



August 2016 North Pinellas Republican Club 8th Edition

Save the Date: The Chili Cook-off will be on October 1st.

Dues: If you pay your 2017 dues by November 1, 2016, you will be a member for 2017 as well as November and December 2016. Please make check (\$20 single/30 couple) payable to NPRC and send to Ron Walker, Treasurer, at 2524 Marina Key Lane, Clearwater, FL 33763.

Directory: OMG, we have a new club directory. Stop by a meeting or call Ron Ogden at 727-465-8799.

Items will appear in this order:

School Board Member Ken Peluso's Article

Last Month's Meeting Notes

This Month's Meeting Info

Book Club Meeting

Shooting Course Info

Tim Bryce's Corner

Helena Nunn's News Summaries

Col. Mattia's letter

Upcoming Events

Officers and Directors

Ken Peluso's Article



Dr. Ken Peluso was elected to the School Board in 2014. He has a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from Merrimack College in Massachusetts and a Doctor of Chiropractic Medicine from Sherman College in South Carolina. In 2013, Dr. Peluso retired as president/owner of Peluso Chiropractic Center in Palm Harbor after 28 years in practice.

As we are about to begin our upcoming school year I thought it would be appropriate to look back at some of the accomplishments of our School District this past year. Our district has much to be proud of, here is just a few of our highlights:

- Career and technical education is very important to me so I am especially excited that we were named by the Ford Corporation as a Ford “Next Generation Learning Model District”. We were in the national spotlight as the Ford Corporation brought community and educational leaders from across the country to Pinellas County to observe our career programming.
- We have been recognized as one of the top ten districts nationally by The Learning Council for our digital curriculum.
- The Pinellas County School District was ranked #1 in Florida and #7 in the nation for our Choice Programming.
- Our Career Academies have over 19,000 students enrolled, earning over 10,000 industry certifications.

- Our district was accepted into the Council of Great City Schools which recognizes the accomplishments of urban schools.

We have had many successes this year, a few which have been priorities of mine, are establishing a budgetary reserve policy to assure financial stability, transitioning to self-insuring our district and enacting an energy savings program which together will save us over 8 million dollars annually and established a policy which mandates recess in all of our elementary schools next year.

Our School Board continually strives to make decisions which support our mission, that is, educate and prepare each student for college, career and life

July Meeting. Jim Downes gaveled the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Ron Walker gave the invocation and Ken Peluso led the pledge. Members approved the minutes. Treasurer Ron Walker announced the club had a balance of \$4872.90. This included two new members who joined that night. Ron Ogden announced the new directory was available at the front desk. He is working on ways to get the new directory to all members. This is a real breakthrough and eliminates my rolling announcement as to when the directory will be available. Ron did a great job in producing this needed item. New members will be added on line, and then included in the new directory next March. Speaking of new members, Ron reports we had three new members: Norm Atherton, Patrice Levin, and Karen Degen. We also recently added Angela Baptiste and Kristin Groleau. President Downes encouraged the club to become involved in campaigns once the primaries are over. He stressed that **We must vote. If we don't vote we are simply Republicans for Hillary.** He mentioned sign waving, walking door to door, and phone calling. Finally, he encouraged all to see the Dinesh D'Souza movie "Hillary's America". It is showing locally at the AMC Woodlands theaters in Oldsmar and Regal theaters at Citrus Park.

Vice-President for Programs Sue Berfield introduced the two speakers. First was Robert Beal who is running for District 1 at large School Board position. He has been a Marine, a corrections officer, and a military policeman. He has a special-needs child and has had disputes with the school bureaucracy over that, which is what drove him to run. He said he feels at home with our club and its conservative values. The second speaker was Ken Peluso. Ken is running for School Board, District 4. He was elected to that position in 2014. One of Ken's

big projects has been to make the school programs and business's needs more congruent. It has been an arduous effort, but he feels he has been successful. He is also working to get the business community more involved in schools. He is an active club member.

August Meeting. The meeting will be at our usual venue, Leo's Restaurant, 33286 US19 N, Palm Harbor. The featured speakers will be Carol Cook and Michael Petruccelli who are running for Pinellas County School Board. Carol Cook was elected to the School Board in 2000 and has served ever since. She graduated from USF and taught elementary school in Pinellas County's Title 1 schools for 10 years. She has numerous school-related experiences including Chairman of the School Board. Michael Petruccelli attended Western Kentucky University and LSU. He has a long and varied career in insurance. He is presently on the Indian Shores Town Council. This may be your last chance to hear the candidates before election day. If one of the candidates in this three-candidate election (third candidate not at meeting) receives 50% plus one, the race is decided on 8/30. If no one receives a majority, the top two finishers appear on the General Election ballot.

