



AZ Legislative District 23 Republican Committee

Web: www.ld23gop.org

Jim O'Connor, Chairman
602-538-9387

The Lincoln Link

March 2016



NEXT MEETING OF LD23
Thursday, March 10, 2016
Fountain Hills Unified School District Learning Center
16000 E Palisades Blvd, Fountain Hills
6:30 Sign-in, 7:00 Meeting
Prayer meeting at 6:00 for those interested

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER – Jim O'Connor

There are two action items for your immediate consideration: first, LD 23 Election of Delegates, to represent us at the AZGOP State Convention, will be held Thursday evening March 31st. By now you should have received a form (via email and snail mail if we do not have your email address) to be used if you are interested in having your name printed on the ballot to run for a delegate position to the State Convention. Your completed form **MUST** be sent to LD 23 to the attention of Michael Loverine. The addresses for email and snail mail are included in the form you received.

Second, If you are further interested in having your name considered to run for position of National Delegate to represent Arizona at the RNC National Convention, immediately visit www.azgop.org, click on the 2016 Conventions Tab, there scroll down to the “How to” question and click where indicated which takes you to an application page. Complete that application online directly with AZ-GOP, as LD 23 is not responsible for those ballots.

Early next week please be on the lookout for the Notice of Call to our LD 23 election meeting. That call will contain a proxy should you be unable to attend in person, a copy of the rules to be adopted for use at that special election meeting, and all other details, times, dates, and deadlines needed for your participation. We will also spend time during our regular meeting next Thursday discussing any final details about the election meeting, and the State Convention itself. We will also take any questions on those important meetings. Nancy, Rich and I are also available to receive your questions by phone.

Thank you for your involvement and willingness to give yourselves to our noble cause.

HAPPENING IN SCOTTSDALE - Guy Phillips

A Good BASIS for Education?

I thought I would write to let you know about a very controversial issue that just came up in Scottsdale.

BASIS School is a charter school that has seen a rise in popularity these last few years. They have become (in their words) the best charter school in the country and a poster child for the Republican Party. When BASIS decided to expand in Scottsdale, they chose a location on 128th St and Shea Blvd. Anyone who travels Shea that far east knows the traffic conditions full well... 60 MPH traffic is commonplace.

It is also situated in a rural-like enclave with multimillion dollar homes all around and acreage lots. The streets are narrow with no curbs or gutters.

So the neighbors got together and tried to stop it, citing traffic safety and egress problems. Unfortunately BASIS decided to play the School Choice card, and got some big guns like Governor Ducey and some legislators to contact the council and let us know the importance of charter schools.

Everyone knew full well it was not about the school. It was about the location. But power and money has its advantages and the night of the council meeting, parents and children of BASIS showed up en masse to tell us how wonderful the school was and that the location was perfectly safe. The children got extra credit for testifying.

Because of state protection for schools, (and churches, drug rehabs and medical marijuana) BASIS could build there despite the council voting no. I don't judge the council for voting yes (the vote was 6/1) because we legally couldn't say no. But there is something wrong with a process that enables state protections for a few and overrides municipal ordinances, zoning and safety.

BASIS might get a “A” in education, but, to me. they rate an “F” for putting corporate profit ahead of their own children's safety. Let's all pray that no incidents ever occur because of this poorly chosen site. And yes, there will be another traffic light on Shea at 128th St. That will be three traffic lights in six blocks on a very heavily traveled road.

FIRST VICE CHAIRMAN - Nancy Ordowski

Now is the time for PC's to walk their precinct section and meet their voters. If you are unable to walk, then it is time to call the voters in your section.

Whether you are at the door or on the phone, the conversation is the same.

1. Introduce yourself with your name, and that you are a neighbor.
2. Ask if you are speaking with the person on your list.
3. If they get early ballots, ask if they received their ballot for the March 22 Presidential Preference Election. If they have not gotten their ballots, please let me know.
4. Remind them the primary election is on August 30, and that ballots cannot be forwarded, so if they will be away for the summer as if they want their ballot mailed to their summer location. (I will have forms available for you at the March 10 meeting) to give to them.
5. Listen to their concerns and make notes on your walking list after you leave their door. These will be important records for the upcoming elections in 2016 and on.

I am well aware that most of us are not comfortable making these contacts with voters, but I know from experience after you have started, you will be surprised at how appreciative the voters are to talk with someone at the local level.

