



New Mexico Federated Republican Women Newsletter

Vol. 2019, Issue 1, February 2019



President's Corner NMFRW President Rhonda Stockert

This New Year has certainly been a year with many challenges. Republicans have taken a beating and lost the majority in the House and Senate. This was certainly not the desired

outcome of the last election. We need to proceed with what I call **Back to Basics**, which our National Regional Director will be speaking on today.

I have been traveling to install new Presidents and officers since December and that has kept me busy. I have installed Presidents from the top of the state to the bottom of the state and from side to side. This has been especially rewarding to do and I love traveling. I have been able to go to places that I would not have been able to go to before as my husband does not like to travel. I love visiting the clubs and meeting the members. For some clubs a State President visiting is an exciting event.

In November, I was invited to install new officers for Metro FRW. In December, I installed officers for Four Corners FRW, Santa Fe FRW, Dona Ana County FRW, and Chaves County FRW.

In January, I swore in new officers at Los Alamos FRW, Zia FRW, Albuquerque FRW and FRW of Lincoln County. Rosie Tripp went to Grant County FRW in my place, as I could not be in two places at once. A big **Thank You to Rosie** for her help.

February, I have been busy getting ready for the Winter Board Meeting and will head to Hobbs, NM, to swear in Lea County FRW officers. March finds me in Taos to swear in officers for Taos FRW and then to Rio Grande FRW to install their officers. At month's end, I will head to Alexandria, VA, for the NFRW Spring Board Meeting. In April, I will visit Socorro and install new officers. By the time this is

done, I will have installed officers in 13 clubs statewide. Two clubs made other arrangements to install their officers. It has been extremely fun for me and I love meeting with all the members, who do not get to attend our state meetings.

NMFRW Executive & Committee Reports

First Vice President – Joan Boué

It is with great pleasure that I report that we had two speakers at our 2019 Winter NMFRW Luncheon Saturday. Each speaker had 10-20 minutes to speak. If time allows, the audience may ask questions.

Our first speaker was Sargent Bobbie Terrazas of the NM State Police. She reported that *Human Trafficking* is a huge problem in New Mexico.

Our second speaker was Lynne Hartung, an elected NFRW Member-at Large. She is also Region 2 Director, which includes New Mexico. Her topic is *Getting Back to Basics*.

Since this is a non-election year, I'd like to present a speaker at our June Luncheon Meeting that discusses topics or concerns which impact our NMFRW members and New Mexico. If you have a topic or speaker that you would like to hear, please contact me at joan@boue.email or call @ 575-627-7399. I shall research & try to secure them to speak in June.

Second Vice President – Julie Wright

In 2018 our membership was 814, down from 835 the previous year. We are currently at 422. Previously, I have advised that we help our clubs focus on retention of members, better communication within NM FRWs, and a marketing plan to help incentive women of all ages to become a part of the NMFRW.

Achievement Awards Report – Gwen Poe

I am now positive that I belong to the dinosaur family. I had no idea that the 17-page awards information was a spread sheet. Lynn Hartung, our guest speaker was most helpful and said she would help anyone . . . just call on her. My suggestion is to go online to Nat'l and proceed. I will continue to study and try to get this right. Convention is in September and forms due on June 1. I am involved

in radiation and brain is not as it should be. Let me know what you are doing. Last convention, NM had 100% participation – let's repeat it! Hugs, Gwen

Americanism Report – Patricia Rothengass

As Americanism Chair for NMFRW, I decided to really examine what Americanism means. It is so much more than the Flag, it is an ideology and belief that started a very long time ago. Per the Internet: **Americanism** is a set of U.S. patriotic values aimed at creating a collective American identity and can be defined as "an articulation of the nation's rightful place in the world, a set of traditions, a political language, and a cultural style imbued with political meaning." According to The American Legion (a U.S. veterans' organization) *Americanism* is an ideology, or belief in devotion, loyalty, or allegiance to the United States of America, or to its flag, traditions, customs, culture, symbols, institutions, or form of government. In the words of Theodore Roosevelt, "*Americanism is a question of spirit, conviction, and purpose, not of creed or birthplace.*"

Americanism has two different meanings. It can refer to the defining characteristics of the United States and can also signify loyalty to the United States and a defense of American political ideals. These ideals include, but are not limited to self-government, equal opportunity, freedom of speech, and a belief in progress. This collection of ideals that forms the modern ideology of *Americanism* holds an enduring appeal to people from lands throughout the globe.

