



EDITOR: Barbara Swarthout – barbaraswarthout@outlook.com 414-491-2341
WEBSITE: www.saladoarearw.com

FEBRUARY 2024



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 1 – Pints and Politics, Deadfish Grill – 6:00 p.m.

February 2 – SARW Board Meeting – Salado Library – 10:00 a.m.

February 17 – CTRW 60th Anniversary Gala & Celebration – 6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.

Central Texas Home Builders Association

445 E. Central Texas Expressway, Harker Heights

Tickets must be purchased by 2/10/24.

RSVP: www.ctrw-pac.com/60th-diamond-aniversary

February 22 – SARW General Meeting, Salado Civic Center – **11:00 a.m. early start**

February 26 – Bell County Young Republicans

SARW GENERAL MEETING – EARLY START AT 11:00 A.M.

New Member Orientation: Barbara Swarthout

TFRW/NFRW Overview: Gail Teegarden

Parliamentary Procedure: Barclay McCort

State Convention Process: Nancy Boston



EDITOR: Barbara Swarthout – barbaraswarthout@outlook.com 414-491-2341
WEBSITE: www.saladoarearw.com

FEBRUARY 2024



PRESIDENT'S PEN - Brenda Howard

I learned so much at Texas Federation of Republican Women Leadership Day and I am ready to get to work! Love is in the air and warmer temperatures. Happy Valentines Day, President's Day, and Ground Hog Day. With only 49 days to the first day of Spring, there is much to celebrate!

In between celebrations, there are Candidate Events and Early Voting. I always vote early because I work in the elections, but there is a new program called Bank Your Vote.

The Republican National Committee is encouraging all Republicans to vote by Absentee Ballot or vote Early. Recently, people have decided to vote on Election Day only. Guess what? We lose 20% of Republican voters who cannot vote on that day due to sickness, weather, or other reasons.

Yikes! That is too many votes. We need every single one. You can learn more about this program at **BankYourVote.com**. This program is in conjunction with the extraordinarily successful **Protect Your Vote** program that placed Poll Watchers in every voting location in Texas during the last election cycle. This will continue again this election cycle.

We also have so many ways that we can volunteer. The **Voter Engagement Project (VEP)** is back to make phone calls to register voters. You can block walk for a candidate, make phone calls or text using the **Get Out the Vote (GOTV)** program. If everyone did twenty-four phone calls, door knocks or texts each week, **24 in 24**, we would be able to reach every Republican Voter!

Texas is in the crosshairs, and I look forward to working with each of you to **Keep Texas Red**. Republican Women are the secret ingredient. Let us stand together and get the job done!

Brenda



EDITOR: Barbara Swarthout – barbaraswarthout@outlook.com 414-491-2341
WEBSITE: www.saladoarearw.com

FEBRUARY 2024

| 2024 Republican Primary CANDIDATE FORUMS | |
|--|---|
| JANUARY 15²² RESCHEDULED DUE TO WEATHER 11 AM - Hosted by CENTRAL TEXAS REPUBLICAN WOMEN | 27th, 146th, 426th District Judges & Commissioner Pct 1 The Gin at Nolan Creek - \$20 lunch included 219 S East St, Belton, TX |
| JANUARY 18 6 PM - Hosted by SALADO AREA REPUBLICAN WOMEN | District Attorney, County Attorney, Sheriff, & Constables Pct 1, 2, & 3 Salado Civic Center - Free 600 N. Main St, Salado, TX |
| RESCHEDULED - FEBRUARY 08 JANUARY 29 6 PM - Hosted by BELL COUNTY YOUNG REPUBLICANS | State Representative HD 54 & 55, U.S Representative HD 31, Justice of the Peace Pct 4 Place 1 17 South Main Restaurant - FREE 17 S. Main Street, Temple, TX |
| JANUARY 30 6 PM - Hosted by REPUBLICAN PARTY OF BELL COUNTY | Justice of the Peace Pct 3 Place 1 & Commissioner Pct 3 Moffat Community Center - FREE 13410 Kuykendall Mountain Rd, Temple, TX |
| REGISTER HERE ➔  | 2024 PRIMARY Early Voting: Feb. 20 - Mar. 1 Election Day: March 5, 2024 |

