

REPUBLICAN PARTY



PINELLAS COUNTY

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OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE PINELLAS COUNTY REPUBLICAN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MONDAY **February 12, 2018**

Pinellas County
Republican Executive
Committee Meeting

6 PM Member Orientation
Member Training

7 PM Meeting Begins

Feather Sound Country Club
2201 Feather Sound Drive
Clearwater, FL 33762

PCREC OFFICE HOURS
9 AM to 2 PM
Monday—Friday

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2018 is off to a great start for Republicans across the country. President Donald Trump is proving day in and day out that he is a man of his word, and he has been consistent in fighting hard against Chuck Schumer and the Democrats.

The “#SchumerShutdown” was a strategy that backfired on the Democrats as they tried to hold the military hostage in negotiating the issue of immigration. President Trump showed once again that he will stand strong and fight for Americans no matter the issue our country faces.

As a small business owner, it has been very encouraging to see each one of my 25 employees enjoy more money in their paychecks due to the tax cuts the President signed into law in December. Many of my employees talked about how important an extra \$20 in their weekly paycheck is for their families, and they are directly thanking President Trump. I would not be surprised to see the President's poll numbers increase as we head toward the mid-term elections in November. That is not good news for the Democratic Party.

Here in Pinellas County we are preparing our strategy for 2018 and have several feelers out for the Keynote Speaker for the Annual Lincoln Day Dinner. I ask that you sign up to volunteer for the various electioneering activities we have available to ensure we have the most organized grassroots organization in the State of Florida. I’m looking forward to working with each and every one of you as we prepare for victory in 2018!

Nick DiCeglie

Chairman, Pinellas Republican Party



Vice Chairman's Message

Closing the enthusiasm gap

As predicted, the tax overhaul signed into law by President Trump last month has breathed new life into generic polling for Republicans. In December, Democrats were consistently leading in generic ballot polls by 10 points or more. This is critical as a generic ballot lead of nine to 10 points generally signals a wave election, much like the Republican waves of the Obama years. However, that lead has been cut in half in a slew of generic ballot polls released over the last few weeks, thanks largely to reverberations of the tax overhaul across the economy. The Democrats' recent government shutdown debacle should close the gap even further.

That said, not all the news is good. While the generic ballot polls are trending in the right direction for Republicans, the Democrats continue to lead significantly among the most enthusiastic of voters. In other words, the voters most likely to get out to the polls and vote this year are overwhelmingly Democrats. Republicans need to match their enthusiasm, especially here in Florida, where the 2018 elections have so many implications for the future of our state. We have made incredible progress under the leadership of Governor Rick Scott and our Republican-led legislature. We must work hard to maintain those gains.

Pinellas County Republican Executive Committee (PCREC) will be embarking on a new membership drive this spring, and we are working hard to secure a great speaker for the annual Lincoln Day Dinner so we can raise the money we will need to support the Republican candidates for county commission and beyond. You, as precinct committeemen and committeewomen, need to be energized and focused on working your precincts to make sure that Republican voters



are paying attention and are ready to mobilize and get to the polls. Our membership in PCREC is more than just monthly meetings and socials. We should be the tip of the spear heading into the November elections. Closing the enthusiasm gap is our responsibility.

— Todd A. Jennings,
Esq.

Notes from the PCREC treasurer:



Money makes the world (and politics) go 'round

Did you ever wonder what it takes to run your local Pinellas County Republican Party office? It might surprise you. Although we are blessed to have a talented, almost all-volunteer staff managing day-to-day operations, the "basics" come to an average of \$10,000 per month.

Where do we get that kind of money? You, the Pinellas County Republicans! Through your donations and membership in groups like Chairman's Circle and Ivory Club, we take in enough to keep the office running.

So where does that money go? Office rent, utilities, monthly meeting venue, newsletter production (remember, some members do not use computers), software for mass mailings, website subscriptions, stationery, postage and equipment maintenance/replacement comprise 95% of the expenditures. Contrary to popular belief, Pinellas County GOP receives no funding from the RPOF.

