

SHEILA M. GALBREATH
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January 16, 2013

Dear GFRW Presidents:

As most of you know, there has been a lot of tension within our organization since the GFRW elections of October 2011. At the GFRW convention, we got a big dose of the Cobb Machine in action and most of us; left Augusta with a bitter taste. First, I would like to recap some of the antics leading up to the convention.

The first maneuver was to change the by-laws such that it was almost impossible for anyone to be president of GFRW with the exception of someone from their (COBB) group. That particular by-laws committee consisted in part of **Donna Rowe**, (COBB) Chairman, and **Ullaine Stokes** and **Melinda Mock** as committee members. While many Presidents serve two-year terms, **Cobb** Presidents serve a one-year term. The October 2010 by-law change stated that a candidate for president should have been the president of her club and served as chairperson of a standing committee. It is my recollection that this provision was overwhelmingly defeated by the Board at the subsequent Macon Board meeting. However, the minutes were apparently altered to show that the provision passed. I suspect that the true intent of the by-law change was to prohibit Suzi Voyles from serving another term as president and to possibly deter members such as Ruby Robinson and Lori Pesta from seeking the position. Note the qualifications for President conveniently left out "having served as DISTRICT DIRECTOR or service on the GFRW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE." Ruby and Lori have served as Club Presidents. Ruby Robinson served on the Executive Committee as First Vice-Chair under Millie Rogers and as District Director for District 1; Lori Pesta has served as a District Director.

Apparently, changing minutes to suit the purpose of various members on the executive committee or a standing committee is nothing new and has been in practice, based on conversation with other members, at least since Millie Roger's

first term. Conveniently, these minutes were not available for review until the night before the February 2011 Board meeting.

The February 2011 nominating committee consisted of Millie Rogers (COBB) as chairperson, Donna Rowe, (COBB), Ullaine Stokes, Melinda Mock, and Laura Ward Johnson. Vicki Temple, was an alternate on the committee, and was completely shut out of the meetings. The nominating committee (Rowe, Rogers, Stokes, Johnson, Mock) scheduled interviews for the May 2011 meeting. However, Melinda Mock was unable to attend the May 2011 meeting and instead of replacing Melinda Mock with Vicki Temple, a duly elected alternate, the nominating committee choose to cancel the interviews. No consideration was given to those who arranged to spend an extra night to accommodate the nominating committee. At this point, we have Millie Rogers (COBB) serving on the Executive Committee as Immediate Past President and on the Nominating Committee; Donna Rowe (COBB) serving on By-Laws and Nominating; Ullaine Stokes By-laws and Nominating Committee and Melinda Mock By-laws and Nominating. The nominating committee of 2009 consisted of Ullaine Stokes-Chairman with Donna Rowe (COBB) a committee member. I think you can begin to see a pattern developing.

This COBB weighted nominating committee; (which was not the first Nominating Committee under their control that was called into question) nominated Barbara Hickey (COBB) for President of GFRW. However, at the last minute (the Sunday prior to the meeting) they (**Nominating Committee**) discovered that Barbara did not meet the criteria so artfully crafted by the prior by-laws committee. Barbara had only chaired a Special Committee. At no time did the Nominating Committee or Barbara Hickey contact the GFRW President, Suzi Voyles, or anyone else on the Executive Committee to make them aware of the issue. In fact, they even continued the charade throughout the weekend with posters and an elaborate coffee the evening prior to “introduce” Barbara to everyone. The announcement that Barbara Hickey was not qualified came from Donna Rowe (COBB) who presided over the elections at the request of Millie Rogers (COBB), Chairman of Nominating Committee. The chaos began when it came time to take nominations from the floor. As it turned out, there were only three people present who qualified for the position, Rose Wing (Cobb), Donna Rowe (Cobb) and Mary Lou Berghel. There was an attempt to reach a few other qualified members who weren’t present, but in the end Rose Wing. Upon her nomination, Rose Wing stated, “only if I have to”. At the February 2012 Board

Meeting, Neva Lent (Cobb Regional) presented a complaint regarding the events leading up to the election and moved that her complaint be heard. The motion was seconded by Lynda Morse. Rose almost immediately adjourned the meeting with no discussion or action on Neva Lent's motion.

Because of the nature of the complaint, Rose asked NFRW to become involved. NFRW conducted an investigation without contacting the following members of the Executive Committee, me, Suzi Voyles, Wanda Duffie, Mindie Glidwell, or Billie Dendy. In the meantime, NFRW contacted members of the Executive Committee in an attempt to squash any further talk regarding the allegations in Neva's complaint. I informed them in the conference call that it was a little late because most of the factual elements of her complaint had been published in a blog site in Atlanta. NFRW was reminded that this was not a parliamentary issue, but an ethical issue.

