

# The **Republican Women's** *VOICE*

## **August 2021**

### *President's Letter*

I have often been asked "Who are the Cooke County Republican Women, and what do they do?"

Cooke County Republican Women is a local club of the Texas Federation of Republican Women (TFRW) which is affiliated with the National Federation of Republican Women (NFRW). Founded in 1938, NFRW is the largest grassroots Republican women's organization in the country, with tens of thousands of active members in local clubs across the nation.

The main objectives of TFRW is to support the objectives and policies of the Republican National, State and County Executive Committees, and to work for the election of the Republican Party's Nominees.

Founded in 1991, Cooke County Republican Women, or CCRW, work to support those objectives as well as creating an informed electorate through political education and activity, increasing the effectiveness of women in the cause of good government through active political participation, promoting the welfare and growth of local Republican Women's clubs in the State of Texas, fostering loyalty to the Republican Party, and promoting its principles and candidates in all elections, including non-partisan elections.

What we are not: We are not here to tell you what to think or how to think. We do not try to gauge how conservative you are, or how religious you are. We do not apply litmus tests for membership. Our members have diverse opinions, but we all want to keep Texas, and America great for generations to come.

We are an inclusive club of Republicans who welcome people from every walk of life. If you believe in the philosophy of the Republican Party, are a citizen of the United States, and a registered voter who wants to become more engaged and informed, and see that Republican principals are fostered and promoted, then you are one of us!

We appreciate your membership and support and look forward to seeing you at our next meeting!

*Sincerely, President Kerri Kingsbery*

### **NEXT MEETING**

**Thursday, August 5, 7 pm**

**Speaker: Ashley Smith Thomas**

**Founder & CEO of Freedom's Fund USA**

**Topic:** Strategies of the left; How grassroots conservatives can defend their communities against socialist and other leftist ideologies.

*Invite your friends to join us for this informative program!  
See more about the speaker on the next page!*

**First Christian Church Fellowship Hall, Gainesville**

*A Publication of*



#### **2021 CCRW OFFICERS**

##### **President**

Kerri Kingsbery  
214-681-9916 c  
kerri@kingsbery.com

##### **First Vice President- Programs**

Tiffany Lester  
940-641-1107  
jtlester@ntin.net

##### **Second Vice President- Membership**

Jennifer Jonas  
940-391-9991 c  
jenjonas@icloud.com

##### **Fourth Vice President- Fundraising**

Alicia Barker  
817-673-1561  
aliciahb59@gmail.com

##### **Secretary**

Shelby Cranfill  
903-328-0121  
sac@sacranfill.com

##### **Treasurer/PAC Treasurer**

Marci Gilbert  
940-634-3733 c  
mgilbert@ntin.net

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Cooke County Republican Women, organized in 1991, is a Local Club of the **Texas Federation of Republican Women** (Region VIII, Senate District 30) and **National Federation of Republican Women**.

[www.cookegop.com/ccrw](http://www.cookegop.com/ccrw)  
[www.tfrw.org](http://www.tfrw.org)  
[www.nfrw.org](http://www.nfrw.org)



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## More about August 5<sup>th</sup> Speaker

--Vice President-Programs Tiffany Lestee, 940-641-1107



Ashley Smith Thomas is the Founder & CEO of Freedom's Fund USA, a nonprofit to protect freedom and national security. She is an Academy Fellow at the Heritage Foundation, based in Washington, D.C.

Ashley started her career as the Assistant to the Vice President of Corporate Development for The Blaze in Dallas. She made a corporate move to manage a \$14.7M project to rescue and resettle persecuted Christians and religious minorities who were targeted by ISIS in 2016. Ashley and her team rescued over 1,000 families and resettled them to host countries around the world. Upon accomplishing the project's goals, Ashley was contracted by a company in 2018, to develop resettlement opportunities for recovered victims targeted by a terrorist organization in Africa.

Ashley furthered her calling by starting her own organization to work alongside the private and public sector to protect freedom. She works toward countering religious persecution, human trafficking, extremism, and other threats to freedom in America and around the globe. She has briefed and continues to brief panels within the intelligence community.

In 2013, Ashley graduated Magna Cum Laude from Oral Roberts University with her Bachelors in Communication and Government with the concentration in Politics. While attending undergrad, Ashley worked for a United States Congressman and was 1 of 30 young women chosen to participate in the National Education for Women's Leadership Institute held at the University of Oklahoma in 2013. In 2018, she went on to receive her Juris Masters in International Law from Liberty University School of Law. Ashley has earned professional certificates in Project Management and U.S. Intelligence Analysis from SMU.

