



IFRW TODAY

Illinois Federation of Republican Women
June 2024 Newsletter
www.ifrw.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



LANA SOLDAT

The Illinois Republican State Convention is over, June has arrived, and vacation time as well as campaign season for candidates is in full swing!

Last month, the Illinois Republican State Convention met in Collinsville, IL, May 24-25 at the Gateway Convention Center. On Friday convention-goers attended committee meetings and training sessions. In addition, there were numerous vendors with lots of networking among Republicans.

Several Republican Women throughout the state were in attendance. It was wonderful to see so many IFRW members involved with the Illinois Republican Party. Many stopped by the booth -- thank you !

Kudos to the following ladies who were responsible for the IFRW booth during the convention:

Linda Hernandez: IFRW 1st VP - Peoria County RW

Diane Jordan: IFRW 2nd VP - Tazewell County RW

Debbie Leininger: IFRW 3rd VP - Upper NW IL RW

Jennifer Yborra: IFRW 4th VP - Macon County RW

Beth Provost: IFRW Secretary - Kankakee County RW

Robin McConnel: IFRW Volunteer - Carroll County RW

On Saturday the Convention floor was filled with political activity -- conducting business and voting for the Platform/Resolutions, At-Large Illinois Delegates and Alternate At-Large Illinois Delegates to the RNC, and Illinois RNC Committeeman/Committeewoman.

At the end of the day:

- **Dean White** was elected Illinois RNC Committeeman
- **Rhonda Belford** was elected Illinois RNC Committeewoman
- 12 different Resolutions along with the Party Platform passed to clarify the Republican stance on current issues. **The Platform and Resolutions will be posted on the illinois.gop website soon.**
- 10 At-Large Delegates and 10 Alternate Delegates were chosen to attend the RNC Convention in Milwaukee. NFRW 3rd Vice President **Michelle Buckwalter-Schurman** was chosen as an Alternate Delegate. Congratulations to all!

After the Convention adjourned, the Trump Campaign met with the Illinois Trump Delegation to recommend people for various RNC committees in Milwaukee. The Illinois Trump Delegation nominated and elected U.S. Congressman **Mary Miller** as Illinois Delegation Chair to nominate President **Donald J. Trump** at the RNC Convention.

It is an exciting time to be a Republican Woman in Illinois!
Thank you for your dedication to the Republican Party and to IFRW.

Lana Soldat
President IFRW

2024 ILLINOIS REPUBLICAN CONVENTION



Front Row: 3rd VP **Debbie Leininger** & 1st VP **Linda Hernandez** | **Back Row:** NFRW 3rd VP **Michelle Buckwalter-Schurman**, IFRW member **Robin McConnel**; 2nd VP **Dianne Jordan**, IFRW President **Lana Soldat**; Secretary **Beth Provost**

There were several inquiries about starting new clubs at the IFRW booth!



IFRW members and conference attendees visited with acquaintances at the Thursday night reception.

Friday included training sessions, committee meetings, networking, and concluded with a baseball themed reception, live music, President Trump reception, and silent auction.



Everyone had their picture taken with "President Trump" at the Illinois Republican Convention!

2024 ILLINOIS REPUBLICAN CONVENTION



Lana Soldat and Robin McConnel checked out Trump gear at the Friday evening Trump reception.



Michael Butler, St. Clair County Chairman and Lana Soldat, Carroll County Chairman congratulate RCCA President Rhonda Belford.



Several IFRW members throughout the state represented their counties as Republican Convention Delegates!



There was a record turnout for the 2024 Illinois Republican Convention with many first time delegates casting their votes.



Delegates unanimously approved the 2024 Party Platform and twelve resolutions, 10 At-Large Delegates and 10 Alternate Delegates were chosen to the RNC Convention in Milwaukee. Dean White and Rhonda Belford were elected as Illinois' RNC Committeeman and Committeewoman.



CLUB SPOTLIGHT

PEORIA COUNTY REPUBLICAN WOMEN

PCRW SPONSORS AWARDS TRIP FOR ACCELERATED READERS

On Monday, May 13, Peoria County RW (PCRW) sponsored a trip to Elevate Trampoline Park in East Peoria for 44 Lincoln School students who had earned top points in the Accelerated Reader Program. Students competed all year to win the trip. Librarian Mollie Borquist organized the contests and monitored the kids' progress. Peoria County RW provided the reward for the contest.

