



# AZ Legislative District 23 Republican Committee

Web: [www.ld23gop.org](http://www.ld23gop.org)

Joe Meli, Chairman 480-652-3623

## The Lincoln Link

November 2014

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**NEXT MEETING OF LD23 - ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 20, 2014  
CREDENTIALS OPEN AT 6:00 PM, MEETING TO CONVENE AT 7:00  
FHUSD Learning Center  
16000 E Palisades Blvd, Fountain Hills, AZ 85268  
Election of Board Officers and State Committeemen  
Go to [www.ld23gop.org/documents](http://www.ld23gop.org/documents)  
for Call, Proxy and Candidate Information**

**PLEASE CHECK ANNOUNCEMENTS BELOW FOR CREDENTIALS  
INFORMATION**

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**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR OWN NEW SENATOR JOHN KAVANAGH FOR HIS  
DECISIVE WIN OVER THE DEMOCRAT! Also, congratulations to Representatives  
Michelle Ugenti and Jay Lawrence who had no opposition.  
We also congratulate Republican candidates Doug Ducey, Michele Reagan, Mark  
Brnovich,  
Jeff DeWit, Doug Little, Tom Forese, and (hopefully) Diane Douglas on their  
winning campaigns.  
CONGRATULATIONS to the seven U.S. Senate candidates (at this writing, it could  
be more) who won their races to put the Senate in the hands of Republicans!**

## Post Election Thoughts

11-5-14

Dear Fellow PCs,

We face the future with great excitement and confidence! If Election Day proved anything, it's that the grassroots of the Republican Party carried the vote! Your hard work, putting party first above self, led us to victory. We can be proud of our district. We saw our great congressman, David Schweikert, win a well-deserved third term. We contributed two candidates to statewide office, Secretary of State-elect Michele Reagan and Corporation Commissioner-elect Doug Little. We are equally proud of re-elected State Representative Michelle Ugenti, State Representative-elect Jay Lawrence and State Senator-elect John Kavanagh. What do all these candidates have in common? YOU, our dedicated PCs! I'm sure they would all agree that your unfaltering support and enthusiasm was the key to their victories. As we look to 2016, be assured that our Party platform, our message, is the right one. To those who believe our party has to move left to succeed, I suggest they look to November 4th, 2014, as a repudiation of that utterly failed concept. If the left's message and policies were correct, they would have succeeded. *Res ipsa loquitur* (the thing speaks for itself). Remember, we won because of what our party represents: strict adherence to our Constitution, liberty and opportunity for all citizens, limited government and a free-market economy. Political pundits have a serious disadvantage you do not have, they rarely stand at a voter's front door, or speak to them on the phone, or sign post cards asking for their vote. You did all these things. We won. Be proud to be a Republican, you've earned it! We will win in 2016!

Regards,  
Joe Meli  
Chairman

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### CHAIRMAN'S CORNER – Joe Meli

Dear Fellow PCs,

The 2014 midterm elections will be remembered as the turning point for our nation. Despite the relentless effort by the left to "fundamentally change" America, the hard work and commitment of PCs around the country will have paid off. Never before were grassroots efforts so desperately needed. You, and those around you, answered the call. You achieved victory for our nation, and our party. As I look back on this year, I am truly humbled to have served as your chairman. I am equally grateful to the members of the executive board who have given their time and talents, often at the expense of family, work and friendship commitments, to serve our district. Service was the driving force of our Founders. A desire to do what is right, rather than what is popular or easy, was what gave them the strength to stand fast despite overwhelming obstacles.

To our newly elected first-time PCs, I say, to be a Republican is to uphold a proud tradition of putting service before self. Our party believes in liberty, self-reliance, American exceptionalism and, of course, limited government intrusion into our lives. If these are your beliefs, you can be sure to find like-minded folks sitting next to you at each monthly meeting. To re-elected PCs, your years of service have culminated in a victorious resurgence of our party in 2014. There is no question, your work made it happen. You are a credit to our district. In the future, it is my hope that members of LD23 Republican Committee will continue to put service to our nation, our party and our district above all else. We will continue to see our efforts rewarded as the country once more returns to its rightful course. We will continue to win in 2016!

Kindest regards,  
Joe Meli  
Chairman

### **FIRST VICE CHAIRMAN – Nancy Ordowski**

The GOTV Office was closed Friday, October 31, 2014. We thank all of you who have supported the work of our district, working to get our Republican candidates elected.

The replacement proxy forms have been sent by mail and can also be printed from our web-site [www.ld23gop.org](http://www.ld23gop.org), on the “Documents” page. If you are not able to attend the 11/20/2014 Organizational Meeting, please get your proxy to your Precinct Captain.

