paul Bettencourt as Associate Director of Hardware Technology. He has used his knowledge and technical skills to bring innovations and efficiencies to the County Clerk's Office, which are still in use today.

Let's get the primary season off to a great start by bringing a guest to this important forum meeting! Make your reservation NOW.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Lauren Lothringer Maywald

Election season is in full swing - 2026 Texas House,
District 126 Forum on January 12th!



Happy (almost) New Year to each one of you! NWFRW is in for a very busy political season in 2026, and it is hoped each member is ready to answer the call to service! As the club works to elect Republicans up and down the ballot, remember: **your vote is your voice, and make it an educated one!** There will be many forums and debates happening across the county, and you are encouraged to attend as many as possible before casting a ballot. **Early voting for the primary election will begin February 17 – 27, with Election Day on March 3, 2026.** Voting is the foundation of the republic, and it is how the future of the community, the state, and the nation is determined. One need only look around at the consequences of failed Democrat policies at every level of government to understand just how much these elections matter. While personal voting is most important – it is critical to take the extra step and commit to ensuring people in our networks vote as well, and volunteer when opportunities present themselves!



Please remember that, per TFRW and NWFRW by-laws, as a Republican women's club, we may not endorse one Republican over another in a primary or run-off election between two candidates. As we kick off our New Year with an exciting House District 126 Forum, a friendly reminder that no campaign paraphernalia is to be worn for any candidate. Of course, what you do as an individual away from our NWFRW meetings and events is up to your discretion. Please plan to join us for this important forum!

Lastly, tickets and sponsorships for the club fundraiser, *The Honorable Roast*, are still on sale! This event is taking place on February 12, at Northgate Country Club at 6:00 p.m., and is critical to supporting NWFRW's mission and fueling the club's efforts throughout the 2026 election cycle. Ticket and sponsorship information is available at [\[northwestforestrepublicanwomen.org\]](http://northwestforestrepublicanwomen.org). There will also be a dedicated table at the January meeting for ticket purchases. If you prefer to pay by mail, you may print the final page of the ticket form from our website or this newsletter, and mail it with payment to PAC Treasurer, Gaynell Lira.

Our Momentum Sticks
Stand Strong in '26!



NWFRW BOARD 2026 OFFICERS

President

Lauren Lothringer Maywald

1st Vice President Programs

Paige Harr

2nd Vice President Membership

Kathy Crosby

3rd Vice President Political Activities

Marcia Fitzpatrick

Secretary

Susan Thompson

Treasurer

Amy Uribe

PAC Treasurer

Gaynell Lira

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Americanism/Caring for America

Sarah Disbro, Merry Keith

Awards

TBD

Bylaws

Carolyn Rogers

Chaplain

Tracie Anderson

Historian

Linda Connell

Hospitality

Mary Ann Vandermark

Legislative

Pat Fass

Liaison to Council

Dana Khan

Alternate to Council

Tracine Gibson

Newsletter

Katie Radcliffe

Parliamentarian

Tracine Gibson

Publicity

Sierra Johannessen

Reservations

Judi Thompson

Scholarship

LaDonna MacDonald, Nicole Peters

Voter Registration

Gay Garrett, Barbara Young

Website and Social Media

Heidi Furlong, Nancy Radcliffe

Yearbook/Directory

TBD

Immediate Past President

Nancy Radcliffe

MINUTES, December 8, 2025

Susan Thompson

Call to Order. President Lauren Lothringer Maywald called the NWFRW General Meeting to order at approximately 11:30 AM on Monday, December 8, 2025.

Invocation, Pledges to the American and Texas Flag were led by Cindy Eschenburg on behalf of Chaplain Tracie Anderson.

Welcome. 3rd VP Anna Vierling greeted, then introduced 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 professional musician Ben Miller, the organist and leader of the Praise Worship Band at Klein United Methodist Church and pianist at Two Tones Dueling Piano Bar in the Woodlands.

LUNCH

Approval of the Minutes. The minutes of the NWFRW November 11, 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 gave the PAC Treasurer's report, and it will be filed with the minutes.

1st VP Programs Marcia Fitzpatrick thanked Ben Miller for providing the meeting's entertainment. She also thanked Santa for joining the meeting and membership for bringing Teddy bears and other small stuffed animals for distribution by the Precinct 4 Constables. The January 2026 meeting will feature a forum for the three candidates running for Texas State Representative for House District 126, the position currently held by the Honorable Sam Harless. The candidates include Polly Looper, Kelly Peterson and Stan Stanart. Winners of Most Festive, Unique, Vintage, Republican and Merriest Gentleman were announced: Gina Gaudet, Juanita Davis, Amy Uribe, Markey DuBose and Dennis Goodrich, respectively.

