



Colorado Federation of Republican Women **TUSK TALK**



4TH QTR - 2023



Barbara Piper President



About three years ago when I wrote the first 'President Message' for Tusk Talk, I thought it was the hardest thing I had ever had to do. But I was wrong. This one is: my last.

I have gotten to know so many of you much better than I would have, had I not been in this position. I have truly appreciated your hospitality when I visited your clubs whether for regular meetings or your district meetings. While I won't attend as many now, I do hope I am able to continue with some.

When I first took over this position, my goal was to make Colorado Federation of Republican Women more relevant to the State of Colorado. I like to think with the help of a great board that was accomplished on some level. I want to thank each and every board member for all the effort put forward to make CFRW the strong organization it is.

When you pray for rain, you have to deal with mud and we have learned that we must work diligently and cohesively if we are to succeed.

As I turn over the reins of CFRW to Judith and the new board, I like to think that CFRW is stronger than it was. We have scored some victories along the way and I know there are more victories in our future with the new board.

There is no conservative institution in this great country that gives America hope for a better tomorrow than the National Federation of Republican Women and that includes each of you.

I want to 'Congratulate' the incoming board.

Thank you, Barbara

*Colorado Federation of Republican Women
President Barbara Piper, 2021 – 2023*



*You accepted the challenge of leadership
With grace and commitment*

Our New Officers

President
Judith
Jergensen



My early involvement in politics was highly encouraged by my very active Republican grandmother who impressed on me the importance of women in politics, and made sure I was informed and active in Colorado Republican politics while still in high school and college.

I am a fifth generation Coloradoan, the descendent of a Colorado pioneer family who settled here in 1864, and a member of the Territorial Daughters of Colorado.

As a founding member of the Sunrise Republican Women (SRW), chartered in 1994, I have been active in organized local and state politics for twenty-nine years.

The positions in which I have served include: SRW President, CFRW Member-at-Large, Treasurer, 1st Vice President, Bylaws Chairman, and District V Director. I served as the El Paso County GOP Secretary, EPC GOP Vice-Chairman, and EPC GOP Bonus Member, when El Paso County was the fourth most Republican County in the Nation! I serve my church as a member of the Bell Choir and a council member.

1st VP
Sheri Merz



Sheri Merz is a Native of Colorado who lives on a small piece of land in Elizabeth, Colorado. She has 5 grandchildren, 2 pups and 1 grand pup, a plethora of chickens, and 2 geese. She loves the snow even though she doesn't ski. Sheri describes herself as a Constitutional Conservative Hippy who LOVES Jesus.

Sheri ran for the 1st VP position on Courage and Respect. Her goal is to serve the women of CFRW hoping to help unite and strengthen the organization.

Our New Officers

2nd VP
Kerri
Catlin



Kerri Catlin is an active member of both the Montrose Republican Women and Montrose County GOP since 2016. She serves as President of MRW and Public Relations Chair of the Montrose GOP. Kerri also works as Chief of Staff for House District 58 Representative Marc Catlin.

Kerri's professional career began as a broadcast anchor and reporter for KREY-TV in Montrose and then KJCT-TV in Grand Junction. She advanced her skills in commercial production and as Promotions Manager for the KREX-TV Network. In a move back to Montrose, Kerri was hired as KREY-TV Station Manager and Sales Director.

In a career move, Kerri earned her teaching certificate. For 13 years she taught middle school Language Arts and Reading for 7th and 8th graders. She was the yearbook sponsor and photographer, as well as a coach for girls' volleyball, basketball, and track.

Kerri is excited to use all her skills and relations to increase membership and elevate the presence of the Colorado Federation of Republican Women.

3rd VP
Wendy
Warner



Wendy Warner is a "veteran" Republican worker, having served as Denver County GOP Chair three times, President of Denver Republican Women, Campaign Manager for a winning State Representative, National Delegate, CFRW Secretary and now CFRW 3rd Vice President.

She earned both her undergraduate and master's degrees from the University of Colorado School of Business and enjoyed a career in new product development and market strategy in the communications and internet services industries both in the U.S. and abroad.

In her retirement, in addition to politics, Wendy has been enjoying skiing and hiking. She has three grown children, two grandsons and a highly energetic Springer Spaniel.

Wendy says what she loves most about her CFRW job is the opportunity to travel across our State and meet such incredible, active Republican Women!

Our New Officers

4th VP
Leanne
Thompson



Leanne is a Colorado native who grew up in Littleton and lives in Lakewood. A lifelong Republican, she got involved in politics when her husband brought her to a caucus meeting in their neighborhood.

