



Newsletter of the Republican Party of Palm Beach County—August 2017

Getting Rid of Obamacare

By William J. Skinner

First, write a new health care law that would let everybody see what the whole thing looks like for a couple of months before taking the next step. To do this, use regular order to hold hearings, discuss amendments, have subcommittees send their portion to full committee for markup, vote in full committee to get the bill on the Senate floor. Second, change the filibuster rules, change the budget reconciliation rules, and change the CBO scoring operations.

Keep in mind that now we have a \$20-plus trillion debt, an annual deficit around \$1 trillion, and a lot of other promises for Social Security, disability, pensions, Medicare, Medicaid, and other plans totaling about \$100 trillion. Any money spent by the Senate bill over the government income each year is now forwarded to our great, great grandchildren's debt accounts. Our government was never intended to operate by borrowing from the future. If we have to spend more than we take in, we cannot afford it. Getting oneself elected to the House or Senate does not make the members smart enough to overrule common sense.

While all of the failed attempts to develop a grand health plan have failed in July, the Senate and House should take a deep breath and start over.

Filibuster Rule

Scholars have lectured or testified before Senator on numerous occasions to explain the filibuster rule. One such class was held back in April 2010, when Sarah A. Binder explained the history of the filibuster rule to Senator Schumer and others. She and Steven S. Smith more fully documented it in their book, *Politics or Principle? Filibustering in the United States Senate* (Brookings Institution Press, 1997). Here is part of what she told the Senators:

1. Origins of the Filibuster

We have many received wisdoms about the filibuster. However, most of them are not true. The most persistent

myth is that the filibuster was part of the founding fathers' constitutional vision for the Senate: It is said that the upper chamber was designed to be a slow-moving, deliberative body that cherished minority rights. In this version of history, the filibuster was a critical part of the framers' Senate.



However, when we dig into the history of Congress, it seems that the filibuster was created by mistake. Let me explain.

The House and Senate rulebooks in 1789 were nearly identical. Both rulebooks included what is known as the "previous question" motion. The House kept their motion, and today it empowers a simple majority to cut off debate. The Senate no longer has that rule on its books.

What happened to the Senate's rule? In 1805, Vice President Aaron Burr was presiding over the Senate (freshly indicted for the murder of Alexander Hamilton), and he offered this advice. He said something like this. You are a great deliberative body. But a truly great Senate would have a cleaner rule book. Yours is a mess. You have lots of rules that do the same thing. And he singles out the previous question motion. Now, today, we know that a simple majority in the House can use the rule to cut off debate. But in 1805, neither chamber used the rule that way. Majorities were still experimenting with it. And so when Aaron Burr said, get rid of the previous question motion, the Senate didn't think twice. When they met in 1806, they dropped the motion from the Senate rule book.

Why? Not because senators in 1806 sought to protect minority rights and extended debate. They got rid of the rule by mistake: Because Aaron Burr told them to.

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Once the rule was gone, senators still did not filibuster. Deletion of the rule made possible the filibuster because the Senate no longer had a rule that could have empowered a simple majority to cut off debate. It took several decades until the minority exploited the lax limits on debate, leading to the first real-live filibuster in 1837.

2. *The Not-So-Golden Age of the Senate*

Conventional treatments of the Senate glorify the 19th century as the “golden age” of the Senate: We say that filibusters were reserved for the great issues of the day and that all senators cherished extended debate. That view misreads history in two ways.

First, there were very few filibusters before the Civil War. Why so few filibusters? First, the Senate operated by majority rule; senators expected matters would be brought to a vote. Second, the Senate did not have a lot of work to do in those years, so there was plenty of time to wait out the opposition. Third, voting coalitions in the early Senate were not nearly as polarized as they would later become.

All that changed by mid-century. The Senate grew larger and more polarized along party lines, it had more work to do, and people started paying attention to it. By the 1880s, almost every Congress began to experience at least one bout of obstructionism: for instance, over civil rights, election law, nominations, even appointment of Senate officers—only some of these “the great issues of the day.”

There is a second reason that this was not a golden age: When filibusters did occur, leaders tried to ban them. Senate leaders tried and failed repeatedly over the course of the 19th and early 20th centuries to reinstate the previous question motion. More often than not, senators gave up their quest for reform when they saw that opponents would kill it by filibuster—putting the majority’s other priorities at risk. Unable to reform Senate rules, leaders developed other innovations such as unanimous consent agreements. These seem to have been a fallback option for managing a chamber prone to filibusters.

3. *The Adoption of Cloture*

Why was reform possible in 1917 when it had eluded leaders for decades? And why did the Senate choose *supermajority* cloture rather than *simple majority* cloture?¹

First, the conditions for reform. After several unsuccessful efforts to create a cloture rule in the early 1900s, we saw a perfect storm in March of 1917: a pivotal issue, a president at his bully pulpit, an attentive press, and a public engaged in the fight for reform. At the outset of World War I, Republican senators successfully filibus-

tered President Wilson’s proposal to arm merchant ships—leading Wilson in March of 1917 to famously brand the obstructionists as a “little group of willful men.” He demanded the Senate create a cloture rule, the press dubbed the rule a “war measure,” and the public burned senators in effigy around the country.

Adoption of Rule 22 occurred because Wilson and the Democrats framed the rule as a matter of national security. They fused procedure with policy, and used the bully pulpit to shame senators into reform.

Second, why did senators select a *supermajority* rule? A bipartisan committee was formed to negotiate the form of the rule. Five of the six Democrats supported a simple majority rule; one Republican supported a supermajority rule, and one Republican preferred no rule. Negotiators cut a deal: Cloture would require two-thirds of senators voting. Opponents promised not to block or weaken the proposal; supporters promised to drop their own proposal for simple majority cloture—a proposal supported by at least 40 senators. The cloture rule was then adopted, 76–3.

4. *Conclusions*

We can draw at least three lessons from this history:

First, the history of extended debate in the Senate belies the received wisdom that the filibuster was an original, constitutional feature of the Senate. The filibuster is more accurately viewed as the unanticipated consequence of an early change to Senate rules.

Second, reform of Senate rules is possible. There *are* conditions that can lead a bipartisan supermajority to agree to change Senate rules. The minority has often held the upper hand in these contests, however, given the high barrier to reform imposed by inherited Senate rules.

Third, and finally, the Senate adopted a *supermajority* rule not because senators were uniformly committed to the filibuster. Senators chose a two-thirds rule because a minority blocked more radical reform. Short-term, pragmatic considerations almost always shape contests over reform of Senate rules.

Given that the rules of the House and Senate are extremely important to get legislation passed, we need to ensure that anyone we vote for to fill one of the 535 positions in Congress at least knows the names of the rule books and has learned how to use them. To do that we must know how to educate the candidates.