2nd VP Membership Kathy Crosby reported 2026 membership dues of \$45 and for associate members, \$30, are being accepted. She noted that membership in NWFRW also includes membership in the Texas Federation of Republican Women and the National Federation of Republican Women.

3rd VP Political Activities Anna Vierling shared that today is the filing deadline for candidates running in the March primary. Membership is encouraged to sign petitions for candidates for judicial positions at the side of the room. The first day of early voting is Tuesday, February 27, 2026, and vote by mail applications can begin January 1 for those who qualify. Membership is encouraged to share these dates and be educated regarding candidates.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NWFRW Board Retreat – Thursday, December 11, 2025, 9:30 AM, GHWB Community Center, 6827 Cypresswood Dr., Spring, TX 77379

NWFRW General Meeting – Monday, January 12, 2026, 11:00 AM, Shirley Acres, 217 Woerner Rd., Houston, TX 77090

GHC Meeting – Tuesday, January 20, 2026, 9:30 AM Trini Mendenhall, 1414 Wirt Rd., Houston, TX 77055

NWFRW Board Meeting – Monday, January 26, 2026, 6:30 PM, GHWB Community Center, 6827 Cypresswood Dr., Spring, TX 77379

NWFRW Fundraiser – Thursday, February 12, 2026, 6:00 PM, Northgate Country Club, 17110 Northgate Forest Dr., Northgate, TX 77068

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:50 PM.

2ND VP/MEMBERSHIP

Kathy Crosby

Don't forget 2026 membership payment on January 12th! 2026 Texas House 126 Forum - bring a guest. Join NOW! Election excitement has arrived.

A joyous welcome to the New Year 2026! Many thanks to those of you who have already renewed your membership, and a warm welcome to those who are new to the club. **As most of you know, the club is working hard to continue NWFRW's Super Jumbo status—an important distinction that allows us to make an even greater impact at the local, state, and national levels.** Our goal is to exceed 220 primary members by March, so please consider bringing a friend to a January meeting—we hope they will arrive as guests and leave as members!

As always, we'll be holding our friendly membership contest for those who bring in new members, with the winner announced at the April Membership Appreciation Meeting. A blank membership form is included at the bottom of this newsletter. Membership dues are \$45 for a primary member and \$30 for an associate member, which includes women who are primary members in another federated club or an enlightened gentleman. Name badges are available for \$10.

Please complete the entire membership form, attach a signed check, and return it in an envelope as soon as possible, or bring it with you to the January meeting. A credit card payment option will also be available at the meeting and will include a nominal processing fee. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at 713-501-1105 or kathyvcrosby@gmail.com.

"Come a Guest, Leave a Member!"

AMERICANISM / CARING FOR AMERICA

*Sarah Disbro
Merry Keith*

As 2026 begins, NWFRW members are encouraged to **continue being generous with donations to Camp Hope veterans.** The items listed below are also listed on Amazon where they can be ordered online and delivered directly to the camp. Checks made out to Camp Hope are also accepted, tax-deductible, and gratefully appreciated. Thank you, as always, for your willingness to support these great Americans.

URGENT NEEDS: sandwich bread, orange juice, cranberry juice, apple juice (64 oz or larger), black beans #10 cans, cereal, coffee creamer, pancake syrup, nuts (pecans, almonds, pistachios, peanuts, cashews), tennis shoes (sizes 9-13), classroom & office supplies, postage stamps, backpacks, DayQuil (pills only), NYQuil (pills only), Mucinex DM, Zinc, Melatonin, Gifts Cards to HEB, Kroger, Home Depot, Lowe's, Target or Walmart.



3rd VP/POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

Marcia Fitzpatrick

2026 is off to a great start as NWFRW works to help get the best Republicans elected in order to win in November. **An exciting forum with the candidates for HD 126 takes place at the general meeting on January 12th.** The March 3rd primary will be here soon. **Remember NWFRW cannot endorse a candidate in the primary, and the NWFRW logo or name cannot be used for any personal endorsements.** There will be many opportunities to be involved in various campaigns after the primary, so be on the look out for information during the coming months.

To prepare for this important mid-term election year, the Texas Federation of Republican Women is hosting an important Leadership Day on January 10, 2026, in Fort Worth, with a Welcome Dinner on January 9th. **Registration is due by December 31st.** See link below on how to participate in this exceptional opportunity to meet candidates and receive leadership training.

