

**Arizona Federation of Republican Women**  
**BIENNIAL CONVENTION MINUTES**  
**Phoenix-Mesa Hilton Resort**  
**October 27-28, 2017**

Submitted by Immediate Past President Mary Williams  
serving as "Acting Secretary" for the 2017 AzFRW Biennial Convention.

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**GENERAL SESSION-FRIDAY, OCT 27, 2017**

**Call to Order:** President Loraine Pellegrino called the 2017 Biennial Convention to order at 9:00 AM.

**Opening Ceremonies:** Invocation was given by Chaplain Gayle Salter of Arrowhead Republican Women. We honored our nation with a Presentation of Colors by the PATRIOT COLOR GUARD, American Legion Earl E. Mitchell Post 29 followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Americanism Chair Priscilla Poese of Ahwatukee Republican Women. The National Anthem was performed by Song of the Pines Chorus from Prescott.

**Welcome:** RNC Chairman kicked off the convention with video remarks to the body expressing appreciation for all that Republican Women do and how important the coming 2018 elections will be. Presiding Officer President Loraine Pellegrino then made welcome remarks to the body and introduced the officers at the head table.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Donna Tanzi introduced AzFRW member, the Honorable Michele Reagan, Arizona Secretary of State who gave a welcoming remarks. Following Secretary Reagan, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Tanzi indicated that second kick off speaker, Arizona Attorney General Mark Brnovich was delayed and would be joining us later.

**First Report of the Credentials Committee:** Credentials Chair Susan Marcell, Thunder Mtn RW reported 137 Delegates and 2 Alternates on the first report. **Motion:** The Credentials Chair moved adoption of the first credentials report. **Motion Adopted,** Quorum was established.

**Adoption of the Convention Rules:** Convention Rules Chair Jane Strain of Thunder Mtn RW referenced that all Delegates had been provided a written copy of the 2017 Convention Rules. **Motion:** Rules Chair Strain moved adoption of the rules in print as provided to the Delegates. **Secondary Motion:** Motion to delete the wording entirely in the "Programs" section of the Rules. **Amendment to the Second Motion** was made to delete only the "2/3" portion. **Both secondary motions were defeated. Original Motion to accept the rules as printed was adopted.**

**Adoption of the Convention Program:** Convention Program Chair Lezlee Alexander, Arrowhead RW read the Program Changes. **Motion:** She then moved adoption of the 2017 Convention Program as corrected. **Adopted.**

**2015 Convention Minutes:** 2015 Conventions Minutes Chair Nancy Kay Arnold, Lincoln RW addressed the body to advise that the 2015 Convention Minutes committee consisting of herself, Jill Slavin and Janet Powell had timely reviewed the 2015 Minutes and made their recommendations. She noted this was important as convention minutes go from convention to convention so are quiet for two years. She reported the 2015 Minutes were correct as amended.

**Appointment of the 2017 Convention Minutes Committee:** Without objection, the Chair appointed the following members to serve as the 2017 Minutes Committee:

Sherry Pierce, Mesa Republican Women  
Tiana Smith, Pima County Republican Women  
Arlene Goldblatt, Arrowhead Republican Women

**AzFRW's National Public Relations Award:** While awaiting the Second Credentials Report, the Chair showed a power point presentation of the Public Relations submission that was sent to NFRW which garnered AzFRW a national award in Philadelphia. She shared that AzFRW, once again, had won many national awards at the NFRW Convention including, the prestigious Diamond Level Award.

**Second Report of the Credentials Committee:** Credentials Chair Susan Marcell presented the Second Credentials Report which was resolved to be a total of 148 Delegates and 3 Alternates.

**Motion:** Chairman Marcell then moved adoption of same. **Adopted.**

**Report of the Nominating Committee:** Nominating Committee Chair Mary Morse thanked her committee and announced the nominees for the 2018-2019 Officers:

President-Lorraine Pellegrino, Ahwatukee RW  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President-Donna Tanzi, RW of Prescott  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President-Cynthia Love, Paradise Republican Women  
3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President-Robyn Cushman, Central RW of Phoenix  
Secretary-Susan Marcell, Thunder Mountain RW  
Treasurer-Cindy Casaus, Ahwatukee RW

Region I Director-Joan Harris, Flagstaff RW  
Region II Director-Cheryl Chase, RW of Pinal County  
Region III Director-Enid Reinhart, Thunder Mountain RW  
Region IV-*candidate has withdrawn*  
Region V Director-Patricia Lorenzen, RW of Prescott  
Region VI Director-Nancy Cottle, Mesa RW  
Region VII Director-Ruby White, Central RW of Phoenix  
Region VIII Director-Allison Mary, Lincoln RW

President Pellegrino thanked Chairman Morse and also thanked the Election Tellers Committee should any offices go to ballot. Elections Co-Chairs were Jeni White, Chandler RW and the Honorable Helen Purcell, Central RW of Phoenix and Laura Piscopo, Ahwatukee RW.

