

# KICKIN' NEWS

Publisher Low Democratic Club

APRIL 2016



## EDITOR'S LETTER

BY: CHRIS CARR

The club has presented excellent programs this year - an author, historian, and in April gerrymandering. It takes effort to get these speakers, match the date and get diversity in topics. So, please mark the meeting date and attend. When someone tells me they had a hair appointment, I must admit I roll my eyes.

Also, don't forget dues is due. \$25.00 - send check made to LOW Democratic Club to Jim Donovan 2101 Lakeview Pkwy. or better yet, bring it to a meeting.

Note new section in News - "Busy Members" . Let me know about you. It's surprising how many talented and involved members we have.

When we get our candidate, we'll be working hard. Be ready !!

BLUE POWER !!!!!

## WORDS FROM THE CHAIR

BY: Shirley Pfile

It is good to know that winter is behind us and the spring flowers are beautiful. The campaign for President is getting more weird by the moment. I believe the 2016 run for President will make the history books.

We have recently received word that we have a candidate to run against Dave Bratt. Her name is Eileen Bedell and I am hearing really good things about her. We hope to have her visit Lake of the Woods very soon.

Enjoy the spring weather and think of what role you can play in the coming election.

\*\*\*\*\*

[bedellforvirginia.com](http://bedellforvirginia.com)

Check it out !!!!!!!

## BRAT & THE 7<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT

BY: Chris Carr

Dave Brat, a member of the Freedom Caucus, emerged from working in the General Assembly. From 2005 - 2011, he was an advisor to Walter Stotch, who was a co-chair of the Finance Committee. When Brat wanted to run for office Cantor and his buddies chose the son of the guy who runs Dominion Energy.

Brat was so angry, he ran against Cantor in 2014. The time was right, he won and the other Republicans loathe him. Check out a recent "Meet the Press." Two Republicans treated him with disdain.

Now the Federal Court is preparing to redraw Republican-set districts considered racially gerrymandered. If the 7<sup>th</sup> district is on this list, it could be "bye" to Brat, Henrico County is heavily Democrat and parts of the deep GOP in the district could be removed. Wouldn't that ease your soul and really make you work hard for our Democratic candidates



# KICKIN' NEWS

Publisher LOW DEM CLUB

APRIL 2016

PAGE 2

## TO "MEANDERINGS"

BY: Chris Carr

Since our dear Lyn has passed, there will be no more "Meanderings". We will miss her wise observations, quick wit and humor. However, Lyn left a last gift of writing. As one of the very first residents of Lake of the Woods, she had written a very informative history of LOW.

The James Madison Museum of Orange is creating a display and information about LOW, since it is the fiftieth anniversary of the community. The museum was pleased to accept her writings as part of this Orange history.

Lynn was an asset to our community and our club and I shall very much miss her lively conversation and friendship.

\*\*\*\*\*

**SOMETHING TO PONDER:**  
"Too many people miss the silver lining, because they're expecting gold."

## BUSY MEMBERS

BY: CHRIS CARR

Our club had a table at the Lioness Flea Market, March 19, We sold some Constitution books, a few mugs, some took pamphlets about the club, and we talked to many people. Also, sold a few flower arrangements. One man said, "I didn't know there were any Democrats here!" Whatever he meant, we're here. Jim Donovan and Chris Carr manned the booth  
Dems represent !

Sheila Clark has been elected the President of the Orange County Democrats. Also, her beautiful dog, Shamus, has been trained and is now a library dog.

Dems are for education !

Shirley Pfile was at the Flea Market with her "Beads by Shirley." "All unique and lovely. She has many regular customers.

Dems are creative!

## PROGRAM- JAMES MADISON MUSEUM - ORANGE

BY: C.Carr

Jaine Blair, author and historian, head of James Madison Museum, presented an informative and educational program on the life of James Madison. Did you know James was 42 and Dolly was 27 when they wed? She also brought a reading chair that was a gift to Madison from Jefferson.

The program was on Sunday, young people attended, which always pleases us. Fancy desserts and beverages were provided by Special Events. As I always say, if you missed it, you really missed it.

\*\*\*\*\*

Look ! No Book !

Sorry, I know you look forward to Diane's book reviews. She fractured her arm, "a little broken-winged bird." She'll be back next issue.

# KICKIN' NEWS

Publisher LOW DEM CLUB

APRIL 2016

PAGE 3

## NEWS ON REDISTRICTING

BY: C. CARR

Our gerrymandered districts are once again coming to the attention of the voters. Many bills are proposed, but never get out of committee. We all know the reason for that.

The latest try is SB 31. It was referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections; introduced by L. Louise Lucas, delegates Heretick and Kory.

SB 31- provides for the establishment of a Virginia Interim Redistricting Commission. When any Congressional or State Legislative district drawn as required by article 2 section 6 of the Constitution of Virginia is declared unlawful or unconstitutional in whole or part, by order of any state or Federal Court; the commission is tasked with determining and submitting to the General Assembly and the Governor a redistricting plan.