Ashley and her husband reside in Texas, as they continue to be a voice for freedom and protect national security from threats domestic and abroad.

## ? DID YOU KNOW?

**BARGAIN! New Members** who join our Club starting August 1 pay reduced dues of only \$25, which covers membership through the end of the calendar year. Sign up your friends!

**For current Members who have not yet paid their 2021 dues, renewal is still \$35 for the year.** TFRW accepts 2021 dues ONLY UNTIL OCTOBER 31, so get your renewal (form attached to this newsletter) and dues to Jennifer Jonas ASAP!

## Here's the latest on our 2021 Membership totals

--Jennifer Jonas, VP-Membership, [jenjonas@icloud.com](mailto:jenjonas@icloud.com)

Our current membership totals are:

<b>Primary Members</b>	Renewed: 45
	+ New: 28
	<b>Total: 73</b>

In addition we have 38 Associate Members.

**The last page of this newsletter is a 2021 Membership Application. Use it yourself, or pass it on to a friend!**

My address is on the form. Drop it in the mail to me, with your dues. Or drop it through the mail slot at Republican Headquarters, 701 E. California Street. at the NE corner of California and Denison. Suite 304 is at the north end of the buildings, facing Denison, halfway to Broadway. The mail slot is in the window at the north end of the building.

If you have a question about your membership status, text me 940-391-9991.

## Literacy Committee update

--Literacy Chair Janice Stalling, 972-948-9033,  
[janicestalling@yahoo.com](mailto:janicestalling@yahoo.com)

Constitution booklets will be delivered to local schools in late August or early September, as well as a donated book to each school district library, courtesy of Cooke County Republican Women.

Hoping these resources will be a great benefit to our students in Cooke County!

Cooke County Republican Women End-of-Summer Mixer



Let's  
Go!

Mix it up with  
CCRW!

TUESDAY  
AUGUST 24

6 - 8 PM

FIRELIGHT  
VINEYARD  
on the  
Valley View Square



What's up in Austin?  
Regular Session,  
Special Session,  
Redistricting?

**GET SOME ANSWERS!**

House District 68 State Representative

**DAVID SPILLER**

RSVP to  
ALICIA BARKER

call or text  
817-673-1561  
or email  
aliciahb59@gmail.com

Complementary  
Appetizers  
sponsored by  
Rep. Spiller

Cash Wine  
Bar





## Legislatively Speaking . . .

### **Quorum, Voter Integrity, New RPT Chairman, Fort Bend County Sending Democrat Consultant Door-to-Door to the Unvaccinated**

--Legislative Chair Margaret Carter,  
[painted.pony319@gmail.com](mailto:painted.pony319@gmail.com), 830-522-1775

There is a lot to discuss in this month's legislative update. I am sure you are getting tired of hearing about the Democrats that bailed, left their job to run to the big D in the sky, Washington D.C. They have had plenty of TV attention. The comments by their adoring fans get more distorted by the hour. You might find this bit of information amusing: One complaint is the Texas bill does not allow enough time for voting. They are demanding 24hour voting. Per the 7/16 Election Integrity call, the Secretary of State reported the only instance of 24hour voting in the history of Texas was by one county (Harris) in one election (2020). Listen to 7/16 call at [TAD for Election Reform — Toni Anne Dashiell RNC National Committeewoman for Texas](#)

Dems are using this quorum stunt for fundraising. Reportedly Beto O'Rourke has raised a large sum and entertainers are also donating to the runaways. It looks like they will be supported for now. You can find a list of the absent Dems in the 7/13 issue of the "Texas Minute". --[Democrats Bust Quorum in the Texas House Just as Special Session Gets Underway | Texas Scorecard](#). I counted eleven with committee chairmanships and several vice chairs in the group. In other areas of service this would be called dereliction of duty but, apparently not for them. There are questions about retributions. Apparently, there are some, but nothing can be done while they are out of the state. The Speaker of the House did remove the Rep. Joe Moody (D) El Paso from the Speaker Pro Tempore position.

Rep. Andy Murr (R) HD53, who authored HB 3 Election Integrity and Security bill, attended Toni Anne's 7/16 call. He made excellent points about correcting narrative about HB 3 as needed on the spot. We can all help out with that. He believes the Democratic Party is using the quorum incident to push a broader national agenda without knowing what is in the Texas bill. Rep. Murr wrote an op ed that was published in the 7/16 Houston Chronicle. I encourage you to read it for yourself.

