

# Jan Schar

VFRW President | 1996–1998



## Overview

During Jan Schar’s presidency, the Virginia Federation of Republican Women played an active role in both state and national Republican politics, supporting key elections and expanding member engagement through innovative fundraising efforts.

## Political Leadership & Impact

Jan’s tenure coincided with important Republican victories in Virginia. During her second year as President, VFRW helped elect:

- **Governor James Gilmore**
- **Lieutenant Governor John Hager**
- **Attorney General Mark Earley**

She also participated at the national level, serving as a **delegate to the Republican National Convention in San Diego**, where Robert Dole was nominated for President.

## Conventions & Involvement

- Attended both **Virginia Republican State Conventions** during her presidency
- Represented VFRW on the national stage at the **Republican National Convention**

## Fundraising Innovation

Jan introduced a creative and highly successful new fundraising approach for VFRW:

- Created the cookbook “**Just Desserts**” (1997), featuring recipes from members across Virginia
- Due to overwhelming demand, the cookbook sold out and required a **second printing**
- Followed by a second cookbook, “**Simply Soups and Salads,**” which also sold out

These initiatives not only generated significant funds for the Federation but also created a lasting sense of connection among members statewide.

## Reflection

Jan’s presidency was marked by **strong political engagement, grassroots creativity, and statewide participation**, leaving a lasting impact on both VFRW fundraising and member involvement.