

History of the Wake County Republican Women's Club

In 1952, the candidate for President of the United States was General Dwight D. Eisenhower. During that campaign year a non-partisan group was organized in Wake County called Citizens for Eisenhower. Audrey Moore of Raleigh was the Chairman. The majority of members were Democrats only a hand full were Republicans, but when General Eisenhower became President Eisenhower in January of 1953, ten women joined together to form The Wake County Republican Women's Club which was affiliated with the NC Federation of Republican Women (also organized in 1953). The three Republican Women who chartered The Wake County Republican Women's Club were Helen Lehew, Reva Rothrock, and Beatrice Summers.

National Federation of Republican Women

Republican Women's clubs began years before women had the right to vote. The oldest club on record was founded in Salt Lake City in the early 1870's. The National Federation of Republican Women was chartered in 1938 at the Palmer House in Chicago, Illinois with 11 states as charter members. The first President of the Federation was Joyce Ameill of Denver, Colorado. By 1943, 23 states were members. Today the NFRW consists of approximately 95,000 members in over 1800 clubs in 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

Past Presidents

1952-1960	Helen Lehew
1961-1962	Bea Summers
1963	Jan Thedleck
1964	Mary Speidel
1965	Mary Raynor
1966	Audry Bray
1967	Peggy Page
1968	Lois Jenny
1969	Beth Wilcockson
1970	Shirley H. Bland
1970-1971	Ruth Tucker
1971-1972	Alice Johnson

1972-1973	Jo Cresimore
1973-1974	Dolly Dewey
1974-1975	Grace Wood
1975-1976	Jan Holem
1976-1978	Alice Johnson
1978-1979	Lena Burns
1980-1981	Suzanne Filskov
1982-1983	Barbara Weaver
1984-1985	Kay Carrington
1986-1987	Olga Santo-Thomas
1988	Mary Andrews
1989	Janet Nickerson
1990-1991	Nancy Moherek
1992-1993	Marilyn W. Avila
1994-1995	Linda Gay Kayye
1996-1997	Jeri Pfeiffer
1998-1999	Bev Tilton
2000-2001	Jan Pueschel
2001-2002	Jeanne Smoot
2002-2003	Carol Parker
2004-2005	Becky Matthews
2006	Laura Riddick
2007-2008	Zan Bunn