

Josephine County Republican Women

Grants Pass, OR

January - February 2025



Life is inevitably filled with hurdles, moments where progress feels blocked, and challenges that seem insurmountable. Maintaining a positive outlook during these times is crucial, not just for our mental well-being but also for our ability to effectively navigate these difficulties. Focusing on past successes, even small ones, can serve as a reminder of our resilience and capability. Cultivating gratitude for the things we do have, rather than dwelling on what we're afraid of, shifts our perspective and allows us to approach problems with a more optimistic outlook. Remember that hurdles aren't roadblocks but opportunities for growth and learning, chances to refine our skills and develop inner strength. We're much stronger than we think!

Caring for America will have four different projects this year. Our first is for our Veterans. There is a free breakfast for veterans every third Thursday at Elmers, sponsored by Team Senior. Currently, an average of 80 Vets attend. In March, our goal is to have the club sponsor the breakfast for them. With an average cost of \$12.00 per meal, we would like to ultimately raise at least \$900. if you can sponsor one or more, please make your donations to our club. We appreciate each of you who can help us with this very worthwhile project.



January's Speaker Spoke of Solutions for Seniors

When Jamie Callahan stepped up to the podium, she looked out on a large group curious to hear what Team Senior was all about. She began to rapidly give us information on how the organization helps seniors transition from a home situation to assisted living, long-term care, in-home care, and veteran's benefits. She spoke rapidly because she had so much to tell us in the time she had available. If only I could write faster, I thought.



Everything she mentioned was worth noting. It didn't take long to realize Team Senior was a treasure-trove of good resources for seniors. All too quickly, she was wrapping up her presentation, taking as many questions from the audience as she could before she needed to leave for an appointment.

Grants Pass Chamber's New President/CEO Speaks in February

Terry Hopkins may be newly elected to his position for the Chamber of Commerce, but his schedule is already full of committees, attending meetings, and working on a seemingly impossible number of ideas to make the Grants Pass Chamber even more productive than it already is! He also shared bills in the legislature that will affect small businesses as well as homeowners. It was obvious listening to Mr. Hopkins that he loves what he does, works tirelessly for the good of Grants Pass, and welcomes ideas from everyone.



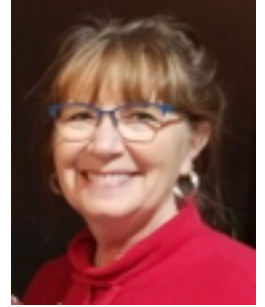
Editor's note - , I thought it would be nice to have each officer write something to let you know who they are, some of their background, and how they feel about being a part of JoCRW.

I am a Southern Oregon native with a career background in business. I was formerly COO of the Oregon State Chamber, CEO of the Grants Pass and Josephine County Chamber, and a local small business owner for more than 20 years.

With a lifelong commitment to community involvement, my recent activities include working as a Broker at John L Scott Real Estate Grants Pass, as a member of the Grants Pass Chamber Government Affairs Committee, Rogue Valley Association of Realtors Government Affairs, and The Rotary Club of Grants Pass. I want Oregon to thrive in both business and housing for these go hand in hand with the economic development and political advocacy realm.

As **First Vice President**, the most important part of my job is to invite educational and engaging speakers to be featured at each meeting. We live in a great community with a lot going on, and I hope to shine a light on the important things that may be of great interest to you.

Colene Martin, First Vice President



I am your Membership Chair and 2nd Vice President for 2025-2026. You might remember me in this position during the last two years, too, and I'm happy to have been elected to serve the club in this capacity. Working with the members is the best part of this job. For



the last 20 years, I have been a partner and business owner with my mother in real estate. I've been a resident of Grants Pass off and on since I was five, which gives me a very valuable understanding of our community. I joined JoCRW in 2023 and immediately knew I wanted to contribute to the growth of this club. I've made many wonderful friends by being a part of such a dedicated group of women who are friendly, open, and always encouraging.

Marian Szwec

(pronounced "chef"). **2nd Vice President & Membership**

The JoCRW Club is my favorite group—it's true! At my first meeting, I signed up to volunteer on the Constitution Scholarship Committee. I have never regretted that decision! This term, I'm looking forward to focusing on the role of Treasurer for the club. If you like to make a difference in your community, I highly recommend that you find a club committee or project that interests you and sign up to help. We have forged wonderful friendships and had so much fun along the way! **Lenora Swift, Treasurer**

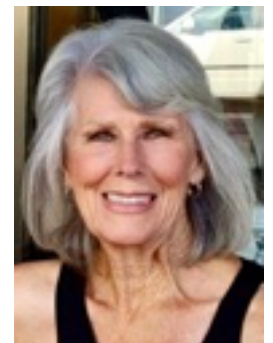


I became a Republican in 2015 when I joined the Republican Women's Group. Before becoming a Republican, I was registered as an independent voter. What has endeared me to the women's group is the education above all. I must admit, I did not take much interest in who our candidates were, but after having an opportunity to learn who these individuals are, I have become very political. I now take pride in that I have become that person in my sphere of influence who is asked my opinion on who to vote for and why.



Kathy Coelho, Secretary

This is my fourth year as OFRW SW District Director. My replacement will be sworn in at the OFRW Fall Board meeting at the Mt. Hood meeting. At this time, we do not know who that will be. I have enjoyed interfacing with my three Clubs, which are Umpqua Valley, Jackson County, and Josephine County. This year, President Jennifer Green of Josephine has asked me to be her Legislative Chair. Periodically, I will be giving you updates on our elected officials at the state and local levels on their legislation and voting records. **Dordie Lamphier, Legislative Chair and SW District Director**





FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Happy New Year! As we look forward to 2025, with Donald J. Trump back in office, and watching his amazing Cabinet Nominees stand up to the entrenched Democrats, I can't help but feel serious excitement for what is ahead of us. I'm sure you are all feeling the same.