I know if you do this, this personal contact is the make-or-break of the election process.

You can always reach me at ncordowski@gmail.com or 480-203-5278.

SECOND VICE CHAIRMAN - Rich Rutkowski

Our February general meeting included presentations on Maricopa County government, with our guests Steve Chucri, Maricopa County Supervisor and Royce Flora, current Deputy Treasurer and candidate for Treasurer. We also had some fun with the LD23 Via Linda Presidential "Bean Poll." Those who didn't eat the jelly beans were able to cast a vote for one of the Republicans vying for the nomination. The poll was not scientific but the results put Donald Trump in first place, followed in order by Senator Ted Cruz, Senator Marco Rubio, Governor John Kasich, and Dr. Ben Carson. Early balloting is already under way for the official election on March 22.

Our March 10 meeting will be held at the Fountain Hills Unified School District Learning Center, 16000 East Palisades Blvd. in Fountain Hills. It's on the NE corner of Palisades and Golden Eagle

Blvds. A map link can be found on the home page of the web site, www.ld23gop.org. The theme for the evening will be Proposition 123, which will be on the ballot in a special May election. If passed by the voters, Proposition 123 would change how state trust land revenues are used for funding of K-12 education. Deputy State Treasurer Mark Swenson will speak against and State Board of Education Member Chuck Schmidt will speak in support of Proposition 123. There will also be opportunity for your questions. Please plan to join us to learn about this timely topic.

Looking ahead - we have a March 31 meeting to elect delegates and alternates to the April 30 AZGOP State Convention. If you want to be a delegate, please submit your "Nomination Paper." This is available on the "Documents" page of the website and can be turned in at the March 10 meeting, or as indicated on the document. Our Legislative Breakfast will be on Saturday morning, April 9. Be on the lookout for details. As always, the web site, www.ld23gop.org, is a convenient way to obtain forms and keep apprised of dates of our meetings, news about other events, and additional information.

CHAIRMAN EMERITUS - Joe Meli

Dear Fellow Precinct Committee Members,

As we approach spring, things are moving rather quickly towards the winnowing of the field for the Republican presidential nominee.

There seems to be two schools of thought: one is that an outsider, not part of the relentless cycle of ambition, special interest lobbying and its money apparatus, is the best choice for our current times.

The other is that candidates established inside the Washington political apparatus are the safer choice and, for some, most likely to continue said apparatus.

Once again, let's look at the Framers and our government's original design. Most of the Founders were well aware that a pure Democracy would simply collapse under its own weight if ordinary citizens, most accustomed to taking the short view of things, kept voting for themselves what we now term "free stuff". Eventually, those giving the free stuff are outnumbered by those who vote to receive it. Such citizens would consistently vote in politicians and their respective policies that promise to deliver it.

We were given, instead, by our Framers a Federal Republic. We are not a democracy. Wait, I'll repeat that: we are not a democracy.

We are required as citizens to vote for individuals that represent us and are specifically tasked with taking not only the will of their constituents into account, but also seeing the long view of what is best for the future of our nation. In a perfect world, power, ambition, money and a political apparatus based on it don't factor into their decisions.

Since we live in an imperfect world, what then should we do to get as close to the Framers' original intended system?

Vote your conscience. Vote for the person most likely to serve for the sake of our nation and not his own enrichment. The best we can do is to vote for the candidate that least wants what going to Washington gives its elected officials. We must choose who that is; our nation's survival depends on it.

Regards,

Joe Meli
Chairman Emeritus

TREASURER - Valerie Giramberk

**DISTRICT 23 REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE
Statement of Income and Expense
Month Ended February 29, 2016**

BEGINNING BANK BALANCE	\$ 5,917.66
REVENUE	
Contributions (dues)	1,890.00
Badges	32.00
Restitution	20.00
TOTAL REVENUE	<u>\$ 1,942.00</u>
EXPENSES	
Badges	\$ 43.56
Printing/training materials	37.50
Website/E-mails	96.00
Room rentals	543.80
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$ 720.86</u>
NET INCOME	<u>\$ 1,221.14</u>
ENDING BANK BALANCE	<u>\$ 7,138.80</u>
PETTY CASH	<u>\$ 60.04</u>
TOTAL BALANCE	<u>\$ 7,198.84</u>

As of March 1st, 99 PCs have paid their 2016 dues, which is a good start for the year, but that leaves over 75% unpaid. Please help us cover our operating expenses by making your contribution.

