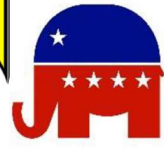


RWOF TRUMPET



Message from Your President, Lidia Webb

Primary Elections were held in Okaloosa County on August 18. I hope you all had the opportunity to vote either during the early voting period, with a mail-in ballot, or on election day. Supporting our Republican and nonpartisan candidates for office is what we are all about. While RWOF is not allowed to endorse a candidate prior to the primaries, we can support them by giving them an opportunity to speak to our members. I am proud of the job we have done this year and in previous years.

Any Republican candidate who attends our General Membership Meetings is provided 2 minutes to speak to our members. This year we went above and beyond by holding the Candidate Meet and Greet social event in May, when our members and the public had an opportunity to speak with every candidate one on one.

I happily watched the election results late in the evening as they rolled in. It was nice to see that a few of my favorites were elected, most of them incumbents who kept their seats! Here are the election results for the Republican State House, Senate and Cabinet races with their respective share of the votes:

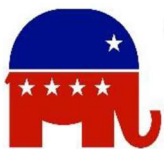
- ❖ Byron Donalds – Florida governor (48%)
- ❖ Incumbent Ashley Moody – U.S. Senate (80%)
- ❖ Incumbent Jimmy Patronis – U.S. House 1st Congressional District (71%)
- ❖ Incumbent Blaise Ingoglia – Florida CFO (61%)
- ❖ Incumbent Wilton Simpson – Agriculture Commissioner (69%)
- ❖ Incumbent James Uthmeier – Attorney General (Uncontested)

Election results for the Okaloosa School Board are:

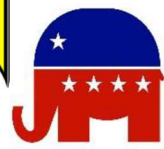
- ❖ Incumbent Linda Evanchyk, District 3 (51%)
- ❖ Incumbent Brett Hinely, District 5 (59%)

The regular election for District 1 was canceled after both the candidates that filed, Jerry Buckman and JD Peacock, failed to qualify. A special primary has been rescheduled to take place on November 3, 2026.

Please read the rest of this newsletter carefully to note more election related activities and other upcoming Republican Women events. Be sure to Save the Dates and participate!



RWOF TRUMPET



Greetings from our RWOF executive board: **Lidia Webb, President; Deborah Stone, Immediate Past President & FFRW 2nd Vice President; Jean Wallace, 1st Vice President; Marcia Burpee, 2nd Vice President; Ellen Deckert, Treasurer; Lori Burkart, Recording Secretary; and Dottie Porter, Corresponding Secretary**



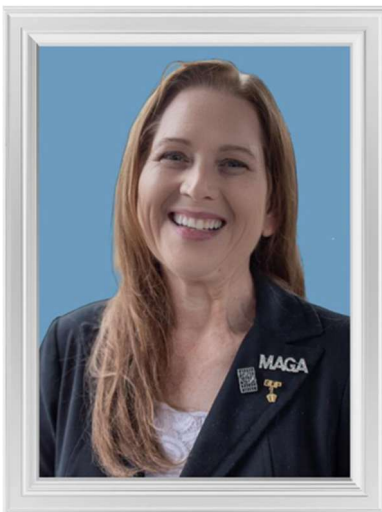
Jean Wallace, 1st VP/Programs

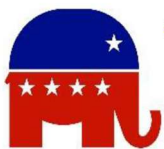
Luncheon Meeting September 2, Program:

Florida Federation of Republican Women President, Professor Melissa Beaudoin

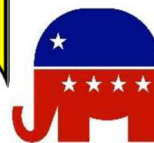
FFRW President Beaudoin will speak on the U.S. Constitution as part of our celebration of America 250!

Melissa Beaudoin received her doctoral degree in Political Science from the University of South Carolina with a focus in International Relations and Comparative Politics. Her primary areas of research include international conflict (theory), international political psychology, immigration policy, and US Foreign Policy. Her recent publications focus on the psychology of conflict, the relationship between environment and violent conflict, and Immigration Policy. She has taught at the University of South Carolina, Georgia State University, NOVA, and now, she is blessed to call Liberty University her professional home where she serves as an Assistant Professor of Government, Instructional Mentor, and Subject Matter Expert.





RWOF TRUMPET



Home2 Suites, 1930 Lewis Turner Blvd
(across from FWB Golf Course)

KATHY FOSTER, HOSPITALITY

Our lunch menu:

The luncheon buffet is teriyaki glazed pork, BBQ chicken, sauteed vegetables, macaroni & cheese, salad, rolls, and dessert.

Reservations are due one week prior, on **August 26th**. Requests made after that date will be placed on a waiting list. We strive to accommodate everyone, but last-minute reservations have resulted in problems. Thank you for understanding.

