

# Lone Star ★ LEGACY

Bush Legacy Republican Women of Weatherford

February 2009  
Vol. 5, Issue 2

## From the President...

I hope this newsletter finds you and your family doing well, and that you enjoyed the winter weather we had recently.

Eight of our Bush Legacy Republican Women of Weatherford (BLRWW) officers attended a club leadership workshop, "*Working and Winning Together for North Texas*" this past Saturday, January 31<sup>st</sup> in Fort Worth (see photos on page 3). The training workshop was sponsored by the Texas Federation of Republican Women (TFRW). The program included leadership topics by TFRW President Toni Anne Dashiell and a motivational speech by special guest Roger Williams, Candidate, U.S. Senate. The workshop was very informative, provided valuable training and we all had a great time. Thank you to the Tarrant County Republican Women's Clubs for hosting the workshop.

The campaign trails have grown quiet, but President Obama has been very vocal with his new plans for our country. The poor economy is evident even here in Parker County. President Obama used the word "HOPE" over and over in his campaign speeches and slogans. We must continue to have HOPE that we can strengthen the conservative values of the Republican Party, build coalitions, and bring our nation back in line with those strong conservative values. Thank you to Carolyn Hull Estes, VP Bylaws and Legislation, who is working hard to keep us informed of the important issues in the 81<sup>st</sup> Texas Legislature and the U.S. Senate.

As you know, we meet regularly on the third Thursday of each month. Our meeting place changed to the Railhead BBQ in Willow Park, and we had a great attendance at our January meeting. We hope you all like the new location and format. The speaker for the February 19<sup>th</sup> program is fourth-grader Joe Matlock, Jr. You won't want to miss this meeting!

Our membership continues to grow and it's not too late to join BLRWW. Our application is available on our web site, [www.blrww.com](http://www.blrww.com); on page 3 of this month's newsletter; or you can contact Dottie Worthington, VP Membership. Dottie will be glad to get you signed up!

One of BLRWW's committees, "Caring for America," chaired by Carolyn Estes, is designed to identify needs in

our community and endeavor to meet those needs as best we can. (See page 2 for how you can help this month.) Carolyn recently organized women from Bush Legacy to visit and deliver food to Nickie and Don Allen, and Patsy and Dennis Hooks. Republican women do care and we continue to lift these families up in prayer during their time of need.

We look forward to continuing to serve you and hope to see you at our next meeting! ★

Judy Flanagan, President

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS



- |             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| February 2  | BLRWW Board Meeting                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| February 5  | Parker County Republican Party meeting, Doss Student Center at Weatherford College, in the A. Strain Room, 7 p.m.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| February 9  | Parker County Young Republicans meet; call Mike, 817-301-2871, for information.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| February 19 | <b>*** Bring a non-perishable food item this month benefitting Manna Storehouse to our BLRWW Monthly Meeting at Railhead Smokehouse, 120 S. Ranch House Road in Willow Park</b><br>Arrive around 11:15 a.m., and no later than 11:30 a.m., to order food if you'd like to eat. Our program will begin at noon. You can also come for the program and order food to go after the meeting! <i>No RSVP is required.</i> Visit <a href="http://www.railheadbbq.net">www.railheadbbq.net</a> for directions/menu. |
| February 21 | Lincoln Day Dinner at the Petroleum Club in Fort Worth with special guest Michael Williams, Texas Railroad Commissioner. Reception and silent auction begin at 7 p.m. RSVP today ( <a href="http://www.parkertxgop.org">www.parkertxgop.org</a> or 817-594-5029 for more information).                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| April 16    | TFRW Legislative Day - mark your calendar now for this important event! More information in next month's newsletter, or see <a href="http://www.tfrw.org/Lege%20Day/legislative_day.html">www.tfrw.org/Lege%20Day/legislative_day.html</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

*Hospitality*

## Are You Smarter than a Fourth Grader?

You won't want to miss our February 15 meeting, featuring speaker Joe Shane Matlock, Jr. (a Proud Republican). Joe can not only name all the U.S. presidents, but will surely impress you with the rest of the knowledge he can share about them all.