[Special Session - Election Security \(mailchi.mp\)](#)

In other business, Matt Renaldi was elected Chairman of the Republican Party of Texas, replacing Alan West after his resignation. Matt has a reputation of being a strong Republican with expertise in fundraising. As an attorney and Representative for HD115 (Dallas Co.),

2015-2019, he is very familiar with Texas politics. Matt states his goal is to prepare the party to win the 2022 election. Everything depends on that. Read more about Matt on the 7/9 call here [TAD for Election Reform — Toni Anne Dashiell RNC National Committeewoman for Texas](#)

**Fort Bend County to share private health information with Democrat consulting group to go door-to-door to the homes of unvaccinated; to pay up to \$345,000 of taxpayer money**

This last issue should make you very nervous. This story takes place in Commissioners Court of Fort Bend County, Texas. The makeup of the court is three Democrats and two Republicans.

A clerk working in the elections office accidentally found out that the commissioners planned to hire a Democratic consulting firm to go door to door to interview citizens who have not been vaccinated. **The County plans to release vaccination records to the firm.** Rep. Jacey Jetton, whose district includes Fort Bend County says the vaccination rate is fairly high there, with 80% of those over 65 having been vaccinated. Why was this necessary? It all came together in secret without any public discussion. The Commissioners Court authorized up to \$345,000 dollars of taxpayer money for the project, much being FEMA funds. No one needs to be told the FEMA funds are to help communities and citizens in case of disaster, not to pay off Democratic hacks. Word got into the community. Hundreds of people showed up to protest the vote. They filled the building and spilled outside continuing the protest. It made no difference; the vote carried. This is all the detail that was given and we do not know how this is going to work. Discussion starts at about 28:30 on the 7/16 call: [TAD for Election Reform — Toni Anne Dashiell RNC National Committeewoman for Texas](#)

Thankfully, we know about this now and it is a big lesson for all of us. In her new book, [The Mind of a Conservative Woman](#), Marsha Blackburn discusses how Democrats are manipulating small communities. She writes we have been looking at it all along but not seeing the damage. They choose issues and language carefully, then pick vulnerable communities where there will likely be little push back to move their agenda "inch by inch and policy by policy". Their strategy is to grow government quietly without policy arguments or attention from the press. This process repeats itself at all levels of government from federal down to the smallest local communities. It seems harmless enough but it is not! It is a big takeover attempt without a hassle for the Democrats.

*(continued on Page 5)*

(continued from Page 4)

Fort Bend County residents found out too late to stop this move due to the secrecy of the planners. They now are developing grassroots watchdog groups to monitor and report on all meetings held by local elected officials such as, Commissioners Court, City Council and school board or any meeting that involves county policy.

Even though Cooke County is deeply red, we cannot take for granted that the same thing cannot happen here, because it can. The Democratic party has been open about their intent to turn Texas blue. We cannot let that happen. We can form watchdog groups to monitor all meetings and then report to the community.

Toni Anne pointed out the importance of forming relationships with other citizens who attend these meetings and of sharing information. The 7/16 video is posted here [TAD for Election Reform — Toni Anne Dashiell RNC National Committeewoman for Texas](#). Take a few minutes to watch and listen. I think you will find it very informative. Please note the call to action: 1) Be armed with facts, speak out boldly when you hear incorrect statements. 2) Consider forming watchdog groups to monitor local meeting and remain knowledgeable. Share the information.

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### ***All members invited to attend TFRW State Convention, October 13-16, Round Rock***

TFRW has its State Convention every two years (odd-number years). That's **THIS YEAR, October 13-16, 2021 at Round Rock**.

Voting is done at the business meetings by each club's delegates. **CCRW will be awarded one delegate and one alternate to the Convention for every 10 club members and fraction if more than five**, per membership as of August 14.

Whether or not you are elected as a delegate or alternate at our September meeting, **EVERY MEMBER is encouraged to attend!** There are so many opportunities to meet leaders in the TFRW organization, elected officials and candidates, and attend informational workshops.

The current schedule of events is on Page 6.

Click on this link for all up-to-date convention information: <https://www.tfrw.org/events/convention/>

REGISTER ONLINE:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/texas-federation-of-republican-women-33rd-biennial-convention-tickets-148038586397> or

REGISTER BY MAIL:

[https://www.tfrw.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/TFRW-2021-Convention-Registration-Form\\_4-28-21.pdf](https://www.tfrw.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/TFRW-2021-Convention-Registration-Form_4-28-21.pdf)

**IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND OR HAVE QUESTIONS, CONTACT PRESIDENT KERRI KINGSBERY, so she can assemble a list and help members get together for sharing transportation and accommodations.**

**214-681-9916c**

**[kerri@kingsbery.com](mailto:kerri@kingsbery.com)**

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*From YOUR Cooke County Republican Party,  
[www.cookegop.com](http://www.cookegop.com)*

### ***Matt Rinaldi elected as RPT Chairman***

Upon the resignation of Allen West as State Chairman, four candidates ran to complete his term in office. On July 11<sup>th</sup>, the State Republican Executive Committee (SREC) elected former State Representative **Matt Rinaldi** as the new State Chairman. He won with a majority of the votes, making a second round of voting unnecessary.

