



# South Dakota Federation of Republican Women

**SPECIAL  
POINTS OF  
INTEREST:**

- Calendar
- Member's Spotlight
- Codington Co. Report
- Cenkota Report
- Northern Hills Report

## **SDFRW Welcomes Northern Hills as a New Club in the Black Hills**



**REPORTS INSIDE  
THIS ISSUE:**

Welcome	1
Northern Hills Report	3
Cenkota Report	4
SDFRW Resolution & Legislative Report	5-8
Codington Co Report	9
SDFRW News	10-18
Membership Spotlight	20



Back row left to right – Mistie Caldwell, Ginny Grenz, Ellen Gross, Mary Fitzgerald, Deb Tridle, and Karen Sleep;

front row left to right – Paulette Washenberger, Karen Brandt, Judy Jelbert, and Ann Thie.

Not pictured – Lori Deibert, Sherri Ewing and Penny Doering.

# *South Dakota Federation of Republican Women*

## You're Cordially Invited to SDFRW Spring Board of Director's Meeting

\* Saturday, April 29, 2023 at 10:00am (CST)

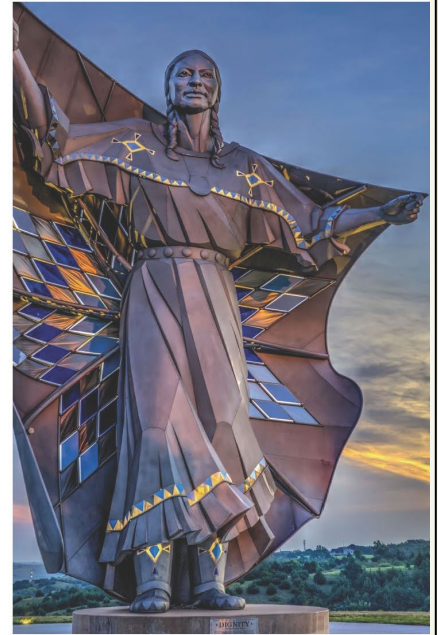
\* Cedarwood Shores Resort, Oacoma SD

\* Cost is \$30 includes lunch

RSVP by April 24. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sdfrw-board-of-directors-meeting-spring-quarter-tickets-605099628277>

You may also RSVP via email or text/call at [bekazerbst@gmail.com](mailto:bekazerbst@gmail.com) or 605-206-1888

Rooms are \$99 for Friday, April 28. Make reservations under the SDFRW room block for this price.



## *Prayer Corner*

This Sunday we celebrated Easter. It is one of the most special holidays for me. It usually marks the end of winter and the beginning of spring with new life all around. I love seeing the calves dancing and playing in the pastures. The best part of Easter is celebrating the death and resurrection of my savior Jesus Christ. His death was horrible and painful. He suffered in agony for all of us. Death did not defeat Him. 3 days later He arose from the dead. He's Alive. There is a song He's Alive that end with the words He's Alive and I'm forgiven, heaven's gates are open wide! My prayer for each and every one of you is that you know that Jesus loves you ,and that Jesus is alive in your hearts. God bless you all.

Lorie Rhoden Hausmann Chaplin for SDFRW



# South Dakota Federation of Republican Women

## NORTHERN HILLS REPUBLICAN WOMEN

Submitted by: Mistie Caldwell, Second Vice President – 605-639-1197, [Caldwell.mistie@gmail.com](mailto:Caldwell.mistie@gmail.com)

The Northern Hills Republican Women met for their inaugural meeting of the membership on March 16, 2023, at the Deadwood Welcome Center. There were 22 people in attendance – including SDFRW President Catherine Barranco and SDFRW 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Beka Zerbst. Also in attendance was Meade County Republican Women’s President Debbie Schnell and members Sandy Rhoden and Lori Hausmann.

Each new member received a welcome packet that included: a welcome letter, NHRW Bylaws, a volunteer hours form, a SDFRW lapel pin and a host of other resources to encourage active involvement in the club.

*Photo 1:* NHRW President Karen Brandt presiding over the inaugural meeting

*Photo 2:* SDFRW President Catherine Barranco conducted the installation of officers. Pictured left to right – President Karen Brandt, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Paulette Washenberger, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Mistie Caldwell, Treasurer Ann Thie, and Secretary Judy Jelbert.

