



**Message from OFRW President Pam Kniffin:**

I want to thank you all who came to Canyonville for our Spring Board Meeting. The four Governor candidates who spoke at the meeting inspired us and gave us hope for a Republican Governor of Oregon.

Yvonne and I are planning our Fall meeting in Clackamas, October 2-3. It takes 3 minutes to drive to Clackamas Town Center from the hotel so come early or stay late and do some shopping. The Monarch Convention Center has been upgraded and is now a Hilton Garden Inn. It's nice with reasonable rates. We are working hard to lower the Meeting Registration Fee so stayed tuned for further information.

I am planning to visit the Clubs now that the NFRW and OFRW meetings are over until October. If you have something special planned this summer; a Summer BBQ or Special Fundraiser, please let me know and I will try to attend.

I get a lot of questions about where does the \$10 of your dues for the OFRW gets spent on. A portion of the dues is for Officer's travel but most of the dues covers the Presidents travel to the Clubs and their required attendance at the NFRW Meetings. Your OFRW Meeting registration fee covers most of the cost of the OFRW meetings and we do Fundraisers for the remaining costs. Going to hotels for our meetings and having catered meals there is not cheap!

Hope to see you all soon,  
Your OFRW President, Pam



**OFRW 2026  
President  
Pam Kniffin**

**OREGON PRIMARY REPUBLICAN WINNERS \***

POSITION	CANDIDATE	%	DESCRIPTION
US SENATE	DAVID BROCK SMITH	29.54	ALL OF OREGON
CD 1	BARBARA J. KAHL	71.47	NW CORNER OF OREGON
CD 2	CLIFF BENTZ	79.69	DOUGLAS, JOSEPHINE, JACKSON, EASTERN OREGON
CD 3	LORAN AYLES	95.39	MULTNOMAH, CLACKAMAS, HOOD RIVER
CD 4	MONIQUE DESPAIN	86.73	LINCOLN, BENTON, LANE, COOS, CURRY
CD 5	PATTI ADAIR	59.52	DESCHUTES, JEFFERSON, LINN, MARION, CLACKAMAS, MULTNOMAH
CD 6	DAVID RUSS	98.31	MULTNOMAH, CLACKAMAS, YAMHILL, POLK, MARION, WASHINGTON
GOVERNOR	CHRISTINE DRAZAN	40.79	ALL OF OREGON

\* As of May 23, 2026. Information from the Oregon Secretary of State's website.

## OFRW REMEMBERS JENNIFER GREEN

Our dear friend and colleague, Jennifer Green, passed away May 28, 2026, from a short battle with cancer. OFRW and her club, Josephine County Republican Women, remember her for her dedication to our principles and for the friendships that she so easily made among us. God bless Jennifer and her family in this difficult time.



### Remembering Jennifer

Written by Linda Smith

Everyone contributes something unique to their club, church, organization, or even their Bunko group, if that applies. Jenn did indeed contribute so much to each group she was part of, but the one special club activity she introduced will forever be known as Gramma Green's Drinking Club. Most of us have shortened it to Gramma Green's.

What started as a simple way to have an open, friendly, social time we could invite potential members to became the glue that held us together through election season, as we shared "life" with each other and processed monumental sadness and loss. She and I would often talk about where to have it each month. Schmidt Winery was a special favorite. Oh, there were lots of other places we chose periodically, like Steam's Distillery on G Street or the Toasted Barrel.

To be honest, it really didn't matter where we'd congregate. It was important that we DID meet. Talk. Discuss. Disagree? Maybe a little bit, in the friendliest way possible. Gramma Green's became sort of famous in and around the Republican Women's clubs in OFRW. It was copied, modified, given different names, of course, but it was always known as the original idea of Jennifer Green.

My friend, whom I mentored as the Immediate Past President of JoCRW, filling our glasses after the rest had gone home, savoring the warm, quiet Friday evenings at Schmidt, sharing stories about life. Gramma Green, I will miss you.