Book Club Notes. "Decision Points" by George W. Bush, was discussed at our last book club meeting. The autobiography dealt with a range of learning experiences for our 43rd US . President, and how he had to not only face his own weaknesses but had to reassess his strengths not only prior to his becoming Governor of Texas, but in also becoming our President. In doing so, he became humbled. He spoke about the challenges of the terrorist attacks of 911, the Afghanistan war, and the invasion of Iraq. He shared his faith in God and how his faith was his guiding light. Last but not last, was his love for his wife, Laura, his twin daughters, and his mother and father. He was a President who was able to negotiate policy, but was against approving policies that ran against his core beliefs as in stem cell research with its long term ramifications. Overall, God , Country, and family were priorities that he held dearly to his heart.

The next meeting will take place at my house 108 Homeport Dr., Palm Harbor. For our next book club meeting we will discuss "Crisis of Character" by Gary Byrne, it was also suggested that the following two books are good alternatives: "Clinton Cash" by Peter Schweizer, 2015 (184 pages) (26 copies in library); and "Bill and Hillary - the Politics of the Personal" by William Chafe, 2012 (343 pages) (4 copies in library). All three are highly recommended and are germane to today's events. Looking forward to seeing you.

Sincerely,
Pam McAloon

Firearm Training Course. This is a great bargain. Taught by club member Steve Hendershott, a certified trainer, the course is for the novice to experienced gun owners. Steve's course meets the training requirements under F.S. 790.06(2)(h) application for a Florida Concealed Weapons and Firearm License. You don't have to apply for the license, but with the course, you can if you wish. It covers firearm safety, state laws, and the rights and wrongs of concealed weapons. If you have never shot a gun, now is your chance to learn in a controlled environment with an expert there to help you. If you are an accomplished shooter, now is a chance to review and practice shooting rules. There is no judgement as to ability, only a shared interest in knowing how to properly handle and shoot a gun. You will learn how to load and unload a gun, safe gun handling practices, safe shooting techniques and good shot placement. You will shoot at one of the most professional ranges in the country. Just going there is fun. The cost of the course includes a .22 caliber handgun rental and ammunition. If you own a handgun, you may bring that gun to shoot. The course lasts three hours and is Saturday, August 13 from 10 AM to 1 PM at Reload Gun Range, 40050 US 19 N., Tarpon Springs. Cost is \$75. Call Steve at 585-857-2577 for information.

Chili Cook-off. Rachelle needs help in preparing for the premier social event of the year. Specifically she needs help with both the silent and regular auctions. If you or someone you know would like to contribute an item, or would like to help find contributors, please call her at 734-7676 or email her at rwarmou1@tampaby.rr.com

Tim Bryce's Corner From A Republicans' Point Of View

It was a bad week for the Democrats. Their convention began with the resignation of its chairman, Cong. Debbie Wasserman-Schultz, due to the release of thousands of e-mails and voice mails by WikiLeaks showing she had helped the Clinton campaign by rigging the system against Sen. Bernie Sanders. No sooner had Schultz resigned that she was rewarded with a part in the Clinton campaign. This incensed Sanders supporters, and even though the Vermont Senator tried to keep the peace among his followers, Hillary's trustworthiness took another major hit.

This week, a Gallup Poll reported Clinton's image was at its lowest level in 24 years. This was followed by a CNN poll yesterday (July 28th) claiming 68% say Hillary isn't honest and trustworthy, her worst number on-record.

The Democrats presented speaker after speaker singing the praises of Mrs. Clinton, including her husband and daughter, as well as Barack and Michelle Obama, but the damage had been done, and hundreds of Sanders supporters walked out of the convention hall. The outside Sanders supporters were more vocal as they protested the departure of their candidate.

Regardless of how the Democrats and main street media tried to spin it, the e-mail incident alone cast a shadow of doubt over the Clinton campaign, both in the eyes of Democrats and Independents. There were other trivial items which caught our attention, such as the absence of an American flag in the convention hall on the first day, or the green wall used to partition the audience from the podium (which was quickly changed to clear plastic to hide the wall), and the absence of law enforcement officers in the convention hall. There also seemed to be genuine contempt for law enforcement and the military. One thing made perfectly clear by President Obama, he believes he has had a highly successful two terms in office, and is willing to pass the baton to Mrs. Clinton to perpetuate his legacy. There was no mention of the federal debt, an anemic gross domestic product, the real level of unemployment, the unrest in the Middle East, and the gridlock in the capitol.