We have found another vendor to purchase name badges. If you are interested, please contact Lynne Breyer at [ld23gop@gmail.com](mailto:ld23gop@gmail.com). Cost is \$16.00 per badge, tax included.

If you do not know how to contact your Captain or Area Director please call or e-mail me at [ncordowski@gmail.com](mailto:ncordowski@gmail.com) or call me at **480-203-5278**. If you should call when I am in a meeting please leave a message and I will get back to you as soon as possible. I do not have all of your phone numbers in my phone so if you don't leave a message I have no idea who called. Thank you for all of your hard work and support.

Submitted by,  
Nancy Ordowski

### **SECOND VICE CHAIRMAN - Rich Rutkowski**

Since our November 20 meeting is the Organizational Meeting for LD 23, there will be no outside speakers. In preparation for the August 2014 primary and the November 2014 general election, we had the opportunity to meet, greet, listen to, and question a large number of Republican candidates for office during our district meetings. Many of you were able to attend, participate, and take advantage of that opportunity. I hope all of you agree that it made us better able to make a personal decision about the contenders

for the Republican nomination, and more effective in promoting our Republican candidates to prospective voters in our precincts. We also learned about important issues like Common Core and Proposition 122, which affect all of us. Another source of vital information is our new LD23 web site, [www.ld23gop.org](http://www.ld23gop.org), which I recently developed and launched. It includes meeting dates & locations, links to elected officials, our nation's founding documents, PC forms, educational web sites, and some excerpts from the Republican Party Platform. These are all vital tools for a Precinct Committeeman. If you haven't already visited the site, please check it out. If you have, pay another visit, since it is updated frequently.

It has been my privilege to plan, coordinate, and deliver interesting, educational programs to the PCs of LD23 as your 2nd Vice-Chair. Our work has just begun.

Rich Rutkowski

### TREASURER - Lynne Breyer

#### TREASURER'S REPORT October, 2014 Lynne Breyer, Treasurer

##### REVENUE

Superior Court, Restitution	\$ 25.00
Donation	\$ 105.50
Badges	\$ 32.00
Total Revenue	\$ 162.50

##### EXPENSES

Campaign Materials	\$1149.96	
Campaign Donations	\$2500.00*	
Campaign calls	\$1122.29	
Campaign Office	\$ 435.54	Conf. Room, phone jacks, IT
Badge	\$ 10.89	
AmeriMail	\$ 391.15	Call
Room Rental	\$ 82.50	
Constant Contact	\$ 32.25	
MCRO	\$ 70.00	Late Fees, reimbursed
Lynne Breyer	\$ 56.10	Supplies

Total Expenses \$ 5850.18

NET INCOME(LOSS) (\$ 5687.18)

In-Kind Donation, printing, Lynne Breyer \$285.72

\*This PAC donates to Clean Candidates and all statewide candidates that LD23 supports.

It's time for PCs to start making donations. Suggested donations are \$30 individual, \$50 couple of household, \$100 and up for Chairman's level. We'd like to thank Marilyn Byerly, who is no longer a PC but made a donation anyway, and Lynne Breyer, for their donations.

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**DISTRICT 23 MINUTES - Lynne Breyer, Secretary**  
**Arizona Legislative District 23**  
**District Meeting**  
**Fountain Hills Learning Center**  
**October 9, 2014**  
**7:00 pm**

With concurrence of the members present, the District Meeting of the members of Arizona Republican Legislative District 23, held at The Learning Center, Fountain Hills, was called to order at 7:05 pm by Chairman Joe Meli.

**Officers Present:**

Joe Meli, Chairman  
Rich Rutkowski, 2nd Vice Chair  
Lynne Breyer, Secretary/Treasurer

**PCs present:**

117 in person  
83 by proxy

The Invocation was given by Dr. CT Wright. The pledge was led by Boe James.

Chairman Meli introduced Rich Rutkowski to present the program speakers. Speakers: Yvonne Cahill spoke on programs presented by ASU Center for Political Thought and Leadership. Chuck Schmidt spoke on Market Freedom Alliance. The minutes were approved as presented.

**Chairman's Business, Chairman Joe Meli**

Joe explained that former Treasurer, Gayla Coletto, was given the opportunity to serve as treasurer of another organization that was long term and she felt she could not do both. Chairman Meli reluctantly accepted Gayla's resignation and applauded the good work she did while treasurer of LD23.

