

# **RHINEBECK REPUBLICAN REFLECTIONS**

**Rhinebeck Republican Committee Newsletter - March 2017**



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*"A statesman is he who thinks in the future generations, and a politician is he who thinks in the upcoming elections." - Abraham Lincoln*

*"Hypocrisy can afford to be magnificent in its promises, for never intending to go beyond promise, it costs nothing." – Edmund Burke*

## **OUR VILLAGE CANDIDATES**

The Rhinebeck Republican Party endorses:

- William Sanchez (R) for re-election as Village Justice,
- Heath Tortarella (N) for re-election as Village Mayor,
- Howard Traudt (I) for re-election as Village Trustee, and
- Sarah Burke (D) for election as Village Trustee.

These candidates bring diverse perspectives into play and demonstrate our ongoing commitment to good government through well qualified, fiscally responsible officials who put the practical needs of the Village ahead of political ideologies. We ask for your vote on Tuesday, March 21, 2017.



## **OUR COUNTY and STATE CANDIDATES**

The Dutchess County Republican Party endorses:

- Jim Coughlan (R) for re-election as Dutchess County comptroller.
- Linda Murray (R) for election to the NYS 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Supreme Court.

These extremely well qualified candidates have proven themselves in their fields and community. They deserve your vote in November.



## **LONSBERRY: Have progressives declared a civil war?**

*Where does this end? The progressives' rejection of the presidential election, the obstruction and social disruption – what is its purpose? Is this the Democrats in 1861, or the Bolsheviks in 1917?*

*Four months after the Democrats warned that refusing to accept the outcome of the presidential election would tear the country apart, they are refusing to accept the outcome of the presidential election. In coordinated nationwide demonstrations, in random outbreaks of campus violence, in shrill denunciations and boycotts, a secession has taken place.*

*A non-geographic civil war has seemingly been declared. In rejecting the outcome of an election in a republic, one rejects the premise of that republic, and the compact of citizenship. It is a nullification of the social contract.*  
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**QUESTION OF THE MONTH: Should the NYS Constitution be amended to enable citizens, and not just the Governor, to recall (remove) elected local and state officials?**

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## **Democracy vs. Republic Part 2**

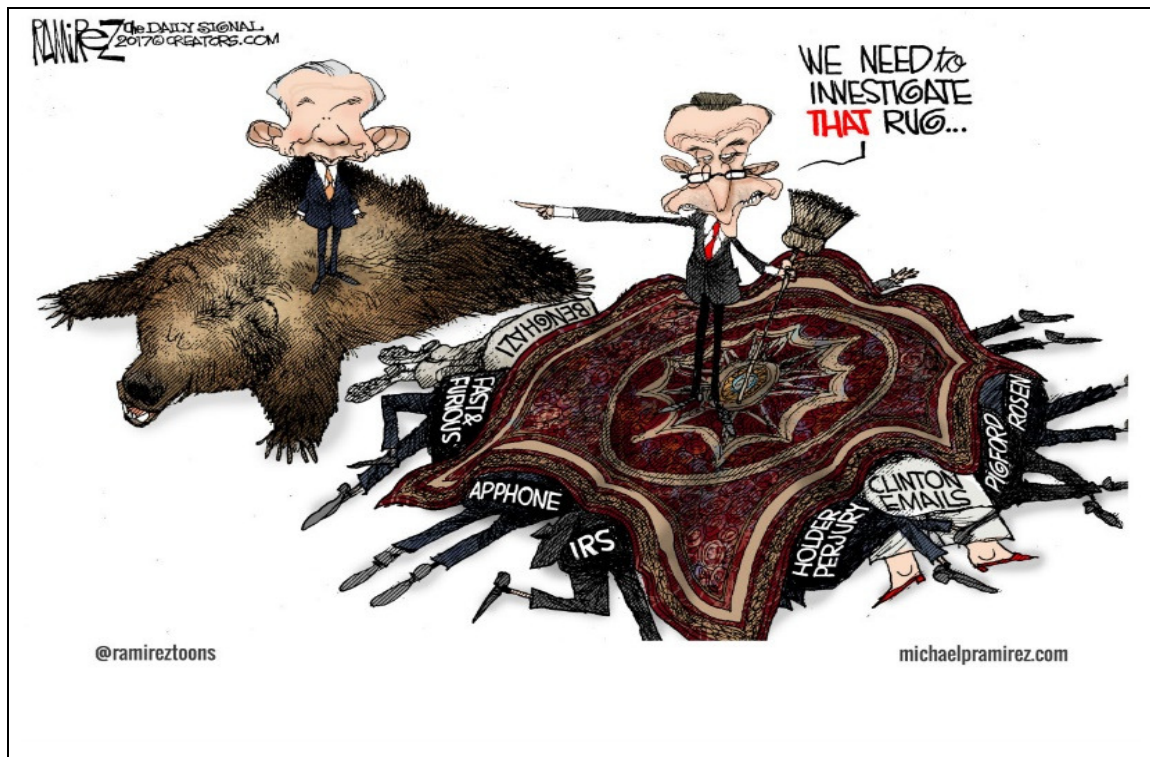
James Madison defined pure democracy as "a society consisting of a small number of citizens, who assemble and administer the government in person." He also defined a republic as "a government in which the scheme of representation takes place."

