



June 16, 2020

June Meeting

By Betty Fisher and Judy True



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Once members had greeted old friends and were settled with a beverage, President Betty Fisher welcomed all to our "Ladies Night Out," our first RWH outing since March and the onset of COVID 19.

Past President Martha Zoller was recognized and thanked as the sponsor for the evening. Zoller then gave the invocation and Joyce Fleming led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Fisher introduced new members Charlene DeWitt and Mindy Liggett. The following guests were introduced: Faith Valentine (guest of Stacy Thigpen), Sidney Hencil of Zimbabwe (guest of Martha Zoller), and Debbie Caston (guest of Darla Eden).

Guest Sidney Hencil was asked to give her impressions of the United States. She noted that it was just like the "movies" and she thought that Gainesville (people and city) were wonderful. Sidney is attending Brenau University.

The primary business for the meeting was the election of a new Communications Secretary to replace Betty Chambers who had retired from the position. Zoller nominated Olga Fuentes, the motion was seconded and passed unanimously. [picture on pg. 8]

General discussion followed during which attendees addressed the recent primary election and the problems encountered. Zoller responded to questions regarding the process.

During closing remarks, Fisher shared dates she would be out of town but readily available by all communications means. She also noted her progress with an impending residential move.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned for dinner and a group picture with President Trump. (pp. 7, 8)

[Above photo: First RWH President and meeting sponsor Martha Zoller.]

Club Leadership

2020 - 2021 OFFICERS

President — Betty Fisher
 Vice President — Dottie Krull
 Recording Secretary — Ivy Martin
 Communications Secretary — Olga Fuentes
 Treasurer — Stacy Thigpen
 Assistant Treasurer — Judy True
 Past President — Theresa Webb

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Awards — Rosemary Smith
 Bylaws — Dottie Krull
 Campaign — [open]
 Caring for America & Programs — Dottie Krull
 Communications — Olga Fuentes
 Events — Stacy Thigpen
 Fundraising — Martha Zoller
 Hospitality — Lydia Girolami
 Membership — Judy True
 Publications — Judy True

WEBSITE/FACEBOOK

Greg Cruce, Venn Marketing



RWH CALENDAR

TBA	Annual GOP/RWH Picnic, Gainesville City Park.
Aug. 29	Coffee General Meeting Modified Education Forum Location TBA
Sept. 11-12	GFRW Board Meeting. Jekyll Island.
Sept. 19	Coffee General Meeting Ramping up for the Rally Location TBA
Sept./Oct. Date TBA	Keep America Great Rally

RWH is currently on "summer vacation." until
 General Meetings and RWH events are resumed as
 scheduled above.



Mindy Liggett



Charlene DeWitt

Welcome New Members

Charlene DeWitt
Bill DeWitt
Mindy Liggett
Seanie Zappendorf



RWH has a new email address: RWHPresident@gmail.com

President's Message

Is anything the same? This new age, new world, new America, new Georgia, new Hall County, new Gainesville.

What happened to our lives? What happened to the previous lives we had? We thought at times it was pretty tough. In retrospect it was a "piece of cake". We had an RWH meeting scheduled at The Phoenix at Lake Lanier where we visited with friends old and new, caught up on the election campaign and had a great breakfast fellowship. We went off to spend Saturday afternoon enjoying shopping, fun on the lake and dinner out with friends. Church on Sunday, cutting grass, reading books, visiting family... that was the good old days before CoVID19 struck followed by protests, riots, chaos.

COVID19 -- some have lost friends, family members. Others, like myself, know of no one who has contracted the disease. The Social Distancing (SD), 6' apart, mask, will I or won't I wear one? (Only where it is requested, my personal choice.) You are aware while at the grocery store or out to the pizzeria, to stay away from others. No hugging (heaven help us if we hug someone now). Definitely no shaking hands, elbow touch only - please! I just made my first reservation ever to go to church Sunday, June 28th. Pick your service, location, what seats are available (SD). Praise the Lord, it's my first time back in the Sanctuary. I want to kneel at God's Altar and just pray. Only God can carry us through.



New Town Florist rally meeting in Gainesville. *Gainesville Times*.

