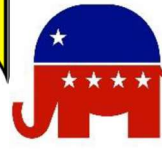


RWOF TRUMPET



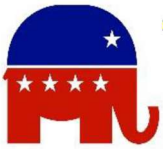
Message from Your President, Lidia Webb

We're off to a rollicking start! As 2026 is both an election year *and* the 250th Birthday of the United States, Jean Wallace, our 2nd Vice President, has great programs and speakers planned for the coming months. These include training conducted by the Leadership Institute to help all of us navigate as movers and shakers within RWOF!

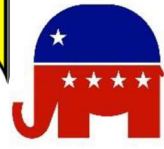
There are ample opportunities to get involved—so let's all get out of our chairs and shake things up! In addition to supporting the various campaigns, help is needed with fundraising, community outreach, planning and supporting upcoming programs and events, including the 250th Birthday Gala! If you're interested, or would simply like more information, please reach out to any Board member or Committee Chair. You may also contact me directly at lidia.webb@outlook.com or (850) 225-9322.

President Ronald Reagan was a masterful storyteller. In closing, I share with you one of his stories I heard not too long ago. It's a fine example of the principles that embody our Republican beliefs:

I recently asked my friend's little girl what she wanted to be when she grew up. She said she wanted to be the President of the United States. Her parents--both liberal Democrats--were standing nearby. So, I asked her, "If you were President, what would be the first thing you would do?" "Well," she replied, "I'd give food and houses to all the homeless people." Her parents beamed. "Wow, what a worthy goal," I told her. "But you don't have to wait until you're president to do that. You can come over to my house right now and you can mow the lawn, pull weeds, and sweep my driveway, and I'll pay you \$50. Then, I'll take you over to the grocery store where that homeless guy hangs out, and you can give him the \$50 to use toward food and a new house." She thought that over for a few seconds. Then, she looked me in the eye and asked, "Why doesn't the homeless guy come over and do the work, and you can just pay him the \$50?" I said, "Welcome to the Republic party." Her parents are still not speaking to me.



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This group photo was taken at our luncheon, February 4, 2026.

Our RWOF executive board: Lidia Webb, President; Jean Wallace, 1st VP; Marcia Burpee, 2nd VP; Ellen Deckert, Treasurer; Lori Burkart, Recording Secretary, and Dottie Porter, Corresponding Secretary

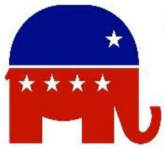
MARCH SPEAKER



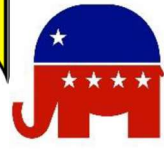
Mack Busbee, CFA

Your Property Appraiser

Mack was born and raised in Okaloosa County, graduated from Niceville High School, and attended Okaloosa Walton Junior College and the University of West Florida. He began working at the Property Appraiser's office in November of 2000 and was first elected to the Office of Property Appraiser in 2016. Since that time, he has been re-elected twice without opposition. Mack is a Certified General Appraiser through the State of Florida and is a Certified Florida Appraiser (CFA) through the Florida Department of Revenue. He is a member of the Property Appraisers' Association of Florida (PAAF). His office determines fair market value and the assessed value of your property, so Ben Andersen knows how much to collect from you. He will share the latest information on Homestead exemptions and Florida's ad valorem property tax system.



RWOF TRUMPET



Be Informed!

1st V.P. Jean Wallace

Our April Program:

SAVE THE DATE/TIME FOR A VERY SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1st, FROM 11:00 am TO 3:00 pm FOR TRAINING BY THE LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (LI), VIRGINIA

The LI experts will train you to win real victories for what you believe
We'll learn the best ways to:

- Get out the vote!
- Improve leadership skills!

The LI was founded in 1979 to increase the number and effectiveness of conservative activists and leaders in America.

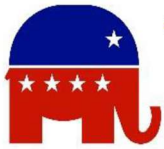
- They will provide our training, snacks and lunches free of charge.