Jenn and I first met when she was designated by the ORP Chair, Bill Currier, to temporarily reorganize the local GOP Central Committee back in 2018. She was polite to me and welcomed any questions I had. From there our relationship evolved to bringing together the two RW Clubs in our county that had split in 2014 due to several management decisions.

It seems Jenn and I were always trying to get people to work together and make our County a truly better place for business and families. She held several positions in our Club, but she was most proud of being Treasurer.

We traveled to Orlando last September for the NFRW Fall Biennial Convention and had a great time. She loved the whole process of collecting state pins and pinning them onto the white cowboy hat she bought there. She was excited to see the Disney locations she and her family vacationed to every other year and was looking forward to going back this coming Fall.

I will miss her dedication and loyalty to getting the job done and her kindness she showed everyone.

Dordie Lamphier  
Josephine County RW



A Memorial Mass will be held for Jennifer at St. Anne's Catholic Church in Grants Pass on June 11, 2026 @ 8:30am.

## OFRW REIMBURSEMENTS: "HOW TO DO IT!"

**Wondering how to receive your reimbursements from OFRW? Gerry Briggs gives us the 411!**

HELP! I spent money and I must be reimbursed by OFRW! Did an OFRW Chair ask you to buy something for an OFRW meeting? Were you tasked with providing a hostess gift? Perhaps you're just curious about reimbursements in general?

Our OFRW budget provides for reimbursements to members for a variety of expenses. For example, the Hospitality & Protocol chair gets reimbursed for the purchase of our name tag holders, District Directors can be reimbursed up to \$200 for gas or expenses related to their meeting.

So, What is the process? 1). Approval. Make sure your expense is approved, either through our budget or checking with the OFRW Treasurer or the OFRW chair or whoever asked you to provide an item. 2). Receipts. Whatever you buy, you must retain the receipt: gas, toys, gifts and online purchases all MUST have a receipt. For on-line expenses, you can use the email the company sends you to confirm your purchase as it will have all pertinent information. For instance, Amazon, they will send you an email saying,

*Hello Gerry,  
Order #11112222333  
Placed on Monday 2, 2000  
Item photo with cost,. etc. . .*

That is your receipt. Print it out and place it in a folder marked "Reimbursements."

Being president for two years, keeping a folder, just for receipts for OFRW was the easiest way to keep track of my expenses. Then monthly, I would print out the fillable reimbursement form and the receipts and send it all in snail mail and I would keep a copy for my records.

If you buy/have expenses from an OFRW Meeting, you need to get those expenses into the treasurer as soon as possible so she can do a cost breakdown for the Executive committee.

Need more information? Contact Laurel Regan at 503-880-7991 (cell) or [laurel@QOE1.net](mailto:laurel@QOE1.net).

Gerry Briggs,  
OFRW 2024-  
2025 President  
and now 2026-  
2027 OFRW  
Immediate Past  
President.



## REQUEST FROM OFRW FUNDRAISING CHAIR

**Michelle Cassel, OFRW Fundraising Chair**, is requesting members send her fundraising ideas. The state organization is looking to support both the Fall

2026 Board Meeting, the Spring 2027 Board Meeting and the 2027 NFRW Biennial Convention in Texas! There's a lot to spend money on!

## TIME TO UPDATE YOUR BYLAWS!

Members! It is time for each club to review their Bylaws, Standing Rules, and Policies and Procedures. **OFRW Bylaws Chair, Christine Morgan**, is requesting that these club documents be sent to her by the club's president for OFRW review. Also, if club members have any suggestions for the OFRW Bylaws, Standing Rules, and Policies and Procedures, please use Christine's form (sent to presidents) to submit those suggestions.

July 17, 2026, is her deadline! Any changes will be considered and voted on at the OFRW Fall Board Meeting. Club presidents will receive any Bylaw changes 30 days prior to the Fall meeting for members to review.

Thank you, Chris, for helping us review and update our club and state Bylaws and rules. OFRW will look so smart! Christine Morgan, [shadolady52@gmail.com](mailto:shadolady52@gmail.com).

