



April 2016

4th Edition

North Pinellas Republican Club

Club dues are due. Dues are \$20 for an individual and \$30 for a couple. Please make check payable to NPRC and send to Ron Walker, Treasurer, NPRC 2524 Marina Key Lane, Clearwater, FL 33763. We are trying to get a new directory out by the end of April (gave up on trying to get it out by the end of March), so it is important you let us know you are a member.

Items will appear in this order:

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Representative Chris Sprowls's Article. Representative Sprowls was kind enough to submit an article to the club. I was impressed with the amount of information he provided about the recently completed legislative session. In addition, he sent the information shortly after the session ended and while he was preparing for a major trial. Thank you very much Chris. I guess I just keep having my faith in the local and state government restored after reading Chris's article and that of Dave Egger's last month.

I don't know whether it is because of individuals such as Eggers and Sprowls, or the outstanding work of our county Republican party, or both, but the Republicans have retaken the lead in registered voters for Pinellas county. As of 3/28/16 the figures stood as follows:

Republicans	226,345
Democrats	226,156
Other	178,400
Total	630,901

This is a great come back for the party here in this county. Thanks to all!



Representative Sprowls

For the first time in several years the Florida Legislature met at the start of the year to hold its 60-day Regular Session. During which, the Florida House took up hundreds of bills ranging from tax cuts and economic development to health care and education reforms.

I'm pleased to report the Florida Legislature met its constitutional duty and passed a balanced budget without raising taxes, providing \$1 billion in tax cuts and record-setting funding for public education.

The Florida House cut communication taxes, cut taxes for veterans, passed a college textbook tax exemption, protected the back to school tax holiday, reduced property taxes, and provided a manufacturing tax cut.

For Pinellas County, this manufacturing tax cut is particularly important, as our county ranks 2nd in the state for manufacturing jobs. The objective of these tax cuts is to make Florida a more competitive state for highly sought after manufacturing jobs. Our county has a long history of supporting manufacturing and as we face more competition from outside our state and country, it is important we arm manufacturers with all the tools they need to stay competitive and succeed in Florida.

Finally, we were able to pass two innovative pieces of legislation that I was proud to sponsor that help empower parents and consumers. The Public School Choice bill gives parents the opportunity to pick their child's public school, regardless if that new school is outside their district or county, if there are seats available. On the healthcare front, our Price Transparency bill requires healthcare providers and insurance companies to provide patients with the price of a medical procedure before it takes place. It also requires that insurance companies tell policyholders how much they'll be out of pocket for the procedure, to ensure patients no longer get surprise bills that they never expected to receive.

Having the privilege to stand up for these common sense, consumer friendly policies is an honor and I want to thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve you in Tallahassee.

All my best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris Spraul". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

This month's General Meeting. This month's meeting will be held, as always, at Leo's Restaurant, 33311 US 19 North, Palm Harbor. Conversation and eating start at 6:30 PM with the meeting called to order at 7PM. This month's guest will be Congressman David Jolly. It is always interesting to hear politics discussed at the national level. Be sure to attend, and bring your questions.

CONGRESSMAN DAVID W. JOLLY REPRESENTS FLORIDA'S 13th CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WHICH COVERS MOST OF PINELLAS COUNTY. HE WAS FIRST ELECTED TO THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN MARCH OF 2014.

CONGRESSMAN JOLLY BELIEVES THE FIRST RESPONSIBILITY AS A CONGRESSMAN IS TO WORK, TO GOVERN, AND TO DO SO IN A MANNER THAT REPRESENTS THE ENTIRE PINELLAS COUNTY COMMUNITY.

AN ATTORNEY BY PROFESSION, CONGRESSMAN JOLLY'S PRIOR CAREER INCLUDED THE PRACTICE OF LAW, CREATING AND OPERATING SEVERAL BUSINESSES, AND WORKING IN A PROFESSIONAL STAFF ROLE WITH THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS.

