

## **NVFRW SPECIAL EDITION NEWSLETTER**

#### **EXECUTIVE BOARD CANDIDATES 2024-2025**

#### SPECIAL NvFRW ELECTION ANNOUNCEMENT

Per Article VII Sec. 1 of the NvFRW Bylaws, the Nominating Committee composed of members from clubs that elected a member to the committee was tasked with soliciting nominees for our various state officers and vetting their qualifications. The Nominating Committee met pursuant to its required duties and received nominations.



Caroline Smith, NvFRW President 2022-2023

ONLY the following members were thus determined to be qualified for the offices they sought, and their names will appear on the ballot at the October 2023 convention.

Nicol Herris was determined NOT to be qualified to run for President of the NvFRW by the Nominating Committee.

President: Mary Beganyi

1st VP: Jennifer Tuggle 2nd VP: Lindy Leonard Secretary: Linda Powers Treasurer: Barbara Kirk

Nominating Committee Chair: Lori Piotrowski Northern Director: Barb Hawn, Kathy Doyle

Southern Director: Heather Stamer, Melissa Blundo



## NvFRW President: Mary Beganyi



l, Mary Beganyi, am seeking your vote for president of the NvFRW

I, Mary Beganyi, am seeking your vote for president of the NvFRW along with a vote for the dedicated Republican women on my slate. I am currently serving as the Southern Regent's Chair, a Standing Committee of the NvFRW. I served as President of Spring Mountain Republican Women 2018/2019. I continue to be an active member of SMRW and enjoy my associate membership in others.

During my presidency, SMRW earned the Diamond Achievement Award, a goal I set for SMRW when I became president. It was the first time in several years that SMRW achieved that award. I have actively supported the Clark County Republican Party and Nevada State GOP through my membership in the central and state committees since about 2008. I have developed the necessary leadership skills through past work and community volunteer experiences. I credit Toastmasters International for developing my public speaking and leadership skills. My resume was posted in the most recent edition of the NvFRW newsletter.

I step forward now to lead the NvFRW for two reasons. The first is that we are losing our Republic and freedoms and are swiftly moving towards adopting communism to replace our Constitutional Republic. Every patriot needs to become actively involved at this time in preserving our Constitution and Bill of Rights, the freedoms we love so well and take for granted. I am here at this point in history, so it is my turn to take on that task. The second reason is that Southern Nevada needs to reclaim a leadership role in our Nevada Federation of Republican Women. It has been six years since we had leadership from the South.

One of the goals for my presidency is to find new ways to increase our funding so we can accomplish special projects aimed at turning Nevada Red and empowering the women of NvFRW to turn their hearts and minds toward Republican values. Please vote for me and the wonderfully talented women of my slate who have stepped up as patriots to take on a leadership position of the NvFRW.



# NvFRW 1st VP: Jennifer Sage Tuggle



I look forward to earning your vote.

Jennifer was born and raised in Las Vegas, Nevada. She has been married 56 years and has two children and three grandchildren. She has resided in Boulder City, Nevada, for the past 22 years and is currently the President of the Boulder City Republican Women. She has also served the BCRW as a Recording Secretary and 1st Vice President.

Jennifer is retired and was the Executive Director of a non-profit organization for 21 years, managing a program for low-income elementary students attending the Clark County School District. She recruited and supervised hundreds of high-achieving CCSD High School students who taught life skills to disadvantaged, at-risk children at elementary schools. Jennifer worked with community business executives within Clark County to raise funding for her program and coordinated with CCSD teachers throughout the school year to provide life skills training to at-risk students.

Jennifer was President of the Rotary Club of Las Vegas-University, NV 2001-2002, and was featured in the Nevada Woman Magazine and the Distinguished Women of Southern Nevada publications in 1999, 2000, and 2003 in recognition of outstanding and professional community achievements in Southern Nevada.



# NvFRW 2nd VP: Lindy Leonard



"I would appreciate your vote."

Linda "Lindy" Leonard is a retired Divisional Manager with Princess House Products. Her accolades during her 40-year tenure as an independent business owner are replete. She was recognized by her parent company 32 separate times for exceeding annual sales and recruiting goals. She was ranked #1 in the nation with Princess House Products on six separate occasions. During her tenure in executive management, Lindy mentored over 1,000 women, educating them in the sales and marketing skills necessary to build their own businesses.

Before starting her direct sales company, Lindy spent five years as a Licensed Nurse. Most of her efforts involved working with handicapped youth and hyperactive males confined in the California State Hospital System.