*Photo 3:* Charter members present at the inaugural meeting: Back row left to right – Mistie Caldwell, Ginny Grenz, Ellen Gross, Mary Fitzgerald, Deb Tridle, and Karen Sleep; front row left to right – Paulette Washenberger, Karen Brandt, Judy Jelbert, and Ann Thie. Not pictured – Lori Deibert, Sherri Ewing and Penny Doering.

As the club ahead to the May meeting, the current membership is 26 primary members and 12 associate members.



# *South Dakota Federation of Republican Women*

## Cen-kota Republican Women

### **January:**

-Several current Cen-kota Members and current Associate Members attended the South Dakota Inauguration including:

Secretary of State Monae Johnson

Bob and Laurie Gill

State Auditor Rich Sattgast and Penny Sattgast

Public Utilities Commissioner Chris Nelson and Penny Nelson

School and Public Lands Commissioner Brock Greenfield and Kelli Greenfield

Cen-Kota President Claire Rydberg

Brant Malfero

### **February:**

- Penny Sattgast, Secretary of State Monae Johnson, Mary Weinheimer, and Claire Rydberg attended and/or volunteered during the SDFRW Legislative Day and Board of Directors Meeting in Pierre .

-CenKota held their successful dessert auction fundraiser during the Hughes County Lincoln Day dinner. A huge thank you to the Constitutional Officers for their dessert donations!

-CenKota President Claire Rydberg was presented with the Hughes County Republican Volunteer of the Year award during the Hughes County Lincoln Day dinner.





## *South Dakota Federation of Republican Women*

### **SDFRW Issued a Resolution and Press Release calling on the U.S. Congress to Stop Taxpayer Funding of Traffickers**

#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

President Biden's refusal to secure our southern border has created an unprecedented humanitarian and national security crisis that has allowed organized crime to thrive.

Human trafficking at the border has become very lucrative for smugglers, who bring in more than \$13 billion annually. For perspective on that massive number, that's how much money Walmart Inc – the largest employer in the world – earned in net income during 2022.

It's estimated that 90 percent of fentanyl and methamphetamine in South Dakota comes through Mexico. In November 2022, law enforcement made the largest fentanyl seizure in South Dakota history, confiscating 16.46 pounds of fentanyl and fentanyl-laced pills, which is enough to kill 3.69 million people. That's enough fentanyl to kill every man, woman, and child in South Dakota... four times over.

Republican lawmakers are working hard to try to do the job that the Biden Administration has refused to do: secure our border. Still, taxpayer dollars are flowing to alleged drug smugglers and human traffickers while they await prosecution and conviction. Even after being charged with a federal offense, many of these people continue to live in government housing and receive other government benefits.

U.S. Senator Marsha Blackburn, sponsor of the Stop Taxpayer Funding of Traffickers Act, stated: "Keeping our children and communities safe should not be a controversial choice. Neither should eliminating incentives for criminal activity. It's time for Washington to start taking the border catastrophe seriously, and we should start by ensuring we are not allowing criminals to flourish at taxpayer expense."

On March 30, 2023, the South Dakota Federation of Republican Women's executive committee joined the National Federation of Republican Women in passing a resolution calling on Congress to stop taxpayer funding of human and drug traffickers.

# *South Dakota Federation of Republican Women*



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## **The South Dakota Federation of Republican Women Calls on Congress to Stop Taxpayer Funding of Traffickers**

On March 30, 2023, the South Dakota Federation of Republican Women (SDFRW) Executive Committee adopted a resolution supporting the Stop the Taxpayer Funding of Traffickers Act.

It reads:

**WHEREAS**, the Stop Taxpayer Funding of Traffickers Act was introduced to ensure human and drug traffickers cannot continue to defraud the American taxpayer while they await prosecution and conviction; and,

**WHEREAS**, Local law enforcement officials, along with the mounting number of victims, victims' families, and state and federal officials, have begged and pleaded with the Biden administration to properly address this crisis; and,

**WHEREAS**, It is outrageous that instead of solutions, the Biden Administration continues to allow those charged with drug or human trafficking at our international borders to receive federal government benefits such as government housing, welfare, retirement, healthcare and disability services; and,

**WHEREAS**, The National Federation of Republican Women (NFRW), at its Spring Board of Directors Meeting, March 24-25, 2023, in Alexandria, Virginia, unanimously passed a resolution in support of the Stop Taxpayer Funding of Traffickers Act;

**RESOLVED**, That the South Dakota Federation of Republican Women joins the National Federation of Republican Women in calling on Congress to stop taxpayer funding of human and drug traffickers.



