

*From Our President*

**Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to Everyone.**

Can you believe we are saying goodbye to 2023 and are about to ring in 2024! What an important year 2024 will be as we get ready for the most important election possibly of our lifetime. I want to thank you for supporting me as your President for the last two years and for having the confidence to elect me for the next two years as your leader. The last two years have been successful due to my talented board, committee chairs, committee members and, of course, all of you. **Thank you all so very much!** At our January 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting some members of the board along with committee chairs are going to be taking a break for the next two years. At this meeting we will honor all

these dedicated ladies for their service. We will also be installing the officers for the upcoming two years. This is the slate of officers for 2024 and 2025.

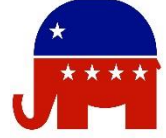
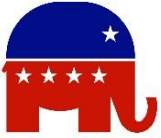
Deborah Stone	President
Beth Fife	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President
Kathy Alexander	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice president
Treasurer	Jean Wallace
Recording Sec	Lidia Webb
Corresponding Sec	Dottie Porter

I am honored to announce Congressman Matt Gaetz will be our speaker for January 3<sup>rd</sup>. What a wonderful way to kick off this election year. As I look back at my Trumpet for last January I am reminded that we asked that Congressman Gaetz accomplish many things. Make time to read that Trumpet and give it some thought. The House has now elected a new speaker, Speaker Mike Johnson, amid much controversy. Last year I published The New Rules Package that the house had adopted. These rules were not being followed and when Speaker McCarthy had been elected he had promised to follow the rules.

Some Examples but there are many more:

- Vote on the debt limit.
- Cap spending at fiscal year 2022 levels.
- Bills must have a single subject to avoid a reoccurrence of another omnibus spending bill.
- Consideration of 12 separate Appropriations bills on the House Floor with separate votes for earmarks included in each bill.

Let's support Congressman Gaetz when he does stand his ground as he thoroughly studies the issues and has well thought out reasons for each and every position he takes. Let's pray he



succeeds in leading Congress to defeat the Democrats and take our country in the direction that it must go in order to survive. This will be a great opportunity to ask Congressman Gaetz questions and get to visit with him.

Please make sure you mark your calendars and attend the January 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting to hear Congressman Gaetz, thank the outgoing officers and support the incoming board at their installation.

***Deborah Stone, President***  
**RWOF**



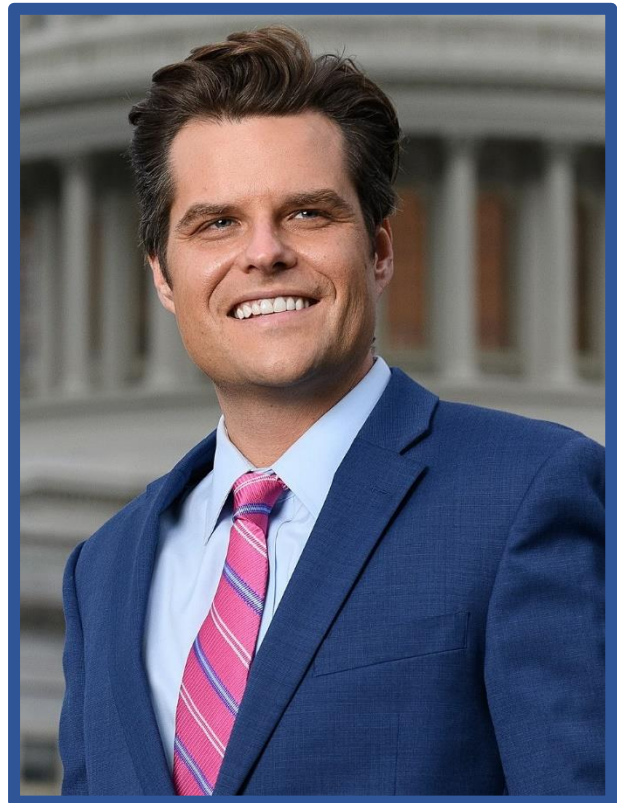
**DESLEY PARKER, 1<sup>ST</sup> VP/PROGRAMS**

