

# The Trumpeter

August 2015 NPRC Newsletter 8th Edition  
North Pinellas Republican Club

This was exactly a decade ago -- June, 2005 -- Taken at Bilirakis Beach House.



picture courtesy of Bill and Joanne Hickman

## **President's Message:**

I hope everyone is having a happy and enjoyable summer.

This month I would like to expand on our theme "The Right Path for America" by exploring two current issues. One on the national stage and another on the local level. I want to discuss what we, as Republicans, can do to return our country to the right path as the leader of the free world.

At the national level, President Obama and his team concluded an agreement with Iran restricting their ability to develop a nuclear bomb. This agreement constricts the processing of uranium by Iran but only slows down the actual building of a nuclear weapon. Those of us who

attended last month's book club meeting know that WWI became inevitable only because each principle country failed to perceive the long term consequences of their agreements. Instead of prohibiting a war, they forced a horrible one. This administration is doing the same thing. They are signing an agreement while turning their backs on our allies Saudi Arabia, Israel, Jordan, Egypt, and all of the Middle East. They are setting in place a time for war: Ten years.

We can stop this however. We need to contact Representatives Bilirakis and Jolly expressing our concerns and stressing the need to veto the current agreement. Then, and most importantly, we must elect a Republican President who will return to the negotiating table and work out an agreement stopping all new development of nuclear weapons for all of the Middle East. Peace in the Middle East is extremely difficult due to the many different views, religions, cultures etc. But, by allowing governments to obtain devastating weapons, and disregarding the long term consequences, we ignore the horrible history of war and set in place the seed of the next one.

At the local level, our schools continue to have a 20 to 30 percent high school dropout rate. These are children and they are our children. To face the employment world without a proper education is an insurmountable problem. We all understand the reasons for dropping out are many faceted. In some cases parents don't care and therefore don't insist the children continue their education. In other cases there are financial and medical reasons. And sad to say, there is actually a culture of dropping out. Whatever the reasons, and however difficult, we need to begin to provide solutions.

We can let our voice be heard. We at NPRC are fortunate as we have access to the School Board through Ken Peluso who is on the board and a member of our club. We can ask him to request the board create a citizens group tasked with developing programs to keep children in school and reach out to those fallen away. Programs such as a government work programs for students who have exceeded the public school age but still need the education may work. Programs similar to those in the 1970's, only this time they need to include mandatory reading and math class time. What about after a certain age has been attained a program which provides a financial incentive to work toward a GED? Whatever the

correct solution is, we need to work toward it. Let's insist that our Board members work toward a solution.

Educating our children, no matter the age, is as important to our national security. It is as important as our national defense. In the example above, where today's leaders are repeating the mistakes which lead to WWI, better high school history classes could steer in the proper direction. If Obama had taken a history class (our book club would improve his life) then all the people in the Middle East would be better off. Education is our investment for our country's tomorrow and Pinellas County should be upset with a 30% dropout rate.

These are just two important issues facing us today. Other issues such as Immigration, taxation, infrastructure, defense, and prosperity are also important. How can we find solutions to these if we fail in education and make treaties which put our grandchildren at risk of war in the future?

Here are just two examples of where our nation is in trouble and needs to change. We, the citizens of the greatest country, need to step up, state our concerns, and demand change. We are fortunate as members of NPRC that we have access to those elected officials who can present our concerns and find solutions.

"The Right Path for America" takes involvement and work. Developing a close relationship with all our elected officials is one step. Volunteering to help elect the right candidates is another. And, being educated on the issues and identifying solutions is one of the most important. In June our club brought Col. Otero to critique relations with Cuba and the pitfalls it may present. This month Nick DiCeglie, the Chairman of the PCREC will be speaking to us. Attending these meetings is the first step. Presenting our concerns is next. They need to hear our voice. And, volunteering to help elect the Republican candidates is a must.

"The Right Path for America" enables each of us to use our time, our talents and skills to make a personal contribution toward returning America to its rightful place as the country of "Liberty for all".

