

Josephine County Republican

Women

February, 2024



County Commissioner Candidates Come to our Club

For our January meeting, we had a full house who had come to hear the five candidates for Josephine County Commissioner. Each one introduced themselves, then in turn answered five questions compiled by the Executive Board that were pertinent to the position. These questions and answers were put into a chart for easy comparison. (See last page).

The members and guests then had a chance to ask questions of their own. It was an very informative meeting and we look forward to other candidates coming to speak with our club.

The Republican candidates who have filed so far are Gary Richardson, David Twitchell, and Chris Barnett for Position 2. For Position 3, Ron Smith and Nathan Gonzales. (David Twitchell withdrew 1/24). Colene Martin has now also filed for Position 2.

Rhiannon Henkels, Josephine County Clerk February 20th, JoCRW meeting

We are very fortunate to be able to have our county clerk, Rhiannon Henkels, speak to our club this month.

You'll want to pay close attention as she explains several important aspects of election information. Besides bringing voter registration forms, she'll also have the SEL105 form for becoming a PCP. She'll share with us some of the important dates and deadlines connected to elections.

Have you ever gotten a ballot in the mail that wasn't yours? Rhiannon will talk about the correct thing to do with that ballot — and it isn't tossing it in the waste basket, which, I've know is what so many people do. When a ballot is returned to the clerk's office, they're able to correct the voter information, which is so desperately needed.



**Welcome New
Members !
Carol Olson,
Yvonne Herrala,
& Associate
Member Chris
Barnett**

Welcome
to **Susie Wheaton** who
filled the Treasurer
vacancy and **Marian
Szewc** who will fill the f
Membership/ 2nd VP
vacancy. We appreciate
these two talented club
members who agreed to
help us by stepping into
these two positions.

Just what is a Caucus anyway???

Iowa just had their Caucus. I've heard about these for years but never have understood the difference between a caucus and a primary. So, I decided I might not be alone about that.

At a caucus, members of a political party get together to debate which candidate is the best one for the position. Someone will try to persuade others in the group to be on the side of who that person is in favor of, while others are likely to campaign for their own choices. The group finally gets around to voting for candidates, but it was traditionally done by raising hands and being counted, not doing the vote by secret ballot. To me, this seems like a fair and simple way to choose a candidate; trying to persuade the others in the group to vote for their person. Not unlike choosing a school senior class president by counting the raised hands in the auditorium. It's all done in one day and you know the outcome.

Could voting be so easy? Raise your hand. Count. Announce the winner.

I found this little bit of Iowa Caucus history in an AP News article by Will Weissert and Steve Peoples as I was researching:

Iowa assumed its position as the state that votes first for a presidential nominee more than 50 years ago. But its 1972 caucuses didn't feel very historic. Two folding tables at state Democratic Party headquarters were enough to accommodate all staff and media present. No TV cameras rolled. Results from around the state trickled in on two phone lines because the party didn't want to pay

for a third. Just one person, a then-25-year-old anti-Vietnam War activist who helped engineer the Iowa caucuses, did the counting. I did borrow a memory calculator to speed up the process," recalled Richard Bender, now 78, with

a laugh. "That was state of the art."



SOMETHING NEW!

ADVERTISING IN OUR NEWSLETTER. SEE THE LAST PAGE FOR WHO'S ALREADY STARTED THE BALL ROLLING. CONTACT LINDA SMITH FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO PLACE YOUR AD FOR OUR MEMBERSHIP & BEYOND.

Do You Ever Wonder How an Elected Official Voted on Important Issues?

These sites allow you to see the voting scorecards for US Representatives in the House and members of Congress. You also can track legislation on these websites. I recently researched our own U.S. Congressman, Cliff Bentz, to see his voting record over time.

<https://justfacts.votesmart.org/candidate/>

<https://ballotpedia.org>

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members>

<https://heritageaction.com/scorecard>

<https://scorecard.lev.org>

<https://www.digital.cpac.org>

***We recently did
an online
Fundraiser
through
See's Candy.
Thank you to
each one who
participated in
that fundraiser!
We'll be doing it
again soon. - so
be watching your
email for the
announcement!***

***Meeting
Information
to put on your calendar-
11:15 AM- 1:00 PM
Grants Pass Golf Club
230 Espey Rd.
February 20th
March 19th
April 16th
May 21st (Voting Day)
June 18th
July 16th - District
Director's Meeting;
August 20th
September 17th
October 15th
November 19th
December 17th - Club
Christmas Party***

*Meeting times can run a
bit longer during
candidate presentations.*

What's the Matter With Us

By Richard Koury

What is the biggest reason for the mess in our country and the world?

