



# THE REDWOOD

The Official Newsletter of The Woodlands Republican Women

September 2023

TFRW Region 17

Senate District 4

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## From the President

[Jessica Hart Steinmann](#)

[832-535-7332](tel:832-535-7332)

**#KEEPTRED**



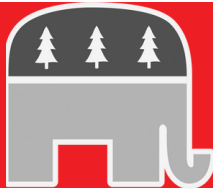
We are back in full swing! While the summer weather hasn't yet gone, school has started, and fall will be just around the corner. The Woodlands Republican Women is back from summer break, and we ALL need to start gearing up for 2024! Earlier this summer, Senator Ted Cruz convened a group of grassroots leaders from around Harris County. I had the honor of attending on behalf of TWRW and the Montgomery County area. The key takeaway: 2024 is coming fast, and the Democrats are already working hard. The state needs every vote in Montgomery and Harris counties to Keep Texas Red. How can you help? We need all of you to focus on outreaching to new voters and invigorating friends/family to get out the vote.

To help in this effort, a big initiative I have been working on this year is to recruit more young women to help the GOP! I'm excited to announce, under my role as Youth Outreach Chair on the Board of the Texas Federation of Republican Women (TFRW), and as Texas Youth Outreach Liaison for the National Federation of Republican Women (NFRW), we started the first ever 40 Under 40 Award & Fellowship - TFRW. Under this award, we are honoring Republican women across the State of Texas for their accomplishments and working to recruit more young women to TFRW/NFRW. Additionally, the fellowship is designed for mentorship, professional development, and networking for women.

I am happy to announce we had 6 awardees from our club selected by TFRW as 40 Under 40 for the state. Our awardees are: Susanna Cronin, Lindsay Dawson, Lisa Gilmore, Ashley Prince, Jordan Watson, and me. We honored these women at our last luncheon, and they will be honored at the TFRW Convention in October.

We believe that this program will not only recognize the outstanding achievements of young Republican women in Texas but also provide them with the support and mentorship they need to continue making a positive impact in their fields.

So please, help recruit the next generation of Republican women and KEEP TEXAS RED!



# Mark Your Calendar



## *TWRW 2023 Luncheon Schedule*

**September 19**  
State of The Woodlands with  
Commissioner James Noack  
Justice of the Peace Matt Beasley  
Constable Ryan Gable

**October 17**  
Texas State Senator District 18  
Lois Kolkhorst

**November 14**  
Montgomery County Sheriff  
Candidate Debate

**December 12**  
TWRW Officer Installation

*Monthly luncheons are at*  
*The Woodlands Country Club Palmer Course*  
*100 Grand Fairway*  
*The Woodlands 77381*

*RSVPs must be paid online in*  
*advance, [here](#).*  
*Thank you!*

## *Noteworthy Events*

**September 12, 11:45 - 1:15**  
TWRW Executive Board Meeting  
South County Community Center

**September 19**  
NFRW Snack Drive  
Benefiting First Responders  
~ Donations Accepted at  
TWRW Meeting ~

**September 28 - October 1**  
NFRW 42nd Biennial Convention  
Oklahoma City, OK

**October 12 - 14**  
TFRW Convention  
Irving, TX

**November 30**  
Patron Event  
Governor's Mansion



## September Luncheon - Tuesday, September 19

11:30 am - 1:00 pm at The Woodlands Country Club Palmer Course  
100 Grand Fairway, The Woodlands 77381

RSVPs MUST BE MADE BY 12 NOON, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, ON WEBSITE

**Cindy Heiser**  
VP of Programs



**RSVP HERE**

### ***The State of The Woodlands, presented by:***

***Commissioner James Noack, Justice of the Peace Matt Beasley, and Constable Ryan Gable***

I still love working for you. It ain't always easy, but as your Commissioner, I take on fights and juggle different priorities across Montgomery County to ensure Precinct 3 stays the best place to live, work and play. My staff and I work hard to make sure your county government, and others I work closely with, are both transparent and fiscally responsible. Together we can all continue to tackle all challenges we face such as traffic congestion, infrastructure and management of growth.

Not only did I grow up close by, I have now raised both of my sons here. My eldest has now graduated Texas A&M, like I did, and returned to this community to start his professional career. I take great pride in him not only wanting to do so, but him having great opportunity to do so.

Being on the forefront of some very public issues recently like stopping incorporation, I have grown my supporter base and look forward to continuing these efforts as we navigate the 2024 election cycle together.



