



KFRW Newsletter

March 2023

President's Message

Now available, is a **2-sided KFRW business card** with 2023 meeting dates. We have 250, so giving approximately five cards at a time to members. We are hoping this will make it much easier for all of us when inviting potential members and/or guests to attend our monthly meetings. There is a blank spot on one side where you should write your name and phone number before giving it to the other person.

The **FFRW Spring Conference** will be held **Friday, April 14** with Registration beginning at 11 AM; the conference will open with a Legislative Session at the Capitol at 1 PM and will end on **Sunday, April 16** at 11:30 AM. The Conference will take place at the Doubletree by Hilton, 101 S. Adams St. in Tallahassee. *"We have an action-packed conference scheduled with great speakers."* KFRW will send several officers; we hope other members will also consider attending since it is so close and no need to spend the extra for the hotel. Registration is \$225/\$230. *Let me know if interested soon.*

We are offering a **Concealed Weapon Class**, as we did in April 2019, with the J.C. Sheriff's Office on Saturday, April 22, at Lynn McGrady's home on Lake Road, during the morning hours. Cost for the class is \$35 for members and \$50 for non-members. Deadline to sign up is the March 27th meeting. This is a great first step, then lots of practice. *If you have any questions, please contact me.*

Our **next meeting is Monday, March 27**. Our program will be led by **Gretchen Wallace**, chair of the Community Outreach Committee, who each year takes the lead on administering our Annual Essay Contest. She'll announce the winners of both middle and high school age participants and present them with cash awards and certificates for all participants. We will hear the top winner in both groups read their essays. Last year, members were *very* impressed with the quality!

In February's Newsletter, **Beth Young** challenged members to bring to the 2/27 meeting their Volunteer Hours to win a prize. These members did: **Jacquie Flint, Karen Knox, and Lynn Stafford**.

Before the monthly meetings, beginning at 6:30, we are providing time for members to mingle and have conversations with each other and enjoy some yummy refreshments. *Contact Annaliese to sign up to help!*

We look forward to all KFRW will accomplish this year and value **all** our members. Mark your calendars for the next **Membership Social** on **April 1**, see page 2.

Lynn

Keystone Federated Republican Women

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Website: 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 1st VP – Diane Van Parys

Secretary – Roberta Ulrich 2nd VP – Yvette Benarroch

Treasurer – Ramona Rood 3rd 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 welcomed new member, **Patty Redlich**, at our Monday meeting who moved from Apopka and lives next door to **Bill Snyder**. She's a past president of the Northwest Orange RWF club.

The next **Membership Social** is **Saturday, April 1, 5-7 pm**, potluck dinner at the Boyce's home, 520 E. Dogwood St. *Please come so we can get to know you better and you us.*

The Membership Committee consists of: **Josie Hyde, Karen Knox, Donna Champion, Tracy Boyce, Judi Cleckner, and Lynn Stafford.**

While, we will be focusing on recruiting and engaging members, *we need everyone's help in growing our organization.* The KFRW cards are a good tool for getting the word out to prospective new members. Be sure to get a few!

We have 49 primary & 20 associate members.

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 in 2023"***

KFRW Merchandise for S~A~L~E

Ahead of the Watermelon Festival in June, we will replenish some merchandise items. Hot items will be 2024 campaign merchandise. If you'd like to offer any suggestions, please let Lynn S. know of your ideas.

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](#).

Note: If you take photos at events, *please forward via text/ email to Annaliese & Lynn S. ASAP.* ☺

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

Achievement Awards/Volunteer Hours – Reminder: all hours for anything with the club or that is political count, including travel & prep time. It's easy to keep track of your hours by using the [form](#) found on the KFRW website. Contact **Beth Young** with your questions.

Community Outreach – 2023 KFRW Essay Contest deadline has arrived, and as of now, **Gretchen Wallace** has received 11 essays; will monitor the mail a few more days. Her civics class for homeschoolers is going very well, at 10 AM at the old SOE office on W. Dogwood.

Election Integrity – Janis Morrow's committee met Feb. 15 to discuss the best way to move forward after she reviewed responses to her questions from the SOE. All agreed getting the voter roll addresses cleaned up "standardized" to the USPS was a goal we would work on.

Events & Fundraising – Besides, the CWP class April 22, we will soon be gearing up for both the Watermelon Festival and the Nov. American Valor Dinner. Contact **Lynn S.** if you want to be involved in planning these big events!

Legislative – Chaired by **Beth Young**, the committee consists of **Jacquie & Michael Flint, Dotty McPherson** and **Dale Young**. They will monitor both state and national bills of interest to KFRW members and keep members informed via email. At times, the emails will have a 'Call to Action' for members to make a call or send an email. For convenience, lists of all elected officials with contact information can be found on the KFRW website under the [Legislative Committee tab](#). *Please download and retain for your use.* If you choose not to take any action, that's okay, please understand this is one of our objectives as a club and will result in a few additional emails, especially during the Florida Legislative Session, starting Tuesday, March 7th.

