



## President's Message

*Hello Members!*



A New Year is upon us and off to a promising start. President Trump is turning the corner with a great first year. Among his many accomplishments are the confirmation of Neil Gorsuch to the US Supreme Court; the roll-back of many onerous regulations that strangled the economy and the best Christmas gift ever, the tax-cut bill approved by Congress.

Being an election year, BHRW will focus on getting Republicans elected and supporting ballot measures that forward conservative principles. Every meeting will include a standing slot for "Meet the Candidates". Secretary of State Dennis Richardson's comprehensive audits showcase progress on his promise for transparency, accountability and restoring public trust in Oregon government. Just think what we can do with more Republicans in the Legislature to help him!

Thanks to everyone who filled out our 2018 questionnaire. We got great feedback for speakers/topics, activities in addition to our luncheons, fundraising and recruiting. The committee chairs are already integrating these ideas into their 2018 plans. Keep sending your ideas our way. BHRW is your club. We want you to be excited and energized by all that we do.

Here's to making 2018 the best year ever!

*Melissa*

## BHRW News

### ☆ BHRW Christmas Meeting

Member Gail Wilhelm hosted our December 14 meeting and Christmas Party. About 35 members attended - perhaps a record! Sue Zike conducted a short business meeting and Linda Neace, 2018 OFRW President, inducted the 2018 BHRW Officers.

We enjoyed a delicious potluck lunch of assorted salads and desserts. Members donated goods for the Veteran's and Family Center and our new charity, Saving Grace Maternity Home. The members thanked Sue Zike for her three years of leadership and inspiration. The gift exchange ensued. All in all a very enjoyable afternoon. Thank you, Gail, for hosting this and the other 14 enjoyable holiday meetings at your home! *Please see photographs of the event on the last page.*

### ☆ January BHRW Lunch Meeting

Immediate Past President Sue Zike led the January 18 meeting since 2018 President Melissa Laird was "down under" visiting her daughter and family and 1st VP Juanita Lint took a long deserved vacation.

Bruce Starr, iCitizen Vice President of Government Relations and former State Senator and State Representative, spoke. He discussed what Oregon Republicans need to do to get Republicans elected in our state. Jerry Willey, former Mayor of Hillsboro, who is running for Washing-



ton County Commissioner also spoke. For information on Jerry Willey's campaign, [click here](#). In addition, Cindy Sorum from Saving Grace Maternity Home, joined us and spoke briefly about Saving Grace. For information on the home, [click here](#).

### ☆ February BHRW Lunch Meeting

2018 President Melissa Laird led the February meeting. She gave a brief introduction of her background and experience including her positions at Intel and interests, such as the Humane Society.

First VP Juanita Lint explained that, because this is an election year, she will be offering Republican candidates an opportunity speak at our luncheon meeting every month. This month Commissioner Bob Terry, running for Washington County Commissioner at Large, spoke briefly about his experience and successes during his years as Commissioner.

Johnni Olson from Union Mission Gospel Women's Lifechange spoke at the luncheon. She explained briefly how the Beaverton center operates and introduced an engaging participant in the program. The heart warming presentation reflected the hope and commitment of struggling women and their children who participate in Life-



Change For information on UMG Lifechange [click here](#).

Elaine Woods, BHRW Legislative Chair, reviewed important bills under consideration at the Legislature during the February short session. Key bills were Cap and Trade (SB1507, HB 4001), small business tax (SB1528), National Popular Vote (SB1512), and constitutional amendment making health care a right (HJR203). For outcome of individual bills [click here](#)

### BHRW Member Spotlight

**Elizabeth Fischer** holds the title of the longest membership in BHRW (formerly Beaverton/West Slope Republican Women). She became a member in 1962. At her Naturalization ceremony, Mary Lou Lord of Beaverton/West Slope Republican Women offered Elizabeth tea and cookies and a membership application. She accepted the invitation to join and attended the next meeting. The photo of young Elizabeth shows another Republican woman and dear friend of Elizabeth, the late Eva Feher.