**Treasurer's Report, Lynne Breyer reporting for Gayla Coletto**

July 2014

**REVENUE**

Contribution	\$ 50.00
Restitution	\$ 460.00
Total Revenue	\$ 510.00

**EXPENSES**

Badges	\$ 42.10	
Bank Fee	\$ 30.00	Restitution Checks
Late Fees	\$ 60.00	SoS and MCRO
Email	\$ 16.40	
Room Rental, Election	\$ 736.10	
Room Rental, meeting	\$ 39.00	(\$250 Security check voided)
Total Expenses	\$ 923.60	
Net Income (Loss)	(\$413.60)	
Balance on hand:	\$17,487.46	

July Donations: Hugh and Helen Henry \$50

From Gayla: It has been my honor and pleasure serving as Treasurer of the LD23 community. It is now time to work on getting the conservatives elected in 2014.

Sincerely,

Gayla Coletto

**Treasurer's Report**, Prepared by Lynne Breyer, Treasurer  
(Gayla Coletto was Treasurer during August)

August 2014

REVENUE

Donation	\$ 30.00
Refund, Amerimail	\$ 299.93
Total Revenue	\$ 329.93

EXPENSES

Supplies, office	\$ 87.78
Amerimail	\$1099.00***
Rental, meeting room	\$ 185.50
Website/Email	\$ 16.40
Postage	\$ 7.61
Total Expenses	\$1406.29

Net Income (Loss)	(\$1076.36)
Balance on hand:	\$16,418.71

PLEASE make your annual contributions to keep the District running. Suggested contributions are \$30 individual, \$50 couple of household, \$100 or more at the Chairman's level. We'd like to thank Linda Longazel for her contribution in August.

\*\*\*Question from the floor: Please explain what the expense of \$1099 was for  
Response: That expense was necessary to send a postcard mailing to counter deceptive mailings, sent to at least three precincts, that appeared as though the AZGOP and the LD23 District endorsed certain PC candidates in those precincts. The mailing was sent after consultation with AZGOP Chairman Graham, MCRC Chair LaFaro and

AZGOP legal counsel, Lee Miller, determined that it was the responsibility of LD23 to head off all liability as a result of these deceptive mailings under ARS 16.925

Question: Who was responsible for these mailings?

Response: This came up previously at the LD23 Board meeting and Sheila Muehling said she had done that mailing together with unnamed ladies. She also claimed that she had emailed Chairman Graham to ask if she could reprint using the AZGOP banner logo and absent any response from him on the matter, she took that for a yes. Sheila never contacted the LD3 Board regarding the mailings.

Question: Wouldn't it be right for Sheila Muehling to reimburse the District for the money it had to spend due to her actions?

Response: That would seem to be the right thing to do

### **Treasurer's Report, Lynne Breyer September 2014**

#### REVENUE

Restitution	\$ 25.00
Total Revenue	\$ 25.00

#### EXPENSES

Victory Office, IT Services	\$ 99.00	
Victory Office Rental	\$ 838.10	
Arizona Project PC	\$3000.00	Campaign contribution <sup>1</sup>
Dave PAC	\$1000.00	Campaign contribution <sup>2</sup>
Website/Email	\$ 16.25	
Total Expenses	\$4953.35	

Net Income (Loss)	(\$4928.35)
Balance on hand:	\$12,490.36

PLEASE make your annual contributions to keep the District running. Suggested contributions are \$30 individual, \$50 couple of household, \$100 or more at the Chairman's level.

<sup>1</sup> This PAC contributes to state candidates we support: Michele Reagan, Shawna Bolick and John Kavanagh.

<sup>2</sup> Dave PAC contributes to Congressional candidates

### **Bylaws vote, Rich Rutkowski:**

Rich explained why the amendments were being voted on at this meeting - that it is required by the current Bylaws based on the timing of when the Bylaws Committee submitted its draft. All changes made to the Bylaws Committee version of the Bylaws was to bring them into compliance with the law as laid out by Maricopa County Attorney Montgomery in his review of the Committee version and to resolve conflicts with Maricopa County Republican Committee bylaws as mandated. Language concerning restrictions of personal activities by Officers, outside of LD23 district business, during a contested primary was removed as illegal and unenforceable. We are subject to the

rules regarding consistency with MCRC Bylaws. The Bylaws Committee submitted a version to the Executive Committee and it was realized there was problematic language. They were subsequently submitted for a review by the County Attorney. To answer questions from PCs asking why we are having this election on the Bylaws, it was re-stated because the current Bylaws required that when Bylaws are accepted by the Executive Committee, which occurred on September 24, the Bylaws SHALL be submitted to the body by publication in the District Newsletter, which they were, and voted on at the next regularly scheduled District meeting. The word "Shall" in legal language is unambiguous and means it must be done. The timing was put in motion when the Bylaws Committee submitted their final version to the Executive Committee for consideration. The Executive Committee worked immediately to get them reviewed and to make the changes necessary to keep them legal and followed all rules as called for by the current Bylaws. Further, the approval of the amendment by the Executive Committee shall be considered a motion for adoption.