She is Chairman of Jefferson County HD23. President and former Recording Secretary of the Jefferson County Republican Women (JCRW), Leanne has been a Delegate and/or Alternate to the Jefferson County Assemblies and Colorado State Republican Assemblies, precinct caucus Secretary/Treasurer, worked with Republican candidates by calling, walking, and other activities to help get them elected for over 20 years.

She is a member of and/or attends the Arvada Grassroots Conservative group, Wine and Tapas South Jeffco and Lone Tree groups, Mountain Republican group, Arapahoe Tea Party, Ganahl Girls, and other Republican groups when the schedule allows.

A graduate of CSU in computer science, she installed legislative computer systems in state and local governments for many years. Currently, Leanne is a software quality engineer at a company that provides advanced electronics for space applications.

Treasurer
Carla
Alley



I am excited to serve as CFRW's new Treasurer for the 2024-2026 term. I have a husband, Dave, 3 children, 5 grandkids, and 2 sons-in-law and love spending time with them.

I retired from 3M five years ago. I have gotten involved with politics trying to improve our country, state and county.

My degree is in Business Management. I have a double minor in Accounting and Music and look forward to helping CFRW in this position.

Secretary
Susy
Johnson



We weren't able to track Susy down for her bio for this issue. Apparently, aside from being busy with her duties with her club, Denver RW, she has dove right into her new position as CFRW Secretary! We'll find out more about her in the coming weeks!

Our New Officers

Members at Large

Julianne
McPadden
Fundraising



I attended Drake University, majored in Political Science then headed to Washington, DC to work on Capitol Hill. It was there I met Russ, my husband of 43 years. Russ was active-duty Navy. We lived throughout the United States and overseas. I was also blessed to work on several aircraft programs supporting the military through Lockheed Martin and L3.

I love spending time with my family/grandchildren, travelling, reading, art, music, and the theater.

I also remain active in the political arena and volunteer throughout the community. Our Sunrise Republican Women's Club in Colorado Springs, CO keeps me busy throughout the year. It's also my pleasure serving as the CFRW, Member at Large for Fundraising.

Elizabeth
Riggs
Awards



Hello! My name is Elizabeth Riggs. I'm a mother of three amazing grown adults and a mom to a very large puppy who believes he's a tiny dog. I'm a strong godly woman.

I've been a Republican since I was knee high to a grasshopper. I have a strong back ground as an Events Coordinator for over 30 plus years.

I've been a resident in El Paso County in Colorado Springs for as long as I can remember. I'm so excited about this group and I look forward to working and getting to know each and every one of you.

Shandy
Deakins
Publicity



Greetings! I am a third generation cattle rancher in Northwest Colorado. This year is my 23rd year working in the ever changing medical field. I have volunteered for our County Fair for 20+ years helping kids with their beef projects and have sat on the Fair board for 15 years.

I am a member of our local Cattlemen's Association, Cattlewomen's Association, and President of our Republican Women's club and Treasurer of the Republican Central Committee. I participate in the wolf reintroduction meetings and State of the River meetings on the Western Slope. I have been rescuing Jack Russell Terriers for 20 years.

I have always had a passion for politics and keeping our freedoms.

CFRW Fall Convention 2023



New CFRW Officers



Susy Johnson, Secretary
 Leanne Thompson, Fourth VP
 Carla Alley, Treasurer
 Judith Jergensen, President
 Wendy Warner, Third VP
 Sheri Merz, First VP
 Kerri Catlin, Second VP



NFRW 42nd BI-ENNIAL CONVENTION 2023



JUDITH JERGENSEN 1ST VICE PRESIDENT



The 85th Colorado Federation of Republican Women Convention and Board of Directors meeting provided us with much valuable information as we move forward to the 2024 elections. Our speakers included:

Ben Murray, Director of the Independence Institute's Fiscal Policy Center. He explained what Proposition HH really says, and gave us data to use to urge others to vote no on HH.

Representative Mike Lynch, House Minority Leader presented an update on the proceedings at the capitol this last session, and issued an impassioned plea to educate the electorate on the dangers of the lopsided super-majority control in the State government.

Steve Schleiker, El Paso County Clerk and Recorder spoke on Rank Choice Voting and how it could negatively affect elections and prevent the clear selection of a first choice winner.

Mark Waller, former State Representative and El Paso County Commissioner, explained what Dark Money is and how it is used. One simple example is the money collected through Small Donor Committees which can represent a very large contribution from multiple small donors.

Our Saturday dinner speaker was Debbie Georgatos, the host of "America, Can We Talk?" and a candidate for RNC National Committeewoman from Texas. She urged us to stand up for our beliefs and our freedoms. We cannot stay quiet any longer while our country is at risk.

As a special surprise, the founder of our Republican Party, President Abraham Lincoln and his wife, Mary Todd Lincoln, joined us. Mr. Lincoln addressed us and also offered an invocation. The Lincolns were a tangible reminder of who we were, and what we need to be.