The protests are a whole other story. Yes, Black Lives Matter, as do White Lives, all Lives, young and old. Ron and I attended a recent meeting on the grassy knoll next to CVS downtown Gainesville. The meeting was led by New Towne Florist and we were there to support our Sheriff, Gerald Couch, who was a speaker. We were in the minority. Did we feel threatened, insecure? "No." We were fist pumping with all, listening, observing, talking. It was a good experience for us. Other attendees recognized that we were there to support, not to protest. Change is needed, peaceful change. Not just talked about, but put into action.

Where does this leave RWH? What part do we have in this changing world? Something to think about over our "Summer Break". Let's talk, send me your thoughts. We want to be the "club" of action - don't we?

Betty

Betty Freeman Fisher
President, Republican Women of Hall

RWH has a new email address: RWHPresident@gmail.com

news briefs

New Online NFRW Campaign Volunteer Reporting Survey

Each year, NFRW members like you contribute millions of campaign volunteer hours. Whether it's making calls, hosting events, knocking doors or putting together yard signs, our members play a critical role in helping elect Republican candidates across the country.

NFRW already is playing a vital role in competitive races this election cycle. In special elections in California and Wisconsin last month, NFRW members were responsible for over 65,000 calls and texts. Our efforts helped Republican Mike Garcia flip a seat in California for the first time since the 1990s!

Now, you have a tool to make it easier to keep track of all of your hard work. The NFRW Campaign Committee is introducing a new, nationwide tracking system that allows each individual NFRW member to log campaign volunteer hours. No more hand writing and tallying hours. You can use "Survey Monkey" to quickly and easily submit your hours online using this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NFRWCampCom>

You're putting in the hard work; it's time to make sure it is counted! By submitting your hours you'll become eligible to be recognized for prizes and awards. Most importantly, together, we'll help show President Trump and Republican leaders that the NFRW is THE most effective Republican grassroots organization in the nation!



NFRW President Calls Members to Action

NFRW President **Ann Schockett** responded to the #DefundPolice movement with a strongly worded video statement affirming that defunding the police would lead to lawlessness and chaos.

"Rational leaders support making law enforcement more efficient, better trained and more responsive to the needs of all communities," Schockett stated. "Rational Americans are horrified by any law enforcement officer who willfully endangers people and violates the oath of office. And, they're horrified by anyone willfully endangering our police. They understand that decimating law enforcement agencies only jeopardizes the public safety and those sworn to protect."

Schockett continued, "Those who violate the public trust will be held accountable and made an example of. Let's not defund police. Let's defend good policing."



RWH Website and Facebook Page

Watch for emails announcing the "unveiling" of our new look. Greg Cruce, (*Venn Marketing.*)

WOMEN'S ENGAGEMENT WORKSHOP



June 12, 2020. The Georgia Federation of Republican Women supported the Republican National Committee's efforts for women's engagement through a June 12 ZOOM conference. Kiera Wainer from the RNC introduced workshop leader Bailey Hill who presented the Georgia Trump Victory workshop for GFRW members who Zoomed in. Approximately 30 participants reviewed and discussed the slide presentation which included goals of the program, an overview of women's prosperity under Trump, and a detailed procedure for making voter contacts, and setting up phone banks and neighborhood teams. Afterwards, questions and discussion were invited from the audience. RWH participants included: Betty Fisher, Judy True, and Ron Winkowski.



Workshop Leader:
Bailey Hill from the GA
Trump Victory Team

IN MEMORY OF BILL KOKALY



Bill Kokaly was the Senior Field Representative for Doug Collins in Georgia's 9th Congressional District – and a friend of many of us throughout North Georgia. An Air Force veteran, Bill was often the face of the Congressional office when Congressman Collins has been in Washington. Bill was a frequent friendly face at events of the Republican Women of Hall.

YOUR FEDERATION MEMBERSHIP

- Remember, when you join RWH, you also become a member of GFRW and NFRW. Please make your \$35 checks to Republican Women of Hall. (Add \$16 to your check should you wish a nametag.)
- Mail check to Stacy Thigpen, 5231 Laurel Ln., Gainesville GA 30506. (Associate members \$15) Of your \$35 membership fee, \$7 goes to GFRW and \$20 to NFRW for memberships. Thank you!

