



PETTIS COUNTY REPUBLICAN

VOLUME XXVIII, NUMBER 1

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.PETTISGOP.ORG

FEBRUARY 16, 2010

CANDIDATE AND COMMITTEE MEMBER FILING DEADLINES

Filings for local office will begin on Tuesday, February 23, 2010, at the Pettis County Clerk's Office. The following offices to be elected in November 2010 which are currently held by Democrats: **County Clerk, Recorder of Deeds and Collector.**

Republicans currently hold the following offices also to be elected in November 2010: **28th District State Senator** (Delbert Scott is term limited); **Representative from the 116th District** (Tom Self is term limited); **Representative from the 117th District** (currently occupied by Kenny Jones); **Representative from the 118th District** (currently occupied by Stanley Cox); and **Representative from the 120th District** (currently occupied by Scott Largent); **Presiding Commissioner** (which is being vacated by Rusty Kahrs); **Prosecuting Attorney** (currently occupied by Jeff Mittelhauser); **Auditor** (currently occupied by Connie Purchase); **Circuit Judge—Division Five**, (currently occupied by R. Paul Beard); **Circuit Judge—Division Six** (currently occupied by Robert Liston).

In addition to these offices, filing will include all members of the **Pettis County Republican Central Committee**. If you are interested in filing for office, please contact Carla Young, Chairman.

CONGRESSMAN ROY BLUNT TO ADDRESS ANNUAL MCKINLEY CELEBRATION

Congressman Roy Blunt will be the keynote speaker at the **Annual Pettis County Republican McKinley Day Celebration, to be held Friday, March 5, 2010, at State Fair Motor Inn. A reception begins at 6:00 pm and dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m.** Congressman Blunt has announced his candidacy for United State Senate. He is



CONGRESSMAN ROY BLUNT

hoping to replace retiring Senator Kit Bond. Other candidates for state-wide office are expected to be in attendance.

The officers of the Pettis County Auxiliary Organizations, including Pachyderm, Pettis County Republican Women, TARGET and Young Republicans will be recognized. An auction will also be held at this event.

Tickets to this event are available from any member of the Pettis County Republican Central Committee or from Chairman Carla Young. The ticket price for this event is \$25.00 per person, or \$40.00 for two, if purchased in advance. Tickets at the door will be \$30.00 each. The public is encouraged to attend.

DONATIONS INVITED FOR MCKINLEY DAY AUCTION

AUCTION ITEMS ARE NEEDED for the auction which will be held in connection with the McKinley Day Celebration on Friday, March 5, 2010. New items, as well as collectibles, are needed for donation. If you have items which you would like to donate, we would ask that you deliver them to Carla Young, Chairman, 809 W. Broadway, Sedalia, Missouri, or to Stanley Cox at 202 West Fourth Street, Sedalia, Missouri. These items should be delivered no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 3rd in order that they may be prepared for the auction to be held on Friday that week. If you would like your items picked up, please call Frank Higgins or Carla Young. Your contribution is appreciated. For more information, contact Frank Higgins.

REPUBLICAN ORGANIZATIONS

One of the best ways to get involved in Republican politics is by affiliating with one of the fine Republican auxiliary organizations which exist in Pettis County. The current officers of these organizations are provided for your information.

PETTIS COUNTY T.A.R.G.E.T. (The Association of Republicans Getting Everyone Together). President Frank Higgins; Vice-President Keith Kirby; Secretary Meg Liston; Treasurer David Dick. This club participates in numerous fund raising events. For more information, please contact President Frank Higgins.

PETTIS COUNTY REPUBLICAN WOMEN—President, Teresa Kelley; 1st Vice-President Sherri Bond; 2nd Vice-President Cheryl Brown; Secretary Kris Cox; Treasurer Lorraine Jackson. Meetings are held Feb-May and Sept-Dec in members homes. Guests and new members are always welcome. For more information, contact Secretary Kris Cox.