Caring for America – Charlotte Sweeney

No new information to report.

Community Engagement – No report.

Fundraising – 3rd VP Ginger Paternostro

No Report.

Legislative Initiative – Sharon Mottola

No Report

Member-at-Large – Jeanine Bingham-Kelly

No report.

Member-at-Large – Anita Statman

After working all summer on the *SFFRW Gala* with Mark Geist, which raised more than \$10,000 for candidates statewide, Janice Arnold-Jones asked me to support her upcoming fundraisers. I suggested alternate speakers for her two October fundraisers. I had no other requests for support.

The candidates were geared up and excited for November 6 to come, even though the polls had most of our candidates down by 2-9%. We were within

the margin of error in many races, so the losses were unexpected and staggering. Most candidates lost by wide margins, while a few came down to the wire.

Each club now has the time to take a breath and begin to figure out how/why we lost in our counties/districts, so we can start to overcome the Party's challenges. We should each work with our newly elected local and state Republican Party representatives to double the effectiveness of our work. While we can't get personal voter data, we can look for trends in post-election analysis. Did Republicans vote for Democrats? Did the Democrats register more voters that weren't on the ballot in 2014, when we won most of the State Executive offices? Did Independents vote for Democrats? With this data, we can chart correct course in months ahead, as we begin preparations for 2020 wins!

RNC Report – Rosie Tripp

The RNC met in Albuquerque on January 23-25 at Tamaya Hyatt Resort. Steve Pearce, Harvey Yates, and I welcomed RNC members from America Samoa to Puerto Rico to our beautiful Land of Enchantment.

Steve, Harvey, and I co-sponsored a reception for the new Co-Chairman of the RNC, Tommy Hicks, who is from Texas and strongly supports President Trump.

Our main agenda this meeting was to elect new officers and people to serve on various committees on the RNC. We re-elected Ronna McDaniel for Chairwoman, Tommy Hicks for Co-Chairman, Vicki Drummond as Secretary and Ron Kaufmann for Treasurer. I, along with the Committeeman from California, was re-elected to the Executive Committee from the Western Region.

I had as my special guests for this meeting, my husband Don, Rebekah Stevens (YR Chairman) and Pat Rogers, past NM Committeeman. There were numerous other New Mexicans in attendance as well.

The RNC's main goals for the next two years will be to re-elect President Trump and Vice-President Pence, take back Congress, and keep the Senate.

I traveled to Silver City to talk to the Grant County FRW and their Republican Party group. Enjoyed meeting new friends and getting reacquainted with some I had not seen in quite a while.

Scholarship – Ginger Paternostro ~ No report

Senior Americans – No Report

New Mexico Club Presidents' News

Region A Director – Sadie Boyer ~

I spoke with Four Corners FRW President Heather Curtis and offered my assistance whenever needed.

The club meets at Piñon Hills Community Church in Farmington. Their 2019 membership for the first reporting period was 82. Their 2018 total by the October reporting period was 177. They are signing up new members. The club is organizing satellite clubs in Aztec, Bloomfield & Shiprock. They are also organizing a rally which will take place March 9.

The Santa Fe FRW luncheons are on the 2nd Monday of the month from 11:30 – 1:00 p.m., September thru May. Their Annual Events include a Gala Celebration or Picnic Fundraiser and a Holiday Party and Member Appreciation event in December. Prices for each event vary and are published well in advance. As of the end of the first reporting period they reported 30 members. Their 2018 total by the October reporting period was 68.

I visited with Los Alamos FRW President Shona Neff, who said her club is working diligently to stay active. Los Alamos County has gone from being a Republican stronghold to one that now has a majority of Democrats. They will host a “Personali-TEA,” on April 27, which sounds like it should a lot of fun. I was not able to attend their installation of officers in January, but President Rhonda Stockert attended on January 10 and installed their officers. This was Rhonda’s first visit to Los Alamos. Today we have the Los Alamos FRW Vice-President Terra Fulbright representing the Club, since Shona was unable to attend. They have 11 members as of the 1st reporting period. Last year’s total was 21. I will continue to encourage them in the work they are doing.

Taos County FRW had 12 members at the end of the first reporting period. Their October 2018 total was 16. They are working hard to grow their numbers. The club meets at *IHOP Restaurant* every odd-numbered month on the 3rd Saturday at 9:00 a.m. The club updated their bylaws and is working on the Club Achievement Awards and Campaign Volunteer Hours reports. The next meeting will be Saturday, March 16. NMFRW President Rhonda Stockert will be our guest and will install officers.