THE YOUNGEST OF THREE SIBLINGS, HE WAS BORN IN DUNEDIN, FLORIDA, AND IS THE SON OF A MINISTER. THE CONGRESSMAN RECEIVED HIS BACHELOR OF ARTS IN HISTORY FROM EMORY UNIVERSITY AND LATER RECEIVED HIS LAW DEGREE FROM GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY. HE LIVES IN BELLEAIR BLUFFS, FLORIDA WITH HIS WIFE, LAURA.

Congressman Jolly is now running for the Senate seat previously occupied by Marco Rubio.

*Do you want the scoop on what's going on
inside the D.C. Belt?*

*Then join the North Pinellas Republican Club
at our April 21, 2016 meeting to hear*



Congressman David Jolly

answer all your questions!

**Meeting at
Leo's Italian Grill
33286 US 19 N. • Palm Harbor, FL**

6:30 PM Social & Dinner • 7:00 PM Meeting

For more information email: northpinellasrepublicanclub@gmail.com

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Last General Meeting. Our most recent meeting was held on March 19 at Leo's Grill. After recognizing the elected officials present and reminding everyone that dues are due, President Jim Downes turned the meeting over to Sue Berfield who introduced the speaker for the night — Paul Rozelle. Paul is the Senior Associate Counsel for the Sheriff's office. Paul spent most of his time talking about the law relating to concealed carry. Although this sounds like a dry subject, Paul made it interesting and understandable. He has a great sense of humor and had the audience participating and laughing. I'm sorry I had already arranged for another concealed carry course, because I would like to listen more to this man present the subject. And, it's free if you go through the sheriff's office. He provided numerous examples of actions you may and may not take when carrying a concealed weapon with a concealed weapon or firearm license. He also talked about the "stand your ground" law, which simply changes the rules so that if someone attacks you and you fear they will cause you serious bodily harm or death, you are no longer required to run away. We kept him 20 minutes overtime, but no one seemed to want it to stop asking questions. His stories were great and delivered with a flair.

Book Club Information. It was another well attended and enthusiastic meeting. Fourteen people discussed the book entitled *The Worst and Best Presidents* edited by James Taranto and Leonard Leo. It was really very interesting and generated, as you might guess, a number of comments and questions. I don't want to remove all the mystery in case you want to read the book, but George Washington is rated the best. It is an easy read, and full of information. Additionally, each president receives a short article written by an expert on that president. Kudo's to Helena for leading the discussion and Pam and Ron for their support to keep the discussion moving. Thanks to Ken and Adele Crompton for opening their home to the club.

Many of us are familiar with the saying, " Know thy enemy". The saying originated from a Chinese military strategist, Sun Tzu, who wrote about the art of warfare around the 5th century B.C.

At the last book club meeting, we discussed the importance of knowing our opponent(enemy) where our upcoming November election for President of the United States is concerned. Knowledge is power. We will

be discussing Hillary Clinton, and there is a choice among three books. The choices are:

"The Case Against Hillary Clinton" by Peggy Noonan

"American Evita: Hillary Clinton's Pathway to Power" by Christopher Andersen

"It Takes a Village" by Hillary Clinton

The next discussion will be held on April 14th, 6:30 PM at Ron Walker's house, 2524 Marina Key Lane, Clearwater, FL 33763. I hope you will be able to attend as this promises to be a lively discussion. It is not a requirement for you to have read the book in order to be able to attend the discussion. Bring a friend!!

Pam MacAloon

ed note: Pam is not only the Book Club president, she is also a prolific letter writer. Based on the study of books in the past couple years, she wrote the following letter to the editor which was published:

Having pontificated the aftermath of the Florida Primary, I was reminded of a book ("American Lion" by Jon Meacham) about Andrew Jackson, the 7th President of the United States. Andrew Jackson was elected as a result of having been favored by the American people for his "standing up for the common man" and perpetuating their interests. His initial run in 1824 against John Quincy Adams led to Jackson's defeat, but successfully, he was elected in 1828 and reelected in 1832. Many Americans felt that the federal government was becoming too powerful; henceforth, a rise in Populism resulted.