# *South Dakota Federation of Republican Women*

## **South Dakota Legislative Report SDFRW Legislative Committee 3-27-23**

The 98<sup>th</sup> SD Legislative session saw a total of 241 House Bills and 210 Senate Bills during the 38 legislative days which began January 10, 2023, and ended Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup> 2023 on veto day.

During the 38 legislative days some of the bills that made the news were:

1. The debate on tax cuts which included the grocery tax repeal, property tax credit and a cut in the 4.5% sales tax being cut to 4.2% ended with the sales tax cut being the bill that passed. The tax cut down to 4.2% came with a sunset clause to remove it in 4 years.
2. SB 40 was a bill intended to change the current way the states 2 major parties nominate candidates for the Constitutional Officers and Lieutenant Governor. It moved all of these candidates into a Primary election removing this historical duty of the states elected precinct delegates attending the state conventions of the Republican and Democrat parties. The bill had an amendment that passed on the House floor to take the Lieutenant Governor from the list, leaving the choice to the Governor elect, and leaving all other Constitutional Officers on the agenda of the State Conventions for nomination and vote by the elected precinct delegates for their names to be on the general election ballot. The Senate killed the bill in that form.
3. Eight of the sixteen medical marijuana related bills passed and were signed into law:
  - a. HB 1053 bans a person who is pregnant or breastfeeding from being certified by a physician to use medical marijuana.
  - b. HB 1132 adjusts the duties of the Medical Marijuana Oversight Committee adding that the committee shall make recommendations regarding the medical and clinical aspects of the medical cannabis program.
  - c. HB1150 requires a practitioner to certify whether they have previously issued a patient a certification for the use of medical cannabis. It also eliminates a patient's fee to the state if they are re-applying for a card within a year.
  - d. HB 1154 clarifies conduct considered acceptable by practitioner as it relates to medical cannabis. The bill makes it a misdemeanor for a practitioner to: Do medical assessments in a place licensed to sell alcohol; Offer discounts, deals or other financial incentives for making an appointment with them; Issue certifications for cannabis while having a financial interest in a cannabis business; Advertise in a medical cannabis establishment; plus more.
  - e. SB 1 lists conditions which qualify a patient for the use of medical cannabis.

# *South Dakota Federation of Republican Women*

- f. SB 27 amends the definition of a practitioner and states that tetrahydrocannabinol derived from hemp must be derived either from industrial hemp or be in a product approved by the US FDA
  - g. SB 134 revises the makeup of the MMOC (Medical Marijuana Oversight Committee)
  - h. SB 198 allows medical cannabis establishments to maintain certain cardholder data.
4. HB 1080 Help not Harm Bill that banned cross sex surgical procedures and cross sex medical hormone treatment on minors in SD passed.
5. Several Education bills that were highly supported by parents and opposed by the Public-School Education lobby were killed including:
- a. HB 1234- An act to provide a voucher for students enrolled in certain grade levels at accredited nonpublic schools.
  - b. SB 100- An act to establish the stronger families scholarship program for children in foster care, to make an appropriation therefor, and to declare an emergency.
  - c. HB 1163- An act to prohibit the dissemination of obscene material to minors in a public school or public library.
  - d. SB 193- An act to establish provisions related to the review and selection of instructional materials in school districts.
  - e. HB 1166- An act to prohibit the use of state resources in hosting lewd or lascivious content.
  - f. HB 1233- An act to expand the provision of online education through the SD Virtual School
  - g. HB 1079- An act to create the Center for American Exceptionalism at Black Hills State University.
6. Governor Noem's veto of 4 bills were all upheld on the final day of session. Her statements of why she vetoed the bills are:
- a. SB 108 would have allowed South Dakotans to consume alcohol underage.
  - b. SB 129 would have categorized teachers and school employees in the same way as law enforcement officers in instances of assault in their official duties.
  - c. HB 1109 would have classified marijuana as hemp and jeopardized the clearly expressed will of the people of SD.
  - d. HB 1193 was an attack on economic Freedom and would have opened the door to overreach by the federal government.

Submitted by Legislative Chair Trudy Qualm and Committee



# *South Dakota Federation of Republican Women*

## Codington County Republican Women

The CCRW met on January 20th at Pizza Ranch in Watertown. Diane Stiles, V. President of Lake Area Technical College spoke about how LATC's goal is to be a workforce provider for Northeast SD and to provide affordable education for students.

