

**MARCH MEETING, March 13, 2019**

PROGRAM: Our speaker, Ron Turner, Supervisor of Elections, will let us know what is happening for 2019 and 2020. He will also talk about the 2018 recounts. We will also be voting on the Club's updated bylaws.

Join us for lunch at 11:30 at the Venice Gardens Civic Association, 406 Shamrock Blvd., Venice. Meeting will begin at 12:00 pm.

President's Message, by Matt Soldano

Thanks to everyone who contributed to making our February picnic a great success! Even the weather cooperated with the rain ending before the event began. Alexandra Coe of the Republican Liberty Caucus, our speaker, encouraged us to get involved in the election process and make sure we realize that local government is where we can make a major impact with Republican ideas.

Congratulations to Governor Ron DeSantis for an outstanding beginning to his administration!! It is not even 50 days and Floridians can see great results. He appointed Richard Corcoran as Commissioner of Education. As speaker, Commissioner Corcoran led a massive expansion of school choice. The governor has begun to dismantle what is left of Common Core and to develop Florida-based education standards. Following the lead of President Trump, he has appointed three new *conservative* judges to the Florida Supreme Court. To hold government officials accountable, the governor has suspended mayors, supervisors of elections, the Broward County sheriff, and asked for the resignation of the Southwest Florida Water board. He has proposed spending \$2.5 billion during his first term to restore the Everglades.

The Club had an active month of February. Besides the picnic, we were cited at the Republican Executive Committee meeting for our program of contacting newly registered Republicans in several of our precincts each month. We hope to expand this program. (If you are interested in participating, see *Help Us Grow Our Club* on page 3 and contact Don O'Nesky). We also reached out to residents at the Jacaranda Library where our secretary, Allyx Young, set up a table to compete with the Democrats and publicize our message. Finally, the Club had a booth at the Jewish Food Festival on February 18 where we explained why Jewish voters should become Republicans.

March Birthdays

Courtney Collier
Shirley Deibel
Susan Forbes
Rockey Landis
John Stapleton
Randy Wedin
Jean West-Walker
Jennifer Zambrano

2019 Elected Officers

President
Matt Soldano
matt1934@yahoo.com

Vice President
Richard Mazur
rtmgolf04@gmail.com

Secretary:
Allyx Young
allyxcited@hotmail.com

Treasurer:
Joseph Mason
jbmason10@yahoo.com

Standing Committee Chairpersons

Editor of Club Newsletter/ Facebook Admin Role:
Gladys Green
gladysg33@comcast.net

Programs and Projects Chair: Open

Membership and Communications Chair: Open

Publicity and Public Relations Chair: Open

Hospitality Chair: See Gladys Green

Sunshine Chair: Mary O'Nesky
ElephantPride@aol.com

We hope to expand our outreach programs in March, and we are looking for volunteers. We would like to increase our presence at the Jacaranda Library and expand to the new library on the island. We also would like to set up a table at the weekly Farmer's Market in Englewood. **We can't do it without your help!**

Our March speaker will be Supervisor of Elections Ron Turner, who will let us know what is happening for 2019 and 2020. He will also talk about the 2018 recounts.

Finally, a Commercial. For current members, please stop by the table to pay your dues for 2019! The dues keep the Club going. For the rest, please come to the March meeting and join the Club. We are the most active Republican club in the county!



RCSSC Booth at the Jewish Food Festival, February 18



Club Specialty Roles

Webmaster Role:

Chuck Ford

Cford1620@verizon.net

Sergeant-at-Arms Role:

John Finnigan

finney1933@gmail.com

Bylaws Role: Chuck Ford

Cford1620@verizon.net

Parliamentarian Role:

Robert Sprague

robt2@comcast.net

Monthly RCSSC Executive Board Meeting

Will be held at the Frances T. Bourne Jacaranda Library Conference Room on Wednesday, March 6 from 11:00 to 12:30 PM..

