

OFFICERS

President: Doris Cortese
1st VP: Rosemary Lewis
2nd VP: Carmen Salomé
Treasurer: Barbara Koeplinger
Asst. Treas: Sharon Gibson
Recording Sec: Marj Tyrer
Corresponding Sec: Clara Callahan

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Americanism: Margaret Windhausen
Achievement Awards: Carol Beaumont
Book Chat/MELP: Cheryl Harris
Bylaws: Kerri Tonkin
Campaigns/Elections: Kerri Tonkin
Caring for America: Renie Frank, Anita Diamond
Community Engagement: Jeanie Dozier
Fundraising: Rosemary Lewis
Hospitality: Maria Kernan
Legislation: Donna Clarke
Membership: Sharon Gibson
Newsletter: Mary Snyder
Parliamentarian: Shirley O'Donnell/Kerri Tonkin
Programs: Carmen Salomé
Publicity: Gail Langner
Reservations: Mary Ann Hansen
Web Site: Missi Lastra

JONATHAN MARTIN

Jonathan is an Assistant State Attorney in the Twentieth Judicial Circuit of Florida. He has been involved in Southwest Florida politics for years and was a candidate for Florida House of Representatives as a Republican in 2012.

As a Prosecutor, Jonathan has seen some of the worst and also some of the best that the people of Florida have to offer. He has worked tirelessly to successfully prosecute special victims cases, violent criminals, murderers, and white collar criminals. He has worked along side the brave men and women of various local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies in order to make our communities safer.

After working hours, you can find Jonathan volunteering with various organizations, speaking at various events, and spending time with his family and friends.

Currently Jonathan is the chairman of the Lee County Republican Executive Committee.

Come to our next meeting and hear Jonathan's vision for the local Republican party and the 2015/2016 elections.

THE MAHOUT

The Keeper and Driver of the Elephant

JANUARY 2015
*Strong Women
for a Strong America*



KEEP THEM IN YOUR HEARTS

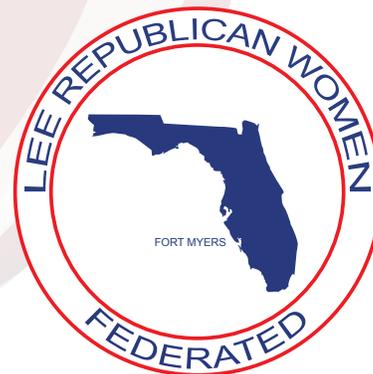
*Our new Caring for America
project..keep them in your
hearts.*

Lifeline Family Center offers a positive alternative to abortion, giving both mother and baby hope for the future.

*A Place Where Shattered
Dreams Can Be Changed to a
Promising Future.*



Jonathan Martin,
LCREC Chairman



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

I am for doing good to the poor, but I differ in opinion of the means. I think the best way of doing good to the poor, is not making them easy in poverty, but leading or driving them out of it. In my youth I travelled much, and I observed, in different countries, that the more public provisions were made for the poor, the less they provided for themselves, and of course became poorer. And, on the contrary, the less was done for them, the more they did for themselves, and became richer.
Ben Franklin

LRWF FEBRUARY DINNER MEETING

Meet with us on Monday, February 9th, at the Edison Restaurant. The keynote speaker will be Jonathan Martin who is the newly elected LCREC Chairman. He will be talking to us about his vision for our local Republican party and the upcoming 2015/2016 elections.

The dinner includes sirloin strip steak topped with sautéed mushrooms or chef's herb roasted chicken seasoned with fresh herbs and olive oil, accompanied by a side salad and served with mashed potatoes and green beans almondine. Red velvet cake for dessert.

- \$22 inclusive
- 5:15 PM Social Time / Dinner and 60 Minute Program following
- Reservation Deadline 2/4/15

Make reservations with Mary Ann Hansen by calling 239-432-9389 or emailing RMH738@aol.com

Or make your reservation by going to the LRWF website at http://www.leerepublicanwomen.com/?page_id=1089.

You may also pay online with credit card by going to <http://mkt.com/lee-republican-women-federated>.

*Remember, a reservation made
is a reservation paid!*

NEWSLETTER OF LEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN FEDERATED

Associated with the Florida Federation of Republican Women and the National Federation of Republican Women.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Doris Cortese, LRWF President

Now that the Holidays are over, it is a good time to get involved in our organization. Here are some suggestions:

- Invite a friend or stranger to attend our February meeting,
- Sit with someone you don't know at the meeting,
- Call a member who has not been at a meeting for a while and chat with them.
- Join a committee (there are several who need members).
- Attend the shootout and buy a raffle ticket.
- Attend Tally Days. Register soon!
- Mentor a guest or new member.