CFRW CENTENNIAL CLUB 2023

Centennial Club members receive a few extra benefits to say thank you. These include preferred seating, special acknowledgement at

CFRW functions and in written publications along with a special reception available only to Centennial Club members. There's room to add your name.....

Judy Allen
Evie Ashmore
Sandra Aste*
Judy Bohn
Kerri Catlin*
Nila Croll*
Julie Frank*
Gerry Gifford
Joan Griep
Teri Guthrie*

Mary Halbert*
Patricia Holte
Charles Holte
Judith Jergensen
Jerry Jergensen
Susy Johnson
Marty Kinsley*
Marge Klein
Victoria Lundquist
Olivia McCaffery
Sherri Merz

Renee Nelson
Barbara Piper
Rose Pugliese
Melinda Raliff*
Andrea Richardson
Marie Rossmiller
Deanna Schott-Grace*
Gillian Smith
Leanne Thompson*
Dona Troyer
Wendy Warner

New Members*

The Centennial Club is very important to the support of the Colorado Federation of Republican Women. We sincerely appreciate our NEW and renewing memberships for 2023.

Centennial Club Co-Chairs: Evie Ashmore and Joan Griep

Colorado Federation of Republican Women - Small Donor Committee Individual may donate a maximum of \$50 per calendar year.

Check, payable to: **CFRW Small Donor Committee**, % Judith Jergensen, 12915 McCune Rd, Elbert, CO 80106
Please PRINT

NAME _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

If \$50 - please provide Employer _____

And Occupation/Retired _____



Lessons From a Christmas Tree...

Princess Sassy Pants & Co.™

- ★ Twinkle.
- ★ Share your gifts.
- ★ Bring joy to others.
- ★ Be a light in the darkness.
- ★ We all fall over sometimes.
- ★ You were born to sparkle...even if your garland's a little droopy.
- ★ It's okay to be a little tilted.

~Jane Lee Logan

“On Christmas, we celebrate the birth of Christ with prayer, feasting, and great merriment. But, most of all, we experience it in our hearts. For, more than just a day, Christmas is a state of mind. It is found throughout the year whenever faith overcomes doubt, hope conquers despair, and love triumphs over hate. It is present when men of any creed bring love and Understanding to the hearts of their fellow man. The feeling is seen in the wondrous faces of children and in the hopeful eyes of the aged. It overflows the hearts of cheerful givers and the souls.”

— Ronald Reagan Christmas Message 1981



President: Eileen Sobjack

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703.548.9688 | mail@nfrw.org

NFRW BENEFITS:

Your club annual dues include your \$20 National Membership giving you access to:

A robust national website and member database management system that connects the entire Federation and provides key membership services, including administrative access and capabilities at the club level.

The NFRW's electronic communications, including the weekly and monthly newsletters and political briefings, and free or nominally priced publications like the Leader's Guide, Membership Handbook, Legislative Advocacy Manual, and outreach/recruitment materials.

The Member Center, a private online network on the NFRW web site available to members only. The Member Center includes a member directory and the Digital Resource Library, which features committee and issue-related resources and materials, general organizational publications and forms, event information, graphics, and more.

Assistance in creating new clubs, launching or updating a state or club web site, and other membership services.

Sample materials, multimedia and resources that assist states and clubs with public relations and fundraising efforts, membership recruitment, campaign and issue advocacy programs, meeting planning, literacy and armed services initiatives, leadership development, community service, and more.

Campaign Management Schools, Legislative Day at the U.S. Capitol, and other programs, workshops and seminars that offer members the opportunity to meet national Republican leaders, discuss key issues, and develop leadership and professional skills.

Networking opportunities and the ability to meet and develop relationships with women from across the country through online discussion forums and national events such as the biennial convention and annual board meetings. NFRW's national events include interactive workshops, exciting speakers, and informative programs and discussions.

Representation in Washington, D.C., including the services of a professional staff and maintenance of NFRW headquarters – located in Alexandria, Virginia, a few miles from Capitol Hill.

National Federation of Republican Women

WENDY WARNER

THIRD VICE PRESIDENT

Convention Report



It has been another busy year for all our Districts and their clubs. There were 9 District Meetings, with one being a joint meeting of Districts IV and VI. I was pleased that most clubs had good representation at their District Meetings, even when there was considerable travel required. Most of the speakers and discussion centered on the harmful actions of the Democrat dominated State Legislature and concern about public schools' sometimes hidden agenda with our children. The school issue has pushed many clubs to become more involved in this fall's school board elections.

I highly encourage all CFRW members to attend both their own District Meeting and other District Meetings. It is inspiring to meet so many women motivated to make a difference through their political involvement and to see how many ways the clubs have found to influence their communities. You will get many ideas for your own club by visiting with clubs across our state!