Thank you,

Your President, Jim Downes

### **Next Meeting:**

The next meeting will be on August 20th at Leo's Restaurant. 33286 U.S. Hwy 19 N., Palm Harbor, 34684. The meeting room will open at 6:30 and dinner can be ordered at that time or after. Our Speaker will be Nick DiCeglie, the PCREC Chairman. Nick came to us from Long Island (To quote the old advertisement: New York City!!) Nick, as so many members of the PCREC, is fully involved in the community. Makes you wonder when he has time for his own life. He is most importantly a father and husband. He is also co-owner of Solar Sanitation, a member of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, and a member of the Clearwater Regional Chamber of Commerce. Nick was recently elected Chairman, and is already making a mark for the Republican Party. He will undoubtedly tell us about his plans for the party's direction. Bring your questions.

### **Last Meeting.**

We didn't have a meeting in July.

### **Book Club**

The book club met at Ken and Adele Crompton's house. The usual members attended and we had a lively discussion led by Ron Walker. The books discussed were *Sleepwalkers* and *Guns of August*. We were given a choice of which book to read. The entire period leading up to the outbreak of WW1 was not easy to understand. It is just amazing how the relationships and seemingly small events led to this war. Robert Clark, a very active and informed member of the club announced he was moving back to New York before the next book club meeting. We will certainly miss his photographic memory and historical knowledge.

Next meeting we will be discussing "Woodrow Wilson: Roots of Modern Liberalism", by Ronald J. Pestritto. The meeting is on Thursday, August 13th( Next Thursday) at 6:30 p.m. at my house located at 108 Homeport Drive, Palm Harbor.

Much of what we are seeing today in regards to policies from the White House and modern liberalism, can be traced back to the Woodrow Wilson Presidency. Come and join us as we discuss the political theories that

defined the 28th President of the United States and how he formulated policy that we are still seeing today.

Reading the book in advance is **NOT** a requirement for attendance. Come join the fun; bring a friend. Refreshments will be provided.

**See you there!!**

Sincerely,

Pamela McAloon, Chairman

### **Tim's Corner:**

LEGISLATING POLITICAL CORRECTNESS - by Tim Bryce

- Will the latest round of political correctness change our attitudes?

In June, the American people were peppered with a powerful dose of political correctness (PC). Following the shootings in Charleston, South Carolina, there were calls for the removal and elimination of Confederate flags across the country as it was claimed the flag was nothing more than an icon of bigotry. Retail titans Walmart and Amazon were just two of the major companies who panicked and removed the flags from their shelves.

This was followed by several other calls to eliminate any trace of the Confederacy in the South be it on bumper stickers, license plates, or changing the names of parks and removal of statues. While this was going on, the Supreme Court legalized same-sex marriages in all fifty states.

These two events polarized the country. Southerners defended their flag, not as a symbol of bigotry, but as representative of their ancestors' heritage. Heterosexuals were aghast the biblical sense of the word "marriage" was being distorted by a government institution.

These two instances will likely not change the opinions people hold about these two issues. If anything, they will reinforce attitudes and reinvigorate disagreements between people, thereby dividing the country further. It also demonstrates you cannot legislate thinking patterns. Regardless if South Carolina removes the Confederate battle flag from the state capitol, or the Supreme Court's ruling on gays, attitudes about these subjects will only solidify, not dissipate. Only political maneuvering, such as PC, can alter the perspectives of people.

The intent of political correctness is to subliminally alter our perceptions and values. In the Confederate flag incident, it is intended to distort our sense of history. Personally, I never thought too much of the flag. I was raised a Yankee for the first half of my life and was proud the Union won the Civil War. However, I have lived in the South for the last thirty years and have come to understand the South's view of the war. I have learned it is more about states rights as opposed to slavery. I will not argue there is no bigotry in the South, nor will I argue there is no bigotry in the North, on both sides of the color line I might add. However, we have been asked to make a rush to judgment, simply for political correctness.

As we should all know by now, PC is primarily intended to influence our thinking processes, our vocabulary, and even our sense of humor, as American comedians are just now discovering. Make no mistake, it is nothing more than social engineering in sheep's clothing. Our attitudes, perceptions, and moral values are being constantly tweaked by the liberal press, and not necessarily for the better; to illustrate:

PC does not make us better workers - In fact, it make us impotent in terms of achieving results.

