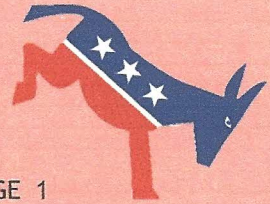


KICKIN' NEWS

Publisher LAKE OF THE WOODS DEMOCRATIC CLUB

JANUARY 2016

PAGE 1



EDITOR'S LETTER

2016 - the 6th Anniversary of "Kickin' News" which has endeavored to pass on important information, offer thought pieces, get members involved and add some dashes of humor. Keep reading, and feel free to submit articles or information. After all, this is our club's newsletter.

Yet, 2016 is even more important - this is THE election year ! It is of the utmost importance we elect a Democrat for President ! We are Progressives; we do not want to see our country taken backward, and that is exactly what the Republicans have in mind. Obama Care, women's rights, immigration reform, appointing Supreme Court justices - all this can be reversed. When you are called on to work for candidates - keep these things in mind.

As was shouted in the '60's 'If you're not part of the solution; you're part of the problem!'

BLUE POWER !!!!!

SOUL POWER !!!!!

NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

BY: Shirley Pfile

Happy 2016 to all of you. The year promises to be another busy time with the Presidential election in November. Think about what you can do to help elect Democratic candidates. We will be phone banking and hopefully sign up voters. I can't stress enough that it is so important to keep on the track that President Obama has set for us.

Our club will be in touch with the Democratic candidate's campaign. Many think phone banking is a waste of time. On the contrary, I called 700 numbers last election and many outcomes were positive. Please remember - We only call Democrats or leaning Democrat. So, please consider giving a bit of your time. Hey, my phone still works!

C. Carr

LEADERSHIP

CHAIR: Shirley Pfile

SECRETARY: Pat Drake

TREASURER: Gary Sibley

MEMBERSHIP: Mary Berger

PROGRAMS: Lalli Omar, Jim Donovan, Chris Carr

PUBLICITY: Kerry Sipe

COMMUNITY PROJECTS: Norma Lanier, Jan Moore

ISSUES: Jim Donovan

HISTORIAN: Chris Carr

SPECIAL EVENTS: Chris Carr

PAGES = 10

KICKIN' NEWS

January 2016

PAGE 2

SAVE THE DATE !!!!

MARCH 13 1:00 SUNDAY

LOWER LEVEL CLUBHOUSE

A very special program.

Jayne Blair, an accomplished writer and historian, will be presenting information on James Madison, the man and his life. She is involved with the James Madison Museum in Orange. She will also bring items from the museum that were owned by President Madison.

This will surely be an educational afternoon. Please bring a guest, or better yet, children and grandchildren.

Refreshments will be provided by Special Events.

Look for the article in Lake Currents. We are hoping for high attendance.

www.lowdemocrats.org

Our website and face book page, managed by Kerry Sipe, our Publicity Chair, is becoming quite popular. 360 hits on face book so far.

It is requested that members make comments on our face book and get more involved.

This service has a great purpose- to reach out to other Democrats, Independents and Republicans. It is invaluable in promoting our Club. We are so grateful to Kerry for starting the webpage, keeping this site so current and informative.

So, jump on face book, make a comment; could be fun. Also, check the website, it is always updated.

+++++

SOMETHING TO PONDER

"Success is important, but so is the way we choose to arrive there."

KICKIN' NEWS -OP ED!

BY: C. Carr

As previously stated, "Kickin'News" has been rolling along for 6 years. I started this endeavor, when I realized the Republican Club had one.

After I read it, and I will not comment on the content, I wondered why we didn't have one. You know what happens when you have a new idea? Of course, you get to do it. Believe me, I have enjoyed it. However, I have tried all kinds of ways to get members to contribute. A few do and you know who they are. And I really appreciate them.

So, a new Opinion page. Any member, past member or participant on our face book may submit. See? I keep trying! So, give it a go -we all have opinions.

ccarr333@comcast.net

Be BRAVE ! BE BOLD !

