



# THE BEACON

## NORTH SHORE REPUBLICAN WOMEN

WINNER OF THE TEXAS FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN BEST NEWSLETTER AWARD 2020-2021

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January 2024

Region XVII, Senate Dist. 4



### President's Letter - Leigh Billingsley

Happy New Year! Yes, it is 2024 and with the upcoming election seasons it will be a busy year for Republican

Women. With the success of prior year's fundraisers we are very well financially set to support our candidates with \$50,000 set aside for candidate donations, and \$30,000 for Keep Montgomery Red.

The Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, March 5th. Because this impacts our local authorities it is important that we get out the vote as many of these folks impact our daily lives. I encourage you all to attend our upcoming Republican Candidate Forum led by Debora Gentz on Tuesday, January 30th. You can meet and talk to candidates from 5:00 – 6:00, with the forum running from 6:00 – 8:00.

Our Membership Chair, Genette Stanton, has been actively working to increase our membership – so important especially in an election year. Don't forget the New Member Wine & Cheese Party tomorrow night, January 18th, at 6:00 p.m. I look forward to seeing you soon!



- Carolyn Jones  
1st Vice President/Programs



### Monthly Meeting Wednesday, February 7, 2024

**Bentwater COUNTRY Club**  
800 Bentwater Dr.  
Montgomery, TX

### Program: Rebecca Smith, Founder and CEO of Love Heals Youth

Rebecca Smith is a Licensed Professional Counselor and Supervisor. She is also trained as a Parent Facilitator/Parent Coordinator and Mediator. Rebecca facilitates workshops and training programs on various topics related to high conflict divorce and custody modification across the nation. Rebecca graduated with Honors from Southwest Texas State University. After her Bachelor's, Rebecca moved to Huntsville and graduated with Honors from Sam Houston State University with a Masters of Arts in Counseling. Immediately following her Master's program, Rebecca attended the PhD program in Counseling for 5 semesters. Rebecca has been working with children since 1998 and has been in the mental health field since 2003.

Rebecca recognized the profound need to expand her philanthropy work and founded the nonprofit, Love Heals You. Serving foster youth at no cost is an endeavor she started in 2008, but when she became aware of the child welfare crisis, she knew she had to do more. Understanding how love is incredibly transformative, it was inevitable that Love Heals must be the focus for the nonprofit.

**Sign-in starts at 10:30 a.m. The meeting will begin at 11 a.m., with lunch at 11:30 a.m. The program will begin at noon. Meetings last until approximately 1:00 p.m. Lunch is optional, but reservations must be made by midnight, January 30, even if you're not eating. You can make reservations by clicking on link below or by calling Bentwater Country Club at 936-597-6219 and choosing the 0 option.**

### February is our Food Drive Month. Bring your items to the meeting.



[\*\*RESERVATION\*\*](#)

## Membership

- Genette Stanton, 2nd VP/Membership

We are continuing to have success with our offering of online and meeting payments for membership. We still have a long way to go to surpass last year's numbers, so sign up if you haven't already to help our numbers go up.



## New Members

**Jan Kribbs  
Kay Stephens  
Bonnie Brassic  
Sandra Fleck  
Gail Garza  
Pattie Gehring  
Kim Hoffman  
Denise Jasura  
Susan Jepsen  
Ann Messmore  
Carolyn Moore  
Rhonda Nixon  
Gloria Pleasants  
Jari Watkins**



**Gale Eason  
Jamice McMahon**

## Online membership:

<https://www.nsrepublicanwomen.org/membership.html>

## Treasurer's Report

- Chris Gurley, PAC Treasurer

We began the month of December with a balance forward of \$119,750. We brought in income of \$3,240 (Community Engagement Alliance for New Americans \$523, Dues \$2,413, Gift Table \$304). Expenditures totaled \$6,841. (Administrative \$567, Americanism \$1,750, Caring & Concern \$66, Communications/Media \$343, Community Engagement \$1,155, NFRW Convention \$750, Historian \$5, Hospitality \$50, Membership Recruitment \$28, Membership Dues to TFRW \$1,745, Publicity \$100, Special Events (Christmas) \$232, Ways & Means (Gift Table) \$50. Our balance on hand as of December 31, 2023 was \$116,149.