Students along with 3 of their teachers played for 2 hours. At noon, they ate a school lunch and cupcakes provided by Peoria County RW.

Afterwards, the students presented PCRW a homemade thank you card. One child was heard to exclaim, "This is the best day ever!"



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PREGNANCY AGENCY RECEIVED A MOTHER'S DAY PRESENT FROM PCRW

In honor of Mother's Day Peoria County RW collected \$263 in addition to direct contributions in April and May for the Destiny for Women Health Clinic, an agency that helps women during pregnancy and after. Destiny's not for profit (NFP) status enables the health clinic to provide all of their services free of charge.

IFRW Attended State Central Committee Meeting

On April 27, 2024, IFRW President **Lana Soldat** along with IFRW 2nd Vice President **Diane Jordan** attended the Illinois Republican State Central Committee Meeting in LaSalle, Illinois representing IFRW.

My message to the SCC: "IFRW is partners with the Illinois Republican Party to elect Republicans across the State of Illinois and the nation."



IFRW 2nd VP **Diane Jordan** looks on as IFRW President **Lana Soldat** describes the contributions IFRW makes to the Illinois Republican Party



IFRW President **Lana Soldat**, Illinois Republican Chairman **Don Tracy**, IFRW 2nd VP **Diane Jordan**

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

Crawford County RW

IFRW President Visits CCRW

IFRW President **Lana Soldat** was the featured speaker for the March **Crawford County RW** meeting. Soldat shared IFRW news and offered suggestions on how to grow their club. Q & A followed.



Newly-elected Club President is **Rikki Callaway**.



CLUB NEWS AND PHOTOS ARE NEEDED FOR IFRW NEWSLETTER



DEBBIE LEININGER
3RD VICE PRESIDENT
[Bylaws Chair,
Communications Chair]

Monthly photo submissions are needed for the IFRW Spotlight webpage and the monthly IFRW Today newsletter (NOTE: Club news can be submitted to NFRW Club Spotlight as well.) By sharing club projects, other clubs can incorporate your club's project in their own communities!

Be sure to include the CLUB NAME and a short description with the photo. Submit your articles and photos via Email (rdlein@aol.com) or Text (815-297-2918.)



CARITINA MAYER
IFRW TREASURER
ifrwtreasurercm@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

Please keep your membership current by paying your dues to your local club.

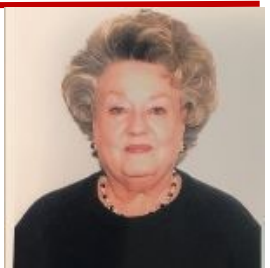
Membership Chairmen and Treasurers, don't forget to send new membership dues and updated information to me throughout the year.

IFRW CHAPLAIN CORNER

We pray "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven." Therein we find our true purpose for being here.

MEMBERSHIP TIP

Membership - if we want to increase our membership, we need to reach out. Card clubs, book clubs, bowling leagues, etc. Some may be interested in starting another club. Examine all possibilities!!



LINDA HERNANDEZ
1ST V. PRESIDENT
[Chaplain]

SUPPORT THE WORK OF IFRW!

The **red donation button** has been activated on our website.

Please go to <https://ifrw.org/donate/> to check it out! Encourage club members, associate members, elected officials, County GOP Central Committees, community businesses, and fellow Republicans to consider donating to IFRW's cause—educating Republican women and electing Republicans to office!





2024 IFRW LEADERSHIP

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: **Lana Soldat**
1st Vice President: **Linda Hernandez**
2nd Vice President: **Diane Jordan**
3rd Vice President: **Debbie Leininger**
4th Vice President: **Jennifer Yborra**
Secretary: **Beth Provost**
Treasurer: **Caritina Mayer**
Immediate Past President: **Jayne Lehman Raef**

STANDING COMMITTEES

Bylaws: **Debbie Leininger**
Campaign & Political Activities: **Diane Bradbury**
Fundraising: **Jennifer Yborra**
Legislation: **Linda Johnson**
Membership: **Linda Hernandez**
Public Relations: **Debbie Leininger**

APPOINTED POSITIONS

Chaplain: **Linda Hernandez**
Proxy Chair: **Diane Bradbury**
Parliamentarian: **Susan Wynn Bence**

