

Caring for America

By Barbara Perales
Chairman

"Honoring Their Service With Our Caring Efforts"

I wish to thank all the clubs who participated in the Caring For America Award projects this year. This includes the Caring For America Club Awards and the My Favorite Teacher Award. I think we should be very proud of our Texas Clubs. I know our TFRW President Toni Anne Dashiell and I are. I sent all the Local Club Caring For America Award forms to the proper regional chairman and the State Award form to the proper chair in a timely manner.

The TFRW and NFRW Caring For America Award was designed to encourage state and local clubs, attract new members and provide positive public relations by working in our communities and showing Republican women do care. All our Texas Clubs do that in some way or fashion but some wish to honor their members by applying for the NFRW Caring For America Award

A list of participating clubs are as follows:

- Golden Corridor Republican Women, Plano, President- Tracy Hancock, Chair: Anna Janis
- Lone Star Republican Women, Athens, President-Sara L. Taylor, Chair-Bobbie Hawkins
- Brown County Republican Women, Brownwood, Pres- Grace Hefner, Chairs- Bett Weedon & Joyce Leidig
- Lake Conroe Republican Women, Montgomery, President-Francine Hope, Chair- Page Hern
- Republican Women of Kerr County, Kerrville, President-Lonnie Pat Holloway, Chair-Jan Wilson
- Metroplex Republican Women, Hurst, President-Judy A. Strzinek, Chairs-Susie Wylie and Sue Eubanks
- Alamo City Republican Women, San Antonio, Pres.-Frieda Wright, Chairs-Angelica Beach & Patsy Lee
- Republican Women of Northeast Texas, Mt. Pleasant, President-Judy Kent, Chair- Sara French
- Young Co. Republican Women, Loving, President-Hazel Sims, Chair-Donnett Wiley
- Clear Creek Republican Women, League City, President-Barbara Meeks, Chair- Diane Gillette
- New Braunfels Republican Women, New Braunfels, President-Kathy Faulkner, Chair-Janice Quent
- Canyon Lake Republican Women, Canyon Lake, President-Roze Strohmeier, Chair- Donna Holmes
- Kingwood Area Republican Women, Kingwood, Pres- Halene Crossman, Chair- Alice (Skippy) Lupton
- Cooke County Republican Women, Lake Kiowa, President-Sharron Acker, Chair- Lynne Compton
- Bush Legacy Republican Women, Weatherford, President-Judy Flanagan, Chair- Carolyn Hull Estes
- Bexar County Republican Women, San Antonio, President- Betty Hill, Chair Betty C. Hayes
- Preston West Republican Women, Farmers Branch, President- Vicki Goode, Chair Betty Gielow
- Cy-Fair Republican Women, Houston, President- Mary Moss, Chair- Debbie Brown
- Plano Republican Women, Plano, President- Catherine Gibb, Chair- Cindy Stachiw
- Mesquite Republican Women, Mesquite, President- Clare Gates, Chair- Frances Derrick

- Central Texas Republican Women, Belton, President- Shirley Stephenson, Chair- Aida Riddle
- Parker County Republican Women, Weatherford, President- Rena Peden, Chair- Mary Mayo
- Austin Republican Women, Austin, President Diane Fulton, Chairs-Suzy Morrison and Terri Flow
- Houston Professional Republican Women, Houston, President- Gail Schubot, Chair- Tomi Porterfield
- Pearland Area Republican Women, Pearland, President- Sherry Peterson, Chair- Freda A. Mullin
- Republican Women of Wood County, Holly Lake Ranch, Pres- Jeanette Sterner, Chair- Shirley Haskins
- Conner Harrington Republican Women, Plano, President- Jody Rushton, Chair- Anna Hale
- Concho Valley Republican Women, San Angelo, President- Anita Berry, Chair- Dede Rutherford

There were many wonderful projects this year. I received newspaper articles, many pictures, and thank you notes from our military here and abroad, active duty and retired from different clubs throughout Texas. One club who did not submit a Caring For America Award form but worked very hard this year with many projects is the First Ladies Republican Women's Club and Associates of Garland/Mesquite. Let me know what you are doing so I may share it with all of Texas.

The NFRW "My Favorite Teacher Award" began during the 2001 National Federation/No Child Left Behind State Summit Program. The purpose of this award is to acknowledge those outstanding teachers that have encouraged students to dream big. The "My Favorite Teacher Award" recognizes excellence in teaching and the impact that one good teacher can have on an individual.

I am very honored to announce our nominees for the 2009 "My Favorite Teacher Award". They are as follows:

- Catherin Lewis-nominated by Clear Lake Republican Women
- Angela Haynes-nominated by Ft. Worth Republican Women
- Brenda Beaven-nominated by Lake Conroe Area Republican Women
- Rachel Jean Bettice-nominated by Republican Business Women of Bexar County
- Jenny Wahlstrom-nominated by Canyon Lake Republican Women
- Kim Grosenbacher-nominated by Kendall County Republican Women
- Barbara Langley Dorff-nominated by Cooke County Republican Women
- Carroll Ann Adams-nominated by Fort Bend Republican Women
- June Rentmeester-nominated by Richardson Republican Women
- Jo Lea Telotta-nominated by Williamson County Republican Women
- Kimberly Hays-nominated by Fort Bend Republican Women

All these women were highly qualified and very deserving of the award and Texas should be very proud of these selfless teachers of our young. A panel of three (3) judges were chosen by the Caring For America committee. They were Marialyn Bernard-Justice of the Texas 4th Court of Appeals, Ms. Teresa Fitzgerald- 3rd grade teacher at St. Peter the Apostle Catholic School, San Antonio, TX, and Ms. Geraldine McCormick-Trevino, presently retired after teaching 41 years in Texas and Tennessee. We wish to thank these ladies for their time and consideration in this very important decision.

It truly is my honor to announce that our TFRW "My Favorite Teacher Award" for 2009 is Brenda Beaven of Montgomery, TX. She was nominated by the Lake Conroe Area Republican Women. She will be accepting her award at the TFRW Convention in Galveston in November. I submitted her name to the NFRW "My Favorite Teacher Award" in proper time and it has been received. We wish her all our best and hope that she becomes our Texas award winner!