## Caring for America

- Ann South

I have received thank you cards from the pregnancy centers we were able to help in 2023 by providing diapers, wipes, pacifiers, baby bath and baby lotion. The price of all these items has gone up and more women are asking for help. Recently two of our board members offered gently used baby items that their grandkids had out grown. I picked the items up and delivered them to a very thankful pregnancy help center that will give them to moms in need. I will again be buying diapers, wipes, etc. for the pregnancy centers in February with the money allocated in my NSRW Caring for America budget. If anyone has gently used baby items to donate, I can pick them up or you can bring them to a General meeting!

Thank NSRW for helping make an impact in our community!



## Community Engagement

- Karen Darcy-Pawlak

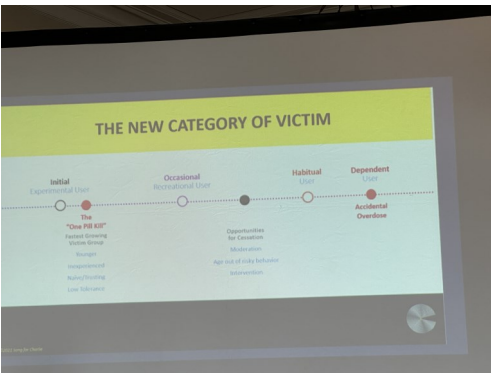
The Community Engagement Committee made a monetary donation on behalf of NSRW to Dr. Marlen Tejada, president of the Alliance of New Americans, to support efforts in providing Citizen Preparation Classes to legal immigrant



residents who are aspiring to become naturalized U.S. citizens. NSRW members Joan Martin and Sharon O'Neil served as volunteer teachers in the most recent classes. The classes prepare the students by providing the knowledge and understanding of U.S. history and government so they can successfully pass the oral and written Naturalization tests to become U.S. citizens.

New classes will be offered in 2024 and more teachers will be needed. If you are interested in becoming involved with this effort please contact me or Joan Martin at [northshorerw@northshorerw.com](mailto:northshorerw@northshorerw.com). Photo: Sharon O'Neil, Marlen Tejada, Karen Darcy-Pawlak, Kim Greene.

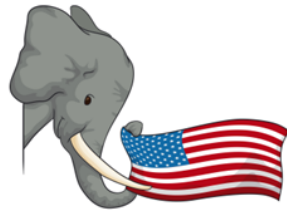
# January 3, 2024 Meeting





# **NORTH SHORE REPUBLICAN WOMEN**

**March 5, 2024 Republican  
Primary Election Candidates**



## **Republican Candidate Forum**

**For statewide and local candidates**

**Tuesday, January 30, 2024  
Meet the candidates 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.  
Forum 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

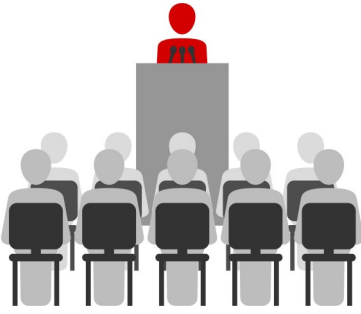
**North Montgomery County Community Center  
600 Gerald Street, Willis, TX 77378**

**Candidates - contact Deborah Gentz  
at [deborah@northshorerw.com](mailto:deborah@northshorerw.com) to RSVP or for information**

Political advertising paid for by North Shore Republican Women PAC, Chris Gurley49 Fairfield Dr., treasurer, Montgomery, TX 77356.  
Contributions are not federal tax deductible as charitable contributions. Corporate Contributions Are Not Permitted.

## CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES

-Deborah Gentz



We are beginning to prepare for the state primary election Candidate Forum we will be holding for the community on Tuesday, January 30. We will be focusing on statewide candidates and those in the county that represent the majority of NSRW members. If you would like to help with the forum, let me know at [deborah@northshorerw.com](mailto:deborah@northshorerw.com).



**The following candidates have accepted our invitation to participate in our forum. In ballot order:**

### **Sheriff**

Rand Henderson

Wesley Doolittle

Kenton Ford

### **Montgomery Co. Republican Party Chairman**

Gwen Withrow

Bryan Christ

### **State Railroad Commissioner**

James "Jim" Matlock

### **Presiding Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals**

Sharon Keller

### **JUSTICE, 9TH DISTRICT COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 4**

Kent Chambers

Kenna Seiler

**There are also important precinct chair races on most ballots. [Look up your candidates here](#). If you don't know your precinct number, look it up here: [Voter Registration Status](#)**

**The following candidates do not have opponents. Only opposed candidates have been invited to speak at the candidate forum on January 30:**

U.S. Representative Morgan Luttrell, District Attorney Brett Ligon, Commissioner Robert Walker, Constable Philip Cash, Constable Ryan Gable, Constable Rowdy Hayden, Constable Chris Jones, Judge Vince Santini, Judge Jennifer Robin, Judge Tracy Gilbert, Judge Phil Grant, Judge Patti Maginnis, Judge Keith Stewart, State Representative Will Metcalf, State Rep. Cecil Bell, Jr., County Attorney BD Griffin, & County Tax Assessor/Collector Tammy McRae.