Be sure to R.S.V.P. with Kathy Foster when the call for April reservations goes out.

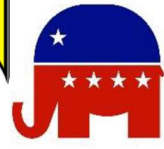
NOTE:

This is not an April Fool's Day jest. This is real training, real experts, and real fun!

Plus, it comes with a free lunch. YES! FREE. That is why your reservation is so important.



RWOF TRUMPET



Home2Suites, 1930 Lewis Turner Blvd
(across from FWB Golf Course)

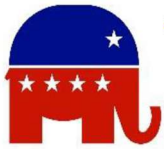
KATHY FOSTER, HOSPITALITY

Our February menu

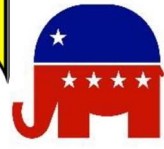
Members' feedback on luncheons is always appreciated. Of course, we realize the main event is the business at hand and the speaker, but it certainly is nice to have a good meal with dessert. The price of your luncheon is much more than the food --- it includes the cost of utilizing the room, use of the audio-visual equipment, tax and the gratuity. Eating out ANYWHERE is more costly these days, so we are thankful for your monthly participation.

The menu for March 4 is brisket, chicken breast, garden salad, roasted vegetables, macaroni & cheese, and chef's choice for dessert. Reservations are due one week prior, on February 25. Requests made after that date will be placed on a waiting list. We strive to accommodate everyone, but last-minute reservations result in a food shortage.

Monthly, the cost is \$27 for members and \$29 for guests.
Gathering at 11:30 AM, meeting begins promptly at 12:00 Noon.
Reservations are required and due by **Wednesday, before the luncheon.**
For future reservations: fosterpk@gnt.net



RWOF TRUMPET



MARTHA GORECKI – CHAPLAIN



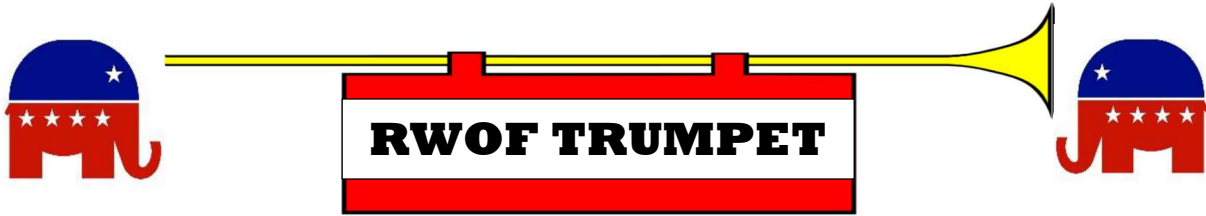
Message to be given at the luncheon shall be “A New Birth of Freedom”

- 1. This message came from Abraham Lincoln’s second inaugural address.
 - a. given in March 1865**
 - b. at one of the darkest times of the Civil War**
 - c. both sides wanted help from God****
- 2. Huge number of Americans fought in the war — many died.**
- 3. The war changed life for all Americans.**
- 4. Brought in a new era.**
- 5. Lincoln was prophetic in his view of the new world — life.**



Ellen Deckert, Treasurer

Report to be presented during our next meeting and luncheon



Lots of things to not forget in March:



8th Daylight Saving Time Begins
– Clocks move ahead 1 hour.

10th Municipal Elections for the cities of Mary Esther and Valparaiso, and a Special Referendum in Fort Walton Beach

17th St. Patrick's Day

20th First Day of Spring

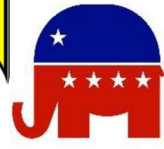
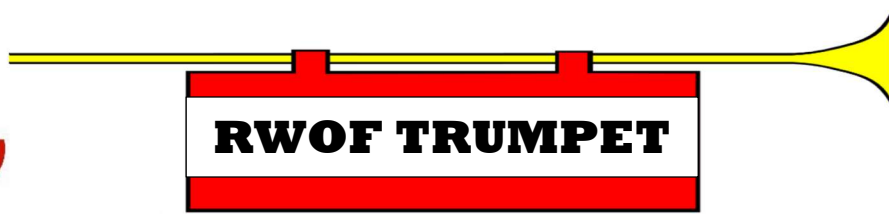
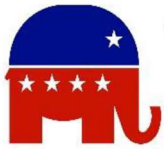
29th Palm Sunday