# OFRW 2026 SPRING BOARD MEETING

OFRW President Pam Kniffin put on a terrific Spring Board meeting at the Seven Feathers Casino and Resort on April 17-18. The highlights of this event were hearing four of the Oregon Republican gubernatorial candidates, Drazan, Diehl, and Dudley after Friday night's dinner, and Danielle Bethell on Saturday morning. CD 4 candidate Monique DeSpain introduced

herself to us as well.

The discussions amongst the candidates certainly enlightened the crowd's understanding and helped us to appreciate the strengths of each candidate. OFRW thanks all the candidates for coming to our meeting and for their willingness to run for office.



## WHHA - WHITE HOUSE CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS

**NFRW PRESIDENT MARTHA JENKINS** has sent us a special fundraising opportunity through the White House Historical Association (WHHA). "The WHHA offers official White House Christmas ornaments that many clubs already use successfully as an annual fundraiser, and they are eager to work with additional Republican women's clubs across the country." Here is Martha's offer to our clubs to buy a batch of these beautiful ornaments (minimum order of 25 at \$16.95/each). This is a fundraising opportunity for us! We can sell the ornaments for a higher price. The regular retail price is \$26.95. "This allows your club to set its own resale price, create a meaningful fundraiser, and offer supporters a beautiful, patriotic keepsake tied directly to the history of the White House."

What a beautiful Christmas ornament! Let's do it! This will make a gorgeous centerpiece on our Christmas trees. Martha would like us to share photos and stories of our ornament sales. Club presidents, send in your information to NFRW and inspire others!

To place an order, please contact:

Robert Milam, Corporate Account Executive  
The White House Historical Association

1610 H Street NW

Washington, DC 20006

Phone: 202-218-4331

Email: [rmilam@whha.org](mailto:rmilam@whha.org)



## OFRW OFFICERS, CHAIRS, & DISTRICT DIRECTORS

### The 2026-2027 OFRW Officers:

- **Pam Kniffin**, President
- **Sue Leslie**, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President
- **Linda Dykwel**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President
- **Laurel Regan**, Treasurer
- **Eleanor Boese**, Recording Secretary
- **Sue Salazar**, Corresponding Secretary

**Gerry Briggs** is the Immediate Past President.

**Chris Morgan** appointed by President to be the Parliamentarian.

### OFRW District Directors:

**Northwest District** – **Linda Neace**

**Willamette Valley District** – **Tina Musshorn**

**Southwest District** – **Linda Hellenthal**

**Northeast District** – available

### OFRW Special Committee Chairs 2026-2027

US 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration Chair – **Kim Carter**

OFRW Zoom Meeting Chair – **Michelle Cassel**

Want to report your club's activities to the website and newsletter? Submit your events to Cindy Sawyer, [csawyer007@gmail.com](mailto:csawyer007@gmail.com), and Margie Crawford, [mc18101@gmail.com](mailto:mc18101@gmail.com).

Notice: If your club has a new president for 2026 and/or a new meeting place, time, and date, please notify Margie Crawford, [mc18101@gmail.com](mailto:mc18101@gmail.com) or 503-510-8061. Thank you!

### OFRW Standing Committee Chairs 2026-2027

Achievement Awards – **Snezhanna Saforov**

Americanism – available

Bylaws – **Christine Morgan**

Campaigns/Elections – **Linda Neace**

Election Integrity – **Beth Keyser**

Events/Programs – **Yvonne Stoffey**

Fundraising – **Michelle Cassel**

Keep Nine Amendment – **Linda**

**Hellenthal**

Legislation & Research – available

Leadership & Training – **Sharon Schmidt**

Co-Chairs – **Dordie Lamphier**

Literacy – **Alison Kettenhofen**

MAHA/Women's Health – **Brenda Clarke**

Membership – **Jennifer Green**

Newsletter – **Margie Crawford**

Public Relations/Media – **Cindy Sawyer**

## NFRW INVOLVEMENT

**Christine Morgan**, Election Integrity Committee

**Alison Kettenhofen**, Education & Literacy Committee member since 2019

**Linda Neace**, Literacy Committee Chair

# ALZHEIMERS PREVENTION

BY MAHAWOMEN'S HEALTH CHAIR BRENDA CLARKE

## Protecting Your Brain as You Age

Ever walk into a room and forget why you went there? Or struggling to find a word you've used your whole life? Most of us think that's just aging. But what I've learned is – it isn't just aging.