COMPUTER CUES

- **To enlarge a page for easier reading.** Go to the toolbar at the top of the screen. Click on "view" and select 100%. (Or click on the down symbol [V] to further increase the viewing size.)
- **To print a page from this newsletter.** Right click on the page. Select the page from the "Print Range" i.e. "current page." Finally, click on the OK button in the lower right hand corner of the screen to send the page to your printer.



May Meeting COVID 19 Forum



By Ivy Martin, Recording Secretary

President Betty Fisher welcomed members and friends as they chimed in to the May Meeting Forum, setting a relaxed atmosphere for the informative and active discussion to follow. After the opening activities of invocation and pledge of allegiance, she noted that Kay Blackstock was unable to attend but sent information Fisher shared with the viewers.

Vice President Dottie Krull asked if children are still being taken into care during this time? Sartain replied yes, noting that it was usually in a domestic violence response situation.

Art Gallegos, President of Latinos Conservative Organization

Fisher then introduced the following speakers for information they wanted to share related to affects of COVID 19 on their specific areas, followed by questions from the audience.

Gallegos explained how they had worked to engage the Latino community, through churches, parents,

Judy Sartain, Family Law Attorney

Sartain works with DEFAX foster care parents and children in the Hall/Dawson Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Program, and gave insight on how the COVID-19 Pandemic has affected these families. She expressed the need for Spanish speaking and African American foster homes and CASA workers. Because there are not enough foster families in Hall County, children are being placed in Brunswick, Albany, and elsewhere. She also noted that since there can be no face to face with the case workers or CASA workers, they must rely on virtual means, which has been difficult for young children who don't understand why they can't see mom or dad. In addition, referrals were down 60% because the safe haven of school has been taken away and children are no longer surrounded by mandatory reporters (teachers, bus drivers, etc). Because of this, there is a fear that child neglect and abuse is on the rise. She closed by saying that unfortunately the June fundraiser was going to be cancelled, but they still need monetary donations and hard goods such as blankets, clothing, items for teenagers, and swimwear.

- **Update on the Latino Community**
- **General Health of Hall County, Nursing Homes**
- **Opening of Small Businesses**
- **Children and the Court System**
- **Religious Status of County, Church Openings**

schools, businesses, and politics. When the Corona virus hit, the Latino community in Hall County was greatly impacted. In response, Gallegos was invited to join a task force to bring awareness, training, information, and resources to the community. He explained that Latino families are a close-knit community living together with many people, and when people go outside their work and interact with others unprotected it only accelerates the spread of the virus. Gallegos continued to share how the task force was working to provide masks, posters, and other resources to educate, in addition to translating these resources.

Fisher asked about Latinos working in poultry plants from other counties and transmission at home. How is communication coordinated across counties? Gallegos responded by reiterating the idea that resources were being distributed, mentioned on Spanish television networks, etc.

Assistant Treasurer Judy True asked if out-of-county workers who are tested in Hall contribute to Hall county numbers or the county they are from? Gallegos was unsure of the answer, but Martha Zoller said it depended on the address they gave at the time of testing.

Continued on next page

Dr. Hank Lewis. Doctor and Resident Physician for two local nursing homes.

Dr. Lewis began by expressing that, as a physician, it had been an amazing experience to read and learn about each day. According to Lewis, the past couple of months have been an explosion of innovation and a curving of regulation by the republican administration; and he thought that a look at regulation reform to promote medical advances would help us rebound economically. Lewis then shared some statistics about the disease prevalence and focused on the fact that the younger population had been relatively unaffected.

Lewis then discussed the differences between red state and blue state reactions to opening up and how that would affect schools and sports in the Fall. He mentioned a study conducted by Major League Baseball regarding a "spit test" that had been just as effective as a nasal swab test, and said that they were looking at other forms of testing for nursing homes as well. Lewis noted that 1/3 of all deaths in the U.S. and 48% of deaths in Georgia had been from nursing homes. He then discussed the Governor's measures to improve infection control in nursing homes.

Charlene Dewitt commented on the loneliness of nursing home residents who have been quarantined with no visitors for extended periods of time and asked what can be done to improve their conditions?