Jeanne Horning gave a presentation on how the legislative process works and also gave an update on legislative bills. Anne Gabel gave an explanation of Ranked Choice Voting. We were so happy to have Becky Maas nominated and brought on board as our CCRW Secretary!

On February 13th, some of our members attended SDFRW Legislative Day in Pierre and enjoyed touring the Capital and the Governor's Mansion. Those members were: Kaelyn Callies, Gerry Crocker, Anne Gabel, Donna Ludens, Audrey Lindgren, Becky Maas and MaryLee Plut. We were honored to hear from Melissa Magstadt, our SD Secretary of Health, and daughter of Kaelyn and Byron Callies.

The CCRW met on February 17th, and we heard from SD State Representative, Carl Perry and SD State Senator, Al Novstrup. They talked about ESG (Environmental Social Governance) and how it influences our investments in negative and political ways.

We joined the Republican Central Committee at the Watertown Home Show, held at the Codington County Extension Building on March 4th-5th. There were many participants from our club who enjoyed sharing what the Republican Party stands for, including: Anne and Lee Gabel, Thom Gebhart, Paula DeJong, Bonnie Thompson, Kaelyn Callies, Becky Maas, Margaret Wickherst, Brenda Hanten, and MaryLee Plut.

Our Caring for America Project in March and April will be our diaper donations to the Pregnancy Crisis Center here in Watertown.





*South Dakota Federation of Republican Women*

Congratulations to Beadle County RW &  
Brown County Area RW

**NFRW THIRD PERIOD  
POLITICAL AND CAMPAIGN  
AWARD WINNERS**

**TOP CLUB HOURS**

Cameron County Republican Women, Texas | 1-15 Members  
Republican Women of Calvert, Maryland | 16-24 Members  
Beadle County RW, South Dakota | 25-39 Members  
Gloucester County Chapter NJFRW, New Jersey | 40-64 Members  
Brown County Area Republican Women, South Dakota | 65-89 Members  
Ocean County Federation of Republican Women, New Jersey | 90+ Members

**TOP CLUB CALLS**

Passaic County Republican Women's Club, New Jersey | 1-15 Members  
Republican Women of the Lumber River, North Carolina | 16-24 Members  
Flagstaff Republican Women, Arizona | 25-39 Members  
Gloucester County Chapter NJFRW, New Jersey | 40-64 Members  
Monroe County Federated Republican Women, New York | 65-89 Members  
Republican Federated Women of The Villages, Florida | 90+ Members

**TOP STATE HOURS**

Delaware | 1-9 Clubs  
New Jersey | 10-19 Clubs  
Arizona | 20-29 Clubs  
Florida | 30-49 Clubs  
North Carolina | 50-79 Clubs  
Texas | 80+ Clubs

**TOP STATE CALLS**

Delaware | 1-9 Clubs  
New Jersey | 10-19 Clubs  
New York | 20-29 Clubs  
Florida | 30-49 Clubs  
North Carolina | 50-79 Clubs  
Texas | 80+ Clubs

**TOP VOLUNTEER HOURS**

Rosanna Cheek | El Paso County Republican Women | Colorado

**TOP VOLUNTEER CALLS**

Allison Barkowski | Monroe County FRW | New York

**NATIONWIDE TOTALS**

**4,608,026 HOURS 3,064,191 CALLS  
\$138,240,780 VOLUNTEER DOLLARS**



*South Dakota Federation of Republican Women*

SDFRW Online Store is OPEN!

Please scan QR code or type the address in your browser  
to see New SDFRW proud items for sale now.

**To place an order, visit**

**<https://secure.winred.com/south-dakota-federation-of-republican-women/storefront>**

**...or scan the QR Code below!**



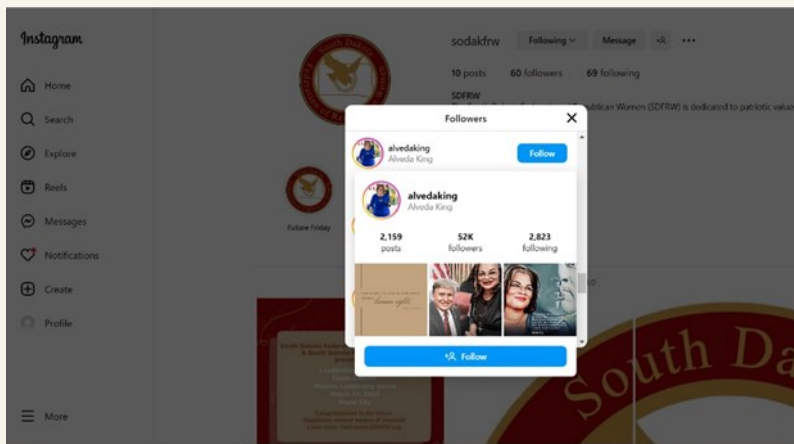
# South Dakota Federation of Republican Women