Monthly Themed Raffle Baskets



The February “**Lucky, Blessed, and All the Rest**” raffle basket, beautifully prepared by **Beth Young** (not pictured), was won by **Judi Cleckner**, her first time winning. Yeah! We raised \$102.

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.*

March - “Spring has Sprung” Lynn Wojciechowski

Spring / Easter Themed Basket

April - “Have a Colorful May” Debbie Snapp

Colorful Themed Basket

May - “Sweet Melon” Jacque 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”

Summer Themed Basket Dotty McPherson

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”

Thanksgiving Themed Basket Tracy Boyce

November - “Christmas Is With Us Again”

Christmas Themed Basket Catherine McNeill



Our newly appointed Club Chaplain, **Donna Champion**, leads the invocation at our monthly meetings.

Thank you, Donna for your faithful service!



March Members’ Birthdays

Happy Birthday to each of you!

3/16 Shanna Boutwell

3/28 Lynda Brown



Calendar of Events



FL Legislative Session Begins

Tuesday, March 7



KFRW Exec. Comm. Meeting

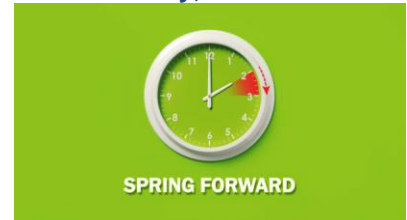
Wednesday, March 8

5:30 pm @ 295 Hickory St



Daylight Saving Begins

Sunday, March 12



JC School Board Meeting

Monday, March 13

6 pm, 1490 W. Washington St



St. Patrick’s Day

Friday, March 17



Spring Begins

Monday, March 20



KFRW Membership Meeting

4th Monday, March 27

Refreshments 6:30 pm; Meeting 7 pm

American Legion, 1065 S. Water St

Essay Contest Winners



What is the Mamie Eisenhower Library Project (MELP)?

In 1961, the NFRW established this project as a memorial honoring the former first lady who served for decades as a military wife and prepared the family home for over 30 moves during President Eisenhower's military service to our country. Mamie was active in financial decisions for her home and practiced fiscal responsibility. Every two years, the NFRW Literacy and Education Committee compiles a list of books reflecting Republican conservative beliefs of self-reliance, freedom, and independence. The recommended book list, for both adult and children, can be found at the [NFRW website](#). As part of the MELP, the books, are to be donated to public libraries, schools, or hospitals to provide reading material throughout for the community. *Let us know if you have any to donate.*

The **KFRW Literacy and Education Committee**, a Community Outreach sub-committee, currently **Gretchen Wallace** and **Lynn Stafford**, decided to target elementary age children for our first project and chose *The Tuttle Twins* 13 book series for ages 5-11. (To learn more about them scroll down on the [home page](#).) We contacted **Natalie Bender** at the **J.C. Public Library**, **Nancy Whitty** at **Jefferson Elementary** and **Superintendent Eydie Tricquet**, and **Aucilla Christian Academy's Richard Finlayson**, and received their approval to purchase and donate a set to each entity.

We purchased each set at \$57 (50% off), which includes pdfs of each book's activity workbook. We encourage members to donate to this project and plan to make a formal presentation to all three so KFRW is recognized for this community project. Club participation in the MELP is one of the NFRW Achievement Awards' requirements. *If you wish to contribute \$\$ or participate in the visits to the schools and library, please contact either **Gretchen** or **Lynn S.***

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

A Few Points taken from "[TRUE THE VOTE](#)" after the November 2022 Election

"The wave of passion-filled Americans, voting, serving, seeing firsthand the process failures that increasingly define our elections — it's a wave of truth that's washing over millions of Americans willing to stand in defense of their freedoms, regardless of what the "establishment" tries to spin."

"Think about what today may have looked like had we not challenged the "body politic" these past two years — if we just assumed the political establishment was doing what it was supposed to be doing, if we just assumed we had shared interests, assumed it had our best interests at heart. Now, we'd be facing much darker days. But that's not what happened. And America is better for it."

Consider these factors regarding the political establishment:

- The Republican Party had been under a consent decree for forty years in which it was not allowed to engage in ballot security activities. The Party was released from the consent decree only in 2018. *[New info I've not heard before. – LS]*
- The RNC barely lifted a finger to help some of its candidates get over the finish line. *[Yep!]*
- The Democrat Party invests heavily in lawfare and attorneys who file election-related lawsuits all year round. *[Yep!]*
- The Democrat Party still holds raw political machine power in many cities. They have huge patronage armies, activist armies, and anarchist armies at their disposal that extend into the courts, the media, social media, and corporate America. *[Yep!]*
- Over the past two years, we were continuously disappointed in the cowardice of state legislatures to exercise their power on a variety of election integrity matters. *[Yep!]*

"The political establishment is not on board with correcting what has become a perpetually broken election process. They prefer the status quo. While not everyone is part of the engine that drives election fraud, they are on board with it because politicians know how to exploit the vulnerabilities to get them to their desired destinations. It's going to take continued Atlassian efforts on our part to keep elections free and fair." *Stay in the fight! Stay involved! It's up to all of us to save our Country!*

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