I stress the need for each club to pay close attention to absentee ballots of all registered voters. Making sure these ballots are legitimate will help our candidates. According to an article on the *Albuquerque Journal* on November 27, 2018, “Statewide, 19,329 absentee ballots were requested online for this year’s general election and 16,536 of those ballots were ultimately returned.” We need to concentrate on helping Republicans be part of those

numbers and votes! I appreciate each President, the officers and all members, as they continue to work tirelessly towards accomplishing their goals. Please do not hesitate to contact me whenever a need arises at (575)770-0993 or sadie130@gmail.com.

Four Corners FRW – Heather Curtis

FCFRW has 126 members, 20 of whom are new and 43 Associates, 10 of whom are new.

In November, we presented Kerry Rivera, President of *Blue Star Mothers*, with a \$350 donation. Anita Rowe recapped the Veterans’ Stand Down to which FCFRW donated 429 items.

Fourteen children wrote essays describing their favorite holiday in which the American flag is flown for Norma Ferguson’s flag contest. The winner received a flag that had been flown over our Capitol.

In December, we presented 145 gifts to three National Guard families, each gift worth a minimum of \$25.00. Sally Bramhall also presented scholarship winner Eliana Christensen with a \$750 check. Rhonda Stockert swore in our 2019/2020 board.

In January, Senator Steve Neville spoke, providing critical updates and insight into what was taking place in the House.

In February, County Manager Mike Stark gave a detailed presentation of the coal fired power plant (scheduled to shut down early) and its impact on San Juan County. We also heard from County Clerk Tanya Shelby regarding voter turnout.

FCFRW vision for the next two years is to develop satellite groups in the surrounding areas of Aztec, Bloomfield, and Shiprock. We will join with San Juan GOP to further this goal. We will host a Rally in March, in hope of providing essential information to the local community and boosting membership.

Los Alamos FRW – President Dawn Voss

No report.

Santa Fe FRW – President Anita Statman

Looking back, President Sharon Mottola had a strong finish to her 2nd term (4 years!) as President of our club. She oversaw many successful events. We finished 2018 with 68 members and 9 associates. Sharon is continuing her volunteer work by supporting the legislature this winter.

In October, we hosted Arthur Castillo, Candidate for State Treasurer. In November, Anita Statman gave a presentation on the *Opioids Crisis and Border Security*. In December, we held our annual

Christmas party, gave away 25+ gifts to members and collected 25+ toys for *Boys and Girls Club*.

Also in December, I was honored to be sworn in with a great team of officers for the 2019-2020 term, including: 1st Vice President Barbara Blackwell Dedmon, 2nd Vice President Peggy Mallow, 3rd Vice President Sherry Morrison, Treasurer Elaine Hausman, Recording Secretary Robin Reed, and Corresponding Secretary Faye Miller.

Taos County FRW – President Sadie F. Boyer

Taos County FRW general meetings are held five times on the third Saturday of January, March, May, September, and November. Presently our meetings are held at the *IHOP Restaurant* meeting room in Taos at 9:00 a.m. for breakfast and continuing with our program and business meeting. Other officers are: Vice President Geraldine Sanchez, Secretary Linda Rael, and Treasurer Virginia Laughlin.

Since my last report:

- Taos County FRW reports 12 members as of this date. We ended 2018 with 16 members.
- We updated our By-laws and are preparing a By-law booklet to hand out to members;
- We assisted Taos County GOP with a Fundraiser at the Taos Trails Inn in beautiful Ojo Caliente;
- Several members participated in the “Hoppin’ at the IHOP” on Wednesdays from 6-8 p.m. “*Getting the Know the Candidate*” events;
- We worked tirelessly for the General election - phone calls, delivering and erecting yard signs and bumper stickers to friends, family and neighbors;
- We discussed methods to increase voter registration, the importance of absentee ballots, and getting Republicans, Conservative Democrats and Independent registered voters to the election;
- I volunteered as Treasurer for the NM Supreme Court Justice Gary Clingman Campaign and as Taos County Team Captain for Steve Pearce;
- Three of our members are also Taos County Republican Party Officers; and
- I gave reports to the club on the following:
 - A. Due to bi-lateral knee replacement surgery October 1, I could not attend NMFRW’s Fall meeting.
 - B. I attended the Biennial State Central Committee Meeting in December to elect new Republican Party Officers in Albuquerque. I also attended the 12/7 meeting to listen to candidates and get feedback from attendees. It was a great event and very informative! We

should have more of these gatherings. Thanks to Janice Arnold-Jones for organizing the event.