**Nominations from the Floor:** Prior to opening the floor for nominations, Presiding Officer Pellegrino briefly reviewed the procedures and reminded anyone running they should have sent her a written notice to serve if elected. She passed the gavel to 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Donna Tanzi.

**Election of President:** 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Tanzi then polled the body for any nominations from the floor for the office of President. There being none, nominations were closed. Pursuant to the AzFRW Bylaws and Roberts Rules of Order, the Chair declared that nominee Lorraine Pellegrino was unanimously elected by acclamation as President for the 2018-2019 term. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Tanzi returned the gavel to President Pellegrino.

**Election of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:** President Pellegrino polled the body for any nominations from the floor for the office of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. Kathleen Winn was nominated. There were no further nominations and nominations were closed. Speeches were given and the Chair advised that elections for the office of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President would take place the next day. She advised both candidates to please visit the Region Caucuses scheduled for that afternoon so the Delegates could meet with them.

**Elected:** Polling of each office continued. There being no nominees from the floor, nominations for each office were closed and the following were all elected by unanimous consent for the 2018-2019 term of office:

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President-Donna Tanzi  
3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President-Robyn Cushman  
Secretary-Susan Marcell  
Treasurer-Cindy Casaus

President Pellegrino then polled each Region for their Region Director positions. The following were elected by acclamation of their Region:

Region I-Joan Harris  
Region II-Cheryl Chase  
Region III-Enid Reinhart  
Region IV-Nancy Moschcau\*  
Region V-Debra McVey  
Region VI-Nancy Cottle  
Region VII-Ruby White  
Region VIII-Allison Mary

\*To fill the slate nominee vacancy, Nancy Moschcau was nominated from the floor and also elected by acclamation of her Region IV.

**Report of the Bylaws Committee:** Bylaws Chairman Jan Hermsmeyer presented the proposed amendments to the bylaws advising that all had received a copy in the Convention Program and they were also on the screen. Individually, she presented each amendment and moved adoption of same. The following were:

Adopted as Presented:

#2-Article III, Section 2

#4-Article VI, Section 3, B

#5-Article VII, Section 1 *(note there was a typo on VI vs VII heading but the content of the amendment was correct as Article VII)*

Not Adopted as Presented:

#1-Article III, Section 3, A

#3-Article III, Section 4

The remainder of Bylaws Committee Report was paused to keep the body on schedule for the Awards Luncheon. Prior to recess, the Chair reminded everyone they needed to attend their Region Caucuses later in the afternoon to hear the candidates and discuss their Nominating Committee Representative.

The General Session was recessed until 9am on Saturday, Oct 28<sup>th</sup>.

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**GENERAL SESSION-SATURDAY, OCT 28, 2017**

Session was reconvened at 9:00 am by President Loraine Pellegrino.

**Opening:** Invocation was given by Chaplain Gayle Salter, Pledge of Allegiance was led by Americanism Chair Priscilla Poese. Sgt at Arms and Paradise President Judy Lawrence led everyone in singing our National Anthem.

**Welcome:** The Chair welcomed everyone and again introduced the officers at the head table.

**Guest Speakers:** Treasurer DeWitt, the scheduled speaker, was unable to attend and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Donna Tanzi welcomed several candidates and guests who to briefly address the body:

Arizona Attorney General Mark Brnovich  
Dr. Kelli Ward-candidate for US Senate  
Frank Riggs-candidate for Arizona Superintendent of Public Instruction

**Report of the Bylaws Committee, continued:** Chairman Jan Hermsmeyer presented the final proposed Bylaw amendment # 6 to the body moving adoption of same. It was adopted.