¹On the politics of amending Rule 22 in 1917, in addition to Binder and Smith (1997), see Gregory Koger, “Filibuster Reform in the Senate, 1913–1917,” in *Party, Process, and Political Change in Congress*, V. 2, David Brady and Mathew McCubbins, Eds. (Stanford University Press, 2007), pp. 205–25; see also Gregory Wawro and Eric Schickler, *Filibuster* (Princeton University Press, 2006).

Cruisin’

By Sid Dinerstein

July 27, 2017



“It’s summertime and the living is easy.” Easier still, as Esther and I went on a cruise through the Baltic Sea, from Stockholm to Copenhagen, with three fabulous tourist days in St. Petersburg, Russia—land of the czars. Needless to say, touring any part of Europe is a trip back through history followed by speculative implications for the future; a perfect backdrop for this monthly post.

The essence of the trip was St. Petersburg, which defined almost all the other countries in the area. St. Petersburg is home to The Hermitage, once a play palace of the czars and now the most fabulous museum in the world. I simply do not have the writing skills to do justice to the opulence, wealth and grandeur of The Hermitage and the nearby Fabergé and Peterhof museums. Try the internet. Otherwise it’s unimaginable. As one tours these museums eventually you can’t avoid thinking about the context of the construction of these palaces. Remember, we’re talking about czarist Russia, a serf society. For those who think of concepts such as income inequality it is very hard to grasp the dirt poor lives of millions of serfs living side by side with enormous and ostentatious displays of wealth of the ruling families. Indeed remembering the insularity of economies centuries ago, one realizes that the building of these palaces and the stocking of them with three million artifacts was literally paid for by the sweat of the brow of the Russian serfs. In other words, a country with many of the world’s poorest people was going to make them poorer so that a handful of ruling families could have even more. It’s amazing it lasted as long as it did.

And that led me to ask my tour guide: “What year is considered the construction and opening of The Hermitage?” Her answer: 1764!!! Wow, there’s a show stopper. At the exact time that the czars were sucking all the wealth out of the serfs into their own palaces something else was going on. On the other side of midnight a fledgling country in the Western Hemisphere was making noises about ending history’s nonstop transfer of wealth from the ruled to the rulers. The new thinking was a form of government where ruling was temporary and the rulers could only govern with the consent of the governed—a concept as far from the czar/serf relationship as New York was from Moscow.

With The Hermitage as one symbol and Bunker Hill’s “shot heard round the world” as the other, the planet

embarked on a long-term tale of two countries. It took the Russians another 150 years to get rid of the czars. Meanwhile, during that same period (leading up to the 1914–1918 cataclysmic window) the United States had grown from ocean to ocean, with economic and military might equal to almost any country. The 1914–1918 period saw the end of the Austrian–Hungary Empire, the success of the Russian Revolution, the end of the Ottoman Empire and the start and finish of the Great War, with the United States making a military difference for all the world to see.

Pity the Russians. Once they overthrew the czars they wound up with the Communists. Out of the frying pan and into the fire. (Venezuela, are you listening?) Indeed the Russian Revolution finally crashed and burned in 1990 due to the military and economic strength of that 1764 fledgling country and its President, Ronald Reagan. The “consent of the governed” triumphed over the strong military/weak economy that the czars and the Communists never abandoned.

And that brings me to the other stops on the cruise. Tallinn (capital of Estonia) and Gdansk (Poland) were behind the Iron Curtain. Today both are free, prospering and optimistic. Tallinn has a museum commemorating the (Soviet) Occupation and Gdansk has a museum dedicated to the Solidarity movement that helped end Poland’s (Soviet) Occupation. St. Petersburg (and everywhere else in Russia) still requires a visa for a tourist to travel alone in their city, even to shop at expensive Western boutiques.

My takeaway from this trip? Would-be 21st-century empires can never survive on muscle alone. The Estonians and the Poles were never Soviets, no matter how many Russian soldiers occupied their countries. If threats and missiles are all Putin has to offer, his “empire” will shrink before it grows.

Bon voyage!

Sid Dinerstein served as Chairman of the Republican Party of Palm Beach County from 2002 to 2012. A leader with a passion for Republican politics, Sid leads by example, motivating teams and uniting diverse groups to achieve a common goal. With a passion for promoting charter schools, Sid was honored by Inlet Grove Community Charter High School earlier this year as “Charter School Advocate.” He authored Adults Only: For Those Who Love Their Country More Than Their Party in 2007, a book that was a finalist for the 2009 Next Generation Indie Book Awards. Sid has been married to Esther since 1967, and they have two daughters, two sons-in-law and two granddaughters.

Talking Points

GOP Optimism in 2018

By Larry P. Horist



Will the GOP be as successful as they need to be?

At the base of the statue symbolizing “future” in front of the National Archives Building in Washington, D.C. are these words: “What is Past is Prologue.” This applies in particular if you do not learn from the past, as the Democratic Party seems loath to do.

It would be an understatement to say the Democrats are giddy over their belief in regaining some semblance of power in the 2018 election. They speak with such certainty about reclaiming the House, the Senate or both that one is inclined to believe that they have lost all sense of reality.

To understand the challenge they face, we need to make an objective assessment of the Democrats’ situation. In a word, it sucks. Okay, two words. Specifically, the Democratic Party has never been in a weaker position since they lost an uncivil war in a vain hope of keeping Negroes in slavery. Conversely, the Republicans have never held so many reins of power in the Party’s 162-year history.

It started after the newly elected Barack Obama abandoned his Reagan-esque campaign speeches to take up the cause of the far left. While the right-of-center voters of America tended to like the handsome, charming Commander-in-Chief, they were neither enthralled with his policies nor the politicians, such as Nancy Pelosi, Harry Reid and Debbie Wasserman-Schultz, with whom he held counsel.

In the conflict between personality and policy, style and substance, the American voters trended to the latter in both instances. That became apparent when voters handed the United States House of Representatives to the Republicans in 2010 in what President Obama fairly described as a “shellacking.” He got the concept, but not the hint. It took the Democrats by surprise since the press had come up to

Election Day with assurances that the GOP would not and could not take the House.

Even as the personally popular President was cruising to reelection in 2014, those same right-of-center voters were electing thousands of Republicans to governorships, state legislatures and innumerable state and local offices—a fact ignored or unnoticed by a news media too preoccupied with their leg tingling adoration of Obama.