At the fall CFRW Board of Directors Meeting and Convention, the following women were elected as District Directors by their districts:

District	2022 Director	Email
I	Ashley Troxell	Ashley@psyched4.com
II	Sandra Aste	SandyAste@gmail.com
III North	Alice Bumgarner	alibum195@gmail.com
III SE	VACANT	-
III SW	Terri Oliger	toliger1@hotmail.com
IV	Judy Allen	starall2@comcast.net
V	Sandy Shakes	3255Sandy@gmail.com
VI	Evie Ashmore	jeashmore@comcast.net
VII-N	Dona Troyer	donatroyer@gmail.com
VII-S	VACANT	-
VIII	Gillian Smith and Sydney Carabelos	countrix1@gmail.com scara-belos@icloud.com

I thank the CFRW members for allowing me to serve as 3rd Vice President the last two years. I have greatly enjoyed meeting so many of you. CFRW's strength is in working together to educate and involve women in supporting the principles of the Republican Party and to elect Republican candidates. Thank you for all your work.

District and Club Reports



***All submissions for the
1st Quarter 2024 MUST BE IN
to Billie Nigro***

NLT 15 March 2024
(The earlier, the better!)

To:
BillieN.COREpWomen@gmail.com

DISTRICT I

Ashley Troxel, Director

On October 23rd, Denver Republican Women, along with Americans for Prosperity and Denver County Republicans, held a phone bank to educate voters about Proposition HH. We were thrilled to bring together dedicated volunteers to help citizens defend their rights. The event kicked-off with an inspirational talk from Ben Murrey of the Independence Institute about the deceptive ballot measure. His briefing empowered our volunteers with the knowledge to expose Prop HH's dangerous consequences to voters across the state.

After making calls, our volunteers enjoyed refreshments while watching the lively Prop HH debate. The Denver Gazette and 9 News hosted a spirited exchange between supporters Governor Jared Polis and Arthur Laffer, and opponents Representative Rose Pugliese and Michael Fields. This showdown underscored the compelling case against Prop HH.

We are deeply grateful to our volunteers and partners for helping score this victory for freedom and responsibility in government. Our grassroots activism helped defeat this attack on taxpayer rights. Working together, we showed the power of an informed electorate to safeguard democracy



Ben Murrey, Director of Independence Institutes' Fiscal Policy Center (Speaker), Michael Alarcon, Coalition Director with Americans for Prosperity (to his right), and volunteers with Denver County Republicans

DISTRICT II
Marty Nielsen, Director



Boulder RW – Marty Kinsey, President;
Larimer County RW – Sandra Aste, President;
Longmont RW – Tara Menza, President
Summit County RW – Tess Scalise, President

District II held their meeting Saturday, September 28, in conjunction with the CFRW Board Meeting and Convention, at the Embassy Suites, Loveland, Colorado. Only two member clubs were represented, Boulder RW and Larimer County RW. First on the agenda was to elect the District II Director. Two were nominated, Marty Neilson and Sandra Aste. Since Sandra wanted the position, Marty withdrew and Sandra was elected by acclamation. Second agenda item was to elect the representative to CFRW bylaw committee. Olivia McCaffrey and Marty Neilson were nominated. Nominees left the room for the election. Marty was elected. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Boulder President Linda Weber, CFRW Past President Jacque Stafford, Boulder RW Past President Theresa Watson, CFRW Past President Marty Neilson at NFRW Convention.

DISTRICT IV
Judy Allen, Director
And
DISTRICT VI
Evie Ashmore, Director

The combined Districts 4 & 6 Luncheon was held on August 5 co-hosted by the Cherry Creek Republican Women, CCRW, Douglas County Republican Women, DCRW and Elbert County Republican Women, ECRW at the Double Tree Hotel by Hilton in Greenwood Village. Guests were in awe of Ryann Swan's essay sponsored by the ECRW entitled "Is the US a Republic or a Democracy?".

The Honorable Rose Pugliese, Colorado State House Assistant to the Republican Minority Leader spoke about how the other party who has complete control of the Governor's office, and Legislature ran the agenda. Our side used the tool they had culminating with a walk out at the end of the session as the other side wasn't interested in what they had to say. She ended her talk with a Call to Action to defeat Proposition HH.

CFRW Offices in attendance were CFRW President Barbara Piper, CFRW 1st Vice President Judith Jergensen and CFRW 3rd Vice President Wendy Warner.



DISTRICT V

Judith Jergensen, Director

The clubs of District V, El Paso County Republican Women and Sunrise Republican Women, concluded a year of multiple activities, service and accomplishments with special December meetings.