LOOK ! A BOOK !

BY: Diane Sibley

Once when I was a kid, I read a novel that took place during the years of the Barbary pirates. I apparently didn't like the book and didn't finish it, because until just recently I was still in the dark about who they were and why we fought them. I was looking for a book to give my history loving grandson and came across "Thomas Jefferson and the Tripoli Pirates - The Forgotten War that Changed American History." I bought a copy for Jake and one for myself for this quarter's issue of Kickin' News.

"T.J. and the Pirates" as I shall call it, was published in 2015 and quickly became a New York Times best seller. It's an easy read and succeeds in enlightening readers on the political issues revolving around the Adams and Jefferson presidencies as they related to conflicts as they related to conflicts in trade with England, France and other European countries.

The book is an action packed recounting of the North African pirates who supported despots and enriched themselves by stealing ships and goods and demanding monetary tribute from mostly British and French merchant vessels. For years European nations had come to believe that the best way to deal with these pirates and save their merchant ships was to pay tribute to the four Muslim nations of the Barbary Coast (Morocco, Tunis, Algiers and Tripoli,) and hope for the best.

The Barbary pirates were Muslims, a few turncoat Europeans and an assortment of thugs. The Muslims believed the Qur'an justified any actions taken against the Christians . Prisoners were starved, forced to break and carry rocks from the hills and mountains down to the sea and whipped for any perceived violation of rules. Prisoners could only be released if they escaped, converted to Islam. Or had their sentence nullified by tribute paid by their home country.

President Adams knew that our young and highly indebted nation could not afford the tribute that was being demanded, but America needed to build ships for trade and defense. We needed ships to carry our goods to Europe and we couldn't afford to lose a single one. He believed the U.S. should negotiate with the pirates, pay the tribute and build up our trade with Europe. While Jefferson understood the need for trade, he believed it was beneath the dignity of the United States to pay bribes to countries who supported piracy, captured, tortured and starved slaves and could not be trusted to honor any agreement they made to mend their ways. H also believed that the paying of tribute continued a very bad policy that could only lead to more of the same. Jefferson stepped up his efforts to take on the Barbary pirates.

(continued)

KICKIN' NEWS

LOW Democratic Club

January 2016

PAGE 4

ORCHIDS & ONIONS

BY: Chris Carr

The book is an exciting trip through the early history of our country, the beginnings of our navy and marine corps and an introduction to our largely forgotten early heroes. It is also a glimpse of the development of trade policies. But one of the most interesting things gained from the book is the realization of how little Islam has changed over the last two plus centuries. This really shouldn't surprise, I guess, since it hasn't changed that much over all the centuries that went before the 1800's.

Give "T.J. and the Pirates" a try. An easy read filled with heroes and history, religion and politics, thugs and thieves.

The more things change.....

ORCHIDS TO: Ted Cruz for delivering water bottles to the parents of lead poisoned children in Flint, Michigan.

ONIONS TO: Opportunistic Ready Teddy - the water only went to his supporters who are anti-abortion. (O.K. shut your shocked mouth - if you can)

In the 1800's they bought votes with booze. Hmm, babies, water, booze. I've got a word - BOOB !!!!

ORCHIDS TO: Gov. Le Paige (Maine) who staunchly protects the citizens from out of state drug dealers.

ONIONS TO: his comment - they are black, named Smoothie and before they leave impregnate a white girl. (mouth hangin' open again?)
Good Lord - I have no comment on this one; not one I can print.

ORCHIDS TO: Sarah Palin Her endorsement of Trump was the best entertainment ever.

ONIONS TO: Those who cheered, those who clapped, those who thought she made sense, those who liked her glitzy silvery bed jacket! (I tried to use her jarring syntax "those who? Say what?)

ACH !!! The whole travesty makes me want to swear in German Can you say "Dumkoff? Schweinhund? Oh, there I go again, lipstick on a
(I think my grandma would scold me for that one!)