C. I distributed information received from Anushya Ramaswamy and reviewed information available on the NFRW Website.

Our next meeting is March 16 at the IHOP. NMFRW President, Rhonda Stockert will install officers.

Region B Director – Hazel W. (Winnie) Schmidt

Since our last meeting we have been busy. The elections are over and we were very disappointed with the outcome. We all worked hard during the elections and then the holidays, and now it’s time to get back to normal, whatever that is

Members are visiting the Legislature on concerned issues. We are not happy with many issues being pushed by the other Party.

Region B’s Club elections resulted in Presidents retaining their positions except for Metro where Gayle McCormick was elected. I have missed a few Club meetings with the winter weather and personal issues. As an Associate member, I receive newsletters from the Clubs and enjoy reading them.

Work for the NMFRW October 23, 24, & 25, 2019, Convention continues. We selected Courtyard by Marriott at 5151 Journal Center Blvd., Albuquerque. The hotel renovation is complete. Nightly room rate will be \$96 plus taxes. We have reserved 25 rooms – deadline for reservations is Oct. 2, 2019. The Convention registration fee has not been determined.

We will work on increasing membership, focusing on younger members. However, our meeting places and times make it difficult for ladies, who are employed or in school to attend meetings.

Albuquerque FRW – Charlotte Sweeney

We had our AFRW Annual Holiday Potluck in December, gathering for some business and social interaction. We recognized Janice Arnold-Jones as our Special Guest and honored her for her campaign and thanked her for her efforts to improve our community. Club members were asked to donate requested items (or make a donation) to Mitchell Elementary School, our *Caring for America Project*.

AFRW Caring for America Project: We have donated items requested by Mitchell Elementary School for a number of years. In the past, we have donated books, warm clothes and hats and gloves. This year they requested warm clothes, underwear and socks. Items and money donated allowed us the opportunity to donate 100 items to those students in

need of warm clothes. Items were given to the school before the students were dismissed for Winter Break.

A nominating committee was assembled. New officers were elected and installed at our January Meeting by NMFRW President Rhonda Stockert.

We have maintained membership numbers. We will not be changing membership much at this point. In December, we began collecting dues and will continue renewing memberships until April 1, 2019. Those interested in joining our club will be asked to join as existing members or to renew membership. We always appreciate additional members.

Metro FRW – President Gayle McCormick

2019/2020 Officers: 1st VP (programs) Robin Otten/Co-1st VP Joan Schlueter, 2nd VP (membership) June Gardner, Treasurer Jonn Milan, Secretary Hazel (Winnie) Schmidt.

Our new board has met twice and established some goals. First and foremost, we realize the urgency to grow our membership. We also strive to bring younger members into our fold. As in any organization, with which most of us are involved, this is not an easy task; but it is a necessary one for us. Doubling our membership, with each member recruiting one solid new member, is our desire.

Secondly, we are “in talks” with Jalene Lyons, to head a new, more effective and deliberate, fundraising committee for us. Her work for Janice Arnold Jones was exemplary. We hope to benefit from her experience and guidance. We want to make substantial financial contributions to Republican candidates in the important 2020 election ahead.

Thirdly, we will commit to more social gatherings in the New Year! Many of us only know those with whom we sit at our luncheons. We feel a need to more tightly knit our community. That will make for a more cooperative and effective membership.

Finally, our members request the continuance of the excellent monthly speakers that our First VP Robin Otten so deftly procured for us. With these goals, we anticipate a busy, lively, and productive 2019.

Rio Grande FRW – Carol S. Chupp

RGFRW was extremely busy with election and is now with legislative concerns. We all worked hard in the election, with many members serving as poll workers/challengers in Valencia County Elections. We were disappointed with the results statewide, but Valencia County went for Pearce and we were able to elect two state reps and most of our county officials.

The end of November, we had a combination Christmas Party and Membership Drive, 40 attended. Our venue at Belen’s Fat Sat’s Bar and Grill, was festive. We sang Christmas carols, played games and then listened to our own Senator Greg Baca. He was very encouraging, admonishing us to not give up the fight in NM. We had a minor change to our Bylaws, stating that we would present our Annual Budget in January of each year. Our present officers were unanimously approved to stay on for two more years.

