

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

THE MAHOUT

The Keeper and Driver of the Elephant

JANUARY 2015

*Strong Women
for a Strong America*



Dr. Stephen Steinlight

DR. STEPHEN STEINLIGHT

One of the nation's leading authorities on immigration, Dr. Stephen Steinlight is Senior Policy Analyst at the Center for Immigration Studies (CIS) in Washington, DC. He focuses on ascending trends in immigration and immigration policy, America's changing demography and culture, the politics of immigration, the impact of immigration on the nation's social cohesion, the consequences of massive low-skill immigration on America's most vulnerable groups, and reviews immigration legislation. Dr. Steinlight is also concerned with the nexus between immigration and national security.

Dr. Steinlight has testified before the Judiciary Committee of the United States House of Representatives and the Judiciary Committee of the United States Senate. He has also provided expert testimony before state legislatures and State Freedom of Information Commissions. He has shared podiums with Senators, members of the House and presidential candidates. He has also addressed hundreds of state legislator and civic and religious groups across the country, been a panelist at academic conferences and public forums, and is frequently interviewed on radio and TV. He has written extensively on many of the central issues in the immigration debate.

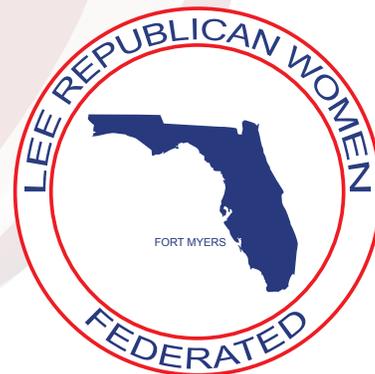
LRWF GENERAL MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2015

January 12	Luncheon	11:30 AM
February 9	Dinner	5:30 PM
March 9	Luncheon	11:30 AM
April 13	Dinner	5:30 PM
May 11	Luncheon	11:30 AM
June 8	Dinner	5:30 PM
July 13	Luncheon	11:30 AM
August 10	Dinner	5:30 PM
September 14	Luncheon	11:30 AM
October 12	Dinner	5:30 PM
November 18	Fashion Show Luncheon	11:30 AM
December 14	Dinner	5:30 PM

PROGRAMS - Dynamic programs are one of the top reasons women join Republican women's clubs and continue to stay involved. Programs are the key to successful club meetings. Good programs make club members feel Empowered, Engaged, and Educated. Our 2015 monthly meetings are already shaping up to be informative and empowering! Email Carmen Salomé with any topic or speaker suggestions at carmen.salome4@gmail.com.

NEWSLETTER OF LEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN FEDERATED

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



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"If you want total security, go to prison. There you're fed, clothed, given medical care and so on. The only thing lacking ... is freedom."
Dwight D. Eisenhower



LRWF JANUARY LUNCHEON MEETING

Meet with us on Monday, January 12th, at the Edison Restaurant. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Stephen Steinlight, Senior Policy Analyst at the Center for Immigration Studies (CIS) in Washington, DC. Dr. Steinlight is one of the nation's leading authorities on immigration

The lunch includes Chicken Monte Carlo-grilled chicken breast with avocado, Swiss cheese and bacon on a fresh brioche bun with spicy aioli on the side, served with a salad. Brownies and ice cream for dessert.

- \$18 inclusive
- 11:10 AM Social Time / Lunch and 60 Minute Program following
- Reservation Deadline 1/7/14

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!

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Doris Cortese, LRWF President

Before we move ahead, I would like to thank the Advisory Council, Rosemary Lewis, Cindy Lignelli, Linda Loudin and Judy O'Donnell for guiding our club through the last four months of 2014. Their leadership was instrumental in getting our Federation through some difficult moments.

But now it is 2015, and I am looking forward to a vibrant, exciting year, with a board that is a blend of seasoned and new members who are dedicated to making the organization bigger, better and more interesting. Since this is an off year for campaigning, we are having some large fundraisers...starting with our shootout in March and ending with the fashion show in November. New and different ideas are being tried by various committee chairwomen, and I look forward to working with them throughout the year.

It will take all of us to achieve our goals for this year, so I encourage you to contact the chairwoman of the committees you are interested in being involved with. The list of new chairs is in this month's newsletter.

Have a blessed and happy new year.

Doris Cortese
President

MEMBER OF THE MONTH

Marj grew up and lived in Michigan until ten years ago when she gave up the snow for the Florida sunshine.

She has two beautiful and talented daughters, Jennifer Barker and Amy Weaver. Jennifer resides in Bradenton with her husband Brent and two delightful daughters, Hannah and Ellie. In August, Amy moved to Singapore for three years with her husband Don who works for GM International and also with her sons, Graham and Ethan. She hopes to visit them and explore the Far East sometime next year.

Marj attended both the University of Michigan and Wayne State University. She spent the majority of her working career in employee benefits. She is currently a licensed life, health and annuities agent in the State of Florida. She is affiliated with Strickland Financial Group and Humana, Inc.