Lewis said there needed to be adequate testing and infection rates needed to go down before they are going to be able to fully reopen. He mentioned that they are trying to innovate with virtual means like Facetime and Zoom.

Ashley Bell. Lawyer and Regional Administrator to the Small Business Association.

Bell gave insights on the work the SBA office is doing to get resources to impoverished areas. He also said that the President will have a major policy announcement on June 3rd and that would be when the real debate would start.

Bell said that the White House is focused on the next steps to reopening and helping the economy be lifted from this pandemic. He also noted that there would be discussions on Friday about where to hold the Republican National Convention and said Georgia could be an option. He said they see momentum building and talked about Governor Kemp's risk having paid off by opening at the time he did.

Winkowski asked if 25 billion dollars was enough funding? Bell responded that the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EDIL) Program needs more funding, as it allows people who need it during hard times such as these to get a loan at a good rate. He also brought up the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and said they were able to turn it over to the banks to facilitate lending. Bell described how relying on the private sector helped remove government hold ups and get money out the door quickly to people who need it.

Fisher asked if the President was healthy? Bell said that while [Trump] was still himself and cracking jokes like usual, he was definitely cautious and preoccupied with COVID-19 and the safety of the American people. He then asked for prayers for the President since he has a big burden and responsibility.

Dr. Tom Smiley, Head pastor for Lakewood Baptist Church.

Smiley talked about how the COVID-19 Pandemic had affected churches in the area and explained that "no one-size fits all." He cautioned us to be careful not to compare church to church because everyone will go back differently, especially depending on size. He said new regulations had dropped sanctuary capacity and explained how it was difficult to have multiple services due to the energy of the speaker, as well as the cleaning procedures needed in between.

Smiley described the struggles in figuring out when to open as well as the differing opinions of people from extroverts, to introverts, old, young, those who lean heavily on medical professionals, and those who lean on the word of the government. He said there are many questions you have to consider

such as: are you going to take temperatures, require masks, allow singing, etc.? He also talked about the issues with children gathering and how it would be difficult to keep them six feet apart with masks on. He said the Pandemic will have lasting changes for the next decade as people have gotten more comfortable with relaxed services. Smiley closed, describing that they have a phased plan at Lakewood, but the problem is how to choose who to have come in each phase.

Zoller commented on her daughter's wedding and she had conversations about the concerns of opening up. She said that a lot of people are older and are worried about reopening.

Smiley responded by saying that we will not be coming back to where we were twelve weeks ago (ex: not hugging, and kissing and shaking hands).

Sartain asked how older congregations are adapting to online church? Smiley said they've been absolutely amazing and receptive. He was very surprised. He said there are more older, feeble people living alone who have a little difficulty however.

Lewis asked about communion in a no-contact world? Smiley said they've had the Lord's Supper with prepackaged communion cups that they had out for people to come pickup and for the online service.

Smiley also mentioned that pastoral care has been hard because the hospitals are shut down. He said he hasn't been in the parking lot for about 10 weeks.

Smiley then asked Zoller about the DOJ dropping the case on Kelly Loeffler and if it helps or hurts her. She replied that some damage was done, but in the end she believed this would help Senator Loeffler. Zoller explained that six months is a long time in politics and it will be interesting when people see the special election ballot with 25 people on it.

ADJOURN.

Following the active conversation surrounding the panel discussion, there was no further business and Fisher ended the meeting.



**Welcome New
Communications Secretary**

Hospitality Chairman Lydia Girolami welcomes Olga Fuentes, newly elected Communications Secretary. Olga will handle correspondence with members and delivery of newsletters and announcements.





Girls Night Out



Emails in an Election Year

By Rick Davies

IBM Senior Consulting Engineer



Email has quickly become the fastest way of disseminating information to the largest number of people at one time. As we enter a busy political year, such as the years where we elect our new president, email becomes an even more vital pipeline of information sharing. As such, the power of email is incredible and, when used properly, can help keep friends and family in the know about your candidate's political actions, achievements, and accomplishments.

To become a proficient email information disseminator, there are a few "rules" that you should become familiar with when sending out email to friends and family:

1. **Be brief.** The more words you write, the more often people will term your email "TLDR" (Too long; Didn't Read).
2. **Be informative.** Get right to the point in as short a time as possible.
3. **Be credible.** Make sure the information you send out is correct and from a trustworthy source. (More on this in the next section.)

