



CONSERVATIVES CARING FOR COUNTRY AND COMMUNITY



"My idea of Christmas, whether old-fashioned or modern, is very simple: loving others. Come to think of it, why do we have to wait for Christmas to do that?"

—Bob Hope, Comedian and Entertainer, 1903-2003

SUMMIT UP

DEC
2023

Join Us

info@summitGOPwomen.org 

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Editor: Jini Clare, Designer: Barbara Peterson

2023 In Review



A few of our 2022 Christmas Party Attendees



Lincoln Day Dinner - February



Memorial for beloved Garnett - March



Independence Day Parade - July



Road Cleanup Crew - October



Picnic Carter Park - October

Bring a friend
that joins and
receive a prize

JOIN OUR MEMBERSHIP

Join before 12/25 for
discounted rate



In December we will be accepting dues for 2024. Details about how to renew your membership or join for the first time are provided on our website. We'd love for you to join a great bunch of like-minded ladies (and our associate member men) in a wonderful organization. You also might want to consider serving as a chair or member of a committee. Check out the opportunities on the next page.

For the membership form and more information, just go to our website at the link.

[CLICK HERE
TO JOIN](#)

Volunteers Needed

We need volunteers for our committees. We'd love for you to be part of us.



A few of our fabulous volunteers for Lincoln Day Dinner: Sue Rochford, Susan Slepik and Jeanne Oltman

Committees

Meeting Programming and Facilitation: In order to assist the president and vice president, volunteers on this team take turns sponsoring ONE of the monthly meetings, communicating with the president on meeting content, working with the secretary on finalizing the agenda of the meeting, and working with the vice president to identify and confirm the speaker. Our bylaws do not require that we have a meeting every month, although most months we have had some organized activity, even if it is just a social event. The VP would chair this team.

Fundraising: Our biggest fundraising event is the silent auction at the annual Lincoln Day Dinner (“LDD”). We’ve done well with our sales of jewelry, wine glasses, water bottles, t-shirts, hats, etc. Fundraising is one of the most important functions of our club. We need someone to lead this committee and volunteers to assist with decorations, setup, and obtaining the silent auction items.

Membership: Our vision is to do a good job of caring for our members, making sure everyone feels welcome and connected, and increasing membership and awareness. We also want to take advantage of the resources provided by the Colorado Federation of Republican Women and the National Federation of Republican Women, as our contributions to those organizations are a big part of our dues.

Legislature: This committee’s work is comprised of keeping up with what is going on at the local, state, and national levels, and 2024 is a presidential election year! The legislative chair keeps our club members apprised of what our state legislature is doing and helps us make informed decisions in the elections.

Bylaws/Parliamentarian: Our bylaws are fairly simple and are consistent with the expectations of the NFRW and CFRW. We need someone to review these annually and ensure we are complying. The parliamentarian aspect of the role is to ensure we are following the protocols described in the bylaws for decision-making and following Roberts Rules of Order.

Scholarship: Summit County Republican Women has sponsored a \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior in Summit County for the last three years. The chair, along with a committee, will determine the best way to continue the tradition of offering a scholarship to a deserving graduating student who plans to further their education in an advanced certification or degree program.

Marketing/Social Media: This committee provides a consistent brand identity in marketing endeavors. Additionally, the committee maintains our website, private Facebook page, Instagram account, and the *SummitUp* newsletter.

Publicity and Internal Communications: This committee works closely with the marketing team and secretary to maintain both publicity and email notices of events and notifications. They monitor our email account to ensure we respond in a timely manner.

Americanism: This committee spearheads events and activities to promote education and appreciation of our country and the United States Constitution. Activities have included a Constitution Day celebration and awarding a Summit High School graduate a Constitutional Scholar Award and Scholarship.

2024 Elected Officers

We are excited to announce the election of Summit County Republican Women's new officers for 2024. Thank you to everyone who participated in the nomination and voting process. We also thank our outgoing officers, Tess Scalise, Penny TerHaar, Ruthie Hardee, and Lori Cutunilli

A large, stylized graphic of the words "Thank you" in a vibrant orange-red color. The font is a thick, rounded, cursive style. The word "Thank" is on the top line and "you" is on the bottom line, with a small flourish under the 'y'.

Our new officers for 2024 are:

President – Debra Irvine

Vice President – Kathleen Branch

Treasurer – Sue Todd

Secretary – Barb Tabb

This is a team of strong and strategic leaders, and we are thankful that they were all willing to share their time and talents with our organization. We will include more detailed biographies in next month's newsletter, but here is a glimpse into their backgrounds.

Debra Irvine has been immersed in Colorado politics, locally and statewide, since 2005. She has been a Republican candidate for House District 56 and 61 and was a primary candidate for Senate District 8 in 2020. She served as chairman of Congressional District 2, Judicial District 5, and Summit County. In addition to other positions, she currently is on the board of directors of Club 20, the largest lobbying group for the Western Slope.

Kathleen Branch (MBA, MSIE) has a strong background in engineering and marketing. The wife and mother of United States Naval Academy graduates and career officers, Kathleen serves on the USNA Foundation Board. As a retired defense and aviation professional, she maintains a deep interest in veterans' affairs and a strong national defense.

Sue Todd brings great experience and knowledge to the treasurer position. She has a degree in accounting and has worked in the field for 40 years. We welcome Sue as a new member of Summit County Republican Women.

Barb Tabb is a former treasurer of our local group and is actively involved in the Summit County GOP. She has led several Summit County Republican Women committees, including selection of a winner for our Constitutional Scholar Award, bi-law committee, and annual GOP picnic and Lincoln Day Dinner.