While in Michigan, Marj was active in charities, the Symphony Guild, the Chamber of Commerce and her church. In Florida, her involvement is primarily with LRWF, her church (Cypress Lake United Methodist), and Crown Colony Country Club. She also loves to sail, snow ski, golf, travel, dance, read and crochet.

Thanks to Marj for helping us Paint the State Red.



Marj Tyrer, LRWF Recording Secretary

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

NEW FULL MEMBERS

Donna Golden
7591 Key Deer Ct.
Ft. Myers, FL 33966-5709
239-275-0985
No email

Cindy Crawford
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Katie Stephens
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Orease Purvis
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Estero, FL 3398-4108
239-498-3581
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Sherry Mann
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Fort Myers, FL 33919-7782
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Carolyn Volz
PO Box 1495
Ft. Myers, FL 33902-1495
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No email

Janet Diele
2544 SW 13th Avenue
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239-574-6718
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ASSOCIATE TO FULL MEMBERS

Michel G. Doherty
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Marilyn Stout
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239-549-5629
astout34@comcast.net

MEMBERSHIP

How do you respond when your neighbors or friends ask you about LRWF? Do you have an answer readily available, or do you just casually pass off on the opportunity to explain what LRWF means to you? Perhaps the following column will be of help when you are approached. Better yet, you could copy it and hand it to your friend and invite them to the next meeting. Each one of us knows someone we can ask to come with us to the January meeting...make it a focal point of your new year and each one, ask one!

WHY SHOULD I JOIN LEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN FEDERATED

- Alone, I am one voice...together we are stronger in important issues
- Alone, I can support Republican candidates...together we stay informed on current issues, political news and actively support grassroots efforts in electing Republicans!
- Alone, I can hear a candidate speak on television...together we have local candidates appear at forums and can offer questions.

BENEFITS OF BEING A FEDERATED MEMBER

- Becoming a member of LRWF gives me membership in three clubs
 - o Our local club here in Fort Myers – Lee Republican Women Federated
 - o Florida Federation of Republican Women
 - o National Federation of Republican Women
- Being a member gives me networking opportunities and the ability to meet and develop relationships with powerful women through effective discussion forums at local, state and national events
- Being a member in this club gives me an opportunity to empower more Republican women in the political process and increase the number of women in the party and in public office
- And, being a member lets me have time with women who can become 'friends' and 'sisters' and we can all use more of that!

Submitted by Sharon Gibson, Membership 2015

Adapted from Republican Women of Miami Federated

CARING FOR AMERICA

We are pleased to announce that the 2015 Caring for America project will be funded by 50/50 raffles (you get to keep 50% of the dollar amount of raffle tickets sold) at our monthly meetings and the remaining 50% will benefit the Lifeline Family Center, Inc. of Cape Coral.

Lifeline Family Center's goal is to help young women in unplanned pregnancies with a comprehensive educational program in a safe, secure home. They enable mothers to redirect their lives and become self-supporting within two years after the birth of their child. In addition to providing her with a home, they offer scholarship opportunities and care for her child while she pursues an education for a career.

This is a fine example of "women helping women" and what a wonderful way for the women of our club to help them do so.

We hope all of you will help support this fine organization.

Thanks,

Renie Frank & Anita Diamond
Caring for America Co-chairpersons



Attention Ladies....The January 2015 book chat will be held on Wednesday, January 28th from 2:00 to 4:00 PM at the home of Cheryl Harris, 13970 Lake Mahogany Blvd., Unit 2012. Her 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 be discussing the book from November 2014 that we did not have a chance to review in December. It is the book entitled Assault and Flattery by Katie Pavlich.

We will provide cheese, crackers and non-alcoholic beverages. If you would care to bring your own beverage, such as wine, feel free to do so. Please email or call to let us know you are attending and plan to come and have a relaxing afternoon.

Your Book Chat Chairs,

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

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



Michel Doherty, Luminary Award Winner

MICHEL DOHERTY WINS LUMINARY AWARD

Michel Doherty, a member of LRWF and resident of Cape Coral, Florida has won the prestigious Luminary Award. A luminary is a person who inspires others or who achieves eminence in a field. This can truly be said of Michele Doherty. She is the inaugural winner of The News-Press 2014 People of the Year Luminary Award.

Michel is a friend to many, including Lizbeth Benaquisto and Dane Eagle. Lizbeth was a finalist along with Michel in receiving this award. Also among her friends have been Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Jerry Lewis and Betty Ford.

In Michel's early years she was a dancer and model. The following is an excerpt from the News Press article on Michel.

"Life also brought heartache. Her husband died, and she had a drinking problem, battling what she calls the disease of alcoholism. 'After I was a social drinker, I became a heavy drinker, then my husband died and my drinking got out of control,' Doherty said. 'I was forced to look at it because of my sister. At first, I denied I had a problem and then went for some treatment. But there was nothing for women, mostly men were sent to treatment.'