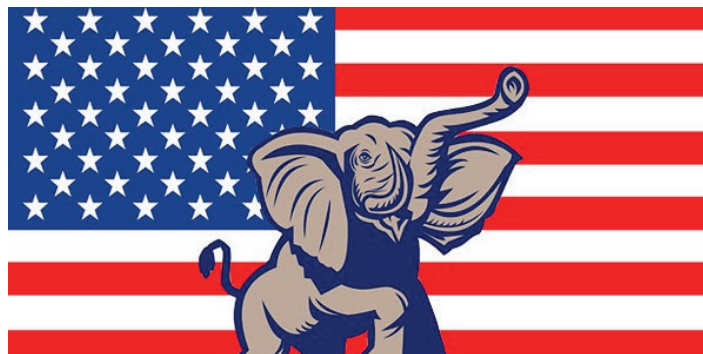
Along comes 2016 and once again the New York/D.C. press cabal assures the Democrats and the American public that there was little chance of the GOP taking control of the Senate. In fact, they proffered all sorts of agonized theories as to how it was more likely Republicans would lose the House. In defiance of the prevailing stupidity, the voters handed the Senate to the GOP.

As we approached 2016, the Republican political tsunami that began in 2010 was in full force. With that kind of momentum, there was little chance that Democrats could hang on to the White House. That likelihood spurred some 17 A-list Republicans to enter the primaries—a situation that enabled the pugnacious plain-talking populist, Donald J. Trump, to leapfrog over the divided pack with a minority of dedicated supporters.

Never before were the Democrats surer of the victory predicted every day by the Party publicist in the press. Trump had no path to victory, they trumpeted. Trump did not have enough money. He had no ground game—not realizing that a party with two-thirds of the governors and state legislatures has a massive ground force.

On the eve of the 2016 election, many in the press gleefully conjectured whether the Republican Party had a future. In the grips of media driven delusion, the Democrats seemed to believe that the party of Lincoln was on the verge of irrelevancy.

Talking Points—continued on next page



Talking Points—continued from previous page

Today, however, it is the Democrat Party that is floundering on the edge of the political abyss. Should the Republicans overcome the Democrats’ ability to filibuster and block legislation by gaining a super majority in the Senate, the Democrats will cease to have any power whatsoever on the national stage. They will be relegated to a regional bi-coastal party vanquished from what they arrogantly see as that deplorable fly-over America.

Of course, Democrats’ impotence will be, as it is now, denied by a media too eager to treat their preferred Party like the great Oz on the large screen instead of the puny man behind the curtain. Ironically, it is the mainstream media that may have unwittingly aided and abetted the downfall of the Democrat Party. The biased reporting over the years gave Democrats a false sense of reality—an optimism that repeatedly turned hope into disappointment. And they are doing it again.

The Democrats, the radical left, the proverbial political establishment, the deep state and the deeply invested press corps were shocked, stunned, dismayed and horrified by the Trump victory. The liberals’ policies, power and philosophy were inflicted with unhealable wounds that play out to this day on the screens and streets of America.

Amazingly, the Democrats and their publicists in the press seem to be doubling down on their decade-long losing strategy. The left’s lock on the weakened party is so strong that any moderation seems impossible. They remain oblivious to that right-of-center tsunami that is still rolling over the political landscape. They still seem to believe that attacking President Trump’s quirky personality is the best strategy, even though it failed miserably when it was actually his name on the ballot.

Once again, the Democrats fail to consider the predictive tea leaves. Their belief in a public wrath descending on the GOP is questionable in view of the fact that the Republican National Committee is being deluged with small contributions. They point to the low favorability polling of Trump, the Republicans in Congress and the GOP in general, while ignoring, and not reporting, the equally low numbers for the Democrat leaders, the Democrats in Congress, the party in general and the news media that spin to the left. The Democrats ignore the district-by-district polling that shows better numbers for the GOP and also in statewide races such as Michigan, where one poll shows singer Kid Rock with a four point lead over incumbent Democrat Senator Debbie Stabenow. They even rationalize away their defeat in four successive special congressional elections.

Attempting to get more mileage out of the Party’s threadbare leaders, gullible acceptance of the partisan puffery of the press, and putting lipstick on the pigs of past policies could set the Democrats up for yet another shocking election night.

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Larry Horist, is a conservative Republican with an extensive background in political issues. Clients of his consulting firm have included such conservative icons as Steve Forbes and Milton Friedman, and he has served as a consultant to the White House under Presidents Nixon and Reagan. He speaks and writes extensively on political issues and has testified before numerous legislative bodies, including the U. S. Congress. He is an award winning debater, and has lectured at such institutions as Harvard University, Northwestern University, Florida Atlantic University and Hope College. His insightful and sometimes controversial commentaries appear frequently on the editorial pages of newspapers across the nation.



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**REPUBLICAN PARTY OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY**

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Mission Statement

The Republican Party of Palm Beach County is committed to promoting Republican ideals and principles; recruiting and electing qualified candidates for public office; developing a grassroots organization that will motivate the electorate to vote; and raising the funds necessary to complete these objectives.

www.palmbeach.gop

Picking Winners and Losers—The Seen and the Unseen

By George Blumel

On the stump Donald Trump described the Export Import Bank's activities as "featherbedding" for politicians and huge companies that don't need it. And, "it's really not free enterprise. I'd be against it." A product of Roosevelt's New Deal, it was supposed to finance U.S. exporters that couldn't get private funding. Today, its major beneficiaries—Boeing, GE, and other giant companies—have no trouble getting private financing but the Ex-Im Bank lives on. Delta Airlines loses business to Saudi Air, in part because it receives generous Ex-Im subsidies. Why?

We thought that when its charter expired in 2015 it would finally go away, especially as it faces numerous fraud claims and criminal indictments as of 2015, but no—a group of liberals and RINOs saved it. Conservatives blocked nominees to its board so it didn't have a quorum. It looked like a done deal, given candidate Trump's comments that the Ex-Im Bank was not needed.

Now that he is President Trump, he likes the idea of being able to pick winners and losers with taxpayer dollars. He now seems convinced that corporate welfare creates jobs. As in virtually every fedgov initiative to create or save jobs, it does save some and create some. But, what is unseen is the far more numerous jobs that it eliminates.

The best example in Florida is the sugar support program. I've refuted politicians and sugar execs' claims in the *Wall Street Journal* that they don't get money from taxpayers and that many jobs are saved in, for instance, Belle Glade. But far more jobs are lost around the country as companies that use sugar in their products have moved to Canada and Mexico to remain competitive. Products that include sugar are costlier to consumers so it is an indirect tax on **all** of us. The major beneficiaries are the wealthy sugar company owners with estates in Palm Beach and the Dominican Republic and, of course, the politicians that they support for reelection.

Frederic Bastiat explained that in the economic sphere an act or a law produces not only one effect, but a series of effects. Of these effects, the first one is immediate—*it is seen*. The other effects emerge only subsequently.

