



May 2016

North Pinellas Republican Club

5th Edition

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 May (gave up on March and April), so it is important you let us know you are a member.

Items will appear in this order:

Last Month's Meeting

This Month's Meeting

Book Club Meeting

Derby Day

Tim's Corner

Pam's Letter

Upcoming Events

Officers and Directors

Last General Meeting. The most recent meeting was held, as usual, at Leo's Restaurant in Palm Harbor. We had a good turnout of new and used members. President Downes apologized for having to cancel the Picnic, but, as he pointed out, the weather would have made it impossible anyway. He hopes to reschedule, but that is a discussion we will have at the board meeting. He also reminded everyone that dues for 2016 are due. Finally, he reminded everyone of the Derby Day party. It was a fantastic success last year. It will be great this year (see the billboard included in the newsletter). Sue Berfield introduced the guest speaker who was Congressman David Jolly. Congressman Jolly is running for Florida senate. He provided his general philosophy and then took questions. The questions ranged from immigration (he believes the Syrian immigrants do not provide the danger many think they do) to who he would vote for for president (he's undecided). It is a crowded field running for the senate including former military members, business people, and politicians. It should be interesting.

Next General Meeting. The meeting will be held at Leo's Restaurant, 33286 U.S. Highway 19 North. The speaker will be Mike Mikurak. Mike is running for county commission seat 3 which is an "at large" seat. He has an outstanding background in business. He was international consulting partner at Accenture, Plc where he focused on consulting with Fortune 100 companies in areas of business strategy and supply chain management. I'm not exactly sure what that means. Let's face it, I have no idea what that means, but it seems pretty impressive. He is active in the community and on the Board of Directors for BayCare Health System. We must get some of those commission seats back and this businessman seems to be a good place to start. The County Commission is out of control and maybe Mike is one of the people who can rescue it. Come and check him out. Bring your questions.

Book Club Information. The next book club meeting will be at Joanne and Bill Hickman's. Their address is 1049 Royal Birkdale. It is in Cypress Run subdivision. Since that is a gated community, please RSVP your attendance so they can leave your name at the gate. RSVP by emailing or calling Pam McAloon (pmaloo@aol.com, 727-421-1608). Directions: Please refer to *Upcoming Events* below for directions. The book to be discussed is a book by or about Donald Trump. John Halpin, who will lead

the discussion, is considering several books. Of course, the rule is you can read any book on the subject or none at all. I've been reading "Art of the Deal". It is a fairly easy read and not too long. Although it was written 30 years ago, it gives pretty good insight into why The Donald campaigns as he does. See you there.

Last book club meeting was a discussion of one of three books either written by Hillary Clinton (or her ghost writer) or written by others about Clinton. I was not able to attend, but I understand it made for a lively discussion. As is so often the case, Kim and Ron Walker hosted the event, and Ron led the discussion. Ron tells me he did a great job.

Tim's Corner

A NEW WAR BETWEEN THE STATES? - by Tim Bryce

- It's already here and New York cast the first shot in the LGBT debate.

Trouble is brewing between Republican and Democratic governed states.

It started recently when North Carolina Governor Pat McCrory (R) signed into law a bill barring transgender individuals from the use of restrooms of their personal choosing, not their proper gender. It also prohibits municipalities from extending such options to LGBT citizens (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender).

This created a stir among Democratic governors who looked upon this act as discrimination. In response, New York Governor Andrew M. Cuomo (D) penned the first executive order banning all non-essential travel to North Carolina by state employees until they lift the law. This was quickly followed by other governors and mayors. As of this writing, it includes:

New York Governor Andrew M. Cuomo (D)

Connecticut Gov. Dannel P. Malloy (D)

Minnesota Governor Mark Dayton (D)

Vermont Gov. Peter Shumlin (D)

Washington Gov. Jay Inslee (D)

Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed (D)

New York Mayor Bill de Blasio (D)

San Francisco Mayor Ed Lee (D)
Seattle Mayor Ed Murray (D)
West Palm Beach Mayor Jeri Muoio (D)

By issuing such orders, these officials are interfering with the affairs of another state.

Further, because of the North Carolina bill, PayPal has suspended plans to open a new operations center in Charlotte for 400 workers. The NBA is also threatening to move next year's All-Star game from Charlotte if this matter isn't reversed.

Oregon Governor Kate Brown (D), who is openly bisexual, denounced North Carolina's policy but refused to issue a travel ban, fearing repercussions. This was actually a shrewd move on her part as North Carolina may very well fight back. There are several things they can do in retaliation, such as:

- * Banning non-essential travel to the opposing cities and states.
- * Hindering travel from these states and cities. Imagine what life would be like along the east coast should the Interstates be closed, or stopping cars and trucks from the opposing states and forcing them to produce identification and other records.
- * Opposing commerce, such as banning the purchase of goods from these locales which could start a trade war.

And it could get even uglier after that.

The differences between North Carolina and these other states are substantial. Perhaps the most noticeable difference is North Carolina is a "right to work" state, the others are not. Not surprising, North Carolina's economy is on the upswing, while others such as New York and Connecticut are steadily losing people and businesses due to their exorbitant tax structure.