Past Presidents:

Immediate Past President:

Tom Van Dyke (2017-2018)

Barbara Vaughn (2015-2016)

John Harrison (2013-2014)

Peachie DeYoung (2011-2012)

Ron Filipkowski (2009-2010)

Jack Malone (2007-2008)

Barbara Hines (2006)

Don O'Nesky (2004-2005)

Richard Brady (2003)

Francis Kendrick (2001-2002)

Russell Strange (1999-2000)

Dave Brown (1998)

Harold Hart (1997)

The RCSSC welcomes letters to the editor or articles from members for publication in *The Patriot* newsletter. The letter or article should be brief and appropriate for our Republican readers. Please include sources for articles other than your own. Send articles to newsletter editor Gladys Green via e-mail or snail mail: gladysg33@comcast.net; 330 W. Baffin Dr., Venice, FL34293. Deadline for articles to be submitted is the 20th of each month.

SOTU Trump a Unifying Visionary Leader, by John Michael Chambers , February 6, 2019.

(John Michael Chambers was born and raised in New York and has traveled across much of the United States as well as over a dozen countries. He presently resides in the state of Florida. He is the author of seven books including *Trump and the Resurrection of America*.)

Trump is redirecting humanity. Absolutely amazing ! President Trump brilliantly and expertly delivered perhaps one of the most powerful, impactful and unifying SOTU speech's in history. President Trump was indeed "Presidential" and delivered a powerful speech reminding us of our unique and extraordinary American greatness, restoring our pride and love for country, restoring our confidence in the hope and promise that our finest days lie ahead. The president spoke of creating a new standard of living for the 21st century for an amazing quality of life, better than ever before. A sense of protection through his leadership, demonstrated success, and a clear unwavering vision for America, Trump broke down barriers of doubt, fear and concern for the challenging, dangerous, frustrating and often fearful and divisive times in which we live. This is what true leaders do. They inspire and unite for a common cause. The cause is freedom.



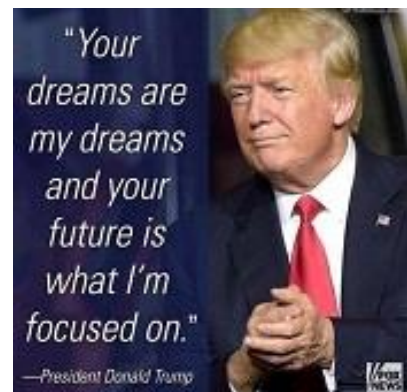
Sunshine Committee

If you know of any member who is sick, has been in the hospital, has lost a loved one, or who we have missed seeing at our meetings, call our Sunshine Chair Mary O'Nesky at 497-6454

Help Us Grow Our Club

We need volunteers to welcome new Republicans who move into the RCSSC area! You can help by contacting newcomers by mail and inviting them to come to our meetings.

If you can help, contact Don O'Nesky: elephantpride@aol.com



What Do the Terms Republic, Democracy, Socialism, and Communism Really Mean? by Randy Wedin *(Americans are being bombarded with some serious terms that I am sure not everyone understands. I'm using an analogy of lollipops to make them easier to understand.)*

REPUBLIC. America is a republic, which gives individuals the right to their own destiny. The majority rules, but the majority cannot take away someone's unalienable rights, as given by our Constitution. So, even though, for the sake of argument, 75% of Americans may prefer cherry-flavored lollipops, they cannot force their will upon those who like lollipops of other flavors.

DEMOCRACY. (Our republic is often confused as a democracy.) In a democracy, the majority rules but with no unalienable Constitutional rights to protect individuals. Some industries can be abolished by the majority, and strict laws can regulate certain other industries and personal rights. Our Constitution would be abolished and replaced by mob rule. In our analogy, under a democracy those preferring cherry-flavored lollipops could force non-cherry-flavored lollipops out of existence, and only cherry lollipops would be allowed.

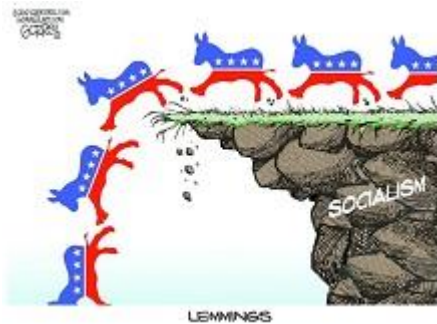
SOCIALISM. Under socialism, everything is intensely government controlled. Those industries that are critical to the government are nationalized, although personal ownership of some small businesses and homes is possible. Usually all lands and resources are owned by the government. Critical industries to the government, such as energy, manufacturing, airlines, banks, hospitals, are owned by the government. For our analogy, lollipops would be controlled by prices, availability, quantity, and quality.