<https://www.tfrw.org/event/leadership-day-2026/>



SCHOLARSHIP

LaDonna MacDonald | Nicole Peters

NWFRW is excited to announce that it is once again time to begin the application process for the winner of the Priscilla Petty Scholarship. The amount of the scholarship is \$1,500. Applicants must be a Texas graduating senior female who will be attending a 4-year university in the fall of 2026 and must be nominated by a primary member of NWFRW.

If you know someone who would be a good candidate, please reach out to her, and if she is interested in applying, you will need to provide your nominee with an application. Since a portion of the application is your recommendation, please complete that portion before giving the application to the student. **The deadline is March 31, 2026, so all forms should be received by either LaDonna MacDonald or Nicole Peters on or before that date.** The link to the application is below and can be found on the NWFRW website. If you have any questions concerning the application process, reach out to LaDonna (713-598-4240) or Nicole (281-844-6116).

Thank you.

DOWNLOAD SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

LEGISLATIVE

Pat Fass

The Texas Legislature is a bicameral body consisting of the House of Representatives (150 members) and the Senate (31 members). As of 2026, the composition remains unchanged from the 89th Legislature elected in 2024, with Republicans holding majorities in both chambers: 88-62 in the House and 20-11 in the Senate. House members serve two-year terms, while senators serve four-year staggered terms, meaning the current Senate configuration will persist through 2026. The presiding officers are Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick (Republican) for the Senate and Speaker Dustin Burrows (Republican) for the House. Governor Greg Abbott (Republican) appoints committee chairs and influences the agenda, particularly through special sessions.

Texas holds regular legislative sessions in odd-numbered years, limited to 140 days. No regular session is scheduled for 2026; the 89th Regular Session concluded in June 2025, and the next regular session (90th) convenes on January 12, 2027. Legislative activity in 2026 would occur only during special sessions called by the governor, which are limited to 30 days and focused on specific topics. As of December 2025, no special sessions have been announced for 2026, though the governor retains authority to convene them as needed.

Pre-filing of bills for the 90th Session begins November 9, 2026, allowing lawmakers to prepare legislation in advance. Recent special sessions in 2025 addressed redistricting, border security, and education, suggesting potential carryover topics if reconvened. Budget-related matters for the 2026-2027 biennium, including a proposed \$330 billion all-funds expenditure (with \$150 billion from general revenue), were finalized in 2025 but could prompt supplemental sessions for adjustments. Broader priorities, such as property tax relief and school choice, may resurface if fiscal or policy pressures arise.

Overall, the 2025 session maintained Texas's fiscal conservatism, delivered measurable property-tax relief, and positioned the state as a leader in emerging technology regulation and creative-industry incentives while preserving Republican legislative supermajorities heading into the 2026 elections.

Governor Abbott summed it up: "Texas remains the greatest state in the nation!"

Dive deeper at www.legislature.texas.gov or www.legiscan.com/TX.

PICTURE GALLERY

December 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.

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

January 12: NWFRW General Meeting, **Forum for HD 126 Candidates**, 11:30 AM, Shirley Acres, 217 Woerner Road, Houston, TX 77090

January 20: GHC General Meeting, 9:30 AM, Mendenhall Community Center, 1414 Wirt Road, Houston, TX 77055

January 26: NWFRW Board Meeting, 6:30 PM, GHWB Community Center, 6827 Cypresswood Drive, Spring, TX 77379

Buy tickets NOW for NWFRW "The Honorable Roast" Fundraiser on February 12, 2026, at Northgate Country Club!

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

Political Advertising paid for by Northwest Forest Republican Women PAC

NORTHWEST FOREST REPUBLICAN WOMEN

presents

A FUNDRAISER BENEFITTING NORTHWEST FOREST REPUBLICAN WOMEN

THE HONORABLE ROAST

A TOAST TO THE 1960S, A ROAST OF OUR MODERN STATESMEN ...
BECAUSE EVEN GREATNESS DESERVES A GRIN.

02.12.2026

NORTHGATE COUNTRY CLUB
17110 NORTHGATE FOREST DR, NORTHGATE FOREST, TX 77068

6:00 PM VIP RECEPTION
7:00 PROGRAM BEGINS

JUDGE CACTUS "JACK" CAGLE
MASTER OF CEREMONIES
ROASTEE

JUDGE LINCOLN GOODWIN
ROASTEE

COMING SOON

COMING SOON

STATE REP. SAM HARLESS
ROASTEE



Pol. Ac. paid for by Northwest Forest Republican Women PAC, Gaynell Lira, PAC Treasurer, 15455 Canterbury Forest Drive #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.