El Paso County Republican Women's last meeting of the year was a celebration of the season and Trivia Night. Those attending enjoyed a catered dinner from La Casita Mexican restaurant and a fun-filled evening of memory testing trivia. They generously contributed monetary donations to Partners in Housing.

The Sunrise Republican Women celebrated with a Christmas Open House – a more relaxed change from previous years, with an abundance of hors d'oeuvres, wassail, wine, and desserts. Sharing the spirit of the season, rather than a gift exchange, donations were made to two local nonprofit organizations. Gift cards and cash were donated to Partners in Housing, and warm hats, socks and gloves were collected for the Springs Rescue Mission.

All of us in District V wish all of you in the Colorado Federation of Republican Women a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Sunrise
Members



The cool
guys who
support us



Friends

El Paso County RW Trivia Night Members
and Friends



DISTRICT VI

Evie Ashmore, Director

I attended the CFRW Convention held in Loveland at the Embassy Suites, October 28-30.

Former President Abraham Lincoln and former first lady Mary Todd Lincoln attended. District 4 and District 6 Director, Judy Allen and Evie Ashmore are with the President.



President Barbara Piper arranged speakers who were very interesting and informative.

I was elected at the District Directors meeting and will continue to serve as District 6 Director.

I attended the NFRW Meeting in Oklahoma City August 31 – September 3 as a CFRW delegate at large.

The speakers were excellent, and my two favorites were Riley Gaines and Gordon Chang. Being around like-minded women was such a great experience.



CHERRY CREEK RW

Dorothy Gotlieb , President

After taking off the months of July and August, our speaker for September was Derrick Wilburn, former GOP Chair and founder of POC Capitol Interns. He became famous for his 65 million clicks on the speech he gave to the school board. He spoke on CRT – Christian Race Theory. His presentation was riveting.

CCRW partnered with Arapahoe County Republicans to host the annual summer picnic. We donated items for the silent auction, prizes and time to decorate.

The October Program was Michael Fields, President of Advance Colorado who spoke about Proposition HH and how deceiving this ballot initiative was put together. He urged all to vote NO on proposition HH.

CCRW members were busy in the month of October. Our Small Donor Committee issued checks to 11 candidates in Arapahoe County consisting of school boards and city council races.

Friends of Cherry Creek co-hosted fundraisers for 11 candidates to help them in their campaigns.



Michael Fields,
President of
Advance Colorado

CHERRY CREEK NEW OFFICERS FOR 2024

Dorothy Gotlieb, President

Susan Struna, 1st Vice President,
with help from Linda Stevens

Lynne Cottrell, 2nd Vice President

Mary Elizabeth Conroy, Secretary

EL PASO COUNTY RW

Candi Boyer, President



Club

Our Chili Judges had some tough decisions to pick the top 3 chili entries for our Chili Cook Off Competition.

The men took 2 ½ of the 3 wins. The winning team was a husband and wife duo. Women, you'll have to step up your game next year!

President Candi



Boyer and our

The Pie Auction brought out the true competition! We sold over a dozen pies and there was some fierce bidding going on.



of



Our Clerk & Recorder, Steve Schleiker and Sheriff Joe Roybal got into the spirit of being the auctioneers. Congressman Doug Lamborn graciously donated the pies to be auctioned. We thank him and Mrs. Lamborn for their generous support of our club.



Club President Candi Boyer and our Volunteer of the Year, Rosanna Cheek attended the NFRW Biennial Convention in Oklahoma City. We enjoyed being part of the Colorado Delegation and enjoyed many of the speakers, including Riley Gaines.



President and Mrs. Lincoln spoke to the CFRW Convention in Loveland in October. We had Four delegates who attended and participated in the process of electing new officers. Our own Elizabeth Riggs was elected to be Awards Chair!

SUNRISE RW
Sandy Shakes, President

SRW is finishing up our 2023 program theme: "Showcasing our Community and Looking to the Future." Our presenters included

- Dave Donelson, City Councilman;
- Michael Allen, El Paso County DA;
- David Shakes, 4th Judicial District Judge;
- Lauren Shakes, Associate Director of Small Business Development Center;
- Greg Phillips, Director of the Colorado Springs Airport;
- Jack Briggs, CEO of Springs Rescue Mission;
- Randy Royal, Colorado Springs Fire Chief;
- Representatives Terry Carver and Don Wilson;
- Dr. Emily Russel-Kinsley, Deputy Medical Examiner of El Paso County.



The showcasing of El Paso County gave our members and guests a better understanding of our vibrant community and insight into the opportunities and challenges of the future for El Paso County.



You never know who will show up at a fun Christmas party!



