# KFRW Newsletter

### March 2024

#### President's Message

At our February 26 meeting, our speaker was **Randolph Russell**, with

facts and reminders of America's founding and why it's so important to re-educate yourself so you too can "correct" others and persuade others to join our ranks and vote with us to preserve what has made America great. Many purchased copies of his book, *American History In No Time*, the quickest and easiest way to learn (or re-learn) the basics every citizen should know. And he closed by playing a stylized rendition of *America the Beautiful* on his saxophone. See pictures on page 5 and even more on our <u>KFRW Facebook page</u> and while there, like our page. The feature article beginning on page 4 is an additional history lesson to read and learn about. *Enjoy!* 

Keystone Federated Republican Women

nticello, Fl

Our next KFRW Member Meeting is **Monday, March 25**. We will entertain our KFRW Essay Contest participants and winners for 2024, led by Community Outreach Chair, **Gretchen Wallace**.

At our April through July meetings, we have planned a "**Meet the Candidates**" series. We will host up to three candidates, *from different races*, at each meeting. Each candidate will have a 15-minute limit, including Q&A from members, to tell us about their qualifications, why they are running, and why they think they are the best candidate in the race. Another great opportunity to invite others!!



On **Friday, March 15**, we are looking forward to our **KFRW 1st Quarter Social**, a **St. Patrick's Day** fun tribute, so wear some green and bring an Irish inspired dish to share for a potluck dinner at 6 pm at the home of Tracy & Dusty Boyce, 520 E. Dogwood St.

It has been requested of me to oversee scheduling **Poll Watchers** during the upcoming Primary and General Elections on behalf of the J.C. Republican Party—I guess they noticed what a great job KFRW members and a few friends did during the 2022 general election covering all 13 days of early voting on behalf of candidate **Austin Hosford**. **Janis Morrow** will be helping with this effort, so if you would like to serve in this way, let her know. Poll watching would start during early voting for



#### Keystone Federated Republican Women P. O. Box 45, Monticello, FL 32345 Website: <u>KFRWFL.org</u> – 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 – Tracy Boyce – 850-322-9548 Secretary – Janis Morrow – 850-294-0573

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Florida Federation of Republican Women (FFRW)
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President – Barbara Price 1<sup>st</sup> VP – Yvette Benarroch 2<sup>nd</sup> VP – Vennia Francois 3<sup>rd</sup> VP – Catherine Webb Treasurer – Deb Tamargo Secretary – Valerie Pfundstein Member-at-Large: Melissa Beaudoin, Patty Hobbs, & Bonnie Jackson | District Executive – Vickie Herrington

District 2 Representative – Dotty McPherson – 850-591-4988 National Federation of Republican Women (NFRW) the August Primary. The following signed up to be **Poll Workers** and attended the SOE's

2-hour training: **Robin Frutig**, **Janis Morrow**, **Lynn Stafford**, **Gretchen Wallace**, **Beth Young**, and **Bill Snyder**. So, we're hoping a number of us can serve in this way too!

Keep the faith! Speak the truth! And never quit!

Lynn S.

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#### Membership Update

We welcome a *new* Primary Member, **Brenna Ward**, joining at our February meeting and invited by **Susan Anderson**.



Our current membership is at 64 members, 44 primary and 20 associate. Our Wednesday luncheons and Thursday dinners (every other week) is a great way to introduce potential primary members to our club.

**Our 1<sup>st</sup> quarter social** will be a potluck at 6 pm on March 15 at the Boyce's. The **2<sup>nd</sup> quarter social** will be a brunch at 10 am on June 22 for potential new members.

<u>Reminder</u>, if you need a ride to our evening meetings, contact **Judi Cleckner** (850-997-5659), she's coordinating this effort.

Please support the club by attending activities and inviting someone new and watch us grow! ~ Lynn Wojciechowski, Chair

## *"Each One Bring One and Watch Us Grow in 2024"*

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

A good time to be purchasing campaign merchandise and support our fundraising efforts. Tell your friends!