Today, we are seeing a similar frustration in the American electorate. One of the Presidential candidates on the Republican side is winning on "Populism". Much like Jackson, he is being vilified by many who fear that he, the outsider, will turn "business as usual" on its ear.

Regardless of whoever wins the final nomination for our Party, keep in mind that the President must work with Congress. Uniting our Party is crucial if we are to put a Republican in the White House. Jackson was able to consolidate his Party. Our Party, the Party and its platform, that better reflects the founding principles of our country, needs to come together, united behind our nominee. History is on our side for this election. Let's make it happen!

Tim's Corner:

THE DILEMMA OF THE DEMOCRATS - Tim Bryce,
timb001@phmainstreet.com

- Some very good sleight of hand by the press.

While the rest of the country has been preoccupied by the GOP follies on television, there has been relatively little said about the Democratic race, and I believe this to be by design.

On the one hand we have Senator Bernie Sanders who is an admitted Socialist popular with young people and the remnants of the Occupy Wall Street movement. On the other hand we have Secretary Hillary Clinton who is leading in the delegate count, yet possesses a low "trustworthiness" rating by the American public, including her own party. For example, a recent Quinnipiac Poll shows 67% of voters do not find Mrs. Clinton "honest and trustworthy," that includes 74% of Independent voters.

It is rather ironic the Democrats are willing to elevate someone to the highest office in the land, yet do not trust her. Couple this with her other scurrilous affairs over the years, and a blank track record for accomplishments in office, and you have a flawed character easily prone to attack. Mrs. Clinton tends to laugh such accusations away and blames conservatives for the attacks, but sadly, nobody else is laughing.

In the popular political book, "This Town," by Mark Leibovich of "The New York Times Magazine," the author confirms the incestuous relationship between the media and the Clintons who are treated as American royalty.

Government officials, journalists, and lobbyists, all scratch each other's backs in order to climb their respective totem polls and grab as much money as possible along the way. He paints a picture of unadulterated collusion and makes it clear Washington exists not to solve the problems of the country but to line the pockets of the residents there. From this perspective, we shouldn't be surprised how widespread the problem really is. Whether you are a government official, lobbyist, or a member of the press, it's about making money and control of the system. This is why Mrs. Clinton is staunchly defended by the press; she get's it.

So the challenge becomes how to distract the public away from Hillary's foibles. The answer is rather obvious, create a diversion by focusing on the rivalry of the Republicans. By doing so, not only does the public overlook Mrs. Clinton's indiscretions, it causes a serious rift in the GOP. Frankly, this "divide and conquer" strategy offers a brilliant win-win scenario.

Added to this is a take-down of businessman Donald Trump who is the one person, an outsider, who could potentially disrupt the system in Washington. We have already seen the media pull out the stops to knockout Mr. Trump, such as creating misinformation about his Trump University, his bankruptcies, and any other trivialities designed to assassinate his character. Remarkably, he keeps winning in spite of all this.

The biggest fear of the media and the Democrats is that Mr. Trump might very well become the Republican candidate and would dice up Mrs. Clinton in a debate.

So, if you have heard little about Mrs. Clinton's problems, you can thank the media for defending her.

If you are a conspiracy theorist, you've got to love the 2016 presidential election.

Keep the Faith!

Upcoming Events:

Book Club. April 14th, 6:30 PM @ Ron and Kim Walker's home 2524 Marina Key Lane, Clearwater. The book to be discussed is any book about Hilliary Clinton. In other words, each person can chose a Clinton book to read (Pam provided suggestions in the Book Club section above).

General Meeting. April 21st, 7:00 (Pre-meeting conversation at 6:30) @ Leo's Restaurant, 33286 Highway 19 North, Palm Harbor 33286. The speaker will be Congressman David Jolly.

Spring Fling (Kentucky Derby Party) May 7th 6PM to 9PM. Venue to be announced.

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