



South Dakota Federation of Republican Women

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Calendar of Events
- Member's Spotlight
- Codington Co. Report
- SDFRW Future Dates
- New Programs & Committees

REPORTS INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

SDFRW President	1
Executive Board	2
Save the Date	3
Codington Co Report	6
Upcoming Event Dates	8
January Membership	11-
Spotlight	12
Programs	13-
	15

Letter From the President

Dear SDFRW Members,

Happy 2023! I began the New Year reminiscing about where we've been and contemplating where we're headed.

I remembered with great affection our achievements under the leadership of Presidents Sandy Rhoden and Penny Sattgast. We'll be forever in their debt. They took SDFRW to a new level and paved the way for us to climb higher still!

Looking forward, I feel as though SDFRW is a fledgling standing at the nest's edge, wings catching the wind, eyes fixed on the horizon. And what a glorious horizon! Taking what we learned from our test flights – the experiences that helped us grow strong – we'll soar to heights we can hardly imagine.

Here's to our next adventure!
Catherine Barranco



South Dakota Federation of Republican Women

South Dakota Federation of Republican Women 2023-2024 Executive Board



Top Left to Right: Connie Wagner, Penny Sattgast, Nancy Ziegeldorf, Laci Sosa, Jeni Boerger, Lauri Davis & Sandy Rhoden
Front Left to Right: Marylee Plut, Debbie Schnell, Catherine Barranco, Beka Zerbst & Heidi Engelhart

President: Catherine Barranco

1st Vice President: Beka Zerbst

2nd Vice President: Heidi Engelhart

3rd Vice President: Debbie Schnell

4th Vice President: Marylee Plut

Secretary: Nancy Ziegeldorf

Treasurer: Connie Wagner

Member at Large: Sandy Rhoden

Member at Large: Jeni Boerger

Member at Large: Laci Sosa

Member at Large: Lauri Davis

Past President: Penny Sattgast

South Dakota Federation of Republican Women

SDFRW UPDATES

Save the Date

**SDFRW Legislative Day &
Quarterly Board Meeting**

Monday, February 13, 2023
Pierre, SD

RSVP by February 8
Click here for the Eventbrite link

\$25 Registration Cost
- Catered Hot Lunch Included -

More details to come!



South Dakota Federation of Republican Women

WANT AN SDFRW MAGNETIC NAME BADGE?



Name badges are not just for officers - every SDFRW member is welcome to order one! If you'd like a magnetic SDFRW name badge, please email **Catherine Barranco** at **president@SDFRW.org** with your name exactly as you'd like it to appear on your badge and send a check for \$10 made out to SDFRW to **Connie Wagner, 27072 SD Hwy 45, Platte, SD 57369**. **If you could write "Name Badge" in the memo line, that would be a huge help.** We don't want it to get mixed up with the membership checks! If you hold a position within SDFRW or one of the clubs, please include that as well. There's only room for one title, so if you serve in more than one position, please pick your favorite to be listed on your name badge. **Remember - we'll send the vendor your name exactly as you email it to Catherine, so please double check that everything is spelled correctly!**

Here's a picture of an example badge so you can get an idea of how they'll look. Please place your order by **Monday, January 23** so that we can get the badges in time for Legislative Day!

South Dakota Federation of Republican Women

Codington County Republican Women

The Codington County Republican Women met on November 18th at Pizza Ranch in Watertown. Our speaker was Ried Holien who is our South Dakota GOP National Committeeman and also our Watertown Mayor. He talked about the midterm elections and how we can improve things at the national level. He discussed the great results we had in our state and local elections! He also discussed all the great things going on in Watertown; such as the new Hockey Rink, the new Watertown Airport, and the new Downtown City Park.

A big thank you to Anne and Lee Gabel, CCRW members, for decorating the SDFRW tree at the Capital in Pierre for the annual "Christmas at the Capital" display. This year's theme was "A Very Prairie Christmas." It looked beautiful!

MaryLee Plut and Anne Gabel attended the SDFRW Quarterly Meeting in Pierre on Saturday, December 10th. After the meeting we enjoyed walking through the halls of the Capital looking at the fantastic display of beautifully decorated Christmas trees!

Our December Monthly Meeting was cancelled because of the weather. We are looking forward to hearing from the same speakers at our January 20th Monthly Meeting. SD Representative Carl Perry will be speaking on ESG (Environmental Social Governance) with comments from SD Senator Al Novstrup.

We are also looking forward to presenting our "Caring for America" food drive project at our January meeting for the Access Ministries Program.