## SDFRW partnered with the SDGOP and the Leadership Institute for Women's Leadership Training!

As **Amber Hulse** said, there were more women there than the number of degrees outside!



## Guess Who's Following our SDFRW Instagram Page?!



**Alveda King** – Fox News Contributor, Best-Selling Author, and Niece of Martin Luther King, Jr. is following our SDFRW Instagram page!!

**Apolonia Davalos** and **Brenda Wipf**, members of the SDFRW Social Networking Committee, have done an awesome job getting us up and running! If you haven't already, be sure to follow our page and tag us whenever you're doing something Federation-related! #SoDakFRW

<https://www.instagram.com/sodakfrw>





*South Dakota Federation of Republican Women*

**IMPORTANT DATES**

Please save these important dates in your calendar! For this year:

**April 29 – Summer Quarterly Meeting** at the  
Arrowwood Cedar Shores Resort in **Oacoma**

**June 1 - Deadline** for club to submit **NFRW Awards Forms** (includes form for club Achievement Award, Armed Services Award, & Caring for America Award)

**June 25 - Last Day** for our **SDFRW Annual Membership Competition**

**July 15-** Clubs submit online report for **Political & Campaign Hours**

**August 25 - Deadline** for each Club to submit **Delegate and Alternate for NFRW Convention**

**Sept. 22-24 – SDFRW’s Online Auction**

**Sept. 28-Oct 1 – NFRW Convention in Oklahoma City, OK**

**October 7 – Fall Quarterly Meeting** at the  
Arrowwood Cedar Shores Resort in **Oacoma**

**Dec 2 – Christmas at the Capitol + Winter Quarterly Meeting** at the  
Visitor’s Center in **Pierre**

Please also make a note of the date for our SDFRW Convention the following year:

**Sept 26-29, 2024 – SDFRW Biennial Convention in Rapid City**



# *South Dakota Federation of Republican Women*



## **IT'S TIME FOR OUR CLUB MEMBERSHIP DRIVES!**

We were incredibly proud to set an SDFRW membership record in 2021.... and then another one in 2022! In 2023, let's go for a 3-peat!! Yes, it's fun when more people get involved -- as the saying goes, the more the merrier! But a strong membership is so much more than that: it's a larger pool of talent and energy from people who are determined to save our country. The more members we have, the more we'll accomplish. If we accomplish enough, we'll pry our country loose from the Democrats' grip. We made terrific progress in 2022 when we took back the U.S. House. Now we're putting pieces in place for 2024 when we saddle up to fight for both the White House and the U.S. Senate. Help us get ready by growing your club to its strongest membership yet!

According to the Federation's bylaws, to remain a member in good standing, **NFRW must receive your dues no later than March 1<sup>st</sup>**. It takes time for your dues to go from you to your club Treasurer, who then sends a portion of your dues to our SDFRW Treasurer, who then sends a portion to NFRW. If you haven't renewed your membership, please do so soon! And if you have friends who haven't yet joined, encourage them to!

### **We're holding our 4<sup>th</sup> annual SDFRW Membership Competition**

Club membership increases will be measured relative to their 2022 membership levels. This year's competition will again include four categories:

- Largest Active Membership Increase
- Largest % Active Membership Increase
- Largest Associate Membership Increase
- Largest % Associate Membership Increase

If you know of any potential new or returning members you think we should contact, please reach out to Membership Chair Lauri Davis at [ldavis6632@gmail.com](mailto:ldavis6632@gmail.com)

# South Dakota Federation of Republican Women

## South Dakota featured heavily in NFRW's Capitol Connection Newsletter!

In recent weeks, both Governor Kristi Noem and U.S. Representative Dusty Johnson were featured as top stories in NFRW Capitol Connection newsletters! Check it out!



