

STAR REPUBLICAN WOMEN NEWSLETTER



A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT KAY GUIDRY

Welcome to the Golden Age of Star Republican Women

As I write this monthly update, I am not sure I know what happened to the first four months of 2025. Do you? It has gone by so fast, but yet as I reflect back, I have learned so much about many things, and I see the many great accomplishments by the members of Star Republican Women.

We have grown tremendously as a Club and in our development as a team, as an active part of the Texas Federation of Republican Women, and as responsible and productive leaders of our community and political structure.

Now, as I watch this momentum build, I am excited to keep it going throughout the remainder of my term. As we prepare to take a three-month break for the summer, we would like to remind everyone that we are still here and hope to be planning some fun events over the summer months. Please watch your emails for updates on Star events, as well as our Facebook page – STAR REPUBLICAN WOMEN and website – STARTXRW.ORG

Don't miss our May 20 General Membership Meeting. More information can be found under our First Vice President's report below.

Meetings are at Quail Point, 107 Twilight Lane, Horseshoe Bay. Lunch at 12:30, meetings start at 1:00 p.m.

We will resume regular monthly meetings in September.

Don't forget that voting for the local school board elections ends May 3.

Courageous Conservatives — Reigniting the Promise of America –
Ted Cruz

Kay Guidry, President



FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

KIM HOWZE



MEET OUR MAY SPEAKERS

Our speakers for the May meeting are Brenda Rienstra and Katy Oliver from the Christian Women's Job Corps of the Highland Lakes. CWJC is celebrating 23 years in existence, with over 150 sites worldwide, providing qualifying women in the Highland Lakes area with training to develop necessary job training and life skills from a Christian perspective.

Brenda has served as the site coordinator for CWJC since 2018, and is passionate about the program and what it provides to women in this area. Over her 7+ years, she has personally seen 68 graduates complete the program and go on to have successful lives. Brenda recently retired and lives in Burnet with her husband who is the Pastor of Genesis Lutheran Church in Buchanan Dam. They have 3 grown children and 10 grandchildren. Her husband will be retiring in August, and they are planning a move to the Tomball, Texas area. She is looking forward to retirement and spending time with family!

Katy Oliver is replacing Brenda as site coordinator. She has first-hand knowledge and experience having graduated from CWJC 18 years ago as a young mother with a GED and 3 young girls. After a successful career, Katy chose to be a stay-at-home mom while her girls were in high school. When the girls left home, and entering a new season in her life, she returned to CWJC a second time as a student. She brings a unique perspective and deep, personal connection to the mission and ministry of CWJC.

Katy is married to Josh and they recently moved out to the Lack Buchanan area. Their girls are now grown and leading successful lives of their own. Katy is excited and enthusiastic about her new role and looks forward to carrying the mission of the Christian Women's Job Corp of the Highland Lakes into the future!

May General Meeting

TUESDAY, MAY 20TH

12:30 LUNCH FOLLOWED BY 1:00 PM MEETING

QUAIL POINT

107 TWILIGHT, HORSESHOE BAY

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

KATHLEEN STAHL



Debbie Lambert has been hard at work increasing star membership which is now at 120 members and 27 associates.

During the month of April, we had three new members!

Please welcome to Star Republican women:

Tomi MacDonald,
Laura Blanch and
Janis Countiss.

We also have a new associate Art Hawkinson.

We are so pleased to have them join us!

Debbie has taken some time off as she cares for her husband Reagan. Kathy Stahl will be filling in for her temporarily as membership chair.

Kathleen Stahl

"Let no one ever come to you without coming away better, happier...."

JOIN SRW!

- Bring your friends and share the fun!
- Meet new friends who share your Republican values.
- Support Republican candidates .
- Our meetings are fun and educational.



LEGISLATION

DIANE STONE



The Texas State legislature keeps rolling along, but the big news so far is that school choice will be the law of the land. There are several other bills, dealing with discipline in school, and parental rights among other things that are moving through the legislature and enjoy support from the Republican Party. There has also been bills dance to solve problems, such as water, with different emphasis between the house in the Senate on repair of aging infrastructure versus creating new water supplies through things like desalinization.

The Senate property tax bill has increase the Homestead exemption to \$140,000 and the over 65 exemption \$150,000. The house bill relies more on flying down property tax rates through a method called compression as opposed to increasing the homestead exemption. The benefit of increasing the homestead exemption is that it would require a constitutional amendment to reduce its impact on property taxes in the future.

