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## **KFRW NEWS FEBRUARY 2024**

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## **KFRW LEGISLATIVE DAY 2024**

It is so exciting to see all the good work that our clubs are doing across Kentucky. We had a productive Board meeting in Frankfort on Feb. 12 and a wonderful Legislative Day the following day. We heard from very informative speakers, networked with legislators, experienced the noise and chaos often found in the capitol, made our way though



crowds of people, and witnessed the House and Senate in action. Thank you to all who attended and especially to Kay Hensley, KFRW 3<sup>rd</sup> VP. If you weren't there, try to fit it into your schedule next year.



It is a very informative day for our members. Be sure to go to [legislature.ky.gov](http://legislature.ky.gov) to read the actual text of bills and see where the bills are in the legislative process. Call the Legislative Message Line at 800-372-7181 to leave messages on how you want legislators to vote on upcoming bills. It is a very easy and effective way to give your opinion.

Another big event to look forward to with KFRW is our convention. It will be in Lexington August 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to help with planning for the convention or you have ideas to share, please let me know.

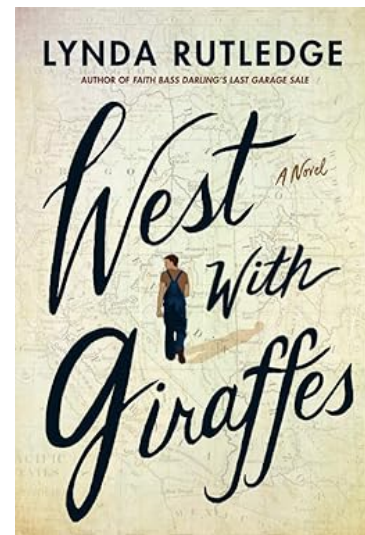
[Carolrogers125@gmail.com](mailto:Carolrogers125@gmail.com). Save the date and watch for future announcements. Our clubs are busy sending in membership dues. Currently we have 331 members from 11 clubs with more on the way. If you have not renewed with your local clubs—please do so. We need each of you! There are three ways to grow our federation: retention of 2023 members, addition of new members, and chartering new clubs. As we start with retention, NFRW's Membership committee suggests that we make this “Phoning February” and call all those members who have not yet removed and ask them personally.

Carol Rogers  
President, KFRW

## WEST WITH GIRAFFES

Taking a break from the political genre of books, this month instead I am recommending two small, light-hearted-nevertheless-meaningful novels. Each story has an animal (or two) as a primary character involved in the plot and each animal is the cause of humans becoming better people.

WEST WITH GIRAFFES by Lynda Rutledge is based on an unbelievable true story that took place after the dust bowl of 1938. Actual newspaper accounts are scattered throughout the story. A San Diego zoo buys two wondrous giraffes but the problem is, once they arrive on a boat in NY harbor, they must be transported across the USA to the California zoo.



Two unlikely people —a man and a delinquent teen— begrudgingly undertake the challenge. To accomplish this journey full of obstacles (i.e. how do you go under a bridge with giraffes?), the two men realize that each needs the other to accomplish their separate goals.

The second novel, **REMARKABLY BRIGHT CREATURES** by Shelby Van Pelt features a giant Pacific octopus and a woman who rescues him from near death. The story begins with “Day 1,299 of my captivity.” Again the animal is a main character who brings together a lonely woman searching for her son and a troubled boy searching for his father. Again, the characters realize that each needs the other to resolve their individual problems. And the animal is the center of this resolution.

Both novels illustrate the “love thy enemy” theme in the previously recommended January book except these stories use animals as protagonists rather than political parties! Caring for the animals causes these main characters to disregard their differences and care for one another.

Paula Carver  
Literary Chair

### **Scholarship:**

KFRW offers a \$1500 scholarship to a high school senior girl. Information has been sent to all Kentucky high schools and applications are due April 3<sup>rd</sup>. If you know someone who needs an application and they cannot get it from their high school, please contact KFRW Scholarship Chair Patty Harman at [pattyannharman@yahoo.com](mailto:pattyannharman@yahoo.com).

## **CLUB NEWS**

The Nelson County RWC will host their annual Lincoln Day Dinner in April with details to come!

The Franklin County RWC also hosts a Lincoln Day Dinner. It will be April 19 at 6:30 at the Frankfort Country Club. Their speaker will be RPK Chairman Robert Benvenuti. Tickets are \$60. Contact Maree Barney-Sutley for more information [mareesutley@gmail.com](mailto:mareesutley@gmail.com).



### **CLARK COUNTY**

The CCRWC attended the KFRW Legislative Day in Frankfort, February 13, 12 of our members attended. We heard from some great speakers and had lunch with Senator Greg Elkins and State Representative Ryan Dotson.

Our Lincoln Day Dinner is scheduled for March 2, 6:00 pm at the




Winchester Country Club. Guest speaker will be Congressman Andy Barr. Tickets are \$70.00. Contact (859) 771-6350 for info.

Our club meets on the third Thursday of each month. Check out our Facebook page for venue and guest speaker list.

## FAYETTE COUNTY

The Fayette County RWC held a very successful Soup Supper in January and raised almost \$2,500 for their campaign account. It was a fun event and very well attended. Several members attended Legislative Day in Frankfort and had a great time.



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