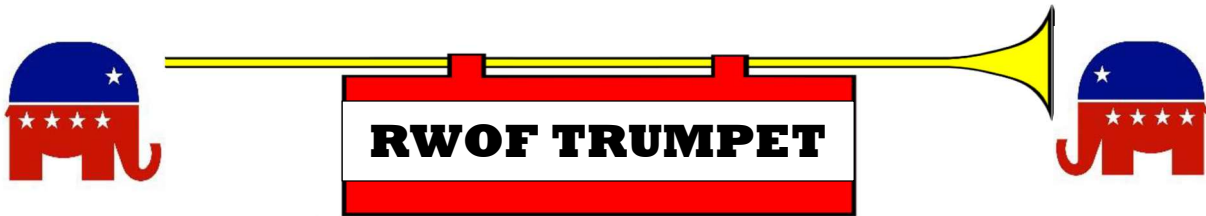
We look forward to greeting you. The cost is \$27 for members and \$29 for guests. Gathering at 11:30, meeting promptly at 12:00 noon.

For reservations: KathyFosterRWOF@gmail.com

Note: Kathy is also our Webmaster www.rwof.org

Don't forget to use Kathy's new email address to RSVP for this month and the October 7th General Meeting next month.

KathyFosterRWOF@gmail.com



MARTHA GORECKI – CHAPLAIN

More than leading our prayer before meals, our Chaplain gives us inspiration in a message before the pledge and selects a patriotic song or words for us to share in faithful sisterhood.

Message: "September 11, 2001"

1. By Lance Wubbels, taken from his book "A Time for Heroes."
2. Tribute to 9/11 heroes.
3. The heroes being ordinary American citizens.
4. He mentioned New York City tragedy, Flight 93, and Pentagon struck/burned out section.
5. That day we learned about true heroism and patriotism.

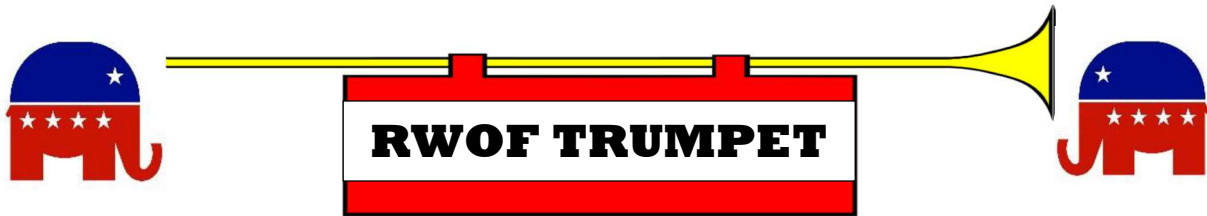
For the song selected we will sing "This is my Country."

Upcoming training opportunity:

Lidia also presents our next major endeavor in support of Republican candidates! FFRW will be providing leadership training for ALL members during the Virtual Fall Convention to be held on **Saturday, September 26**, from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. CDT. Please save the date and plan to attend. RWO of is working to plan for a meeting place where we can all participate together. This may interest anyone who isn't very comfortable using Zoom or who doesn't want to do this all alone. We'll get you more information as soon as it's available.

This training will help prepare us to join volunteers from OCREC to do phone banking. We will need to provide names of those interested in participating so OCREC can register us to use the phone program, and they will also provide training. So please let Lidia Webb, Mary Potthast, or Deb Stone know if you are interested or want more information.





Ellen Deckert, Treasurer



In September we begin looking forward to cooler weather and also, we begin collecting dues for the coming year.

Payment can be made by bringing a check to the general membership meetings or by mailing your check to: RWO of, P.O. Box 1202, Shalimar, 32579.

The new membership fee schedule as approved in our last meeting is as follows:

- \$50 – Primary (previously called Active)
- \$75 – Patron (primary + \$25 donation + one chance for free RWO of lunch)
- \$100 – Angel (primary + \$50 donation + two chances for free RWO of lunch)
- \$125 – Saint (primary + \$75 donation + three chances for free RWO of lunch)
- \$25 – Associates

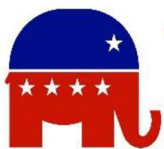
If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me, **Ellen Deckert** 850-376-2967, rwoft2026@yahoo.com **Reports for the past month are to be presented on the big screens during our meeting and luncheon.**

September Birthdays

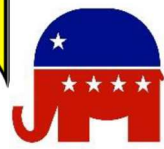
Amy Semenov – 5th
Maddie McNeal – 5th
Kay Hebert – 6th
Ginger Madden – 7th
Mira Villanacci – 10th
Oris Lovering – 17th
Nancy D'Silva – 21st