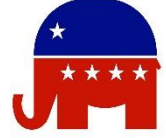
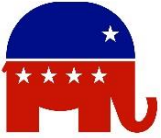
**JANUARY SPEAKER  
CONGRESSMAN MATT GAETZ**

**Matt Gaetz, a member of the 118th Congress, is currently serving his fourth term in the U.S. House of Representatives. He is a member of the House Armed Services**

**Committee and the House Judiciary Committee. His work in Congress focuses on national security, veterans' affairs, and adherence to constitutional principles.**

**Matt graduated from Florida State University in Tallahassee, Florida, with a bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary sciences. After finishing his undergraduate studies, Matt moved to Williamsburg, Virginia, to attend William & Mary Law School, where he received his Juris Doctorate.**





**KATHY FOSTER, HOSPITALITY**

**Our JANUARY Menu:**

- House Salad w/Ranch Vinaigrette**
- Warm Rolls & Butter**
- Teriyaki Glazed Pork Loin**
- Baked BBQ Chicken**
- Sauteed Vegetables**
- Macaroni & Cheese**
- Bundt Cake**

**Coffee, Decaf, Unsweetened Iced Tea, Water**

The cost is \$20 for members and \$22 for guests. Please respond with a Yay or Nay by **Friday, December 29th**, as reservations are required.

Contact Kathy Foster @ [fosterpk@gnt.net](mailto:fosterpk@gnt.net)

**2nd V.P. MEMBERSHIP**

**KATHY ALEXANDER**

**December Free Lunch Winner:  
Vicki Morris**

**Free Twisted Grape Certificate:  
Lisa Panos**

**50/50: Associate Emil Pagliari**

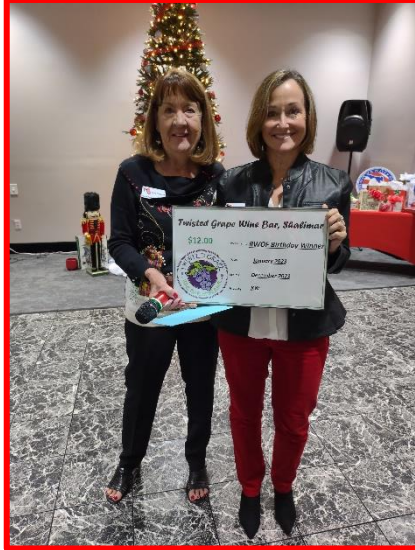
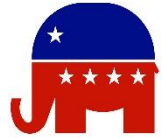
**New Member: Kathy McKinley**







# RWOF TRUMPET



**Renewals/New Members to Date -79 - Donations \$1025**

**Members – 70 & Associates - 9**

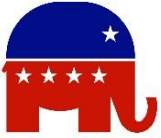
**January Birthdays – Members**

- Gloria Kane 2
- Stacey Marks 3
- Karen Rose 5
- Judy Bos 6
- Nancy Lehfeltd 9
- Carmella Noll 22
- Susan Stephens 30
- Elaine Stewart 30

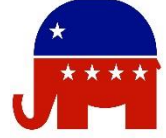
**Associate**

- Jan Howard 22





# RWOF TRUMPET



## Membership for 2024!

The 2024 RWOF Membership Drive is in progress and renewals were due by **31 December 2023**.  
Membership dues remain the same as shown below:

- Saint \$100 (Active member + \$60 donation + 3 chances for “free” RWOF lunch)
- Angel \$75 (Active member + \$35 donation + 2 chances for “free” RWOF lunch)
- Patron \$50 (Active member + \$10 donation + 1 chance for “free” RWOF lunch)
- Active \$40 (Active Membership)
- Associate Member \$15

**If you CANNOT attend the RWOF Meeting on 3 January, please mail your check to:  
RWOF, P. O. Box 1202, Shalimar, FL 32579**

**If you are attending the meeting on 3 January, you can renew when you check in.**

## MARTHA GORECKI, CHAPLAIN

Our January message:

“The God Who Made the Peanut”

About the Chemist George Washington Carver  
Worked with alternative crops to enrich the soil  
Wanted to help the poor, southern farmer

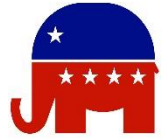
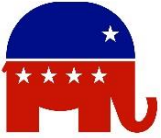
Spoke about his ideas before the Ways and Means  
Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives  
Enlightened the law makers about the mysteries of the  
peanut.