NFRW, after their not so thorough investigation, decided that the issue was moot from a parliamentarian standpoint because the minutes of the meeting failed to reflect that Neva Lent's motion received a second. Obviously, NFRW missed the entire point of the complaint, and decided to use procedure to dismiss an ethics issues. A copy of their correspondence to Neva Lent is attached below.

During the tenure of Rose Wing as President, with me as Treasurer, she has refused to provide me with the password to PayPal. Instead she has entrusted **Bobbie Bobbie Frantz, (COBB)** holding the position of District Director, with PayPal access. Bobbie Frantz and possibly Rose Wing are the only ones who actually know what is deposited into PayPal. My first opportunity to learn of the amount coming into our account from PayPal is from the bank statement. Bobbie Frantz has no authority to handle any fund, of any sort or fashion.

I have attempted to meet with Rose Wing in the past couple of months. Most recently, via a phone conference. I provided Rose with a conference call number and code and told her that Ruby Robinson; Finance Committee Chair would be on the conference call. The call scheduled for Saturday, January 5, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. did not take place due to the fact that Rose sent an email providing me with her conference call number. There was an earlier scheduled meeting for December 22, in Macon—half way—that was cancelled at the last minute to suit Rose. Since this was at my request, I then provided my cell number and asked

Rose to call that number. Rose then wanted to know what we were going to discuss and wanted **Janet Bell (COBB)** and **Billie Dendy (COBB-EC)** to participate. I asked for this conference and felt that Rose should have an opportunity to hear what I had to say prior to going viral through GFRW.

I also know that some of you have tried to contact Rose with absolutely no response. Central Savannah had an issue regarding Facebook that resulted in an hour-long conversation with absolutely no results. Rose did not follow through. The solution should have been simple and in fact, should not have required Executive Committee involvement. I have heard numerous complaints that GFRW did absolutely nothing during the last Presidential Elections and was virtually non-existent on Facebook and Twitter.

I seriously doubt by the receipts, that the meeting in Callaway Gardens and Savannah had true quorums. In addition, other than a pending ethics complaint there was no business that required a vote of the Board. In Savannah, absolutely nothing was discussed that required a Board vote. Payments attributed to the Callaway meeting were \$5,308.00, receipts were \$2,514.00 (includes Jewelry Sales/Live & Silent Auction). In my opinion, the money spent in Savannah for two receptions was unnecessary. The "Tribute to Presidents" was attended by only one past president, Millie Rogers. The bus trip cost GFRW \$1100.00 and to the best of my knowledge, maybe eight people remained in Savannah for the bus trip. Payments to the Hilton in Savannah totaled \$6,086.87. Receipts for this meeting were \$1,279. Electing the next leader of the free world and your local elections took a backseat to an unnecessary board meeting.

Since the GFRW election of 2011, GFRW has become dysfunctional and in some circles an embarrassment. Recently, the Camden County Republican Women decided that they could best fulfill their intended purpose without being part of GFRW or NFRW. I suspect there will be other clubs that will follow suit or choose to participate with the required 10 minimum members having all other members choosing to become Associate Members.

Based on the foregoing, the lack of communication and leadership from Rose Wing, I am asking that Rose Wing resign as President of GFRW and ask for your support.

Your input and comments are certainly welcome. Common sense changes are needed if GFRW is to survive as an effective organization. In case some of you are wondering, I can assure you that the majority of the Executive Committee had no hand in scheduling the February meeting on Valentine's Day.

Sincerely,

Sheila M. Galbreath

Sheila M. Galbreath
GFRW Treasurer
President SARW

SMG

May 18, 2012
Neva Lent
4686 Burnt Hickory Road NW
Marietta, Georgia 30064

Dear Neva:

There seems to be discussion of my previous e-mail which addressed issues that have been raised in the Georgia Federation.

As I explained in earlier messages, there is no justification for further debate or action relative to the Nominating Committee, the election of officers or any of the circumstances regarding those issues.

The subject is closed. Further debate will only damage the Georgia Federation and its members. It is very important to move forward and join Republican women across the country to elect our candidates in this, the most crucial election of our lifetime.

Sincerely,

Rae Chornenky

Rae Lynne Chornenky

President

National Federation of Republican Women

cc Hon. Jan Kennady, NFRW Parliamentarian
Lisa Roper, NFRW Fourth Vice President and Region 7 Director
Rose Wing, President, Georgia Federation of Republican Women