We enjoyed participating in a breakfast get-together for Bryon Noem and a luncheon with Governor Noem the weekend before the election. It was a fun and informative celebration!



South Dakota Federation of Republican Women



HEART Committee

HAVE A HEART!

The new HEART Committee helps our members feel the love of their SDFRW family. They lift up those who are fighting through dark times and celebrate those who are enjoying bright times. But in order to fulfill that mission, they have to know about our sisters' struggles and triumphs.

Do you know of a member who's going through a tough time? Maybe she's sick or injured, maybe she lost a loved one, maybe she's going through some other dark time and could use encouragement. Or do you know of a member who's going through a wonderful time? Maybe she started a new job or welcomed a new grandbaby. Maybe she reached a milestone anniversary or was honored with an award.

To let the HEART Committee know about an SDFRW member who could use encouragement or elation,

Go here: <https://www.cognitofrms.com/SDFRW/WeLoveOurSDFRWSisters> .

Please save this link so you have it handy any time you want to help lift up one of your SDFRW sisters.

Thank you to **Barbara Johnson** for serving as our very first HEART Committee Chair!

South Dakota Federation of Republican Women



Would you like SDFRW to text you?

Several members have requested that we text them instead of just relying on email and website or Facebook posts. We've done quite a bit of research and have found an economical texting service that we're excited to try! If it works as we think it will, this service will give us the capacity to reach all members who would appreciate receiving texts! FCC laws are prickly when it comes to texts, so in order for you to take part in the texting program, you must formally request to opt in. So, **if you'd like to receive texted reminders and notices, email Catherine Barranco at president@SDFRW.org with your name and the cell number where you'd like to receive texts.**



South Dakota Federation of Republican Women

IMPORTANT DATES

Please save these important dates in your calendar! For this year:

Mon, Feb 13 – Legislative Day + Spring Quarterly Meeting at the Visitor's Center in **Pierre**.

Sat, Apr 29 – Summer Quarterly Meeting at the Arrowwood Cedar Shores Resort in **Oacoma**

Sept 22-24 – SDFRW's Online Auction

Sept 28-Oct 1 – NFRW Convention in **Oklahoma City**

Sat, Oct 7 – Fall Quarterly Meeting at the Arrowwood Cedar Shores Resort in **Oacoma**

Sat, Dec 2 – Christmas at the Capitol + Winter Quarterly Meeting at the Visitor's Center in **Pierre**

Please also make a note of the date for our SDFRW Convention the following year:

Sept 26-29, 2024 – SDFRW Biennial Convention in **Rapid City**



South Dakota Federation of Republican Women



IT'S TIME FOR OUR CLUB MEMBERSHIP DRIVES!

We were incredibly proud to set an SDFRW membership record in 2021.... and then another one in 2022! In 2023, let's go for a 3-peat!! Yes, it's fun when more people get involved -- as the saying goes, the more the merrier! But a strong membership is so much more than that: it's a larger pool of talent and energy from people who are determined to save our country. The more members we have, the more we'll accomplish. If we accomplish enough, we'll pry our country loose from the Democrats' grip. We made terrific progress in 2022 when we took back the U.S. House. Now we're putting pieces in place for 2024 when we saddle up to fight for both the White House and the U.S. Senate. Help us get ready by growing your club to its strongest membership yet!

According to the Federation's bylaws, to remain a member in good standing, **NFRW must receive your dues no later than March 1st**. It takes time for your dues to go from you to your club Treasurer, who then sends a portion of your dues to our SDFRW Treasurer, who then sends a portion to NFRW. If you haven't renewed your membership, please do so soon! And if you have friends who haven't yet joined, encourage them to!

We're holding our **4th annual SDFRW Membership Competition** this year - more details to come! Club membership increases will be measured relative to their 2022 membership levels. This year's competition will again include four categories:

- Largest Active Membership Increase
- Largest % Active Membership Increase
- Largest Associate Membership Increase
- Largest % Associate Membership Increase

If you know of any potential new members you think we should contact, please reach out to Catherine Barranco at president@SDFRW.org or Dee Van Deest at vandeestb@msn.com

South Dakota Federation of Republican Women

LEGISLATIVE DAY — SAVE THE DATE!

Our **2023 Legislative Day and Spring Board Meeting** will be **Monday, February 13th in Pierre.** We hope you'll save the date! This is a terrific opportunity not only to spend a fabulous day with your SDFRW sisters, it's also a fantastic opportunity to recruit new members! If you know of any potential new members, please invite them to join us!