To recap the timeline, which is germane to the vote on the Proposed Bylaws, the Bylaws Committee submitted its version to the Executive Committee, the Executive Committee met in Executive Session to review, The Executive Committee found language in the proposed version to be illegal and/or unenforceable and it was subsequently sent to the County Attorney for review. It was confirmed by him that the language was illegal and unenforceable and should be removed. The Executive Committee removed that language and sent the Bylaws back to the Bylaws Committee. The Committee rejected the language, returned them to the Executive Committee whereupon the Executive Committee dissolved the Bylaws Committee.

They then adopted a version without such language while maintaining other changes made by the Committee, made subsequent minor corrections and amendments to bring them into compliance with MCRC Bylaws to which Legislative Districts are subject. They were then put out to the membership for review before the scheduled vote eleven days hence. The Executive Committee faithfully followed the current Bylaws to the letter. It is ultimately the responsibility of the Executive Committee to submit Bylaws and Bylaws Committee versions are only recommendations for amendments. No Executive Committee is required to accept such recommendations and is charged with the responsibility of submitting legal Bylaws for consideration. Rich applauded the work of the Bylaws Committee that submitted good bylaws absent the illegal language and recommended that they be adopted. Discussion was set for 10 minutes with each speaker for or against having one minute to comment.

Barbara Espinosa: "I make a motion to table Bylaws until the new Precinct Committeemen have received their letter of certification."

Response: there is a motion on the floor and there cannot be another motion put on the floor until the original motion is resolved.

Boe James in his comments also asked specifically for "a motion to table" and referenced the Robert's Rules of Order claiming that "a motion to table overrides a motion on the floor and requires a vote on the new motion." He said we must follow Robert's Rules. Again, Rich clarified that there can be no new motion when there is already a motion on the floor. Boe objected. Chairman Meli stepped in with a copy of the Robert's Rules in his hand and confirmed that Boe was incorrect in asserting "a



motion to table" overrules all other motions. He stated that Boe's language is incorrect according to the Robert's Rules and that Boe requested they be followed to the letter. Further discussion ensued but Robert's Rules prevailed. 3

There was a question regarding what constitutes a Quorum. In the current Bylaws, a quorum is however many people are present in person or by proxy. That would be changed in the Proposed version. Discussion continued until time expired. Some people spoke without providing their names and precincts as was requested prior to discussion. Lisa James called for a point of order and asked that this election to be continued claiming the bylaws were not made available through a publication in the newsletter. Response: The Bylaws vote was published in the newsletter in a timely fashion, a link to the full proposed and current Bylaws was made available and the Bylaws in both versions have been posted on the district website. Point of order was dismissed. Yet another PC who did not give their name asked for a motion to table the Bylaws. It was again explained that there was a motion already on the floor that must be resolved before entertaining an additional motion. After further comments from the floor, most of which were out of order, the question was called. The vote proceeded. The counting of the vote was "audited" by several people standing at the counting table that was in the main room so as to accommodate all who wanted to observe the counting of the ballots. Counting was done in full view of the body by PCs Arthur Cooper and Ron Smith. The result of the vote was 79 opposed, 119 in favor, 2 ballots unvoted. The measure failed, needing 133 votes (2/3) to pass.

#### **1st Vice Chair, Nancy Ordowski**

Rich reported that Nancy was in Texas. She reported that i360 usernames and passwords have not changed. i360 is up and running. Get out the Vote office manager, Lori Urban, recognized Allison Mary for her diligence in keeping the Victory office open for PCs. The office is open daily and volunteers are very much needed. Please help any time that you can.

#### **2nd Vice Chair, Rich Rutkowski**

The next District meeting of LD3 will be the Reorganization meeting on November 20, 2014, at the Fountain Hills Unified School District Learning Center, where we are meeting tonight. We will be electing a new Executive Board and State Committeemen to serve for the next two years.

There being no other business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lynne Breyer  
Secretary, LD23 Republican Committee

Note: I would like to thank Marney Thompson for taking notes for this meeting to supplement the recording of the meeting.

<sup>3</sup> NOTE: Robert's Rules of Order requires a certain protocol for motions to be overridden and successfully acted upon. The attempts to block the vote on the bylaws did not follow that protocol.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Help our new PCs:

With many new PCs in our District, we are asking all Precinct Captains and Area Directors to contact new PCs to be sure they know what to expect at the coming Organizational Meeting.