President Trump has threatened to impose tariffs on steel imports and if he does, many jobs will be added in that industry. You see that and say "great!" What you don't see—unless you look—is that everything made of steel goes up in price. We **all** pay for the relatively few jobs created compared to the cost. Worse, we invite retaliatory tariffs on our exports which cost our economy jobs and further costs to **all** of us. And in which industries would the money have been spent if not on the higher priced steel?

Mark Levin tells about one potential retaliation that is illustrative: ". . . a punitive tariff on . . . American whiskeys would be both a symbolic and a substantive body blow—a strike at a unique American product that is enormously popular overseas. Should the tariff dominoes fall, it will be a case study in the shortsightedness of a supposedly 'America First' trade policy that, in the end, hurts Americans the most."



Thanks to the \$1.5 billion in spirits that America now exports, over the next six years Kentucky distilleries will invest more than \$1 billion in expansions and new facilities. Levin pointed out that Jack Daniels exports 65 percent of its output and is undergoing a \$140 million expansion. A retaliatory tariff would jeopardize those jobs. Multiply by other retaliations and you can see how the Smoot-Hawley tariffs exacerbated the Great Depression.

A possible trade war isn't the only concern. President Trump's decision to pull out of the Trans-Pacific Partnership, and his aversion to trade pacts like NAFTA, undermines many American exporters' growth strategies which rely heavily on overseas markets. Not being included in TPP leaves China with a competitive advantage in the Pacific region. Among the biggest losers are the super-efficient American farmers who can feed the world. Farm subsidies are about \$20 billion a year; the ability to export is much more important than unneeded taxpayer subsidies. Japan just announced a 50 percent tariff on American beef which benefits Australia, New Zealand and Canada—a result of the U.S. backing out of the TPP.

Bottom line: Trade is based on mutual advantage. Renegotiation or improvements in existing trade agreements should identify mutual benefits, not operate on unilateral threats like the 45 percent tariff Trump threatened on China imports.

I asked economist Steve Moore about Trump's seeming lack of economic understanding. He said that he and Larry Kudlow met with the president who was open to their explanations of economic principles and unseen consequences of trade restrictions. Let's hope so.

George Blumel is a husband, father, grandfather; retired entrepreneur; blogger www.posterchildrenfortermlimits.com; political activist—for freedom with responsibility.

Smoking Gun in Russia Probe!

*By Alan Bergstein
August 2, 2017*

Let's get right to the point. The Democrat Party since well before the recent election has been targeting Donald Trump, his son, his daughter, and his son-in-law, and for that matter, all Republicans, as being tools of Russia and as blatant traitors to this country. Basically, the conservatives were criminals of the highest order. And to top it all off, these accusations came with not a shred of evidence, no fingerprints, photographs, letters with invisible ink or scrunched up notes left in the crevices of a rest room. But the media ate it up with commentators talking it up 24/7.

But after Hillary's primary win over Sanders we all learned of the real criminality of the head honchos of the Dems going back to the DNC and its big cheese, Little Debbie Schultz, having stolen the primary election from The Bern. And the Mainstream Media remained silent. Now we have startling proof, not stuff thrown against the wall, but documents, canceled checks and real cash all related to the Democrat Party and a certain Islamic family who were employed as tech people by and given the passwords to get into the computers and records of key Dem leaders such as Little Debbie and other Democrat House members, such as Gregory Meeks, Lois Frankel, Ted Deutch, and Andre Carson, to name just a few. These "trusted" legislators all sit on major committees whose computers and classified electronic files were open to this Islamist crime family. And the

MSM is still silent regarding these crimes that include possible espionage and treason. We wonder why?

The family in the criminal spotlight is the Awan family who all worked for the above House members. The top figure was Imran Awan who last week was removed from a plane headed for Qatar and had his passport taken away. Wonder why? On his person were thousands of dollars, indicating he was leaving the USA for good. His family had already fled to Pakistan and other safe havens. These guys had the password to an iPad used by Wasserman Schultz who had top classified information on it that was leaked to Wikileaks. Donna Brazile and other top Dems shrieked this secret data was stolen by . . . guess who? You've got it . . . the Russians did it!



But the Democrats have rushed to these spies' defense using the "Islamophobe" excuse. Congressman Weeks, who trusted the Awan's with all of his classified info, had this to say: "I want to be sure that individuals are not singled out because of their nationalities or their religion." We'll let the courts decide if this guy is guilty and we'll also discover if the Democrats who hired on this crime "mishpocha" will finally quit blaming Russia and the Trump family for leaking info to and colluding with the Russians and finally own up to their stupidity for a change.

Good luck!

The Vizcaya Forum is Proud to Present

A Special Summer Forum

**Trump Agenda: Good or Bad for America:
A Civil Examination of the Trump Presidency to Date**

Republican Larry Horist
v.
Democrat Rabbi Barry Silver

**August 21, 7:00 at the
Vizcaya Clubhouse
15150 Michelangelo Blvd.
Delray Beach, Florida**

**Entrance on south side of Atlantic Avenue between Jog Road and I-95
Ample Parking**

Due to limited seating, early arrival is recommended

News from the Republican Clubs of Palm Beach County

Kings Point Republican Club Held June and July Meetings

Our June 7th meeting was a success despite torrential rains and some flooding. Our turnout was respectable. **Colonel Arthur DeRuve** led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and gave a tribute for our Vets in honor of the anniversary of D-Day on June 6th, 1944. **Jay Bonner**, our candidate for Congress in Florida's 20th Congressional District, provided us with a very good talk about his background, why he became a candidate and his views on issues. Former Circuit Court Judge Ken Stern, who is a member of our Club's Steering Committee, offered astute suggestions for Mr. Bonner as did others in the group. Mr. Bonner expressed his appreciation. **Alan Bergstein's** talk about his establishment of the Judeo-Christian Republican Club and the local and worldwide threat of Islamic extremism was very illuminating. Questions and comments followed for both speakers.

Our July 5th meeting was a big success. **Colonel Arthur DeRuve** led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and a 4th of July commemoration. **Paul Taranowski**, the executive director

of "Grow Pac," spoke about traditional Republican values, and **Ryan Hnatiuk**, executive director of the Palm Beach County Republican Party, told us of his personal story, the opportunities our great nation offers, and the achievements we have made. We were reminded that Lobster Fest at the Polo Club was fast approaching on August 17th. Those interested in purchasing tickets can go to "www.lobsterfest-gop.com" to purchase tickets.

We hope to see you all at our next meeting on Wednesday, August 2nd 2017 at 7PM in the "Social Room" of the main Clubhouse, by the East End Café. Don't forget, everyone will have a free chance to win a \$25.00 Publix gift card. We don't charge dues and there is no admission charge. We do accept and appreciate donations.

