

Republican Federated Women of The Villages General Membership Meeting 02/2026



February 12, 2026/ 10:00 AM / Rohan Recreation Center, 850 Kristine Way, The Villages FL 32163

AGENDA:

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by RFWTV President, Meg Beck.

Prayer: Donna Como

Pledge: Pam Glynn

Donna Como, member of Prayer Warriors Committee, shared a challenge that Prayer Warriors is embarking on. The challenge is a national prayer, one-minute a day at 9:00 p.m. If you are inclined to do so, set an alarm on your phone for 9:00 p.m. to join the nation in praying, for one minute, for President Trump, his agenda, his Cabinet and his family.

REPORTS AND UPDATES:

Business Reports:

Recording Secretary. The minutes of the January membership meeting had been circulated with the meeting announcement through Constant Contact. Eileen Gressock called for a motion to approve the January 8, 2026 General Membership meeting minutes.

Motion: Deb Butterfield moved that the January 8, 2026 General Membership meeting minutes be approved; the Motion was seconded and the Motion was adopted.

Treasurer. Carol Mangan presented the Club financial statement for the period ending December 15, 2025. Carol will report to the Membership on the status of Club finances each month.

The Club's operating account typically fluctuates between \$15,000 and \$20,000. Income is received from members' dues, sponsorships and fundraising. As a reminder, the Club dues are \$45 annually; \$25 of each member's dues fee is sent to the FFRW. The FFRW keeps only \$5; the remaining \$20 is forwarded to the NFRW. Thus, our Club only retains \$20 of the dues collected from each member. The FFRW and NFRW use the funds we submit to support their operating expenses. Club expenses include an annual rental fee for a post office box; annual storage unit fee; and laptop maintenance. Club bank balance as of December 1, 2025 was \$18,285.09 and closing balance at the end of December was \$17,606.18. Meg announced that the Treasurer's report will be filed.

Local officials in Attendance. Lisa Johnson recognized the following local officials in attendance at the meeting: Andy Bilardello, District 2 Sumter County Commissioner; and Deb Butterfield, District 1 Sumter County Commissioner; both are members of the Club.

Guest Speaker:

Lisa Johnson introduced our guest speaker, Paul Renner who is running for Governor of the State of Florida. Paul served as a naval officer in Operation Desert Storm and Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom. He earned his juris doctorate at the University of Florida and had a successful legal career as an Assistant State Prosecutor. He was elected to the Florida House in 2015 and served as Speaker of the Florida House from 2022 through 2024. Paul grew up with a strong desire to be in public service. He feels his experience in the military and as a prosecutor gave him leadership skills that qualify him to be the next Governor of Florida.

While Paul was Leader of the House (two 60-day sessions), he accomplished the following: a balanced budget, tax relief, and paid off some State debt in advance. He stood up for education with significant teacher salary increases; passed universal school choice; stood up for parental rights, ended transgendered surgeries on minors; defended Second Amendment rights by passing constitutional carry; and made Florida the most veteran friendly state in America. Paul is running for Governor to focus on the problems of Floridians such as freedom, law and order and affordability.

Committee Highlights:

President's Comments

Last month I asked each of you to join a Club Committee. I'm asking again if you have not yet joined a Club Committee, please work on that resolution for this year. It is your involvement that helps this organization stay dynamic.

Achievement Awards

Meg asked all members, who have not already done so, to please submit to her or Charley their volunteer hours for the period July 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025. Please provide by February 18, 2026, the hours that need to be submitted to the FFRW by the end of the month. The focus for this six-month period is Campaign Activism so especially if you have hours related to phone bank, poll watching, etc. You can include hours for attendance at other Republican club meetings; include drive time to and from meetings. Please review your calendars and compile your hours.