The bill also provides criteria by which the Commission is to draw remedial districts. There would be 7 members; 4 votes make a decision; 5 votes for final approval.

For the Commission to act , a court order is needed; then 45 days to declare a district unconstitutional.

These are the bills that die in committee. These are the bills that should prompt us to contact our legislators.

+++++

### POESY

"A planet does not explode of itself", said dryly

The Martian astronomer, gazing off into the air -

"That they were able to do it is proof

That highly intelligent beings must have been living there"

John Hall Wheelock

Kind of reminds me of the GOP candidates !

## DEMOCRATS PICNIC

BY: C. Carr

Our picnic will be on June 15, 5:00 in the Community Center. We're hoping to have a candidate in attendance. Keep your fingers crossed. Three baskets filled with goodies and a diamond etched martini set will be raffled. Good food, good friends, good politics. Price same as last year. Save the date.

+++++

### LUNCH FOR KIDS

On April 3, 7 of our members had lunch at the Club House. 18% of our checks went to Shining Hands, a group that provides meals for needy elementary children on the week-ends. 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners, 2 snacks. You might remember a member of the group attended our March meeting and spoke to us. We did something helpful and had a good time too !



# KICKIN' NEWS

Publisher LOW Dem Club

APRIL 2016

PAGE 4

## "GET 'EM OUTTA HERE!"

BY: Laurie Sale

The date is March 19, 2016, in Tuscon, AZ. A Donald Trump rally is getting underway. One young man of color, named Tony Pettway, stood in the background listening to Donald Trump speak. After about 20 minutes of Trump's nonsensical pontificating, a protester next to Tony shouts out a few choice statements about the Donald's commentary on immigrants. Of course, Mr. Trump does not like what he is hearing nor do his ardent supporters. In response to the protester (who is protected by the first amendment) Trump shouts, "GET 'EM OUTTA HERE!", to which his legions of admirers shout and scream in gleeful agreement. That statement has quickly become the refrain Mr. Trump utilizes when he is confronted with any person who does not agree with his ill-informed and prejudiced opinions. If you are of the brown skin variety or happen to wear a hi-jab, I have news for you..., you are not welcome at a Trump rally.

His rallies have become nests of violence. Human beings are being punched, struck, and pulled and pushed to the ground. Over and over, people of color are leaving his rallies happy to still have their lives. It is not a welcoming place. You are immediately stared at and "watched" the entire time you are there. Don't make one wrong move and you will be swiftly dealt with.

All the while, Mr. Trump continues to push his harsh line on immigrants and carry on about building a wall that Mexico will pay for. All of which will never come true. But it doesn't matter. Mr. Trump keeps saying it. His supporters continue to believe it. Donald Trump is stirring up a volatile cocktail of misguided anger and racist rhetoric of which the likes have not been seen since the 1960's.

In 21<sup>st</sup> century America, in the age of President Obama, have we come to this ?

As a person of color myself, I am outraged and saddened all at the same time. It's been going on since the summer. One rally after another..... more violence and more - "GET 'EM OUTTA HERE !"

As the campaigns move forward to both conventions and ultimately the general election, it's looking very likely that Trump will be the Republican nominee for President of the United States. Are we, the American public, going to tolerate such behavior? Are we going to tolerate a man who is purposefully dividing our country all for his own ambitious ends ? Are we going to tolerate a man who is so obviously unfit for the American Presidency ? Or are we finally going to say to Mr. Trump himself .....

"GET 'EM OUTTA HERE !"



# KICKIN' NEWS

Publisher Lake of the Woods Democratic Club

April 2016

PAGE 5

## THE GOP AND ABORTION

BY: Chris Carr

I have noticed the Republican candidates are trying very hard to avoid discussing their radical views on abortion.

Ted Cruz would not allow abortion for rape, incest or the health of the mother. He feels doctors who perform the procedure should be jailed or put to death and women should be punished.

John Kasich left the campaign trail to rush back to Ohio, so he could sign a bill which totally defunded Planned Parenthood in the state.

Yet, these two now talk so softly, as they work to strip those "poor, confused women" of their rights. Why don't they just throw us in a breeding pen? Their attitudes are Medieval; Kasich knows it; Cruz is a religious zealot. Actions are even louder than words, and they are being hypocritical to get votes.

Then along comes Trump, who bumbles into - a woman should be punished for having an abortion!

They all call the woman the VICTIM ! This is their weasly way to disguise their true intention. They say they care about women and are protecting us from our "little deluded, misguided selves."

This is disgusting, disrespectful and treating us like stupid cows. This is also taking us backward again. The real agenda is to control women. How sad to make this pitiful, delusional, last stand.

