



REPUBLICAN WOMEN OF WORCESTER COUNTY

www.gopwomenofworcester.org

MARCH NEWSLETTER 2024

Mary Louise Carey, Editor 443-235-6370

RWWC Game and Card Day

Thursday, March 21, 2024

10:00 – 1:00

Bayside Skillet

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

I am happy to share with you that my husband and I returned to Ocean Pines earlier this month. Our daughter is on the mend and will soon be walking without the “BOOT”. It has been a long three months away from home and upsetting to see our independent daughter suffering and needing assistance. We give thanks to God for her healing and a big thank you, to you, our friends, for your thoughts and prayers over the past months.

It is exciting for me to assume my position as President and to participate in our club activities in the coming months. Our club is still in need of the following: a member who will be our **Historian**, she will gather information (from the publicity chair, Newspapers, brochures, etc) and keep them in some semblance of order. Occasionally, display the items she has accumulated. We are also in need of a **Sgt. At Arms**, this member will be responsible for making sure flags are at our luncheon locations, (coordinate with the Luncheon Chair). In addition, she will bring and set up our RWWC Banner at all functions of our club except Board meetings. Neither of these positions are difficult and I would be grateful for your participation. I ask that you call me if you can give a little of your time in helping our club. My number is 410-641-8927.

I look forward to reading the essays of our county 8th graders, that have been submitted to our Literacy Committee, and am happy to be presenting awards to the top three. It is never too early to help teach our young students the values of conservative politics and an appreciation for those who strive to keep America strong for the generations to come.

March is Women's History Month, it is a celebration of women's contributions to history, culture and society and has been observed annually in the month of March in the United States since 1987. We who belong to the Republican Women should be proud of our own accomplishments, look back with great appreciation for the women who have gone before us and pave the way for those who will follow us. We are the history makers of today! Hurray for Us! March is also the celebration of Saint Patrick's Day and Saint Joseph's Day, hope all our Irish and Italian friends and those of us who wish to be Irish or Italian for the day, have a great time celebrating!

RWWC will have a table at the First Ocean Pines Season Kick Off and Expo. It will be on April 20th, at White Horse Park in Ocean Pines. This is a new venture for OP and for us and will give our club exposure to many people. We plan on having membership opportunities, voting information and much more at our table. If you are interested in helping contact Jennie Allen (Membership Chair) or Liz Mumford Campaign Activities Chair).

Plans are underway for our Fall Fashion Show, on October 3, 2024, at the Ashore in Ocean City. Save the date and bring your friends. Details will be forthcoming.

Thanks to everyone who called or emailed our representatives in Annapolis to voice our concerns. This is an easy way for us to be involved in our state politics. There is only a month left of the session and still much to be accomplished. Keep up the good work!

Have a great month! Hope to see you at the Game Day!

Sincerely,
Jean Delcher

God Bless each of You and God Bless America!



Sandy Zitzer, Luncheon Chair

LUNCHEONS

March 21 – Game and Card Day – Bayside Skillet

April 25 – 32 Palm Restaurant in Hilton Hotel

May 23 - Worcester Technical High School

June 27 - TBD

2nd Vice President

Just a reminder that Game Day and our March meeting registration is due on Thursday, March 14. The Bayside skillet has provided a nice brunch menu and made space for games and cards.

If you are not a gamer like me, just reserve your seat, order your lunch, come, hang out and enjoy the company.

Call me for reservations or with your questions.
Kris Barron, 443-614-8445

Literacy

Red Shoe will meet at OP Library on Tues March 19 at noon. The book is Puppeteers by Jason Chaffetz on how unelected Corporations control America by pushing leftist ideology.



Our Literacy pilot essay contest has three winners! The three winners will receive a \$250 first prize, \$100 second and \$50 third. All three winners will be notified and are from Worcester Preparatory School. Our Literacy Committee will present the prize money to the winners during a school assembly. The topic was Americanism with the question: How important is a free press for the future of our country?