**NATIONAL FEDERATION OF  
REPUBLICAN WOMEN**  
Capital Connection  
Weekly news and information for our members

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 20, 2023

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SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER  
  

[A Message from the President](#)  
**Is China on Your Mind Too? Take Action!**

China has been on my mind, and probably on yours too.

On February 1, a surveillance "spy" balloon from China was spotted in Billings, Montana. It was allowed to travel all the way to the South Carolina coast. For days citizens watched it in the sky, and media tracked its path. Finally, on February 4, it was shot down.

Surprisingly, **President Biden** waited almost an hour into his State of the Union speech before he even mentioned China. Since that day we are becoming aware of more instances of China invading our air space. It's time for the U.S. government to take a strong stand regarding the threat from China. I believe China is messing with us and testing us.




NFRW President Eileen Sobjack with South Dakota Governor Kristi Noem at the 2021 NFRW Biennial Convention. Gov. Noem isn't waiting for Washington; she's taking action on China.

I had the privilege to hear from Governor **Kristi Noem** this past week. She has China on her mind, too, but she's not waiting for the President. Instead, she is leading with action in her state of South Dakota. Gov. Noem has introduced legislation to prevent Chinese from buying up property in her state. She also signed an Executive Order preventing state government employees from using TikTok, China's infamous social media platform. The Chinese are collecting data on Americans via this platform.




Just as this Republican woman is taking the lead, so must we. Whether it be on China, the border, education or crime, step up and be a leader. Be a doer and not a hearer only. Don't wait for your legislators to figure out what is important. Lobby them on the issues that are important to Republican women. Get involved, be informed, and move ideas into plans of actions.

*Eileen Sobjack*



**NATIONAL FEDERATION OF  
REPUBLICAN WOMEN**  
Capital Connection  
Weekly news and information for our members

WEEK OF MARCH 20, 2023


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SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER  
  

[A Message from the President](#)  
**Speaking Out on Important Issues**

Republican women work hard to elect principled Republicans to serve. Last quarter NFRW members made 3 million calls and logged 4.6 million hours, which translates into \$138 million dollars!

It doesn't stop after the election, and Republican women understand this.

Local clubs organize to attend school board and city and county council meetings to speak out on important issues.



NFRW President Eileen Sobjack discusses Keep 9 Amendment strategy with House sponsor Cong. Dusty Johnson (SD).

State Federations across the country hold legislative days and descend on their legislature to be a voice to lawmakers. Lobbying your legislator to vote for your issue or against it and supporting their vote is vital to maintaining freedom and liberty.

Many years ago, I realized the need for Republican women to reach out to their legislators. My friend who was a state legislator at the time called me. She explained that, if the Republican women wanted her bill to pass, they needed to make phone calls to their legislators to show that this bill was crucial to the constituents.

Educating your members on the issues and reaching out to educate others in the community is vital. You can do this by holding meetings to discuss important bills, getting on radio and social media, attending town halls and speaking up.

At the national level we research and present legislative initiatives, so you are informed when speaking to the U.S. House and Senate.

I've represented NFRW at press conferences and recorded podcasts on important issues. Most recently, I recorded a podcast with Congressman **Dusty Johnson** on the Keep the Nine Amendment. Last year I spoke out at the Save Our Sports press conference which was attended by many groups that support protection of girls and women in sports.

In our *Capital Connection* and on our website at [NFRW.org](http://NFRW.org) we feature timely bills you can support.

Below are some important bills that you need to be aware of and speak out on right now:

- H.R. 5, Parental Bill of Rights Act
- H.J.Res. 8, Keep the Nine Constitutional Amendment
- H.R. 734 / S. 613, Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act of 2023
- S. 519, Stop Taxpayer Funding of Traffickers Act
- H.R. 1, Lower Energy Costs Act

"May the road rise up to meet you, may the wind be always at your back, may the sun shine warm upon your face, the rains fall soft upon your fields."

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

*Eileen Sobjack*



# South Dakota Federation of Republican Women

## SDFRW Featured in SDGOP Newsletter, *The Majority Report*

Last month, SDFRW President Catherine Barranco traveled to Washington D.C. to meet with Federation leaders from across the nation. Thank you to SDGOP for sharing Catherine's NFRW Update!

APRIL 1, 2023  
PAGE 4

## THE MAJORITY REPORT

### CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

As we head into Holy Week, we have a moment of pause and reflection on how great we have it in South Dakota.

