

It's hard to believe this is the last newsletter for 2008. I commend you for stepping up to the plate and answering the call to lead this year. The year was filled with ups and downs but we can each be proud that we worked hard for our republican candidates.

As I have traveled around the state since the election the mood is mixed. Members are sad for the outcome of the Presidential election but they are ready to roll up their sleeves and work for the next election. As one member, Iris Horton from Village RW said she got involved when President Clinton was in office and didn't like what was being done. Iris is the perfect example of people we need to pull in. Whether you are going out of office or staying in your position take this opportunity to encourage women to join the club. Be inclusive – there is room for ALL at our table.

A quote from President Ronald Reagan was sent to me for Thanksgiving that I want to share. It speaks about our FREEDOM:

"My fellow Americans: Over 350 years ago, a small band of Pilgrims, after gathering in their first harvest at Plymouth Colony, invited their friends and neighbors, who were Indians, to join them in a feast of thanksgiving. Together they sat around their bountiful table and bowed their heads in gratitude to the Lord for all that He had bestowed upon them. This week, so many years later, we, too, will gather with family and friends and, after saying grace, carve up a turkey, pass around the cranberries and dressing, and later share slices of pumpkin pie. We Americans have so much for which to be thankful. ...We will give thanks for these and one thing more: our freedom. Yes, in America, freedom seems like the air around us: It's there; it's sweet, though we rarely give it a thought. Yet as the air fills our lungs, freedom fills our souls. It gives breath to our laughter and joy. It gives voice to our songs. It gives us strength as we race for our dreams. ...Yes, as we gather together this Thanksgiving to ask the Lord's blessings, as we of whatever faith we are give praises to His name, let us thank Him for our peace, prosperity, and freedom. Happy Thanksgiving!"

--Ronald Reagan

I thank you all for giving me the opportunity to serve you, our state and country this year. I look forward to leading TFRW next year and working with all of you.

God Bless Texas and America

Toni Anne Dashiell,
President