

August Meeting



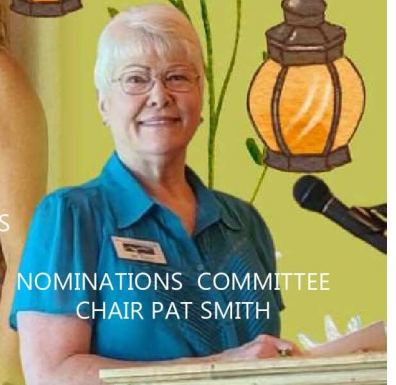
MARY LOU GERVIE
INTERIM TREASURER



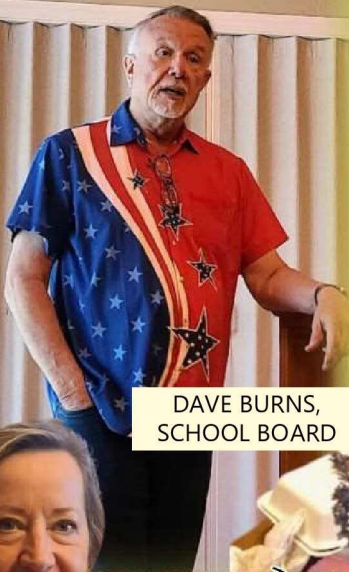
GUEST SPEAKER
BRENDA SANQUIST,
FOUNDER/EXE.
DIRECTOR, XQUISITE



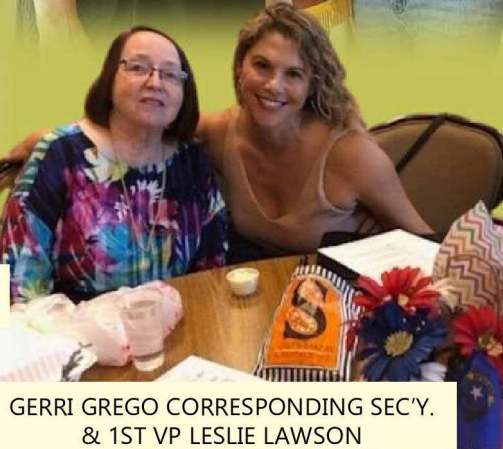
LESLIE LAWSON,
1ST VP, PROGRAMS



NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE
CHAIR PAT SMITH



DAVE BURNS,
SCHOOL BOARD



GERRI GREGO CORRESPONDING SEC'Y.
& 1ST VP LESLIE LAWSON



JANN FARGNOLI,
RECORDING SEC'Y

Welcome Visitors!



MEMBERSHIP CHAIR ANITA KORNOFF.
WELCOMES VISITORS AT THE MEETING

PHOTOS COURTESY OF DONNA SCHEHL

Sierra Nevada Republican Women General Membership Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, August 9, 2023, COD Casino, Minden

The doors opened at 11:30 a.m. on August 9 for the General Membership Meeting to a display of red, white, and blue décor on every table, cookies and gallons of beverages prepared by the SNRW Membership Committee. Cheers to Charlene Close, Judy Bergandi, and Gerri Grego for a lovely welcoming scene.

Our club President Natalie Yanish was absent due to recent surgery. 1st VP of Programs, Leslie Lawson called the meeting to order at noon and asked Charlene Close to do a prayer. Sally Grant led the Pledge of Allegiance. Leslie introduced visiting dignitaries, Shawnyne Garren, City Recorder, David Burns, Douglas County School Board Trustee, and Jim McKalip, Douglas County Republican Central Committee Chairman.

Dave Burns was given an opportunity to speak briefly from the floor about the outburst of criticism from citizens attending the recent School Board Meeting.

Leslie introduced the guest speaker, Brenda Sandquist, founder and executive director of Xquisite, a nonprofit, established in 2012, specifically designed to walk alongside victims of human trafficking, sexual assault, and domestic violence. They strive to bring them from a place of exploitation, and help in moving toward a new life with a supportive and non-judgmental circle of caring people.

Brenda's non-profit Xquisite has expanded to establish the *Diamond Strong Freedom Center* located at 310 N. Steward Street, Carson City, 89703. The Drop-In hours at the center are from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Xquisite has a 24-hour hotline 775-434-7255 to receive calls or text messages. Brenda shared a first-hand view of the victims of sexual exploitation having worked to offer them support for over 30 years. She currently has a case-load of over 200 victims, many are referred by Juvenile Probation Department and Law Enforcement because they are underage, and the abuse was reported.

Brenda presented an overview of what is happening in Carson City and across the state. She noted

that Nevada is the only state with legalized prostitution and she would like to see that end. Nevada is #2 in sex trafficking in the USA. When asked her for comment on the movie SOUND OF FREEDOM she stated that the movie depicted what happened in South America and is not the same situation as in our country. Brenda reported that Diamond Strong Freedom Center offers ALL Client services that are free, confidential, and nonjudgmental with no strings attached.

