



TEXAS FEDERATION OF
REPUBLICAN WOMEN

TEXAS



"WORKING
AND WINNING
TOGETHER FOR
TEXAS"

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President's Message ...

*Focus on the Outcome - Imagine
Our Impact! 2013 Is a New Year
and a Time for Progress*

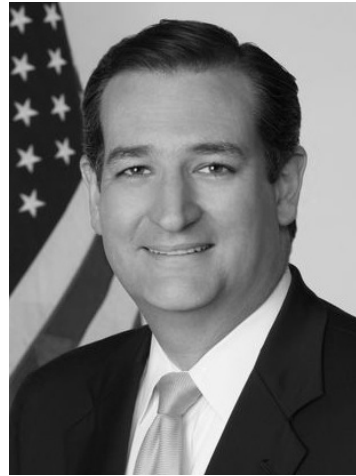
TFRW's Immigration Reform Policy Statement

Just over one year ago as the incoming president of TFRW, I called for volunteers to form a committee to study the issue of immigration reform. This committee was not appointed by me, but members asked to be involved. SuZanne Feather and Jan Ott co-chaired the committee, which included Gina Halle, Sharon Hemphill, Mary Holmsley, Brigitte Izzo, Theresa Kosmoski, and Amy Mundy.

The committee spent nearly a year studying the issues in depth, including comprehensive time spent with law enforcement, experts, naturalized citizens, and organizations involved with border security and immigration. Each committee member traveled at her own expense to meet with experts and Republican women who have been looking at how we solve this issue critical to Texas. As Senator Marco Rubio noted, the current failing system is "de facto amnesty" and that's not acceptable.

On January 17, 2013, the TFRW board of directors approved a policy statement calling on the federal government to immediately pass and fund legislation to reform the current immigration system by securing the country's borders, creating a guest worker program, and establishing specific criteria for young people, brought to the U.S. illegally, to earn legal status or citizenship.

The statement was first presented to the TFRW Executive Committee by the committee on a conference call on January 11, 2013, when questions were asked and discussion occurred. The Executive Committee then voted its approval and the process moved to the TFRW Board of Directors. The Board of Directors
(President's Message Continued Page 2)



By U.S. Senator Ted Cruz

My Agenda in the Senate

Republican women from our great state are a force unmatched. This past election was a testament to grassroots, and we certainly couldn't have done it without the TFRW. My election as your 34th U.S. Senator was an honor, and I plan to fight for our conservative principles. These proven principles are what have made this nation exceptional. We must shift the focus to why our ideas work, and why the other side's don't. This means being the party of solutions, prosperity, and opportunity.

If we continue down the current path of the Obama Democrats, we risk our children and grandchildren's opportunity to achieve the American Dream. The stakes are just too high for us not to act.

My first step in the U.S. Senate will be to introduce a bill to repeal every word of Obamacare. This tax and regulatory monstrosity is bad for our health. It makes it more costly and burdensome to hire new workers, it will damage personal medical choice, and will dis-incentivize medical innovations. It squeezes small businesses to the point that many may close their doors or avoid hiring full-time workers. It forces religious institutions to violate their faith convictions. Most obviously, Texans simply can't afford this program in the Obama econo-

(Senator, continued page 6)

Winter Issue Highlights

**TFRW
Welcomes
New
Clubs
See page 8**

**TFRW NOMINATING
COMMITTEE
Announcement
See page 7**

**Anita Hill
Lifetime
Achievement
Award
See page 5**

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The ladies of the committee.

Rick Potter, Photography

(President's Message Continued from Page one)

had a three day period for discussion by email and then the vote was held January 16-17, 2013. Therefore, the statement was officially approved on January 17, 2013.

TFRW's policy statement recognizes the Obama Administration failed to keep its promise – even when Democrats controlled the U.S. Senate and House. The federal government's failure to modernize the outdated immigration system to reflect current social, educational and economic requirements serves to encourage illegal immigration.

