



# Illinois Federation of Republican Women

## IFRW NEWS

February 2024 Newsletter

[www.ifrw.org](http://www.ifrw.org)

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The IFRW Executive Committee has been busy laying the groundwork for an action packed 2024, which includes a Conference that all are sure to enjoy! This year's focus is growing membership, improving communications, and enhancing membership in IFRW.

Plans will be unveiled at the IFRW Spring Conference this April. Be sure to check out the new monthly IFRW Newsletter for further updates and announcements!

With the Primary Election in full swing, please remember to exercise the right to vote on March 19 and encourage others as well. There are several ways to participate in the election process: becoming an election judge, a poll watcher, or working with the local County Chairman to "Get Out the Vote!"



*Thank you for the honor  
of serving you.  
In God we Trust*

**LANA SOLDAT**  
**IFRW PRESIDENT**

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## IFRW TAKES THE LEAD

The **Illinois Federation of Republican Women** is the largest Republican Women's organization in the State of Illinois. It is an army of Republican Women who support the Party Platform and work toward advancing the new Republican leaders at all levels of government.



### IFRW 2023 Spring Biennial Conference's 2024-2025 IFRW Elected Officer Installation

L to R: Jayne Lehman Raef, Linda Hernandez, Debbie Leininger, Lana Soldat,  
NFRW President Julie Smith, Diane Jorden, Jennifer Yborra, Caritina Mayer, Beth Provost

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## CLUB SPOTLIGHT



### Carroll County Republican Women Celebrate 80th Anniversary

Carroll County residents, neighboring Republican Women's clubs, local, state elected officials, and dignitaries celebrated the 80th Anniversary of Carroll County Republican Women.

Special guests included NFRW 3rd Vice President, **Michelle Buckwalter-Schurman**;  
Illinois House Minority Speaker **Toni McCombie**  
(Members, Carroll County Republican Women)  
54 District- **Senator Andrew Chesney**, and  
Illinois Supreme Court **Justice Lisa Holder Rice**

# REVIEW YOUR CLUB'S BYLAWS

Newly installed officers and club members may or may not be familiar with the bylaws. IFRW and local club bylaws describe duties and responsibilities officers, and the directions for club operations and elections. It is important for each club to review and/or update its bylaws and make sure is compliant with the IFRW and NFRW bylaws. Please contact IFRW if there are any questions.

## COMMUNICATIONS / NEWSLETTER / WEBSITE

### COMMUNICATION IS A KEY TO SUCCESS!

IFRW is committed to developing better communications & public relations. IFRW.ORG now has a new look! Members will also receive the monthly IFRW full of pertinent news and information for your club and notices of training schools and conferences to raise your club to a higher level.

Club contributions are needed for the IFRW Spotlight webpage  
and IFRW NEWS newsletter.

Email (rdlein@aol.com) or Text (815-297-2918)

- Head shot or picture of your club's President.
- Picture(s) of your members in a club meeting or activity with a short description.

Be sure to include the CLUB NAME in the title of the message.

NOTE: You can also submit your club news to the NFRW Club Spotlight page as well.



**DEBBIE LEININGER**  
**3RD VICE PRESIDENT**  
*[Bylaws Chair, Public Relations  
and Communications Chair]*

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## DID YOU KNOW?

Republicans, UNITE around the U.S. Constitution and the Party Platform. These documents define who we are as Republicans. Every four years the Illinois GOP adopts the Party Platform at the Illinois Republican State Convention by delegates to the convention.

The next Illinois Republican State Convention is scheduled for May 24th - 25th, 2024 in Collinsville, Illinois. If you are interested in being a delegate to the convention, please contact the Republican Central Committee Chairman in your county for more information.

IFRW will keep you informed as more information becomes available. The current Party Platform can be found at the GOP website: ([www.Illinois.gop](http://www.Illinois.gop)).



## CLUB SPOTLIGHT



### UPPER NORTHWEST ILLINOIS REPUBLICAN WOMEN

As a **Caring for America** project, members of Upper Northwest Illinois Republican Women donated 125 appreciation bags to every law enforcement agency in Stephenson County during Back the Blue Week.

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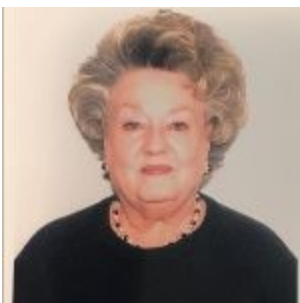
## IFRW CHAPLAIN CORNER

As we begin a new year, we enter into great challenges to our country. Our God promises to accompany us through all our journeys. We cannot succeed without His guidance and wisdom. We are told to pray without ceasing.

May the Lord lead us to strong women who can help accomplish His goals through our local clubs and IFRW. Let's make sure we follow His counsel. We won't make it with it!

## MEMBERSHIP TIP

Make a "Wish List" of women you would like to see as members. Send them copies of your newsletters, invite them to your meeting and special events. Before long they'll want to sign up and be part of the action! Keep a lookout for potential members wherever you go. Keep cards with club meeting times and locations to hand to prospective members. You can grow a club without planting, fertilizing, and watering seeds!



**LINDA HERNANDEZ**  
**1ST VICE PRESIDENT**  
*[Chaplain / Membership Chair]*

# MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

Keep your membership current by paying your dues to your local club  
Questions? Contact Caritina at:

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



**CARITINA MAYER**  
IFRW TREASURER

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## CLUB SPOTLIGHT



### Tazewell County Republican Women

Tazewell County Republican Women were well represented at the annual Morton Pumpkin Festival Parade. The club joined forces with the Tazewell County GOP Central Committee in support of elected Republican officials and candidates.