**Precinct 3 Commissioner James Noack**



**Precinct 3 Justice of the Peace Matt Beasley**

Judge Matt Beasley was born in Slidell, Louisiana and moved to The Woodlands in 1996 where he graduated from The Woodlands High School class of 2002. After graduating from the University of Houston-Downtown police academy, he was hired by Constable Tim Holifield as a Woodlands Patrol Deputy and later transferred to the Sheriff's Office where he worked for Sheriff Tommy Gage as a Detective before leaving to work for Commissioner James Noack as a project manager and later as Chief of Staff.

Judge Beasley has served the community in many different capacities, Grogan's Mill Village Association Former Vice President, member of The Woodlands First Baptist Church and past master of Oak Wood Masonic Lodge #1444 and was appointed to serve the Grand Lodge of Texas as the District Education Officer. He also served as the secretary to the City of Oak Ridge North Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone board of directors. Judge Beasley graduated with a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice Administration from Tarleton State University and is also a Certified Public Manager with the State of Texas through course work from the William P. Hobby center for public service at Texas State University.

Since Judge Beasley's election in November 2018, he and his professional court staff have implemented new dockets to provide better access to the court including: criminal night court; civil night court, and teen court. Providing more convenient times for the public to handle their cases has been a hallmark achievement for Judge Beasley and the court staff. It is the mission of the Justice of the Peace Court to serve the people of Montgomery County with professional and efficient administration of justice with integrity, fairness and respect.

Constable Gable started his law enforcement career with the Harris County Constable's Office Precinct 4 in 1993. During his career with that office, he worked all aspects of law enforcement and was promoted to the rank of Captain. He retired from the Harris County Constable's Office Precinct 4 in August of 2012. Constable Gable was elected to Constable of the Montgomery County Constable's Office Precinct 3 and went to work in his new position August 1, 2012. He is a TCOLE instructor, and has taught for numerous years with the Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas with Sam Houston State, Sam Houston's Bill Blackwood school of law and the Texas Justice Court Training Center with Texas State University. Constable Gable is a state expert in the management and service of Civil and Writ Process. He is married to his high school sweetheart and has two great children.



**Precinct 3 Constable Ryan Gable**

# Texas Federation of Republican Women Forty Under Forty Awards



Congratulations to these six members of our club who were selected by the Texas Federation of Republican Women as 40 Under 40 in the state!



## TWRW August 2023 Meeting

Last month we had a great legislative update from Representatives Cecil Bell, Valoree Swanson and Steve Toth.



## TFRW Third Quarter Board Meeting



TWRW members Jessica Hart Steinmann and Amy Van Horn participated in TFRW's third quarter board of directors meeting. We are all working together to KEEP TEXAS RED. Looking forward to the TFRW convention in October!



# Ways and Means

**Lisa Dunton**

Vice President Ways and Means



**Fabulous memories from our May, 2023 Derby party fundraiser!**



THE WOODLANDS REPUBLICAN WOMEN ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

# Derby party

at The Glade  
2000 Woodlands Pkwy



# Membership and Bylaws Reports

## Beverly Briggs

VP of Membership  
Bylaws Chair  
936-900-8430



### Membership:

The current membership for TWRW is 187 members (128 Primary, 59 Associate)! **JUMBO** status and continuing to grow!

Current memberships remain valid through December 2023. Registration for 2024 memberships will begin on November 1, 2023.



[CLICK HERE TO JOIN OR RENEW](#)

MEMBERSHIP QR

### Bylaws:

In accordance with TWRW Bylaws, a Nominating Committee shall be formed at the September general meeting. This committee is responsible for nominating the TWRW slate of elected officers for the year 2024. The committee will consist of 7 members, 5 nominated from the Executive Board and 2 nominated from the general membership, plus 2 alternates.

Committee members must be Primary TWRW members with no less than one year membership. For further details, please refer to [TWRW Bylaws](#), Article X, Section 1.

# Legislative Update

## Ann Herbek

Legislative Chair



On August 9, 2023, our own Senator Brandon Creighton welcomed Governor Greg Abbott to Montgomery County to sign bills providing historic tax relief for Texas taxpayers!

“New Caney, Texas– BREAKING: GOVERNOR ABBOTT CHOOSES SD 4 TO SIGN THE LARGEST PROPERTY TAX CUT IN HISTORY.

Today, Governor Abbott traveled to SD 4 to sign SB 2, SB 3 and HJR2 into law and highlight the incredible businesses and industry in Montgomery County. This \$18 billion package includes:

\$100,000 homestead exemption (400% increase since 2021)

\$12 Billion to reduce the school property tax rate

200% increase of the current franchise tax exemption for Texas small businesses

Increased transparency and accountability for homeowners when protesting their appraisal.