Lindy was born in Whittier, California. After high school, she attended Pasadena City College and the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). Lindy and her husband Mike are both Gold Star Family members, and because of this close affinity for Military Veterans, she actively engages in assisting and supporting Honor Flight Nevada, a non-profit organization engaged in transporting WWII, Korea, Vietnam, and Iraq/Afghanistan Veterans to Washington, DC, and Hawaii, to visit and meditate at monuments and memorials dedicated to them.

She is a staunch conservative, and an individual devoted to ensuring that the younger generation clearly understands the tenants of traditional values, stable communities, and conventional ideas.

Lindy currently serves as the 1st Vice President of the Silver State Republican Women (SSRW) organization in the Northern Nevada area. She also served in a similar capacity for the Washoe Republican Women (WRW) from 2020 to 2021. Lindy lives with her husband Mike in Reno, Nevada.



## NvFRW Secretary: Linda Powers



A Vote for Linda will be a smart Vote!

Linda Powers, 2nd VP for Spring Mountain Republican Women's Club. I reside in Las Vegas and moved here in 1996.

My attributes are: I joined The Women's Club of Summerlin in 1998. I immediately took on the Secretary position and eventually became President. It was a 501c3 as time went on. I also headed up our Dare to Dream program a few times. It awarded money to worthy local women, either for school or a new business. That club ended in 2014, and I had been asked to join SMRW by a few friends and thought this would be the time.

As soon as joining I stepped in to help with the 2nd VP position and soon took it over along with helping with different local campaigns, by door knocking and mailings.

I have held my 2nd VP position for 4.5 years. It has been great getting to know the members this way and I love reaching out to new ones.

I'm ready to move on and try something else. So I decided that Recording Secretary would be a good fit. I also think we need more NvFRW Board positions held in Southern Nevada.



## NvFRW Treasurer: Barbara Kirk



#### **Experience**

- \*40+ years of accounting and leadership experience
- \*4 years NvFRW Budget and Finance Chair
- \*1 term RWR 2nd VP Membership
- \*7 years Washoe County Central Committee
- \*2 years as NvFRW Treasurer
- \*4 years RWR club treasurer
- \*4 years RWNN PAC treasurer
- \*Numerous RWR club chairs

#### Bio

After spending 30 years climbing the preverbal corporate ladder I retired as the Corporate Controller of a 500 store, specialty retail chain with 200M+ in annual sales. My team consisted of 100 members and one of the favorite parts of my position was the development of my staff, attempting to turn that grain of sand in the oyster into a pearl. At that time, the least favorite and most time-wasting part was office politics. So, what am I doing in retirement up to my neck in politics? Sausagemaking is fun and challenging!

One of the most important goals for 2024 is to have monthly Zoom meetings with the Executive Committee. It is so important for us to take the time to strategize, plan and review. "Lessons learned," planning and executing better are necessary to improve and achieve the most important goal: Getting Republican elected!

I look forward to serving as your NvFRW treasurer where I hope to be a part of a dynamic and organized team that can make a difference and keep us relevant. It is particularly important that we be the best we can be, for our country's future has never been in such danger. Together success is ours for the taking. Just reach out and grab it!



# NvFRW Nominating Committee Chair: Lori Piotrowski



"I appreciate your vote,"

Lori Piotrowski holds a master's degree in Romance Languages from Ohio State University, using it as an instructor at the College of Southern Nevada where she taught Spanish and sometimes Portuguese for nearly twenty years. She is a Renaissance woman with varied careers, beginning in magazine publishing, and later moving into corporate communications, architectural photography, and public relations.

In 2008, Lori became politically involved. She walked for John McCain and joined the Clark County Republican Central Committee in Las Vegas. Soon thereafter the chairman appointed her Communications Director. During the Sharron Angle-Harry Reid election cycle, she represented the party to local, national, and international media, wrote press releases, and was a spokesperson to the Hispanic media. She served as the first vice president of the Republican Women of Las Vegas and brought candidates Herman Cain and Mrs. Rick Perry to her club. In 2013, she was elected president of Boulder City Republican Women, serving in that position for three separate terms. In 2016-2017, Lori was president of the Nevada Federation of Republican Women. Presently, she is Achievement Chair for Battle Born Republican Women.