## **IFRW ANNOUNCES COMMITTEES, APPOINTEES OF THE 2024-2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President **Lana Soldat** and the Executive Committee of the Illinois Federation of Republican Women are pleased to announce the District Directors, Standing and Special Committees, and Special Appointees of the IFRW Board of Directors for 2024-2025.

IFRW has brought together an outstanding team of Republican Women whose ideas, skills, and expertise will be important as we forge ahead with our mission of building leaders and electing Republicans to office,” **Soldat** said. “This is a critical time in our history; the future of our state and our nation is at stake”

### **STANDING COMMITTEES:**

Bylaws: **Debbie Leininger**  
Campaign / Political Activities / Fundraising: **Jennifer Yborra**  
Legislation: **Linda Johnson**  
Membership - Outreach: **Linda Hernandez**  
Programs: **Diane Jordan**  
Public Relations / Communications: (Email / Newsletter / Website): **Debbie Leininger**

### **SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

Audit: Talena Wuebbels  
Awards: Karen Funk  
Americanism: Rachel Crandall  
Armed Services: Amy Buss  
Budget: Robin McConnel  
Caring for America: Lori Owens  
Hospitality – Special Events: Diane Bradbury  
Literacy – MELP: Kathleen Glaze  
Scholarship: Jo Caulkins  
IFRW Database: Karen Funk / Mary Sundermeyer  
Youth Outreach: Angela Shippert

### **APPOINTEE POSITIONS:**

Chaplain: **Linda Hernandez**  
Parliamentarian: **Susan Wynn Bence**

### **DISTRICT DIRECTORS:**

District 1: TBA  
District 2: TBA  
District 3 - TBA  
District 4: Carolyn Wells  
District 5: Stefanie Tarr  
District 6: Norma Truax  
District 7: Cindy Gleason  
District 8: Barb Viviano  
District 9: Sue Hamilton

### **LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

Chairman: **Linda Johnson**

To keep IFRW members informed and pro-active on Illinois General Assembly legislation and issues, an Illinois Federation of Republican Women ACTION ALERT will be issued when needed. Be sure to forward the IFRW ACTION ALERTS onto your friends, family, and associates and encourage them to voice their opinions to their elected officials. Let IFRW'S voice be heard in Springfield!

*An informed citizenry is the only true repository of the public will. ~ Thomas Jefferson*



# LEGISLATIVE ACTION

To keep IFRW members informed and pro-active on Illinois General Assembly legislation and issues, IFRW LEGISLATION ACTION will be issued when needed. Be sure to forward IFRW LEGISLATION ACTION to your friends, family, and associates, and encourage them to express their views and opinions to their elected officials.

"If we are to guard against ignorance and remain free,  
It is the responsibility of every America to be informed."  
~ Thoms Jefferson



**LINDA JOHNSON**  
**LEGISLATION CHAIR**



**Iroquois County Republican Women**

Members of Iroquois County Republican start the 2024 year 18 women strong!  
With Women We Will Win!

## IFRW BOOK NOOK

### “LETTER TO THE AMERICAN CHURCH”

Every American citizen would benefit from reading a book that highly challenges us for these challenging times.

In his recent release, “Letter to the American Church,” **Eric Metaxas** gives a megaphone of an alarm to U.S. citizens and churches. His citation of WWII Pastor **Eric Bonhoeffer’s** encouragement of other pastors to band together to oppose Hitler in the early days is chilling. The churches of Germany disagreed and decided to strive to appease that despot. Likewise, **Metaxas** pleads with American citizens. We must not be silent and repeat the sorrows of Germany!

My husband and I read it and even bought a signed copy for our pastor. We encourage you to do the same.



**KATHLEEN GLAZE**  
LITERACY & MELP COMMITTEE CHAIR



### MCRW Spreading Love and Smiles!

For their club's Caring for America project, Macon County Republican Women held an evening to prepare and package donated Valentine's Day cards. The cards were hand delivered to their local assisted living facilities. Last year the club delivered over a thousand donated





# Leadership Conference/Board Meeting

## 'Spring Forward to Victory!'

**April 5 - 6, 2024**

**Holiday Inn & Suites - East Peoria**

101 Holiday St. | East Peoria, Illinois 61611 | 309-698-3333

**Friday Night: 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.**

Welcome Reception

"Meet & Greet" of Elected Officials & Candidates

**Saturday: 7:30 - 3:00**

Group Picture & Professional Headshots for Those Interested  
(Everyone's Encouraged to Wear Red)

Guest Speakers, Elected Officials, Candidates, Panel Discussions  
Training Sessions, and Networking Opportunities

### **Cost**

\$50 members | \$60 non-members

Late registration for members \$60 after March 15

A block of rooms at the Holiday Inn & Suites has been reserved for IFRW members.

### **Registration Form**

**Send application & check payable to IFRW to:**

IFRW Treasurer Caritina Mayer, 699 S. Blackhawk Blvd., Rockton, IL 61072

### **Sponsorship Opportunities Available**

Club: \$100 | Bronze \$250 | Silver: \$500 | Gold: \$1,000

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Club \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Town, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Illinois Federation of Republican is a tax-exempt organization and is not tax-deductible.

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You are receiving this email because you opted in via our website.

Our mailing address is:

**Illinois Federation of Republican Women**

21 -31 Forest Hill Road

Lanark, IL 61046