I was happy to welcome the Governor to SD 4 and be part of this historic win for Texas taxpayers – making sure you keep more of your hard earned money.”



**TWRW members in attendance to celebrate**



## Americanism Report: The Forgotten War of 1812

Dr. Shelley Sekula-Gibbs  
Americanism Chair



**Background:** In the last major battle of America's War of Independence, Gen. Lord Cornwallis' British regulars surrendered to Gen. George Washington's continental army and their French allies (Yorktown, VA, October 19, 1781). Two years later, both sides signed the Treaty of Paris (1783), officially ending eight years of bloody conflict that started with the Shot Heard Round the World (Battle of Lexington & Concord, MA, 1775).

Americans were weary of war and the nascent government was heavily in debt. They hoped for a lasting peace, but it was not to be. Britain operated freely in North America. It refused to relinquish forts in the northern and western border areas. Angry Americans continued to confiscate property from U.S. citizens who had remained loyal to the Crown during the war.

**The War of 1812:** The main reason for the War of 1812 was much more global. The deep-seated animosity between England and France escalated after the French Revolution. Napoleon and fellow revolutionaries were exporting their ideas and their power across Europe. England was threatened. The Napoleonic Wars (1799-1815) soon spilled onto the Atlantic Ocean. Both the French and the English took steps to control trade which negatively affected the US economy.

Equally loathsome, British warships seized over 400 U.S. merchant ships and their cargoes. They "impressed" up to 10,000 American seamen into British naval service, often spuriously calling the men British deserters.

To stop the piracy of American vessels and the enslavement of American sailors, President James Madison declared war on Britain in 1812. By 1814, the war ended in a draw, U.S. borders returned to antebellum status quo, and the British rescinded their blockade and capture of American sailors.

**Results of the War of 1812:** Historians' opinions of the War of 1812 continue to evolve. Some view it as insignificant, some as negative, and some as beneficial.

On the positive side, the USS Constitution Museum ([USSConstitutionMuseum.org](http://USSConstitutionMuseum.org)) cites the U.S. won

important battles, such as the bombardment of Fort McHenry, MD, where Francis Scott Key penned "The Star Spangled Banner." ([This 19th century version \(MP3\)](#)) version of the Star-Spangled Banner was performed on original instruments from the National Museum of American History's collection, as it would have been heard in 1854.) At the Battle of New Orleans, Major General Andrew Jackson won the battle against the British, won glory for himself, and became the 7th President of the United States. Approximately 125 years later, a country-western singer named Johnny Horton reacquainted the American public with this famous battle and won a Grammy for Song of the Year: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aXfuQgkwa5I>

New American heroes emerged during the War of 1812. These included U.S. Naval Commander Oliver H. Perry, whose blue and white pennant in the Battle of Lake Erie stated, "Don't Give Up the Ship." In Perry's victory message to General William Henry Harrison, he extolled, "We have met the enemy and they are ours."

The War of 1812 brought Dolley Madison lasting fame. This First Lady is remembered for her heroism, saving Executive Mansion papers and preserving the life-sized painting of Gen. George Washington from dishonor and destruction by British soldiers. The invading troops torched the presidential home, the U.S. Capitol, the Library of Congress and other Federal buildings but in so doing, emblazoned Mrs. Madison's reputation into the pages of history.

According to [WhiteHouseHistory.org](http://WhiteHouseHistory.org), "Dolley Madison... was home-grown, home-schooled, and down-to-earth..." and she set the standard for the role of the President's spouse.

The War of 1812 established new American symbols: the fighting frigate USS Constitution (Old Ironsides), the enormous Fort McHenry flag (30' x 42') and Uncle Sam, a Troy, NY businessman named Samuel Wilson who supplied barrels of meat to the US Army stamped "U.S." When asked what the initials stood for, one of Wilson's workers said it stood for Uncle Sam Wilson.

The War of 1812 was not a "Great War," a "Civil War," or a "War to End All Wars," but it was a profound event in American history and should never be forgotten.