Adopted as Presented:  
#6-Article XI, Section 2

**Motion:** It was moved and seconded that the Bylaws Chair be approved to make corrections to punctuation, spelling or other clerical errors she might discover as she types up the newly revised Bylaws. **Adopted.**

**Final Report of the Credentials Committee:** Chairman Susan Marcell presented the final tally at 157 Delegates, 4 Alternates and 28 Guests for a grand total of 189. **Motion:** On behalf of the Credentials Committee, she moved adoption of the Final Credentials Tally. **Adopted.**

**Election of the AzFRW 2018-2019 Nominating Committee:** The Chair polled each Region to see if there were nominees for the position of Nominating Committee Representative. There were no nominees from the floor for any of the Regions and the Chair declared the following were elected by acclamation of their Regions:

Region I-Patt Parker, Yavapai RW  
Region II-Mary Preble, Pima County RW  
Region III-Zanetta Boughan, Thunder Mtn RW  
Region IV-Anita Romero, London Bridge RW  
Region V-Debra McVey, RW of Prescott  
Region VI-Mary Baumbach, Ahwatukee RW  
Region VII-Jan Webb, Central RW of Phoenix  
Region VIII-Linda Rizzo, Palo Verde RW

**Election for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:** The Chair advised the body to stand at ease while the Sgt at Arms would dismiss the delegates by Regions to go vote. She also said that if desired, Regions could quietly caucus before being dismissed to vote. During this time, we heard from additional candidates and guests:

Tom Forese and family, candidate for Arizona State Treasurer  
Tracy Livingston, candidate for Arizona Supt. of Public Instruction  
Diane Douglass, current Arizona Supt of Public Instruction  
Lisa Godzich, candidate for State Representative LD 16  
Farhana Shifa candidate for State Representative LD 18  
NFRW President Carrie Almond

**Election of Region V Nominating Committee Representative:** The Chair advised the body that she had been made aware that Debra McVey was ineligible to run for Nominating Committee Representative as she had served the previous term. The Chair declared her election invalid and asked Region V to caucus and provide another name. The name of Linda Nichols was nominated. The Chair asked if there were any other nominees for the office from within Region V. There were none, nominations were closed and Linda Nichols was duly elected by acclamation as the Region V Nominating Committee Representative.

Election Teller Jeni White advised a last call for anyone who had not yet voted.

**Report of the Resolutions Committee:** Resolutions Chair Rae Chornenky advised all Delegates had been provided with a printed copy of the proposed Resolutions in their Convention Programs.

**Motion:** Resolutions Chair read the Resolved section for Resolution #1 and moved adoption. Presiding Officer Pellegrino put the question. **Resolution #1 Adopted.**

**Motion:** Resolutions Chair read the Resolved section for Resolution #2 and moved adoption. Presiding Officer Pellegrino put the question. **Resolution #2 Adopted.**

**Motion:** Resolutions Chair read the Resolved section for Resolution #3 and moved adoption. Presiding Officer Pellegrino put the question. **Resolution #3 Adopted.**

**Motion:** Resolutions Chair read the Resolved section for Resolution #4 and moved adoption. Presiding Officer Pellegrino passed the gavel to 1<sup>st</sup> VP Tanzi who put the question. **Resolution #4 Adopted** with standing ovation. Chairman's gavel returned to President Pellegrino who thanked the body.

While awaiting the Tellers elections result report, Chairman Pellegrino asked 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Cindy Casaus to present her Membership Awards. The following cumulative two year award certificates were presented for:

Club with the Most Miles to State Meetings—RW of Prescott  
Club with the Most Attendees to State Meetings-RW of Prescott  
Club with the Most First Time Attendees to State Meetings-Thunder Mtn RW (*with 70!*)

**AzFRW 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Election Results:** Co Chair Teller Jeni White presented the election results with Kathleen Winn at 25 and Cyndi Love at 132. Cyndi Love will be our next 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President.

**Motion:** Motion to destroy the ballots was made and seconded. Chairman Pellegrino called the question. **Motion adopted.**

There being no further business to come before the body President Pellegrino again thanked everyone and without objection adjourned the meeting sine die.

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**ADDENDUM 1-AWARDS LUNCHEON, Friday, Oct 27<sup>th</sup>**

Mistress of Ceremony 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Cindy Casaus called the group to order. Luncheon invocation was given by Chaplain Gayle Salter, Pledge of Allegiance was led by Americanism Chair Priscilla Poese and all sang along to "God Bless America" performed by Judy Lawrence. Dignitaries and guests were then introduced by Mistress of Ceremonies Cindy Casaus.

Education-Literacy Chair Nancy Kay Arnold, Lincoln RW presented the AzFRW Teacher of the Year Award to Ms. Tiffany Uhlik, a member of Paradise RW. Arizona Superintendent of Public Schools (title?) Diane Douglas was also on stage to congratulate Ms. Uhlik on her crystal apple award.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Donna Tanzi introduced our keynote speaker, Ms. Carrie Almond, President of the NFRW. President Almond shared motivational remarks as well as a video/musical keyed to "*I've been Everywhere*" tribute to the effectiveness of the Rosie Tour Bus sponsored by NFRW.

