



President's Message

Dear Members,

Wow, what a year!

It's been a tough one, but we did not let COVID hold us down as we had a pretty amazing year considering it all. We were agile in making changes and adjusting as needed to keep meeting and hold on to our traditions. The garage sale, membership social and candidate dinner were all successful. We supported our candidates with our time and donations and celebrated 100 years of women's right to vote. A new Education Committee was created that kept us informed on timely topics such as the Electoral College vs National Popular Vote, Women's Suffrage, the Emancipation Proclamation, Juneteenth, and the Thirteenth Amendment. I think our resilience during these times attracted strong Republican women to our club as our membership grew 22.5% to 76 active women!

Looking back, what have we learned from this COVID-19 pandemic? Hopefully it is clear that bad times highlight the true character of leaders. Any leader can look good in good times. It is when times get tough that the good leaders rise up and the bad leaders stumble. In difficult times, good leaders embrace the uncertainty and make decisions knowing they will be risky and imperfect. That is exactly what Trump did with Operation Warp Speed. He empowered the federal government, the pharmaceutical companies

and others to work together, break down barriers, and innovate to get a vaccine in record time.

Good leaders are also empathetic, listen to people and allay their fears. They do not get drunk with their pandemic power dictating rules, changing them at will and telling neighbors to rat on each other as Gov Kate Brown has done. Good leaders walk their talk. They are not hypocrites like House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, California Gov Gavin Newsom and so many more. I hope people are paying attention and are ready to vote out the bad leaders when they are up for re-election.

It has truly been an honor and a pleasure to be your President these past 3 years. BHRW is such an amazing group of women with so much talent and dedication to Republican values. It was a joy to serve you. ☺

Your new leadership team is awesome. There is a mix of new members with older members and new officers with returning officers. It is clear that they have already formed a solid bond and will work well together. Congratulations to Juanita Lint, Susan Wiedkamp, Gayla Hyer, Lauren Regan, Regina Skarzinskas and Pamela Wilson.

As we see the end of 2020, let's go out in style! Have a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Sincerely,

Melissa

BHRW News

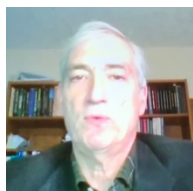
☆ BHRW's October Membership Meeting

BHRW held their **Oct 15** membership meeting via Zoom again. Several candidates joined us to talk about their campaigns: **Dale Fishback** (HD 29) , **Sandra Nelson**(HD 27) , **Peggy Stevens** (HD 26), and **Jeff Gudman** (State Treasurer).

Christine Drazan (Or House Minority Lead) spoke to the group about the struggles to help Oregon citizens harmed by the pandemic and recent fires and the struggle the Republicans are having making their case with the Governor. She urged us to help in any way we can with local candidates and mentioned the **Republican's Evergreen PAC** as a place to find how to help. She mentioned two candidates who, with some additional help, have an especially strong chance of winning: South Coast candidate is **Boomer Wright** at Boomer@boomerwright.com and North Coast candidate is **Suzanne Weber** at suzanne@weberfororegon.com. Both won!

☆ BHRW's November Membership Meeting

Our **Nov 19** membership meeting was via Zoom to hear Secretary of State Candidate, **Kim Thatcher**, and State Treasurer Candidate, **Jeff Gudman**, reflect on their recent races and what's next for them going forward. They both spoke of the urgent need for state Republicans to unite, strengthen their messages and plan now for the future. Over 30 people joined us. There were several guests including two from Downtown Portland Republican Women.



☆ BHRW's December Christmas 'Lunch'

Again, due to state regulations, BHRW had to meet via Zoom for our annual Christmas party



and installation of 2021 officers. That didn't slow us down. We each brought our favorite li-

bations for several toasts. **Gail Wilhelms** provided a 20 question Christmas quiz. Did you know **Teddy Roosevelt** refused a Christmas tree in the White House? As a past BHRW President, **Gail** also installed our 2021 officers (*please see last page*). Newly installed President, **Juanita Lint**, thanked our outgoing President **Melissa** for her impressive three years of service. **Melissa** found BHRW's thank you present and card miraculously waiting for her at her door.



BHRW continued their holiday giving tradition by giving sheets and towels to the Salvation Army Center for Veterans and Families thanks to delivery man and associate



member, **Gary Wilhelms** and the creative talents of **Kathy Montgomery**

Individual members also donated much needed personal items and games to the Union Gospel's Mission Life Change for Women and their Children.