Brain changes can begin 10–20 years before we notice symptoms.

The encouraging part? Many of the biggest factors are things we can influence every day.

Your Gut Is Your "First Brain" / Your gut and brain are constantly communicating.

Inside your gut are billions of bacteria - your microbiome. These good bacteria help produce substances that calm inflammation and support brain function. One of these is called butyrate – a helpful compound that supports brain health.

When the gut is out of balance, it can lead to:

- Inflammation
- Brain fog
- Memory issues

What you feed your gut; you're feeding your brain!

Mycotoxins from mold exposure can trigger inflammation and immune dysfunction, and susceptible individuals may contribute to brain fog and cognitive decline. Mitochondria are the power generators inside each cell. They produce the energy your brain and body need.

Things that help:

- Daily movement walking, light cycling, swimming, stretching or strength work and Dancing!
- Build and maintain muscle strength to delay physical decline
- Good nutrition
- Stable blood sugar
- Highly processed oils can increase inflammation, which may affect how well your brain's energy system works.

Stress Affects Memory

Chronic stress affects memory and focus

Stress hormones affect the part of the brain responsible for memory.

Simple ways to lower stress

- Take a walk outdoors
- Sit quietly, pray, or breathe deeply
- Avoid overcommitting

Stay Connected; Keep Learning

Isolation increases risk for cognitive decline.

- Stay socially engaged
- Join a group or class
- Keep learning new things

Blood Sugar Matters / Insulin resistance – It develops when your body is exposed to too much glucose and insulin for too long.

- Limit sugar and refined carbs, too frequent - constant insulin spikes
- Eating too often – you need breaks for insulin to drop
- Inflammation - from poor diet, gut issues, stress
- Balance meals with protein, fat and fiber (for brain, muscle; blood sugar)
- Poor sleep; chronic stress raises cortisol and worsens insulin response

Sleep is When the Brain Cleans Itself

Sleep is not just rest-its repair. At night, your brain clears out waste that builds up during the day. Sleep not only supports brain function but your hormones as well.

You can't fix brain fatigue without sleep

You can't fix fatigue without stable blood sugar

You can't fix energy without movement

Everything works together!

Key Nutrients

Many people with cognitive decline are low in key nutrients

- Vitamin D - Supports brain and immune health
- Omega-3s - Important for brain structure, inflammation
- B vitamins (especially B12) -Help with memory and nerves
- Magnesium – Helps calm the brain and improves sleep

• Zinc – supports overall brain function

Additional support sometimes includes:

- CoQ10 – for energy
- Citicoline- for memory and focus
- PS – Phosphatidylserine - helps brain cells communicate.

• NAD – Mitochondria function, brain energy, cellular repair and regulates inflammation.

Small daily habits – done consistently - can make a big difference of time. What helps your heart, your sleep and blood sugar... also helps protect your brain.

And if nothing else... maybe we should all start DANCING a little more!

Dr. Dale Bredesen is a neurologist and researcher known for his work on Alzheimer's disease, and a personalized approach aimed at preventing and reversing cognitive decline.

## OFRW CLUB REPORTS



**Baker City RW. Suzan Ellis Jones** is the president of this far Eastern Oregon club. Their website is <https://bcrw.org>. Find them on Facebook as well. Meeting: 4<sup>th</sup> Monday.

Baker County Republican Women will celebrate the second annual KIDS PARADE. Costumes will reflect our founders 250 years ago.

