



KFRW Newsletter

August 2023

President's Message

From what I've been told, members present at our July 24th celebration for our club's 5th anniversary enjoyed the evening, learned details of the KFRW founding, heard from our charter members **Tracy Boyce**, **Robin Frutig**, **Abby McGehee**, and **Eydie Tricquet**, read **Sheriff Mac's** message to KFRW, and ate plenty of cake and ice cream. **Dotty McPherson**, as usual, bragged on us as her "best" club in her 15-county FFRW district.

I recognized the following club members who over the past 5 years were either instrumental in the start of KFRW or have performed exceptionally in their roles, relieving me of duties I was handling. Thank you all: **Dotty McPherson**, **Beth Young**, **Karen Knox**, **Gretchen Wallace**, **Tracy Boyce**, **Janis Morrow**, **Annaliese Mincy**, **Harry Mulhearn** and **Bill Snyder**. We closed the celebration with **Annaliese** leading us in a champagne toast, "*Here's to KFRW's first five years & another five years!*"

At our **August 28** meeting, we are extremely fortunate and excited to again have **Eric Eggers** (spoke in July 2020) as our speaker, author of ***Fraud: How the Left Plans to Steal the Next Election*** (2018). He's an investigative reporter with the [Government Accountability Institute](#) (just celebrated 11 years!) whose mission is "to investigate and expose crony capitalism, misuse of taxpayer monies, and other governmental corruption or malfeasance." **Eric** shares the GAI's own weekly podcast with **Peter Schweizer**, [The Drill Down with Peter Schweizer](#). *Invite others to come hear Eric!*

Mark your calendars and help us spread the word about our **3rd Biennial American Valor Dinner** to be held at the Monticello Opera House on Thursday evening, November 9. We are thrilled to have **LtCol (Ret) David "T-Bone" Trombly, USMC**, as our speaker. He served in the USMC for 25 years and has an incredible personal and military story to share. He is the author of, [GROUNDED AND CURED](#) (2021), click the link to listen to his book trailer. His books will be available at the event.

For the last 6-month period (Jan-Jun), KFRW had a total of 1,975 political and campaign volunteer hours and 54 call hours, total 2,029. For the 2-year period (Jul 2021 - Jun 2023), we tallied 7,413 P&C hours and 205 call hours, total 7,618 hours. Our top 3 members: **Lynn Stafford** (2,115), **Gretchen Wallace** (637), and **Bill Snyder** (439). I'm sure if all kept track, we would have many more hours!!

As of now, we are ONLY 31 voters shy of flipping our county **RED**. Let's get it done ladies and gentlemen!!

Lynn S.

Keystone Federated Republican Women

P. O. Box 45, Monticello, FL 32345

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 – Diane Van Parys 2nd VP – Vennia Francois

1st VP – Yvette Benarroch 3rd VP – Esther Byrd

Treasurer – Ramona Rood Secretary – Vacant

Member-at-Large: Sandy Graves, Stephanie Phillips, &

Catherine Webb | Districts Executive – Vickie Herrington

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

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

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Membership Update

We welcome **Diana Rodriguez**, who two weeks ago attended a Ladies Night's Out, promptly changed her party affiliation, attended our July celebration proud of her new voter registration card, and is now a club member. Educating and building relationships one at a time!!



Josie Hyde, Judi Cleckner & Diana Rodriguez

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

Membership Challenge for 2023: Each one knows at least one person you can invite to join us in 2023! *Help us meet this challenge!!*

***“Each One Bring One
and Watch Us Grow in 2023”***

KFRW Merchandise for S~A~L~E

2024 Campaign merchandise for both **Trump & DeSantis**, caps and flags, **are available and displayed on the website!** **We need members to help us promote & sell these items, now!!**



You'll find pictures of items available (*limited quantities*) to purchase & sell to your family & friends on the [KFRW Website](#) by categories:

[Cowboy & fedora hats](#), [visors & baseball caps](#), [card cases & reading glasses](#), [Trump playing cards & shot glasses](#), [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 updates to Lynn Stafford by Sunday, prior to monthly meeting.*

For committee info and purpose of each, refer to each on the KFRW [website](#), and reach out to the committee chair.

Note: If you take photos at events, *please forward via text or 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 – All primary & associate members: please continue to log your volunteer hours on a daily & weekly basis when working for candidates, attending KFRW & Republican meetings, making phone calls for new members, supporters, etc. Totals will be collected for the next 6 months at the end of December 2023. ~ **Beth Young**, Chair

Campaign – Correction: The City of Monticello election for City Clerk, **James C. Griffin** (R) & **Dr. Vivian "Judy" Hall Royster** (D) will be Nov 7, 2023, not in August as previously noted.

FYI: Donations for President Trump should be sent directly to him at 1100 S Ocean Avenue, Palm Beach, FL 32480. ~ **Beth Young**, Chair

Events & Fundraising – Help us promote our **3rd Biennial American Valor Dinner** on Nov. 9. *If you are interested in helping with this event, please let Lynn Stafford know.*

Legislative – Permit-less carry went into effect in Florida July 1 with the following provisions:

21 years or older can legally purchase & own a firearm; can legally carry it concealed without a concealed weapons permit. Any law-abiding citizen in the US can legally conceal carry a firearm (handgun, not a long gun) in Florida without any permit, but must carry a valid form of ID (driver's license or state ID card) with you if you carry a handgun concealed.

So-called gun free zones are still enforced. You cannot carry on school property, a polling place, federal property, US Post office, National Park Service, Police, Sheriff, Highway Patrol or any government meeting (Legislature, School Board, County Commission, City Council, etc.)