Payments can be made at the March 10th meeting or a check mailed to: LD 23 Republican Committee, 8776 E Shea Blvd, Ste 106-341, Scottsdale, AZ 85260. Checks should be made out to **District 23 Republican Committee**. Please fill out the donation form that is available on the website and include your occupation and employer. This is required by campaign finance law. It's important to note that if you are self-employed, you still need to state your occupation. Or if you are retired, please state that on the form.

DISTRICT 23 MINUTES - Judy Lawrence, Secretary

Legislative District 23 Republican Committee Monthly Meeting

Via Linda Senior Center, Scottsdale AZ

February 11, 2016 7:00 pm

With concurrence of the members present, the District Meeting of the members of Arizona Republican Legislative District 23, held at Via Linda Senior Center, Scottsdale AZ was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Jim O'Connor.

Officers Present:

Jim O'Connor, Chairman

Nancy Ordowski, First Vice Chair

Rich Rutkowski, Second Vice Chair

Valerie Giramberk, Treasurer

Judith Lawrence, Secretary

The Invocation was given by CT Wright

The Pledge of Allegiance was given by Jim Morgan

Second Vice Chairman – Dr. Rick Rutkowski announced that we are having a “bean poll” for our own interest and enjoyment for our personal presidential preference. Everyone was encouraged to participate.

He then announced that our speakers for the evening are Maricopa County Superintendent, Steve Chucri and Royce Flora, a former Chairman of this District who is now running for County Treasurer. First however he allowed Alex Meluskey to speak briefly about his contract with the veterans and their families. The contract was written by the Veteran’s Coalition. He pledged to help veterans and their families get the help and support they need. He had copies of the contract available to anyone who wanted to learn more about it and/or work to support the effort.

The March meeting will be on Thursday the 10th at the Fountain Hills School District Learning Center. The topic that night will be Proposition 123 that funds education with the State Land Trust money. There will be two speakers that night, one pro and one con and time for questions and answers. He also alerted us to next Tuesday’s Fountain Hills Tea Party Meeting when the speakers will be the State Legislators, Senator Kavanagh, Representative Michelle Ugenti-Rita and Representative Lawrence. All are welcome even if they are not members, Tuesday, the 10th, 6:30 at the Fountain Hills School District Learning Center.

Then Maricopa County Superintendent, Steve Chucri spoke on the subject of Maricopa County Government. He spoke of the cost cutting measures and the success the county has had with their County Budget. There was a brief question and answer period that followed.

Then Former Arizona State Senator, Russell Pearce introduced Royce Flora, a former Chairman of

LD23 who is now running for County Treasurer. He spoke of the importance of carefully watching the bond measures and proposals that are misrepresented by their proponents. He said that he would like to abolish residential property tax entirely. There is a bill currently by Representative Cardenas is being considered that cuts property taxes for those 65 and over that meet the Senior Value Free which for an individual, it amounts to about \$35,000. A question and answer period followed.

Second Vice Chairman – Dr. Rick Rutkowski then allowed 2 minutes each for Steve Watson who is running for Maricopa County School Superintendent, and Dave Giles who is running against Kirsten Sinema for Representative in CD9.

Second Vice Chairman – Dr. Rick Rutkowski then announced in reverse order the winners of the “(jelly) bean poll. Zero votes for Gov. Bush and Gov. Gilmore; 1 vote for Dr. Ben Carson; 4 votes for Gov John Kasich; 10 votes for Sen. Rubio, 21 votes for Sen. Cruz and the winner was Donald Trump with 40 votes.

Chairman Jim O’Connor announced that the 3 candidates running in our LD are so far, running unopposed and he expressed his hope that it would remain that way because it will save us all time, talent, and treasure. He added that we should use said time, talent and treasure for other candidates we support. He then reiterated his concern for the National Popular Vote being considered in the Legislature. He asked that we contact Senate President Biggs and urge him to hold the bills submitted by the House and the Senate from scheduling for the vote in this Legislative Session.