### **Rules for Proxies:**

Briefly, if you cannot be present to vote at this meeting, you can give your Proxy (BE SURE TO USE THE REPLACEMENT IVORY-COLORED PROXY) to a Precinct Committeeman in your precinct. You may tell them how you want your Proxy voted and the PC who is carrying the Proxy is compelled to vote appropriately. If there is no PC in your precinct who can carry your Proxy, you may have a registered Republican non-PC in your precinct carry the Proxy for you. He/she will be required to produce his/her voter registration card and photo ID when he/she checks in at the Proxy desk. Photo IDs are required of all PCs in order to sign in to receive a ballot. Credentials will open from 6:00-7:00pm when they will close for the initial tally. Credentials will reopen for 10 minutes after the initial tally is reported for late-comers.

### **Valid Proxies:**

We got several complaints that PCs were getting "witness" signatures on proxies at the last meeting. The word "Witness" on the proxies means the person signing as witness sees the PC signature being placed on the proxy. Each PC will be responsible for making sure the Proxy is valid and correctly executed. Failure to follow long standing protocol could result in an invalid Proxy that cannot be voted. If there are any questions about this meeting, the credentials process or the Proxy process, please contact the Board at [ld23gop@gmail.com](mailto:ld23gop@gmail.com).

### **Save the date:**

Annual LD23 Christmas Party, December 11, Scottsdale Hilton Resort, Ballroom, 6:00-8:00, musical entertainment, social time, 50/50 raffle. Cost still being determined but it will not be a fundraiser event.

### **Center for Political Thought and Leadership at ASU:**

The first big event for the Center for Political Thought and Leadership has launched. We are looking forward to a big turnout for this event. It is important that we show the ASU administration and others that we have wide-spread community support. This will be critical to the future of the Center, so bring some friends for what

should be an exceptionally interesting talk. Adrian Wooldridge has some interesting things to say about the future of the global economy.

Please feel free to share the attached flyer and this link with your friends and colleagues. <https://asuevents.asu.edu/recovering-american-economy>.

There are a number of exciting announcements that will be forthcoming in the next few months about the Center. Great things are beginning to happen.

Again, thank you for your support.

Donald T. Critchlow, Director, Center for Political Thought and Leadership

### **DISTRICT 23 REPUBLICAN CLUB NEWS:**

#### **Paradise Republican Women's Club**

Saturday, November 8, join the dynamic women of Paradise Republican Women's Club to honor our Veterans. At the conclusion of the meeting, you are invited to attend Veterans Day activities at Salt River Fields. Bring a Veteran to this meeting where they will receive a special gift to commemorate all they have given and all the sacrifices they have made for America. Featured Speaker: Jerry Iannacci, Volunteer CEO of Operation American Patriot The annual meeting to elect officers for 2015 will follow the speaker. There will be a Christmas Caring for America Collection to provide Christmas gifts for two Veteran families.

Make your reservation <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/november-general-meeting-tickets-13773852965> for this very special day by November 6th.

#### **Fountain Hills Republican Club**

The Fountain Hills Republican Club will be gathering together on Election Night to watch the election results come in, and to also share in some food, spirits, and camaraderie. Club members and other Republicans will be meeting at Fireside Grill at the Lexington Hotel located at 12800 North Saguaro Blvd., Fountain Hills, AZ commencing about 6:30 for out of state results and about 7:30 for local results. No RSVP is needed. Everyone is invited. All are welcome to attend. The Saturday, November 8th FHRC meeting will feature our very own Congressman David Schweikert at 9 a.m. in the Fountain Hills Community Center. It is anticipated that some of our newly elected officials will also be present. Everyone is invited. Meeting starts at 9, coffee and social period preceding at 8:30. RSVPs not required.

#### **Palo Verde Republican Women**

Palo Verde Republican Women will meet on November 19 at Grayhawk Golf Club. 11:00 social, 11:30 lunch. Featured speaker is a representative from the new Fisher House in Tucson. Palo Verde has held fund raisers for this event to honor our veterans and will donate \$4000.00 to the Fisher House.

Menu: Open faced Turkey , with Mashed Potatoes, Stuffing, Vegetables and Turkey gravy. Baked Granny Smith Apple Tart with Cinnamon Whipped Cream and Vanilla Bean Sauce. coffee, tea, rolls and butter. \$25.00

Reservations: pvrwlunch@gmail.com or call Edith Stock at 480 298 7818.

A reservation made is a reservation paid.