Susan Ostrowski, RWWC Literacy Chair



FYI:

Worcester County Republican Central Committee is hosting a Board of Education candidate forum among the three District 5 candidates. It will be held Tuesday April 30, at 6pm at the Ocean Pines Library.

All are welcome to attend.

Board of Education candidates are Elena McComas, Dorothy Shelton-Leslie, John Huber
Info: 717-448-1741

Since there are three, not two people running, the primary is necessary.

From the Campaign Activities Chair SIGN UP TO WORK AT EARLY VOTING 2024! FAQ's

- 1) Where is early voting in the Maryland Primary in Worcester County?
Roland E. Powell Convention Center in Ocean City - 40th Street
- 2) What are the hours for early voting?
Polls open in Maryland from 7:00 to 8:00 PM.
- 3) What are the dates for early primary voting in Maryland?
Thursday, May 2, 2024 to Thursday, May 9, 2024
- 4) What shifts are available to work under the Republican tent at the Convention Center?
RWWC MEMBERS WILL COVER FOUR SHIFTS —
 - a) 9-11
 - b) 11-1
 - c) 1-3
 - d) 3-5
- 5) How can I sign up to work my preferred shift?
Contact Liz Mumford at lmumford2018@gmail.com to request your preferred shift. If you want to work TWO shifts, that's fantastic! FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE!

YOUR PRESENCE AT THE POLLS REMINDS VOTERS THAT THE REPUBLICAN PARTY IS STRONG, UNITED, AND WILLING TO WORK TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN LOCAL, STATE, AND NATIONAL POLITICS!*

*Per NFRW and MFRW Endorsement Policy, RWWC does not endorse any candidate in a contested primary. (See NFRW website for detailed information.)

MARCH MEMBERSHIP:

March is a busy month. Happy Saint Patrick's Day, Spring and Easter weekend RWWC!

Thank you to the 112 members and 12 associate members who have renewed their membership as of March 6, 2024. I would like to welcome all our new February members: Caroline Bloxom, Jennie Challis, Ann Palmer, Jane Piper, Elizabeth Sharpless, and associate member Ann Lutz.

According to the RWWC Bylaws, Article IX-Dues, if you have not renewed your membership by March 31, your name will be removed from our membership roll. This will result in you no longer being able to vote and receive communication from RWWC, MFRW, and NFRW. It is important that you renew ASAP! With the upcoming Maryland and national elections in May and November, it is important to stay informed.

If you have questions regarding your membership status, you can contact me by phone at 410-973-2385 or email jennieallen@comcast.net. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Dues are the same as last year, active membership is \$40 and associate membership is \$20. The renewal process is easy. You can:

1. go to the website [Join/Renew \(gopwomenofworchester.org\)](http://Join/Renew(gopwomenofworchester.org)) [note there is a service fee for online renewal];

2. send a check payable to RWWC to: RWWC – Dues, P.O. Box 1292, Berlin, MD 21811; or

3. bring your check/cash to the monthly meeting.

REMEMBER, to remain the largest club in MFRW, we need everyone to renew.

I look forward to meeting you at a future meeting!

Jennie Allen
Membership Chair

March Newsletter 2024

RWWC

Volunteer Hours/ Awards

Submission by Awards Chair – Raye Simpson



It's RWWC volunteer time once again. Our volunteer hours are accumulating month by month. For January 2024, members reported 620 political hours and 161 non-political hours for a total of 781 hours. For February 2024, members reported 458 political hours and 142 non-political hours for a total of 600 hours. This is a great start for this year. Let's try to do more in 2024, especially since this is an election year. Among all of the examples for earning volunteer time on our website report form, another way to earn hours is to attend Fund Raisers for Republicans running for legislative offices. There will be a lot of these activities in the future. Thank you to all of you who give your time for our

Republican cause.