Remember to share information about our Scholarship! It is for all women who are Republican and residents of Okaloosa County. Our Scholarship committee would like you to share the flyer that can be found on our website, rwof.org. Our Scholarship is now available. Please, share it with eligible women that you may know. The deadline is April 8th.

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

**Contact our president now to get a committee assignment,
*because we need you, sister.***



Lori Burhart, Recording Secretary

From our last luncheon...

Drawings from February



- Free Twisted Grape Ellen Goodson
- Free Lunch Maryanne Windes
- 50/50 Drawing Kim McSparren
- JoJo Designs Judy Bos and Kathy Revello



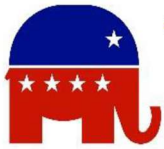
February - New Members

Heather Kapp, Joan Pleat, and Victoria Wells, (pictured here with Marcia Burpee)

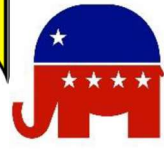
March Birthdays

- | | | | |
|----------------|----|---------------|----|
| Darla Harrison | 2 | | |
| Sonia Weikel | 3 | | |
| Emily Barber | 11 | | |
| Jan Shaffer | 19 | | |
| Mary Simmons | 25 | Deborah Stone | 25 |
| Ellen Deckert | 26 | Kay Schmidt | 27 |
| Joann Staub | 28 | Mary Jo Batey | 30 |





RWOF TRUMPET



Marcia Burpee, 2nd VP, Membership

Recruiting incentive update:

Any member who brings a guest who then joins at any point during the calendar year will earn a 50/50 unit of 8 tickets (\$5 value).

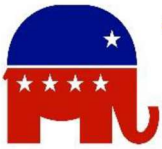
Transition and/or change are nearly always challenging. The 2nd Vice President position includes several moving parts. The most important thing in some ways is accurately keeping track of membership (dues, renewed membership, birthdays). After much-ado we have finally devised a system that will keep us on track, month-to-month, but not without backtracking and emailing.

Presenting an accurate *membership* count by the end of February became a HUGE (to quote President Trump) such challenge. Frantic emails and ensuing apologies and updating resulted in the Executive Board and its Committees joining forces to get our reports in to both the State and the National Federated Boards.

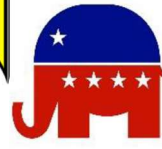
Thank you to those of you who responded so quickly to my somewhat frantic emails. These allowed me to update our count, which I will announce specifically at our March 4th General Meeting.

I will continue to express how important it is to upgrade your level. As we send \$25 combined to State and National for each member, Active Membership gives the Club a mere \$15 to cover all of the projects we undertake. This year particularly our efforts to Get-Out-The-Vote can be costly. Please consider upping your level to meet those needs.

We will take your money anytime!!!



RWOF TRUMPET



Membership Levels:

Active \$40

Patron \$50 (Active member +\$10 donation & one chance for a "free" RWOF lunch)

Angel \$75 (Active member +\$35 donation & two chances for a "free" RWOF lunch)

Saint \$100 (Active member +\$60 donation & three chances for a "free" RWOF lunch)



Associate \$15 (a member of another Federated club, male friends or member's spouse; Associate Members do not have voting privileges nor may hold office or serve as a delegate at state or national conventions).

Membership monies are DUE on February 27th. You may either bring your membership dues to any meeting or mail your check made payable to RWOF to PO Box 12102, Shalimar, FL, 32579.

**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