Member Spotlight

Lauren Kristensen is a member of BHRW and has joined our relatively new Education Committee. She

attended the Jan 2020 ORP's Vanguard of Victory Awards Dinner featuring Candice Owens, author of Blackout. This event was the first political event she had ever attended. She was nervous for being officially "out" as a Republican/conservative, but excited to learn about all the groups and resources available.



There, Lauren picked up a BHRW flier and decided to attend our March meeting. Thank you to whoever provided our fliers at that event. Without them, we might not have met Lauren. She joined BHRW in July.

Lauren grew up in Las Vegas where her mother has her own medical practice. Lauren's father, with a PhD in Economics, taught at the Meadows School, a college-prep high school where Lauren graduated in 2014.

Lauren graduated college from Southern Oregon State University in 2018 with a degree in Communications emphasis in Digital Cinema and a minor in Women's Studies. Early in her college years, she saw herself as a Democrat and a feminist. However, having received, what she calls, a knowledge-based high school education, Lauren began to see through the ideas espoused by the Democrats' and feminists' philosophies. By Senior year, her views changed. Lauren soon joined Young Republicans. Though she had been a quiet person in expressing her views, Young Republicans helped her be more open.

Lauren is training herself in instructional design through virtual conferences and organizations such as Association for Talent Development. She is learning to create storylines, videos and other tools. She hopes to find a job developing e-learning courses for young adults so she can create civics programs to disseminate to students. We hope we can continue to benefit from her talents once she is employed.

Lauren's background and goals fit perfectly with our Education Committee. She has been working with Regina Skarzinskas and Diane Gruber to create our 7 (!) education brochures. Check them out on our website (<https://www.bhrwf.org/education.html>).

Lauren's other talents include music (trumpet and piano), dog grooming and helping at animal shelters.

She now lives in Hillsboro with her 2 little dogs, a Chiweenie and a Papillon mix, and boyfriend.

More from Lauren's Photo Library:



"Trump Victory Event in Turner, OR" October 18, 2020- The very first big event Young Republicans of Oregon put together. We were all nervous that no one would show up, but it was a great success!

"YRO podcast interview" - I'm the Media Director and the host for the Young Republicans of Oregon podcast. I began the podcast around March



2020. I interviewed candidates running in the primary and November elections including Senator Kim Thatcher (pictured). I also interviewed a democratic socialist candidate (Albert Lee), an Andrew Yang supporter (Heidi Briones) and a Democrat running for Portland Mayor (Ozzie Gonzalez) to show that Republicans are willing to listen to all viewpoints even though we disagree.

"Support PPB Summer 2020" - The riots had just started downtown and all the mainstream media and leftists were bashing police. So a couple of Young Republicans, including myself, went down and stood outside the Portland Police Precinct to show our support for police officers. We did this a handful of times throughout the summer.



"Election Night" – Nov. 4, 2020 Oregonians for Trump held a huge event for election night at Studio One Theaters. It was fun to mingle with fellow patriots and "boo" whenever Biden won a state.

"Shooting Summer..." – In August 2018 some teenagers tried to break into my Ashland apartment and after that I bought a gun and earned my concealed carry license. Being a woman, though, you have to get creative with how to conceal carry with dresses or skirts. Figuring out the different holsters to wear for each outfit has been frustrating yet fun. This picture shows a couple of the Young Republicans going to a shooting range in Molalla Summer 2020.



"25th Birthday..." - September 5th, 1995 is my birthday. I was born on my aunt's 40th birthday so we always celebrate our birthdays together. In the photo is my mom and dad, my boyfriend, Michael, and me. The

tan dog is a Chiweenie named Regina and the black and white Papillon mix is named Connie. Those are my dogs. Both are around 4 years old. (They're adopted so not exactly sure of age)

"Governor's Desk..." - First trip to the State Capitol in Salem. We didn't meet the Governor which I'm definitely NOT sad about. It was cool to take a guided tour and learn about Oregon's creation story."



Susan Weidkamp is our new, 2021 1st Vice President. She is the oldest child of Kathie and Ken Weidkamp. Susan and her three siblings grew up in Beaverton and all graduated from Sunset High. She attended Cottey College, a two-year women's liberal art college in Nevada, Missouri



where she played volleyball and basketball both years. Upon graduation she returned home to help raise her youngest brother while her mom went back to work at Metropolitan Family Services as a nursing consultant. Working part time as a WSI/Lifeguard at Tualatin



Hills, she finished her bachelor of science degree in Psychology and later completed the masters course work necessary to achieve a standard teaching certificate, with endorsements in chemistry, physics and biology at PSU. After student teaching at Hilhi, she was offered a job at Glencoe High to teach chemistry, physical science and biology in the fall of 1983.