Political parties are not governments or functions of government but they are regulated by government and their proceedings contrast democracy with republic. For instance, the Village of Rhinebeck Republican caucus was held in January at the Village Hall. The purpose of the caucus was to nominate and elect candidates for the village elections in March. The Democrats met on the same date and time, for the same purpose, at the Town Hall. 100% of registered Republicans and Democrats who reside in the village were eligible to participate in the caucus. These caucuses were run as democracies because all eligible affiliated voters could participate and because all votes had equal weight. Unfortunately, less than 9% of eligible affiliated voters participated in the examples of democracy.

The Dutchess County Republican convention was held in February in Poughkeepsie and followed a republican process. The purpose of the convention was to nominate and elect candidates for the general elections in November. 100% of registered Republican county committee members who reside in the county were eligible to participate in the convention. The county committee members represent the registered Republicans for a given election district. There are two county committee members per election district and their votes are weighted by the number of voters that they represent so that virtually all registered Republicans were represented.

The founders did not envision political parties. Instead, the founders thought that elected officials would put the common good ahead of personal preferences, unique jurisdictional issues and partisan ideologies. The founders thought that officials would comply with the Constitution, represent all constituents, and collaborate with their colleagues to protect and advance the common good.

Democracy vs. Republic will continue in future newsletters.



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**MARCH CONTINUING EDUCATION:** Each month we'll be taking a quick video course to widen our perspectives and strengthen our knowledge. Please join us!

- Go to <https://www.prageru.com/>
- Click on **Videos**
- Then click on **Left and Right Differences**
- Then view each of the five-minute videos

It's free any easy, but you can do more if you like.

*Left and Right Differences:*

[How Big Should Government Be? Left vs. Right #1](#)

[Does it Feel Good or Does it Do Good? Left vs. Right #2](#)

[How Do You Judge America? Left vs. Right #3](#)

[How Do You Deal With Painful Truths? Left vs. Right #4](#)

[How Do We Make Society Better? Left vs. Right #5](#)

## **LONSBERRY: Have progressives declared a civil war? (Continued from page 1)**

*If, in fact, the president selected by a constitutional process is not your president, then it is not your Constitution. You have rejected it. You have stepped outside the group which declared itself with the words, "We the People."*

*Certainly, a person or a party can dislike the outcome of an election – ask any conservative about the last eight years. But to reject the outcome of an election is to come out in open hostility toward the structure which defines a nation. It is an act of rebellion and revolution.*

*And to throw fuel on that fire, to ratchet up the spending and the rhetoric, to pump the marketplace of ideas with ever more invective and anger, is to mash down on the accelerator of a car headed toward a brick wall. Enraging people, abandoning civility and comity, is how you build barricades, not bridges. This is not the spirit of the American Revolution, it is the spirit of the French Revolution. And the master funders of the progressive movement are plowing millions into it. The leaders of the Democratic Party, in government and out, are claiming and shouting outrageous and incendiary things. The shrill zealots of progressive society are shaming and blacklisting and whipping the timid into conformity.*