We are now in the last month of the legislative session and it is a mad scramble for bills to try to get through the process and become lost. Less than 25% of bills actually do so.

President Trump's first 100 days had many successes, illegal immigration has been reduced 99.9%. Billions of taxpayer dollars have been saved through the DOGE effort, cancelling thousands of grants and reducing the government's Emmett work force. DEI and men in women's sports have been ended. The Trump administration is using tariff policy to reassure production to America, and rework trade deals with other countries to reduce their trade barriers. And that is just a partial list! The Golden Age of America has begun!

Until next month,
Diane Stone

CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES

KAREN CALDERON-SCHWEITZER



CAMPAIGN HOURS REPORTING SCHEDULE

- First Quarter 2025 (January – March) due on April 15, 2025
- Second Quarter 2025 (April – June) due on July 10, 2025
- Third Quarter 2025 (July – September) due on October 15, 2025
- Fourth Quarter 2025 (October – December) due on January 15, 2026

May brings us local elections!

Be sure to get out and vote for the Joint General Election on May, 3rd, 2025.

ELECTION DAY POLLING LOCATIONS:

Precinct 101- Llano County Ag & Health Bldg.
1447 E. State Hwy 71 Ste B, Llano, TX 78643

Precinct 108- Sunrise Beach
City Hall Civic Center Complex 124 Sunrise Beach, Sunrise Beach, TX 78643

Precincts 102/109- Horseshoe Bay
City of Horseshoe Bay Council Chambers 1 Community Dr., Horseshoe Bay, TX 78657

Precincts 203/204/205- Bluffton
Lakeshore Branch Library 7346 RR 261, Buchanan Dam, TX 78609

Precinct 307- Kingsland
Kingsland Public Library 125 W. Polk, Kingsland, TX 78639

Precinct 410- West Llano
Llano County Library 102 E. Haynie, Llano, TX 78643

Your Voting Precinct number is printed on your Voter Certificate, or you can call the Llano County Elections Office for assistance: (325) 247-5425

The NO ENDORSEMENT POLICY and the Candidate Fairness Policy does not allow us to endorse any one particular candidate.

Please email me with any questions or if you would like to join our Campaign Activities Committee:

karencalderon@yahoo.com

CARING FOR AMERICA

JULIE JACKSON



Thank you for your generous donations at the April meeting!

We have one more event before our summer break: We will be taking donations and giving out poppies in front of Bayside Market on Thursday, May 22, 10:00-1:00.

The red poppy, is a well-established symbol of remembrance and tribute to veterans, both those who served and those who died in service.

We need volunteers!

If you can help please call or text me at 512-961-0610. You can volunteer for an hour or longer. If you can't volunteer, please stop by the to make a donation. If you know any veterans, please ask them to stop by so we can meet them and give them a poppy.

Have a great summer!

Julie Jackson, Brenda Dunn, Kathy Hussey

WAYS AND MEANS

YUKI GRAVES



Fundraising is an integral part of the Star Republican Women and the means to support our agenda throughout the year.

This Fall will be our Poinsettias sales! Beautiful 6" potted red poinsettias will be on sale and delivered in time for the holidays.

So watch for the details in coming editions of the newsletter.

Star Republican Women hosts the annual December luncheon and this year we will reintroduce beautiful table setting displays, offer a delicious catered lunch, and have exciting programs and entertainment. I have a couple volunteers interested in being a part of planning. Will you join us, too? Please call or send me a note to sign up!

Yuki Ann Graves

Ways & Means Committee Chairperson

Email: yagraves23@gmail.com

TREASURER

PAULA MURRAY



We began the month of May with a balance of \$16,144. We brought in income of \$429. (Member Dues \$294, Ways & Means T-shirt sale \$20 & silent auction \$115). Expenditures totaled \$1,017. (Operating Expenses \$189, Membership \$113, Caring for America \$154, Hospitality \$61, Donations \$500).

Our balance as of April 30, 2025 was \$15,555.

Paula Murray

Treasurer

SRW NEWS



THE HOSPITALITY HERD WANTS YOU!

We are a fun group of gals who love to cook and bake. We are looking for helping hands to prepare finger foods for our meetings.

Please contact Rue Wright for more information at 830-995-5110.