Candidates for President, U.S. Representative, and U.S. Senate will be on the ballot, but NSRW is not a Federal PAC and these candidates cannot speak at the forum. Congressman Dan Crenshaw is opposed by Jameson Ellis and Senator Ted Cruz has two opponents - Holland "Redd" Gibson and R.E. (Rufus) Lopez.

**Texas Republican Primary Election - March 5, 2024**

**Deadline to register to vote in this election is February 5**

**Early Voting begins February 20 at various locations around the county.**

**Applications for a ballot by mail must be received by the elections administrator by**

**February 23**

**[www.elections.mctx.org](http://www.elections.mctx.org)**



## MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 3 MEETING

- Mary Osborn, Recording Secretary



The January General Meeting of North Shore Republican Women was called to order by President Leigh Billingsley at 11:00 AM.

The devotional and prayer was led by Cheryl Bolt. Sarah Henry led the Pledges to the American and Texas flags. The minutes were approved as presented. Genette Stanton, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President reported on the membership statistics and the ability to register and pay online. She also reminded the membership of the Wine and Cheese party for new and possible new members on January 18<sup>th</sup> at the home of Carolyn Jones. Chris Gurley, Treasurer, presented the monthly report, with the balance on hand at the end of December to be \$116,148.74.

Ann South, the Caring for America chairman spoke of the help we have given to the pregnancy centers in the Montgomery County area. She introduced Teresa Strack who gave an update on the Life First program. Deborah Gentz, chairman for the Campaign Activities chair gave an update on the Candidate Forum to be held on January 30 from 5 to 8 at the North Montgomery County Community Center in Willis. She also asked members to relay their volunteer hours to her as soon as possible, since they are due by January 10<sup>th</sup>. Gail McKinnon, Historian, presented a beautiful scrap book to Leigh Billingsley for 2023. Ann Kate, Media committee chair, spoke about the need for a member to step up to learn the position responsibilities. Karen Darcy-Pawlak, the Community Engagement chair, gave a report about the need for volunteer voter registrars and to ask for volunteers to teach the Hispanic community in the Alliance of New Americans organization. A birthday greeting was given to Cay Eckland from Leigh Billingsley.

The following elected officials were introduced: B.D. Griffin, County Attorney; Brett Ligon, District Attorney; Sarah Henry representing Will Metcalf, State Representative District 16; Brandon Steinmann, County Clerk; Jay Wright, Justice, 9<sup>th</sup> Court of Appeals, Julie Faubel, TFRW Senate District 4 Director; Ann Kate, Pct. 72 Republican Chairman. Candidates introduced were Kent Chambers, 9<sup>th</sup> Court of Appeals; Kenna Seiler, 9<sup>th</sup> Court of Appeals.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Carolyn Jones introduced Brett Ligon, District Attorney, who along with Donna Hansen and Jordan Witkop gave a riveting presentation of the Fentanyl crisis we are facing in Montgomery County and how it is affecting our young people in the community.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm.

**CLICK ON THE LINKS BELOW FOR "TRUE THE VOTE" LAWSUIT OUTCOME, AND A CALENDAR OF REPUBLICAN EVENTS THAT MIGHT INTEREST YOU:**

<https://newsletter.truethevote.org/p/true-vote-defeats-fair-fight-stacy-abrams-marc-elias-biden-department-justice-landmark-election-case>

<https://www.mcrptx.org/events>

**Thank you to those who added a donation to NSRW when they paid for their membership.**

### Sharing the Light

#### With Our 2024 LIGHTHOUSE CIRCLE



North Shore Republican Women  
Thanks you for your contribution

**WE'RE ALL INVITED!**

**TAKE FRIENDS TO MEET THE CONGRESSMAN AND CANDIDATES**

**CONGRESSMAN LUTTRELL'S  
RED WHITE & BLUE  
REPUBLICAN RALLY**

Join Congressman Luttrell and meet your local Republican Candidates, grab a snack and get fired up for Election Day!