Let's take it a step further. Mississippi Governor Phil Bryant (R) also recently signed into law a bill similar to North Carolina's. This quickly resulted in travel bans by most of the same states and cities opposing the Tar Heel State. Interestingly, Mississippi is also a "right to work" state that is growing economically.

In Georgia, another "right to work" state, its legislature will likely override their governor's veto and approve a bill to give faith-based organizations the right to deny services and jobs to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people. New York Mayor Bill de Blasio (D) has already said he would institute a travel ban to Georgia if this comes about. The others will likely follow suit.

Other "right to work" states, particularly in the South, will probably follow North Carolina's, Mississippi's and Georgia's lead with similar legislation. More travel bans will likely ensue, and retaliatory actions will undoubtedly follow.

So, are we nearing another Civil War? Let's certainly hope not. However, the more states issue such legislation, the louder we will hear from the Democratic controlled states voicing their disapproval. The point is, do they have the right to interfere in the laws and policies of other states? Of course not. They may not like it, and can voice their displeasure, as Oregon Governor Kate Brown did, but trying to provoke another state through orders and decrees is only going to accelerate the tensions between the states and the parties.

In hindsight, a lot of this could be avoided if North Carolina installed some strategically placed porta-pottys, which are neutral when it comes to sexual orientation.

The scary part though is the analogy between this conflict and the first Civil War is uncanny. Whereas the north and south fought over the freedom of slaves, now it is about LGBT rights.

I hope cooler heads will prevail, and the Democrats lift their bans before this goes any further. I understand they want to pacify certain constituents in their states and cities, but this is a matter for the citizens of North

Carolina, Mississippi, and Georgia to tend to, not the other states. Frankly, it is none of their business.

Pam's letter to the editor:

Andrew Jackson and Populism

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" over 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!

Upcoming Events:

Derby Day Party. May 7th @ 5 PM. Venue is Carlos and Patricia Thomas home 209 Mayfair Circle West, Palm Harbor. See billboard below. Please RSVP using the attachment to the billboard.

Book Club. May 12th @ 6 PM. Venue is Joanne and Bill Hickman's home 1049 Royal Birkdale, Tarpon Springs. Since it is a gated community, please RSVP so they can leave your name at the gate. RSVP to Pam at 727-421-1608 or Bill at 942-1979. Hope this is not too confusing. Pam is out of town, but will relay all info to the Hickmans.

Directions:

Hickman's: 1049 Royal Birkdale Dr. In Cypress Run Golf Club
Subdivision

To get to Cypress Run guard gate, go north to Keystone Rd. (Tarpon Ave.). Then go 3/4 mile further north on East Lake DRIVE. which is about half way between US19 and East Lake ROAD.

At Cypress Run Gate:

- Turn Right into St Andrews Blvd to guard house (Tell guard your name and going to Hickmans).
- Go 3/4 mile and turn Left on Royal Birkdale Dr. (which is 1st left after Clubhouse.) (Royal Birkdale Dr. is simply a one-mile loop.)
- 1049 Royal Birkdale Dr. is on the right (west) side of street (Brick House). Park on the same side of the street as the house.

Please don't try to enter or exit from East Lake ROAD as it is a transponder gate for members only .

(Don't go by your GPS, which will tell you that you can enter St. Andrews Blvd. off East Lake Rd. -- It lies.)

If lost call 942-1979

Billboard for Derby Day: Please refer to the billboard below to answer questions concerning the big event this month. After the billboard, on the next page, is an RSVP for the event. If you are getting close to the time please email Sue Berfield at **berfields@verizon.net**.

Please join the North Pinellas Republican Club for our second annual

Kentucky Derby Party

Wear your Favorite Bonnet!

Pick your Favorite Horse!

Bring your favorite Dessert!

See if you WIN!

at the home of

Charles “Carlos” & Patricia Thomas

209 Mayfair Circle West

Palm Harbor, FL 34683

*Mayfair Circle is off of Tampa Road between U.S. 19 and Belcher Road,
on the south side of Tampa Road*

Saturday, May 7, 2016

5:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Food and Drink included with ticket purchase,

Singles \$20, Couples \$30

Derby Attire (dressy casual)

Please RSVP by Wednesday, May 4, 2016

With the enclosed RSVP form and mail to:

Sue Berfield • 1466 Flora Road • Clearwater, FL 33755

northpinellasrepublicanclub@gmail.com

NPRC Facebook page

Political advertisement paid for and approved by North Pinellas Republican Club

RSVP Kentucky Derby Party

Club Member's Name _____ Number attending _____

Guest Name(s) _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____ Email Address _____

Guest \$20 Single _____ \$30 Family _____

Payment Method: Cash (amount enclosed) _____ Check # _____

Dessert Contest: Yes _____ No _____

Make all checks payable to: North Pinellas Republican Club

Mail to: *Sue Berfield*

NPRC • 1466 Flora Road • Clearwater, FL 33755

or Email RSVP to berfields@verizon.net

If R.S.V.P. by Email you are still responsible to pay, if not cancelled by May 4, 2016.

North Pinellas Republican Club Officers and Directors:

President - Jim Downes - 813-714-4530 - j1downes@verizon.net

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