SPONSORSHIPS

THE NIXON-KENNEDY

\$10,000

2 FRONT ROW RESERVED TABLES OF 10 (ALL VIP)
NAME RECOGNITION ON TABLE, MAIN SPONSOR BOARD, AND PROGRAM

PRIME TIME

\$5,000

1 FRONT ROW RESERVED TABLE OF 10 (ALL VIP)
NAME RECOGNITION ON TABLE, MAIN SPONSOR BOARD, AND PROGRAM

SMOKE FILLED ROOM

\$2,500

6 RESERVED SEATS (ALL VIP)
NAME RECOGNITION ON TABLE, MAIN SPONSOR BOARD, AND PROGRAM

VICTORY LAP

\$1,000

4 RESERVED SEATS (ALL VIP)
NAME RECOGNITION ON TABLE, MAIN SPONSOR BOARD, AND PROGRAM

THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

\$500

2 RESERVED SEATING VIP TICKETS
NAME RECOGNITION IN PROGRAM

INDIVIDUAL TICKET

\$125

UNRESERVED SEATING

INDIVIDUAL VIP TICKET

\$175

UNRESERVED SEATING

UNDERWRITER OPPORTUNITIES

DINNER SPONSOR

\$7,500 (ONE AVAILABLE)

1 FRONT ROW RESERVED TABLES OF 10 (ALL VIP)

NAME RECOGNITION ON TABLE, MAIN SPONSOR BOARD, AND PROGRAM

BAR SPONSOR

\$5,000 (ONE AVAILABLE)

1 FRONT ROW RESERVED TABLE OF 10 (6 VIP)

NAME RECOGNITION ON BAR, TABLE, MAIN SPONSOR BOARD, AND PROGRAM

DECOR & MATERIALS SPONSOR

\$3,500 (ONE AVAILABLE)

6 RESERVED SEATS (ALL VIP)

NAME RECOGNITION ON MAIN SPONSOR BOARD AND PROGRAM

VALET SPONSOR

\$2,500 (ONE AVAILABLE)

6 RESERVED SEATS (ALL VIP)

NAME RECOGNITION AT VALET, MAIN SPONSOR BOARD AND PROGRAM

PHOTOGRAPHY SPONSOR

\$1,000 (ONE AVAILABLE)

2 RESERVED SEATING VIP TICKETS

NAME RECOGNITION ON MAIN SPONSOR BOARD AND PROGRAM

**SHOULD YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES,
PLEASE CONTACT DANA KHAN @ (713) 594-4106 OR DANAK007@GMAIL.COM**

SPONSORSHIPS & TICKETS

☐ **YES**, I will join you on Feb 12

☐ **NO**, I am unable to join you.

Please accept my contribution in the amount of:

☐ \$10,000 THE NIXON-KENNEDY

☐ \$5,000 PRIME TIME

☐ \$2,500 SMOKE FILLED ROOM

☐ \$1,000 VICTORY LAP

☐ \$500 CAMPAIGN TRAIL

****One of each level available.****

☐ \$7,500 DINNER SPONSOR

☐ \$5,000 BAR SPONSOR

☐ \$3,500 DECOR & MATERIALS

☐ \$2,500 VALET SPONSOR

☐ \$1,000 PHOTOGRAPHY SPONSOR

SOLD OUT

☐ \$175 INDIVIDUAL **VIP** TICKET # OF TICKETS _____

☐ \$125 INDIVIDUAL TICKET # OF TICKETS _____

We cannot accept cash or corporate checks. Personal checks only please.

TO DONATE

Please make checks payable to "Northwest Forest Republican Women PAC". A completed form and checks can be mailed to PAC Treasurer, Gaynell Lira, 15455 Canterbury Forest Drive #314, Tomball TX 77377 or RSVP with a completed form by email to Dana Khan, danak007@gmail.com.

CONTRIBUTOR INFORMATION

Each contributor must provide a name, address, employer and occupation.

Contributor Name:

Guest Name(s):

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Mobile Phone:

Email:

Occupation:

Employer:

Pol. Ac. paid for by Northwest Forest Republican Women PAC, Gaynell Lira, PAC Treasurer, 15455 Canterbury Forest Drive #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.