What about special events like the Lincoln Day and Reagan Day Dinners as well as Ivory Club events? Those are paid for by individual and corporate sponsorships and ticket sales, all of which are also integral in keeping the Pinellas County GOP office open and running.

How about campaigns for local, state and national Republican candidates? Campaigns require a separate web presence, signage, buttons, bumper stickers, phone banks, additional office space and other advertising. Remember, the amount of involvement and influence we can exert in any campaign is directly dependent on how much we are able to direct to a campaign after meeting our monthly obligations.

If we care about electing candidates who reflect our values, we must continue to make that known by our willingness to ensure that our financial engine does not run on fumes. Consider joining the Chairman's Circle, which will enable you and your business to avail yourselves of a host of activities and networking opportunities, as well as providing your Pinellas County Republican Party with much-needed funds for 2018.

—Casey Cox

CALENDAR OF EVENTS—FEBRUARY 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 BWRC	3
4	5	6 PCYR	7	8 CPRC	9	10
11	12 PCREC	13 RCTS RRRCTOW	14 SPRC	15 NPRC	16	17 HISPANIC OUTREACH
18	19 RCGL	20 TBTRC	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 SLRC	28			

- BELLEAIR WOMEN'S REPUBLICAN CLUB** (1st Friday of the Month) **FRIDAY February 2 11:30 AM**
 Guest Speaker: Peter Schorsch, president of Extensive Enterprises
 Location: Belleair Country Club, 1 Country Club Lane, Belleair
 Contact: President Doris Kasold (703) 517-6770 DorisKasold@gmail.com www.BelleairWomensRepublicanClub.com
- CENTRAL PINELLAS REPUBLICAN CLUB** (2nd Thursday of the Month) **THURSDAY February 8 11:30 AM**
 Guest Speaker: E.J. Otero
 Location: 9100 113th Street North, Room 210, Seminole
 Contact: President Barbara Stephens (727) 397-3449 CPRC@PinellasRepublicans.com
- DOWNTOWN ST. PETERSBURG GOP** (4th Monday of the Month) **No Meeting**
 Guest Speaker: No meeting
 Location: Parkshore Grill, 300 Beach Drive, St. Petersburg 33701
 Contact:
- HISPANIC REPUBLICAN CLUB & OUTREACH OF PINELLAS COUNTY**
 Contact: President Chely Hernandez-Miller (727) 434-4008 www.HispanicRepublicanClub.com HRCPC08@aol.com
- NORTH PINELLAS REPUBLICAN CLUB** (3rd Thursday of the Month) **THURSDAY February 15 6 PM**
 Guest Speaker: Mike McCallister
 Location: Leo's Italian Grill, 33286 US 19 N, Palm Harbor 34684
 Contact: Ron Walker (727) 639-1511 northpinellasrepublicanclub@gmail.com
- PINELLAS COUNTY REPUBLICAN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** (2nd Monday of the Month) **MONDAY February 12 7 PM**
 Guest Speaker: TBA
 Location: Feather Sound Country Club, 2201 Feather Sound Drive, Clearwater 33762
 Contact: Office (727) 539-6009 info@PinellasRepublicans.com www.PinellasRepublicans.com
- PINELLAS COUNTY YOUNG REPUBLICANS** (1st Tuesday of the Month) **TUESDAY February 6 7 PM**
 Guest Speaker: Pinellas County Commissioner Dave Eggers
 Location: St. Petersburg Yacht Club, 11 Central Ave, St. Petersburg, FL 33701
 Contact: Tyler Payne (727) 204-0143 president@pcyrs.com
- PINELLAS SUNCOAST BLACK REPUBLICAN CLUB**
 Contact: President Sheila Griffin (727) 207-2721 psbrcl@yahoo.com
- REPUBLICAN CLUB OF GREATER LARGO** (3rd Monday of the Month) **MONDAY February 19 7 PM**
 Guest Speaker: TBA
 Location: Alfano's Restaurant, 1702 Clearwater Largo Road, Clearwater, FL 33756
 Contact: Kimberly Berfield (727) 244-8947 RCGL@PinellasRepublicans.com <http://largorepublicans.com>
- REPUBLICAN CLUB OF TARPON SPRINGS** (2nd Tuesday of the Month) **TUESDAY February 13 6:30 PM**
 Guest Speaker: Workshop
 Location: Queen's Pizza, 40949 US Hwy 19 North, Tarpon Springs, FL
 Contact: President Chris Paras (727) 518-5316 proudamerican199@yahoo.com
- RONALD REAGAN REPUBLICAN CLUB OF TOP OF THE WORLD** (2nd Tuesday of the Month) **TUESDAY February 13 7 PM**
 Guest Speaker: Ed Hooper
 Location: Craft Room WEST Activity Center, Top of the World
 Contact: Don Dinello (727) 242-1825 ddinello@msn.com
- ST. PETERSBURG REPUBLICAN CLUB** (2nd Wednesday of the Month) **WEDNESDAY February 14 7 PM**
 Guest Speaker: Jay Hebert, U.S. Army Ret.
 Location: St. Petersburg Community Church, 4501 30th Avenue North, St. Petersburg 33713
 Contact: President Gail Hebert (727) 526-2492 SPRC@PinellasRepublicans.com
- SUNRISE LEADERSHIP REPUBLICAN CLUB** (4th Tuesday of the Month) **TUESDAY February 27 7:30 AM**
 Guest Speaker: TBA
 Location: Perkins Restaurant, 2626 Gulf to Bay Blvd., Clearwater 33759
- TAMPA BAY TRUMP REPUBLICAN CLUB** (3rd Tuesday Every Other Month) **TUESDAY February 20 6:30 PM**
 Guest Speaker: TBA
 Location: Mugs Sports Bar & Grill, 13563 Icot Blvd., Clearwater, FL 33760
 Contact: President James Stratton (727) 410-6758 tampabaytrumpclub@gmail.com Facebook: Tampa Bay Trump Club