The policy statement condemns the federal government for refusing to adequately secure all borders of the United States. Further, the policy statement asserts that the government's failure to take action has resulted in loss of lives, property and liberty for many because of foreign criminal enterprise.

The goal was to arrive at a principled statement, one that actually had the opportunity to be implemented—one that would look at a complete solution for the entire issue. TFRW wanted a policy statement that would encourage good legislation and serve as a deterrent for poor piecemeal legislation.

The committee found that border security was the top priority for many of the organizations that were interviewed, thus making it a non-negotiable issue and top priority for the TFRW immigration reform statement.

In addition, the statement calls for the creation of a guest worker program using state-of-the-art technology to document guest workers and their families and makes sure workers are employed only by business people that deduct and match taxes. Each individual must pass health and criminal background checks, be self-supporting, pay taxes and required insurance, and speak and understand English.

Further, the policy statement acknowledges that millions of children, brought to the U.S. illegally, now call America home - and that everyone's interest is best served if they become self-supporting, tax-paying, productive members of society. The resolution details specific steps young people must complete to earn legal resident status or citizenship.

The release of TFRW's policy on immigration reform has received overwhelming support from government leaders both in Washington, D.C. and Texas including U.S. Senator John Cornyn, U.S. Congressman Ted Poe, Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson and State Representative Larry Gonzales to name just a few.

As we move forward, we ask for your continued support. The TFRW leaders cannot promote this immigration solution without your help and look forward to what the future holds for our organization. The Immigration Reform Committee now plans to continue their work through education to Republican Women's clubs, other Republican organizations, and elected officials. If your club is interested in a presentation regarding this statement, please contact Gina Halle at ginahallecpa@sbcglobal.net

(President's Message continued page 4)

“I would like to congratulate you, the leadership, and the members of TFRW on your enhanced efforts to engage in public policy issues affecting our state and nation.”

U.S. Senator John Cornyn

TEXAS FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN

Whereas, The Texas Federation of Republican Women appointed a committee to study the issue of immigration, legal and illegal, in the United States and it met this obligation by hearing from and evaluating the positions of experts, recent immigrants, business and land owners, advocates, adversaries and law enforcement;

Whereas, Within the United States there currently reside between nine (9) and fifty (50) million undocumented residents from all cultural and socio-economic backgrounds and nationalities;

Whereas, Our current immigration policies rely on an antiquated system of geographic quotas and that the federal government has failed to modernize the system with available technology and entrance rubrics that reflect current social, educational and economic requirements and that such an outdated system serves to encourage illegal immigration;

Whereas, The economic, civil and criminal unrest in other countries has had a significant impact on illegal immigration at our borders and the federal government has refused to commit the resources necessary to adequately secure our physical borders;

Whereas, The federal government’s failure to properly secure our borders has led to the unconscionable treatment and death of people entering the United States illegally and the loss of life, liberty and property of American citizens to foreign criminal enterprise;

Whereas, Millions of children brought to this country illegally and who know no country other than America as their home will become adults in this country and, as such, it is in the best interest of these young people and our Nation that they become self-supporting, tax-paying, productive members of our society rather than to allow them to be another disenfranchised generation living in the shadows;

Whereas, We acknowledge the changing demographics of the United States as clearly illustrated by the increased voting strength of minorities and recently naturalized citizens, and the significant role immigrants have played in the history of our country; and

Whereas, The federal government has an urgent obligation to address the issue of immigration in this country; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Texas Federation of Republican Women strongly urges the federal government to expedite the resources necessary to finally secure United States borders;

Resolved, The Texas Federation of Republican Women calls on the federal government to immediately pass legislation and appropriate funds necessary to reform the current immigration system using state-of-the-art technology and create a guest worker program that documents guest workers and their families and requires them to pass health and criminal background checks, to be self-supporting, including the purchase of health and other required insurance, to pay taxes and to demonstrate a working knowledge of English in a reasonable amount of time in order to obtain permanent legal resident status; and

Resolved, The Texas Federation of Republican Women urges the federal government to expeditiously establish criteria for young people in this country illegally through no fault of their own to earn legal resident status or citizenship when they demonstrate English fluency and knowledge of American civics, comply with all health requirements, have no criminal record, graduate from an accredited high school, and pursue a college degree, trade certification or enter into military service.