Song: This is My Country



# Happy New Year 2024





**ANNA PEELE  
COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

This past year our Community Outreach project has again been very successful due to the generosity of our members. Five Non-profit organizations have received donations to help with the good works that they do and they were very pleased with what was given.

We helped these organizations throughout this year.

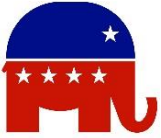
- 1. Alaqua Animal Refuge-pet food, bedding, cleaning supplies, gift cards.
- 2. Gulf Coast Sexual Assault Program - clothing for the “to go” bags, given to sexual assault victims after hospital exams.
- 3. Opportunity Place- personal items, cleaning supplies.
- 4. Fresh Start - school supplies for the children of families in the care of Fresh Start.
- 5. USO - variety of snack supplies for the Center at the Destin/ FWB Airport.

“We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give” - Winston Churchill

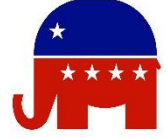
Thank you!  
Anna, Ellen, Karen and Linda Gail

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A very special ‘THANK YOU’ to the first ladies you see when coming to our meetings: Jean Wallace & Kathy Foster (check in), Kathy Alexander (Membership), and Karen Rose (50/50). Once inside, you will see our beautiful table decorations that Mira Villanacci has been placing on our tables each month. Thank you to all our committees for the hard work they do throughout the years, and I can’t forget to mention the staff of Wyndham Gardens for the beautiful decorations and fabulous luncheon buffets our club has become famous for. You’re the best! *Maddie*



## RWOF TRUMPET



202 Senate Building  
404 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

[Broxson.doug.web@flsenate.gov](mailto:Broxson.doug.web@flsenate.gov)

Hon. Jay Trumbull, Representative  
418 The Capital  
402 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

[Jay.Trumbull@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:Jay.Trumbull@myfloridahouse.gov)

303 House Office Building  
402 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

[Patt.maney@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:Patt.maney@myfloridahouse.gov)

Hon. Dr. Joel Rudman, Representative  
1402 The Capital  
402 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

[joel.rudman@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:joel.rudman@myfloridahouse.gov)

Dear Sirs:

I am writing to ask you to **VOTE AGAINST SB 438**, and its companion **HB 57**, which will prevent county commissioners from seeking reelection if they have already served eight (8) consecutive years in their current position. Please consider my reasoning below.

The position of County Commissioner includes many responsibilities, most of which are unknown or invisible to constituents. Even so, it is obvious that such a complex position could take a newly elected individual most of their first term to become proficient. Gaining a solid understanding of procedures, departmental needs, staff skills, and citizenry's needs, especially in a medium to large county, would require extensive, intense study.

County commissioners are closer to the citizenry they represent than at another level of government and are available to speak to and meet with the citizens frequently. That relationship does not exist at either the State or Federal level. Given the opportunity for such a close working relationship, citizens are in a position to decide quickly when a particular elected official is not doing a good job, and home rule allows us to decide for ourselves when we want to vote a commissioner out of office.

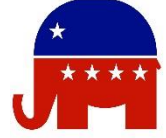
A commissioner should be voted out of office when they stop being responsive to the needs of their constituents, not at some arbitrary future point in time. Whether commissioners are being responsive can only be decided by the constituents they serve, not by the legislature, which is completely removed from the workings of individual counties.

The Okaloosa County Commission is very fiscally conservative while being functionally progressive. Okaloosa County Commission is responsive to its citizens and provides an appropriate level of accessible service on a cost-effective basis as it relates to infrastructure, growth management, and all other areas of governmental service.