Joe is in the fourth grade at Coder Elementary in Aledo. He enjoys collecting baseball cards, going to the movies and, of course, learning about the presidents. He plans on going to all of the presidential libraries, and has made it to two of them. Although they were libraries of Democratic presidents, he enjoyed them greatly.



*Joe Shane Matlock Jr.*

When Joe grows up, he intends to be either an orthodontist or President of the United States. ★

*Legislative*

## Legislators Face Tough Decisions

On Tuesday, January 13, the Texas Legislature kicked off the 81st Legislative Session. Over the course of the next five months, I look forward to serving Parker and Wise counties in my sixth term in office, continuing to provide leadership on key public policy issues while upholding conservative fiscal and social principles.

The upcoming fiscal cycle marks a difficult time for Texas. Despite our ability to sidestep much of the country's economic downturn, Texas, according to the State Comptroller, faces a \$9.1 billion shortage to work with for the upcoming two-year budget cycle. Due to this unpleasant reality, state lawmakers have a responsibility to make budget cuts where necessary, making the same tough decisions that you make in your own home when money is tight. There is already talk of dipping into Texas' rainy day fund; however, I feel strongly that this is not the time to deplete this important emergency fund. The legislature must demonstrate fiscal restraint where necessary, and be realistic with our budgetary goals.

### *BLRWW Caring for America*

Please bring a non-perishable food item to our February 19 meeting at Railhead this month, to benefit Manna Storehouse in Weatherford.

Manna has been in operation for more than 20 years, serving the needy in Parker County with food, clothing, furniture and household supplies, and utility and prescription assistance.

Carolyn Estes, BLRWW Caring for America chair, will collect your donations. Please contact us at 817-301-2873 or karen@thgenergy.com for more information.

In addition to passing a sound state budget, there are also several important policy issues that this session will present. One of the issues I will be focusing on is Texas' energy market. There is a growing need to look for new ways to address the market's volatility, our dependence on natural gas in Texas and the imminent need for more energy sources due to our growing population. I have filed House Bill 469, a proposal that will focus Texas on promoting clean coal energy projects. This bill provides financial incentives to build clean coal plants by authorizing the State of Texas to contract with organizations interested in implementing a clean energy project. Environmental concerns with coal driven energy are addressed with the use of this technology, and I hope to see Texas become the first state to successfully build one of these plants.

Furthermore, the economic development possibilities for these projects are incredibly exciting. Each plant will bring 2,000 construction jobs for the building of the plant, and 120 to 150 very well-paying, permanent jobs to Texas. Creating jobs and maintaining our reputation as one of the most business-friendly states in the United States is the key to preserving a strong, independent and thriving Texas economy.

Over the course of the next several months, my goal is to keep you informed of the events in Austin. Each week I will focus on various issues or important bills that the legislature will be addressing, so please watch for future updates. As always, please contact my office if we can ever be of assistance at (817) 596-4796.

It is an honor to serve you in the Texas House of Representatives. ★

*State Representative Phil King*

# BLRWW Officers Attend January TFRW Leadership Workshop



Front row, L to R: Dr. Brandi Buckner, Judy Flanagan, Roger Williams (Candidate, U.S. Senate), Linda Humphreys and Pat Martin Back row, L to R: Brooke Worthington, Jeannie Leonard, Dottie Worthington and Robin Gentry

Bush Legacy Republican Women officers attended a Texas Federation of Republican Women leadership workshop, "Working and Winning Together for North Texas" on January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009 in Fort Worth. Front: Brooke Worthington Second Row, L to R: Robin Gentry, Dottie Worthington and Jeannie Leonard Third Row, L to R: Linda Humphreys, Pat Martin, Judy Flanagan, and Dr. Brandi Buckner