We are blessed to live in one of the freest states in the freest nation because of our conservative leadership. The Legislature wrapped up its duties for the year and will go home to live within the laws they've passed. The Governor's vetoes were sustained and veto day seemed like it was over before it started. No one can claim total victory this session, except the people of South Dakota, who because of Republican

leadership will see a tax break, a balanced budget, election reforms, and continued movement towards keeping our state the best in the nation.

We are blessed to live here in South Dakota, the shining city on the hill, who demonstrates to the rest of the country how Republican policies lead to more freedom, more opportunities, and more prosperity than those who worship the altar of big government. As you gather with friends and family to celebrate this Holy Week, offer a prayer of support and thanks for those who step up and offer to help maintain our

quality of life. Our Republican citizen legislators in Pierre, our statewide elected officials, our DC delegation, and of course our incredible Governor Kristi Noem.

Leadership starts in our communities. Please thank our first responders, our law enforcement, fire and ambulance personnel, and snowplow drivers who continue to help us through the winter that never seems to end. May you have a safe and blessed Holy Week.

John Wiik, Chairman  
South Dakota Republican Party

### SDGOP CALENDAR

April 20, 2023 - Clay Co. Lincoln Day Dinner; Old Lumber Co., Vermillion. 5:30 PM

April 21, 2023 - Brookings/Moody Co Lincoln Day Dinner; Swiftel Center in Brookings. 5:30 pm social, 6:15 dinner and program.

April 29, 2023 - Lawrence County Lincoln Day Dinner; Spearfish Holiday Inn 5 pm Social, 6 pm Dinner, Speaker Lt Governor Larry Rhoden

May 5, 2023 - Codington County Lincoln Day Dinner

May 13, 2023 - Meade County Lincoln Day Dinner, 6 pm Dinner

### NATIONAL FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN UPDATE BY CATHERINE BARRANCO, SDFRW PRESIDENT



From L to R: SDFRW President Catherine Barranco, NFRW President Eileen Soljak

It was my honor in March to convene with strong leaders at the NFRW Board of Directors meeting. Ladies often ask, "Why should I join the Federation?" There are many answers: We have fun. We empower women, and we do important work. More than just a club, we've become a potent community – one deter-

mined to save America. Together, we defend this country, blending unique perspectives and skills in ways that make our sisterhood far greater than the sum of its parts.

I landed in DC on a lovely spring day, just as the famous cherry blossoms stirred. Catching the metro, I zipped down to Alexandria where friends – old, new, and soon to be – gathered for lunch. What joy to rally with compatriots from nearly every state, ladies who love this nation, ardent workers striving to reclaim the values that made America a beacon to the world. We laughed. We embraced. We shared stories and lifted each other up. We collaborated, learning techniques that succeeded in other states, letting ideas cross-pollinate, finding ways to reproduce effective programs and even improve them. Amid the hugs and smiles, positive reinforcement and brilliant

suggestions flowed.

Later – after hearing from distinguished conservative speakers, we addressed Federation business and chose our nominating committee, a precursor to NFRW's fall elections. I was deeply proud when the assembly thanked Dusty Johnson, who leads the fight against Biden's court packing schemes. Like Dusty, the Federation has pledged to keep nine justices on the United States Supreme Court. When we disagree with decisions, the righteous path forward is electing a better President, not uprooting centuries of tradition to jam the court with ideologues.

We voted to express outrage at the Southern Border Crisis and to support law enforcement. We vowed to bolster leaders who oppose sex trafficking and fight to keep American families safe.

Thereafter, we broke into small groups, continuing the conversation late into the evening.

Why join the Federation? Above all other reasons, join to become part of something grand: a broad coalition of spirited women building a brighter future. Join a team of ladies – mothers, daughters, grandmothers, sisters, and friends – united in profound respect for American values. Each region has its wonders, from the Dakotas' Black Hills to the Carolina Coast, from the Arizona desert to the New Hampshire woodlands, but greater than these wonders are the people, individually delightful, but together unstoppable.



# *South Dakota Federation of Republican Women*

## **An Afternoon with Friends Fundraiser**

We had a wonderful time at our Afternoon with Friends fundraiser at the Washington Pavilion Visual Arts Center! Special thanks to our generous sponsors and hosts as well as our fabulous entertainment, SDFRW Member Danica Michaels – who also was picked as Dakota News Now’s Musician of the Month last month!