Raye Simpson
Awards Chair

At the February 2024 Luncheon meeting at the Ocean City Golf Course, Raye Simpson, RWWC Chair of Awards, proudly displayed the RWWC "Diamond Award". The National Federation of Republican Women presents awards to recognize and honor excellence at the state and club level. It is presented to clubs that demonstrate an excellence in membership development, campaign activities, community relations, programs and club functions.



Caring For America.

The Republican Women of Worcester County held their February, 2024 Luncheon meeting at the Ocean City Golf Club, Berlin, MD. Guest speakers were Kayla Figueroa, Director of Worcester Connects, Worcester Youth and Family Counseling. "Worcester Connects" is a youth mentoring program designed to help students who need a positive role model in their lives. Their mission is to support Worcester County students by providing a positive role model for students and increasing community involvement. Mentors are needed to fulfill this goal. For more information, call 410-641-4598 or email shine@gowoyo.org or go to www.gowoyo.org.

Our second speaker was Lauren Cooper, Director of the Cricket Center, a Worcester County Child Advocacy Center. The Cricket Center teams up with Atlantic General Hospital, the Board of Education, Department of Education, the Life Crisis Center, Local Law Enforcement and the State's Attorney's Office. Their mission is to generate a community response where children and families experience hope and healing while holding abusers accountable through the team effort. For more information, call 410-641-0097 or email LCooper@worcester.md.us or go www.thecricketcenter.com

During that meeting we donated \$100 each to Cricket Center and to Worcester Youth and Family Organization. Our members also generously donated children's books, snacks and art supplies which were shared between both organizations.

We will continue to collect snacks and monetary donations to donate to worthy organizations in our community. Thank you for your continued generosity



RWWC made a donation to help support Worcester Connects and the Cricket Center. Standing left to right accepting the checks are Kayla Figueroa, Director of Worcester Connects and Lauren Cooper, Director of the Cricket Center, Sandy Zitzer, Past President RWWC and Carol Frazier, 1st Vice President RWWC



Through the generosity of the members of RWWC, a collection of children's books, snacks, etc was made to be shared by the 2 organizations. Standing left to right are Carol Frazier, RWWC 1st VP, Sandy Zitzer, RWWC Past President, Kayla Figueroa, Dir. of Worcester Connects and Lauren Cooper, Dir of the Cricket Center.



Valentine Raffle Drawing

Left – Kris Barron and Sandy Zitzer draw winning tickets

Right – 2nd and 3rd Place Winners of the Raffle, (1st Place winner was absent).



Reminder, if you have not done so already:

We are following the lead of our sisters in the National Federation of Republican Women (NFRW) and the Maryland Federation of Republican Women (MFRW) along with the MDGOP in getting members to Bank their votes. Below is a link to describe the initiative and to sign up to vote early or get a mail-in ballot.

[bankyourvote.com](https://www.bankyourvote.com)

We urge you to follow the link, sign up and ask all you Republican friends and neighbors to do the same.

Meet and Greet - Ropewalk



RED SCARF DAY

Annapolis, MD



Republican Women of Worcester County General Luncheon Meeting Ocean City Golf Club February 22, 2024 - 11AM *MINUTES*

Call to Order Sandy Zitzer, Past President for Jean Delcher, President - 11:04

Opening Prayer Jan Kolesky, Chaplain

Pledge of Allegiance Amy Mike, Sgt. At Arms

Welcome: Past President Sandy Zitzer welcomed everyone and introduced the elected officials who were present. Members' guests were also introduced.

Officer's Reports

Recording Secretary - Gwen Crisafulli requested approval of the minutes from the last General Meeting at Lighthouse Sound on January 18, 2024. Carol Frazier so moved. Raye Simpson seconded. Motion Carried Unanimously. (MCU)

Treasurer - Jane Wolnik presented a report detailing our financial status.

Corresponding Secretary - Beth Rodier requested that members supply her with any new emails or let her know if you are not receiving emails.

1ST Vice President - Carol Frazier gave a brief update on her recent medical issue and encouraged members to check out the Republican Women's Federal Forum online.