NOTE THE TWO REMAINING CANDIDATE FORUM DATES: January 30 and February



EDITOR: Barbara Swarthout – barbaraswarthout@outlook.com 414-491-2341
WEBSITE: www.saladoarearw.com

FEBRUARY 2024



AWARDS – Pamela Hatridge

TFRW has published the monthly planner for the 2024-25 Club Achievement Award. Club President Brenda Howard and I reviewed the planner and confirmed that SARW is off to a good start. I will be reaching out to Board members throughout the year with reminders of upcoming requirements for this and other awards. Thank you in advance for your assistance!



SCHOLARSHIPS – Diane Balady

Looking for two or three volunteers to help with the Scholarship Committee. This will entail two meetings, one in late February to review the Scholarship Applications and another meeting in May to select recipients. In 2023 our Club awarded three scholarships in the amount of \$1,000.00.

If you can help, please contact me at 254-534-1462.



EDITOR: Barbara Swarthout – barbaraswarthout@outlook.com 414-491-2341
WEBSITE: www.saladoarearw.com

FEBRUARY 2024



3rd VICE PRESIDENT OF FUNDRAISING – Barclay McCort

Ladies! I hope you have our next big event and fundraiser on your calendar. The date for the 17th Annual Fine China Luncheon & Fundraiser is June 4. Your committee has started working on the Luncheon, but we **really need individuals to host a table**. Remember, a host just decorates the table; we can fill the seats. (Of course, you have the option of saving seats for your friends.) Contact me for more details. The money we raise goes toward helping conservative candidates in tight races in TEXAS! Help us keep **TEXAS RED!**



1ST VICE PRESIDENT OF PROGRAMMING – Sherril Gardipee

The SARW General Meeting will be on Thursday, February 22, 2024.
We will have an early start time at 11:00 a.m. at the Salado Civic Center.

SARW has a great Membership Program planned. Even though you may not be a new member, please plan on attending. We believe that the information will be interesting to all of our members. Our presenters for our Membership Program are as follows.

- **New Membership Orientation:** Barbara Swarthout
- **TFRW/NFRW Overview:** Gail Teegarden
- **Parliamentary Procedure:** Barclay McCort
- **State Convention Process** – Nancy Boston

RSVP: sherril.gardipee@gmail.com Cost: \$20/per person



EDITOR: Barbara Swarthout – barbaraswarthout@outlook.com 414-491-2341
WEBSITE: www.saladoarearw.com

FEBRUARY 2024



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – Michele Hercules

Praise God for this rain... but boy does it make you want to stay tucked away at home where it is warm and cozy! Let us be mindful of all our candidates who are out there sharing their platforms; knocking on doors, visiting with the community, and attending event after event to earn your vote rain or shine!

The opportunity for true conservatives of this GREAT state to gain additional seats this year should not be underestimated. Texans across the state have made their voices heard. After last year's session(s), many incumbents are even stepping down and we have some outstanding challengers!

As promised, Governor Abbott is campaigning in full force against all who defied his call, the call of the Texas GOP and 89% of Texas Republican Voters, to deliver school choice to ALL Texas students! The list of his endorsements can be read here: [Gov. Abbott Endorsements](#)

Likewise, Attorney General Paxton has been traversing the state, making his endorsements well-known to utilize a very ramped-up base! The list of his endorsements can be read here: [AG Paxton Endorsements](#)

Your voice and your vote are never stronger than during our primary! Educate yourself and then let us use these last few weeks to find a role in supporting our top choice candidate. We all have platforms within our circles and these candidates need us to use them! Ways to help include DONATE, VOLUNTEER, HOST A MEET & GREET, GIVE A PERSONAL ENDORCEMENT, ORGANIZE A NETWORK THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA/EMAIL/TEXT, and most importantly, GET OUT THE VOTE!