Left to right – Capitol City gals: Gay Purnell, Brenda Clarke, Carol Zielinski. Carol Williams



**Capitol City RW. Carol Zielinski** is the President. Meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday. Check out their website : [www.ccrwsalem.com](http://www.ccrwsalem.com).

From Carol: "CCRW was extremely busy during our luncheon meetings for the last three months. We hosted candidates from all races from Salem Mayor and City Council, County Commissioner, state and federal representative and senate candidates as well as Governor candidates.

A Kentucky Derby fundraiser was our best one so far. In June, we will hear from Nick Hill and Rilie Ashby with Young Republicans of Oregon. Summertime is usually a break, but not this year! We will be having a summer barbecue for membership, guests and candidates and hosting a booth at the Marion County fair. Come see us.!!!"

### Beaverton Hillsboro Republican Women

**President Elaine Woods** leads this impressive group. They meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month. BHRW have an active Book Club as well. Alison Kettenhoffen keeps the book list stimulating and politically germane.

**East Clackamas County RW. Sue Salazar** leads a meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month at Elmers, 16087 SE 82<sup>nd</sup> Drive, Clackamas. Sue is also the OFRW Corresponding Secretary. Website is [www.eccrepublicanwomen.org](http://www.eccrepublicanwomen.org). FB as well. Her message to us all:

In April, we were busy gathering signatures. Some of us attended the OFRW spring conference, and a handful of us went to Dorchester, which everyone should attend at least once. We had three speakers at our monthly meeting: Sue Leslie, HD 40; Dana Hindman-Allen, HD 51; Mark Shull, County Commissioner.

In May, a couple of our ladies went to the rededication to 50 in Washington DC. What an amazing event that was as the rest of us watch on TV. Again, busy gathering signatures and Pol watching at the Elections office.

We're having our 250<sup>th</sup> celebration ice cream social on June 13. Come one come all attached is the flyer. There is no charge, just register on our website so that we know how much ice cream to have. It should be a fun day with games, so bring your grandkids. We'll also have a Historian speaking. Which leads us to July which we're working on participating in the Fourth of July, Canby parade. And that's all for now, happy 250<sup>th</sup>.



**Benton County RW. Carolyn Webb** is the President of this club. Meeting: 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month. March speakers are **State Rep. District 16 Ed Diehl** who is running for Governor and **Sue Leslie** candidate for State Rep. District 40. April 27<sup>th</sup> meeting will have **Monique DeSpain** who is running for Val Hoyle's U.S. Rep. (Oregon District 4) position, and **Christine Drazan**, Oregon gubernatorial candidate.

## OFRW CLUB REPORTS

### Central Oregon Federated Republican Women.

**President Margie Crawford** and COFRW meet at the beautiful Aspen Lakes Golf Course in Sisters on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month (Feb. – Nov.). Check the website and social media for more information on those times. [www.cofrw.org](http://www.cofrw.org), Instagram (@cofrwbend) and X (@cofrw1), as well as Facebook.

COFRW will have an entry in the Redmond 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade – Women of the Revolution! An Americanism project. In support of Caring for America project: Pregnancy Resource Center of Central Oregon, COFRW will hold a “baby shower” to gather needed items and money! In May, COFRW held a gubernatorial conversation amongst four candidates: Ed Diehl, Chris Dudley, David Medina, and Danielle Bethell. Patti Adair, running for CD5 representative, and Jo Rae Perkins, running for U.S. Senate, spoke to the group. The Rowdy Republicans met up at Bend’s Pine Tavern for an after-work get-together.

COFRW ran/walked in the Crush Cancer event held at the Faith, Hope, and Charity vineyards. Our Caring for America Chair, Mary Brainerd, ran the 10K event...and won! Truth be told, she was 1 of 1 in her 70+ age group. Mary is a longtime marathoner! So proud of her!