MAY GENERAL MEETING

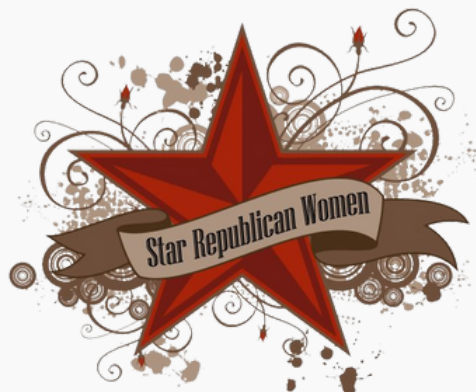
TUESDAY, MAY 20TH

12:30 PM Lunch

1:00 PM Meeting

At Quail Point

107 Twilight, Horseshoe Bay



STAR PICS



SECRETARY

SHERRY OLSON



General Meeting Minutes

4/15/2025 Quail Point, Horseshoe Bay TX

Reminders:

4/22-29 Early voting, school board elections 8am-5pm
(weekdays)

5/3 Election Day

Call to Order: President Kay Guidry, called the meeting to order @ 1:05pm.

Members present: recorded on sign-in sheet

Prayer & Pledges: Gayla Bowen, chaplain- Led us in prayer and pledges.

Welcome to 100 Day Celebration: Kay Guidry welcomed all Star members, guests and elected officials to our meeting and thanked volunteers for decorations. A special thank you to the Wildflower Dance Troupe for their performance.

Membership: Thank you to Kathy Stahl for filling in for Debbie Lambert and to Louraine Robertson for always being at welcome/ sign-in table. Kathy stated we now have 117 members plus 5 in the process of joining.

Secretary: Sherry Olson requested approval of March General Meeting Minutes which were sent to all members. Kay Guidry called for comments or corrections, with none, the minutes stand approved as written.

Treasurer: Paula Murray announced the YTD budget report with expenses and current balance can be found on tables.

Committee Chair Reports:

Caring for America: Julie Jackson thanked everyone for bringing donations for Highland Lakes Crisis Network and CASA in support of Child Abuse Prevention month.

May 22 at Bayside Market, CFA will be handing out poppies in honor of fallen service members and collecting donations for the American Legion.

Legislation: Diane Stone reported on the importance of staying informed on bills and contacting representatives with concerns.

Diane was concerned about a bill written by Pete Florez on low-income housing because it didn't include specifics to where this housing could be located. She contacted Senator Flores and as a result they amended the bill.

Campaigns: Karen Calderon- Schweitzer was not present. However, she requests all reportable hours be submitted to her by April 15.

Ways & Means & Awards: Yuki Graves auctioned off a Mystery Bag item. Other upcoming fundraising ideas include swag shop, poinsettia sales and Christmas Luncheon.

Hospitality: Rue Wright thanked all the volunteers and reminded everyone they can sign up to bring food for next meeting on the clipboards on tables.

Suggestion Box: Kay Guidry thanked everyone for their suggestions and encouraged everyone to fill out the cards found on each table.

1st VP & Programs: Kim Howze introduced Brittany Grubbs, Executive Director for CASA Highland Lakes Area. CASA provides court appointed special advocates for children that are removed from their home or are in abused/ neglected homes. These volunteers appointed by a judge stay with the child 12-18 months and monitor the courts, family, counseling, education, and therapy so the child can heal and be in a stable home. A Q & A session followed.

The next speaker was Kevin Naumann, Executive Director from Highland Lakes Crisis Network and joined by Rachel Naumann and Elyse Sellman. Kevin showed a video about the organization and their future plans. Last year, the highland lakes area had 209 homeless children, 5655 children were below the poverty line and 18 cases that required substantial intervention. A Q & A session followed.

In support of these organizations and Child Abuse Prevention Month, Star RW donated \$250 to Casa and \$250 to Highland Lakes Crisis Network.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 2pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Olson,
Star RW Recording Secretary

The SRW newsletter is an official publication of Star Republican Women and is emailed monthly to its members.

It contains information about SRW, its members, plus important announcements and information regarding the political arena.

Political advertising is paid for by Star Republican Women PAC, a tax-exempt organization under Section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to SRW PAC are not tax deductible as charitable contributions for Federal Income Tax purposes. Corporate contributions are not permitted.

