



# KFRW Newsletter

February 2023

## President's Message

We had an informative first meeting of 2023 on January 23. After an Installation Ceremony of the 2023-2024 officers by **Dotty McPherson**, [Photo left to right: Lynn Stafford *President*, Judi Cleckner *Treasurer*, Annaliese Mincy *V.P. Programs & Public Relations*, Janis Morrow *Secretary*, and Lynn Wojciechowski *V.P. Membership*] the members approved the 2023 KFRW Budget. Next, club calendar (also [available on the website](#)) and business was discussed and updates from each committee. Testing something new, beginning at 6:30, we had refreshments, several homemade desserts and hot cider, provided by **Judi Cleckner**, to allow extra time for members to mingle with other members and get to know one another better. *Should we keep doing this? If so, let us know!! We missed some members who were ill or out of town. See you all next month!*



**Communication** between each of us as members and within our club is essential in order to achieve our goals of educating and empowering women for better government and accomplish our mission, which is to provide a forum for all women to be key players at the political table on local, state, and national issues. We do this primarily in one of four ways, *continued on page 4.*

Our next meeting is Monday, **February 27, 2023**. Our speaker will be **J. D. Johnson** with Talon Range. He will speak to us about personal safety and concealed weapons. We are working to put together one or two Concealed Weapon Permit classes with the JC Sheriff's Department, like we did in April of 2019. We hope to have details to share at the meeting.

I wish to thank the Primary and Associate members who tallied their Volunteer Hours & Calls for July-Dec. 2022 and sent them to me on time. I estimated for some members, based on event and meeting participation, for a more accurate total for our club. *Our club total for the 6-months was 2,079 hours!* Members over 100 hours: **Lynn Stafford** 565, **Bill Snyder** 161, and **Gretchen Wallace** 128. *Don't miss the Volunteer Hour challenge on page two ☺☺!!!*

We look forward to a productive 2023, and thrilled to have all of you as KFRW members.

Lynn

### Keystone Federated Republican Women

P. O. Box 45, Monticello, FL 32345

Website: [KFRWFL.org](http://KFRWFL.org) – Facebook: KFRWFlorida

Newsletter Editor: Lynn Stafford

### 2023-24 KFRW Executive Committee Officers

President – Lynn Stafford – 850-491-8755

VP Membership – Lynn Wojciechowski – 860-214-8392

VP Programs & PR – Annaliese Mincy – 850-519-4818

Treasurer – Judi Cleckner – 850-997-5659

Secretary – Janis Morrow – 850-294-0573

### [Florida Federation of Republican Women \(FFRW\)](#)

President – Maricel Cobitz      1<sup>st</sup> VP – Diane Van Parys

Secretary – Roberta Ulrich      2<sup>nd</sup> VP – Yvette Benarroch

Treasurer – Ramona Rood      3<sup>rd</sup> VP – Vennia Francois

Member-at-Large: Esther Byrd, Emily Nunez, Kathy Smith

Districts Executive – Lisa Johnson

District 2 Representative – Dotty McPherson – 850-591-4988

### [National Federation of Republican Women \(NFRW\)](#)

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## Membership Update

We welcome two new members **Brenda Wirick** and **Pamela Andrews** (our 1<sup>st</sup> black Republican club member). We currently have 47 primary and 20 associate members paid through 2023!

We wish to thank **Karen Knox** for serving as our VP/Chair of Membership since we began. She plans to remain a committee member.

**Annual dues each calendar year:** Primary Members \$50 and Associate Members \$25.



**Membership Challenge for 2023:** Each of us knows at least one person we can invite to join us in 2023! *Let's meet this challenge!!*

*"Each One Bring One and Watch Us Grow"*

**GROWTH = MEMBERS = STRENGTH =  
VOTES = REPUBLICAN MAJORITIES**

## KFRW Merchandise for S~A~L~E

# fundraising

Share the link below to our website with your friends and family or shop for them! This helps our club sell merchandise and raise funds!

*Limited quantities of items.* Pictures of the merchandise available to sell and purchase are on the [KFRW Website](#) by categories:

[Cowboy & fedora hats](#), [visors & baseball caps](#), [reading glasses](#), [fanny packs](#), [bumper stickers](#), [magnets](#), [buttons](#), [flags](#), [bracelets](#), [brooches](#), [earrings](#), [scarf holders](#), [watches](#), [lapel pins](#), [ties & tie bar](#), & [tile & paracord bracelets](#).

*Contact Lynn Stafford to obtain items, to answer any questions, or offer suggestions. ■*

## KFRW Committee Updates

**All Committee Chairs:** *Please e-mail monthly updates to Lynn S. by Sunday, prior to monthly meeting.* For current info on committees and purpose of each, refer to each on the KFRW [website](#).

*The expectation is all members will help at club events, as available, when called upon by the committees.*

**Achievement Awards/Volunteer Hours** – It's easy to keep track of your volunteer hours by using the [form](#) found on the KFRW website. Remember, hours can be counted when you attend any KFRW meeting, research work for a committee, phone calls to discuss meetings or issues, attend JC REC, Commission, and State meetings. Travel time included. Hours counted for associate members, too. *Bring your form to the Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> meeting for special recognition.* Contact Chair **Beth Young** with questions.

**Community Outreach** – [2023 KFRW Essay Contest](#) deadline is Feb. 28. **Gretchen's** civics class for homeschoolers is up to 11 students now. This picture on Jan. 16, week 2, with 8!