FIND YOUR BALLOT: Find your precinct and familiarize yourself with the races! Also, the Republican Party of Texas released the 2024 Republican Primary Ballot Propositions. The thirteen ballot propositions include questions on eliminating property taxes, border security, benefits to illegal aliens, amnesty, protecting the Texas National Guard, a Texas Bullion Depository, vaccine consent, closed primaries, election integrity, school choice, and ownership of



EDITOR: Barbara Swarthout – barbaraswarthout@outlook.com 414-491-2341

WEBSITE: www.saladoarearw.com

FEBRUARY 2024

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE (CONTINUED)

FIND YOUR BALLOT: Find your precinct and familiarize yourself with the races! Also, the Republican Party of Texas released the 2024 Republican Primary Ballot Propositions. The thirteen ballot propositions include questions on eliminating property taxes, border security, benefits to illegal aliens, amnesty, protecting the Texas National Guard, a Texas Bullion Depository, vaccine consent, closed primaries, election integrity, school choice, and ownership of Texas land by hostile foreign entities. Texas Republicans will have the opportunity to vote on each of these. Find your ballot here: [Sample Ballots \(bellcountytexas.com\)](http://SampleBallots(bellcountytexas.com))

VOTER REGISTRATION: February 5 is the last day to register to vote for the March Primary! Do you have a new neighbor, child, or grandchild who recently turned 18, a California refugee...think of who you know that may need reminding or a little help getting registered! It is a quick and easy two-minute process online! Register here: [GET REGISTERED HERE](#)

Texas is making BIG NEWS across the country! The nation is rallying behind us and the encouragement is strong! TWENTY-FIVE GOVERNORS JOIN TEXAS' BORDER STANDOFF! Read their joint statement here: [Republican Governor's Association Statement](#)

This is a time of hope & optimism for us! Let us all pledge to seize on this opportune year, to contribute to the value and effort being put forth, and to show the enemies of our great state, that God truly does bless Texas!





EDITOR: Barbara Swarthout – barbaraswarthout@outlook.com 414-491-2341
WEBSITE: www.saladoarearw.com

FEBRUARY 2024



POLITICAL ACTIVITIES – Christie Justice

Congratulations on 10,353 volunteer hours in 2023. Good Job.

As a separate attachment to the newsletter email is a form of suggested volunteer activities to assist each of you in keeping a tally of your hours. There are many organizations not listed on this form. Happy volunteering!

We have a challenging year ahead, and we are ready.

Thank you for the work you do. It makes a difference.



TECHNOLOGY – Michele Melsha

If you did not have an opportunity to attend our Candidate Forum on January 18, we have great news for you. We streamed the Forum debate live on our Facebook page. The recorded broadcast will remain on our page for thirty days. So, if you would like to learn more about the candidates at our Forum, go to our page at <https://www.facebook.com/sarwpac> and check out the recording.



EDITOR: Barbara Swarthout – barbaraswarthout@outlook.com 414-491-2341
WEBSITE: www.saladoarearw.com

FEBRUARY 2024

CENTRAL TEXAS REPUBLICAN WOMEN



CTRW MEMBERSHIP ORIENTATION

February 3 – 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Guest Presenters: Zenia Warren, TFRW President

Gail Teegarden, TFRW SD24 District Director

Location: Bell County Republican Headquarters

RSVP by January 30, 2024, to contactctrw@gmail.com

CTRW 60th Anniversary Gala & Celebration – 6:00 to 10:00 p.m.

Location: Central Texas Expressway, Harker Heights

Tickets must be purchased by February 10, 2024

Ticket levels include –

(visit www.ctrw.pac.com for info on each supporter level)

Diamond Supporter - \$1,000

Emerald Supporter - \$750

Sapphire Supporter - \$500

Garnet Supporter - \$250

CTRW Patrons - \$75

Ruby Supporter - \$75



EDITOR: Barbara Swarthout – barbaraswarthout@outlook.com 414-491-2341
WEBSITE: www.saladoarearw.com

