



# State of the Union 2020

Melissa Laird, President

# Beaverton-Hillsboro Republican Women

- **GOAL:** To get Republicans elected locally, statewide and nationally.
- **PURPOSE:** To educate our members and those around us through informative programs at our meetings and to keep abreast of issues and candidates that reflect Republican values.
- **MOTTO:** Decisions are made by those who show up.

# How Have We Done 2018 -> Current

# Getting Republicans Elected

- Republican candidates have an open invitation to attend our meetings. During elections, on agenda: 'Meet the Candidates'
  - Members hosted Meet & Greet, donated, worked on campaigns.
- 2018: Dorothy Merritt and Elizabeth Reyes, BHRW members, ran for State House Districts
  - Hosted a Meet and Greet/Stump Speech Practice for Dorothy at Gail Wilhelms' home.
  - Members worked on their campaigns.

# Educating Our Members

- At Every Program at Every Meeting.
  - Speakers include Legislators (past & present), special interest groups (ex RTL), organizations/think tanks (ex. Freedom Foundation, Cascade Policy Institute), non-profit organizations (The Salvation Army Veterans and Family Center) and more.
  - Topics include issues that affect us all, ballot measures, legislative bills and more.
- 2018: Red Shoe Book Club to discuss books from the NFRW booklist.
- March 2019: Activism workshop at Sue Zike's home. Members learned how to navigate OLIS and write a testimony.
- Feb 2020: #TimberUnity #LetsRoll Rally. Organized a bus with 11 BHRW members joined by 10 WashCoGOP, 5 ECCRW members and 1 MultCoGOP.

# Participating at the Oregon Federation of Republican Women Level

- Sue Zike elected as 2018-2019 OFRW 2<sup>nd</sup> VP.
- Laurel Regan elected as 2018 - 2019 OFRW Treasurer and re-elected 2019 for 2020-2021.
- Alison Kettenhofen OFRW Standing Committee Chair for Mamie Eisenhower Library Project (MELP) Barbara Bush Library Program for 2018 & 2019.
- July 2018: Hosted the OFRW District 1 Leadership Training.
- March 2019: Juanita, Sue, Alison assisted at OFRW-sponsored reception at Sec. of State Dennis Richardson's State funeral.
- April 2019: BHRW hosted the OFRW District 1 Spring Luncheon.
- May 2019 OFRW Day at the Legislature: 8 members attended.
- Oct 2019: 7 members attended 2019 OFRW Biennial Convention, Canyonville, OR. Diane Gruber was a guest speaker.

# Participating at the National Federation of Republican Women Level

- Alison appointed to the NFRW Mamie Eisenhower Literacy Project Committee in 2019.
- Sue Zike nominated as Vice-Chair for NFRW Bylaws Committee for 2020.
- Oct 2019: 3 Members attended NFRW Biennial Convention 2019, Indianapolis.

# Fundraising

- Record breaking garage sales every year. Over \$3,000 2019!
- Record attendance at our 2019 Candidate dinner (78) and made over \$1,000 with our silent auction and merchandise sales.



# Serving Our Community: Philanthropy

- Support five scholarships (national and local) each year.
- Donate books and funds to Beaverton and Hillsboro libraries, part of our Mamie Eisenhower/Barbara Bush library project.
- Host an annual veterans' dessert and games night at the Salvation Army Veterans and Family Center in Beaverton. Donated a refrigerator and meal containers.
- Donate funds to the Oregon Honor Flight which escorts WWII, Korean War, and Vietnam War veterans to Washington, D.C. 200,000+ veterans have been escorted at no charge.
- Donate funds to the USO for calling cards for active military.
- Support the Lines for Life, a mental health crisis line and suicide prevention program.
- Support Washington County Community Action whose mission is to create opportunities for people and communities to thrive.
- 2019: Instituted the First annual BHRW Essay Contest for students. **CONGRATS KAITLIN HERGERT!**

# Growing our Membership

Continue to increase our membership year to year:

2017: 51 → 2018: 55 → 2019: 62

We are one of the largest clubs in OFRW.

# Diamond Achievement Award 2018 – 2019



# Going Forward

How can we become more actively engaged?

# Better Leverage the Federation

## NFRW

- Continue to use Award Framework for club guidance.
- Encourage more BHRW members to attend conventions: bring back ideas and inspiration.
- Utilize the wealth of information on the website.  
Example – **Publicity / PR** to help us re-examine what we do here.

## OFRW

- Continue to actively participate at the state level to help advance OFRW, get more involved in OFRW events and better educate ourselves.

# Collaborate with other OFRW Clubs

- Restart **Postcard to our Legislators**. RWDP
- Implement **Education flyers, Educational Moment in Meeting**. YCRW
  - YCRW does historical documents and willing to share (Declaration of Independence, Midnight Ride of Paul Revere, The Concord Hymn, etc.)
  - YCRW also includes documents with t-shirt merchandise; Betsy Ross, the Gadsden Flag and the Pine Tree Flag (An Appeal to Heaven), Suffrage and willing to share.
- **Create a BHRW Education Chair** to lead the development of educational materials on topics of interest. Share with YCRW. Ideas include topics that are getting muddled by the left: Socialism, Medicare/Medicaid, Nationalism, Constitutional Law, Electoral College.
- Join together for statewide events like rally bus to capitol. ECCRW, RWDP

# Listen to YOU!

- From Member Survey
  - Provide **Evening Meetings/Social Events** for members who cannot attend lunch meetings.
  - Continue to improve **website, Facebook group, social media**
  - Continue to solicit speaker ideas from all members
- Facilitate your passions.
  - **Create a BHRW Activist Chair** to provide a 'wheel house' of links and connections organized by topics of interest to members (such as parents' rights in education, ethics violations, legislative bills, etc.)
- Try out **New fundraising ideas**, like a member cookbook, holiday gift wrapping table.

# More Ideas

- **Relook at Philanthropy:** clarify our goals, assess our current program and consider new charities or activities.
- Provide **Local Leader lists** for all members to get to know their conservative neighbors to develop relationships and encourage them to get more involved. Members who are WashCoGOP PCPs know this program!
- Host a **Fundraiser for Senator Kim Thatcher** (for Oregon Secretary of State) and **Jeff Gudman** (for Oregon Treasurer)



# Become More Actively Engaged

NEW	DO MORE	MORE IDEAS
Evening meeting/social events	PR/Publicity	Philanthropy review
Postcards to Legislators	Use of website & social media for communications	Local Leaders
Education Chair		Fundraiser for Thatcher & Gudman
Activist Chair		
New fundraising ideas		

# Where we go, What we do, It's Up to YOU!

- To be a leader, you must have followers.
  - To be a successful leader, you must have responsible followers. Followers who like where the group is going and want to get involved:
    - Positive and self-motivated
    - Act to get things done
    - Accept responsibility
    - Excel at required tasks
  - Let me know what you like, what you don't like, other ideas you have.
- You might not be interested in all that BHRW does. But I want you to find your place, where you feel you belong, are passionate, can contribute. Where you can be actively engaged.



Thank You.