She got the necessary help and because of her own hardships, Doherty saw a need to help others. She went back to school, trained in psychiatry, earning a bachelor's degree at the age of 52 and a master's at age 55 from Lincoln University, the first degree-granting, historically black university in the U.S. Doherty said she was expertly trained because most of her professors were Harvard and Yale graduates, but they were black and it was the '70s, so many of them could not get jobs at traditionally white colleges. While getting her master's, she con-

tinued to work at Horsham Clinic, a psychiatric hospital, getting the training that helped bring her to Pine Island.

She became executive director of The Cloisters addiction rehabilitation center on the island in 1971, treating well-known celebrities. It was an intense six-week program where families of the substance abuser were ordered to spend a week there, learning about addictions and how to deal with the person. Doherty said she treated governors, country and western singers and other personalities. She got to know Betty Ford during her first year of sobriety.

"It was a very demanding situation, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year," Doherty said about her job. "You could never get away from it. In some ways, for me, it enforced it, how to become sober and stay sober. I am glad I am not there anymore. I was a pure alcoholic, but at the time a lot of them were combining drugs."

She retired in 1990, but in many ways she was just getting started. She tried to travel, play golf and tennis, and met people. "Then, I said to myself, there is much more to life than this," Doherty said. "People were calling me to help with other issues, other things I could do, so I got involved locally with the community.

Her first project was Four Mile Cove Ecological Preserve in Cape Coral, the only salt water preserve in the middle of a city. At the time, there were no funds to maintain the land, which was owned by the state but leased to the city. She went to work, talking with county commissioners. She was told there was no funding. That only stirred her more. She explained the environmental significance of the property and convinced the tourism director to give the city \$250,000 and an additional \$250,000 the next year. She also helped persuade the county to give Cape Coral the land where significant military landmarks, like the Iwo Jima Memorial, now exist.

'She is a remarkable model and community influencer,' said Mei-Mei Chan, president and publisher of The News-Press Media Group. 'She is courageous in sharing her views, fostering leadership, advocating change, supporting important causes.'

Another of those causes is the PACE Center for Girls, where she was honored in 2012 as a Grande Dame. She saw the valuable help the at-risk girls were receiving from the center but thought more could be done. She has helped develop a program and find funding to offer the girls opportunities to learn job skills and possibly college scholarships."

(Taken from the December 21, 2014 News-Press editorial)



Michel in her early years with Dean Martin and Joe DiMaggio.

THE PAST MONTH IN PICTURES
DECEMBER 2014



LRWF 2nd Vice President Carmen Salomé and Lt. C Allen West at the "Holiday Salute to our Troops" event in Naples on December 12th.



LRWF 2nd Vice President Carmen Salomé meets City of Ponce Mayor Maria Melendez-Altieri during a recent trip to Puerto Rico. They discussed women in local politics and leadership positions.



Louisiana makes 54!!!

NFRW President Kathy Brugger, Political Director Terri Hauser, and Louisiana Federation President June Williams joined local Republican Women at the Sheveport headquarters to Get-Out-the Vote for Bill Cassidy. Iowa Federation President Kim Reem and daughters also joined the effort, paying it forward after NFRW strike forces helped Joni Ernst in the fall. Dr. Cassidy soundly defeated Mary Landrieu on December 6 to become the 54th Republican U.S. Senator.

AND...our beloved Ehren Oates is serving water!



LRWF is a proud member of the SWF Hispanic Chamber. Pictured are Veronica Culbertson, SWF Hispanic Chamber President and Roberto Arreola, Hispanic Chamber Board Chairman with Carmen Salomé in the middle.

SEE WHAT YOU MISSED AT THE DECEMBER MEETING



Above, the ladies line-up to register and pay for their meals! The turn-out was great!



To the left is Rosemary Lewis, LRWF 1st Vice President, with Jonathan Martin, the new Lee Republican Executive Committee (REC) Chairman.



Above, left to right are Reine Frank, Linda Loudin and Shirley O'Donnell...just hanging out!



Doris Cortese, newly elected LRWF President with our guest speaker, Pastor Patty.



Donna, Clarke with MELP (Mamie Eisenhower Literacy Program) recipients Amy McLynn, and Michelle McLynn. Amy is the Director of the First United Methodist Church Day-care, Infants through PreK. Donna awarded them with fourteen books including a set of books on Lincoln and a set on Anne Lindbergh for group reading.



Judy O'Donnell (left) and Cindy Lignelli (right)...both are LRWF past presidents! Best buds forever!!!



First time guest, Katie Stephens with long standing member, Clara Calahan.



Melinda Moran, Donna Clarke and Cheryl Harris holding their raffle tickets and lookin' pretty!



Maria Kernan sells raffle tickets for our beautiful Christmas Flower Basket!



**IF YOU MISSED ALL OF THIS FUN...
MAKE SURE YOU MAKE IT
TO THE NEXT MEETING,
ON JANUARY 12TH!**

Ladies...we present to you...our 2014 LRWF Officers! From left to right are Doris Cortese (President), Rosemary Lewis (1st Vice President), Barb Koeplinger (Treasurer), Marj Tyrer (Recording Secretary), Clara Callahan (Corresponding Secretary) and Sharon Gibson (Assistant Treasurer). Not pictured is Carmen Salomé (2nd Vice President).