Adopted by the Texas Federation of Republican Women, this, the 17th day of January, 2013.

Carolyn Hodges, President, Texas Federation of Republican Women

(Senator, Continued from Page One)

my. Like most of this president's "solutions," Obamacare has created more problems than it has solved. It must be repealed.

Obamacare is not the only big government program the president has enacted. Through executive fiat, the bureaucracy in the beltway has grown substantially. Every day, new regulations come out of Washington, DC, that damage small business with higher costs of doing business. Such regulations, which are de facto laws, fly in the face of the Constitution. Article One, Section Eight of the Constitution is very clear that only Congress has the power to create laws. This means that those of us in Congress must take back the responsibilities the Founders entrusted to us and end the era of runaway regulation by unelected bureaucrats.

A fundamental inhibitor to economic growth is the federal tax code. Its complexity, combined with destructively high rates on work and investment, puts up obstacles on individuals and businesses that only reward accountants and the army of tax lobbyists manipulating our code for special interests. We need to not only say no to new taxes, but also to work diligently on reforming the tax code so every American can file their taxes on a single post card. Fundamental tax reform would provide a much needed boost and send economic growth skyrocketing.

As your Senator, I will focus on policy that will get America working again. Together, we must make it clear that Republican ideas will provide the best opportunities for our children and grandchildren. These are the policies that work and will ensure America continues to be the greatest nation in the world. I am proud to represent the great state of Texas and look forward to working beside you to promote our ideals of limited government, individual liberty, and the Constitution.

(Presidents Message continued)

Statements of support include:

"I am grateful to the TFRW and its leadership for taking a strong stand in favor of immigration reform. Their statement today is a strong call to action to our federal lawmakers, and I could not be more pleased at the way in which President Carolyn Hodges and this organization have stepped up to help lead on the issue." Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson

"I commend TFRW for a forward-looking approach to this important issue. While not everyone will agree on how to handle the problem, what's clear is that something needs to be done and solutions need to be presented." State Representative Larry Gonzales

With the support from leaders at home in Texas as well as in Washington, TFRW knows our statement is a good place to start the practical conversation on meaningful, comprehensive immigration reform. It's time we take a stand and work together to lead the change on immigration.

Carolyn Hodges, President



(Pictured l to r) Greater Houston Council President Sherry Peterson; NFRW President Rae Chornenky; TFRW President Carolyn Hodges; and TFRW Awards Chairman Marilyn Davis.

Focusing on the Future - **NFRW REGION 4 CONFERENCE**

Republican Women from Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas will gather in Sugar Land, TX, for the National Federation of Republican Women Region 4 Conference, May 16th – 18th.

George P. Bush will be the featured speaker Friday evening May 17th. The Texas Federation of Republican Women will host a welcome reception Thursday evening at the Marriott Sugar Land Town Square hotel, site of all conference events.

TFRW Awards Committee Chairman Marilyn Davis is heading the committee of Republican women volunteers from the Greater Houston Council area. Online registration is available at www.tfrw.org.

2013 CONVENTION

Our Fiesta themed convention is being held in beautiful downtown San Antonio. October is a wonderful month to visit and we are preparing for record attendance!

Convention Committee Co-Chairs Shirley Martinez and Debbie Wall, Volunteer Committee Co-Chair Vivian Simon and Danelle Pascarella presented our banner at the November TFRW Board Meeting in Austin. A new member has recently been added on to the Convention Co-Chair team, the president of Alamo City Republican Women, Freida Wright, has joined us as the Convention Co-Chair for Finance and Fundraising.