Under the current wave of socialism here in America, fossil fuels would be banned and only renewable fossil fuels at exorbitant prices would be legal. (By the way, socialist democrats own nearly all the proprietary rights to renewable fuels, which puts them in line to make billions of dollars if fossil fuels are outlawed and only renewable fuels are allowed.) Guns would be outlawed, along with our ability to lawfully assemble and protest the mob rules. All the Bill of Rights and amendments we cherish now would be eliminated.

Our lollipops would be cherry-flavored or whatever flavor the ruling class prefers and their size and quality would also be determined. No citizen would have the right to protest because our freedom of speech and other unalienable rights that we currently enjoy under the Constitution would be gone.

COMMUNISM. Communism is an extreme form of socialism in that the government owns everything. Everyone is supposed to be equal, but current and past examples have proved to be anything but equal. The government can dictate that only cherry lollipops are sold at huge prices only on Tuesdays and Fridays, and are rationed. Yet, the ruling class is "more equal" than the mere comrades and can buy everything without rationing. In our example, they not only can have cherry lollipops, but all the other flavors as well. And the low-life comrades cannot protest, or they will find themselves in some camp working for the government for free.

I personally cannot see how anyone would prefer socialism to our republic, but the socialist democrats are pushing hard, and we as republicans must fight them with our lives.



In Memorium -- Harry Walia

We are sad to announce that Harry Walia passed away on January 27 while attending a family wedding in India. Harry was a longtime member and faithful volunteer for our South County Club, working on many campaigns, especially that of Senator Marco Rubio. One of his proudest moments was when he and his late wife Dianna were invited to dinner with President Trump.

There have been no arrangements in the U.S. as yet. Any forthcoming information will be announced.

Cities are Bracing for 2020 Census Chaos, *msn news*, by Kriston Capps, January 26, 2019, Submitted by Maryellin Kirkwood, Excerpts.

The first federal court decision about the Trump administration's efforts to add a citizenship question to the 2020 U.S. Census did not leave much room for debate. U.S. District Court Judge Jesse M. Furman's 277-page ruling, described as "crystal clear" and "remarkably restrained" by constitutional scholars and lawyers, outlined what Furman called a "veritable smorgasbord" of administrative law violations by Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross, who misled Congress when he said that the Department of Justice had originally requested the citizenship question.

But this court's decision won't be the last word in the matter. On Tuesday, a federal court in Maryland began hearing a suit brought forward by the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund and Asian Americans Advancing Justice that argues that Ross, President Donald Trump, former Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach, and former White House advisor Stephen Bannon conspired to deprive minorities of equal representation. That's just one of eight pending challenges (not counting appeals) over the citizenship question.

Whether the 2020 count features a question about citizenship will likely fall to the U.S. Supreme Court—maybe even before an appeals court takes up the case, if the Department of Justice gets its way. Any decision will come too late for leaders responsible for preparing for a census that already faces unique challenges. Some of those obstacles have nothing to do with the lofty constitutional questions before the court—from the tech uptake associated with putting the census online for the first time to the task of hiring more than half a million census takers in a strong economy.

For James Diosa, the young Latino mayor of Central Falls, Rhode Island—a Providence suburb of 19,000 residents with a Latino population upward of 70 percent—anxiety over the 2020 census is far from abstract. Ross announced the citizenship question in March 2018, just as the U.S. Census Bureau was conducting its one and only end-to-end test run in Providence County.

"I still recall the moment when the test trial was going on and the citizenship question was introduced, weeks after the forms went out," Diosa says. "People were confused. They didn't understand whether the citizenship question was going to be on the test or not. It was just very confusing and disorganized."