Rinaldi will serve through the 2022 State Convention, at which a Chairman will be elected by convention delegates from throughout the state for the next two-year term.

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*Collecting for* **VISTO**  
*Caring for America by Caring for our Community*

**Reminder: We are collecting non-perishable foods for our Cooke County Food Pantry at every CCRW meeting and event this year. Help us fill our box for another delivery to VISTO!**

*--Janice Cooper-Eddy, Caring for America Chair*



## **TFRW 2021 33<sup>rd</sup> Biennial Convention Kalahari Resort, Round Rock, TX**

**Schedule (as of 5/31/2021)**

### **Wednesday October 13, 2021**

2:00 pm- Early Convention Check-In (open)  
3:45 to 4:15 pm- District Director/Deputy President Meeting  
4:30 to 5:30 pm- TFRW Board Meeting

### **Thursday October 14, 2021**

8 am to 6 pm- Convention Check-In  
8:00 am to 6 pm- Exhibit Booths Open  
9:30 to 11:30 am-Elected Official/Candidate Meet and Greet  
1 to 5 pm- Opening Session  
**5:15 to 6 pm – TFRW Candidate Development Program Presentation (new)**  
6:30 to 8:30 pm- Come and Go Welcome Reception  
8 to 9 pm- TFRW Officer Slate Meet and Greet

### **Friday October 15, 2021**

7:30 to 8:45 am- Breakfast Buffet  
7:30am to 4 pm- Convention Check-In  
8:00 am to 6 pm-Exhibitors  
9:00 to 11:45 am- General Session  
12:30 to 2:25 pm- TFRW Club Awards Luncheon  
2:45 to 3:45pm- Workshop 1 (up to five workshops to select from)  
4:00 to 5:00 pm- Workshop 2 (up to five workshops to select from)  
6:00 to 6:30 pm- 10 Outstanding & Patrons Reception  
7:00pm to 9:00pm- 10 Outstanding Banquet Dinner

### **Saturday October 16, 2021**

7:30 to 8:45am- Memorial Breakfast Buffet  
8:30 to 11am- Convention Check-In  
8:00 am to 1pm- Exhibits open  
9:00 to 10:15am Caucus Meetings (District Director Elections)  
10:45am to 12:45pm- Closing Session  
1:15 to 2:45pm- Installation Luncheon  
7:00 to 9:30pm- President's Dinner (off-site, limited seating,  
and extra ticket purchase required)

## STANDING COMMITTEES/2021 Committee Chairmen

Awards (VP-Programs) . . . . .	Tiffany Lester	940-641-1107
Americanism and Caring for America. . . . .	Janice Cooper-Eddy	214-563-7784
Bylaws . . . . .	Dianne Helms	940-368-0007
Chaplain . . . . .	Earlena Hume	817-401-4954
Historian . . . . .	Sharon McCormack	817-996-3265
Hospitality . . . . .		
Legislative . . . . .	Margaret Carter	830-522-1775
Literacy . . . . .	Janice Stalling	972-948-9033
Membership (VP-Membership) . . .	Jennifer Jonas	940-391-9991c
Newsletter (The "VOICE") . . . . .	Pauline Lesch	214-212-9417
Parliamentarian . . . . .	Dianne Helms	940-368-0007
Political Action (PAC Treasurer) . .	Marci Gilbert	940-634-3733
Public Relations. . . . .	Pauline Lesch	214-212-9417
Communications . . . . .	Susan Schaub	214-289-8123
Ways & Means (VP Fundraising) . .	Alicia Barker	817-673-1561

### MAKE AN IMPACT!

Put your talents to work! Find out how you can help us make an impact in 2021.