## Literacy Committee Report

**Janel Volke**  
Literacy Committee Chair



The Woodlands Republican Women has always given our luncheon guest speaker a gift as a token of our appreciation. Last year, the Literacy Committee proposed we make a more meaningful and lasting tribute to each speaker by donating a book in their honor to a local library. One of our goals as a club is to provide a variety of ways to educate and inform our community about persons, events, and accomplishments that helped to make our country the greatest nation in all history. To forward this effort, the committee suggested to our board we choose children's books that relay stories inspiring patriotism, pride, and love of our country as the standard for guest speaker gifts. Some of the books talk of historical figures who helped shape our country, like President George Washington. Others highlight buildings, monuments, or symbols that represent important reminders of strength and unity, such as the White House, the Lincoln Memorial or the American flag. Still others incline the reader to appreciate the courage and sacrifices made by many to secure and keep our nation's freedom for all, such as the words of our national anthem which were penned by Francis Scott Key as he watched the battle of Fort McHenry from the bow of a British warship during the American Revolution.

Each book has an inscription stating the book was donated by The Woodlands Republican Women in honor of a guest speaker. Included is the speaker's name, title or position, and the date they spoke. The speaker is also invited to inscribe their own message and sign the book.

The criteria for books chosen are:

1. The story must be factually accurate.
2. They must be well written with correct grammar and punctuation.
3. All books are hardback so they will withstand years of use.
4. The books are large and colorful so children will be attracted to them.
5. The illustrations must be tasteful and appropriate to children.
6. The books should be suited to beginner or intermediate level readers.

Below you may find titles of some books The Woodlands Republican Women has chosen for this project.

*Liberty Lee's Tail of Independence* (Little Patriot Press)

*House Mouse, Senate Mouse* (Little Patriot Press)

*Woodrow, the White House Mouse* (Little Patriot Press)

*Marshall, the Courthouse Mouse* (Little Patriot Press)

*Our Flag Was Still There* (Jessie Hartland)

*30,000 Stitches, The Inspiring Story of the National 9/11 Flag* (Amanda Davis)

*Liberty Arrives!: How America's Grandest Statue Found Her Home* (Robert Byrd)

*This is Texas* (Miroslav Sasek)

*This is America* (Miroslav Sasek)

*Twenty-One Steps, Guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier* (Jeff Gottesfeld)

National Federation of Republican Women  
Caring for America



# SNACK DRIVE

BENEFITING OUR  
FIRST RESPONDERS



INDIVIDUALLY  
WRAPPED  
SNACK FOODS

Bring to TWRW  
luncheon on  
September 19



[Click here for August 15, 2023  
TWRW General Meeting Minutes](#)





## 2023 TWRW EXECUTIVE BOARD

If interested in serving with TWRW, please reach out to the committee chair. Thank you.

Position	Name	Email
President	Jessica Hart Steinmann	PresidentTWRW@gmail.com
First VP of Programs	Cindy Heiser	Cpheiser15@gmail.com
Second VP of Membership	Beverly Briggs	B.briggs57@icloud.com
Third VP of Ways & Means	Lisa Dunton	Sjdunton@prodigy.net
Treasurer	Patty Carter	Pattycarter@kw.com
Secretary (recording)	Dianne Holmes	DGHolmes817@yahoo.com
Secretary (corresponding)	Brenda Johnson	Brenda.johnson56@icloud.com
Americanism	Dr. Shelley Sekula-Gibbs	Sekulagibbs103@gmail.com
Awards	Amy Van Horn	Amy2rd@gmail.com
Bylaws	Beverly Briggs	B.briggs57@icloud.com
Campaign Activities	Susanna Cronin	Ssovrn@gmail.com
Caring for America	Alison Henderson	Henderson.alison@sbcglobal.net
Chaplain	Dr. Ashley Prince	Info@princehealth.org
Courtesy and Gifts	Brenda Key	Panthercreek2@sbcglobal.net
Courtesy and Gifts	Glenda Key	Mistybreeze2@sbcglobal.net
Greater Houston Council	Amy Van Horn	Amy2rd@gmail.com
Historian	Carolyn Donovan	Carolyn.donovan@40daysforlife.com
Hospitality	Ann Herbek	Aherbek814@att.net
Legislative	Ann Herbek	Aherbek814@att.net
Literacy	Janell Volke	Janellvolke@me.com
Newsletter	Dawn Allen	Dawn@wordenthusiast.org
Outreach	Rebecca Smith-Nash	Rebecca@counselingcentermoco.com
PAC Treasurer	Jessica Hart Steinmann	PresidentTWRW@gmail.com
Parliamentarian	Sheri Hummer	Ssdhummer@aol.com
Past President	Lisa Gilmore	Lisahgilmore@gmail.com
Publicity	Eva Ray	123ecray@gmail.com
Scholarship	Molly Smith	Bluefin27@hotmail.com

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