PC does not make us better citizens - Instead, it will distort our sense of history, civic duty, and patriotism.

PC does not make us better people - We'll become rather bland with little imagination and no desire to challenge the status quo.

I remember when I first heard the expression, "The N Word." This was driven home in the first OJ Simpson trial in 1995. Now we have a "Word" for just about every letter of the alphabet. Frankly, people are getting tired of this and a push back is likely in the offing. For example, Christians will no longer be apologetic for their religion; Capitalists will no longer be ashamed of their entrepreneurship and being successful; Whites will no longer feel guilty for the color of their skin; Conservatives will no longer be apologetic for their political views, and; people will continue to wave Confederate flags and not alter their definition of marriage.

As I said at the beginning, PC is intended to divide us, not to bring us together.

God, how I miss Sam Kinison, one of the most politically incorrect comedians we ever had. We could really use a strong dose of Sam today.

Keep the Faith!

[timbryce.com](http://timbryce.com)

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Ron informs us we have about \$6,300 in the bank account with no outstanding debts.

### **Upcoming Events:**

*Book Club Meeting*, August 13, 6:30 at Pam MacAloon's house, 108 Homeport Dr., Palm Harbor 727-784-4627. The book is *Woodrow Wilson and the Roots of Modern Liberalism* by Ronald Pestritto. Ken Crompton will lead the discussion.

*General Meeting*, August 20 at 7PM (6:30 for dinner and conversation) at Leo's Restaurant 33286 U.S. Hwy 19 N, Palm Harbor 34684. The Speaker will be Nick DiCeglie, Chairman, PCREC. Meal cost is \$15.

*Chili Cook Off*, The Chili Cook off is scheduled for October. This is a major fundraising event for the club. If you would like to help, please contact Sue Berfield at [berfields@verizon.net](mailto:berfields@verizon.net) or 727-443-7316. !

*August 20*  
*Leo's Restaurant*

*September 17*  
*Leo's Restaurant*

*October 15*  
*Leo's Restaurant*

*October meeting. I don't want to take anything away from the August or September meetings, but several members have told me the October meeting will be great fun with comedian G. David Howard.*

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15TH - BY SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT**

**G. DAVID HOWARD**

The political wisdom of a conservative comedian.  
"Someone who truly gets it!"

Hosted by:  
NORTH PINELLAS REPUBLICAN CLUB (NPRC)  
<http://nprc.me/>  
(or visit us on Facebook)

TO BE HELD AT:  
Leo's Italian Grill  
33286 U.S. Hwy 19 N  
Palm Harbor, FL 34684  
727/786-9110  
(just north of Lucky Dill; opposite Publix)

Dinner: \$15



Stand Up Comedian, G. David Howard received the title, "Funniest Man Alive," from the Guinness Book of World Records, for performing 16 hours of straight, non-repeated joke telling.

He is a comedic legend, a world record holding funnyman, a published author, radio show host, singer/songwriter and hilarious entertainer. For over 40 years G. David Howard has made audiences laugh until their faces hurt, from Vegas, Atlantic City to Florida's west coast comedy scene.

Now he is bringing his political wit for one night only to North Pinellas where he will discuss his view of current political events.

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15TH, 6:30PM**

To learn more about G. David's take on politics visit him on the internet:  
His blog: <https://gdavidhoward.wordpress.com/>  
He can also be found on Facebook.

Don't miss this rare opportunity to see one of America's true funny men.

Open to all Republicans.

For info, contact: [timb001@phmainstreet.com](mailto:timb001@phmainstreet.com)



The doors open at 6:30pm. The trouble begins at 7:00pm.

**North Pinellas Republican Club Officers and Directors:**

President - Jim Downes - [813-714-4530](tel:813-714-4530) - [j1downes@verizon.net](mailto:j1downes@verizon.net)

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## COMMITTEES

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- [727-784-7795](tel:7277847795)

## PINELLAS COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

**Monday August 10, 2015 (2nd Monday of Every Month)7:00 PM**  
**Banquet Masters 13355 49th St N, Clearwater, FL 3376**