In early December the Valencia County Republican Party Biennial Convention was held to elect officers, Central Committee and Delegates to the State Party. The majority of our members turned out with most of them are now on our County Central Committee with three serving on the VCRP Executive Committee.

January’s meeting was very productive, and we approved our budget for the year. One of our goals was to increase membership from 23 to 25 this year. 30 memberships have been submitted so far, with at least 5 more to turn in. Several have been younger ladies. Another goal is to form a PAC this year and do two fundraisers, so that we are in a position to donate to campaigns and elect more Republicans in 2020. We hope NMFRW will help us in that endeavor. Ethel Maharg, new Executive Director of the *NM Right to Life* spoke at our January meeting.

In February, several of us have been very involved in activities up here in Santa Fe, with our biggest passion being the defeat of the two extreme Life and Death Bills HB 51, the Abortion Bill and HB 90, the Assisted Suicide Bill. At our club meeting this past Tuesday we had three of our own speak to us about Legislative Issues and had two new ladies join.

Since our official inception a little over a year ago, the RGFRW continues to grow, in numbers and enthusiasm. Our technology is advancing as we now are capable of paying via Pay Pal and mass texting. We are not deterred by current political crises, in fact, I think it makes us more determined to band together and take action for our county, state, and country.

Rio Rancho FRW – Barbara McClain

No report.

San Bern FRW – Julie Wright

Although elections were disappointing, I am proud to say that every single one of our members helped Republican candidates. That means a lot to me.

A new board was elected, which is an outstanding group of ladies dedicated to continuing support of our current Republican legislative officials and gearing

up for City Council and School Board elections coming up. Although Appellate Court Judge Stephen French was on his last day of his bench, he and Kathy joined us and he swore in our board members.

I was unable to attend the winter board meeting and missed seeing my friends. Linda Eaton, our Communications Director, was willing to go as my executive board was unwilling to represent our group due to the circumstances listed previously.

ZIA FRW – Paula McAllister

Zia FRW continues to have relevant speakers at our monthly meetings. We had a very successful Christmas party in December. Our Board is actively working to increase our membership. We are having a challenge this month with an "each one, bring one" to try to increase membership. We believe the APS Bond election was defeated by our Republican efforts to educate voters on the content of the ballot. We have now filled our secretary and 3rd Vice President slots for a full Board.

Region C Director – Teresa Barncastle

Region C continues on track to have the most members. Most clubs have renewed at least 50% of their membership. They also have the most members attending the Winter Board meeting with 15.



Crowd at MAGA Rally, Senator John Cronyn

Many members attended the Trump Rally in El Paso in support of the President. Members shared their experiences through social media and live streaming. The crowd was massive and not everyone got in.

Most clubs are planning fundraisers of a Fashion Show Tea, raffles, and dances. Please contact your club president and/or Regional Director to share any ideas for successful fund raisers.

Two candidates have already declared to run for Congressional District 2 with a third verbally stating he will be running. The Republican held seat was

lost the last election to a Las Cruces Democrat. Due to numerous irregularities with absentee ballots in Dona Ana County, a law suit was initiated. The findings were just released. And, while it will not affect the outcome, numerous abuses and improper handling of absentee ballots were discovered. The items, either legislative or procedural, will be addressed prior to the 2020 election.

Clubs are or will be educating members and the public on party platforms. This year is a perfect time to reach out to communities to explain the differences. It is believed that a significant number of registered Democrats, whose ideals are more in line with the Republican Party, are unaware of how drastically liberal their party has become.

Chaves County FRW – Teresa Barncastle

The November CCFRW meeting honored veterans. Cabinet Secretary Ret. Brig. Gen. Jack Fox spoke and each of 30 veterans attending were treated to lunch, had their names announced and were given an honor coin courtesy of Brigadier General Fox.

Retiring State Representative Bob Wooley was our honored guest at our December meeting and a silent auction of 'last minute gifts' was held.

Representative Yvette Herrell and Representative-elect Phelps Anderson were on hand to say a few eloquent and sometimes humorous words about retiring State Representative Bob Wooley. Wooley expressed his appreciation and was presented with a gift basket from CCFRW.