Is it gun availability, drug addiction, open borders, crime, government corruption? No, these are effects of another cause.

Guns do not kill people- people do, drugs do not addict people- people do, borders do not self-open, people open them, crime does not erupt- people do bad things, governments are not intrinsically corrupt, people now in government are.

The big question is what motivates people to cause these ill and devastating effects on our society. The answer is very simple – we as a people, as a culture have lost our moral compass. Our basic understanding of right and wrong and truth and falsehood have evaporated and have given way to the idea that every individual can properly decide for themselves what is right and wrong or true or false. Postmodernism has been introduced into our society and converted us to a twisted way of thinking which leads to chaos.

This country was founded and developed on Judaeo/Christian ideals and values given by God. In the case of America, it was Protestant ideals, carried over by the English pilgrims seeking religious freedom from the dictatorial Church of England, that influenced the founding fathers.

Samuel Adams once said the following-***“Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other”.*** ***Adams, and many others, believed that in a society riddled with vices, the various mechanisms created by the Constitution would not be able to function properly, with the result that the democratic republican order would be eventually supplanted by despotism.***

Many folks wonder how this Cultural Revolution happened and the answer is described very precisely in the book By Chris Rufo titled ----AMERICA'S CULTURAL REVOLUTION

This revolution was initiated and orchestrated by the likes of Communist Angel Davis, the Weathermen, and Herbert Marcuse. Angela Davis conspired with the Weathermen to engage in anarchy and destruction of property in the 60s. Herbert Marcuse is considered to be the Father of the revolution. After violence failed to produce the intended results, the idea was put forth by Marcuse and other Left Wingers to infiltrate and transform education, then the media, followed by corporations, and then government, religious, and other institutions.

Operating in the sixties and seventies, the cultural revolution seed was planted, and it bore fruit in the 90s when universities had been successfully inundated with left-wing socialist professors. From the mid-90s to this day the number of people registering as “religious non -affiliates” took a sharp upward increase and continues to this day such that 23% of Americans now fall into this category. This represents approximately 59 million people. And that figure continues to grow at the same elevated rate.

Religious hierarchies are alarmed and have increased their evangelization efforts to get folks back in the fold and enhance the Judeo-Christian ideals upon which this country was founded. This, however, will never have much effect until the aggressive Marxist cultural revolutionaries, (Progressive Left} are removed or minimized from their positions of power.

Chris Rufo, the author of the above-mentioned book has recently released a manifesto as to how to accomplish this. Below is a link to that writing. I think his idea is worth reviewing and joining the effort to take back our country. **What about you?**

Click on this link or paste it in your browser's address line:

https://catholicvote.org/chris-rufo-writes-manifesto-on-new-right-activism-following-gay-resignation/?mkt_tok=NDI3LUxFUS0wNjYAAAGQjPev3gG6Vhowpj3WwAZUtyHrwmHiAYBHIAB91bCLqHLxKYiX5VIXuR4lqK1gUKYBYiRBByo6bS5OtwrVuitlBrdNPXT-sxBYu8wEyuCg

(Editor's note; Richard is an Associate Member of JoCRW, who has written several opinion pieces and editorials for our newsletter.)



A Message from Your President

Well, here we are at the start of another year. Time goes way too fast, it seems. We started the year off with County Commissioner candidates, and this month we're following this month with our County Clerk, Rhiannon Henkels who will talk about important Election Information. I touched on being a PCP briefly earlier. What I've come to learn is that being a PCP is a very important part of the voting process. You can hold meetings in your home for neighbors, be part of a phone bank, send postcards, send out emails – you have so many options for making sure the Republicans you're helping have the answers they need to make good, solid informed choices when they vote.

I had an interesting invitation recently. District 7 is having small "round table" discussions with various community leaders. They will be having several of these meetings at the District office, and I was invited to join the first meeting by Cassie Wilkins, School Board Chair, and a member of our club. It was a good cross-section of community leaders who asked questions about student achievement, lowering the basic graduation requirements, transparency in the classrooms for parents, and a host of other questions on pertinent issues. I had a chance to meet Tim Sweeney, Superintendent of District 7 schools, and I liked him immediately. I found him to be open and forthcoming, and willing to discuss whatever issues we had on the agenda. I'm hoping Cassie and I have another chance to have a "coffee chat" about Dist. 7, and maybe Mr. Sweeney will be able to join us.