Many spokesmen say women use abortion as birth control. There is no link with reality here. My these stupid cows are chewin' cud now. Seems women need the guidance by those who know better.

I remember when birth control became available. Only married women could get it , and if unsure about this, the woman had to produce a marriage certificate.

So, now the discussion is in full throat again. Trump ripped off the scab and now these candidates have to openly state their views. This is the last thing they wanted. However, it is written in the GOP party platform. Of course, no one will hear that read at the convention.

So now, the electorate can see the truth. The Republicans tried to get a distance from this one, because many, many Republican women do not share these views either. These candidates are not going to get away with covering up their Draconian views now. The "scarlet letter" is not appealing in 2016.

Trump's stupid gaffe, did us a favor. When someone praises these candidates, just might want to mention the truth. No more hiding under a rock for them. No woman wants to be treated as an immoral, duped victim!

# KICKIN' NEWS

Publisher LOW DEM CLUB

APRIL 2016

PAGE 6

## ONIONS & ORCHIDS

BY: Chris Carr

ONIONS TO: Ted Kruz - speaking about Trump, "I don't copulate with rats."

ORCHIDS TO: every rat who screamed, "YUCK!"

(Ah, the eloquence of GOP discourse.)

ONIONS TO: the Donald, when asked who advises him on policy matters, he replied, "Myself. I have a good brain."

ORCHIDS TO: Every neurologist and psychologist who just passed out.

ONIONS TO: John Kasich, who rushed off the campaign trail to sign an Ohio bill, which totally defunded Planned Parenthood.

ORCHIDS TO: his handlers, who have managed to hide this fact from the electorate.

(Where are Dem Super Pacs when they need them?)

ONIONS TO: Donald again - he says China is causing climate change, but he really worries about "nuclear climate change"

ORCHIDS TO: I don't even know to what - nuclear test bans, Nagasaki, Hiroshima?

(How about - he's just plain nuts !)

ONIONS TO: the Governor of North Carolina- signed a bill against gays, lesbians and transgender that is totally outrageous and discriminatory.

ORCHIDS TO: the NBA, NFL, Coca Cola, Disney and no Bruce Springsteen Concert - they said "Bye Bye."

( Millions gone - North Carolina - all in defense of religious freedom. No, in defense of prejudice!)

ONIONS TO: The Governor of Oklahoma, who denies the 900 earthquakes in the state are due to fracking.

ORCHIDS TO: Many rigs were shut down.

(Not due to responsible GOP governance -price of oil dropped. Alas, money, politics and damage is done)

Keep votin' Republican Sooners and Shake your Booty!

ONIONS TO: The GOP House and Senate for refusing to meet with, or let alone vote for the President's Supreme Court Nomine (What a stupid strategy. )

ORCHIDS TO: Our new Democratic President who will nominate a more liberal judge. (How about Usher or Michael Moore - Boy, I must be fed up!)

+++++

## SOMETHING TO PONDER

"No amount of philosophy will make up for a failure of common sense."



# KICKJIN' NEWS

Publisher LOW Dem Club

APRIL 2016

PAGE 7

## ISSUE - EASY WAY OUT

BY: Jim Donovan

In life we seem to choose the easy way out. All too often, we tend to feel we have little or no control over what happens in our daily lives. As we become "OLDER" ( more mature, experienced or wiser) we need to not look far to remember the past opportunities we have missed in our lives.

Politically, I feel I have missed the same number of opportunities in my personal and political life. I don't know if that's a good thing or not. I know it keeps me out of jail. In a country that's given so much, how often have we allowed our personal comforts to get in the way of being involved in the issues of our time? Could this be why we find ourselves fighting for the same issues we thought were behind us? Or is this our destiny, to keep our country true to its democratic principles as we enjoy them? Historically, we tend to blame mistakes on past generations .

The problem is, we tend to repeat our mistakes due to our willingness to move on, instead of sharing with the next generation. While our media, social and professional, are constantly trying to rewrite history. I feel then, it is more important for us to be involved. One of my favorite quotes from Mark Twain is, 'I'm amazed at how much my father had learned, between my 15<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> birthdays.' Hopefully, future generations will look back at us so kindly.

I do know that if we don't keep the conversation going, we have no one to blame but ourselves. By simply reading this article and continuing the conversation is an important first step. As a member of Labor, I have always felt if you tell the American worker the truth, they will always back they country they love.

As we all do !

In closing, in this political year, I leave you with this thought. All of us have too much to lose to repeat the past. We are the conscience of our country ! While it may not always be the most popular topic in the room,, we should never allow anyone to go unchecked when rewriting our history. Remember, this is all our history, as Americans we have fought too hard to get where we are right now.

\*\*\*\*\*

### STAFF :

EDITOR : Chris Carr  
BOOK: Diane Sibley  
ISSUES: Jim Donovan  
CIRCULATION: Pat Drake  
Kerry Sipe