We were honored to have NMFRW President Rhonda Stockert install our 2019-2020 officers – President Teresa Barncastle, Vice President Judy Hobson, Secretary Mona Kirk, and Treasurer Angel Mayes at our December meeting. We were also honored to have NMFRW 3rd VP Ginger Pasternostro attend the meeting.

Roswell Independent School District Superintendent Dr. AnnLynn McIlroy spoke at our January meeting to educate us on the upcoming 'GO' Bond and Mil Levy election. CCFRW also used this meeting to honor member Millie Brown in conjunction with the NFRW MELP Program. Roswell Public Library Director Enid Costley accepted the book donation. A copy of the book sponsored by members Judy and Larry Hobson was also given to Mrs. Brown.

CCFRW has started the planning process for two fundraisers, a raffle and their Cowboy Prom. The Prom is planned for this summer and will include dinner, dancing, and an auction.

Doña Ana County FRW – Patricia Rothengass

Since our meeting in October and November Elections over, Doña Ana Country has no Republicans in office. DACFRW and Republican candidates, who ran for office, worked hard to inform the people of DAC. In my opinion, the DACFRW *Get Out the Vote* theme did not and cannot work when there was and is so much **Voter Fraud**. However, many of us worked hard and will continue working to make sure this will never happen again.

December Christmas Celebration brought new hope, when essays submitted by three *Americanism Essay Contest* winners of “If I was President of the United States for a Day” were read. The parents, teacher and we are proud of these students. Rhonda Stockert honored us by installing our 2019-2020 Officers.

The January meeting was an informative business meeting. We recognized 2019-2020 Officers and Standing Committee Chairs, along with new members and guests. The Treasurer’s Report and Audit along with the Proposed 2019 Budget were proposed and accepted.

POTUS Donald Trump spoke to us via phone, informing us that he was reopening the government until February 15. After hearing the President’s message to Congress, our Open Mic part of the meeting was a success. I am thrilled and happy to report that DACFRW has 50 Members and will continue to grow during 2019.

Grant County FRW – Candy Luhrsen

GCFRW members were in a malaise, resulting from the dreadful results of the General Election

This year we are going to change our election model and go back to the basics. GCFRW will:

- Get more involved with neighbors & community.
- Provide dictionaries to 3rd graders.
- Donate snacks to the American Legion Auxiliary’s refreshments station at VA Clinic under our Armed Forces or Caring for America Programs.
- Contribute to Visitor Ctr. New Resident packets.
- Go door-to-door with candidate comparison charts showing R & D stances on issues; endorsements & grades given by NRA, Pro-life and fiscal watchdog groups, etc.
- Register voters; distribute American flags, *U.S. Constitutions & ‘Now You Are 18’ booklets*.
- Facilitate mock elections in schools.
- Volunteering for RPGC and RPNM events will be optional. GCFRW will support its own projects.

NM National Committee Woman Rosie Tripp installed our new officers at the Christmas Party at the Old Hurley Store. Model trains were running and had beautiful vintage Christmas villages displayed.

Going to the Trump Rally in El Paso was a great remedy for the blues. Another member and I were interviewed by ‘*Right Side Broadcasting Network*,’ a young conservative group, which survives on donations, travels to all Trump Rallies and shows how big the crowds really are. You can see Rachel Valencia and I at the 1 hour 47 min. mark on https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6wmqy5_8kzg . Never give up, we can win in 2020!

Lea County FRW – Carol Parish

In October, members of the Lea County FRW worked countless hours supporting Republican candidates during the general election. We had four Executive Board members attend the State NMFRW Fall Board meeting in Albuquerque.

Mick Rich, candidate for U.S. Senate, spoke to us about his ideas for New Mexico. During this month the club also worked on several community projects. In November, we elected officers for the next two years. 2018 ended with 63 members & 13 associates. 2019 started off with a bang! 34 members and 17 associate members. Our goal for this year is to more than double last year’s membership. Our guest speaker Susan Marinovich, Lea County Treasurer, explained her office duties and how the money generated is used. Ms. Marinovich outlined some current county projects, proposed projects and estimated project costs. Lea County Clerk Keith Manes requested we pay attention and call our legislators on bills pertaining to voter registration, same day registration, allowing felons to vote and open primaries.

Our Executive Board is busy working on updating our Club Bylaws and organizing a Satellite Outreach Program. With Hobbs and Lovington being the two largest cities in our county, we want to reach out to the smaller communities and keep Republican women updated on what is happening locally, statewide and nationally.