SOMETHING TO PONDER

"The issues are never simple. One thing I'm proud of is that very rarely will you hear me simplify the issues."

President Barak Obama

A SMALL PART OF OUR PRESEDENTIAL LEGACY

BY: Lois Griffin Powell

What exactly is a legacy? Well, I looked it up in my Merriam Webster's Desk Dictionary.

LEGACY : Something that has come from a predecessor or the past.

President Obama is using executive order to enforce background checks. What? Oh my ! Yes! The President is trying to enforce existing gun laws. Heaven forbid! If he does that he may come for your cars, planes, food, or toys, because he wants to execute the laws that control these items, to make sure they are safe for all of us. Oh no, he's taking away our freedom.

HELP US SOMEONE !

Yes, many are yelling, because the President wants to enforce laws that already exist. This is an example of what he has had to deal with ever since he became President, yet he prevailed.

He succeeded in doing many things that the Republicans could not accomplish, and these actions will be part of his legacy; part of the history he is making as President. You already know many of them, but I thought I'd add to the growing list.

Iran captured our sailors when they sailed into their waters, whether by mistake or not. They were held prisoner for 16 hours. The naysayers have walked away with heavy disappointment. Oh yes, we should have bomb - bomb - bombed Iran.

Releasing the sailors in 16 hours made our President look weak. WHAT? They did parade them around for propaganda purposes, which is against the Geneva Convention, according to Meteor Blades. Yet, we aren't at war with Iran now, so maybe the regulations don't apply. I don't know about you, but I thank God they are safely home and unharmed.

Gee, I'm so sorry Republican candidates and Republicans. What a pain that President Obama is.

He wasn't supposed to turn this situation into a positive. Not only were the sailors freed, but 2 other Americans. As Meteor Blades writes: "The prisoner swap, the swift return of sailors who trespassed with their patrol boats inside Iran's territorial waters last week, and implementations of obligations in the nuclear agreement itself, all mark a triumph for the diplomatic efforts of the Obama administration."

Something else worth reading; and those who voted for the President - give yourselves a pat on the back.

"You Americans Have No Idea- Another Letter From Canada"

You Americans have no idea just how good you have it with Obama .

I shall list all the great things Canada put in their article that our President has accomplished so far. Read it and be proud and elated that you voted for him.

1. Corporate profits are at record highs.
2. Added 200,000 jobs per month.
3. Unemployment is below 6%
4. The growth of U.S. Growth National Product is the best of the (OECD) countries Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.
5. The dollar is at its strongest level in years.
6. Stock market is near record highs.
- 7 Gasoline prices are falling.
8. There's no inflation.
9. Interest rates are the lowest in 30 years.
10. U.S. oil imports are declining.
11. U.S. oil production is rapidly increasing.
12. The deficit is rapidly declining.
13. The wealthy are still making astonishing mounts of money.
14. America is leading the world and respected internationally - in sharp contrast to the Bush years.
- 15 Obama brought soldiers home from Iraq and killed Osama Bin Laden.

So, Americans, now vote for the party that got you into the mess, which Obama just dug you out of ? This defies reason. When you are done with Obama, could you please send him our way?

This article is by Richard Brunt, Victoria, British Columbia; posted on Detroit Freedom Press, November 10, 2015.

Many people had no desire to vote in the mid-term elections and the Democratic candidates didn't help. People were blinded by the half-truths of Fox "so called" News and the conservative talking heads. I truly believe even with Fox pseudo news, if President Obama ran again, he would win. I know the Democratic candidates may not be as exciting as he was, but we had better keep this article in mind. We can never forget all that our great President has accomplished without the help of the other guys and gals.

Because of that, we must be ready to fight to put another Democrat in the White House, who will keep in place all he has accomplished. That person had better do even more, lest we go back where we were before. I know it's hard to believe that it's that time again, time to man the stations; but we must do it, and do it strongly. Our children's future depends on it.

This is Lois Griffin Powell - signing off until next time.

SOMETHING TO PONDER

"In the arena of human life, the honors fall to those who show their good qualities in action."