The needs of Okaloosa County do not compare with the needs of Miami-Dade County nor does it compare with the needs of Liberty County. It is inappropriate in the extreme to believe that the State legislature should affect such a uniformly sweeping change to such disparate governmental subdivisions just because someone somewhere thinks term limits are a good idea.

I urge you to reconsider these bills and vote against their passage.





From the desk of Immediate Past President, *Maddie McNeal*

As we put 2023 in our rearview mirror, thank God, let's take a look at what has taken place since the Biden Crime Family has taken office:

Biden's broken promises to Build Back Better has led to the closing of the Keystone XL Pipeline, which would have employed over 11,000 people...meaning our energy independence is a thing of the past. Gas prices rose from \$1.87 when President Trump was in office to over \$5.00 per gallon across the country. At the same time, Biden gave approval for the Nord Stream pipeline from Russia to Germany, while restricting domestic oil and gas production.

Illegal border crossings – by the millions. To date, it is estimated approximately 9 million illegals have entered our country. They are given cell phones, credit cards and housing, all at the American taxpayer expense. These include gang members, drug traffickers, sex traffickers and even those on terrorism watchlists.

Human trafficking, pure evil exists in the hearts of the cartels and is very conveniently not a concern of the current administration. They just don't care.

Billions of US dollars and weapons left to our enemies as "Dumbass in Chief" pulled our military out of Afghanistan, leaving American citizens behind. Let's not forget that when 13 dead American soldiers were returned to this country, Biden looked at his watch as the bodies were taken off the plane. He probably had something more important on his calendar, maybe a visit to the ice cream store.

Woke Biden has fully embraced identity politics as many of his appointees have been selected based on their race, sex, LGBT status, etc. not because they are qualified to do anything in particular.

Biden mishandled the COVID-19 pandemic and nearly brought our country to its knees. My view on this is that it was all done to see how easily the American people could be controlled. Sadly, it was very easy and people lived in fear for the next two years. Mom and Pop businesses were forced to close, homeschooling became a priority, children suffered the consequences of a normal childhood due to this man-made disease.

Biden has politicized the enforcement of federal law. We have a two-tier system of justice in this country under Biden. Be warned, if you are a conservative, a Christian, or a Trump supporter, you will be a target because of your beliefs. Look what has happened to the January 6 defendants vs. what the Antifa and BLM rioters did. Peaceful protesters, I don't think so, yet not one of them was arrested, let alone convicted.

Biden has weakened our military. Our enemies are sitting back and laughing at the handling of our country's safety at the hands of this administration. You have to wonder just how intentional all of this is. Is it all a part of Obama's plan to FUNDAMENTALLY CHANGE THIS COUNTRY? Hmmm!

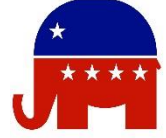
Dec. 18 headline: U.S. Steel, the Pittsburg steel producer that played a role in the nation's industrialization, is being acquired by Nippon Steel in an all-cash deal valued at approximately \$14.1 Billion. Our farmland is being sold off, a town on Maui that spontaneously combusts ???, now our steel manufacturing being sold to the highest bidder...what's to be left of the American we grew up in?

I'm open for conversation about any of this. Am I too harsh, am I a conspiracy theorist? Let's get a conversation started, we really need to talk to one another and share our concerns...as you can see, I have plenty of them. Don't even get me started on what's happening with the indoctrination of the children. 2024 is a critical year, our future is at stake.





## 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.

The "RWOF TRUMPET" is brought to you by

Immediate Past President & FFRW District 1 Representative  
Maddie McNeal

(now Representing Okaloosa, Escambia, Walton, Bay, Washington, Holmes & Santa Rosa Counties)

Submit articles to:

[Smile4maddie2@gmail.com](mailto:Smile4maddie2@gmail.com)

Cell: 850-259-0292

Check out our RWOF Website: [www.RWOF.ORG](http://www.RWOF.ORG)

Like us on Facebook: Republican Women of Okaloosa Federated

Florida Federation of Republican Women – [FFRW.net](http://FFRW.net)

National Federation of Republican Women – [NFRW.org](http://NFRW.org)