Please remember that we meet the first Wednesday of each month.

Paul Tocker—President (561) 235-0840

Jonathan Winson—Vice President (561) 600-0416

The Republican Federated Women of South Florida Hosted an Ice Cream Social at the VA

On Saturday, July 15, members and friends of the Republican Federated Women of South Florida hosted an ice cream social at the Community Living Center of the West Palm Beach Veterans Administration Medical Center. More than a dozen volunteers served root beer floats to the resident veterans and their guests, and led them in a lively

round of Bingo. A good time was had by all, and it was a good feeling to know we had brought some cheer into the lives of these deserving veterans.

For information about the Republican Federated Women of South Florida, please contact Rosemary O'Mara at 561-997-9381 or rosemaryo625@aol.com.

The Judeo-Christian Republican Club's Upcoming September 12th Meeting

The Judeo-Christian Republican Club of PBC (JCRC) is moving along at breakneck speed. Our fantastic website should be off and running any day now. The Board has been having weekly meetings to plan ahead for the upcoming months. We are not sitting around idly.

Our meeting on September 12th, at the South County Civic Center, located at 16700 Jog Road in Delray Beach, will commemorate the infamous 9/11 tragedy. It will begin at 6:00 PM. Our two speakers will be **Sid Dinerstein** and **Russell DiPerna**. Sid was formerly the chair of the Palm Beach County Republican Party for many years, and with his drive, personality and ingenuity brought conservatism to the county. He has worked now for many years with the Haitian community slowly and surely bringing them into the Republican fold. He is a brilliant and entertaining speaker.

Russell was a member of the NYPD, where he was a first responder on 9/11. He just returned from Herzliya, Israel,

where he spent four weeks attending the International Institute for Counter Terrorism, the foremost anti-terror center in the world. He is still in the law enforcement field. Russell will tell the story of 9/11 from one who was on site at the time.

We have programs already planned and set up for the following months. **Laurie Cardoza-Moore**, who heads the group Proclaiming Justice to the Nations will speak to us on October 17th at the Civic Center, and our speakers for November and December are now being recruited. Our previous meetings have been SRO, so we're going to give our members reserved seating in the front rows to show them the respect and courtesy they deserve. Our membership dues are \$25 per individual and \$45 per couple. Our mailing address is:

The Judeo-Christian Republican Club

PO Box 880142

Boca Raton, FL 33488-0142

Letters

Hi Tom:

Long time member of REC.

You do a great job with the Newsletter and enjoyed reading about local Memorial Day events.

Always attend Honor Flight when at PBI.

Been to Normandy and family friend was HOF D-Day veteran Lomell. Climbed 114' cliffs at Pointe du Hoc and found/destroyed five 155 mm guns pointed towards Utah Beach. Brought Hitler's downfall and liberated France.

Engineer dad in Oak Ridge on Manhattan Project. Personally knew many from B-29 Enola Gay and Bockscar.

Best,

Dave Anderson



Pictured with B-29 pilot Gen. Tibbets with son having lunch.

On Brian Mast's Vote on the Hartzler Amendment

Dear Fellow Activists and Brian Mast Constituents:

I received yet another e-mail from a dear friend from Port St. Lucie who is adamant about this latest controversy with Brian Mast. All of us, as well as people like Tony Perkins, are well aware of what happened with this vote because we care for Brian, but there are so many who are up in arms about this issue and refuse to listen to the Truth. We really need to share these critical e-mails with Brian, then approach people like Tim Wildmon (President of American Family Association, AFA), who put this e-mail out to his entire e-mail list, and let him know what happened with Brian's vote and that the appropriate change was made by Brian correcting his vote. This type of e-mail will definitely hurt Brian's reputation and we need to protect him now more than ever. It's all about damage control right now.

Fellow Mast Supporters: As long as Brian Mast is telling the Truth with this controversial issue and he indeed, made a mistake in his vote—then corrected it like he said he did—then, I do not have a problem with this. I am all about the Truth and right from the get-go, when I received that text message from Brian (before this vote even broke in the news), I appreciated Brian giving me the heads-up before I read, like most of you, that he voted for “paying for sex changes in the military” . . . I would have lost it! Below is the text message that Brian Mast sent me on Friday, July 14th at 11:19 am:

Willy, just in case you look at votes and are wondering, I did cast one incorrect vote yesterday, hit the wrong button, on agreeing to allow the military to pay for gender reassignment. I did not intend to vote to allow that. It will be corrected in the official record tomorrow or the next day to say my vote was really against paying for sex change in the military. . . .

In closing, I say we all continue to diligently work Two-gether with our Congressman Brian Mast, accept his apologies and “revised” vote to NOT pay for sex changes in the military, and put this controversy behind us. At the same time, we learned a great lesson here, and we all need to be more cognizant of votes and issues like these, and we all need to be 100 percent accountable for our actions. We all make mistakes, but this was a costly one. Brian knows me quite well and he knows that I am going to continue to hold him accountable for the number of issues that we have discussed over the past six months that need to be addressed, and until these issues are confronted and taken care of—Illegal Immigration, Sanctuary Cities, De-Funding Planned Parenthood, to name a few—I will not rest. Nobody will rest. He knows that better than anybody. We worked our tails off to get Mast elected and we continue to work with and support Mast. It works both ways—and we all need to work Two-gether. Nobody is exempt here and nobody is above the law. If we want our tri-county communities to thrive, to be safe and to prosper, we all need to work Two-gether as a TEAM and we need to tighten our combat boots right about now and be prepared to go up against the Liberal Left who are out to destroy our conservative ways of life. Brian Mast knows more about combat than all of us put together. He almost lost his life protecting our beloved country. We owe it to him to have his back at all times, and at the same time, he owes it to us, because we've always had his back. . . .

May we all work two-gether as one bold team in District 18 with Brian Mast!!

May we all put our egos away, humble ourselves, and work as a winning team!!

—Willy Guardiola
Christian on a Mission
President of P.B.C. Right to Life League

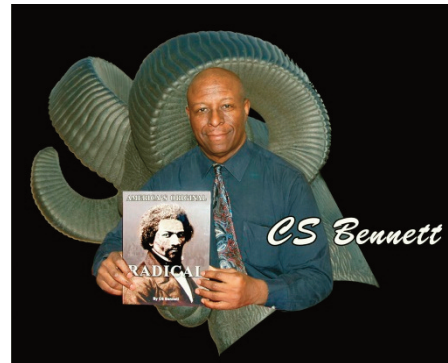
What's Really at Stake?

By *CS Bennett*

This United States of America has been around, as a sovereign country, for over 240 years. What makes us unique is our United States Constitution, which limits the power of the government for the sole purpose of protecting the rights of the people. It is a government of the people, for the people, and by the people.