Chairman Jim O’Connor reminded us that there are two important meetings in March. First, our regular LD23 General Meeting on March 10, and the second is March 31, at Fountain Hills School District Learning Center. The March 31st Special Meeting is critically important for all PC’s who are eligible to vote for the “delegates” to represent the district at the AZGOP State Convention. Those 70 elected as delegates or alternates to that Convention will be voting for 55 State Delegates who in turn will represent AZ at the RNC Convention in Cleveland mid-July. Those LD 23 PC’s who have been elected or appointed by December 31st, 2015 are eligible to vote in person or by proxy at our Special meeting on March 31st.

First Vice Chair, Nancy Ordowski clarified a point that came up at a PC training session held the night before. There was a question regarding the order of the voting records over the past 5 elections held in the County of our registered Republican Voters. The newest, then the subsequent elections in left to right order. Second, under the early voter category, “a” means yes and “n” means no. “d” means deactivated, “r” means restored.

Yvonne Cahill, Co-chair of ASU Center for Political Thought and Leadership announced a new program called “New Challenges to Constitutional Law” It will be presented February 19th. 6:30 to 8pm at Armstrong Hall, Tempe Campus at the Sandra Day O’Connor Law School Center.

Chairman Jim O’Connor then spoke for Mark Singer to remind us that the “13 Hours in Benghazi – Truth Speech” will be held Sunday, February 21, 2016. Tickets are still available.

A motion to accept the minutes of the January meeting as published in the February Newsletter was made by Tim Horn and seconded by Tom Sinyard and passed unanimously.

Treasurer Valerie Giramberk gave her report. The report was accepted and a copy can be found in this newsletter.

Save the Date Reminders:

3/10/16 LD23 District Meeting at Fountain Hills School District Learning Center

3/31/16 Election of Delegates to the Fountain Hills School District Learning Center.

Meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Lawrence, Secretary

EVENTS:



No events to report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

No announcements to report except be sure to vote your early ballot or at your polling place for the presidential candidate of your choice. There is no more important issue this year than defeating the Democrats for the White House.

DISTRICT 23 REPUBLICAN CLUB NEWS:

Lincoln Republican Women's Club

Everyone Wear Green!

March 7, 2016, Speaker: AZGOP Chairman Robert Graham will speak on "What we women can do to help win 2016 elections."

The New McCormick/"Millennium" Resort

Scottsdale-McCormick Ranch

7401 North Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85253-3548

(480) 948-5050 Spouses welcome.

5:30 pm Meet and Greet
6:00 pm Business meeting
6:20 pm Dinner
7:00 pm Program

\$35 pp, Reservations REQUIRED Contact Pat Kaufman at patiamiam@gmail.com

Paradise Republican Women's Club

Next meeting Saturday, March 12, 2016

Gainey Golf Club
7600 E Gainey Drive
Scottsdale 85258

Speaker: Maricopa County Recorder Helen Purcell will speak how voter registrations have changed in the past year, the number of new registrations and registration changes

10:30 Social, 11:00 Meeting, 12:00 Lunch

\$30pp Now accepting credit and debit cards at the door for luncheon tickets

Contact: Barb McMullen barbmcmullen@cox.net for reservations or mail your payment to Paradise Republican Women, P.O. Box 14425, Scottsdale, 85267

Palo Verde Republican Women

Next Meeting: March 16, 2016

Speakers: Mona K Oshana speaking on living under Saddam Hussein and the policies and politics in the Middle East; Sam Darmo will speak on political implementations and solutions for the region

Grayhawk Golf Club
8620 E Thompson Peak Pkwy, Fairway House, Scottsdale

11:00 am Social 11:30 am Program/Lunch

MENU:

Grilled Chicken Sandwich with Cole Slaw

Prada Cake

Coffee/Iced Tea/Wine Bar

\$27pp credit card, \$26 cash or check Reservations REQUIRED through Sherry Gray

pvrwlunch111@yahoo.com

A reservation MADE is a reservation PAID.

Fountain Hills Republican Club:

Annual Fundraising meeting March 19, 2016

Speaker: AZGOP Chairman Robert Graham

Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church
13001 N. Fountain Hills Blvd, Fountain Hills

\$15 members; \$18 Guests, Youth under 12 free

Please purchase tickets in advance

Mail check to Fountain Hills Republican Club

P.O. Box 17814, Fountain Hills 85269-7814

For more information, contact Boe James at FHRepublican@gmail.com or <http://www.FHRepublicanClub.org>

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