Finding enough census takers to actually conduct the 2020 count is going to be a job in itself. The Census Bureau needs to hire a small army of temporary field workers to complete its mission. Hiring could be a hitch for the census. Given the fact that the unemployment rate fell to a 49-year low of 3.7 percent in November, it may be hard to field enough workers (assuming the jobless rate stays more or less unchanged).

The first thing community groups can do is recruit census field workers. While an online census will be more convenient for some respondents, it will be all the more difficult for others; community groups can help. The census isn't just a priority for charitable groups: Local chambers of commerce have a role to play in making sure the count is accurate, since data from the census will inform business decisions over the next decade.



The census determines how some \$800 billion in federal spending is divided every year between funds for transportation, aid for housing and healthcare, and more. A court decision that adds an untested question to the census will only exacerbate the challenges ahead.

Even if the 2020 census proceeds without a citizenship question, it may be hard to allay the fears that this debate has provoked. As difficult as the task may be now, it could get worse.



Get Ready—They’re Coming for Your Money, by Simon Black, *sovereignman.com*, January 2, 2019, Submitted by Allyx Young, Excerpts.

Every so often throughout history, the peasants grab their pitchforks and come for the elite. It happens when the wealth gap grows too extreme--when people feel like they are getting left behind, with no opportunity to advance.

Since 2009, the world’s billionaires more than doubled their combined wealth. All the billionaires in the world had \$3.4 trillion in 2009. By 2017, they amassed \$8.9 trillion, a massive, almost incomprehensible amount of wealth. These people are wealthy for a reason. Typically, they’re pretty good at making money. For the last ten years, we’ve seen huge asset price inflation in everything from the stock market, to bonds and real estate, and even fine art and wine. But if you’re a wage earner without assets, you’ve been left out. Wages and median household wealth have stagnated. And this is a global issue...

People feel trapped, like they have no path to prosperity. They see money thrown around by the government, and the rich. But where is theirs? Throughout history, whenever the wealth gap gets large enough, it corrects; sometimes that happens through legislation and sometimes through violence. People demand that their politicians forcefully redistribute the wealth. And the politicians, hungry for more power, are happy to do that. We’re starting to see this in America today.

The new star of Congress, Alexandra Ocasio-Cortez, supports income taxes up to 70%, free medical care, free college, a chicken in every pot. She blames capitalism for everything wrong with the U.S., and the ideas of this 29-year-old congresswoman are actually taking root—economist Paul Krugman thinks 70% is too low. According to Gallup, 51% of 18-29 year-olds view socialism favorably. Only 45% view capitalism positively, down from 68% in the same age group just a few years ago. And membership in the Democratic Socialists of America has swelled 7 times in the last two years.

How much is a billion? Submitted by Jacob Scheeres, Excerpts.

(We don’t know the specific origins of this piece illustrating the enormousness represented by the number one billion, but it’s reasonably accurate as far as the arithmetic goes. Snopes.com.)

A billion is a difficult number to comprehend, but one advertising agency did a good job of putting that figure into perspective in one of its releases:

A billion seconds ago it was 1959.

A billion minutes ago Jesus was alive.

A billion hours ago our ancestors were living in the Stone Age.

A billion days ago no one walked on the earth on two feet.

A billion dollars ago was only 8 hours and 20 minutes, at the rate Washington spends it.

Few taxes existed 100 years ago and our nation was the most prosperous in the world. We had absolutely no national debt. We had the largest middle class in the world. And Mom stayed home to raise her kids.

What happened? Politicians! And I still have to press “1” for English.



Their candidates are crowding the 2020 primary: Elizabeth Warren, Bernie Sanders, and Julian Castro all believe in “free stuff.” Senator Corey Booker and Senator Kirsten Gillibrand want a federal guaranteed jobs program to hand out cushy government job with benefits to anyone who wants one. Now that California Senator Kamala Harris is officially in the race, she endorsed AOC’s call for a 70% tax rate and won’t rule out banning private car ownership to address climate change. Her campaign slogan is “For the people.” Her campaign colors are red and yellow without the hammer and sickle.

All of these new socialist candidates want to take your money and redistribute it to the people who keep them in power. Next there will be more unaffordable government spending, more bureaucracy, and central planning. All promise to take your money and do with it what they see fit, but none of this works. It drags everyone down and lifts up only the politically connected. We’ve seen it a million times before throughout history.