Place your reservation on Eventbrite at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sdfrw-legislative-day-bod-meeting-tickets-507707836807>

Please RSVP no later than **February 8th**. Your **\$25 registration fee** includes a catered hot lunch.



Calendar of Events

January

- 2 - Meade County Republican Women
2pm Pizza Ranch Sturgis, SD
- 3 - Aurora- Douglas Republican Women
7pm Travel Plaza, Corsica, SD
- 19 - Brown County Area Republican Women
11:30am The Flame Aberdeen, SD
- 19 - Beadle County Republican Women
12pm Ryan's Hanger Huron, SD
- 19 - Pennington County Republican Women
12:45pm Alex Johnson Hotel Rapid City, SD
- 20 - Codington County Republican Women
11:30am Pizza Ranch Watertown, SD
- 26- Minnehaha-Lincoln Republican Women
11:30am SD Military Heritage Alliance
Sioux Falls, SD

February:

- 3 - Meade County Republican Women
2pm Pizza Ranch Sturgis, SD
- 13 - **SDFRW BOD Meeting**
Capitol Visitor Center Pierre, SD
- 16 - Beadle County Republican Women
12pm Ryan's Hanger Huron, SD
- 16 - Brown County Area Republican Women
11:30am The Flame Aberdeen, SD
- 16 - Pennington County Republican Women
12:45pm Alex Johnson Hotel Rapid City, SD
- 17 - Codington County Republican Women
11:30am Pizza Ranch Watertown, SD
- 23 - Minnehaha-Lincoln Republican Women
11:30am SD Military Heritage Alliance
Sioux Falls, SD

South Dakota Federation of Republican Women

SDFRW Member Spotlight

Kelly Brack

Name: Kelly Brack

Where were you born and raised? I was born in Toledo, Ohio raised in Maumee, Ohio. I have lived all over this beautiful country of ours. Most recently my husband and I moved to Sioux Falls from Portland, Oregon in 2018. We are so happy we decided to make South Dakota our home! South Dakotans are very warm and kind—

Describe your family. We have many nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews. We currently have two nephews serving in the armed forces—one is a First Lieutenant in the Marine Corps and the other is a First Lieutenant in the Space Force.

Local SDFRW Club: Minnehaha-Lincoln County

How long a member? I have been a member of MLRW for almost a year.

What are the club's activities? Each month our club has a guest speaker that educates members on any number of topics from Sex Trafficking to upcoming legislation. We have a number of casual get togethers. I joined Minnehaha-Lincoln County Republican Women last year while at their annual Christmas party hosted in Juanita Schmunk's home. It was a very nice party and I had the chance to meet a lot of really great people!

Education: Bachelor of Arts in English; Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing

Professional Career: I am a former college English instructor. Currently I am a realtor and a supply chain professional.

What is your greatest achievement? I am still working on that!

Tell about your most exciting moment in life. The most exciting moment in my life was when my husband told me he wanted to marry me—I was not expecting that at all! It was such a happy time for me and my family!

Why do you belong to SDFRW? I belong to SDFRW so I can work alongside other like-minded patriotic women who care about furthering the cause of liberty in our state and our country.



Continued pg. 12

South Dakota Federation of Republican Women

What is our greatest challenge as Republicans? Our greatest challenge is reaching younger voters. I think we need to keep making our case as to why America is the greatest country on planet earth! I think if the Republican party were to engage more with our new citizens, maybe they can help us make the case for Liberty – let's promote their stories of why they left their countries to come to America!

Who is your favorite Republican and why? My favorite Republican is Jim Jordan of Ohio. I have followed Jim's career for a number of years and he is always consistent and stays true to his Conservation principles no matter how many people try to impugn his character!
Favorite quote or Bible verse: Romans 8:28 "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose.

Any further comments: I am the Treasurer of a local Political Action Committee called Siouxland Republican Women.

Newsletter Monthly Club Report Schedule

January, April, July, & October:

Codington, Cenkota & Pennington

February, May, August & November:

Aurora-Douglas, Brown, Minnehaha -Lincoln, & Meade

March, June, September & December:

Cyberspace, Beadle, Fall River & South Central

The reports are due the 1st of the month your club is featured in.

For newsletters are to come out the 1st week of the month. Barring late entries.