Call me to talk about what interests you! President

**Kerri Kingsbery**

**214-681-9916c**

[kerri@kingsbery.com](mailto:kerri@kingsbery.com)

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

#### August

5 – Thursday, 5:15pm Executive Committee Meeting  
7:00pm General Membership Meeting  
First Christian Church Fellowship Hall,  
Gainesville

**24 – Tuesday, 6-8pm, End-of-Summer MIXER!**  
**Firelight Vineyards, Valley View Square**  
**See details on Page 3! Invite your friends!**

#### September

2 – Thursday, 5:15pm Executive Committee Meeting  
7:00pm General Membership Meeting  
First Christian Church Fellowship Hall,  
Gainesville

#### October

7 – Thursday, 5:15pm Executive Committee Meeting  
7:00pm General Membership Meeting  
First Christian Church Fellowship Hall

**September 23-26 Orlando, Florida**  
**CONVENTION of the NATIONAL FEDERATION**  
**OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN**

**October 13-16 Round Rock, Texas**  
**CONVENTION of the TEXAS FEDERATION OF**  
**REPUBLICAN WOMEN**

Follow **Cooke County Republican Women** on Facebook!  
Find **CCRW** on the **County Party website**  
[www.cookegop.com/ccrw](http://www.cookegop.com/ccrw).

If you get the VOICE by U. S. mail, and would prefer to receive it in color via email, please contact Pauline Lesch  
[plesch@ntin.net](mailto:plesch@ntin.net) Call or text 214-212-9417

### Cooke County Elected Officials effective 01-01-2021--

County Judge Steve Starnes (*eff. 1/25/2021*)  
[steve.starnes@co.cooke.tx.us](mailto:steve.starnes@co.cooke.tx.us) 668-5435

Commissioner Precinct 1 Gary Hollowell (R)  
[gary.hollowell@co.cooke.tx.us](mailto:gary.hollowell@co.cooke.tx.us) 668-5481

Commissioner Precinct 2 Jason M. Snuggs (R)  
[jason.snuggs@co.cooke.tx.us](mailto:jason.snuggs@co.cooke.tx.us) 668-5482

Commissioner Precinct 3 Adam P. Arendt (R)  
[adam.arendt@co.cooke.tx.us](mailto:adam.arendt@co.cooke.tx.us) 668-5483

Commissioner Precinct 4 Leon Klement (R)  
[leon.klement@co.cooke.tx.us](mailto:leon.klement@co.cooke.tx.us) 668-5484

County Court at Law Judge John Morris (R) 668-5461

County Attorney Ed Zielinski (R) 668-5459

County Treasurer Patty Brennan (R) 668-5424

County Clerk Pam Harrison (R) 668-5420

Tax Assessor-Collector Brandy Ann Carr (R) 668-5425

County Sheriff Ray Sappington (R) 665-3471

*Justice of the Peace:*

JP Precinct #1 John J. "Jody" Henry (R) 668-5463

JP Precinct #2 Carroll Johnson (\$) 668-5510

*Constable:*

JP Precinct #1 Mark Westbrook (R) 668-5523

JP Precinct #2 Chuck Owen (R) 668-5523

*235<sup>th</sup> Judicial District:*

District Judge Janelle Haverkamp (R) 668-5401

District Attorney John Warren (R) 668-5466

District Clerk Marci Gilbert (R) 668-5450

CCRP Headquarters: *Answering Machine:* 665-8683



**NEW Members, starting August 1, pay discounted rate of \$25 for the balance of the calendar year!**

## **Cooke County Republican Women**

### **2021 Membership Application & Yearbook Information**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Check if New Member \_\_\_\_\_ or Renewing Member \_\_\_\_\_  
(Renewals are due by March 1, 2021, per Bylaws.)

**Republican Women:** Check if \_\_\_\_\_ Active Member or \_\_\_\_\_ Active/Supporting Member

**2021 Dues: \$35.00** Cash: \_\_\_\_\_ or Check # \_\_\_\_\_ (personal checks only)

\$35 includes membership in CCRW (\$10); Texas Federation of Republican Women (\$5); National Federation of Republican Women (\$20)

**PLEASE PRINT & COMPLETE ALL ITEMS:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: "The Republican Women's VOICE", the club's newsletter, will be emailed around the end of each month.

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Ph# \_\_\_\_\_ H W C Alternate Ph# (if any) \_\_\_\_\_ H W C  
Circle letters to identify type of phone: H = Home; W = Work; C = Cellular

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ (required for PAC reporting to Texas Ethics Commission)

Optional: Spouse Name \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

**Associate Members:** *Republican men, and women who are members of other TFRW clubs, are eligible to join CCRW as Associate Members.*

**Associate Dues: \$15.00** Cash: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or Check # \_\_\_\_\_

**Please fill out the above contact information, including occupation.**

Make check payable to: Cooke County Republican Women

Mail to: Jennifer Jonas  
1088 CR 219  
Gainesville, TX 76240



For additional information,  
contact Vice President-Membership, Jennifer Jonas, 940-391-9991, jenjonas@icloud.com

Pol. adv. paid for by Cooke County Republican Women PAC. Not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes.

**Personal checks only: Corporate contributions are prohibited.**