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

<u>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.</u>

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 <u>website</u>, 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 – The 2022-2023 FFRW Achievement Awards Report was emailed to the FFRW Achievement Award Chair and FFRW President before the deadline. The total points should bring KFRW a Diamond Award, to be presented in Orlando at the Spring Conference. Continue tracking your hours on a Volunteer Hour Log form, found on the KFRW website. Doing so consistently makes it easy to tally and report at the end of June. Questions? *Please* contact **Beth Young**, Chair

**Campaign** – All candidates were emailed requesting they forward their upcoming campaign events to Beth so as to notify club members of their events. If members hear of any, please let **Beth Young** know.

**Recent filers**: Dist. 1 Commission race two candidates filed, **Jessica Robinson** and **Jessica Gramling (Tim Dover** dropped out); **Kendra Burrus** for School Board Dist. 4, **Al Cooksey** for Superintendent of Schools; and for Sheriff, **Andrew Fischer**.

<u>Remember</u>, as a club, KFRW does not endorse any republican candidates prior to the Primary Election if there is more than one republican in a race. ~ **Beth Young**, Chair

**Community Outreach** – Essay contest deadline was February 29th. We look forward to hearing the winners read their essays at our March meeting. ~ **Gretchen Wallace**, Chair

**Events & Fundraising** – Dates for the annual **Watermelon Festival** are **June 14 & 15**, please sign up to participate during the next several meetings. ~ Lynn Stafford, Chair

**Legislative** – Only one week left in the 2024 session, which ends Friday, March 8th. Email bethanddale3@hotmail.com for more info. ~ **Beth Young**, Chair

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#### **Monthly Themed Raffle Baskets**



The Easter/spring raffle basket "**Spring Glow**, **Bloom, Shine**," provided by **Diana Mulhearn**, was won by **Sheriff Mac**, his first ever raffle basket win, and he was so excited, even smiling! We raised \$65. **All 2024 baskets are adopted.** 

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

March - "Monticello Madness" Abby McGehee Monticello Theme (Made in Monticello) Lynn McGrady April - "Let the Fiesta Begin!" Cinco De Mayo / May Theme May - "It's Watermelon Time!" Donna Champion Watermelon Theme June - "My Heart Beats Red, White and Blue" Patriotic Theme (Red, white & blue items) **Janis Morrow** July - "Sunshine on My Mind" Beth Young Summer Theme August - "Your Guess Is as Good as Mine" Basket Theme is up to the adopter Jacquie Flint September - "Fall Breeze and Autumn Leaves" Fall Theme Tracy Boyce October – "Make America Great Again" Dotty McPherson **Election Theme** November - "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year" Catherine McNeill Christmas Theme

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We are, and will always be, PATRIOTS. WE MUST RISE AGAIN. WE MUST UNITE AGAIN. WE MUST FIGHT AGAIN. FOR GOD & COUNTRY. GOD BLESS AMERICA.



#### ~ Ballot Banishing and Our New Leftwing Confederates ~

By Victor Davis Hanson -- nailing our current situation as only he can.

In the election of 1860, southern Democrats in 10 states of the soon-to-be formalized Confederacy made it almost impossible for their own voters to cast ballots for Abraham Lincoln for President.

In that sense, the Left in Colorado would have felt right at home in the ante-bellum South—erasing the name of a presidential candidate whom they loathed and by whom they were similarly terrified.

In eerie fashion, and also similar to the old ethos of the Confederacy, the Democratic Left now believes in state nullification of federal statutes.

So, like the would-be secessionist states of 1860-1, over 550 jurisdictions, almost all in blue states, claim that federal immigration laws no longer apply to them.

Thus, they brag that they can breezily be defied. (Not so easily or willfully are federal gun laws, or EPA mandates, or federal endangered species lists, ignored in red-state jurisdictions.)

The essence of sanctuary cities is an arrogant sense that federal law means nothing to morally superior local and state governments.

So, they nullify federal immigration laws in the manner of defying tariffs by South Carolina in 1832, or racial integration by Alabama Governor George Wallace in 1963.

Wallace tried to block integration by opposing federal implementation of the Supreme Court's ruling against segregation of students by race in public schools and universities, as well as President Kennedy's federalization of the Alabama national guard.

This Confederatization of Leftist values and protocols is uncanny. And I wrote about the phenomenon in a recent New Criterion article" *The Old South Shall Rise Again*".