NOTE: OPEN CARRY IS STILL ILLEGAL ~ **Beth Young**, Chair

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Monthly Themed Raffle Baskets



The July summer themed raffle basket, “**Summer is Hot, Do Something Cool**” provided by **Dotty McPherson** was won by **Janis Morrow**, raising \$128.

And, **Janis** won the contest for the “*Most Patriotically Dressed*” by show of hands!

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

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



KFRW's 3rd Biennial American Valor Dinner

In August, we'll actively be seeking sponsors for this event from local business owners, organizations, and supporters of veterans to help make this event truly special for the veterans in our community, raising funds to allow interested veterans to attend without incurring any personal expense. At the event, we will recognize and honor our local veterans. If you would like to recommend a local veteran(s) for a guest seat, please let us know by September 25. Check out the [Event Page](#).

Sponsor packages for the AV Dinner are as follows:

- ★ **Ole Glory:** 12 seats, and Meet & Greet with Speaker prior to start of event = \$2,500
- ★ **Let Freedom Ring:** 8 seats (1 reserved table) = \$1,000
- ★ **Patriot:** 6 seats (1 reserved table) = \$750
- ★ **Uncle Sam:** 4 seats (½ reserved table) = \$500
- ★ **Lady Liberty:** \$250 - \$450
- ★ **Hometown Hero** (Sponsor a Veteran) = \$100

There will be a Silent Auction, if you would like to donate an item/gift certificate or you would like to be a sponsor; or you know someone you'll ask to be either a sponsor or donate to the silent auction, please let **Lynn Stafford** know, via email or text, as soon as possible. General reserved tickets will go on sale in September, \$50 each. Seating capacity for this event is 150.



August Members' Birthdays

Happy Birthday to each of you!

- 8/4 Patty Redlich
- 8/4 Brenda Sorensen
- 8/13 Dottie Taylor
- 8/15 Mac McNeill
- 8/23 Earlene Knight
- 8/26 Bill Snyder
- 8/30 Diana Rodriguez



Calendar of Events



Students Start Back to School

ACA - Wednesday, August 9

JS - Thursday, August 10



KFRW Exec. Comm. Meeting

Wednesday, August 9

5:30 pm @ 295 Hickory St



JC School Board Meeting

Monday, August 14, 6 pm



KFRW Membership Meeting

4th Monday, August 28

Refreshments 6:30 pm; Meeting 7 pm

American Legion, 1065 S. Water St

Speaker: Eric Eggers



HISTORY OF KEYSTONE FEDERATED REPUBLICAN WOMEN

By Lynn Stafford

The **Keystone Federated Republican Women** (KFRW), formed on July 26, 2018 with 16 charter (primary/voting) members. Here's what led up to that historic day five years ago...

I attended my first ever JC Republican Party meeting on June 19, 2018. **Beth and Dale Young**, up from Melbourne for the week, attended too. Prior to the start of the meeting, **Dotty McPherson**, who was, and still is, the Region 2 District Representative for the FFRW, made an announcement asking if there was any interest in Monticello of forming a women's club. Later, I got her number.

The next day I called Beth, we met and discussed what was involved. I called **Karen Knox**, the only local woman I knew to call, who was on board from the start. On July 4, Karen and I sent an email and flyer to some we knew who might be interested and invited them to one of two informational meetings, Friday morning July 13 and July 17 after the July REC meeting. **Colin Barton**, the REC Chair at that time, was very supportive of our initiative and sent our email to the JC republican party email list. Here's the first part of my email.

"I've never been interested in being politically involved, but since the 2016 election I've felt more and more led to do something in my space...to help expose others to the facts in order to make informed decisions. Just like in the food industry, there is so much deception circulating constantly in the political arena and that can be frustrating. This is my motivation for being more intentional here in Monticello.

We are forming our own Florida Federation of Republican Women's club in Jefferson County and will have two meetings in July to provide information about the organization and how to become a member and get involved, to the extent you want, to make a difference in our community, state and nation. Membership in the club is open to all women who are registered Republicans and men can also join as associate members."

From those who attended or replied to one of our emails, we set a meeting for Thursday, July 26 at my home to begin the process. Interestingly, we had four charter members who changed their party affiliation from DEM to REP to join. An email received earlier that day, "*Can't come tonight, but I'm now a registered Republican.*" And another changed from NPA to REP as well.

That evening, we chose our club's name (we considered: *Jefferson Federated Republican Women and Aucilla River Area Federated Republican Women*), agreed on the annual membership dues (\$30 for new members, \$25 for renewals), we all wrote two checks, one to FFRW and one to KFRW, decided on our meeting day and time (still the 4th Monday at 7pm), and adopted our initial club bylaws. We also had 4 associate members, who are all still with us, one now a primary member.

The next day, an EIN number from the IRS and a Non-Profit Articles of Incorporation was obtained. On July 31, our New Club Application was completed and submitted to the Florida FRW, along with our bylaws, list of 16 members and FFRW dues checks. August 3rd, we opened our bank account at F&M Bank with \$445. On August 13, 2018, our club application was approved by the National Federation of Republican Women and we were chartered, receiving it at the FFRW Fall Conference in Orlando, Sept. 21-23, 2019, attended by me and Karen Knox.

At the start of 2019, we had 30 primary and 12 Associate members. **Today**, we have 51 primary and 22 associate members.



Lynn Receiving the Keystone FRW Charter Sept. 22, 2018



Keystone Federated Republican Women




The 27 KFRW Members at the 5-Year Anniversary Celebration (not shown Robin Frutig)



Lynn Stafford & Tracy Boyce



Annaliese Mincy & Lynn



Austin Hosford & Blakely



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