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Achievement Awards: **Karen Funk**
Americanism: **Rachael Crandall**
Armed Services: **Amy Buss**
Budget: **Robin McConnel**
Caring for America: **Lori Owen**
Hospitality: **Diane Bradbury**
Literacy / MELP: **Kathleen Glaze**
Scholarship: **Jo Caulkins**
Database Management:
Karen Funk & Mary Sundermeyer
Youth Outreach: **Angela Shippert**

DISTRICT DIRECTORS

District 1: **TBA: Cook**

District 2: **TBA:** McHenry, Lake, Kane, DuPage, DeKalb, **York**

District 3: **Carol Webber:** Kendall, Will, LaSalle, Grundy, **Kankakee**

District 4: **Carolyn Wells:** Boone, **Bureau, Carroll**, Mercer, Henry,
Jo Daviess, Lee, Ogle, **Rock Island, Stephenson, Whiteside, Winnebago**

District 5: **Stefanie Tarr:** Henderson, Warren, **Tazewell**, Knox, Stark, **Peoria**,
Putnam, Marshall, Hancock, McDonough, Fulton, Woodford,

District 6: **Norma Truax:** Livingston, **Iroquois**, McLean, **Champaign**,
Vermilion, Ford, Douglas, Edgar, Coles, Cumberland, Clark

District 7: **Cindy Gleason:** Adams, Schuyler, Mason, **Logan**, DeWitt, Brown,
Cass, Menard, **Macon**, Piatt, Sangamon, Pike, Morgan, Scott, Christian,
Moultrie, Shelby

District 8: **Melissa Waddell:** Greene, Macoupin, Montgomery, Calhoun,
Jersey, Madison, Bond, Fayette, Effingham, Jasper, Clay, **Crawford**,
Wayne, Lawrence, **Saint Clair**, Clinton, **Marion**, Edwards, Richland, Wabash

District 9: **Sue Hamilton:** Monroe, Washington, Jefferson, Perry, Hamilton,
White, Randolph, Jackson, Franklin, **Williamson**, Saline, Gallatin, Union,
Johnson, Pope, Hardin, Alexander, Pulaski, Massac

* Highlighted counties denote active local clubs

LOCAL CLUBS & PRESIDENTS

Bureau County Republican Women

(Bureau County)

Club President: **Sue Pratt**

Email: sepratt126@gmail.com

Carroll County Republican Women

(Carroll County)

Club President: **Patricia Anne Hiher**

Email: phiher59@yahoo.com

Chicago Republican Women's Network

(Chicago Region)

Club President: **Katheryn Gallanis Matern**

Email: kathygmatern@icloud.com

Crawford County Republican Women

(Crawford County)

Club President: **Rikki Callaway**

Email: callaway8220@gmail.com

Iroquois Republican Women's Club

(Iroquois County)

Club President: **Jamie Bakken**

Email: jamie@whporadio.com

Kankakee County Republican Women

(Kankakee County)

President: **Carol Webber**

Email: cwebber@retiree.kcc.edu

Logan County Republican Women

(Logan County)

Club President: **Elizabeth Davis-Kavelman**

Email: bethkavelman@gmail.com

Macon County Republican Women

(Macon County)

Club President: **Jennifer Yborra**

Email: jayborra@comcast.net

Northern Illinois Republican Women

(Winnebago County)

Club President: **Carolyn Wells**

Email: carolyndesiah@gmail.com

Peoria County Republican Women

(Peoria County)

Club President: **Stefanie Tarr**

Email: stefanietarr2017@gmail.com

Republican Women of Champaign County

(Champaign County)

Club President: **Dr. Susan Mantell**

Email: doc@cfyh.org

Republican Women of Marion County

(Marion County)

Club President: **Janet Carter Sullens**

Email: janetcartersullens@yahoo.com

Republican Women of Rock Island County

(Rock Island County)

Club President: **Roxanne Croegaert**

Email: rcroegaert@gmail.com

Republican Women of St. Clair Co.