The echoes keep popping up periodically and predictably in the news, as we saw with the Colorado erasure of Donald Trump from Colorado's primary and likely general election ballot.

Take also racial fixations and obsessions. Is the current diversity/inclusion/equity—woke movement based on similar racial essentialism?

Or in Confederate terms, are we back to certifying one's particular DNA (now by blood tests, but then by genealogists)? Does the South's old one-sixteenth/one-drop rule (ask Elizabeth Warren) still determine racial status and privilege?

Do our DEI/woke racially segregated campus dorms, segregated safe spaces, segregated graduations, and segregated events echo Wallace's 1963 Inauguration Address chant—"Segregation now, segregation tomorrow, segregation forever!"?

Are blue-states becoming like one-dimensional "King Cotton" economies of the past?

Just as a "King Cotton" economy ran the politics of the Old South through its unprecedented wealth, so too our modern leftist magnates are often one-industry "Big Tech" titans—of Amazon, Apple, Facebook, and Google—who more or less by their PAC and foundation "donations" (Mark Zuckerberg alone accounted for \$419 million) warped the work of registrars in many of the key 2020 counties.

One mark of Confederates was the strangling of the southern middle class. A tiny plantationists elite sat atop a vast caste of black slaves and a poor hireling white population.

Yet in terms of aggregate state income and wealth, by 1860 five of the wealthiest ten states in America were slave states and about to secede—given the unquenchable global appetite of the growing Industrial Revolution for southern cotton. (Was the desire for and power of Cotton then like iPhones and Google searches?)

So, the sheer power, wealth, and influence of the plantationists remind one of clout and superciliousness of California's Silicon Valley and its \$9-trillion dollars in market capitalization.

Indeed, it is eerie in debates and declarations how California Governor Gavin Newsom brags about California mega-Big Tech success and wealth. Often Newsom talks grandly of his Bay Area, Silicon Valley sector, as if he was Sen. James Hammond, a southern plantation owner, and U.S. Senator from South Carolina, who boasted defiantly in 1858 that "Cotton is King!"

But like Hammond, Newsom then predictably grows silent about the state's one-fifth of the resident population below the poverty line, one third of all US welfare recipients, the crumbling infrastructure, the dismal schools, the huge multibillion-dollar state deficits, the shrinking and fleeing middle class, the exploding homeless, and the retribalization of the state's society by race.

Just as King Cotton seemed to ensure palatial homes amid an impoverished general population, poor roads, anemic industry and manufacturing, few rails, and bad public schools, so too does blue-state wealth reside disproportionally in the hands of the few atop a growing class of poor and a vanishing middle class.

In the years before the Civil War and in the ante-bellum Jim Crow South, southern states bled populations fleeing to the new territories in the West or to the manufacturing and industrial boomtowns of the North. They were escaping a fossilized society of have and have nots—eerily representative of the current ethos of the blue-state paradigm.

California has the richest zip codes and greatest number of billionaires, and near highest poverty rate. New York is close; both have largest number of residents escaping their states—ironically to a new South that is becoming as dynamic as the old bygone North.

So, the recent ballot erasing of Colorado fits this larger picture of blue-states emulating the values of ante-bellum southern states—erasing ballots, defying federal laws, fixating on race and racial privileges, and catering to a one-dimensional medieval economy and caste, amid a growing underclass struggling with neglected infrastructure, poor schools, and growing poverty.

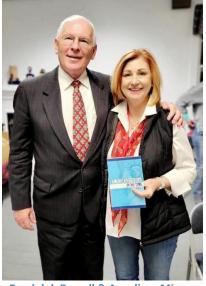
So, what will be the new/old Democratic 2024 election mantra?

"Vote for us—and ballot deletion, states' rights, federal nullification, racial essentialism and segregation, and a one-party, one-economy plantationist nation"?

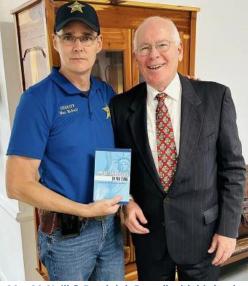
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Randolph Russell Playing his Saxophone



Randolph Russell & Annaliese Mincy



Mac McNeill & Randolph Russell with his book

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