We look forward to a wonderful year with this leadership team.

Letter from our '23 President, Tess

Dear Members and Friends of Summit County Republican Women,

It's hard to imagine that it's been over two years ago that Garnett Payne asked me to consider running as president. During that period of time we've all experienced our joys and sorrows, including Garnett's tragic passing in January. May she rest in peace.

While the political environment has been challenging as conservatives in our beautiful state of Colorado, our strength as friends and "Conservatives Caring for Country and Community" has not wavered. We continue to stand by our principles and each other. We have shown up strong in support of conservative candidates, Lincoln Day Dinners, GOP picnics, passing out the U.S. Constitution on Flag Day, and hosting a very successful fall conference for the Colorado Federation of Republican Women in Breckenridge last fall, as well as many other club and individual efforts.

I would like to thank the 2023 SCRW officers for their service, Penny TerHaar as vice-president, Ruthie Hardee as treasurer, and Lori Cutunilli as secretary. And I want to offer congratulations to the 2024 SCRW officers: president, Debra Irvine; vice-president, Kathleen Branch; treasurer, Sue Todd; and secretary, Barb Tabb.

Now that we have an incredible team ready to lead us into 2024, what the club needs more than anything is boots on the ground. We have several wonderful, dedicated volunteers but need so many more to make an impact in Summit County. Many of our fun and gratifying volunteer roles can be performed from out-of-state. Specifically, we need your participation in the following positions: Meeting Programming and Facilitation chair and team members; Marketing and Publicity team members, Fundraising chair and team members, Local Events liaison and team members, Americanism chair and team members, Legislature chair and team members, By-laws parliamentarian.

I look forward to seeing each of you at our upcoming holiday party on December 12th. Please [click here to RSVP](#). May your holidays be filled with love, joy, peace and cheerful celebration.

Warm regards,
Tess

DID YOU KNOW?

Beloved entertainer Bob Hope embodied the true spirit of Christmas, spreading love and laughter to servicemen and women in harm's way throughout the world for more than 50 years.



Hope broadcast his first USO show on the radio for our troops in 1941, during World War II, from an Army Air Corps base in California. From 1941 to 1948 he performed almost 400 radio shows at military bases. His legendary travels began in December 1948 when Hope took his show on the road to Berlin to perform for troops assisting with the Berlin Airlift. For the next several decades, he traveled millions of miles with the USO to entertain those serving overseas in numerous war zones, often on the front lines. Many Korean, Vietnam, and Gulf war veterans fondly remember the comedian and his entourage delivering holiday cheer, one-line jokes, and uplifting entertainment. He visited Vietnam nine times during that war, undeterred by personal risk.

According to his obituary in the *New York Times* (July 28, 2003), "On his 94th birthday in May 1997, the House of Representatives adopted a resolution making him an honorary veteran of the armed forces, noting that Mr. Hope 'has given unselfishly of his time for over a half-century to be with United States service members on foreign shores, working tirelessly to bring a spirit of humor and cheer to millions of service members during their loneliest moments and thereby extending for the American people a touch of home away from home.'"



Bob Hope performing in Vietnam

On a personal note, my husband was serving with U.S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 4 (the SeaBees) in Chu Lai, Vietnam, at Christmastime in 1965. He was assigned as an escort officer for Bob Hope's group when they flew into Chu Lai to entertain our troops. That year, the Bob Hope Christmas Show included Ann-Margret, Anita Bryant, Joey Heatherton, and Miss USAWorld, as well as several male comedians and musicians. My husband personally met Mr. Hope and the other entertainers and has said that Bob Hope was a "regular guy" who was warm, genuine, sincere, and a true patriot who loved our servicemen and would do anything for them. "Our world would be a better place if we had more people like Bob Hope," he observed.

Bob Hope taught us how to share the love and the spirit of Christmas. May his example inspire us all.

~ Jini Clare

CALENDAR

CHRISTMAS PARTY DEC 12 | 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM - JOINT SUMMIT COUNTY GOP WOMEN AND CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Location: Kathleen Branch's home
For more information, contact kathleenbranch@gmail.com or 612-730-7411.
Membership campaign, fun and fellowship
Please bring an appetizer/dessert & beverage.
Spouses and friends are welcome!

DEC 15 | 6:15 ELKS CLUB MEET AND GREET

Location: Elks Club, 1321 Blue River Pkwy, Silverthorne
Join us at the high top table in bar for dinner and social time. Buffet \$15, house drinks \$5. Bring cash for adult beverages. Contact Penny TerHaar at phaar10@gmail.com or 849-269-0568 to RSVP or more information.

DEC 25 | CHRISTMAS DAY

Enjoy this blessed day with friends and family. We wish you all a Merry Christmas.

SAVE THE DATES IN 2024

JAN 8 | SUMMIT COUNTY GOP WOMEN MEETING AND SOCIAL

Plan to join us for our first meeting of 2024. Meet our new officers, join our membership if you haven't already, and socialize with a great group of women. Watch for more details in the future.

JAN 15 | BOOK CLUB

Book Club will start up next year. Watch for details in an upcoming email. In the meantime, if you want to prepare, here's our next book:

The 1776 Report Paperback – January 18, 2021

by [The President's Advisory 1776 Commission](#) (Author)

Available on Amazon as Kindle, paperback or hardback

Supplementary book: ***The 1619 Project: A Critique*** by [Phillip W. Magness](#)

as we compare and contrast the 2 different world views.

FEB 17 | LINCOLN DAY DINNER

Location: Elks Club, 1321 Blue River Pkwy, Silverthorne

CALENDAR

DEC 2023