



GFWC Texas 2024-2026 CANDIDATE GUIDE



127th Spring Convention

April 25-27, 2024

McKinney, Texas

March 2024

*In accordance with the bylaws which govern this body, “**TFWC Bylaws, Amended 2023, pages 9 & 10, Article V, ‘NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS’, sub heading C. “The Committee Chairman shall receive endorsements for all candidates prior to the Fall Board Meeting of odd-numbered years. Candidates shall file for a specific office and their names shall be announced in the Call to Convention.”**”*

The following offices will be voted on during the upcoming 127th Spring Convention to be held in McKinney Texas.

President- Elect

First Vice President

Second Vice President

The election will be conducted on Friday, April 26, 2024, between 4:00 and 5:00 p.m.. Elections results will be announced the same evening, and the installation of elected officers will take place on Saturday, April 27, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

This being an election year and following the procedures outlined in the bylaws as referenced above, GFWC Texas submits the following candidates (photo & resume) for your review. All candidates have been vetted and approved by the GFWC Texas Nomination Committee, Margaret J. Underhill, Chairman.

Novella Byrd, Woman’s Club of Cotulla, Alamo District

Kathy Horak-Smith, 20th Century Club, Pioneer District

Amy McDaniel, The 36 Club of Lampasas, Capitol District

Katherine Hajek, Woman’s Club of Kingsville, South Texas District

Candidate for the Office of President-elect.....Novella Byrd

Novella Byrd joined the GFWC Woman’s Club of Cotulla in 2014. She has served as Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, and President at the club level. At the district level she has served in a variety of capacities including District Reporting Chairman, Technology Coordinator, President-elect and Alamo District President, serving as President of the District Presidents during her tenure. At the state level, Novella served as Juniorette Coordinator, state Reporting Chairman and attended the GFWC LEADS training in 2019. She currently serves as GFWC Texas First Vice President. Novella is also currently serving as the South Central Region President’s Aide.

Novella retired from Cotulla ISD after 28 years of service as an educator and librarian. She currently resides in Cotulla, Texas with her husband of 32 years, Teddy.



Candidate for the Office of First Vice President.....Dr. Kathy Horak Smith

Kathy Horak Smith has been active in GFWC Texas since she became a member of the Stephenville 20th Century Club in 1999, serving as first vice president, president-elect and president. As a member, she has also served on the Stephenville Public Library Board and the Stephenville Community Garden Planning Committee.

Kathy has served as Pioneer District president, President Pro-Tem, President-elect, Second Vice President, Pioneer District Scholarship Representative to TFWC and as Education Chairman.

At the State Level, Kathy has served as Photography Chairman (2016-2020), President of the District Presidents (2018-2020), Education and Library State Chairman (2020-2022), and on the Long Range Planning Committee (2018-2020). She is currently serving as Second Vice President and Dean of Membership and in that capacity is the Liaison Officer for the Lone Star Administrative District. Kathy is instrumental in publishing and keeping the GFWC Texas Facebook page current.

Kathy has been teaching for 38 years and is currently employed at Tarleton University in Stephenville as a professor and is the current Chair of the Mathematics Department.

She is married to Russell; they have two children and three grandchildren.



Candidate for the office of Second Vice President.....Katherine Hajek

Katherine (Kathy) Hajek joined the Woman’s Club of Kingsville (Junior Women’s Department) in 1983. She worked and chaired several department committees then moved into officer positions, service as vice chairman 2004-2006 and department chairmen 2010-2012. She then moved to the TREND department and served as Treasurer 2016-2018, vice chairman 2020-2022, and various chairmen positions from 2018 through 2022 all the while service as Federation Counselor in both departments. Kathy also served as a Juniorette sponsor for 9 years from 2001 thru 2008 and again from 2014-2017. She then became involved on the Woman’s club of Kingsville’s Executive Board as the Juniorette Chair of Sponsors in 2003-2004, then 1st Vice President in 2014-2016, President-elect 2014-2016 and President 2016-2018. Kathy has served as a presidential advisor twice 2017-2019 & 2022-2024. She continues to serve on various committees; the Federation Committee, Bylaws Committee, Fundraising Chairman.

Kathy developed and managed the website through Shutterfly and continues to help manage the Facebook page.

Kathy also belongs to tow other clubs in the South Texas District. President’s Council of Corpus Christi in 2018 and Woman’s Monday club in 2019. At President’s Council she served as reporter and is currently treasurer. At the Woman’s Monday Club, she was asked to help write and organize the information for the Jennie June Award submission for Marsha Wellman, which she received.