*And you wonder where it goes. What is the end? Where do they want this to take this country? What is the finish line these people seek to cross?*

*Is all of this to whip up passion for a congressional election that is still two years away, or a presidential election two years beyond that? Is it to paralyze and derail the function of the American government, to destabilize our nation, until the candidate of the mobs can be installed? Do they want commissars to be appointed? Do they want an overturn of the presidency? Is it a coup they seek? Do they want to foment a social disorder that crumbles the organizational infrastructure of the American nation and people?*

*Or is there some form of release and relief in shouting their hatred for a president and his supporters? Is there an orgasmic thrill to be had in declaring half of your fellow citizens your moral and intellectual inferiors? Or is it extortion? Are they hoping to buy something with their unrest, to squeeze from the government some concessions and autonomies? Will there be a new flag, and a new capital – a new currency, and who will be on it?*

*The Democratic Party has established itself as a coalition of the disaffected. Is it now seeking to disaffect the entire nation, to turn it against its structures and institutions -- even its electoral voice? Americans have always been taught to support the constitutional government that protects their liberties, now they are being taught to actively hate it.*

*Mayors have used taxpayer resources to organize political protests. Weekly demonstrations have been decreed by sitting municipal officials. The fuehrers of the arts community have declared they are undertaking a war against fascism, and performers and business leaders are threatened with blackballing if they acknowledge a new president.*

*In 1950 you were blacklisted if you were a communist; in 2017 you are blacklisted if you are a Republican.*

*The loudest voices in our society are profanely denouncing what two hundred years of American experience have defined as the basic obligation of the citizenry – to live by the Constitution. If social disruption is to occur in the wake of a presidential election, then it was not a peaceful transfer of power. If one half of the electorate is to take its toys and go home, to throw a rage of destruction over its electoral failure, then their relationship with their fellow citizens is fundamentally abusive and hostile. If the progressives can't have control of the levers of power, then no one can.*

*That is bullying, at best. And civil war, at worst. And they keep pushing down on the accelerator. So perhaps they should be honest enough to state their objective. What is the end game? What are they trying to achieve? Is this secession? Is it revolution? Or is it just a tantrum? – **Bob Lonsberry***

Read: <http://wham1180.iheart.com/onair/bob-lonsberry-3440/lonsberry-have-progressives-declared-a-civil-15535623/#ixzz4aNzZWG8D>

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***“Get involved. The world is run by those who show up.”***  
**– Ron Nehring**

**There are many ways to get involved:**

- Attend a fundraiser
- Put up a lawn sign
- Hand out literature at events
- Help with phonebanks
- Host a meet & greet
- Be a neighborhood captain or district leader

**Americans have civic responsibilities.** Americans get involved in their community and their government. Why? Because our system of government is of, for and by the people. Our system of government depends on citizens voting in elections and running for office.

Have you ever thought about running for office? There will be many opportunities to do just. County, town and village legislative seats are up for election in 2017 as well as many elective departmental positions. If you are the least bit interested in running for office, please contact:

- Resource Committee – Elijah Bender, Dennis McGuire, Knick Staley, OR
- RRC Chair – Bruce Washburn



**KEEPING IN TOUCH**

**Our website is:**  
[www.rhinebeckrepublicans.com](http://www.rhinebeckrepublicans.com)

**Our Facebook page is:**  
[www.facebook.com/RhinebeckRepublicans](http://www.facebook.com/RhinebeckRepublicans)

**Your Election District Representatives:**

DISTRICT	REPRESENTATIVE	REPRESENTATIVE
1	Wayne Rifenburgh	Frank Intervallo
2	Kimberley Williams	Bruce Washburn
3	James Coughlan	Jeffrey Cotter
4	Pete Blevin	Elijah Bender
5	Joyce M. Maier	Herman H. Tietjen
6	Ryan Dowden	Thomas Traudt
7	Marie Farrell	Richard Murray



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