## Membership Time to Get Your Membership Forms Turned In

Thanks to everyone who has turned in their membership forms already! I need all the forms in ASAP. Please bring your old directory to the February 15 meeting at Railhead; I'll have some new insert pages to add to the directory. If you don't have a directory, let me know and I will bring one to the meeting for you. Anyone who hasn't yet rejoined won't be included in the new directory, but turn your new membership application in ASAP so we can get you added later. We don't want anyone missing! ★

Dottie Worthington  
817-594-0291; dottie@worthington.bz

# Bush Legacy Republican Women of Weatherford

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Mrs. Ms. Miss. Dr. Mr. Other Title \_\_\_\_\_

( ) Name: \_\_\_\_\_

( ) Address: \_\_\_\_\_

( ) City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

( ) Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

( ) Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

( ) Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

( ) Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTICE: Items in ( ) will be printed in directory unless checked.**

**IT'S NOT THE COST OF MEMBERSHIP,  
IT'S THE VALUE OF MEMBERSHIP**

Single mother's and Widow's \$55 Young Republicans \$35 Young affiliate (under 18) \$25  
Elected Officials \$35

Make Checks Payable to: (NO CORP CHECKS) BUSH LEGACY REPUBLICAN WOMEN OF WEATHERFORD, PAC Dottie Worthington, VP MEMBERSHIP, 1701 Santa Fe., WEATHERFORD, TX 76086 817-594-0291 Email: dottie@worthington.bz

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Member Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

(REQUIRED)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Regular Membership is \$100.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Dual Membership \$90.00

Primary Club: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Associate Membership \$90.00  
(Republican men, spouse, etc.)

( ) Husband's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday: Month \_\_\_\_\_ / Day \_\_\_\_\_

Voting Precinct Number: \_\_\_\_\_

### Make A Difference! Join A Committee.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, contact me regarding the following BLRWW activities

\_\_\_ Awards \_\_\_ Campaign Activities \_\_\_ Hospitality

\_\_\_ Peach Festival \_\_\_ Voter Registration

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Verdict: Hang UP

### Don't fall for jury duty scam

The phone rings, you pick it up, and the caller identifies himself as an officer of the court. He says you failed to report for jury duty and that a warrant is out for your arrest. You say you never received a notice. To clear it up, the caller says he'll need some information for "verification purposes"-your birth date, social security number, maybe even a credit card number.

This is when you should hang up the phone. It's a scam.

Jury scams have been around for years, but have seen a resurgence in recent months. Communities in more than a dozen states, including Texas, have issued public warnings about cold calls from people claiming to be court officials seeking personal information. As a rule, court officers never ask for confidential information over the phone; they generally correspond with prospective jurors via mail.

The scam's bold simplicity may be what makes it so effective. Facing the unexpected threat of arrest, victims are caught off guard and may be quick to part with some information to defuse the situation.

The jury scam is a simple variation of the identity-theft ploys that have proliferated in recent years as personal information and good credit have become thieves' preferred prey, particularly on the Internet. Scammers might tap your information to make a purchase on your credit card, but could just as easily sell your information to the highest bidder on the Internet's black market.

## January Quiz/Crossword Answers

I hope you were able to complete the quiz and crossword in the January 2009 *Lone Star Legacy*. Since my dear husband was the only entry for the quiz contest, he is the winner and will be taken out to lunch by me to the restaurant of his choice in Weatherford. I'm proud to say he got 13 out of 14 answers correct. I didn't fare quite as well; 10 out of 14.

I hope more of you will take part in the quiz that we'll publish in the April 2009 issue on the U.S. Constitution. The prize will be a \$30 gift certificate to Barnes and Noble Booksellers, which you can redeem online at [www.bn.com](http://www.bn.com) or at stores in Fort Worth. Our August quiz prize will be a \$30 gift certificate from a local business of the winner's choice in Weatherford. (Some restrictions may apply!)

