

President's Message

The 2018 Convention is now in the history books and it was an enormous success. The 6th District members and Co-chairs Sandi Clark and Vicki Dunning made everything so special. Their attention to details made the different events run so effortlessly.

It was so nice to be with our members and I enjoyed hearing about the clubs and districts many achievements and plans. I am always flabbergasted at the generosity of our members. The auction and fundraising items, were exceptional. Our "Caring for America" bags will number around 56 when we get them all filled with the numerous items. The Literacy book table in "Memory of Former First Lady Barbara Bush" overflowed with donations and in September during MoFRW Literacy month each club should have books to place in a school. Thank you all for donating to our Military Project the "Little Patriotic Embraced" program, I know we are bringing a smile to some child's face.

The convention lineup of speakers was amazing. Veteran and Purple Heart recipient **Keara Torkelson** made us feel proud and angry because she was wounded in the shooting at Fort Hood. **Dan Stacy** reminded us we should follow the Republican Platform, **Emily Russell**, Executive Director of Human Trafficking from the Office of Missouri Attorney General's office gave us insight into the horrors of human trafficking in Missouri. She reminded us that this crime does not exclude rural areas of our state. **Russ Tuttle**, Catalyst/ Managing Director of Stop Trafficking Project talked of social media sex trafficking and made us understand the dangers that are easily accessed on the internet. Callaway County Sheriff's **Lieutenant Matthew Palmer**, Chief investigator and Investigator **Ryan Stiffler**, Domestic Violence officer presented information on active shooter situations and what we might do to save our life if faced with this circumstance.

Kay Hoflander brought a greeting from the MOGOP, five candidates for the U.S. Senate and two candidates for Missouri State Auditor presented their ideas and stayed to visit with members. I appreciate their time and effort to be with us.

Our Saturday evening speaker was Darin Chappell, an authority on the U.S. Constitution an expert on American History, educator and business man. He spoke of the Founding Mothers of our nation and their integral roles in winning of our freedom, securing our liberties and their heroism. He made us proud to be an American Women. As my grandmother always told me "We come from good stock".

Thank you all for participating to make the Missouri Federation of Republican Women a great organization.

Janice Perdue De Weese