*South Dakota Federation of Republican Women*





# *South Dakota Federation of Republican Women*



*Many Blessings for You.*

*He has Risen!*

*Happy Easter.*

*from the*

*SDFRW*

*Executive Board*

## *Calendar*

### **April:**

- 07- Meade County Republican Women  
2pm Pizza Ranch Sturgis, SD
- 10 - Aurora- Douglas Republican Women  
7pm Travel Plaza, Corsica, SD
- 20 - Beadle County Republican Women  
12pm Ryan's Hanger Huron, SD
- 20 - Brown County Area Republican Women  
11:30am The Flame Aberdeen, SD
- 20 - Pennington County Republican Women  
12:45pm Alex Johnson Hotel Rapid City, SD
- 21 - Codington County Republican Women  
11:30am Pizza Ranch Watertown, SD
- 27 - Minnehaha-Lincoln Republican Women  
11:30am SD Military Heritage Alliance  
Sioux Falls, SD

### **29 - *Spring Quarterly Meeting,***

***Arrowwood Cedar Shores Resort, Oacoma***

### **May:**

- 05- Meade County Republican Women  
2pm Pizza Ranch Sturgis, SD
- TBA - Aurora- Douglas Republican Women  
7pm Travel Plaza, Corsica, SD
- 18 - Beadle County Republican Women  
12pm Ryan's Hanger Huron, SD
- 18 - Brown County Area Republican Women  
11:30am The Flame Aberdeen, SD
- 18 - Pennington County Republican Women  
12:45pm Alex Johnson Hotel Rapid City, SD
- 19 - Codington County Republican Women  
11:30am Pizza Ranch Watertown, SD
- 25 - Minnehaha-Lincoln Republican Women  
11:30am SD Military Heritage Alliance  
Sioux Falls, SD

# *South Dakota Federation of Republican Women*

## *SDFRW Member Spotlight*

*Karen Brandt*



Born & raised in Sioux Falls SD, moved to Buffalo, New York in 1991 for UPS. Retired to the Black Hills, SD in 2008

Married 51 years to Ron Brandt

Mom of 3 daughters, Grandmother of 9 grandchildren Great Grandmother of 2 great grandsons

President of the newly established Northern Hills Republican Women

Just getting started - plan on community involvement , supporting our elected officials and Young Republicans

Retired from UPS after 31 years in Operations and Business Development .

Greatest achievement - My family

Most exciting moment - Becoming a Mom

Why belong SDFRW - Excited to be a member because of the professional and supportive sisterhood of the SDFRW .

Greatest challenge - Sharing my Republican values with those who disagree. We need to heal the divide within our own party .

Favorite Republican - Ronald Reagan - I love his wit and wisdom.

Favorite quote - Maya Angelou "Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better."

*South Dakota Federation of Republican Women*

**2023 Newsletter Monthly Report Schedule**

**January, April, July, & October:**

**Cenkota, Codington, Northern Hills & Pennington**

**February, May, August & November:**

**Aurora-Douglas, Brown, Minnehaha -Lincoln, & Meade**

**March, June, September & December:**

**Cyberspace, Beadle, Fall River & South Central**

**Please find your Club and Write down the months that you  
are in the Newsletter.**

**The reports are due the **27th** of the prior to the month  
featured.**

**Clubs may submit at anytime with club updates, photos.**

**Remember you may purchase an ad for a month for  
Birthday, Anniversary, Events.**

**Send any questions, reports &/or pictures to:**

**[sdfrwnews@gmail.com](mailto:sdfrwnews@gmail.com)**

**Newsletter Chair: Jen Boerger**



# *South Dakota Federation of Republican Women*

## *South Dakota Federation of Republican Women 2023-2024 Executive Board*



Top Left to Right: Connie Wagner, Penny Sattgast, Nancy Ziegeldorf, Laci Sosa, Jeni Boerger, Lauri Davis & Sandy Rhoden  
Front Left to Right: Marylee Plut, Debbie Schnell, Catherine Barranco, Beka Zerbst & Heidi Engelhart

President: Catherine Barranco

1st Vice President: Beka Zerbst

2nd Vice President: Heidi Engelhart

3rd Vice President: Debbie Schnell

4th Vice President: Marylee Plut

Secretary: Nancy Ziegeldorf

Treasurer: Connie Wagner

Member at Large: Sandy Rhoden

Member at Large: Jeni Boerger

Member at Large: Laci Sosa

Member at Large: Lauri Davis

Past President: Penny Sattgast

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