Is there something you'd like to see in our newsletter? Please let me know; the deadline for submittals is the last Friday of the month. ★

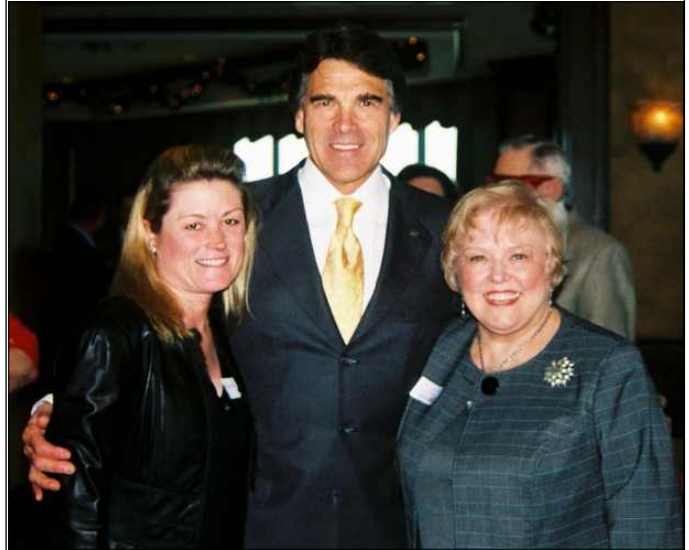
*Karen Brasonan*

817-301-2873; [karen@thgenergy.com](mailto:karen@thgenergy.com)

### January 2009 Quiz Answers

- |                         |            |
|-------------------------|------------|
| 1. 254                  | 8. a       |
| 2. Brewster             | 9. a       |
| 3. Harris               | 10. county |
| 4. commissioners' court | 11. d      |
| 5. counties             | 12. T      |
| 6. county judge         | 13. T      |
| 7. c                    | 14. T      |

### Fort Worth Republican Women Fundraiser

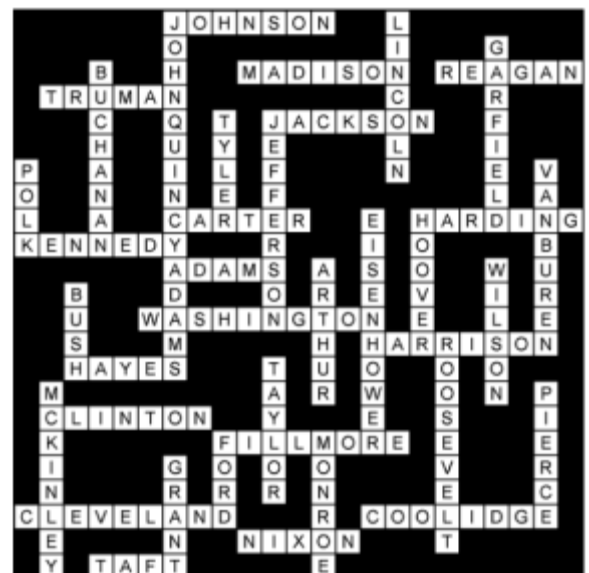


L to R: Patsy Perkins, Governor Rick Perry, and BLRWW member Carolyn Estes attended the recent fund raiser at the Petroleum Club in Fort Worth.

Protecting yourself is the key: Never give out personal information when you receive an unsolicited phone call. ★

Source: [www.fbi.gov](http://www.fbi.gov)

Thanks to BLRWW member Elyse Carter for sharing this story!



# Meeting Minutes

**Bush Legacy Republican Women of Weatherford,  
January 15, 2009**

**Railhead Smokehouse Restaurant, Willow Park, Texas**

The regular monthly meeting of Bush Legacy Republican Women of Weatherford was called to order at 12:00 noon, President Judy Flanagin presiding.

Pat Martin gave the invocation. Pledge to American Flag was lead by Judge Jerry Buckner. The Salute to the Texas Flag was lead by Brandi Buckner.

The president welcomed and recognized the elected officers of the club, the elected officials, new members and guests.

Joan Shaw introduced our speaker, BG Ret. Clay Melton.

A quorum check was made and there was a quorum present.

There were no minutes of the December meeting, in lieu of the Christmas party and installation instead of a regular business meeting.

President Flanagin gave the Treasurer report in the absence of Jan Barton, Treasurer. She reported that we had \$8,823.79 in the bank account.