Regardless of the rhetoric of the speakers, I only smelled fear in their voices. There was a fear of expressing patriotism, fear of Islamic extremists (which was never mentioned), and fear of offending the black community by promoting Black Lives Matter and the deaths of black victims to law enforcement.

The Democrat's ultimate fear is Donald Trump as they desperately tried to brand him as a racist and narcissist, with questionable values, incapable of understanding foreign affairs, and unfit for office. This may play well for the Democratic base, but not in Poughkeepsie as Trump's numbers in the polls continued to grow this week, passing Mrs. Clinton in the process. It's a little known fact that Trump's name was mentioned more during the Democratic convention than Mrs. Clinton's, much more.

The Democrats will likely continue to misquote him and fabricate distortions of reality about him from now until the election. The media will try to manufacture stories such as his so-called connection to Russia over the e-mail flap. The press simply doesn't know when he is kidding with his audience.

Will Hillary get a bump in the polls following the convention? We should find out some time next week. As to viewership, Nielsen reports 24 million watched Day 3, which is very close to the Republican convention which had 23.4 million viewers. The real test is Day 4 which we will learn in the next few days. If Mrs. Clinton receives no significant bump in the polls or viewership is mediocre, the game might be over.

Voters are now left with two distinctly different interpretations of America as represented by the candidates:

- * The Republicans have selected a candidate with a strong business background, results oriented, law and order, concern for veterans; someone who has hired thousands of workers and conducted business on a global basis. Someone with considerable book and street smarts.

- * The Democrats have selected a candidate with a tarnished image that is perceived as untrustworthy; someone who is accused of the deaths of four people in Benghazi, criticized by the State Department Inspector General report and the Congressional Benghazi report; someone with no material record of accomplishments, and asks people to elect her simply based on her gender. She is touted as the third term of Barack Obama and the only thing she has in her corner is the main street media who will do whatever she commands.

So it comes down to this: Are American voters satisfied with the last eight years or is it time to change?

Next up, the debates. Be sure to join us ringside. This will be fun. Keep the Faith!

Helena's summaries. Club Secretary Hellena Nunn does a summary of several articles each day. She also provides a hyperlink to the actual article. You can access her summaries on Facebook at the NPRC page. Here is an example of her work:

[Why IS Hillary so unpopular?](#)

What an interesting psych study from Yale!! "Trump's supporters are won over by his emotionally-charged behavior-Even Hillary's fans 'will be

naturally turned off by her calculated attitude'-Two Yale psychologists explain why we find this kind of character difficult-'You trust a friend who helps you no questions asked, not one who weighs up all the pros and cons while tracking what you owe,' they explain"

[Obama's Final Revenge: The Accidental Destruction of Hillary Clinton](#)

Must Read!! "Clinton is in serious trouble.. She's in trouble because she is terrible at the game her husband invented: the game of "who cares more about people like you..." Bill's false empathy led him from victory to victory; But Hillary is one of the least empathy-driven candidates in the history of politics. She's manipulating, cynical, and nasty. She's instinctively defensive, brutally cutting, and utterly cold. The polls show it. This week's CNN poll demonstrated that 68% of Americans consider Hillary dishonest, and 54% think she's running for personal gain. 55% view Hillary unfavorably.. A majority of Americans think Trump is running to help America. They think Hillary is running to help Hillary. That's Hillary's fault. But more important, it's Obama's fault, and the Left's fault."

[WSJ: Women Don't Really Care About Clinton As First Female President](#)

"A recent WSJ article reveals while Hillary's nomination is historic, many women voters are "indifferent." The biggest problem, WSJ explains, is that so much progress has already been achieved by women that this latest "glass ceiling" does not really resonate with some female voters. As more women become heads of companies like IBM and General Motors, and 40% are considered the main breadwinners in their homes, women may become "indifferent." The WSJ reports Clinton has had trouble winning support from middle-aged white women. A poll from WSJ/NBC News from July shows 52% of registered women voters — both Repub and Dem — support Clinton. For white women ages 50-64, 36% support Clinton, while for white women ages 35-49, 34% support Clinton."

Letter to Editor by Club Member

Colonel Michael Mattia had this letter printed by “The American Thinker”:

The recent typical Democrat faux hysteria over the shooting in Orlando has nothing to do with “gun control” but rather with “people control” If they were serious they would address the ongoing situation in Chicago where the gang murder rate attributed to illegal guns is out of control. The major objective of the Democrats is the elimination of the 2nd Amendment by other than Constitutional means in order to establish a precedent for eliminating the other 9 Amendments in the Bill of Rights.