I. Mary Brainerd. Below, Catherine Oak, Melissa Scheaffer, Margie Crawford.



A poster for the "Happy Birthday America! 1776-2026" event. The poster features a large "250" with an American flag design. It includes the text "Celebrating the Spirit of America" and "Linn County Republican Women". The event is scheduled for Saturday, July 11, 2026, from 12-3pm at Millersburg City Park, 3030 Alexander Ln. NE, Millersburg OR 97321. The poster also mentions "Everyone Welcome!" and a ticket price of "\$20 only" for pulled pork lunch, prizes, entertainment, and great company. Contact information for Jeanie (541-619-4137) and Tonya (931-237-2741) is provided for tickets and more information.

**Linn County RW.** Diane Tillotson is the President of this club set in beautiful Linn County. Meetings are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday.

“The Linn County Republican Women has received the **Liberty Builders Brigade Achievement Award** and Certificate through the National Federation of Republican Women USA 250 Membership Challenge for growing the NFRW “one patriot at a time.” Because our club achieved at least 110% membership growth this year, we were honored by Nationals with an official Liberty Builders Brigade Certificate. We will also be recognized on the NFRW USA 250 Honor Roll. This is a tremendous achievement for our club. Even more exciting, we have now achieved at least 10% membership growth for the past three consecutive years. That kind of continued success only happens because our members work together, support one another, and remain committed to our shared goals and values.



I am incredibly proud of our members for coming together as a team and helping make this recognition possible. Your dedication, enthusiasm, and commitment continue to strengthen our organization and our community.

Thank you all for your hard work and support.  
Diane Tillotson  
President, Linn County Republican Women”.

## OFRW CLUB REPORTS

**Jackson County RW Joyce Michelangelo** presides as President of this strong club. Their website is [www.jcrepublicanwomen.org](http://www.jcrepublicanwomen.org). Meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month.

**Josephine County RW. Jennifer Green** is President. This club meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month. Check out [www.jocorepwomen.org](http://www.jocorepwomen.org) and FB.

Loren Spivack, author of *The Gorax* by Dr. Truth, spoke to this southern Oregon Republican club. He is an economist, author of many books, and commentator. And a very entertaining speaker!

### **Mt Hood Republican Women.**

**Joanna Harbour** is President of this group. Their website is [www.mthrw.org](http://www.mthrw.org). They meet on the second Wednesday of the month.

**North Coast RW. Vivian Battjes** is the President of this club. Meeting: 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month.

**Polk County RW. Tina Musshorn** is President of this club. Meeting: 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday. **Tina is also the Willamette Valley District Director.**

**RW Downtown Portland Cindy Sawyer** is their 2026 President. Meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday. **Member Linda Neace is the NW District Director.**

**RW Milton-Freewater Marlene McClintock** is President of this club. Meeting: 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday.

**Yamhill County Republican Women Nanette Cramer** is club president. Meeting: 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday. YCRW will be hosting the **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Trump Dinner** on June 13.



From the fundraiser, here is UVRW member Alpha Rich with her husband and associate member Mayor Larry Rich of Roseburg.

**Round Up RW.** The **Pendleton Round Up** is dominating the scene in Northeastern Oregon and keeping new President **Leigh Pinkham-Johnston** busy. **Meetings are on the third Thursday/month.** September is a busy month for everyone in the Pendleton area – The famous **Pendleton Round-Up** keeps them busy!!

**Umpqua Valley RW. Margaret Shaw** is the President of this southern I-5 club. Meeting: 1<sup>st</sup> Wed. How about this fundraising effort!! From Chris Morgan:

“**Celebrating 250 Year of Freedom** was the theme for this annual fundraising event held at the Roseburg Country Club April 30. This is the third year in a row tickets sold out! Umpqua Valley RW has simplified the live auction with only six items which raised \$8700! The white-water boat trip for six on the Rogue River, donated by Representative Court Boice went for \$3300! The five other auctioned items were an adventure with DC Commissioner Chris Boice (\$1200); Wood-Fired pizza party at the home of DC County Clerk Dan Loomis (\$550); two overnight getaway’s at Seven Feathers Casino Resort (\$800); two Wildlife Safari Park animal excursions (\$1900); and two truckloads of gravel from Bob Murray Trucking (\$950). Besides the names already mentioned, Erik and Linda Hellenthal and Bonehead Metal contributed door prizes.