The second picture is a group of former Beaverton/West Slope Republican Women in 1966-67. Included in the photos are the late Doris Thorn, Lucille Purcell, and Elizabeth's mother.



Elizabeth was born in Budapest where she experienced the hardships of WWII as well as the struggles of living under communist rule. These experiences have shaped her life-long political views. In 1956, having just finished technical school and course work to be an optometrist, she had little over 2 weeks to flee during the Hungarian Revolution (October 23 - November 10) when the Soviets were unable to guard the borders. She escaped into Austria, secured a visa from the American embassy, journeyed to New Jersey and finally to Oregon. A local family offered her respite and Elizabeth soon found employment at Tektronics. She married Don Fischer in 1961 who fully



appreciated her fine culinary skills. The Fischers owned and operated an auto wrecking yard, built their own home, and maintained a large garden on their property to help feed themselves. Until children Elizabeth never hesitated to accompany her husband

on a late night run to clear a wreck or assist a stranded driver. In 1968, Elizabeth brought her mother, Margit Revowzi, to the US to live with them. Her mother became a club member when she arrived and a US citizen five years later. Elizabeth's late

brother emigrated to Vancouver BC but her other brother and sister stayed in Hungary. All are now deceased. She has been back several times with Don and their children and grandchildren and visited a Dutch family who took her in briefly directly after the end of WWII. Sadly, after a 20-year struggle with heart complications, Don passed away in 1997.

Over the years, Elizabeth kept very busy taking care of Don and their three sons, Mark, Tom and Greg. Today there are 6 grandchildren, soon to be seven when Dr. Greg Fischer is married this spring. All live near-by - the furthest living in Newberg. Elizabeth financially helps her grandchildren attend college - all in Oregon.

Elizabeth remains an active supporter of Republicans. She is an avid participant of the Dorchester Conference (grandson Matthew attended in 2017). Elizabeth



attended state and national Republican conferences, BHRW meetings and other Republican Women clubs, and Board meetings. Elizabeth served as BHRW President, 1974 and 2009-11, as well as many other Board positions. Candidates always

counted on Elizabeth as a Precinct Committeewoman to telephone voters and go door to door to support candidates. She has been events chair and organized many fund raisers and gatherings including a gathering in her home to meet then gubernatorial candidate Victor Atiyeh. In 1969, with Goldwater as Presidential candidate, she helped organize the Western States Republican Convention that was held in Hawaii. She then took Don on their first trip to Hawaii which became one of their favorite vacation sites. She visits Hawaii every year, even surviving the false incoming missile alert this year.

She graciously hosted the BHRW garage sale for many years - not only opening her garage and house, but providing refreshments to those who came to help and convincing some family members to assist.

When she's not supporting Republican causes, Elizabeth is closely involved with the lives of her family, neighbors and friends. She also volunteers weekly

for Meals-on-Wheels at the Elsie Stuhr Center in Beaverton.

**Gail Wilhelms** has been a member of BHRW (previously Beaverton/West Slope Republican Women) since 1980s. She has held several positions including serving as President in 2009-10. When living in Klamath Falls, Gail served as President of the Klamath City Republican Women in early 1970's. Most recently, BHRW relies on Gail as our Ways and Means Committee organizing our garage sales, our Yearbook editor, generous hostess of 15 of our Christmas meetings, coordinator of the successful Bake No Bake Sale for the Oregon Constitution display case and manager of our new BHRW logo jackets.



Gail is active politically outside BHRW. Her political involvement started in high school. She has been Precinct Committee person for over 40 years, worked four sessions as secretary / Legislative Assistant at the Oregon Legislature, worked part time for the Speaker of the House in Salem and managed the Speaker's PAC in addition to contributing to several campaigns over the years. Gail's commitment to the Dorchester Conference spans 25 years. The photograph documents her role as Dorchester President.