The more you participate, the more you will feel a part of the Federation.

As your president, I am available and welcome your calls and emails with any ideas you have to improve the club, increase membership or encourage member participation.

Carmen Salomé, our second vice chairwoman and program chair has lined up some wonderful, informative speakers for this year. Try to attend as many meetings as possible.

On behalf of our organization, I want to extend our sympathy, love and prayers to Gail Langner who lost her husband on January 19. I know the family would appreciate cards or a call to Gail.

Have a beautiful February and Happy Valentine's day.

Doris Cortese
President, LRWF

MEMBER OF THE MONTH

Originally from Ashland, Kentucky, Missi Lastra moved to South Florida in 1986, spending 25 years in Miami before relocating to Cape Coral in 2011.

She received her BA in Business from AIU and spent 21 years in operations and human resources management for fortune 100 companies prior to becoming an Advanced Planning Specialist in the funeral industry.

Community involvement is a priority and she participates as a volunteer in charitable events with the ALS, BCM, and the BNI Foundations.

Missi joined LRWF in 2013 and has worked tirelessly to make our club the best in the state. She is currently our new Website Chairperson, and is bringing many new and exciting ideas to our website. Keep watching as the new site is developed.

Missi has a wonderful husband, five children, five grandchildren and two treasured doggies. She enjoys cruising, boating, the beach, trying new restaurants and wine tasting. Her favorite thing to do is watch the Miami Heat or Miami Dolphins play with her family cheering by her side.



Missi Lastra, LRWF Website Chairperson

Thanks to Missi for helping us "Paint the State Red!"

MEMBERSHIP

EACH ONE, ASK ONE....The membership of LRWF will be hearing these four words over and over during 2015. That is because membership involves the whole club, not just the membership chairman and her committee. Membership involves you! LRWF wants to retain our current membership and recruit new women into our club. In order to do this, the membership committee will be meeting and concentrating on contacting former members from the last few years and asking them to rejoin LRWF. But, we need your help in recruiting new members. Our goal is to have EACH ONE of you, ASK ONE new woman to attend a meeting of our organization. Be prepared to explain to her why you became a member and why you enjoy attending and participating in LRWF.

I will be keeping a roster of members and their guests throughout 2015 and at the end of the year, we will use these names for a drawing for a prize. You will be entered each time you invite a guest.....the more women you bring, the more entries to the drawing. I'm asking for your help in keeping me up-to-date on your guests each month.

Sharon Gibson
Membership 2015

NEW FULL MEMBERS

Polly Bagnall
12491 Coconut Creek Ct
Fort Myers, FL 33908-3048
239-989-7969
pbagna@aol.com

Kay Anderson
4106 Olde Meadowbrook
Lane
Bonita Springs, FL 34134-
9112
239-248-3341
flkay@comcast.net

Mary Jean Martin
161 Louise Street
Fort Myers, FL 33905-2734
239-462-5103
161Louise@gmail.com

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Kirk Lasrasta
4100 S/W 28th Avenue
Cape Coral, FL 33914-6912
31-816-3204
KSL0902@hotmail.com

Lee Koeplinger
14950 Lake Olive Drive
Fort Myers, FL 33919-8336
239-908-1955
leonkoe@att.net

CORRECTIONS

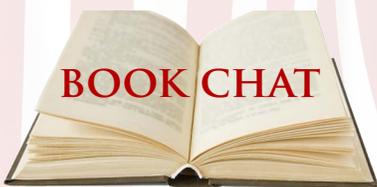
Orease Purvis
ompurvis@yahoo.com

Carol Gulley
caroljg59@gmail.com

CURRENT TOTALS

112 active members
24 associate members
1 student member

Current Total 137 members



Book Chat will be held at the home of Mindy Moran , 13971 Lake Mahogany Boulevard, Unit # 2611 on Wednesday, February 25, from 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Mindy's home is located inside the Reflection Lakes Development. You will need to enter at Gate # 4 which is labeled Trade Winds. The gate code is 20122. For a map, [CLICK HERE](#).

We will discuss the movie American Sniper. Please come prepared to share your thoughts and the reported opinions of the media.

We look forward to seeing you. Please R.S.V.P. to Mindy Moran or Cheryl Harris... contact info below. Please bring a cheese to share. Beverages will be provided. If you prefer, you are welcome to bring your favorite wine.