Make sure to honor people's requests to **not** be included in future emails. Many of us have friends and family who do not follow politics, baseball, ballet, NASCAR, or whatever topic you may be emailing them. If someone wishes to not be contacted, please remove them from future mailings and purge them from your lists immediately.

Since I am heavily invested in politics, I will give pointers and tips for the remainder of this article

from a political perspective. As I stated in Number 3 above, in order to maintain credibility, you must first establish your credibility. There are several ways to do this. You should **never** blindly forward information you receive on a certain topic, until you have deemed it credible from a trustworthy source. For example, there are several websites dedicated to helping you determine if the email you just received—asking for every man, woman, and child who reads it, to send a postcard to a child dealing with cancer—is legitimate. (Such emails are usually not true).

- *Snopes.com* and *TruthorFiction.com* are great resources to check if an email chain letter is, in fact, true.
- Look on the major news sites: *CNN.com*, *FOXnews.com*, *BBC.co.uk*. Don't be afraid to look at major news outlets in other countries, especially when it comes to political articles or information you have received that may be inflammatory or damaging.
- Contact your elected officials or look on their websites, if you are forwarding information about them and something they have been lauded for or accused of doing.
- As the Internet becomes more ingrained in our lives, another site that can be useful, although still needs to be verified itself, is *wikipedia.org*. For any specific topic there are usually sources posted at the bottom of the page or in an article you are reading. Click on these links and investigate the sources. If something is not cited properly, then, most likely, the information is false.

- Contact your local political parties as they are usually on top of any political developments or have close ties to the community or area in which these issues are occurring.

It is of paramount importance that we all strive to inform our friends, neighbors, and relatives of information that may be critical to them; but, we must strive even more to make sure that the information we do send out with our names signed on it is valid and factual. As my mother once told me, "It takes years to build credibility and trust - and seconds to destroy it."

Rick Davies has been employed as a Senior Consulting Engineer with IBM for 17 years. He works with Fortune 500 companies around the world to help them understand and implement technology needed to run their businesses as efficiently and cost effectively as possible. Davies holds several IBM, Microsoft, and Red Hat certifications, as well as an Open Group Master I/T Specialist Certification. He is Vice Chairman of Communications for the Cherokee County Georgia Republican Party.

The article above is a resource from **WINNING WAYS**, a 2016 election guide prepared by the Publications Committee of the Georgia Federation of Republican Women. As RWH revs back up this fall with the Keep America Great Rally, members and friends are encouraged to be looking ahead to how to increase membership at this vital time.

Be very careful with forwarding and "reply all." Think before sending!

Deborah O'Connor



Republican Women of Hall

Membership Application

You are cordially invited to join the Republican Women of Hall. And . . . **please bring your friends!**

Regular meetings are held according to an announced schedule. Meeting dates and locations are announced via email, Facebook and on the website at rwhall.org.

Annual Membership Levels — Check one of the following:

- \$35** Individual membership for women **\$51** with a badge)
 \$15 Individual non-voting membership for men
 \$15 Individual non-voting membership for women who are members of another Federated Club (\$31 with a badge)

Membership Badge Order

If ordering a membership badge, please provide the name as you want it to appear on the badge:

Name _____

If ordering a badge, add \$16 to your membership check made to REPUBLICAN WOMEN OF HALL

Dues are collected at meetings or mailed to:

Stacy Thigpen, 5231 Laurel Ln., Gainesville, GA 30506

Complete the following member information.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

E-mail address: _____

Preferred phone number: _____

Membership lists and contact information are not given to any other organization or nonmember.

We **need** active committees and will welcome your participation. Please check those of interest to you.

(Committees listed in order of need)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Program | <input type="checkbox"/> 6. Fundraising |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> 7. Publicity & PR |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Hospitality | <input type="checkbox"/> 8. Achievement/Awards |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Campaign | <input type="checkbox"/> 9. Communications |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Bylaws | |

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Date Received: _____ Check # _____ By Hand: _____ By Mail: _____

Date of Deposit: _____