New national committeewoman for Florida selected

In November 2017, a vacancy was created in the office of Florida National Committeewoman (NCW) upon confirmation of the appointment of former Florida National Committeewoman and Republican National Committee Co-Chair Sharon Day's as Ambassador to Costa Rica. The Florida NCW position was temporarily filled by Manatee County Republican Party Chair Kathleen King upon election by the members of the Executive Board of the Republican Party of Florida (RPOF). This action was affirmed when the full RPOF State Executive Committee re-elected King by a vote of 128-48 on January 6. King will now complete the full remainder of the term that ends in 2020.

Kathleen King has volunteered in national political campaigns in Florida since the George H.W. Bush vs. Bill Clinton campaign

in 1992. After that campaign, she joined the Manatee County Young Republicans and Manatee County Republican Executive Committee.

She was first elected county chair in 2006 and has been re-elected without opposition ever since. She helped "Fire (Nancy) Pelosi" from Speaker of the House in 2010 and worked hard to finally retire Senate Majority Leader (Harry) Reid in 2014. In the 2016 general election, she lead Manatee County to win by 17%, helping to win Florida and propelling Donald Trump to the White House.

King has been fighting for the grassroots for over a decade. She ran on a platform of "Proven Leadership Experience." Her leadership posts at the state party level include two terms



Kathleen King

as RPOF secretary, three terms as a Congressional District caucus chair, past chair and vice chair of the RPOF Chairmen's Caucus, chair of the RPOF Legislative Affairs Committee and four terms as a member of the powerful RPOF Constitution and Rules Committee.

King was also a member of the inaugural RPOF Voter Registration Task Force team that helped lead the way in voter registration initiatives. She understands the momentum shift which occurs when a county flips from blue to red, and she is committed to continuing the momentum of "Project Majority Red" to further increase the number of registered Republican voters in Florida.

King served as a Florida Delegate to the National Convention in 2008, 2012 and 2016, and she served on the RNC Committee on Resolutions (the Platform Committee) in 2008, the RNC Convention Committee on Permanent Organization in 2012 and the RNC Committee on Credentials in 2016.