Lincoln County FRW – President Ann Eby

We worked tirelessly for the election. With all the hours & effort, our hearts were broken by the results. FRWLC was honored to host Kellyanne Conway, counselor to the President, for a campaign appearance in Lincoln County to support NM

candidates Gubernatorial Steve Pearce, CD2 Yvette Herrell, Senatorial Mick Rich, and Secretary of State Gavin Clarkson. Ruidoso was the only NM site visited by Trump's Team, and we had only 24 hours' notice to prepare. With an incoming blizzard and protestors requiring police control, our campaign headquarters was filled with 250 fired up supporters. Kellyanne was informative, humorous, and challenged the crowd with facts. Supporters and media from Albuquerque and surrounding area turned out for our event.

Elections do have consequences, and they have exploded upon us. After the fox is in the hen house, everyone is crying out WHAT CAN BE DONE, HOW CAN WE CHANGE ALL THIS?

The cruel answer "it's too late to say you're sorry" but we don't; so, we share, get involved by calling, writing, and letting our voices be heard. Join us and make the elections turn out differently next time.

Our growing membership is signing up to be active on projects. We are planning our 2nd Annual *Afternoon Tea & Fashion Extravaganza* to be held Sunday, June 2. We hope to double the amount raised last year for our PAC and for the 501c3 we benefited. The boutiques are all committed, a caterer with experience in Teas has been acquired, and guests from last year desire to return. We again invite each NMFRW to join us in beautiful Ruidoso for this lovely event to begin your summer and promote the values we all stand for.

Many from Ruidoso traveled to El Paso to the Trump 2020 MAGA Rally. We witnessed crowds of thousands; every age and race, from everywhere. All excited supporters of President Trump. Lines of people waiting to get in, over 10,000 did, but we did not. Thousands still waiting outside watching on the huge screen. We didn't even get in that far.

Do not believe any lie that not many turned out. We talked with police patrolling and they said the crowds were great, been there since 5 a.m.; and they would be inside, if they could. They said the wall has decreased the violence they deal with. Even though we did not make it inside, it was great to see firsthand how many were there in support of our President! No one can conquer the evil alone, but together, we can defeat the evil foe before us. God bless America.

Socorro County FRW – Rosie Tripp

Socorro Federated women manned our local headquarters many hours in November. We have 16 members and 8 associates.

We elected officers as follows: President Rosie Tripp; Vice Pres. Lynn Brandvold; Secretary Charlene Coles, and Treasurer Martha Salas.

We will continue to help our local shelter and food pantry and *Birthright of Socorro* as our *Caring for America* project. We are working on our achievement award sheets and have distributed our dictionaries and MELP books to La Promesa Elementary School.

An Encouraging Note: Editor Candy Luhrsen:

I have worked elections in three states. I noticed voting process irregularities here in NM, which combined for a huge loss, including:

- No chain of custody for ballots,
- Mandatory absentee ballots mailed to rural voters,
- Democrats harvesting absentee ballots,
- Improperly counted absentee ballots.
 - Our county clerk's office does not even check the signatures on the inner envelope of the absentee ballots against voter signature records. If there is no inner envelope or if the envelope is not signed – they still counted the ballot.

It was obvious that the 'Base' did not turn out. NM SOS figures for the 2016 general election compared to the 2018 GE are as follows: Trump received 319,667 votes in 2016 and the Libertarian candidate Gary Johnson pulled 74,541. In 2018, Pearce won 298,091 votes with no 3rd party participant. One Republican candidate was openly for a wall and one was not. Do you think it made a difference?

What can be done?

1. Educate voters that 3rd party candidates usually cause Republicans to lose.
2. Visit with county clerks about voting procedure irregularities and inform them that this could go to the AP, if their policies do not change.
3. Ensure we can get out the base in the general by electing conservative candidates in the primary.

I attended a Border Security meeting in Deming on March 9 organized by NM Cattlegrowers. About 500 people attended. NM citizens want a physical barrier! Technology like drones and dirigibles cannot be used in bad weather or wind, which is much of the time in NM. See the meeting on Youtube at the link in my email.

Never give up, we can win in 2020!

Reminder: NMFRW's next Board meeting will be June 21, & 22 2019, at the Albuquerque Marriot.

There will be training classes for new presidents and treasurers.

Chaplain's Notes – Nancy Cangiolosi and Jean Brown: No Report.