(St. Clair County)

Club President: **Mary Thurman**

Email: mompower49@hotmail.com

Sauk Vally Republican Women

(Lee, Whiteside Counties)

President: **Rachel Crandall**

Email: rcrandall01@gmail.com

Tazewell County Republican Women

(Tazewell County)

President: **Diane Jordan**

Email: dkjordan20@gmail.com

Upper Northwest Illinois Republican Women

(Stephenson, Jo Daviess Counties)

President: **Debbie Leininger**

Email: rdlein@aol.com

Vermilion County Republican Women

(Vermilion County)

President: **Robyn Heffren**

Email: robynheffren@yahoo.com

Williamson County Republican Women

(Williamson County)

President: **Sue Hamilton**

Email: jshamilton02@gmail.com

York Township Republican Women Org.

(DuPage County)

President: **Deanna Wilkins**

Email: deanna@wilkinsconstruction.com



Thank you, Sponsors & Patrons

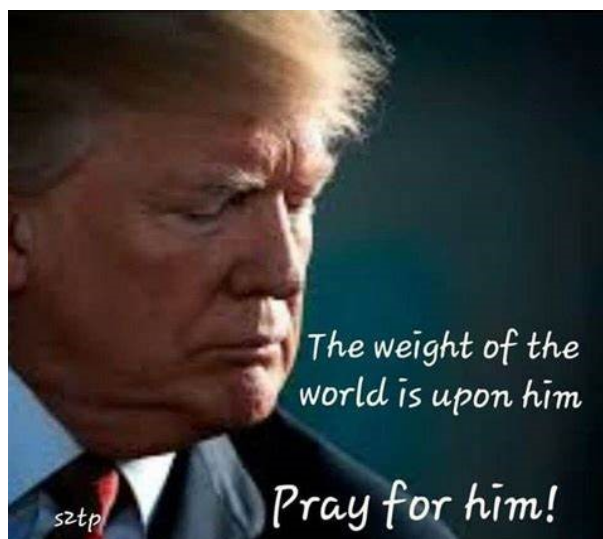
2024 IFRW SPRING CONFERENCE SPONSORS

We invite you to become an
IFRW Patron Member

IFRW provides the avenue for women
to influence policy, develop candidates,
and elect leaders in Illinois.

To donate...
Log on to IFRW.org.

Thank you for your support!



John Ackerman - Tazewell County Clerk/Recorder
U.S. Congressman **Darin LaHood**, 16th District
State Representative **Bill Hauter**, 87th District
Lana Soldat - IFRW President
State Representative **Travis Weaver**, 93rd District
State Representative **Dennis Tipsword**, 105th District
State Senator **Andrew Chesney**, 45th District
Aaron Del Mar - State Central Committee
Greg Wilson - POGO Marketing
Tazewell County Republican Women
Macon County Republican Central Committee
Kevin Johnson - Tazewell County State's Attorney
Jeff Lower - Tazewell County Sheriff

2024 IFRW PATRONS

Liz Bishop
Michelle Buckwalter-Schurman
Sue Hamilton
Robin Heffern (Vermilion County RW)
Linda Hernandez
Susan Jacobs
Susan Mantell
Rep. Tony McCombie
JoAnn Palmer
Jayne Lehman Raef
Lana Soldat
Jennifer Yborra

The Trump Test

Are you better off today than you were 4 years ago?

FACT SHEET | Center for Homeland Security & Immigration

HOW OPEN BORDERS INCENTIVIZE

EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN

**UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN (UACS) SUFFER THE
WORST CONSEQUENCES OF THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION'S
INHUMANE BORDER CRISIS.**

**4 PRIMARY WAYS UACS ARE EXPLOITED BY
OPEN BORDERS AND OTHER MISGUIDED POLICIES:**

The open border and policies that exempt alien children from the removal process advertise a streamlined, guaranteed entry into America's communities. The cartels win by having more vulnerable children to exploit.

Relaxed vetting standards for volunteers and sponsors in Department of Health and Human Services, facilities make it easier for traffickers and child abusers, trapping the in a life of trauma and exploitation

A lack of labor law enforcement has resulted in widespread labor trafficking of UACs, and two-thirds of these minors work in punishing workplace conditions to pay debts to cartels or their abusive sponsor

Families pressure the children to send money home while working illegally in the U.S. This creates traumatic situations in which children cross the border unlawfully and are abused while working dangerous jobs.



360,000
CHILDREN TRAFFICKED OR
SMUGGLED ACROSS THE
BORDER SINCE JANUARY 2021

Source: America First Policy Institute