Volunteers from many areas and counties are taking key roles: Atascosa-McMullen, Bexar, Comfort, Brush Country, Bulverde Area, Canyon Lake, Kendall, Guadalupe, Comal, Wilson and New Braunfels all in order to provide the most productive, interesting and enjoyable convention.

Our Volunteer Forms are available on the TFRW website, Convention News Corner. Come help; let's get to work....Deep in the Heart of Texas! You can contact Volunteer Chairman Dee Momone at deemomone@att.net for additional information.

Please save the date on your calendars. We are looking forward to welcoming you and your club members.



A new year brings new officers, new members, new resolutions and new determination for Republican women across Texas.



REGION I

Republican Women of Northeast

Texas held its 12th annual retreat "United in Battle for Conservative Values in the Culture War" for all club members at Selah Ranch. Focusing on unity, the members plan the year's activities and got to know each other.



REGION II

Greater Houston Council marked

its 50th Anniversary with proclamations from Governor Perry and the Republican members of the Texas State House and Senate. **Cy-Fair Republican Women** are training members to become Voter Registration Deputies and conducting voter registration drives at Lone Star College. **Yellow Rose Republican Women** will be block walking, making phone calls and stuffing envelopes for City Council candidates. **Chambers County Republican Women** has given over 4,500 dictionaries to the students in the past eleven years. The club gives a dictionary to every third grader in all three school districts in the county each year.



REGION III

Irving Republican Women celebrated 50 years as a TFRW Charter

club. Founding members Alice Hale and Lois Short were honored. Also honored were past Presidents, Irving Mayor

Beth Van Duyne and Former City Council Member Joyce Howard Pittman. **Plano Republican Women** hosted Kelly Chambers, Traffic 911 Director, who spoke about human trafficking in the US and how Dallas has become a hub for kidnapping and selling children and teenagers.

The **Dallas County Council of Republican Women** has named Dorothy A. (Dot) Adler as the recipient of the 2012 Anita Hill Lifetime Achievement Award. The award honors an outstanding Republican woman who has consistently supported the candidates, goals, and values of the Republican Party. Ms. Adler, who covered the founding convention of the Texas Federation of Republican Women as a young reporter for the San Antonio Light, said she cast her first vote for Dwight D. Eisenhower and has been voting Republican ever since.



Golden Corridor Republican Women's 2012 Literacy Project donated 30 How to Use a Dictionary/How to Use a Thesaurus workbooks to 3rd grade students at Firewheel Christian Academy.



REGION IV

Lake Conroe Republican Women

marked its 20th year in TFRW with a program titled "A Walk Down Memory Lane." The club honored past club presidents and charter members and toasted its members with an anniversary cake and champagne.

Nacogdoches County Republican Women displayed information at the Nacogdoches Chamber of Commerce Volunteerism Day on January 25th.

**REGION VIII**

Republican Women of West Texas, one of TFRW's newest clubs, joined

with State Representative, Susan King, to co-host a successful new member coffee at the Pioneer City-County Museum in Sweetwater.

Grayson County Republican Women celebrated its 60th anniversary. In 1952, the club reports, Republicans were few and far between yet the club survived and today the county elected officials are virtually all Republicans. **Hutchinson County Republican Women** members volunteered their time as Bell Ringers for the Salvation Army in December.

**REGION V**

Clear Creek Republican Women

hosted Beverly Roberts, director of Concerned Women for America of South Texas. Her topic was "How to Lobby from your Kitchen Table"

Spirit of Freedom Republican Women introduced its executive board and committee chairs to club members. **San Jacinto Republican Women** helped make over 50,000 calls on behalf of Republican candidates during the last election cycle. Anne Nielsen made over 11,000 phone calls.