The club is going to be continuing the rewarding task of getting Pocket Constitutions to students both in homeschool classes and public schools. Indra Nicholas has agreed to be the Chair of this very worthwhile community outreach activity, but she can't do it alone. Please think seriously about helping us put Constitutions in the hands of students., after first getting a request from a teacher who includes U.S. History or Civics - at any level. They will receive enough for every student in their class, and even some lesson aids if they choose, free of charge. Indra and I want to be a part of this important project so the next generation understands the importance of our Constitution. Please think about joining us!

Thank you for all you do for our club and our county.
—Linda

Your Executive
Board -

President
Linda Smith
photolinda58@gmail.com

1st VP
Lenora Swift
lenoraswift@yahoo.com

2VP/Membership
Marian Szewc
marianandsusan@windermere.com

Secretary
Dee Dee Smith
deedeesmith2022@gmail.com

Treasurer
Susie Wheaton
susie.wheaton@yahoo.com

Past President
Terri Millard
timterrimillard@gmail.com

Thank you to our Committee Chairs!

Kathy Coelho - Volunteer Hours Chair &
OFRW Awards Chair

Felicia Lovett -BylawsChair

Indra Nicholas- Education Chair' Constitution
in the Schools

Judy Ahrens - Education Committee Co-
Chair

Catherine Healy - Phone Tree Special
Committee Chair

Executive Board meetings are held the first Tuesday of
each month, 11:30 AM, at the Grants Pass Golf Club.

If you have questions or concerns you would like the
board to discuss, please get them to any board member
at least 2 days prior to our meetings.

Advertise in our Newsletter!

Rates are really reasonable!

A 2 x 3.5 inch space is \$50 for the entire year. I'll guarantee at least 4 issues, but my goal is to have 8-10 issues a year, building to one every month. I will reproduce your business card, your photo or insert any information you'd like. Just send it to me, Linda Smith at photolinda58@gmail.com. **3 lines to describe something you have for sale = \$5 for each newsletter until you sell that item.**



Since I want people to see both sides of my card, I took 2 spots for front and back. This will be charged for 2 spaces.

YOUR
BUSINESS
CARD
OR
AD
COULD
BE
RIGHT
HERE!

QUESTIONS	NATHAN GONZALES.	RON SMITH	GARY RICHARDSON	CHRIS BARNETT
What is your stand on taxes for Josephine County?	Government is inefficient. There are other ways to generate revenue. I will find a better way.	No new taxes. I'm opposed to Taxing Dist. We're taxed too much. No new taxes unless it's voted in. Smaller govt. is best.	Taxes are necessary. Zero taxes aren't the answer. Community issues should be dedicated to specific taxes.	I feel there should be a requirement that 50% of the population should vote to pass a new tax. I will be a steward of the tax money.
What is your position on the Proposed County Charter with 5 Commissioners?	It's bigger govt. It's not better. It will allow gerrymandering. The city will be speaking for the County.	No. People in charge will only pay attention to their district. It's a liberal charter. It's socialism. You would only get to vote for two.	All 4 are in a part of GP. The 5 th is not. It changes the way our Charter currently is. I oppose it the way it is written.	It's creating bigger govt. It will take longer to approve things. They'll only care about their own district. They'll be just like the City Council. Always be fighting amongst themselves.
What is your experience preparing and authorizing a budget?	I own The Ground Guys Landscape Company a franchise out of Texas. You must set goals and track them.	Budget Committee decides. 90% is pass-through money. 10% is discretion. Grant money is other people's money. We've lost our authority.	I've worked in a small office for 30 yrs. Worked with School Board Budget which is larger than the County's budget. I have lots of experience. As an engineer, I'm efficient.	You must allocate money where it's needed. Gov't. wastes money. We have our resources. You must be a good steward.
Are you endorsed by Oregon Right To Life?	Right now, no. I support it and will be filling it out.	Just filling out my application. I was in the past.	No, not currently. Was in the past.	I'm a Republican and I believe in it.
Explain what "ordinances" mean to the public and what would be your first to implement?	I agree with Ron Smith. I wouldn't add any more ordinances, let the people vote. Only a few should be making the rules.	There are too many laws. We have a representative form of gov't. A Republic. I will serve the people and listen to them. I don't want more laws. I want to cut regulations.	Ordinances are a social contract. It's how much we're going to be represented. I'm a limited gov't guy. Get rid of ordinances and regs over people.	I am working on homeless problems here. I've reached out to the mayor's office and other officials to get people behind them. We need to combine our resources.