

Republican Federated Women of The Villages General Membership Meeting 04/2026



April 9, 2026 / 10:00 AM / Rohan Recreation Center, 850 Kristine Way, The Villages FL 32163

AGENDA:

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by RFWTV President, Meg Beck
Prayer: Ann Bourke, Corresponding Secretary and Prayer Warriors Committee Chair
Pledge: Pam Glynn, Armed Services Committee Chair

REPORTS AND UPDATES:

Meg Beck confirmed with Eileen Gressock, Recording Secretary, that we had a quorum for the meeting.

Local Officials:

The following local officials were in attendance: Nicholas Hemes, NSCUDD; Dianne Olsen, State Committee Woman; Deb Butterfield, District 1 Sumter County Commissioner; Andy Bilardello, District 2 Sumter County Commissioner; Mark Morgan, Republican Executive Committee (REC) Chair; Sally Moss, School Board Representative; Bruno Falvo, WUDD; and Samantha Scott, Florida State Representative Elect.

Samantha Scott invited each Club member to attend her swearing-in ceremony at the Bushnell Courthouse at 10:30 a.m. tomorrow morning, April 10th.

Andy Bilardello thanked all the members who had already signed petition cards for him. However, he is still in need of 300 more signatures to avoid the ballot entry fee. Andy requested that anyone in attendance that had not already signed a petition card to do so and anyone willing to take extra cards home and have friends and neighbors sign them, he would appreciate it. Meg reminded the membership that signing the petition card does not indicate personal endorsement or an endorsement from the Club, it only provides Andy with the ability to place his name on the ballot.

Sally Moss is collecting feminine hygiene products for the schools in Sumter County; coordinate with Judy Holleran for logistics.

REMINDER:

May 14, 2026 General Membership Meeting is at Colony Cottage Recreation Center and begins at 9:30 am.

Guest Speaker:

Lisa Johnson introduced James Fishbach, candidate for governor for the State of Florida. Mr. Fishbach is running on a platform to abolish property taxes, crack down on H-1B Visas, block corporate home buying, ban AI data centers and build on Governor DeSantis' legacy. Mr. Fishbach started an investment firm and built it up to \$40 million of capital; he is a fourth generation Floridian. He does not have political experience, but he does have business experience. He vows to stand up for taxpayers, cutting excess waste, fraud and abuse.

Business Reports:

Recording Secretary.

The minutes of the March Membership meeting had been circulated with the meeting announcement through Constant Contact. Eileen Gressock called for a motion to approve the March 12, 2026, General Membership Meeting minutes.

Motion:

Lisa Johnson moved that the March 12, 2026, General Membership meeting minutes be approved; The Motion was seconded and the Motion was adopted.

Treasurer's Report

Carol Mangan, Treasurer, presented the financial statement for March 2026 as follows:

March 1, 2026 account balance was \$15,596.64. Total revenues during the month of March were \$924.50 (membership dues and \$200 reimbursement from the Wildwood Community Center for a deposit fee). Total expenses during March were \$829.94, (dues passed on to the FFRW and NFRW, name tag payments, phone bank expenses, an ad in the FFRW Conference program). Balance as of April 1, 2026, was \$15,691.20.

Meg thanked Carol for the presentation and stated that the Financial Report will be filed for review.

Committee Highlights:

Achievement Awards. Mindy Haataja, previous Achievement Awards Chair, has stepped away from this leadership role for personal reasons. Arleen Glowacki has volunteered to step in and take over. Arleen has designed a new volunteer hour recording sheet; we will be testing it out for a few months. Please utilize the form to remind yourself of all the ways you are active in the Club and document your hours. Forms can be given to Arleen at Club meetings, email to arleenglowacki4@gmail.com or text to 773-320-0004.

Campaign Activism.

Dianne Olsen, Chair, acknowledged all the men and women who made phone calls in the recent elections. The RFWTV received an award from the NFRW for winning the "large club" category for the most phone banking calls. The FFRW also received the award for statewide top callers out of clubs nationally in our size.