MESA COUNTY RW
Linda Weber, President

September was the Reagan Dinner (formerly Lincoln Day Dinner) with the Mesa County GOP. The silent auction had over 34 items for auction, we also raffled a gun, a quilt and a liquor basket and had 8 great items for the live auction, which is always full of entertainment. We raised over \$10,000 to help with the 2024 election. The women also hosted a BBQ for Colorado State Board of Education member Stephen Valera celebrating National Hispanic Heritage Month. We are hoping to connect with the Hispanic members of our community and network with them to join our group and cause.

The October luncheon was a presentation by Andra Haitz, president of the Mesa County school district along with one of our candidates for school board.

November and December will finish out the year with speakers in November and our annual Christmas luncheon featuring another raffle, a Christmas tree ornament exchange and special music by our one of our local high school choirs.

Mesa County Women want to wish you all a Merry Christmas and happy holiday season. See you in 2024 to victory for our state and nation.

JEFFERSON COUNTY RW
Leanne Thompson, President

Our Featured Speaker in August was Nancy Pallozzi, the new Chair of the Jefferson County Republicans (JCR). She gave us an update on what is happening with the Jeffco GOP and described the upcoming events which are displayed on the www.jeffcorepublicans.com. In September, we installed the new JCRW Board of Directors. Lisa Mumma with Grandparents 4 Kids was our Guest Speaker. In October, we had our successful 62nd Annual Chili Supper Fundraiser. We honored our Guest Speaker, the Bandimere's, for their contribution to Jefferson County as the Bandimere Speedway will be closing at the end of the year. At our November meeting, we will Honor those that Serve with Special Guest Speaker, Hope Scheppleman, who served in the United States Navy and is the Colorado GOP Vice Chairman. In December, we have fun at our Christmas Brunch.

SUMMIT COUNTY RW

Tess Scalise, President

Summit County Republican Women would like to thank everyone who was actively involved in the November 7 school board elections – knocking on doors, supporting excellent candidates, writing letters to the editor, and sharing information about the failing Summit School District achievement scores. Committed to improving student academic performance, these volunteers embodied the true principles of responsible self-government by participating fully in the electoral process.

We continue our efforts to overcome local media bias and censorship. We have met with the editor of the local newspaper and asked why letters to the editor have not been published. We have challenged the inaccurate statements of columnists in the paper and questioned the double standards related to fact checking. To provide some exposure to conservative opinions, we have posted unpublished (and published) letters to the editor on our website and Facebook page. Our chapter is also using Instagram and a newsletter to “Get Our Message Out” to our members and others in the community.

As the holidays approach, we look forward to being together with family and friends, taking time to refresh our spirits and rebuild strength for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead in 2024.



Summit County Republicans Mike and Barb Tabb (center) greeted guest speakers Lori Gimelshteyn (left) and Pam Benigno (right) at the annual Republican picnic in Breckenridge on August 5th.

MONTEZUMA COUNTY RW

Lori York, President

Republican Women of Montezuma County held their annual Freedom Night fundraiser on Saturday October 7. Our Speakers were Joe Oltmann of the Conservative-Daily podcast, and David Clements, an Attorney and former Law Professor from New Mexico. Both men were very gracious to fly in from Denver for our event.

David Clements premiered a trailer for his upcoming Documentary “Let My People Go” and spoke on the evidence of the fraud in the 2020 Election. Joe Oltmann discussed how each of us can make a difference in our local government by following his motto of “Pray, Stand, Speak and Act”. He demonstrated their “Gideon Project” as we participated in a “mock” protest at our County Commissioners Meeting.

Everyone at the event enjoyed a BBQ dinner and a silent auction, and all were inspired to get involved in the effort to remove the voting machines from our elections.

Both speakers thanked us for inviting them to our event, which amazed us as we were so very grateful to them for coming to our small town! They speak all over the country and they both agreed that this was one of the best events that they had attended.

We are now organizing a group to begin approaching our county commissioners to get rid of the election machines for the 2024 election. The Republican Women of Montezuma County are dedicated to returning Free and Fair Elections to our country .



Emiko South, Treasurer
Professor David Clements
Lori York, President
Joe Oltmann
Lynda Lynch, VP

ARCHULETA COUNTY RW

Penny Webster, President

Time has flown past as we enter the end of 2023! Archuleta County Republican Women have come together for various events. Our September event was a Constitutional Study with esteemed lecturer, Joshua Sharf, from the Independence Institute. It was our third year in hosting and it was well attended and awesomely inspiring!

October brought a brave Patriot, Nichole Belland, a pharmacist with Safeway in Cortez, who refused to give the Covid vaccine and lost her job in the process. She had the most inspiring story that was so well received that the meeting extended time by almost an hour!

We will be doing an adopt-a-road clean up this month and our next meeting will have Clark Craig, candidate for D-59 legislative district introducing his plans for the office if elected.