Leslie announced the September 13th meeting guest speaker is Assemblyman Ken Gray.

2nd VP Membership Anita Kornoff reported a total of 68 paid members and 44 paid associate members and welcomed the six people visiting the meeting.

Leslie reported her experience volunteering at the Republican information booth at Minden Farmers Market had been positive. She urged other club members to volunteer for shifts there to help get voters registered, invite people to our meetings, and encourage participation in the coming elections.

Leslie introduced our interim Treasurer, Mary Lou Gervie. She is a professional auditor and accountant. Mary Lou stated she would only be filling in until January, and a new treasurer must be recruited to take the position. Pat Smith is Chairperson of the Nominating Committee along with members Anita Kornoff, Sondra Condrón, Charlene Close, and Judy Bergandi. She invited anyone else interested in serving on the committee to let her know.

Leslie called for a motion to approve the July 12 SNRW Minutes. Roseann Palmer made the motion and the minutes were approved as written.

Committee Chair Jann Fagnoli gave an update on the next Entrepreneur of the Year Award. The guidelines for submitting nominations for the Republican Female Entrepreneur of the Year award will be emailed to all members, and posted on the SNRW website (sierranevadarepublicanwomen.com). You may also contact Jann for a Nomination Form or to ask questions at 775-781-0267. September 15 is the

(continued next page)



Note from Central Committee Chairman James McKalip

I had chance to speak to the Governor several weeks ago. He loved that we're getting started with Precinct Organization, and working towards the elections next year. There is a lot to do, but nothing we can't accomplish.

I want to remind everybody that I'm at headquarters every Friday except when we have a state meeting. That is the time I set aside for you to speak me one-on-one about whatever is on your mind. I'm in the office from 11 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

Come by, that time is for you,

James

August Meeting Minutes *(continued)*

date to begin nominating candidates and January 15, 2024, is the deadline to submit them. All Nominees will be invited to SNRW's February 14, 2024, General Meeting, when the winner of the award will be announced. Ansie Scossa is Co-Chair for the Entrepreneur of the Year Awards, and her phone is 775-450-8545.

Past President Sondra Condrón explained that the SNRW is the only Republican Women's Club in Douglas County that is a Political Action Committee (PAC). That means we are qualified to raise funds to educate the community and support Republican candidates. The SNRW made the decision to become a PAC when the club was formed years ago. Ever since then all proceeds we collect go toward getting responsible Republicans elected to office rather than donating the money to non-partisan community charities as many other Republican Women's clubs do.

Jim McKalip, Chairman of the Douglas County Republican Central Committee reported they are in the process of deciding whether to hold a Caucus or Primary to choose candidates and that they may possibly do both.

The meeting adjourned at 1:01 p.m.

Jann Fargnoli, Recording Secretary

FUN AMERICAN FLAG FACTS:

The history of the U.S. flag is almost as multifaceted as the people it represents. The Stars and Stripes have frequently changed as the country's borders have expanded and new union states are added.

Here we present the beginning of six facts that pull together the threads of the flag's 250-year history, including its creation, its symbolism, and where we'll eventually have to squeeze that 51st star.



NO, BETSY DIDN'T!

The most enduring myth about the origin of the U.S. flag is that Betsy Ross, an American upholsterer living in Philadelphia during the Revolutionary War, created the first flag at the behest of George Washington. Historians aren't sure that ever happened. The source for Ross' involvement came from her own family, nearly a century after the flag's creation. Apart from her descendant's account, no evidence suggests that Ross sewed the first flag.

Some historians think Francis Hopkinson, a signer of the Declaration of Independence and designer of other seals for U.S. government agencies is likely the first flag's creator. Evidence exists that Hopkinson sought payment for the design of the "flag of the United States of America" (he thought a "Quarter Cask of the Public Wine" ought to do it). Although Congress denied Hopkinson payment, they approved his flag on June 14, 1777 (celebrated today as Flag Day).

Thankfully, historians now generally give Hopkinson the vexillological accolades he deserves.

Source:interestingfacts.com

(more about our flag in future issues)

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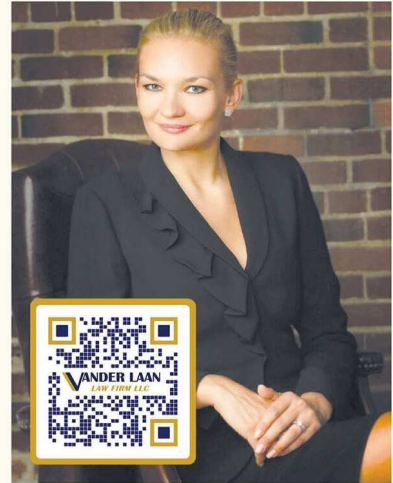
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