Under Membership, Dottie Worthington reported we have twenty (20) paid members to date.

Campaign and PR chair, Brandi Buckner did not have a report at this time, but asked that we let her know of any upcoming news or events.

Finance chair, Elyse Carter reported that she was in the process of forming her committee.

Bylaws & Legislation chair, Carolyn Estes left information out on the tables from State Senator Estes, State Representative Phil King and Kay Granger.

Hospitality chair, Dodie Jordan, reported approximately forty people present at today's meeting.

Newsletter – Karen Brasovan announced the forming of the Young Republican group.

Under “Support our Troops”; Jeannie Leonard invited the membership to attend the “Meet the Skipper”, Jan 30, 2009, at Blue Mesa Grill, in Fort Worth. The tickets are \$25.00 each.

Under Unfinished Business, President Flanagin reported that we were still waiting to secure a date for the tour of Lockheed Martin.

Under New Business President Flanagin announced the appointment of the following positions: (a) Carla Luig as Awards Chair, (b) Brooke Worthington as Literacy Chair and Historian (c) Carolyn Estes as Chair, Caring for America.

Under Announcements, President Flanagin announced the following: (a) Regional Club Leadership Workshop, January 31 (b) Parker County Republican Party, Thursday, February 5, at the Doss Student Center (c) PCR 2009 Lincoln Day Dinner with Railroad Commissioner Michael Williams, Saturday, Feb. 21, at the Petroleum Club in Fort Worth, (d) BLRWW Board Meeting, Monday, Feb. 2, (e) BLRWW Meeting, Thursday, Feb. 19.

Door Prize tickets were drawn.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:45 pm. ★

*Subscribed by Pat Martin, Secretary*



## YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS



### U.S. Senator John Cornyn

<http://cornyn.senate.gov/public/index.cfm>

Washington Office: 202-224-2934 202-224-2856 (FAX)

Dallas Office: 972-239-1310 972-239-2110 (FAX)

### U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson

[www.senate.gov/~hutchinson/contact.html](http://www.senate.gov/~hutchinson/contact.html)

Washington Office: 202-224-5922 202-224-0776 (FAX)

Dallas Office: 214-361-3500 214-361-3502 (FAX)

### Rep. Kay Granger

[www.kaygranger.house.gov/index.asp](http://www.kaygranger.house.gov/index.asp)

Washington Office: 202-224-5071 202-224-5683 (FAX)

Fort Worth Office: 817-338-0909 817-335-5852 (FAX)

### State Rep. Phil King

[www.house.state.tx.us/members/dist61/king.htm](http://www.house.state.tx.us/members/dist61/king.htm)

Weatherford Office: 817-596-8100 817-596-8375 (FAX)

### Senator Craig Estes

[www.senate.state.tx.us/75r/Senate/members/dist30/dist30.htm](http://www.senate.state.tx.us/75r/Senate/members/dist30/dist30.htm)

Austin Office: 512-463-0130 512-463-8874 (FAX)

N. Texas Office: 940-898-0331 940-898-0926 (FAX)

For Texas Legislature news: [www.capitol.state.tx.us](http://www.capitol.state.tx.us)

For U.S. congressional news: [www.congress.org/congressorg/home/](http://www.congress.org/congressorg/home/)

To contact state and national elected officials, as well as GOP officials:  
[http://www.texasgop.org/site/PageServer?pagename=leadership\\_home](http://www.texasgop.org/site/PageServer?pagename=leadership_home)

## Republican Party Young Gun

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The one thing people in Washington already know about freshman congressman Aaron Schock is that he is young. At 27, he meets the age requirement for serving in the House established in 1787 by James Madison and the Founders with just two years to spare. He is currently the youngest serving member of Congress (House members must be 25 while Senators must be 30 years old), and the first to be born in the 1980s—and already he has scored a leadership post in Congress working with the No. 2 Republican. For fellow Republicans looking to shake up their party's bruised image, that's a good thing, especially in the oldest Congress on record, where the average age in the House is 57 and in the Senate, 63.