Susan was excited to live in the agricultural and fast-growing tech community of Hillsboro. Already active as a Sunday school teacher, she soon was leading the guitar mass, singing in the choir and assisting the Diocesan Missioner with the Spanish speaking service by playing guitar. Through her efforts in Hispanic ministry and Cursillo, a renewal experience in the Episcopal Church, she made three outreach trips to Mexico City. Susan enjoyed 10 years volunteering in Hispanic ministry. She volunteered around 6 years as a leader in Hillsboro Young Life and helped start a small church in her living room which is now the Chapel Downtown located in the Weil arcade. In 2010 she joined a summer 3-week mission trip to Tanzania.



Highlights of her 35-year career include building balsa wood bridges to teach physics concepts, teaching students to perform point mutations by inserting glow in the dark genes into bacteria, and teaching Chemistry in the Community where her Dad's background as an employee of Pacific Power and Light Company came in handy when students held Town Hall meetings to learn how hydroelectric dams could cause fish to die. From her early days at Cottey, Susan wove music into the classroom and twice per-



formed original compositions in front of the student body as a rap artist. Creating demos that ranged from

catching her hands-on fire to freezing hot dog "fingers" in liquid nitrogen, from breaking boards with her bare hands to laser lightshows she and her colleagues performed a variety of science related skits, and demos for the annual Science Demo Day held before Christmas break. Her passion for teaching biology, accelerated chemistry and bio-chem was recognized in 1998 when she was selected to be Oregon Science Teacher of the Year. In 2000 she began a

two-year summer research program through the Murdock Charitable Trust Partner in Science program in neuroscience research at the Oregon Regional Primate Center, now a part of OHSU. She has served on the teacher advisory committee at OHSU and continues to be an adult sponsor at the Beaverton Hillsboro Science Expo and local NWSE.



Retiring in 2018 Susan continued to substitute teach in the district up until March 12, 2020 when the Governor began requiring the distance learning model. She continues to mentor students in science competitions and research projects. This fall she began assisting her nephew in his online community training program.



She has two zoom bombing kitties: Teacup the tabby and Mikko the Flame Point Siamese.

Susan enjoys art projects, fixing things, and singing with Safe Haven, a local music group.

Susan, who is also known as “Aunt Soup” nicknamed by her 13-month old niece, now a senior at U of O, is excited to be part of the Beaverton Hillsboro Republican Women. She is looking forward to the Red Shoe Book Club, and serving BHRW members.

Upcoming BHRW Meetings:

☆ Monthly Membership Meetings

Our luncheon meetings are the **third Thursday of the month from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM**. Due to Coronavirus, we are holding Zoom meetings. When we can meet in person again, we will notify the membership.

☆ BHRW's Red Shoe Book Club

Who: YOU!!

What: Read and discuss books from the NFRW Mamie Eisenhower Library Project booklist.

When: 4th Monday of every month at 10:30 a.m.

Restarting January 25, 2021

Where: Café Murrayhill in Beaverton, 14500 SW Murray Scholls Dr., Beaverton, OR 97007

Book: Planet Earth Trumped by Barry A. Dennis

RSVP: alisonkett123@yahoo.com

☆ **For the latest, don't forget:**

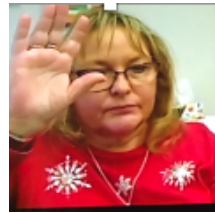
WEB: <http://www.bhrwf.org>

PUBLIC FB PAGE: [fb.me/BHRepW](https://www.facebook.com/BHRepW)

PRIVATE FB GROUP: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/BHRWF/>

Installation of BHRW 2021 Officers

President,
Juanita Lint



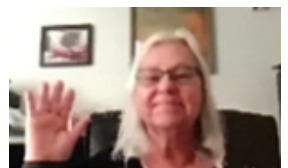
1st Vice President,
Susan Weidkamp



2nd Vice President,
Gayla Hyer



Recording Sec.,
Regina Skarzinskas



Treasurer,
Laurel Regan



Correspond. Sec,
Pamela Wilson