Feb 23rd ★ Honor Cafe ★ 5:00 - 7:00 pm



Mary Osborn, Chris Gurley, Leigh Billingsley,  
Deborah Graham, Genette Stanton, Carolyn Jones

## 2024 NSRW Board Members

### OFFICERS

#### President

*Leigh Billingsley* [leigh@northshorerw.com](mailto:leigh@northshorerw.com)

#### 1st Vice President/Programs

*Carolyn Jones*

#### 2nd Vice President/Membership

*Genette Stanton*

#### 3rd Vice President/Ways & Means

*Deborah Graham*

#### Recording Secretary

*Mary Osborn*

#### Treasurer/PAC Treasurer

*Chris Gurley*

### COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Americanism

Awards - *Dorothy Woodall*

Campaign Activities - *Deborah Gentz*

Caring for America - *Ann South/Sherry Fox*

Caring and Concern - *Sherry Martinez*

Chaplain - *Cheryl Bolt*

Community Engagement - *Karen Darcy Pawlak*

Directory - *Jody Hostetler/Karen Darcy Pawlak*

Gift Table - *Becky Harper/Sharon Lasseter*

Historian - *Gail McKinnon*

Hospitality - *Cay Eckland/Debbie Dye*

Legislative - *Sarah Tillman Henry*

Literacy - *Ann South*

Media - *Ann Kate*

Parliamentarian/Bylaws - *Dorothy Woodall*

*Pistols and Pearls*

Publicity - *Joan Martin*

Scholarship

Youth Outreach - *Diane Hivnor*



## NSRW Calendar of Events

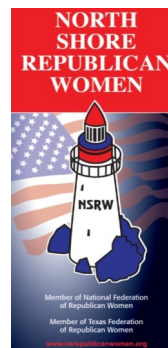
January 18 - New Member Wine/Cheese party, Home of Carolyn Jones, 6 p.m.

January 30 - NSRW Candidate Forum, 5 p.m., North Montgomery County Community Center, Willis. The public is urged to attend.

February 7 - NSRW Monthly Meeting, Bentwater Country Club, sign in begins at 10:30 a.m. Program - Love Heals Youth

February 14 - NSRW Board Meeting, 8:30 a.m., Bentwater Country Club board room.

February 20 - Early Voting begins for March 5 primary election.



### **Mailing Address:**

**P.O. Box 1993  
Montgomery, TX 77356**

### **Email:**

[northshorerw@northshorerw.com](mailto:northshorerw@northshorerw.com)



**Like us on Facebook:**  
**North Shore Republican Women/TX**

**Website:** [www.nsrepublicanwomen.org](http://www.nsrepublicanwomen.org)

TFRW Website: [www.tfrw.org](http://www.tfrw.org)

NFRW Website: [www.NFRW.org](http://www.NFRW.org)

Republican Party of Texas Website:  
[www.texasgop.org](http://www.texasgop.org)



**Beacon Editor: Ann Kate**

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# NORTH SHORE REPUBLICAN WOMEN MEMBERSHIP FORM - 2024

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse Name (if applicable):  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Address:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (if different for mailings):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cell:  
\_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Texas Senate district in which you reside \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation (Required for PAC reporting):  
\_\_\_\_\_

OR (Please check if retired) \_\_\_\_\_

NSRW may/may not (circle one) publish this information in its printed and electronic form

Do you want a Yearbook? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Prefer: Electronically \_\_\_\_\_ Printed \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one:


New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Fees: (Circle One)

Active: \$40 Associate: \$20

Young Affiliate: \$10

Seniors 75+ discount offered: \$30

Lighthouse Circle  (see website): In addition, I would like to contribute \_\_\_\_\_ \$15, \_\_\_ \$25, \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 or \$\_\_\_\_\_ to support various NSRW philanthropy programs (any amount would be greatly appreciated).

Active membership is for all women with NSRW as their primary membership. Associate membership is for women with other Republican Women memberships, and men. Associate women please specify your other current active membership: \_\_\_\_\_ Young Affiliate is teenage women ages thirteen through seventeen.

NSRW has my permission to send the monthly Beacon newsletter to me by email yes/no (circle one)

**\*\*\* Please mail this form with your check payable to NSRW to:**

**P.O. Box 1993, Montgomery, TX 77356**

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