FEBRUARY 2024

REPUBLICAN PARTY OF BELL COUNTY

204 N. East Street, Ste. A-1, Belton, TX 76513 Phone: 254-831-5200
www.belltxgop.org belltxgop@gmail.com
Addie Baird, Chairman

Primary Election: Early Voting

- **February 20, 2024 – February 23** (8:00 am to 5:00 pm)
- **February 24** (7:00 am to 7:00 pm)
- **February 25** (Noon to 6:00 pm)
- **February 26 - March 1, 2024** (7:00 am to 7:00 pm)

Election Day: March 5, 2024 (7:00 am to 7:00 pm)





EDITOR: Barbara Swarthout – barbaraswarthout@outlook.com 414-491-2341
WEBSITE: www.saladoarearw.com

FEBRUARY 2024

SALADO AREA REPUBLICAN WOMEN

President

Brenda Howard

brendaghoward@protonmail.com

208-741-0725

1st VP – Programs

Sherril Gardipee – sherril.gardipee@gmail.com

2nd VP – Membership

Katherine Krska – katkrska@yahoo.com

3rd VP – Fundraising

Barclay McCort – barclaymccort@gmail.com

Secretary

Evelyn Matthews – bigev18@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Nancy Norris – ncnorris8@yahoo.com

CHAIRS

Scholarships

Diane Balady – dbalady@outlook.com

Newsletter

Barbara Swarthout - barbaraswarthout@outlook.com

Campaign Activities

Christie Justice – christie@christiejustice.net

Hospitality

Karin Borman-Berg – karb@mygrande.net

Parliamentarian/Bylaws

Lynne Wilton – wtwilton1@msn.com

Awards

Pamela Hatridge – phatridge@swbell.net

PAC Treasurer/Chair

Fayann Ridgley – fayelucken@hotmail.com

Publicity

Barclay McCort – barclaymccort@gmail.com

Literacy

Diane Balady – dbalady@outlook.com

Americanism/Caring for America

Kate McKinley – aggiepyro75@gmail.com

Legislative

Michele Hercules - michelehercules@yahoo.com

Historian

Bobbie Reihsen – breihsen@hotmail.com

Technology

Michele Melsha – mmelsha@msn.com

Greeter

Michele Melsha

Chaplain

Shirley Stephenson – steppnup@embarqmail.com



EDITOR: Barbara Swarthout – barbaraswarthout@outlook.com 414-491-2341

WEBSITE: www.saladoarearw.com

FEBRUARY 2024



Salado Area Republican Women



Membership Form

January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024

\$35.00

First Name: _____ Middle Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell: _____ Work Phone: _____

Email: _____ Occupation: _____ Spouse: _____

Required by law for PAC reporting.

Check Membership Type: Primary _____ Renewal _____ New Member _____
Associate _____ Renewal _____ New Member _____

A Primary Member is a Republican woman who wants SARW to be her primary Federated Republican Women’s club. An Associate Member is a Republican Woman who already belongs to a primary Federated Republican Women’s Club and also wants to support SARW or is a Republican man who wants to support SARW. **Please return this form along with a check for \$35.00 payable to: SARW, PAC; PO Box 373; Salado, TX 76571**

The **objectives** of Salado Area Republican Women are to:

- Inform our members and the electorate through political education.
- Increase effectiveness of women in the cause of good government through political participation.
- Foster loyalty to the Republican Party and to promote its principles, and candidates in all elections including non-partisan elections.
- Work for the election of the Republican Party’s nominees.

Republicans Believe in - The U.S. Constitution written from Judeo-Christian Principles. God - Country - Family

- Respect individual achievement with self-reliance
- Pro-Life - Family Values - Parental Authority
- Right to Bear Arms
- Strong National Defense - Security for the Homeland
- Smaller Government
- Balanced Budget - Cut Spending - Lower Taxes - Decreasing Regulations
- True Balance of Powers

Disclaimer: Paid for Salado Area Republican Women, PAC, PO Box 373, Salado, TX 76571 A Nonprofit Organization under Section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to SARW-PAC are not Tax Deductible as Charitable Contribution for Federal Income Purposes. Corporate Contributions are Not Permitted. Not authorized