Catch you all in 2024!

OURAY COUNTY RW

Carroll Mitchell, President

Members of our group served as Election Judges, and helped put on our successful County Lincoln Day Dinner.

Our last meeting of 2023 will be a fundraiser for local nonprofits.



Our Flag Brigade placed flags in Ridgway for Labor Day, Patriot's Day, and Veteran's Day.

DOUGLAS COUNTY RW

Barbara Piper, President

The last few months we have been busy with the election and great programs for our members.

In September, we heard from Ben Murrey from the Independence Institute on the disastrous Prop HH that was on the ballot he let us know just how bad it was and the necessity for us to encourage everyone to vote against it and 'Hooray' it was defeated in November.

October Deborah Flora spoke on the border and our children, she is so knowledgeable on the border situation it is frightening to hear the real truth about the situation there.

November was our Annual Meeting and this is the year we elected officers, I am term limited as President and have so enjoyed the opportunity to serve my club in that capacity and a fantastic new board was elected this month to lead us forward in 2024.

President	Susan Squyer
1 st VP	Shelly Bauer
3 rd VP	Judy Allen
Treasurer	Jane Sievers
Recording Sec.	Holly Kluth
Corresponding Sec	Laura Hefta



NORTHWEST RW
Shandy Deakins, President

This quarter we pushed all the way to the finish line (up to the day of election) educating people on proposition HH. Members went to our community center, churches and business and posted flyers. Several members offered to pick up voters and take them to the polls so they could vote. We also offered to deliver their ballots to our Court House in hopes of a decent voter turnout on a non-election year.

We currently have 20 members and gained an associate member this quarter. We had two Members attend the Fall Convention. We met new people and gained more friends. We spent time networking with members and discussed issues, potential solutions and brain storming new ideas. We found convention to be informative, very motivating and exciting. In our district we had three members that were elected.

Our club is currently helping plan the Lincoln Day Dinner in February. The club has decided to cancel our December meeting and have a Christmas luncheon instead. We plan to spend this time catching up with our members outside of politics and have lots of laughs.

LARIMER COUNTY RW
Sandra Aste, President

This has been a very exciting year with lots of growth and activity as we impact our communities. Our LCRW club served our County and State at several GOP gatherings, as well as walking in a half dozen Parades over the Summer, manning GOP booths at community events, providing Office Volunteers and Campaigning for Republican Candidates. We rallied the troops to visit the Capital to testify on Bills before various Committees, with some positive outcomes. Our By-laws are updated and new Board Officers will be elected during our next meeting at CB & Potts, Nov 14th. (Topic: Election Results with our new County Clerk, Tina Harris)

Our interesting and educational monthly meeting speakers ranged from local activists and candidate forums to State Reps and authors like Laura Carno and Ret Admiral Dr Brett Girior. We even had "Abe Lincoln" bring a lively discussion in September and participated in promoting Constitution Week! This past month we hosted a Socialism Panel, featuring fearless women sharing their personal stories. These presentations have been cutting-edge, timely and eye-opening, encouraging personal involvement in forward movement.

LCRW hosted the Colorado State District 2 Luncheon with the Honorable House Minority Leader Mike Lynch and radio talk show host Kim Munson. We all really enjoyed hosting the Colorado Federation of Republican Women's State Convention here in Larimer at the Embassy Suites. It was great to see everyone and feel energy, as we pulled together in unity!

Four of our members chose to attend the NFRW Convention, which was lively, informative and encouraging as we elected new leadership. These current events brought home to us how vitally important these Conventions are, as NFRW has been a leader for nearly a century promoting our principles and values across the nation. We must do our part to see that our new Officers have that same capacity to stand for truth, along with our other elected officials..



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BOULDER RW

LeMoine Dowd, President

September 19, 2023 our Boulder Republican Women speaker was Tara Menza, the new Chairwoman for Boulder County Republicans. We met for the first time at our new location, 95@ Bistro in Lafayette, CO. Tara is the mother of 6 and has been President of Longmont Republican Women for 3 years. She has taken on the BCR Chairmanship with her usual gusto! She is a woman who acts instead of complains. She shared her views on the BCR and encouraged us all to network and form relationships.

September 28, 2023: Marty Neilson was the BRW representative to the NFRW Convention in Oklahoma City. At the last BRW meeting Marty presented the BRW Resolution to Protect the Membership of the National Federation of Republican Women. It was passed unanimously at BRW and forwarded to CFRW President Barbara Piper. BRW also passed a Call to Action to Protect the Membership of the National Federation of Republican Women, CFRW, and BRW with emails urging action to allow only women to be members of our organization. A similar resolution was passed at the NFRW convention. THANK YOU Marty!