KICKIN' NEWS

PAGE 7

RED CARPET AWARDS- THE GOP DEBATE

BY: C. Carr

Watched the Republican Debate. Planned to write an article. To my dismay, all I could think of was to slap my self silly. I couldn't believe what I was hearing. Took so many notes; I realized I was on the way to writing a novelette.

So instead of preaching to the choir - I announce the -
GOP DEBATE AWARDS !

Presented in random order,
as I apply ice to my face.

FALSE BRAVADO AWARD- for
"I'm gonna kick Obama's
butt out of the White House."

Chris Christie

NUTTY NRA AWARD - for
"The President would take
all guns away and the 2nd
Amendment away if he could."

Marco Rubio

BUSTED PRIVATE AWARD" -
for " On any military action, I
would ask the military and say
yes to whatever they say."

Ben Carson

LIAR, LIAR, PANTS ON FIRE
AWARD for "Obama care is a
job killer."

Marco Rubio

BRAVERY UNDER FIRE
AWARD for- "Yes, Trump is
unhinged!"

JEB BUSH

ANNIE GET YOUR GUN
AWARD for " No limit on gun
sales. People need to be
armed, I say, "Shoot it out!"

DOBALD TRUMP

TRUTH TO POWER AWARD -
for "There's a lot of hot
rhetoric in this room,"

JOHN KASICH

MR. CONGENIALITY AWARD -
for "I will ban all Muslims from
this country, except
serviceman."

DONALD TRUMP

So, after saber rattling,
Obama hatred, fear of
Muslims, carpet bombing the
Middle East, crazy flat tax
plans, Social Security and
Medicare as entitlements that
should be cut, rootin' tootin'
gun totin', and the sky was
falling; I was more proud than
ever to be a Democrat.

Gathered my copious notes,
wrote this, my face felt cooler,
and I applied some lipstick -
not the Sarah Palin brand

Oink Oink - Oh, I digress and
that could be another whole
article !

KICKIN' NEWS

PAGE 8

WHEN WILL IT END ? ENOUGH IS ENOUGH ! OPINION PIECE

BY: Laurie Sale

Enough is enough. Seriously, its been three weeks since the crazy Oregon militia took over (led by Ammon Bundy) the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, about 39 miles east of Burns, Oregon. This refuge is managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, therefore deeming it a federal building.

What is happening? Why have armed militia been allowed to occupy this building, because they are basically mad? A quick recap:

Spring 2014 - A 20 year dispute between Nevada rancher, Clive Bundy, and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management over 1 million in unpaid grazing fees leads to an armed conflict.

2015 - After an appeals court overturns Hammonds' original sentences, a federal judge issues new sentences of 5 years to both men, with credit for time served. Mid-December: Militants from states across the West begin assembling in the small town

Of Burns to protest the pending re-imprisonment of the Hammonds over what they describe as unjust federal land policies.

Jan. 2: After an estimated 300 marchers parade through Burns, supporting the Hammonds, a splinter group of armed protesters begin to occupy the headquarter of the National Wildlife Refuge, 30 miles south of Burns.

Jan. 3: Ammon Bundy, son of Clive Bundy and leader of the refuge occupants, says the group has no intention of violence unless the government acts against them.

Jan. 4: The Hammonds report to federal prison in California, but say they will seek clemency from the President. During a news conference, Harney County Sheriff, David Ward, tells the protesters to. "Go home."

Jan. 5: Ammon Bundy says they won't leave until local property owners have control over the refuge, or if the community shows they're no longer welcome. Ward says law enforcement is taking steps behind the scene to end the standoff.

Jan. 6: The burns Paiute tribe, which once held this land, calls on the militants to end the standoff. A nighttime scuffle between occupiers and an outside group sends one man to the hospital with a black eye.

Jan. 7: The sheriff and Bundy meet on neutral ground to discuss ending the occupation. Gov. Kate Brown demands the protesters "decamp immediately."