PETTIS COUNTY PACHYDERM— President Diane Hering; Vice-President Dean Dohrman; Secretary Betty Hopkins; Treasurer Meg Liston. This club meets every Friday at 12:00 noon at State Fair Motor Inn. For more information, please contact President Diane Hering, or visit our website at www.PettisGOP.org/Pachyderm.html.

PETTIS COUNTY YOUNG REPUBLICANS— President Nick LaStrada; Vice-President Brennan Moriarty; Secretary Erica Crabtree; Treasurer Tiffany Walters. For more information, please contact President Nick LaStrada.

COMMENTARY—“*COMPROMISE AND THE PARTY OF “NO”*” BY MIKE SADLER

Since the inauguration of Barack Obama in 2009 we have seen the curtain pulled back on the extreme left of the Democrat party, revealing their “progressive agenda” and lust to trade our liberty for their view of societal security. We have witnessed the ascension of Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid. The problem is not that the Democrats have control of the executive and legislative branches of government; it’s that progressive socialists have control of the Democrat party, which gives them control over “our” purse strings.

I know that I am preaching to the choir because all of us who pay attention to the political landscape knew exactly what progressive leadership would mean for the country. When Pelosi took the Speaker’s gavel in 2007, I made the observation that, within 6 weeks, the left would not be able to resist the arrogance of power and begin to ride roughshod over the Congress and the American people. I’ll have to admit I was wrong about that—it only took a few days.

Otto Von Bismarck once said, “Legislation is like the making of sausage. It’s best not see how the process is done.” I think the majority of the American electorate are subscribers to that philosophy and call themselves independents with no party affiliations and, of course, that is their right. Sometimes party politics, even at the local level, is like making sausage; it can be somewhat messy and unappealing to the folks that don’t really care for sausage making. The problem of independent and third party voters are that they don’t fully understand the true nature of our political system, which brings me to my point—the idea of compromise and saying no.

When I was kid we had a phenomenon called “the most trusted man in America”, Walter Cronkite. If Mr. Cronkite said it, it must be true. If he spoke to a subject or chose to focus on a story, it must be important to us. When Walter Cronkite said, “And that’s the way it is,” the left and the center of the country believed that was the final say. If Mr. Cronkite said that we could solve poverty by spending trillions of dollars in government programs, that’s what we did. When he decided the war in Vietnam was lost, it was. Mr. Cronkite passed away this past year and that caused me to reflect on his role in American culture. I came to the conclusion that, instead of being the most trusted man in America, he (and those like him) may have been the most dangerous man in America, philosophically speaking. One voice decides what we hear; therefore, what we know. My mom and dad were not political folks, so they never really discussed politics. I knew that my mother always favored the Democratic party because FDR “saved” the country. My dad simply never admitted to any of it even though I knew his folks were Lincoln Republicans. Nevertheless, armed with the information at hand, they always voted! The bottom line is that my folks were like most people and just believed that Cronkite was just telling it like it was, and that our national leaders should compromise for the good of the country.

I would like to preface my thoughts on compromise by posing a question. What is the point of compromise? As we Republicans know, bipartisan cooperation as the left de-

finer it means republicans agreeing with them. The left has always been enamored with good men like John McCain because he has always been ready to reach across the aisle and compromise, yet it didn’t win the White House for him.

The mainstream liberal media has told us that compromise is what the American people crave. Of course, they are wrong. We believe the people want conviction and leadership of the type that was found in Ronald Reagan. You see, I know the difference between the Democrat and Republican philosophy—I was a Reagan Democrat. I totally understand the left’s argument because I used to believe it. Through living my life and paying attention to history and current events, I have come to see how government and the economy really work. Winston Churchill once said that, “Anyone who isn’t a liberal by age 20 has no heart. Anyone who isn’t a conservative by age 40 has no brain.”