Gail is originally from Edina Minnesota and earned a Bachelors of Art in Education from the University of Montana. She taught in several elementary schools and levels in Washington County starting in 1964 (seen here with students celebrating Chinese New Year). She was on several committees serving the education needs of Washington County schools including Kindergarten Steering Committee, several curriculum committees, CARE and TAG committees as well as outside educational groups. So it is no wonder that she was awarded the 1993 AOI Oregon Educational Excellence Award, the



## BHRW Newsletter Winter 2018

1990 Beaverton Mini Grant for Summer Reading Program and the 1991 KUPL Grant for Summer Program.

As if politics and work did not take all her time and energy, Gail has been and continues to be very active in her churches including All Saints in Portland, Klamath Falls St Pius, St Cecilia's Beaverton and St Juan Diego. She helped with several functions at these churches including religious education, wedding coordinator, and lay minister and pastoral leader.

Gail's hobbies include golf, ancestry, crafts, reading, and traveling – having just returned from her 7th continent, Antarctica.

Gail and her husband, Gary, have been married for 51 years. Gary is an associate BHRW member. He worked for the phone company for 40 years. During that time, he served four sessions as a legislator, the last term as minority leader. He then lobbied for the Republican caucus. When he retired, Gary became a Republican Caucus staffer in Salem and he remains involved with the Capitol Foundation.



While working and volunteering so actively, Gail and Gary raised four great children (and now have four wonderful granddaughters).

Gail has given much of herself to the needs of others and feels God has been good to her. She is thankful for each day He has given her.

### BHRW Membership Meetings:

Our monthly membership meetings are usually on the third Thursday of the month from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at:

Rock Creek Country Club  
5100 NW Neakhanie Ave.  
Portland, OR 97229 (see map)

Lunch is \$20 per person. Please R.S.V.P. by the Friday prior to the meeting to 1st VP Juanita Lint

[juanita@juanitafororegon.com](mailto:juanita@juanitafororegon.com). Our next meetings are March 15 and April 19.

### Upcoming Events

The **March OFRW District 1** meeting is on April 11 at 11:30 at the Multnomah Athletic Club, 1849 SW Salmon St, Portland. Cynthia Kendol, Oregonians for Immigration Reform (OFIR), will present the latest information on Initiative Petition 22 — to keep Oregon free of "Sanctuary Cities." Lunch is \$25. R.S.V.P. to Jutta Allen, RWDP ([juttaallen@comcast.net](mailto:juttaallen@comcast.net)) or 503-294-0010

#### Washington County Republican Party event:

**Loren Spivack** presents his Free Market Warrior Economic Literacy Seminar May 18 & 19. Mr Spivack is a popular author, economist, political activist, and highly sought after speaker on economics and small government. Details TBA

#### BHRW 2018 Garage Sale:

Where: 21005 SW Rosedale Rd, Aloha, OR 97007  
Set up: June 26-27  
Sale: June 28-30  
Clean up: July 1

### For the latest, don't forget:

BHRW Website: [www.BHRWF.org](http://www.BHRWF.org)

BHRW Facebook: [click here](#)

BHRW Twitter: [click here](#)

### 2018 BHRW Officers



#### Left to right:

Sue Zike - Immediate Past President  
Susan Pozdena - Co-2nd VP  
Alison Kettenhofen - Co-2nd VP  
Juanita Lint - 1st VP  
Melissa Laird, - Incoming President

Linda Neace - OFRW Incoming President  
Laurel Regan - Treasurer  
Jill Woodworth - Corresponding Secretary  
Dorothy Merritt - Recording Secretary



## OFRW - Incoming Executive Board 2018-19



*Left to Right -*  
Incoming President Linda Neace  
2nd Vice President Sue Zike  
1st Vice President - Christine Morgan  
Corresponding Secretary Nancy Iannois  
Recording Secretary Suni Danforth  
Treasurer - Laurel Regan  
NFRW 1st Vice President - Becky Johnson

## 2018 Christmas Meeting