Other countries have been governed, at some time in their history, by emperors, kings and queens, pharaohs and dictators. Some have been ruled by committee and some have been ruled by warlords. We, as a nation, have been governed, so far, by people who are supposed to represent us, for we are a constitutional republic and the most unique of its kind.

It is only a piece of paper, the United States Constitution and our Bill of Rights, but most Americans revere these two documents, and almost with reverence. However, there are some, largely progressives and socialists, who do not respect these two pillars of our republic, and many of them have shown contempt for them. They feel they are above the law in a land where the rule of the law reigns supreme. This is what makes those on the left so dangerous. If it is not their way, it is the highway. Laws on the books matter not to them. Eric Holder, Susan Rice, Valerie Jarrett, Hillary Clinton, even Barack Hussein Obama, conducted themselves as if they were above the law. Why none of them are behind bars today shows how important it is to have a rule of law in a country where no one is above the law.



We need leaders who are virtuous and not afraid to stand up for what is right, no matter how unpopular it may be. We need a citizenry that is informed and not afraid to hold our leaders' feet to the fire. If we are going to survive as the world's only true republic, we are going to have to do our best to preserve what our Founding Fathers left us. Freedom is worth preserving. Liberty is worth defending. And this republic is worth saving for our children and their children. To all, God Bless America.

Curtis S. Bennett is an author, a national conservative talk radio co-host, and a columnist. He is a decorated Gulf War veteran and serves as Vice Chairman of the Putnam County Republican Executive Committee.



PALM BEACH COUNTY TEA PARTY


Fiscal Responsibility ★ Limited Government ★ Free Markets

**Please join the Palm Beach County Tea Party
and Freedomworks
on Saturday August 19th for**

STEPHEN MOORE

Saturday, August 19, 2017, 6:30pm
Nova University
11501 N. Military Trail
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410
No charge for meeting
Coffee & Cake served

Please RSVP:
email: info@palmbeachcountyteaparty.org
website: palmbeachcountyteaparty.org

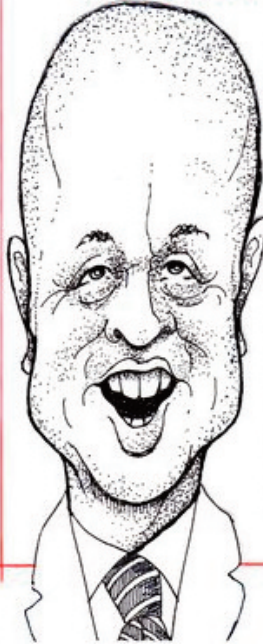


A former economic advisor to President Trump, Stephen Moore was highly visible on cable TV last year as a chief explainer of the Trump economic agenda. He has been a paid contributor on both the Fox News Channel and CNN, president of the Club for Growth, editorial board member of the *Wall Street Journal*, and chief economist at the Heritage Foundation. Currently he is the senior economic contributor for Freedomworks, where he communicates Freedomworks' vision for a pro-growth economic agenda to grassroots activists and media nationwide. The meeting will be held at Nova University at 11501 N. Military Trail in Palm Beach Gardens.

Mort's Meanderings

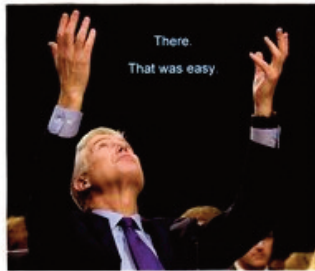
MORT's meanderings.

After reading Ted 'Deutch's Dispatch', that is his interpretation of his litany of 'accomplishments', I have reached the conclusion that it is way beyond long-overdue, to 'dispatch' Deutch, asap.



The fact that I am a resident of Florida's Congressional District 21 rather than D22 does not alter either my standing or my right to express my commentary on what I consider to be Ted Deutch's inconsequential status as a Representative of this region of S.E. Florida. Following in the vainglorious footsteps of Robert Wexler is hardly cause for celebration but rather, is something for which one should wallow in a perpetual state of regret about. What a sinful waste of time and opportunity it has been for the most unfortunate constituents of this region to be mis-represented by the likes of these two, unaccomplished (D)emocrat peas in a pod. What piss-poor examples both have set for future office seekers from this region. It is my considered assessment that as a Representative of the people, Ted Deutch is way beyond 'useless' and he actually poses an impediment to progress in PB County. I do hope that my utter disdain for this wretch does not escape his notice.

MORT KUFF ©2017



Just approved
Supreme Court Justice
Neil Gorsuch

MORT KUFF ©2017

By Mort Kuff, 2017

Palestine's problem is Israel !



Top Row L-R: Former U.S. Rep.(FL) Robert Wexler, U.S. Rep.(FL) Ted Deutch, U.S. Rep.(FL) Lois Frankel, U.S. Rep.(FL) Debbie W. Schultz
Bottom Row: L-R: Jewish Socialist; Indoctrinated Jewish College Students; Progressive Rabbi; Elderly Jewish Couple, retired in Florida

MORT's meanderings.

The irony & chutzpa of a 4th rate political hack such as Sen. Ben Cardin (D) of Maryland questioning the qualifications of President Donald Trump's Cabinet appointees currently in the process of Senate confirmation, all of whom are of the very highest moral character and all of whom possess impeccable records of accomplishment, is quite beyond the normal bounds of Democrat hypocrisy.



MORT KUFF ©2017

Poke-Her-Highness

An American Indian Princess . . . sort of.



MORT KUFF ©2017

By Mort Kuff, 2017

Book Review

***Understanding Trump*, by Newt Gingrich. New York: Hachette Book Group, Inc., 2017. 347 pp.**

I've been saying for some time that if you want to really get to know what makes President Donald Trump such a formidable man, you need to read his book he wrote 30 years ago, *The Art of the Deal*. A while back I did just that and reviewed his book in this newsletter. Reading it eliminated any doubts I'd had about his candidacy for president and convinced me that he was the right man for the job in last fall's election. But now there is another book that goes into even more detail about what makes the president tick, and it is well worth reading.

It's entitled *Understanding Trump* and was written by Newt Gingrich, former congressman from Georgia and Speaker of the U. S. House Representatives. It was just published in June, and offers an insightful portrait of the man we all sent to Washington to "drain the swamp."

The book begins with a foreword by the president's son Eric, who writes, "When my father called my family together to confirm that he would run for president, he said we would quickly learn who our real friends were. . . . He was right." Among those discovered friends have been Newt Gingrich and his wife Callista, who have been steadfast supporters of the President from the beginning.