Kim McSparren – 25th
Jenny Berge – 26th



RWOF TRUMPET



Dottie Porter, Corresponding Secretary

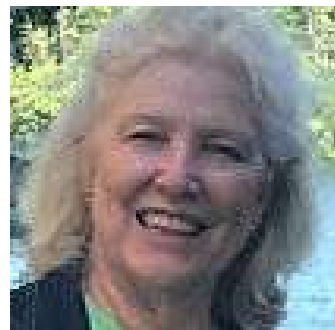
Thank you to Kathy Foster, Mary Potthast, Kathy Revello, and Lidia Webb, who took on the tedious job of updating our Bylaws. After many versions and lots of editing by our Board, the Bylaws have been finalized and approved by FFRW. Each RWOF member will be provided with a copy via email. **New and Approved Bylaws for all!**

Marcia Burpee, 2nd VP, Membership

Current membership: 100 plus 18 Associates

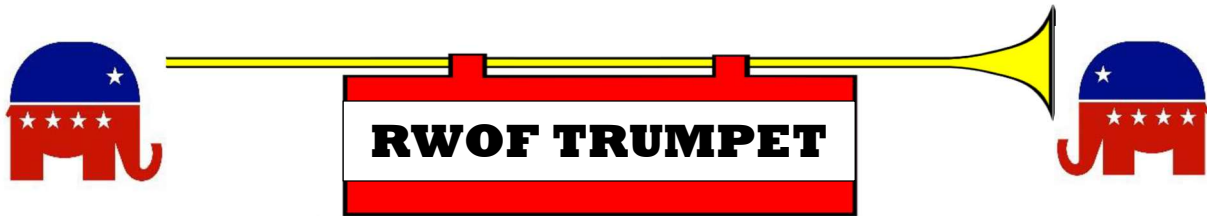
From our Luncheon

August Drawings:



- Birthday Month (attendance required)
Twisted Grape Certificate: Dale Martinez
- Free Lunch (Patron, Angel and Saint) winner: Connie White
- Drawing for 50/50 cash:
Winner receives \$110.00, won by: Connie White
- Additional drawing(s) for a bottle of red wine was won by Nina Michas, a bottle of white wine was won by Jean Wallace
- Additional drawings (2) for Designz by JoJo; a patriotic kitchen sash was won by Kim McSparren, and a Patriotic Tote was won by Barbara Morris

Elected Officials: State Representative Patt Maney with his wife, Caroline, and District Aide Kate Doheny; Okaloosa County Commissioner Carolyn Ketchel; Okaloosa School Board District 5 Brett Hinely; Mary Esther City Councilwoman Susan Coxwell.



These candidates were present: Brett Hinely and Cynthia West running for Okaloosa School Board District 5.

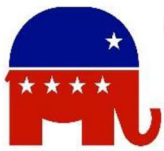
Our Guests included: Gayle Carmichael, Tom Wallace, Mary Drew, Christina Coffield, Kim Cox, Susan Coxwell, Paula Dorris, Howard Hill, Linda McBroom, and Rob Smith.



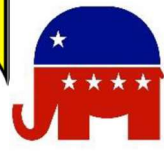
Wow! We had 10 guests join us in August! We can and should always invite more!



See our Facebook page for more images...



RWOF TRUMPET



Important RWOF Announcement:

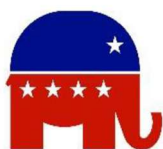
Deborah Stone,
Immediate Past President
& FFRW 2nd Vice President



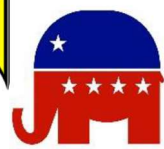
Fall Fundraiser event before our next luncheon to be hosted by the VINUV Winery with a wine tasting and hors d'oeuvres. (volunteer now, hors d'oeuvres to be provided by our members).

Deborah advised that 100 tickets are available. If you haven't gotten your tickets, please contact Deborah as soon as possible, because they are selling fast.

This is an outdoor event, carpooling recommended, and you may come and go as desired! Enjoy the Music and Silent Auction for a serene event.



RWOF TRUMPET



Lori Burkart, Recording Secretary

Lori records the minutes of our board and business meetings and keeps the records. If you missed what happened, you can contact her.



DON'T FORGET!

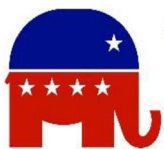
Let a board member know if you have been volunteering for any upcoming election or spent time working on one of our community volunteer events. The club gets points at the state level for every volunteer hour we participate in locally. We want to keep track and win recognition. Fill out the sheets or contact a board member.

Some of the eligible time to track includes: the September 26th FFRW Virtual Training noted previously in this newsletter, as well as the Wine Tasting because it is a fundraiser, and attending our luncheon and any sister FFRW club meeting.

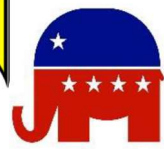


Connecting with Community Committee Chair, Sheryl Lauria is working on new opportunities for our members to be involved in our community and to improve the quality of life for ourselves and our neighbors. More information to come.