Jan. 8: Ammon Bundy says the group doesn't plan to leave for now. WHAT ?

Jan. 11: After a week, schools reopen in Burns. The militants destroy federal fencing, saying they had permission from the rancher whose cattle graze on private land adjoining the refuge. WHAT ?

Jan. 112: The militants say they will reveal their exit plan at a meeting Friday evening.

Jan.13: Rancher Tim Puckett says he didn't give the militants permission to destroy a publicly owned fence and is upset.

KICKIN' NEWS

PAGE 9

Jan. 15: The “exit strategy” doesn’t happen after a dispute about where to hold the meeting. Authorities arrest the first person associated with the occupation, Kenneth Medenbach, 62, who drove a government truck to Burns and was accused of car theft.

Fast forward to now. Militia members from other states have joined the “cause.” We now have FBI negotiators opening talks, trying to end this peacefully.

It is here that I finally ask the million dollar question: “If the militants were Black/Hispanic/Muslim (insert “other”) would this still be happening? Not long ago the Black Lives Matter Movement peacefully (without weapons) organized a protest at the Mall of America. These young people were met by the Wisconsin police decked out in full riot gear and forcibly removed, losing their constitutional right to protest.

Yet, we have a heavily armed band of white men, who have not met with a bad word, the local Sheriff met with Bundy and literally shook his hand, What? I am now wondering why Federal law enforcement is not enforcing federal law. The people of Harney county are fed up, the Governor of Oregon is fed up, I’ve been fed-up since this whole debacle began. These men, some with long criminal histories, have seized federal lands and the only people sanguine about it are the Federal authorities. They come and go at will. They go to town meetings, state their case and leave.

If the FBI is hesitant, due to memories of Ruby Ridge and Waco, they’ve had enough chances to arrest these people without storming into their clown show. Ammon Bundy has been at town meetings, where the townsfolk are chanting, “GO GO GO GO!”

He sits in the bleachers, observing the spectacle he has created and then returns to his encampment. Arrest this man! Enough is Enough !

While we wonder why this ridiculous and apparently color blind episode continues, the Republican congress is helping these law breakers. It now seems that giving land back to the states is a new article of faith in the conservative doctrine. Congress is attempting to hijack public lands with a pen, rather than a gun. The dreaded “Grand Bargain” rationale is being trotted out. Ridiculous. This is the type of so-called compromise that is loved by right-wing pundits, plutocrats and some presidential candidates. Didn’t the GOP used to be about conservation and the environment? What happened?

ISSUES

Bottom line, if we didn't already know it, the GOP is a mess. A party with no real identity, except to seem to encourage armed and cowardly white men to engage in their most deviant behavior. When will it end

Enough is Enough !

Thus is the first Opinion piece (OP. Ed) submitted.

It makes you think and gives facts. Perhaps you didn't know the facts. You may agree or disagree.

An Opinion Piece can be long or short. It can be on any topic relating to politics and the state of affairs in our country as you see them.

It can be serious, funny, satirical, etc. We all have interests and opinions.

Give it a try !!!!

BY: Jim Donovan

These past few days I've been home with a knee injury. Having 20 inches of snow in my driveway hasn't helped, but strangely gave me time to reflect. As my nephews enjoyed their day off from school, I could not help but feel grateful for all I have.

With all these political efforts to take away these "entitlements" we have; it is important for us Americans to never forget what price our family members paid for these benefits. One only needs to look at the headlines to see how necessary they are to all of us.

So, why do so many fear the new wave of immigrants? Are we in fear for our jobs, our security, the future of the country? What do these people feel about entering the country? If history has anything to say about it, we have nothing but great hope for our future.

We have had waves of immigration before and the country is still standing strong and proud.

Not to simplify this, but how are we to ask future Americans to lead? Not by building walls around our country. Where are our leaders? Where is an up or down vote?

We can't turn immigrants away out of fear and prejudice. Those who can vote should do so, we are speaking for our children, those who cannot vote. Our children will remember, our country will remember. Oh, yes, the world will take note