2ND Vice President - Kris Barron announced that the Valentine Raffle had made close to \$1500.00 and the winner will be drawn today. Game Day will be on March 21st from 10-2. Flyers for the event are on the tables, come play games and have brunch at Bayside Skillet. The Meet and Greet on March 7th will be at Ropewalk in Ocean City from 5-7p with Happy Hour from 5-6p. The Fashion Show was moved up to October 3rd due to availability at the hotel. The first committee meeting will be February 28th at Taylors in Ocean City at 11am. Members were encouraged to start getting gift card donations. Fashions will be provided by Bruder Hill and L'Ete.

Committee Updates

Membership - Jennie Allen informed the group that in January she emailed 93 members and called 12 members that did not have email addresses to remind them to pay their dues. She has also been working to rebuild the membership worksheet and trying to find a place in Worcester County to get name tags. In February she emailed 83 members. There are currently 93.5 active members. Some members only paid \$20 but membership dues are \$40 for Worcester County residents. There are 159 members on the roster and 103.5 have paid. There are 22 associate members on the roster and 12 have paid.

Literacy - Susan Ostrowski provided information about the Essay Contest. There are three public and three private schools participating. The contest began on February 1st and ends on February 29th. Americanism is the topic with 600-800 words about the 1st Amendment /Free Press. Winners will be announced in March.

Past President Sandy Zitzer, MFRW Eastern Region Chairman.

Sandy introduced County Commissioner Chip Bertino for an update. Chip provided information to the group regarding a recent meeting about the Blueprint for Education. Per State Officials, Worcester County's share will be 73 million dollars. Worcester County has already budgeted 100 million for schools so transparent budgeting is needed to close this gap. Chip also let everyone know that the Commissioners voted Tuesday to oppose the Freedom to Read Act and the Firearms and Ammunition bill that would increase the tax on ammunition. Online gambling was also opposed due to the negative impact it could have on our casino in Worcester County.

Gina Shaffer also spoke and informed the group about the unfavorable report regarding Fairness in Girls Sports and also sexually explicit material in libraries. MFRW is also prioritizing requiring Voter ID to vote.

Sandy reminded the group that MFRW Red Scarf Day is March 5th. MFRW supplies lunch and there is a signup sheet going around if you would like to go.

Introduction of Speakers

Carol Frazier introduced our two guest speakers.

Kayla Figueroa – Director of Worcester Connects Worcester Youth and Family Counseling
Worcester Connects main population is Ocean City and Berlin but they are hoping to expand. There are currently twenty-eight students participating. They are trying to recruit mentors so each student has a mentor and also

provide positive male role models for teenage boys. They offer group training for anyone who is interested. Mentors are asked to serve for a year.

Lauren Cooper – Director of the Cricket Center Worcester County’s Child Advocacy Center

The Child Advocacy Center or CAC is the only one in Worcester County. They are a multidisciplinary team with two detectives from the Worcester County Sheriff’s Office, a member of the States Attorney’s Office, Department of Social Services and Child Protective Services. They focus on decreasing trauma to children. This involves a forensic interview which is viewed from another room by a detective, a member of the States Attorney’s office and Forensic nurse to ensure the child does not have to keep reliving their trauma. The CAC is currently located in Berlin but the County Commissioners have approved a new location in Pocomoke that will be opening this spring. April is Child Abuse Resistance Month and the Cricket Center has several activities taking place that can be found on their Facebook page.

Kayla and Lauren were each given a monetary donation from RWWC as well as donations from members.

Lunch

Closing remarks/Announcements - Valentine Raffle Prizes awarded and 50/50 winner announced

Adjourn - Sandy Zitzer @ 12:50

Calendar

March 5th Red Scarf Day

March 7th Meet and Greet – Ropewalk 5-7

March 12th Board Meeting

March 21st Game Day - Bayside Skillet 10-2

Respectfully Submitted,

Gwendolyn Crisafulli, Recording Secretary