Schock, the youngest of three children, always has acted older than his age. As a boy he worked a strawberry business with his siblings on the family farm. At 14 he invested in his own IRA. By the time he turned 19, he was a member of the Peoria, Ill., school board. He finished his four-year college degree in two years then ran for the Illinois state legislature, winning a seat at age 23 as a Republican in a strongly Democratic district. It's a feat he says he accomplished through lots of knocking on doors.

He has spent a few years working in real estate on the side while serving in the state legislature, and won election last November in the district that includes his hometown of Peoria—succeeding retiring Republican Ray LaHood, who has been nominated as President-elect Barack Obama's secretary of transportation.

Sometimes Schock eats a full meal, but that's hard to manage between interviews, transitioning to the nation's capital, and learning all he can so no one will push around the youngest of the freshman lawmakers.

"You can get a lot of places if you work," Schock told me a couple weeks after his election while eating a cookie for lunch.

A work ethic and young blood are what Republicans—and Democrats—need right now, as the 111th Congress convened Jan. 6 under clouds of war in the Middle East, massive job losses at home, a crumbled mortgage market, and unstabilized credit markets. With 257 Democrats and 187 Republicans in the

House of Representatives (and one vacancy for Rahm Emanuel, who now serves as Obama's chief of staff),

*continued on page 7*

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***Schock believes that the secret for Republicans' resurgence is to find a better way of communicating core principles while attacking their reputation as an isolationist minority.***

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## Portrait in History: Henry Morgenthau, Jr.

"We have tried spending money. We are spending more than we have ever spent before and it does not work. And I have just one interest, and if I am wrong...somebody else can have my job. I want to see this country prosperous. I want to see people get a job. I want to see people get enough to eat. We have never made good on our promises... I saw after eight years of this Administration we have just as much unemployment as when we started...And an enormous debt to boot!"

*- Henry Morgenthau, Jr*

*The quote above has been revisited recently as the case is being made for or against additional government spending to help the economy. The following is a brief biography of the man who spoke those words to the U.S. House Ways and Means Committee in 1939.*

**I**n 1933, President Franklin Roosevelt appointed Henry Morgenthau, Jr. governor of the Federal Farm Board, and in November of the same year, when acting treasury secretary William Woodin's ill health forced his resignation, Roosevelt named Morgenthau undersecretary of the treasury and promoted him to secretary of the treasury the following year. Morgenthau held that post until 1945. During his tenure in this office, he became famous for resisting Keynesian economics and raising over \$200 billion through the sale of bonds.

Morgenthau's legacy is more than wartime fiscal policy. Although treasury was not initially involved in establishing military or refugee policy, Morgenthau and his department eventually played a key role in American refugee policy when they helped convince FDR to establish an independent refugee agency outside the state department. The War Refugee Board would assume responsibility for rescuing European Jews and would take the lead in saving as many as 200,000 European Jews. In 1944, he proposed a plan for postwar Germany that called for Germany to be stripped of its industry and forced to return to an agrarian economy; although the plan was considered, it was ultimately rejected. Later that year, Morgenthau was a major player at the Bretton Woods Conference, the birthplace of the International Monetary Fund and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (precursor to the World Bank).

After leaving the cabinet on July 22, 1945, Morgenthau became a philanthropist and a leading financial advisor to the new nation of Israel. He died on February 6, 1967. ★

*Source: www.nps.gov*

## Young Gun

*continued from page 6*

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has a Democratic majority to work with that's 20 seats greater than in the last Congress—and is unlikely to face vetoes from an Obama White House as she did from its predecessor.

But the House leadership will have to deal with more factions than meet the eye in the 435-member body, including Blue Dog Democrats who deserted their leadership during crucial bailout votes last year, and young Republicans like Schock who want to rebuild a party they say has lost not only elections but also its core values.