**DC Commissioner Tom Kress was the Master of Ceremonies; DC Commissioner Tim Freeman** led in the Pledge of Allegiance and **DC Treasurer Sam Lee** was the auctioneer. The Keynote speaker was gubernatorial candidate Ed Diehl and the audience was sprinkled with a minimum of 15 elected state senators, representatives, Douglas County elected officials, city mayors and councilors and Republican candidates for office. Co-Chairs for this premier event were Aldene McCaw and Elaine Lavington; Larry Reeves served at the check-in and check-out table; MaryAnn Winters created and donated the 15 fresh-flower centerpieces (which were purchased for \$35 equaling \$525); Roger and Nancy Snyder sold 50/50 raffle tickets (\$650 to the winner!); and our FRENZY netted \$6650! We have wonderful male associate members in our club as almost every man mentioned is an associate member! **Our PAC is ready to donate to Republican candidates.”**

## LET'S NAME THE WHITE HOUSE BALLROOM

### Snezhanna Safarov's Ballroom name suggestion Melania Trump:

Dear President Trump,  
I am writing to respectfully suggest that the new White House ballroom be named in honor of First Lady Melania Trump, Melania Trump Ballroom, in recognition of her contributions to the White House and her efforts to restore a sense of elegance, dignity, and cultural appreciation within it.

During her time as First Lady, Mrs. Trump has demonstrated a strong commitment to preserving the traditions and history of the White House. Her attention to detail, particularly in matters of design and presentation, has reflected a deep respect for the residence as both a home and a symbol of the nation. Through initiatives such as the restoration and enhancement of various White House spaces, she has helped maintain its legacy for future generations.

In addition to her focus on aesthetics and preservation, Mrs. Trump has also championed initiatives aimed at the well-being of children, emphasizing the importance of kindness, responsibility, and positive engagement in today's world. Her work has brought attention to issues that affect families across the country and has encouraged thoughtful dialogue.

As a naturalized citizen of the United States myself, I find it especially meaningful that Mrs. Trump is the first, First Lady to have become a U.S. citizen through naturalization. Her journey reflects the promise of the American dream, that individuals from around the world can come to this country, contribute meaningfully, and rise to positions of great honor and influence. This aspect of her story makes her legacy even more inspiring and worthy of recognition.

Naming the new ballroom after the First Lady would serve as a meaningful tribute to her influence and dedication. It would recognize not only her role in enhancing the White House's physical beauty but also her broader contributions during her time in this distinguished position.

### Sharon Schmidt's a partial list supporting Dolley Madison's name for the Ballroom:

- Defined the role of the First Lady
- Served as a leading White House hostess before becoming First Lady
- During the presidency of Thomas Jefferson, she took on many official hostess duties, helping manage the social and political life of the capital—years before her own time as First Lady.
- Transformed the White House into a center of national life. She elevated the Executive Mansion from a formal residence into a welcoming, vibrant gathering place for leaders and citizens alike.
- Instrumental in furnishing and restoring the White House. She oversaw major efforts to decorate and refurnish the White House during James Madison's presidency, helping establish its early identity.
- Led efforts to restore the White House after it was burned. Following the destruction during the Burning of Washington, she played a key role in preserving its legacy and spirit. Saved iconic American treasures. Famously ensured the rescue of George Washington's portrait before the British
- arrived—an enduring symbol of patriotism and leadership.
- Master of diplomacy through hospitality
- Her famous "drawing rooms" and social events brought together political rivals, easing tensions and fostering cooperation in a deeply divided young nation.
- Unified the country socially during a fragile era. At a time when political divisions ran high, her gatherings created neutral ground where relationships—and ultimately governance—could function.

