

CENTRAL TEXAS REPUBLICAN WOMEN (PAC)

General Membership Meeting

Harris Community Center – Belton, Texas

May 11th, 2026

1. Meeting called to order by CTRW President, Janet Brown, at 11:30am. She welcomed all guests, elected officials, members, and recognized new members attending today.
2. CTRW Chaplin, Rebecca Tong, gave the Invocation: A reading of the prayer she read at the National Day of Prayer event held in Belton last Thursday.
3. CTRW President then led the pledges of Allegiance to flags of the United States and to the State of Texas.
4. State Representative, Hillary Hickland, HD55, requested we correct the spelling of her last name in the minutes from the April 20th, 2026, meeting. Correction has been made and revised minutes have been filed.
5. CTRW Treasurer, Wanita Reeder, reported our Club's current bank balance is \$62,201.50. She also updated us on the Club Membership numbers: Primary Members: 209, Associate Members: 55, Total Members: 264.
6. CTRW President, Janet Brown, announced that CTRW has three Members Who will be attending TFRW Candidate School this year: Asha Petrich, Raquel Nelson, and Janet Brown. Congratulations to all.
7. CTRW member, Linda Atkins, introduced our special Memorial Day Speaker, Debra Coffey with her program, "Bringing Daddy Home". Debra Coffey, a longtime member of TFRW, Co-Coordinator of TRFW Candidate School, and the 2025 Kathryn J.R. Swanson Public Service Award recipient for her tireless work to advance roadway safety.
8. Ms. Coffee shared the story of her father, Captain Robert Russell Barnett, affectionately known as "Bear:" Barnett, who was a pilot with the United States Air Force during the Vietnam war conflict. Captain Barnett was a member of the 8th Bomb Squad where he flew a B57 Bomber and his plane went down over Ho Che Mein Trail in Laos on April 7th, 1966. He was listed as KIA (Killed in Action) and it would take 50 years for the Department of Defense to locate the spot his plane went down, recover some items that belonged to Captain Barnett, and confirm DNA, matched Captain Barnett. Captain Barnett was returned home with honors to his family April 7th, 2017, and is buried in the Texas State Cemetery in Austin. According to the National League of POW/MIA, there are currently 1,500 Vietnam War soldiers unaccounted for.
9. Closing Remarks and announcements by CTRW President, Janet Brown:
10. This is the last meeting until August 17th, as the Club goes on Summer Break. There are still activities going on during this time, including the Red Roof Connections events. There is a gathering at Treno's Pizza in Temple on Tuesday, May 12th, 6-9pm. And Coffee Connection at PAPA'S CAFÉ in Harker Heights on May 28th. She also invited members to come support Hillary Hickland who is hosting a "meet and greet" tomorrow morning (May 12th at PAPA'S Café, 9am.
11. Reminder to vote in the Primary Run-off elections. Early voting and Election Day voting dates: May 18-22., Election Day, May 26th. Encourage others to vote! Also, if you're in the Harker Heights/Killeen area: June 13th is the date of the run-off elections for Harker Heights Mayor, and a Killeen City Council Seat. Please support our Republican candidates.
12. Next General Membership Meeting is August 17th at the Harris Community Center, 11am. The speaker topic will be on Sharia Law in Texas and in addition checks to Republican candidates will be distributed. The Meeting was adjourned at 12:52pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Renee Bigham

Secretary, CTRW

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