I am evidence, like many others, that Mr. Churchill knew exactly what he was talking about. It took three people to allow me to discover my inner Republican: Ronald Reagan, my father-in-law Cliff Bouse and my wife Susan Sadler. You’re probably wondering what my political journey has to do with compromise (or anything else for that matter). It is very simple, It took people of conviction and principled argument to calmly and with good humor point out that my liberal views were simply wrong and not good for the country, business, jobs or anything else except feel-good, expensive government programs that had not produced less poverty and more employment, but instead institutionalized poverty and caused jobs to flee overseas.

So, what is the point of compromise? Simply put, compromise should be applied to achieve one’s goals. NEVER compromise just to get “something” done! The 2000+ page health care bill is a perfect example to illustrate the argument against pointless compromise. The left will never love us, so why waste our time trying to get their approval? As conservatives, we must recognize this: if a thing is wrong, it is just wrong, and it must be defeated—not met with an offer of compromise. In this, the party of No is doing the right thing at the right time in the history of our country.

The United States was founded on the principles of liberty and economic freedom; therefore, Socialist/Marxist policies for the United States is politically immoral from the standpoint of our founders and we, the people. Franklin was right when he said, “Those who sacrifice deserve neither”. Compromise is what we do ONLY when it gets us closer to our goals and not farther from them. Saying no in the case of the Obama-Pelosi-Ried agenda is what we must do as conservatives and free Americans. Does this mean that we are opposed to affordable health care or a clean environment? No, of course not. We simply believe that conservative and market-based solutions are the answer to the problems that face us as a nation. We know this because they have been proven over and over to work, while at the same time, preserving the liberty that our forefathers fought and bled for.

When it comes to compromise we have to weigh our long-term goals against short-term setbacks, and patience is the key. The left did not institute an intrusive big government overnight. They compromised toward their goals over many dec-

ades starting with Roosevelt’s New Deal, Truman’s Fair Deal, Johnson’s Great Society, finally coming to full fruition with the Carter-Obama raw deal, all of which have bankrupted our nation.

From time to time a powerful aphrodisiac sweeps across the political scene that always promises a new beginning and doing the will of the people. It’s the lure of the third party or an independent candidate. While I would never say that one shouldn’t vote his or her conscience, there are three indisputable facts in life: Death, taxes, and a two party system in which the independent candidate is NEVER going to get enough percentage of the vote to win a national election.

I greatly admire the Tea Party movement as a grassroots groundswell, but there is very real danger that instead of uniting with Republicans to defeat the left, they will try to go it alone. That is what the left is hoping for: divide and conquer. How do we prevent this from happening? We must not deviate from republican principles and act like second-level democrats when we are elected. We must also keep in mind that there is more than one type of conservative: fiscal, social, constitutional, defense-minded, etc.

Step One: The only way to win is to look at the bigger picture and unite as Republicans first without splintering into conservative factions, thereby diluting our strength. The extreme left thrives on the divide and conquer philosophy, pitting different groups of Americans against one another. We can’t afford to fall into that trap any longer.

Step Two: We must make sure we are educated on the issues and know exactly why we believe what we believe. Conservatism is a pragmatic yet dynamic political and economic world view, but it is not a populist view, so it must be articulated skillfully without getting angry, calling names, or becoming overly emotional. This does not win converts. Remember, Ronald Reagan always had a smile and positive outlook even when his critics were shouting in his face.

Step Three: We must be ready to compete in the marketplace of ideas as individuals—you and I. When we are presented with the opportunity to share our ideas with our independent friends, we must be ready to present them with rational arguments, precise facts and examples from history that prove our case, and we must do it in a way that challenges their opinions rather than confronting their sensibilities.

We as a society no longer must rely on a monolithic press. The independent voter has multiple news sources from which to choose. Republicans no longer must compete with Walter Cronkite for the truth. Simply put, we need to be in society’s arena to lead by example and explain to our independent friends why our country cannot afford progressive Democrats taking away our earnings, liberty and opportunity for the American dream because there is a better alternative. The future of our country is in our hands and in our political intellect. Success is as simple as living out our principles and speaking the truth in an effective manner.