Florida Republican National Committeewoman Kathleen King looks forward to advocating for the State of Florida so every county in Florida has adequate resources and is empowered,

SEE KATHLEEN KING, Page 5



Republican Leadership Initiative training

On January 20, the first 2018 Pinellas County Republican Leadership Initiative training was held at the local Party headquarters. The training was lead by RPOF Field Director, Yen Le and was attended by 10 motivated volunteers and activities. Future classes will be held in coming weeks as the next Republican field operatives are recruited and trained. Anyone interested in learning more about this program may contact Yen Le at (727) 810-7100.



Trooping the true colors

On the first anniversary of President Donald Trump's inauguration, local Republicans rallied on January 20 at the corner of Belcher and Gulf to Bay in Clearwater to show appreciation for a job well done and to show continued support for President Trump. With the constant bombardment of negativity from the left and the left-leaning news media, it is important to show the world that there is another voice, a voice is of reason and respect for the Constitution, the USA and our duly elected President. Anyone who wishes to participate in future rallies, should contact the PCREC office by phone at 727- 539-6009 or by email at info@pinellasrepublicans.com.

Pinellas County Republican
Executive Committee
Ivory Club

SAVE THE DATE

Spring Fling

Saturday, March 10, 2018
5 PM – 7 PM

Indoor-Outdoor cocktail party

An invitation to join Chairman's Circle

Chairman's Circle is an opportunity for individuals and corporate partners to contribute financially to the local Republican Party. Levels of giving begin at \$1,000 and are open ended. Donors' financial support of the PCREC will enable the Party to provide education and outreach to voters in the county, as well as provide infrastructure to support Republican candidates in the General Election.

For more information go to www.pinellasrepublican.com and click on Chairman's Circle or call (727) 539-6009.

Kathleen King, cont. from Page 4

trained and ready to implement GOTV activities. She is eager to Keep Florida Red in 2018 by winning the Governor's Mansion and Cabinet and to continuing the national movement by protecting Florida Congressional Republican seats and winning the Florida U.S. Senate seat to help president Trump save the American economy and to put America First.

Congratulations from PCREC to Florida Republican National Committeewoman Kathleen King.



ON THE MOVE!

Pinellas County Republican Executive Committee
4707 140th Avenue North, Suite 208
Clearwater, FL 33762



Farewell and thank you to James Woods

After almost 68 years as Pinellas County Precinct 141 Committeeman, James Woods is resigning, but not because he can't handle the demands. In keeping with his indefatigable energy, it's because of his

new responsibilities to a business in Antigua, Guatemala. He thus finds it "totally impractical" to continue his duties with the PCREC.

Over the 68 years with the PCREC, he served as district chairman, vice chairman and chairman. On at least two occasions while serving as chairman and member, he was involved in publishing the Pinellas County Republican Party platform. During his most recent years, he has only infrequently attended PCREC meetings, but for over 50 years, when he was able, he walked the precincts and contacted Republican voters. In addition, James has written an autobiography, which includes details about the early history of the Republican Party from 1948 to approximately 1960.

In advising PCREC of his resignation, James said, "The Party was good for me in my election as county commissioner in 1952, and I have felt ever since that I owed a debt to the Party."

James, you have set an example of "patriotism in action" for everyone to follow. You will be missed. Best wishes in your new venture!

PCREC BOARD

Nick DiCeglie, Chairman

Chairman@PinellasRepublicans.com

Todd Jennings, Vice Chairman

ViceChairman@PinellasRepublicans.com

Pam McAloon, Secretary

Secretary@PinellasRepublicans.com

Casey Cox, Treasurer

Treasurer@PinellasRepublicans.com

Charlotte Smith, Executive Director

administrator@PinellasRepublicans.com

Brian Aungst—Legal Counsel

Questions? Comments? Suggestions?

info@PinellasRepublicans.com

STATE PARTY OFFICIALS

Blaise Ingoglia	Chairman-Republican Party of FL
Dan Tucker	State Committeeman
Nancy Riley	State Committeewoman
Jay J. Beyrouti	State Committeeman at Large

Attention PCREC Members:

RPOF County Model Constitution: Section 4—Removal for Non-Attendance at County Executive Committee Meetings
(a) A county executive committee member who is absent for three (3) consecutive regular meetings without a valid excuse shall be removed from the County Executive committee as of the date of the third consecutive missed meeting.