Following President Almond's remarks, the Awards presentation began. AzFRW Achievements Awards Chair Leona Johnston presented the AzFRW Club Achievement Awards assisted by Vice Chair Mary Williams. The Chairs thanked the ribbon embellishing team of Linda Rizzo, Palo Verde RW and Allison Mary, Lincoln RW as well as our awards photographers Jeni White, Chandler RW and Cheryl Pelletier, Palo Verde RW.

NFRW Awards earned by Arizona clubs this cycle were:

NFRW Diamond	Ahwatukee Republican Women Arrowhead Republican Women Chandler Republican Women Huachuca Area Republican Women Lake Havasu Republican Women London Bridge Republican Women Mesa Republican Women Palo Verde Republican Women Paradise Republican Women Yavapai County Republican Women
NFRW Gold	Central RW of Phoenix Kingman Republican Women Republican Women of Prescott Rio Colorado Republican Women
NFRW Silver	Lincoln Republican Women Yuma Republican Women
NFRW Bronze	Flagstaff Republican Women

AzFRW Club Achievement Awards certificates were presented for:

Turquoise Award	Ahwatukee Republican Women Arrowhead Republican Women Chandler Republican Women Huachuca Area Republican Women Lake Havasu Republican Women London Bridge Republican Women Mesa Republican Women Palo Verde Republican Women Paradise Republican Women Republican Women of Prescott Yavapai County Republican Women
Gold Award	Central RW of Phoenix Rio Colorado Republican Women
Silver Award	Flagstaff Republican Women Kingman Republican Women
Copper Award	Lincoln Republican Women Pima County Republican Women Republican Women of Pinal County Yuma County Republican Women

Special surprise awards were then presented as follows:

**Presidents Special Achievement (*presented by President Pellegrino*)**

Allison Mary  
Carmel Scharenbroich  
Mary Williams  
Susan Marcell

**Campaign Awards...presented by Lisa Godzich, Chair**

**Club Campaign Hours**

1<sup>st</sup> Place      109,071 hours to Chandler RW  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place      61,715 hours to Paradise RW  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place      30,781 hours to Ahwatukee RW

**Individual Campaign Hours**

1<sup>st</sup> Place      6940 hours to Marnie Thompson, Paradise RW  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place      5021 hours to Jeni White, Chandler RW  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place      4556 hours to Jan Martinson, Arrowhead RW

**Caring for America Awards...presented by Jan Stephenson, Chair**

Small Club...Rio Colorado RW  
Medium Club...Lake Havasu RW  
Large Club...Palo Verde RW  
Mega Club...RW of Prescott

**Club Scrapbooks and Newsletters...presented by Lezlee Alexander, Chair**

**Scrapbooks:**

- Digital 1st Place – Central RW of Phoenix
- Traditional 1st Place – Huachuca RW  
2nd Place – Rio Colorado RW

**Newsletters:**

- Digital 1st Place – Central RW of Phoenix  
2nd Place – RWOP
- Traditional 1st Place – Mesa RW  
2nd Place – Palo Verde RW  
3rd Place – Huachuca RW

**Judges:**

- Anne Booth – Yuma RW
- Donna Stinson – Thunder Mountain RW
- Roz Bayard – Tucson RW
- Lajuana Gillette – London Bridge RW

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Mary Baumbach drew our winning raffles. Luncheon was then adjourned at so members could stay on schedule to attend two afternoon workshops, their Region Caucuses at 4pm and later the Gala Reception.

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**ADDENDUM #2-INSTALLATION LUNCHEON, Saturday, Oct 28<sup>th</sup>**

Mistress of Ceremony Patt Parker, Yavapai County RW called the group to order. Chaplain Gayle Salter gave the invocation followed by our Pledge of Allegiance led by Americanism Chair Priscilla Poese. All sang our National Anthem along with Lisa Godzich, Mesa RW. MC Parker then introduced the many dignitaries and guests in attendance.

NFRW President Carrie Almond installed the 2018-2019 AzFRW Officers with Region Director Cheryl Chase being installed in absentia. President Carrie discussed her Rosie Destination White House video the previous day sharing that it took keys to open and drive the bus. She presented each officer with a key as a symbol during the Installation explaining that each officer was the key to success for the AzFRW in the coming two years.

Following luncheon, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Donna Tanzi introduced keynote speaker Fox News political pundit Rachel Campos-Duffy who inspired us all with her remarks. Truly an excellent end to an excellent convention.

President Loraine then spoke and shared a bit of her appreciation for everyone as well as her vision of the future.

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Baumbach, with many helpers, drew the many raffle prizes. NFRW President Carrie Almond gave a closing benediction.

Luncheon adjourned at 2pm....end of a great convention!