This is the time to actually review the Constitution. This document drawn up over a number of years is basically an Organizational Plan for the establishment and operation of a Federal Representative Republic form of Government. It lays out the establishment of the three branches of Government, Legislative, Executive and Judiciary and specifies the functions of each office and the requirements for individuals to hold an office. Age, residence location, citizenship and so forth. The length of the Constitution and the specific issues and concerns addressed demonstrate the work of highly intelligent human beings familiar with the faults and foibles of human beings. It lays out very specific methods for changing or amending the Constitution. These methods are intricate, time consuming and designed to make any changes difficult to achieve. It recognizes the dangers of changes to the Constitution made in the emotional heat of partisan politics and does everything to eliminate that possibility. Of course nothing is perfect and the Volstead Act better known as Prohibition is a glaring example of how good intentions can produce bad results.

When the arduous work of constructing the Constitution was finished the framers recognized one glaring omission. There was nothing in the document to protect the INDIVIDUAL. Therefore they came up with the first ten Amendments to the Constitution, the Bill of Rights. And recognizing the tendency of those in power to continually strive to attain more power they placed the 2nd Amendment regarding weapons in a place of prominence.

The Liberal/Progressive/Democrat cohort are not stupid, for the most part, there are always glaring exceptions but basically they recognize that they would never be able to strike the 2nd Amendment and the right to gun ownership through the established process of actually amending the Constitution. So they are resorting to non Constitutional attempts to accomplish that end. Through judicial activism, legislative bait and switch and executive actions they are striving to reach that

ultimate goal: CHANGE THE CONSTITUTION WITHOUT ADHERING TO THE OBSTRUCTIVE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CONSTITUTION ITSELF.

If they are successful in negating the 2nd Amendment then the other nine amendments will be fair game for elimination by fiat since a precedent has been set. The guarantees of the Bill of Rights will become null and void and GOVERNMENT will be the only controlling power. The individual will become nothing more than a slave of the powerful.

This what Progressivism is all about. The blueprint for this type of tyranny is the European Union where unelected bureaucrats issue orders with the force of law affecting all citizens of member states. In this country the Democrat controlled State of California is the Progressive's dream and the bell weather for the rest of the country.

Couple this effort to eliminate the 2nd Amendment along with the total, widespread and deep corruption, abuse of power and the complete disdain for the law by the present Democrat Party and its leaders Obama, Lynch and Clintons and the future of the United States is in dire peril.

Upcoming Events:

Book Club. Thursday August 11 @ 6:30 PM. Venue is the McAloon's, 108 Homeport Dr., Palm Harbor 34683. The primary book is "Crisis of Character" by Gary Byrne. See article above for other book suggestions. Refreshments served.

Gun Course Saturday August 13 @ 10 AM. Venue is Reload Shooting Range at 40050 U.S. 19 N, Tarpon Springs 34689. cost is \$75. Contact Steve Hendershott at 585-857-2577.

General Meeting. Thursday August 19 @ 7:00 PM. Venue is Leo's Restaurant 33286 U.S. Hwy 19 N. Conversation and meal at 6:30 PM. Speakers are School Board candidates Carol Cook and Mike Petruccelli.

Chili Cook-off. Saturday, October 1. This is still in the planning stage. If you would like to help, please contact Rachelle Warmouth at 727-734-7676

North Pinellas Republican Club Officers and Directors:

President - Jim Downes - 813-714-4530 - j1downes108@gmail.com

VP Programs - Sue Berfield - berfields@verizon.net

VP Membership - Ron Ogden - rogden2@outlook.com

Secretary - Helena Nunn - [hnunn47@yahoo.com](mailto:hunn47@yahoo.com)

Treasurer - Ron Walker - ronwalker209@gmail.com!

Directors:

Debbie Buschman - dbuschmanpr31@gmail.com

Heather Johnson - heather.j.johnson@hotmail.com

Tim Bryce -Communications - 727/786-4567 (O/C) - timb001@phmainstreet.com

Rachelle Warmouth - Past President - rwarmou1@tampabay.rr.com

Committee Chairs:

Pam McAloon - Chairman, Book Club - pmaloo@aol.com

Larry Marlin - Editor, Trumpeter Newsletter - lpmarlin@yahoo.com -
727-784-7795

Joanne Hickman - Newsletter proofreader