Unfortunately, it seems like the trend of American socialism is picking up steam. These presidential candidates (along with many voters) are determined to turn America into yet another failed experiment in socialism.



Progressives Bearing Gifts, by Victor Davis Hanson, *American Greatness*, February 10th, 2019, Excerpts.

Donald Trump in 2016 did not only run against the planted rumors of the fake Steele dossier, 90 percent negative media coverage, his own boisterous past, and the “Access Hollywood” tape. He also was campaigning against Hillary Clinton—and the nation’s quarter-century weariness with the Clinton scandals, crimes, money-grubbing, and hypocrisies. For a quarter of the country, independents especially, a vote for Trump was not a referendum on a Democrat or Republican, or even love or hate for Donald Trump, but rather reflected a “Never Hillary” desire to be done with the very name Clinton. So, too, in 2020 Trump will not be running only on his own record, or even his person but also against a living and breathing alternative candidate. Considering all of that, during the last week Trump has been given great gifts in a way no one might have imaged just a month ago.

Trump in 2020 won’t have to smear anyone: the Democrats have largely done that to themselves. Policy-wise the 2020 choice will be between Trump’s mostly doctrinaire conservatism, spiced with populist trade and immigration agendas, and what is a now a new Democrat orthodoxy of Bernie Sanders’ adolescent socialism and incoherent Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez’s Neverland something or other.



Trump legitimately will be able to say of a 2020 opponent, "Candidate X wants over the next 10 years to junk your present car, to scrap your combine, to stop your jet travel, to ban your cruise ship, to take away your lawn mower and snow blower, to outlaw your snowmobiles and jet skis, to shut down the fracking industry, the heavy equipment manufacturing sector (I doubt there will be a replacement battery-powered Cat D-11), the pipeline and rail business, and to make every homeowner an indebted remodeler, refitting his house while for all his green trouble and expense he still will be paying more for solar and wind-generated electricity.

Trump can legitimately also say to an independent or swing voter, "You may not like my tweets, but you will really won't like infanticide, a 70 percent income tax, a diluted Medicare for everyone including those who have never paid a dime into the system, open borders, and guaranteed incomes for all." In other words, for the all the NeverTrump hysteria over Trump's "nationalist-populist agenda," his record so far is so far arguably more Reaganesque than either of the Bush presidencies or what was likely to come from McCain or Romney.

Republicans were wise enough to let progressives play out the entire psychodrama. They allowed social justice warriors to sort out the hierarchies of progressive identity politics, whether #MeToo trumped identity politics, or whether "she must be believed" was now "he must be believed," or whether due process and statutes of limitations had returned, or whether those who shout loudest "racist!" do so in self-doubt that they themselves suffer from what they accuse.

Donald Trump was lucky in having such a motley crew of enemies. Or were these liberal embarrassments in part due to Trump's own political cunning in helping to rip off the thin veneer to reveal something quite ugly beneath? And now? Donald Trump might be in the unique position of being a bit more quiet in order to let his opponents speak for, and thereby reveal more of, themselves.

RCSSC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM -- PLEASE PRINT

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CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____ CELLPHONE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

SPOUSE NAME _____

NEW _____ RENEWAL _____

ANNUAL DUES ARE \$25.00 PER PERSON AND \$15.00 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL FAMILY MEMBER. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO RCSSC. SEND TO: RCSSC, P.O. BOX 352, VENICE, FL 34285-035



President Trump says, "This is not another caravan, it's the 2020 democrat presidential candidates.

Quotations, Submitted by Don O'Nesky

"The Republic was not established by cowards; and cowards will not preserve it ...

This will remain the land of the free only so long as it is the home of the brave."
Elmer Davis (1890-1958), American writer, commentator

"Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success."
Edward Everett Hale

"There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure."
Colin Powell

"A people that values its privileges above its principles soon loses both."
President Dwight D. Eisenhower, (1890-1969), First inaugural address, 20 January 1953

"Any man who thinks he can be happy and prosperous by letting the government take care of him better take a closer look at the American Indian."
Henry Ford