Six months into his administration it has also become quite clear who Trump's enemies are, and chief among them are the liberal media and entrenched political elements in DC who have been relentless in their opposition. In the intro Mr. Gingrich opines, "It is astonishing to me, as a historian, how the elite media and much of the political establishment refuse to try to understand Donald Trump. They have been so rabidly opposed to him, so ideologically committed to left-wing values, and so terrified of the future that they haven't stopped and considered how extraordinary his success has been. [He's] the first person to be elected president without first having served in public office or as a general in the military. He defeated more than a dozen other Repub-

licans in the primary, a multibillion-dollar campaign machine for Hillary Clinton, a mainstream media, which opposed him at every turn, and he did this without an army of political consultants or spending hundreds of millions of dollars on TV ads."

In my mind, *Understanding Trump* is the perfect companion book to *The Art of the Deal*, and both should be read by anybody seeking an objective appraisal of the forty-fifth President of the United States and what it is that he's trying to accomplish for the country. According to historian Newt, his agenda represents a "third—and hopefully final—great effort to break away from a half century of big-government liberalism." The first was in the 1980s during the Reagan Revolution. The second was in 1994 when then Speaker of the House Gingrich put forth his 'Contract with America,' and the third is President Trump's attempt to 'Drain the Swamp' and Make America Great Again."

I loved this book. Many books by politicians and famous TV political pundits and commentators are what I refer to as of the cookie-cutter variety—books that are designed to capitalize on an individual's popularity to make a quick buck—but not this one. *Understanding Trump* goes into greater detail than anything I've ever read about what the president is really like, and the nuts and bolts of exactly how he plans to accomplish his bold agenda for America. It reveals our new leader as a "middle-class guy from Queens—not a Manhattan socialite." Putting on his college professor hat, Newt proceeds to teach us not to be fooled about the drive-by's portrait of the guy in the White House. He might be a multi-billionaire, but like most of the rest of us, he prefers a cheeseburger to caviar and grew up in a modest house in a middle-class neighborhood. Donald Trump is not just with us, he's one of us.



—Tom Mullings

Editor’s Postscript

The “Underground Great Wall of China”

By Tom Mullings

Everybody has heard of the Great Wall of China. According to Wikipedia, it “is a series of fortifications, generally built along an east-to west line to protect the Chinese states and empires against raids and invasions of nomadic groups of the Eurasian Steppe.” It is “made up of 3,389 miles of actual walls,” is the only man-made object on the surface of the earth that can be seen from space, and is truly one of the great wonders of the world. But as popular and well-known as the Great Wall is, very few people know that there is another Great Wall of China. What I am referring to is the “Underground Great Wall of China,” which, although, equally as extensive as its above-ground counterpart, is never talked about by the Chinese themselves.

This Underground Great Wall is an enormous system of below-ground tunnels that China has been digging for decades. You can see their approximate location on the map below, and they are being excavated in order to hide the country’s missiles, nuclear weapons, and God knows what else. Interestingly, what the public knows about these secretive underground hiding places has been revealed by Dr. Philip A. Karber, a Georgetown University professor and former top Pentagon official, along with his team of students. Together they have conducted a study in which they “translated hundreds of documents, combed through satellite imagery, obtained restricted Chinese military documents and waded through hundreds of gigabytes of online data.”

According to a journalist who researched this story, the study “has not been released, but has sparked a congressional hearing and been circulated among top Pentagon officials.” The conclusions of this enterprising professor and

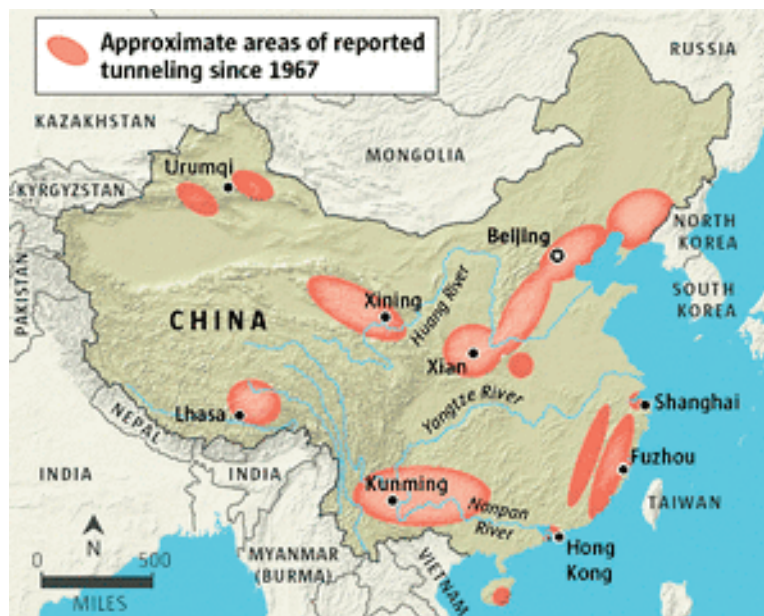
his band of student investigators are very troubling: “China’s nuclear arsenal could be many times larger than estimates of arms-control experts.”

I must admit, I have suspected that this was the case for a long time. The Department of Defense is required to send an *Annual Report To Congress* reporting on the *Military and Security Developments Involving the People’s Republic of China*. When it’s released I read it, and every year it gives around the same number of Chinese strategic nuclear weapons, somewhere between 80 to 400 warheads, which is much smaller than the arsenals of the U.S. (5,000) and Russia (8,000). It just does not make any sense that in an era in which China is engaging in an unprecedented military buildup, they are allowing the most important category of weapons they possess to lag far behind the arsenals of the two leading military powers that they are feverishly striving to gain parity with as a part of their “China Dream.”

Another thing that I find quite interesting about the map may have nothing to do with strategic nuclear weapons, but is quite worrisome nonetheless. Three of the areas of underground excavations are located: on their largest island off the mainland which overlooks the contested South China Sea, on the other side of the border with the failed Stalinist



Underground Wall—continued on next page



THE WASHINGTON POST

Underground Wall—continued from previous page

state of North Korea, and opposite what they consider to be their renegade province of Taiwan. In a crisis, these extensive, secret tunnels could allow China to surge military assets—conventional as well as nuclear that no one even know exist—into these potential areas of future conflict.