A member of **Midland County Republican Women** and Region 8 Deputy President Juandelle Lacy Roberts celebrated her 85th birthday with grandson J. Ross, daughter Rhonda and TFRW board members at the recent board meeting in Austin.

**REGION VI**

Reagan Legacy Republican Women

focused on Economic Development at its recent meeting. The club hosted Janie Havel, a member of Governor Perry's Office of Economic Development. The program covered the economic development climate in North Texas & expectations for 2013.

Republican Women of Arlington had a great suggestion in its December Newsletter. Members were encouraged to send cards to: A Recovering American Soldier, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, 6900 Georgia Avenue, NW Washington, DC, 20307-5001.

**REGION IX****Atascosa County Republican**

Women, TFRW's newest club, held its first meeting last month in Pleasanton. Texas Moore and Bobbie Mackinley hold the Texas flag which flew over the state capitol.



San Antonio Republican Women proudly display the club's new name and logo. Formerly known as Republican Businesswomen of Bexar County, the club's name was officially accepted by TFRW board of directors in November.



Guadalupe County Republican Women's 2013 officers were recently installed by Texas Senator Donna Campbell. Members were also on hand when Senator Campbell was sworn in earlier this year.

**REGION X****San Patricio County Republican**

Women were honored to host Texas First Lady Anita Perry at a recent meeting. Club members worked many hours to reelect U.S. District 27 Rep. Blake Farenthold. In addition, they elected local Republicans State Rep. District 43 J.M. Lozano; San Patricio Co. Constable Pct. 6 D.R. 'Don' Perkins; and Judge Janna Whatley.

**REGION XI****McLennan County Republican**

Women honored area veterans with a luncheon. During the program, the veterans spoke about their active duties. **High Plains Republican Women** held an "Appreciation Dinner" for all elected officials in the area. **Cross Timbers Republican Women** has started a College Republican Club at Tarleton State University.

Highland Lakes Republican Women were honored to have Steve Munisteri, Chairman of the Texas Republican Party, as their special guest at the Annual Christmas Luncheon. Members also donated gifts to residents of the Highland Lakes Family Crisis Center as part of the club's Caring for America program.



Brown County Republican Women supported Good Samaritan Ministries with Christmas baskets and shipped 12 boxes of Christmas cheer to 20 troops serving in Afghanistan.



Pecan Valley Republican Women installed new officers for 2013.

**NOTICE:**

TFRW Bylaws, Article XI, Section 1-E: "Nominees must be members in good standing of the Texas Federation of Republican Women and shall be in accord with the objectives, bylaws, and policies of the Organization and the Republican Party."

The TFRW NOMINATING COMMITTEE is pleased to announce we are accepting applications for the TFRW BOARD of DIRECTORS 2014 -2015. The Application, with instructions, is available online at www.tfrw.org.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- March 7-9** NFRW Board of Directors Meeting and Legislative Day, Washington, D.C.
- April 17** TFRW Executive Committee Meeting, And 2nd Biennial Belles & Boots Ball, Austin
- April 18** Legislative Day 2013, Austin
- April 19** TFRW Board of Directors Meeting, Austin
- May 17-18** NFRW Region 4 Conference, Sugar Land Welcome Reception on Evening of May 16
- July 18-19** TFRW Board Meeting, Dallas
- Sept. 20-23** NFRW Convention, Louisville, KY
- Oct.17-19** TFRW 29th Biennial Convention, San Antonio

TEXAS FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN

"WORKING AND WINNING TOGETHER FOR TEXAS"

TEXAS  *Star*

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The Texas Star is the official publication of the Texas Federation of Republican Women and is mailed quarterly to its members. It contains information about the Federation, its member clubs, and issues important to the political arena.

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TFRW Welcomes New Clubs!

Hays County Republican Women
SD 21/Region IX

Republican Women of West Texas
SD 28/Region VIII

Atascosa County Republican Women
SD 19/Region IX