Eric Cantor, Republican of Virginia and the party's newly elected House whip, said Schock is "the role model for what our party needs to do to win back the voters we have lost in recent years." Cantor himself won election to Congress relatively young, at age 39, and knows what it's like to work his way through to the leadership ranks. He campaigned for Schock, as did former House Speaker Dennis Hastert, and, as he did for few other Republicans, President George Bush.

Schock believes that the secret for Republicans' resurgence is to find a better way of communicating core principles while attacking their reputation as an isolationist minority. Republicans can draw together a kaleidoscope of demographics, starting with minorities who often agree with conservatives on social issues: "You don't say, 'I'm not going to get the mom vote, the African-American vote, the Latino vote,'" he said. "There's opportunity in these demographics; you start by getting more diversity at a local level."

Other Republicans in the House see him as someone who can draw in young voters previously wooed with Democratic domination in the blog, YouTube, and Twitter spheres. On Facebook, a student group started a "Schock for Congress" page. More recently fans began a group titled "Schock for President in 2016 Election"—the first election year Schock will be old enough to run for high office.

Schock sat on the front row of the House chamber the day he was sworn in to Congress (Jan. 6) with four of his young nephews sitting around him and one draped across his lap. Family members and other supporters sat in the gallery above. In the more than two hours it took for the House to vote, member by member, to elect a speaker for the swearing-in, Schock remained quiet and solitary—not chatting with other lawmakers. Perhaps he was thinking instead about his mom, who cried when she found out he was running for Congress. She worried, he said, that politics might turn him into a crook.

At home in Peoria the next evening, Schock's pastor was thinking about him, having become a mentor to Schock when he became a Christian just over a year ago. Ritch

Boerckel, senior pastor of Bethany Baptist Church, said Schock would often come to the church and leave quickly. Then one day in 2007 he asked to talk with Boerckel about committing his life to Jesus.

Schock's time in the Illinois State House showed him how politics could twist people, even before federal authorities indicted the state's now-impeached governor, Rod Blagojevich, on corruption charges including trying to sell Obama's vacated Senate seat. Schock knew he needed someone higher than himself to trust, he said, needed God's protection against his own foibles. Already he was driving an hour home to Peoria from the State House in Springfield every night, saying it was better to stay "out of that environment" in off hours.

"He sees a lot of the underbelly of the political personal lives. There's an awful lot that goes unseen," Boerckel said about Illinois politics. "God used that."

Now 800 miles from Peoria and in his third day on the job, two repairmen arrive at his office with a door and proceed to hang it on its hinges. As a power screwdriver bores through wood, the congressman's newly hired staffers—all young men except for one young woman—take calls from constituents. The walls are bare and bookshelves are empty, but on Schock's desk sits a bust of Teddy Roosevelt, his favorite president.

Schock arrives from a lawmakers' morning prayer breakfast and a meeting with Cantor at the Capitol Hill Club, where Cantor offered him the leadership post of deputy whip, a rare snag for a freshman. Energy, Schock says, makes up for his fewer years of experience, and it radiates off his face as he sits down for a meeting with his deputy chief of staff. It also makes up for a life of "getting up early and staying up late," his pastor says, underscoring that already the young lawmaker has been in public office for eight years. "Aaron's rise so quickly really comes from a work ethic more than a hunger to appeal to people," Boerckel said.

The aggressive schedule Schock has set up for himself since he was in his teens has the downside of keeping him from some relationships in his personal life—he isn't married—and throughout his 20s he says he has felt like he has been in a fishbowl. But lawmakers have hundreds of opportunities each day to simply "appeal"—to their colleagues, lobbyists, and their egos—forgetting the reason they were elected, and in some cases forgetting the ethical standards that bind them. Schock compares the experience to the proverbial frog thrown into a pot of water that slowly boils.

Working under the Obama administration and a Democratic Congress with plans for aggressive spending isn't likely to reduce the workload or lessen the challenges. "If you don't want to upset anybody, don't do anything," he says with a laugh. "I've never been afraid to speak my mind." ★

*Emily Belz, ©World Magazine, Jan. 31, 2009*

*Bush Legacy Republican Women of Weatherford*

Karen Brasovan, Newsletter

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