Who knows what is going on below ground in China, but with over 3,000 miles of tunnels we can be assured that if the truth be known, it's not going to be something that will increase our comfort level. All of us on the planet with working brains are frightened to the core by the thought of fighting a nuclear war with another nuclear-armed country, and that fear has made most of us believe that such a conflict must never be fought. Ironically, that unbridled, universal fear has been largely responsible for an historically unprecedented decline in major wars between the great powers, who, these days, go at each other indirectly through proxies. But, with all the vast expenditure of resources and labor that has been invested in building the “Underground Great Wall” of China, it seems unwise for one to conclude

that the Chinese are just doing it for defensive purposes to protect a relative few strategic nuclear weapons. Clearly it seems much more likely they are doing it to conceal military assets that are intended for offensive purposes and in quantities that they don't want anyone, especially us, to know about. There simply is no other logical reason why a country would go to such lengths. But the really frightening aspect of all of this is the sobering thought that a major power may have a contrary view about offensive thermo-nuclear war than virtually the rest of mankind. That is something that should make all of us stand up and take notice and requires the utmost in military preparedness on the part of our country, especially the long overdue modernization of America's triad of strategic nuclear weapons.

Tom Mullings is a decorated Army infantry combat veteran of the Vietnam War, who served as a scout dog handler with the 173rd Airborne Brigade. He was one of the three original incorporators of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC, and is a long-time Republican Executive Committeeman from precinct 5154 in Palm Beach County.

HAVE YOU RESERVED YOUR TICKETS YET!? EVERYONE ELSE HAS!

**We are going to be closing the RSVPs for Lobsterfest this week!
Do not miss out on this great event!**

CALL THE OFFICE NOW! or visit www.lobsterfest.gop



The Republican Party of Palm Beach County
invites you to join us for our

16TH ANNUAL

LOBSTERFEST

August 17th, 2017

The Polo Club of Boca Raton
5400 Champion Boulevard
Boca Raton
6:30 pm

PURCHASE TICKETS AT
www.LobsterFest.gop
\$145 per person
(561) 686-1616

PROJECT
Veritas

James O'Keefe



Keynote Speaker



Also speaking that evening will be:



**Congressman
Brian Mast**



**Agriculture Commissioner
Adam Putnam**



**Congressman
Ron de Santis**



Republican Executive Committee Membership Application

The Republican Executive Committee (also known as the REC) is the governing body of the Republican Party of Palm Beach County. The REC elects the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Party. Members of the REC also approve the Party's constitution; Rules, Policies & Procedures; and budget.

Members of the Republican Executive Committee represent the registered Republicans who live in their precinct. They serve as the Party's liaison to the Republicans in their precinct. REC members are expected to maintain contact with the Republicans living in your precinct and to keep them informed as to what is going on in the Republican Party. This can be done through E-mail or other means like regular mail, phone calls and walking your precinct. The REC is the basis for our grassroots efforts and we rely on REC Members to organize and develop their precincts, recruit new volunteers, recruit candidates to fill vacancies on the REC, find sign locations for Republican candidates, register new Republican voters and work to get out the Republican vote in their precincts during elections. The role of committeeman or committeewoman is essential to Republican Party's and our candidates' success in Palm Beach County.

REC Committeeman & Committeewoman Duties and Responsibilities

1. Expected to donate financially to the Republican Party of Palm Beach County
2. Attend REC Meetings
3. Organize your precinct and carry out the policies and programs of the Party within your precinct. Active participation in the various programs of the Party is expected.
4. Serve on a Party Committee.
5. Develop a presence in the broader community by joining a Republican Club; serving on a local board or committee; or monitoring local media for relevant material.

ALL APPLICANTS FOR THE REC MUST BE A REGISTERED REPUBLICAN IN PALM BEACH COUNTY. PLEASE COMPLETE THIS REC APPLICATION FORM AND RETURN IT ALONG WITH A PHOTO COPY OF THE FRONT OF YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION CARD. ANY APPLICATION RECEIVED WITHOUT A COPY OF THE APPLICANT'S VOTER REGISTRATION CARD WILL NOT BE PROCESSED. THE DEADLINE FOR ACCEPTING REC APPLICATIONS IS 11:00 AM, 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE REC MEETING.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: (_____) _____ Cell Phone: (_____) _____

E-mail: _____

Profession: _____ Precinct #: _____ Date of Birth: ____ / ____ / ____

I am applying for the position of:



Committeeman



Committeewoman

Please return your REC Application to the Republican Party of Palm Beach County Headquarters,
1555 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd., Suite 210, West Palm Beach 33401 or fax (561) 686-1898. Phone (561) 686-1616



Republican Party of Florida Party Loyalty Oath

I, _____, swear and/or affirm that during my term of
(Name of Member – Please write clearly)

office I will not actively, publicly, or financially support the election of any candidate seeking election against:

- (1) The Republican Party's nominee in a partisan unitary, general, or special election that includes a Republican nominee; or
- (2) A registered Republican in a non-partisan election except that this provision does not apply to judicial races under Chapter 105, Florida Statutes.

I further swear or affirm that, in a contested Republican primary election, I will not support the nomination of one Republican candidate over another in my capacity as a Republican County Executive Committee member unless the Party has voted to endorse under RPOF Rule 8. This provision does not preclude me from supporting in any manner my personal Republican candidate of choice in a contested Republican primary election, provided I do not express such support with public reference to my title or office within the Republican Party of Florida.

Signature of Member

Signature of Witness

County/Precinct #

Date

Office: _____

**(State Committeeman, State Committeewoman; Precinct Committeeman, Precinct Committeewoman;
Alt. Precinct Committeeman, Alt. Precinct Committeewoman)**

Address, as it appears on voter registration

Email

City, State, Zip

Phone Number

**CANDIDATE OATH -
PRECINCT COMMITTEEMEN AND
COMMITTEEWOMEN**

OFFICE USE ONLY

OATH OF CANDIDATE (Section 99.021, Florida Statutes)

I, _____
(PLEASE PRINT NAME AS YOU WISH IT TO APPEAR ON THE BALLOT * -- NAME MAY NOT BE CHANGED AFTER THE END OF QUALIFYING)

am a candidate for the office of Precinct Committeeman Committeewoman Precinct Number _____,

I am a qualified elector of _____ County, Florida; I am qualified under the Constitution and the Laws of Florida to hold the office to which I desire to be nominated or elected; and I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Florida.

Candidate's Florida Voter Registration Number (located on your voter information card): _____

* Please print name phonetically on the line below as you wish it to be pronounced on the audio ballot for persons with disabilities (see instructions on page 2 of this form):

STATEMENT OF PARTY (Section 99.021, Florida Statutes)

I am a member of the _____ Party; I have not been a registered member of any other political party for 365 days before the beginning of qualifying preceding the general election for which I seek to qualify; and I have paid the assessment levied against me, if any, as a candidate for said office by the executive committee of the political party, of which I am a member.

X	()		
Signature of Candidate	Telephone Number	Email Address	
Address	City	State	ZIP Code

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF _____

Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me this _____ **day of** _____, **20** _____.

Personally Known: _____ or

Produced Identification: _____

Type of Identification Produced:

Signature of Notary Public
Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public