Dianne urged everyone to remind their neighbors and friends that we have a primary in August and if they are leaving Florida for the Summer, they need to request their mail-in ballot.

Membership

Jane Falvo held the first quarterly new member orientation meeting on March 25th at Trillium Recreation Center. Our President, Meg, spoke to the new members about the RFWTV mission and how we are structured. Committee Chairs spoke about their committees and what members could expect if they participated. Jane asked for feedback from the new members; many thought that the Club was warm and welcoming. Jane said that one goal of Membership is to give new members a good experience which will encourage them to participate in one or more of our committees. The first Membership Committee meeting will be Wednesday, April 15th, 1:00 p.m. at Belvedere Library.

Prayer Warriors

Ann Bourke, Corresponding Secretary and Prayer Warriors Chair. In her role as Corresponding Secretary, Ann asked for members to donate to the Club any greeting cards (birthday, sympathy, etc.) they might have at home that they are not using. Ann sends cards out to members as needed.

As Prayer Warriors Chair, Ann is looking for more prayer warriors to join her committee. Ann circulates all prayer requests to her committee; you can pray individually at home. Prayers can be submitted to Ann either with or without your name. Ann hosts a meeting at her home on the fourth Thursday of each month for about an hour. She is currently working in conjunction with a few churches in the area for a project on May 17th. President Trump is rededicating the country to God. Remember Project 1@9—Pray for one minute at 9:00 p.m. for the President, his Cabinet and his agenda.

Caring for America

Maureen Foertsch is the Chair of this outreach program. This Committee was created by the National Federation of Republican Women in 1999 to better the lives of those in our community. This is Maureen's third term as Chair. She works with Caring Hands Pantry, a not-for-profit organization of the First Baptist Church of Wildwood. She does not only collect food but any gently used items: clothing, household, furniture, etc. Maureen sets up monthly donation tables at several grocery stores. Maureen invites you to join her in this ministry.

Armed Services

Pam Glynn, Chair, reminded the membership that we are still collecting stockings for the Veterans Christmas Project; she presently has 103 stockings. Last year the Club donated 171 filled stockings to the VA; so many more stockings are needed. For Veterans Day in November, we will have a Military Board with pictures of all veterans. Please give Pam copies of any pictures of veterans in your family for posting.

On Memorial Day, the Club will participate in placing flags at the gravestones at the Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell. You cannot drive there as there is not sufficient parking. Busses will be leaving at 7:00 a.m. on Sunday May 24th from two separate locations: 1st location is Home Depot in Wildwood, and the 2nd location is the American Legion off Rt. 466. Flags will be

provided but you need to bring a ruler to measure 12 inches from headstone to place the flag. Anyone interested in attending needs to see Pam today as the buses need to be reserved. Cost is \$20 per person.

Fundraising

Barbara Orvieto announced that the theme of this year's fundraiser will be "Fighting for Freedom, Honoring Our Military and Preserving America". The date is October 14th at Rohan Regional Recreation Center; 5:00 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. We will have special guest speakers, barbecue buffet, Ladies in Red Cookie Platters; basket raffles and silent auctions. Barbara will be asking for volunteers to help on the day of and prior to the event. Please start thinking of items you could donate. She will be asking for members to donate 2-3 dozen cookies for dessert. Platters will be placed on the tables with a list of baker's names displayed on each platter. If you have any large baskets, please consider donating them.

Legislative Affairs

Mary Lazich, Chair, circulated a clipboard to sign up for her Committee. You will learn about State and Federal government pending issues. The current State legislative session ended March 13th; a special session is being called solely for redistricting. Samantha Scott is being sworn in to the Legislature on Friday, April 10th but will have to qualify and run again. Mary urged members to join her committee and help plan a trip to Tallahassee next year.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Eileen M. Gressock, Recording Secretary