Send reports to: sdfrwnews@gmail.com (New Email)

Questions? Please email Claire & Jeni

South Dakota Federation of Republican Women

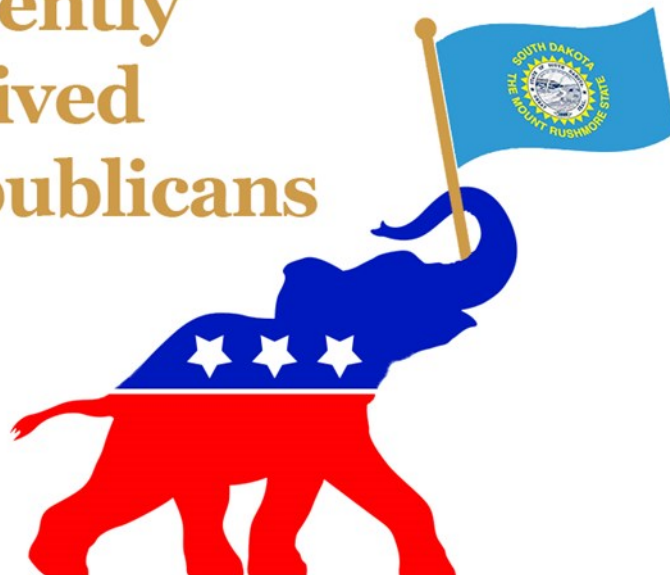
KNOW ANY RECENTLY ARRIVED REPUBLICANS?

People are coming to South Dakota in droves for the freedom we enjoy here. If you're new to the Mt. Rushmore State, welcome! If you know of a Republican woman who recently moved to South Dakota, please help us reach out to her!

It can be jarring to move to an unfamiliar place -- especially if you aren't used to Midwest winters. Our new program for Recently Arrived Republicans (RARs) is designed to offer these new South Dakotans a way to meet like-minded friends, seek recommendations, learn the South Dakota lingo, and just have a whole lot of fun! Then as election season draws near, we offer them ways to help make sure that the liberal, socialist policies they suffered in the blue state they escaped don't take hold here in South Dakota.

To kick off our new program, SDFRW started a private Facebook group for RARs! If you'd like to join, go here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/sdfrwRARs> ! And if you know of someone we should reach out to, email **Laci Sosa** at lacibug@hotmail.com

**Recently
Arrived
Republicans**



South Dakota Federation of Republican Women



FUN FOR REPUBLICAN MOMS!

All too often, we hear moms say that they'd like to get involved with SDFRW but it just doesn't fit into their schedules right now - they can't bring their kids to meetings, and it's difficult and expensive to find babysitters. With that dilemma in mind, we've created the Youth Liaison Committee! This committee's mission is to make it fun and easy for moms to participate in SDFRW! The Youth Liaison Committee will plan play dates at Thunder Road, Watiki Water Park, SkyZone Trampoline Park, and similar places where the kids can play while the moms visit. They'll set up movie time, baking days, and crafts nights where SDFRW grandmothers volunteer to babysit while the moms get lunch or meet for dinner. The moms will enjoy a group of like-minded friends that they can relate to, while the kids will develop a network of Republican friends that they can grow up with - allies that will prove invaluable when they join in the fight to save our country.

If you know of any young Republican moms - whether they're SDFRW members or not! - please contact **Megan Assman-Kool** (Youth Liaison Chair) at **meganmassman@gmail.com**

South Dakota Federation of Republican Women

**Advertisement Spots
Available for the Newsletter
& Website!**

Wanted!

We're particularly looking for people to fill two roles in the SDFRW Team:

- * **Social Media Club News Specialist** – SDFRW is a grassroots organization. Our members and clubs are the lifeblood of this organization! In this role, you'll regularly check our clubs' Facebook pages and share relevant posts with SDFRW. You'll be an important line of communication between SDFRW and our clubs, alerting the SDFRW team any time there's an opportunity for SDFRW to promote one of our clubs!
- * **Zoom Call Backend Specialist** – SDFRW will host sizable Zoom Calls from time to time. When we do, it's difficult to handle both the role of hostess and technical support. We're looking for someone to help with the technical side of running a Zoom Call. Training is provided – we just need someone who's willing to learn!



If you want to get involved but have very little time, the Social Networking Committee's **Digital Strike Force** is a terrific option for you! All you have to do is like, share, and/or comment on SDFRW's Facebook posts. It's seriously a 2 minute commitment per day and can be done any time day or night from anywhere you can access Facebook!

To sign up for these positions or to join another of our committees, email **Catherine Barranco** at **president@SDFRW.org**

To check out all of our committee descriptions go here: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1kSFvgLohdKbWFnwAO2ANojDetRNuyWG>

See Us Now!



www.sdfrw.org



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America Home of the Free & the Brave!