At the district level Kathy served as Yearbook Chairman 2016-2017 under Therese Crocker, First Vice President 2017-2020, and President-elect 2020-2022. Kathy maintained the South Texas district Shutterfly webpage, as well as serving as a district reporting chair for several areas. Kathy is currently service as President of the South Texas District.

At the state level, Kathy has served as the Resolutions Chairman 2020-2022 and was chosen as the 2021 LEADS candidate and represented Texas at the GFWC International Convention. She currently serves as the GFWC Texas Webmaster, where she revamped the website making it more user friendly and informative, and serves as the Constant Contact coordinator.

Kathy volunteers in her community with the local county fair and junior livestock show, the Kleberg County Adult Literacy Council, the Helen Kleberg Community Center Board and the B.C. and Addie Brookshire Foundation.

Kathy holds a Bachelor of Science from Texas A & M Kingsville in Human Sciences – Child & Family Sciences (1998) and worked at Texas A & M Kingsville until her retirement after 40 years of service, 38 of which were in the James C. Jernigan Library.

Kathy has been married to Vernon for 43 years; they have 3 daughters and 1 granddaughter, “Addison Rose.”



Candidate for Second Vice President.....Amy McDaniel

Amy McDaniel has been a member of the GFWC '36 club in Lampasas, Texas, since October 1966 and has served as club president (2006-2010), club Federation counselor (2010-2024), club corresponding secretary (2014-2016), and club treasurer (2018-2022).

At the District level, she served as Second vice President (2010-2012), First Vice President (2012-2013), President-elect (2020-2022), and Capitol District President (2022-2024).

At the State level, most recently, she has served as Chairman of the GFWC Texas Annual Convention under GFWC Texas President Carol Habgood (2019), Secretary to the District Presidents and as a member of the Strategic Planning Committee under GFWC Texas President Billie Williams.

She represented GFWC Texas as the LEADS candidate in 2009 in Cleveland, Ohio.

Both the '36 Club and Capitol District have both formally endorsed Amy for the position of GFWC Texas Second vice President.

Her community volunteer activities include serving on the boards of the Lampasas Association for the Arts (LAFTA), Friends of the Lampasa Animal Shelter, Vision Lampasas, AdventHealth Rollin-Brook Community Hospital Advisory Board, Cooper Spring Nature park and the Lampasas County Museum Foundation. She continues to serve on the hospital advisory board, on the nature park board and on the museum board. She has also participated in Lampasas County Relay for Life and is an active member of the First Presbyterian Women in Lampasas.

Amy's work experience includes serving as a publications editor, working as a curator in art museums, and leading the Lampasas County Higher Education Center. She earned an A.B. from Barnard College (New York City) in Program in the Arts with a concentration in creative writing; an M.A. and an M. Phil. (ABD) in art history from Columbia University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (New York City); and an M.S. in higher education administration from Drexel University (Philadelphia).

Born in central Connecticut, Amy met her husband, Ken, in Hartford in 1999. Married on New Year's Eve in 2024, they are looking forward to celebrating their 20th anniversary this year. Ken is retired after 35 years as a financial advisor, and they enjoy traveling and try to take one big trip each year. Ken had two children; Sandy, the mother of grandchild "Max" and Jacob, and Amy and Ken spoil 2 adorable dogs, Otto and Rocco.



Please make your plans to cast your vote for your chosen candidate during the GFWC Texas 127th Spring Convention in McKinney, Texas. You must be present to vote, and you must be a credentialed delegate to cast your ballot in this election.



GFWC Texas 127th Spring Convention

April 25 – 27th, 2024

Deadline: Must be received by April 15, 2024

CREDENTIALS CARD

OFFICIAL USE

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

PHONE: _____

Verified – Elaine Wilde
 Credentials Chairman
 G2wilde@gmail.com

Date Postmarked Date Received

Mailing Address:
 5026 Yorktown Blvd. #17
 Corpus Christi, Texas 78413

Check One:

Member of the Board of Directors:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> State Officer (Elected or Appointed) | <input type="checkbox"/> State Appointed Chairman of Programs/Projects |
| <input type="checkbox"/> District Officer (Elected or Appointed) | <input type="checkbox"/> State Standing Committee Member
(Bylaws, Resolutions, Finance) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Past State President | <input type="checkbox"/> State Project/Contest Chairman |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trustee Rep. (1 per district) | <input type="checkbox"/> State Convention Chairman |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarship Rep. (1 per district) | <input type="checkbox"/> State Life Membership Committee Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State Life Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Clubwoman Editor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State Honorary Member | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Club President | |

Delegates:

- Club Delegate (One delegate per 15 members of your club; other than club president)
- Juniorette Club (One delegate per club)

Name of Club _____ District _____

of Members in Club _____