After the NFRW 2017 convention, the incoming president tapped Lori to chair the Literacy and Education Committee, where she created the Riglee Raccoon Super Reader icon and a literacy program for clubs to implement. To provide the NFRW with a source of passive income, she wrote two children's books about Riglee: Riglee Celebrates Thanksgiving and Riglee Rolls an Easter Egg.

Lori's interest in the American Revolution spurred an idea for a novel, yet 25 years passed before she expanded those first five pages into a full-blown manuscript. That book, Revolutionary Heart, became the first in a series of The Molly Weston Chronicles. She published her second novel, Revolutionary Spirit, in 2018, and the third, Revolutionary Spark, is in the works, along with a Molly Weston cookbook. Lori and her husband rescued two kittens that inspired her to write an adventure of their own—Caesar and Cleo Find the Purrrrfect Christmas Tree.

"My years of experience with different clubs and as state president have allowed me to meet many NvFRW members. I look forward to finding the best-qualified candidates to carry the Nevada Federation forward. Vote for me."



## NvFRW Northern Director: Barb Hawn



I would appreciate your vote.

Barb has been a Republican since 1980 when at 19 she cast her ballot for Ronald Reagan when participating in her first Presidential Election. She is President of Silver State Republican Women and has been a member of the NvFRW since 2010.

Barb served as NvFRW's 2nd Vice President in 2020-2021 and NvFRW Secretary in 2018-19. In 2015 Barb ran successfully for Secretary of the Nevada Republican Party she was re-elected in 2017, 2019, and 2021. In 2013 she ran and was elected Secretary of the Washoe County Republican Party, she was re-elected in 2015. She attended the historic 2016 National Republican Convention in Cleveland, Ohio, where Donald J. Trump became the Republican Presidential nominee.

In addition to her political involvement, Barb is currently a Board Member of the Sierra State Parks Foundation, a Grant Writer for the Reno Elks, and active in the Reno Rodeo, Nevada Right to Life, and Our Lady of the Snows. In November 1991, Barb and her husband, Brian, moved to Reno, Nevada. They celebrated their 35th anniversary in 2023. Their son, Matthew, is a graduate of the University of Nevada and is a Graduate student pursuing a Ph.D. in Cellular Molecular Pharmacology Physiology.

In her spare time Barb is learning Bridge and enjoys traveling, attending movies, playing Pinochle and Nevada Wolf Pack athletics.



# NvFRW Northern Director: Kathy Doyle

Biography and photograph not presented by the stated deadline.

# Nevada

## NvFRW Southern Director: Heather Stamer



As Club President, I am very active and continue to give support to many of our sister clubs. As Southern Director I plan to continue that effort by educating members within other clubs on the importance of the NVFRW. I would appreciate your vote!

My Name is Heather Marie Stamer. I am the president of the Southern Hills Republican Women, where I have been a member for nearly 12 years.

I grew up in a conservative family. My parents are originally from Pittsburgh, Pennslyvania, where my father joined the Navy at 18 years old to avoid working in the steel mill. He married my mother soon after his training and was stationed in Hawaii. My father worked in the White House under President Eisenhower and JFK, and my mother worked in the Pentagon.

In 1969 they adopted me in Richmond, Virginia, and two years later, after another transfer to Japan, my parents adopted my brother Jason. After Japan, we lived in Buenos Aires, Argentina, for five years and then returned to the States in 1978 and settled in Virginia Beach, where I remained until 2002.

My parents were Democrats before Jimmy Carter and never voted Republican until Reagan. In 2002 I moved to Las Vegas with my ex. After divorcing, I moved to Henderson, where I met my husband Stephen, and we've been married for 17 years. I had never voted here in the U.S. until Bush took office with encouragement from a neighbor. Registered as an Independent, I didn't know what I was, and she informed me that if I wanted to "save the planet," I was a Democrat.

The first time I voted was for a Democrat. However, it wasn't until I met Constable Earl Mitchell that I became involved in politics. He was the first person to invite me to Southern Hills Republican Women, and within a month, I changed my status to Republican and became a member of SHRW. One year later, I joined the BOD as treasurer, then shortly after my term ended became secretary and photographer. In 2021 the SHRW Nominating Committee asked if I would like to run for club president.

Owning several businesses with my husband, I know the importance of bringing people together to fulfill the job. My goal as president is to educate as many people as possible about what is happening in our country and to help deserving candidates win elections. My leadership position means a lot to m,e and I will always give 150 percent of myself to the cause.



# NvFRW Southern Director: Melissa Blundo

Biography and photograph not presented by the stated deadline.