For Josephine County Republican Women, we are looking forward to some changes too. "Find Your Passion" has become our motto for this year and your Executive Board is looking ahead with this in mind as our goal for the year. Here are a couple examples:

Caring for America – this is something we have been lax on in the last several years. Not only are we picking it back up again, but we are trying something different. Instead of choosing one cause and then hitting you with everything at the end of the year, when we are all being hit up for "just \$20 a month" pleas, we decided to choose 4 different causes and focus on one each quarter. First quarter is our Veterans. If you came to the January meeting, you heard about Team Senior and the breakfast they hold every month for Vets. We want to sponsor one of those breakfasts or at least cover most of the cost for one month. We started collecting donations in January, and we will continue through March. Each breakfast is \$12. If everyone could donate enough for ONE breakfast...or more if you choose, we could raise a pretty good amount. Or if you could bring in \$12 each month, that would be phenomenal! Each quarter we will introduce a new cause we will be working on. Stay tuned!!

Our State Legislature is in session for 6 months this year and from what we are hearing, they will be introducing possibly THOUSANDS of bills. They have a super majority, so they can pretty much do whatever they want. We need to be extra vigilant and informed so we can help our friends and neighbors be informed.

This year is going to be informative, exciting and we will be sure to throw some fun in there too! Make sure to join us for the ride, and Let's Find Your Passion!!

Jennifer Green, JoCRW President

Dues are due!

***And we've extended
the deadline to***

March 18th!

Full Members - \$40

Associate Members - \$20

Cash,

Credit Cards

Make checks to JoCRW

*If you'd like to mail your check, send
to JoCRW, PO Box 2461, Grants*

Pass, OR, 97528

Have you changed your email?

*Phone? Address? **Please make***

***sure we have your correct
information!*** *There's a renewal/ new*

*member application form on the next page or, you
can pick one up at the next meeting, or call*

*Marian Szezw, **541-778-3400***

Happy Birthday!!

January

February

Marilyn Burns

Catherine Healy

Patrick Ryan

Faith Leming

Felicia Leavitt



Looking Ahead....

JoCRW Meetings:

March 18- Rural Metro

April 15- Humane Society & JoCo

Animal Shelter

May 20- Kerry McQuisten &

Solomon Yue

***OFRW Spring Board Meeting
and Day at the Legislature***

April 3 - 4, 2025

Holiday Inn, Salem

***District Director's Meeting
for our SW region***

July 31st, 2025

Seven Feathers

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**AND CHECK OUT
OUR NEW WEBSITE**

WWW.JOCOREPWOMEN.ORG



JOSEPHINE COUNTY REPUBLICAN WOMEN

Please update all changed information
Membership Application & Renewal
Associate Application & Renewal

Name _____ . Date _____

Address _____

City/ State/ Zip _____

Phone (please mark home or cell) _____ birthday mo. _____ day _____

Email _____

Please mark one:

_____ This is a **new membership** for a **Full Member** (\$40/year)

_____ **Renewal** for a **Full Member** (\$40/year)

_____ This is for a **new Associate Membership** (\$20/year)

* Associate members are non-voting positions and are men, or women with membership in another Federated Republican Women's Club.

_____ **Renewal** for an **Associate Membership** (\$20/year)

Club badges are \$12.50 (with pin) or \$14.00 (with magnet) and are optional. Please write on the line below how you would like your name to appear:

Also - Please sign here:

I am a registered Republican and will support the ideals and the Republican Party Platform and encourage loyalty to the Republican Party.



[LegiScan - Tracking Oregon Bills](#)

Double click on the line above and it will take you to the LegiScan website where you can look up bills in either the Oregon Senate or House of Rep.

SB 426

would make a homeowner liable to any non-union construction worker who is not paid by the company that employs or contracted with the workers), even if the homeowner paid the employer. While everyone should be paid for their work, holding a homeowner who has acted in good faith and fulfilled their contractual obligation to pay for construction services liable for the failure of a contractor to pay their workers is fundamentally unfair.

Senate Bill 687

would roll back a state law – created when lawmakers took up transportation funding [in 2009](#) – that requires cities to seek voter approval before passing local fuel taxes. It would also allow every county in Oregon to implement or hike vehicle registration fees without a vote, an option currently only available to the four counties with more than 350,000 residents.

HJR 8 – Imposes a statewide property tax to fund public safety.

H.J. Res. is the designation for a joint resolution that originates in the House of Representatives. A joint resolution is a legislative proposal that requires approval from both the House and the Senate.

Senate Bill 988

Permits a child's parent or guardian to admit the child, with or without the child's consent, to an inpatient treatment facility or program licensed by the Oregon Health Authority or the Department of Human Services for certain mental, emotional or behavioral health or substance use disorder treatment. Feb 6, 2025

Senate Bill 1089

The Oregon Legislature created the Universal Health Plan Governance Board with Senate Bill (SB) 1089 in 2023. The board is charged with developing a comprehensive plan to finance and administer a universal health plan, which is due to the legislature no later than Sept. 15, 2026.

Senate Bill 114

Requires the Legislative Revenue Officer to study the property tax system in this state. Directs the officer to submit a report to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to revenue no later than September 15, 2026. Sunsets on January 2, 2027. Relating to the property tax system in Oregon.

These are only a sample of what the legislature is working on in 2025, with 2,500 introduced in January, with another 1,500 added to that stack by the end of June. (data taken from NFIB website).

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