

Republican Federated Women of The Villages General Membership Meeting 06/2026



June 11, 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.

Meg acknowledged the Americanism Committee for their hard work in planning and putting forth this wonderful celebration of the Country's 250th anniversary. Sgt. Dodge from the Sumter County Sheriff's office brought in the American Flag; Deb Butterfield led the prayer; and Samantha Scott, newly elected State Representative, led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Avery Youngblood led the singing of the National Anthem.

Local Officials:

The following local officials were in attendance: Nicholas Hemes, NSCUDD; Dianne Olsen, State Committeewoman; Deb Butterfield, District 1 Sumter County Commissioner; Ellie Decker, NSCUDD; Al Butler, NSCUDD; Andy Bilardello, District 2 Sumter County Commissioner; Jeff Bogue, District 4 Sumter County Commissioner; Mark Morgan, Chair of the Republican Executive Committee; Bob Greene, State Committeeman; Pat Breeden, Sheriff; Todd Coon, District 3 Sumter County Commissioner; Bruno Falvo, WUDD; and Samantha Scott, Florida State Representative.

Tita Dumagsa read a poem entitled "I Am The Flag" by Ruth Apperson Rous. Deb Butterfield provided a little history of the Flag – Introduced in 1767 and has endured many iterations since 1777. Significance of the colors of the flag: Red means valor and bravery; White, purity and innocence; Blue, vigilance, perseverance and justice. Deb showed the initial Flag with the thirteen stars representing the initial colonies and the present-day Flag with the 50 stars representing the current 50 States. If another State is added to the United States of America, their star is added the year after they become a State.

Andy Bilardello thanked all Club members for helping with his petition signatures. Andy is the only candidate running who qualified and did not have to write a check for his placement on the ballot; this due in large part because of the signatures received at our Club meetings.

Guest Speakers:

Lisa Johnson introduced Michael Squier, Candidate for District 4 Sumter County Commissioner. Michael thanked the Club for the invitation to speak. He provided personal information: he has worked service jobs, corrections, delivery, hands on jobs, etc. He is running to be a Sumter County Commissioner and promises to show up, do the work, track promises publicly and make growth pay its own way. Conservatism to him means limited government, public safety, property rights, personal responsibility, and local control. He is not anti-growth but against careless growth.

Conservative government should be measurable, understandable and accountable. Michael would like to see recorded town halls, plain-English issue trackers, public progression to show who owns an issue, what the next step is, the deadline and what changed, if anything.

Jeff Bogue, District 4 Sumter County Commissioner incumbent, provided his personal information: Jeff is a retired firefighter paramedic, owns a small farm, lives in the Bushnell area; currently works for Advent Health as Executive Director of Emergency Services. He has years of experience in emergency services and management of large budgets. He is currently the only County Commissioner who has received a certification of County Commissioner – Advance CC 2 from the University of Florida. This education helps him navigate the governance of a county, deal with land development codes and growth in the county. He has served four years and would like to serve another four, at which time he would return to private life. Our county is well run as we have consolidated many services within five cities; there is not a lot of waste.

Leslie Russell asked their position on Flock cameras. Michael felt that Flock safety cameras were abused; however, the Sheriff's office has found them to be an asset. He is against Flock cameras and prefer they be located in another area until we are ready with correct policies in place. Jeff said Flock cameras are utilized more for picking up wanted license plates. Jerry Loomer asked about property taxes, the homestead exemption and what the county will do if we lose revenue. Jeff said he could not answer the question at this time and Michael said "necessity is the mother of invention".

Representative Scott spoke to the Club. She was sworn in in Tallahassee in April; has taken two historic votes and spent \$14 Billion. At the present time she has no primary opponent. Ms. Scott said that every time she calls the RFWTV, we answer; she is very appreciative of our Club.

Leslie Russell, School Board Candidate, is unable to attend the July meeting, so she was given a few minutes to speak about her candidacy. She is running primarily for parental rights, no DEI, and to have schools focus on core reading, writing and arithmetic. We also need to monitor the books that are in the school libraries.

Business Reports:

Recording Secretary. The minutes of the May 14, 2026 membership meeting had been circulated with the meeting announcement through Constant Contact. Eileen Gressock called for a motion to approve the May 14, 2026 General Membership meeting minutes.

Motion: Ann Bourke moved that the May 14, 2026 General Membership meeting minutes be approved; The Motion was seconded and the Motion was adopted.

Committee Highlights:

Achievement Awards: Meg asked all members to turn in all their volunteer hours from January 1st through June 30th to Arleen Glowacki as soon as possible; please project hours in advance and submit to Arleen. Meg needs to submit a report to the FFRW in July.

Armed Services: Pam recognized seven members who participated in placing flags at the Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell. The Committee continues to write cards to veterans, active duty, and military families. Pam has cards for you to fill out including suggestions of what to write if you need. In November we will have a ceremony to honor veterans. Please bring a picture of any member of your family that was a veteran; provide their name, rank and branch of service. Christmas Stocking Project, please continue to look for additional stockings.

Campaign Activism: Dianne Olsen, Chair, told us that we are the grass roots of Sumter County; it is important to get the people out to vote in the Primary—we will be voting for school board candidates; commissioners; and judges as well as the Republican candidate for governor. If you have not signed up to be a volunteer with her committee, please do so.

Communications: Stacey Castle, Chair has been spearheading the Birthday luncheons, be sure to RSVP if you receive an invitation. Please open and read the Club monthly newsletters; we currently have 75% of the members opening and reading them. The Club website and Facebook have some of the same info as in the newsletters. Stacey asked if any members were interested in texts from her; fifty percent were interested.

Events: Stacey Castle coordinated a High Tea event which was very successful.

Fundraising: Clipboards have been circulated to volunteer for helping with various events involving the fundraiser.

Membership: Jane Falvo, Chair, asked all the guests at the meeting to stand and then she thanked all the members for bringing so many guests to experience our Club. Jane presented a new Recognition Rewards program by building beaded bracelets. For each activity a member participates in, she will receive one or more colored beads to add.

At our July Club meeting school board candidates will be speaking as well as Sumter County Superintendent of Schools, Logan Brown. No Club meeting in August due to recreation centers in The Villages being used for Primary Voting.

Deb Butterfield closed out the meeting with a raffle for a number of items including: a patriotic women's top; red/white/blue purse; men's patriotic shirt; ladies hat; decorative patriotic wreaths; a table decoration; and a patriotic rocker.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Eileen M. Gressock, Recording Secretary