*If you would like to sit in on a class or help her in any way, please show up at the old SOE office on W. Dogwood, 10:30 am on Mondays!*

**Election Integrity** – **Janis Morrow, Chair** has set the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of 2023 for Wednesday, Feb. 15, 6 pm at 295 Hickory St (home of Lynn S.) for all EI Committee members. *Please attend!!*

**Events & Fundraising** – If you would like to serve on this committee, *please contact Lynn S.*

**Public Relations** – A KFRW business card with meeting dates is forthcoming, stay tuned! Note: If you take photos at events, *please forward via text/ e-mail to Annaliese and Lynn S. ASAP.* ☺

**School Board** – **Brenda Wirick** has agreed to be the liaison between the SB and KFRW. At this time, we will not have a SB Committee.

## Monthly Themed Raffle Baskets



The January “**Chilly Nights, Frosty Mornings**” raffle basket, prepared by **Janis Morrow**, won by **Gretchen Wallace**, raised \$85.

If you missed adopting a 2023 raffle basket, you can pair up with another member on their basket. Suggested items for

baskets are to provide ideas. If you have items to contribute for a themed basket, *please bring to a meeting.*

### February - “Lucky, Blessed, and All the Rest” Beth Young

Suggestions: Anything green or gold, gold candies, lottery tickets

### March - “Spring has Sprung” Lynn Wojciechowski

Spring / Easter Themed Basket

### April - “Have a Colorful May” Debbie Snapp

Colorful Themed Basket

### May - “Sweet Melon” Jacquie Flint

Watermelon Themed Basket

### June - “Let’s Have a Blast!” Diana Mulhearn

Patriotic Themed Basket (Red, white and blue items)

### July - “Summer is Hot, Do Something Cool” Dotty McPherson

Summer Themed Basket

### August - “Hello Gourdgeous!” Michelle Milligan

Fall Themed Basket

### September - “Surprise! Surprise! Surprise!” Josie Hyde

A Surprise Basket - Suggestions: It’s up to the adopter

### October - “Give Thanks With a Grateful Heart” Tracy Boyce

Thanksgiving Themed Basket

### November - “Christmas Is With Us Again” Catherine McNeill

Christmas Themed Basket



Meeting Refreshments - Judi Cleckner & Abby McGehee



## February Members’ Birthdays

*Happy Birthday to each of you!*

2/2 Becky Clayton

2/6 Josie Hyde

John Haynes

2/14 Elise Eslinger



## Calendar of Events



### KFRW Exec. Comm. Meeting

Wednesday, February 8

5:30 pm @ 295 Hickory St



### Abraham Lincoln’s Birthday

Sunday, February 12



Monday, February 13

### KFRW Membership Comm. Mtg.

2-4 pm @ 295 Hickory St

### JC School Board Meeting

6 pm, 1490 W. Washington St



Tuesday, February 14



### KFRW Election Integrity Comm. Mtg.

Wednesday, February 15

6 pm @ 295 Hickory St



### President’s Day

Monday, February 20



### George Washington’s Birthday

Wednesday, February 22



### KFRW Membership Meeting

4<sup>th</sup> Monday, February 27

Door open 6:30 pm; Meeting 7 pm

American Legion, 1065 S. Water St

Speaker: J.D. Johnson, Talon Range



# Club Communication Is Essential...To Be Effective

Continued from Page 1...

## Four ways KFRW communicates with the members:



1. **Newsletter** – On the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month, the **monthly newsletter** is sent out to all KFRW members. This is the primary tool for sharing information within the KFRW to its members and keeping all members well informed of issues. The newsletters can also be found on our website under the [Newsletter tab](#) by year. **Do you read the newsletter each month?**
2. **Email** – I’m very aware of the number of **emails** we all receive each and every day, therefore I strive to limit the KFRW membership-wide emails sent out and how often. You can count on two emails to all members each month: with the Newsletter on the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month and usually the Wednesday before the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday Meeting as a reminder of our monthly meeting with meeting attachments. Only if something timely comes up will I send additional emails.
3. **Text & Text Groups** – Of course, a **text** sent directly to a member is a quick way to connect and vice versa. Using **Text Groups** is a convenient way for us to communicate with members, usually reminders about an upcoming meeting or event, although we’ve not done so with any regularity. The text groups typically have only a few members in a group so the same message is sent to each group. We do request that you not reply to the group text as each member gets the reply and that can be annoying for the others in the group. If you have a question, please send a separate text message directly to the person sending the text message.
4. **Website** – Our club’s site, [KFRWFL.org](http://KFRWFL.org), serves as a depository of club information, like our bylaws, club essay contest and events, committee information, available merchandise, membership applications, and newsletters. Also, a very useful tool to share with potential members you may have in mind. It was a bit disappointing to learn from the 2023 planning surveys we received that only two of those members had visited and viewed the website, most had not.

**Effective communication** also means receiving timely replies and/or acknowledgements to emails or direct text messages sent by members, or returning a missed phone call. Each of these methods allow the recipient to respond when it’s convenient, **but just be sure you do!** Yet nothing takes the place of actually talking with another member, whether on the phone or in person, to get to know one another better and build good relationships.



**2023 FFRW Spring Conference**  
**Friday, April 14 - Sunday, April 16**  
**Double Tree Hotel**  
**101 S. Adams Street, Tallahassee**



**To read past issues of the KFRW Newsletter > [KFRWFL.org](http://KFRWFL.org) > [Newsletter tab](#)**