

2018-2019

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 Secretary – Miriam Fox
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 Campaign – Nancy Olson
 Fundraising – Chris Wehrman
 Legislation and Research – Kathy Pearson
 Membership – Alyssa Hanson
 Program – Sherill Whisenand
 Public Relations – Lori Leonard Reyman

Special Committees

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 Americanism – Open
 Armed Services – Jeanita McNulty
 Caring for America – Open
 Chaplain – Liz VanZomeren
 Finance – Cindy Golding
 Historian – Miriam Fox
 Leadership Development – Gloria Mazza
 Literacy – Open
 Club Development – Gwen Ecklund
 Parliamentarian – Deb Foster
 Sergeant at Arms – Ashley Hunt
 Social Media – Ashley Hunt
 19th Amendment Centennial – Laura Kamienski
 *Voting members

From the President

Welcome to the first edition of *The Flame*, IowaFRW's monthly News Bulletin. We hope to provide you with information you find not only enjoyable to read each month like *The Suffrage Movement*; we will include legislative news, committee reports, and information to help your local clubs.



I would like to introduce myself as your new president for the 2018-2019 biennium. I have been in politics since 2012, many years less than most of you. It became a passion for me when Obamacare passed the Supreme Court and I became involved with the Romney Campaign. All I knew of politics when growing up was Civics class (*you know the one that is missing in our schools these days!*). Since the 2012 campaign I became a volunteer for Polk County Republicans and was named Volunteer of the Year in 2013. This is when I discovered the Federation of Republican Women in Polk County. My experience and involvement in various organizations led me to step forward as their President in 2014-2015. We were honored at the National Federation of Republican Women's Convention with the highest percentage of membership growth in the nation in 2015. I recently retired after then serving as Executive Director of Polk County Republicans.

I share this story not only so you will get to know me better, because I want to know all of you. Also maybe someone reading this will see it isn't the years you have been involved, but the desire to be involved.

My goal is to grow IowaFRW. The leadership team is working on ways we can help you to reach out to new members. Please don't hesitate to reach out to any member of the Executive Team or Board Members.

I look forward to meeting you at one of your local club meetings and hope you will join us at a Iowa Federation of Republican Women's conference.

--Gloria Mazza, President



Pictured with Governor Kim Reynolds is Oliva, grandniece of IowaFRW 1st Vice President Lori Leonard Reyman, at an "Unleashing Opportunity" stop in Storm Lake. Olivia and her great aunt are both from Holstein. If you are interested in purchasing a Wee-publican T-shirt for Wee-publicans in your family, Contact: Lori at lori@section23media.com

**DON'T FORGET
 CAUCUS
 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH**

Women's Right to Vote – Change for the Better, Forever

-- Lori Leonard Reyman, 1st Vice President and Public Relations Chair



The 100th Anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution will be August 18, 2020. Beginning this month, we will dedicate space in *The Flame* to the Women's Right to Vote, telling the history of the Woman Suffrage Movement and the critical role Republicans played. Suffrage wasn't achieved in a day or even a decade; the movement spanned generations, with harsh setbacks and heady milestones before victory was won. As such, we won't wait until August 18, 2020, to celebrate or to educate.

Women of all ages, ethnicities and circumstances banded together through decades of struggle for suffrage, ultimately leading to a resolution in the U.S. House of Representatives in 1919 led by a Republican from Illinois. Of course it was a man who introduced this piece of legislation, because only men held elected office then. So today – with divisiveness the rule and unity the exception in so many areas – we also celebrate that both women and men were, and are, on the right side of this fight.

This month sets the stage, providing terminology and the various sources used in research. Next month we will start digging into the true story of how brave, determined Americans changed our republic for the better, forever.

Resources:

There are countless sources online, with varying degrees of reliability, so please know that I've eschewed Wikipedia and referenced the following: Iowa Women's Archives, Iowa State Historical Society, University of Iowa Library, www.senate.gov, www.history.house.gov, History Channel website, the Smithsonian and, www.encyclopediabritannica.com. Also, I used the good old, hold-it-in-your-hands Grolier Encyclopedia, Random House Unbridged Dictionary and a comprehensive National Federation of Republican Women text compiled by Glenda Rawlings, YCRW.

Terminology:

U.S. Constitution – Amendment 19: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex." Passed by Congress on June 4, 1919, and ratified by a majority of the states on Aug. 18, 1920 (441 days).

Woman Suffrage or Women's Suffrage Movement – Both are used and both will be referenced. While plenty of suffering was endured, *Suffrage simply means "the right to vote in political elections."*

Suffragist or Suffragette – A suffragist is "an advocate of the grant or extension of political suffrage, especially to women." A suffragette is "a woman advocate of female suffrage." Both are acceptable terms; neither is considered nor meant to be offensive here.

Next Month: The Timeline