October 17, 2023 Ben Murrey from ndependence Institute told BRW members "The Truth About Prop HH". Obviously, Ben did a great job fighting HH as it lost in the election!

October 27, 2023
Marty Kinsley, Gerry Gifford, Marty Neilson, and Mary Halbert were BRW delegates to CFRW Convention in Loveland.

November 14, 2023 BRW heard from Kim Monson, host of TWO radio shows on KLZ 560 AM, FM, KLZ website and the KLZ app. She enthralled our members with some stories from the nearly 200 WWII Veterans she has interviewed. In addition, Kim told us how to WATCH FOR FREE her film that's changing the **conversation** on **climate** change - it's free of politics. aclimateconversation.com Those of us who have seen the film, highly recommend it!

MONTROSE RW

Kerri Catlin, President

This fourth quarter has been busy with events educating our members and community about district school board candidates and ballot issues for the 2023 Coordinated Election.

In September, we held a 30-minute meet and greet for school board candidates, then had our Clerk and Recorder discuss the voting process and ballot issue wording. We adjourned and took a tour of the new Clerk's office and elections facility.

October's meeting/program was a small panel of county officials discussing Proposition HH and Proposition II. The panel made initial comments and then took questions from the floor. Subsequently, MRW sent out sharable emails to our members, CFRW executive members and chapter presidents with informational flyers on Prop HH. We have continued to push this Information out through our social media during the election cycle. Our get-out-the-vote campaign included an ad in the local electronic newspaper reminding people to vote.

November is our annual "Giving Thanks - Civic Awards" ceremony. We have six community members/organizations (non-partisan) we honor for their unique and amazing volunteer efforts. Of course, we will have a Thanksgiving potluck and December will be our Christmas 'Chili' Party.

Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and looking forward to an exciting New Year!



A New Christmas Story

My husband and I had been happily married (most of the time) for five years but hadn't been blessed with a baby. I decided to do some serious praying and promised God that if he would give us a child, I would be a perfect mother, love it with all my heart and raise it with His word as my guide. God answered my prayers and blessed us with a son.

The next year God blessed us with another son. The following year, He blessed us with yet another son. The year after that we were blessed with a daughter. My husband thought we'd been blessed right into poverty. We now had four children, and the oldest was only four years old. I learned never to ask God for anything unless I meant it. As a minister once told me, "If you pray for rain, make sure you carry an umbrella."

I began reading a few verses of the Bible to the children each day as they lay in their cribs.. I was off to a good start. God had entrusted me with four children and I didn't want to disappoint Him.

- I tried to be patient the day the children smashed two dozen eggs on the kitchen floor searching for baby chicks.

- I tried to be understanding... when they started a hotel for homeless frogs in the spare bedroom, although it took me nearly two hours to catch all twenty-three frogs.

- When my daughter poured ketchup all over herself and rolled up in a blanket to see how it felt to be a hot dog, I tried to see the humor rather than the mess..

In spite of changing over twenty-five thousand diapers, never eating a hot meal and never sleeping for more than thirty minutes at a time, I still thank God daily for my children.

While I couldn't keep my promise to be a perfect mother -I didn't even come close... I did keep my promise to raise them in the Word of God.

I knew I was missing the mark just a little when I told my daughter we were going to church to worship God, and she wanted to bring a bar of soap along to "wash up" Jesus, too.

Something was lost in the translation when I explained that God gave us everlasting life, and my son thought it was generous of God to give us his "last wife."

My proudest moment came during the children's Christmas pageant. My daughter was playing Mary, two of my sons were shepherds and my youngest son was a wise man. This was their moment to shine. My five-year-old shepherd had practiced his line, "We found the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes." But he was nervous and said, "The baby was wrapped in wrinkled clothes." My four-year-old "Mary" said, "That's not 'wrinkled clothes,' silly. That's dirty, rotten clothes." A wrestling match broke out between Mary and the shepherd and was stopped by an angel, who bent her halo and lost her left wing. I slouched a little lower in my seat when Mary dropped the doll representing Baby Jesus, and it bounced down the aisle crying, "Mama-mama." Mary grabbed the doll, wrapped it back up and held it tightly as the wise men arrived.

My other son stepped forward wearing a bathrobe and a paper crown, knelt at the manger and announced, "We are the three wise men, and we are bringing gifts of gold, common sense and fur." The congregation dissolved into laughter, and the pageant got a standing ovation.

"I've never enjoyed a Christmas program as much as this one," laughed the pastor, wiping tears from his eyes. "For the rest of my life, I'll never hear the Christmas story without thinking of gold, common sense and fur."

"My children are my pride and my joy and my greatest blessing," I said as I dug through my purse for an aspirin.

ENJOY A MOST BLESSED 2024

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