RWOF TRUMPET



SEPTEMBER CALENDAR:

1st – Sister FFRW club Niceville Republican Women's Dinner at the Blue Tee, Bluewater Bay Golf Club, now on Tuesday, social begins at 5pm.

2nd – Club Luncheon Meeting, 11:30 with **Melissa Beaudoin**

7th – Labor Day Holiday.

9th – Sister FFRW club Emerald Coast Republican Women's lunch at the Clubhouse Grill, FWB Golf Club, social at 1130am, noon program.

11th – 25th Anniversary of 9/11/2001 Attacks on America

Rosh Hashanah – Friday, Sep 11 to Sunday, Sep 13 is Jewish New Year

13th – National Grandparents Day!

15th – Hispanic Heritage Month begins

16th – RWOF Board Meeting.



17th – Constitution Day: commemorating the signing of the U.S. Constitution

Yom Kippur – Sunday, Sep 20 to Monday, Sep 21 is the Day of Atonement

22nd – National Voter Registration Day: promoting civic engagement

26th – Virtual Fall FFRW Conference 9am to 1pm central time.

30th – Reservation deadline for the next luncheon on October 7th.



Looking ahead:

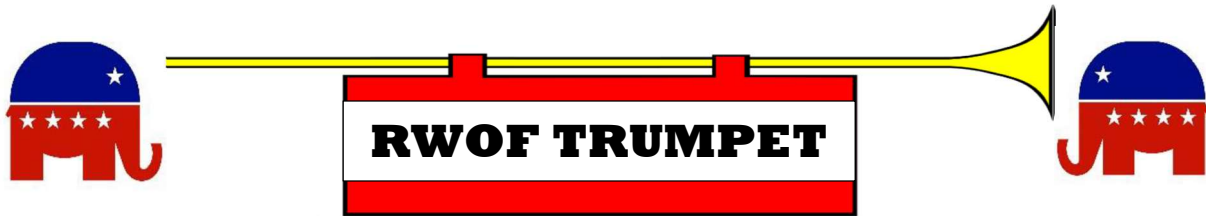
October 3rd – Wine Tasting Fundraiser

October 7th – next ROWF Luncheon!

November 2nd – Lazarus Memorial Service 10 am,
Beal Memorial Cemetery, FWB

November 3rd – Mid-term General Election!

November 11th – DAR Veterans Park celebration



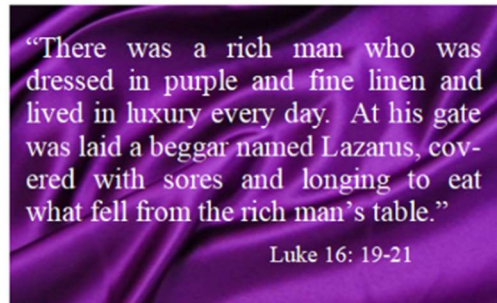
Mark your Calendars for these dates that we have been invited to by Carolyn Ketchel, County Commissioner and RWO of member.

Before the Election:

When: Monday, Nov. 2, Time: 10 AM

Where: Beal Memorial Cemetery,
Fort Walton Beach, FL

The 11th annual Lazarus Memorial Service will honor 28 Okaloosa County citizens who have recently passed but leave behind no family or friends to attend their burial.



*Lazarus Memorial
Service*

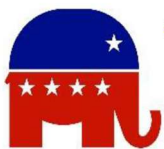
NOVEMBER 2, 2026



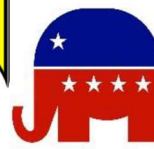
And after the Election:

When: Wednesday Nov 11th,
Time: 8:30 AM

Where: The Convention
Center on Okaloosa Island
and tour of the Women's
Veteran Memorial Park
expansion with new statues.



RWOF TRUMPET



REPUBLICAN WOMEN OF OKALOOSA FEDERATED

MISSION STATEMENT

TO BRING WOMEN TOGETHER TO EDUCATE ABOUT LOCAL, STATE AND NATIONAL ISSUES; TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN OKALOOSA COUNTY THROUGH POLITICAL ACTIVITY AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT; TO ADVANCE THE PARTICIPATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN IN ALL AREAS OF OUR POLITICAL SYSTEM; AND TO ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT QUALIFIED REPUBLICAN WOMEN TO SEEK AND WIN PUBLIC OFFICE.

This publication of the
"RWOF TRUMPET"
has been brought to you by
Member, Mary Potthast.

Check out our RWOF Website: www.RWOF.ORG

Like us on Facebook: Republican Women of Okaloosa Federated
Florida Federation of Republican Women – FFRW.net
National Federation of Republican Women – NFRW.org



**Are you on a committee?
Or do you want to volunteer?**

Contact our president now to get your committee assignment.