Social Media/Communications

Chair, Stacey Castle, has been reinventing Constant Contact messages. The messages you receive with a Blue Banner will be asking you to do something, i.e. contact your legislator, the governor, etc. The Blue Banner Constant Contact message will have all the information you need – phone numbers, emails – to accomplish what we are asking. This request is coming from the FFRW and NFRW because it involves important legislation. The Red Banner Constant Contact message will have all the current information the Club is promoting.

Stacey is also refreshing the Club website: rfwtv.org; Stacey has been taking down old pages and putting up new pages; enlarging the calendar and adding more information such as committee meeting dates, times and places. Please visit the website frequently to obtain this valuable information.

Rosemary Pratt is our Facebook coordinator. Please contact Rosemary to gain access to the RFWTV Facebook page.

Legislative Affairs

Mary Lazich, our new Legislative Affairs Chair, is attending the FFRW Legislative Affairs Training today in Tallahassee. The first Committee meeting for Legislative Affairs is Thursday, February 19th at 1:00 p.m. at the Pinellas Library on Powell Road (the Golden Dome building).

Caring for America

Maureen Foertsch, Chair, was at Publix on January 30th (one of our coldest days) to collect food. She collected 75 pounds of food, \$133 in cash donations, a crib, a stroller, kit cart, clothes and other miscellaneous items.

Americanism

Chair, Deb Butterfield stated that this Committee will focus on projects that demonstrate loyalty to our history, flag, customs, and institutions; and will work to secure a strong America for tomorrow's generations. Starting today, at the conclusion of each monthly meeting, we will have an "American Moment". A designated member will reflect on what it means to be an American. Today we start with Committee Member, Tita Dumagsa.

At the June meeting we will have our own birthday party for America with a possible theme of a celebration of flags. One suggestion was to decorate your Christmas tree in patriotic red, white and blue – bring it to the June meeting and we will have a contest of decorated trees.

Deb displayed a White House Historical Society "250th Anniversary Commemorative Ornament." Deb is willing to place an order for them, so if you are interested in purchasing one, please bring a check to the next meeting for \$36.95 payable to Deb Butterfield.

This Monday, February 16th is President's Day. The Americanism Committee will be handing out flags at Lake Sumter Landing. If you are interested in joining, meet in front of the drink shack at 9:45 a.m. We will be there until we have handed out 200 flags.

Voter Integrity

Elaine Johnson, Chair shared her experience when moving to the Villages. She assumed that when she registered to vote in Florida that her registration in Washington was cancelled. That is not the case. Each State has its own procedure to remove voters from their roles. In many cases, voters stay registered for years before they are removed. The Voter Integrity Committee will be reaching out to the Supervisors of Election (SoE) in all 67 counties in Florida. We want each county to put the information on their website that new Floridian residents need to cancel their registration in States where they used to reside. We will also request each county SoE to place this information on the voter registration form itself. In the meantime, our goal is to inform everyone they know to cancel their voter registrations in other states where they had been registered to vote.

Events & Hospitality

Kathy Slattery, Chair, reminded the members that every month the Club meets for lunch to celebrate our members' birthdays during that particular month. If you receive an email request to

attend, please respond so that the Committee knows who will be attending; all members are welcome to attend. Recently many members joined together for dinner and to see the “Melania” movie which was a big success. They plan to do “dinner and a movie” again.

Kathy Nichols, Hospitality Coordinator, advised that the Club will be taking a trip to the Equestrian Center in Ocala. A sign-up sheet had been circulated; please let Kathy Nichols know if you wish to attend and missed the sign-up sheet. If you sign up and then need to back out, please advise Kathy. In March the Club will have a St. Patrick’s Day celebration.

Fundraiser Chair, Barbara Orvieto, shared that the Club Annual Event will be in October, date is still tentative. Barbara shared with the members that as in the past, we will need many donations and hands to help with the preparations.

Americanism Moment. Tina Dumagsa gave a presentation on her entry into America in her early 20’s and her experiences in her many successful careers.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Eileen M. Gressock, Recording Secretary