Cheryl Harris
timcherylharris@aol.com
Phone: 239-225-7390

Mindy Moran
mindy7156@yahoo.com
Phone: 239-288-7130

CARMEN SALOMÉ
APPOINTED TO NEWS-PRESS EDITORIAL BOARD

This past week, the News-Press announced the new editorial board for The News-Press. LRWF'S Carmen Salomé is one of the people chosen to be on the board. The board is responsible for helping shape the voice and direction on many issues and providing debate and discussion within our various Southwest Florida communities. Board members serve a six-month term.

Also chosen are Gail Lamarche of Cape Coral, Andy Coy of Fort Myers and Christine Patricca of Estero. New to the board are Executive Editor Cindy McCurry-Ross and Digital Engagement Editor Cory O'Donnell. Publisher Mei-Mei Chan and Senior Engagement Editor Tom Hayden remain on the board.

The board will offer their perspective on issues shaping the region, endorse political candidates in various local, county and state races, and meet with other individuals and organizations making a difference within our communities. Board members come from a collection of varying backgrounds and experiences, with expertise in many different areas.

Carmen Salomé has more than 15 years of experience in government, community affairs, budgeting and human resources. She was executive assistant to several Lee County commissioners from 2004 through the end of last year when she announced her retirement. Carmen coordinated travel and daily schedules for the commissioners, as well as town hall meetings and other events. Prior to joining the county, she was a staff assistant for the Fort Myers City Council in Ward 1. From 2001-2004, Carmen was administrative analyst for the city of Rochester, N.Y., developing, monitoring and collaborating with departments on operating budgets. Carmen also has used her bilingual skills in several governmental roles in Rochester with human resources and in the mayor's office.

With a master's in management and bachelor's in organization management from Roberts Wesleyan College in Rochester, Carmen has an extensive resume of community activism. She is involved with the Florida Federation of Republican Women, Lee School's Financial Advisory Committee, on the board Southwest Florida's Tiger Bay, as well as serving on the boards of Cape Coral's Charter Review, Budget Review and the city's Police Advisory Committees. Carmen also is a Cape Coral Council for Progress member.

Carmen is looking forward to interacting with leaders of the community as a member of the board. "I saw this as an opportunity to become more knowledgeable and involved on local issues," she said. "I want to see a strong vibrant community engaged with leaders and educated on issues and topics that are important to Southwest Florida. "I bring over 15 years experience working in local government, strong community knowledge and a desire to serve our beautiful Southwest Florida community."

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DATE
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March 7th, 2015

Shooting Classes - 10:00 AM

Limited to 50 people - members only

If we don't have 50 members, we will open to the public

Barbeque Luncheon - 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Raffle for a Glock 26 (100 - \$20 tickets to be sold)



Range Shooting at 1:00 PM

Contact Pat Randolph for tickets

or more information at 678-425-7157

The Great LRWF Shootout!

Lee County Shooting Range

6570 Felix Romano Ave.

Fort Myers, FL

Cost of Shootout - \$25

(includes classes, luncheon and shooting)

Members can pay for tickers to shootout on line at squareup link

[TO PAY FOR TICKETS, CLICK HERE](#)

The fundraising committee will also sell raffle tickets at the February luncheon for unique prizes contributed by vendors from our community. These include restaurant gift certificates a gun carrying case, bullets and much more. Everyone is welcome to help in soliciting donations for our LRWF fundraising event. Thanks for helping make this such a fun and exciting event!

THE PAST MONTH IN PICTURES
JANUARY 2014



Governor Rick Scott gets sworn in at his inauguration in Tallahassee on January 6th, as his proud wife, Ann looks on. Doris Cortese, LRWF President and Mary Snyder, Newsletter chairperson were invited guests at the swearing in ceremonies.



Among the many distinguished guests at the ceremony were Governor Rick Perry of Texas (left) and standing to his right, shaking hands with Governor Scott is Governor Chris Christie of New Jersey. Ann Scott is on the far right.



Governor and Ann Scott wave at cheering crowd!



Above is the new Florida cabinet, sworn in on January 6th at the inauguration of Governor Scott. From left to right are Pam Bondi (Attorney General), Adam Putnam (Commissioner of Agriculture), Governor Rick Scott and Jeff Atwater (Chief Financial Officer).

SEE WHAT YOU MISSED AT THE JANUARY MEETING



Stephen Steinlight with new member Orease Purvis



Stephen Steinlight, Hal Akin and Michel Doherty



New Member, Donna Golden (left) with friend.



Jeannie Dozier, LRWF Community Engagement Chair, shows off her bright smile!



Donna Clarke, LRWF Legislative Chair, tells the group about the upcoming Tally Days.



Stephen Steinlight speaks while Doris Cortese, LRWF President looks on.

**IF YOU MISSED ALL OF THIS FUN
PLEASE JOIN US AT THE NEXT MEETING
ON FEBRUARY 9TH.**