



RWIR

Right Way Info Report

*Republican Women of Indian River
July 2013*

RWIR OFFICERS

2013

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ASST. TREASURER

ALLA KRAMER

PAST PRESIDENT

CONNIE WEBB

JULY MEETING

WHEN: *Monday, July 8, 2013*

WHERE: *Grand Harbor Clubhouse
4985 Club Terrace, Vero Beach*

(Reminder: No jeans, denim or cell phones in clubhouse)



**11:30 a.m. Social
12:00—1:00 Lunch & Meeting**

PROGRAM

**Dr. Alison Rampersad,
Asst. Professor/Lynn University
Discussion on Common Core**

MENU

**Half of a chicken salad croissant served with chilled gazpacho & fresh fruit.
Strawberry & Kiwi Torte for dessert**

COST: *\$18 in Cash Please*

**RSVP by Friday, July 5, to Betsy Craun
bbcaun@bellsouth.net or 772-770-2309**

Please note any special meal requests when you RSVP.

Valet parking is available

REMEMBER

We have **open seating** at our monthly meetings. If you are bringing a guest or need a special seat, please come early to make arrangements. Members are encouraged to sit with newcomers. If you arrive late or during the speaker's presentation, please look for the "late-comers" table at the back of the room. This will avoid confusion and unnecessary disruption.

Roni Fuster, Newsletter Editor

Contact Roni with newsletter information by the 15th of each month.

ronifus@comcast.net • 772-569-2787

President's Message



Carole Jean Jordan (on left) visits with Linda as she carries the flag on 4th of July, 2012.

As I was reading the Declaration of Independence to find something to write about, I began thinking about my Great, great, great grandfather James Gageby who fought in the American Revolution. James was born in Ireland in 1752, and like most young men in those days, was forced to serve in the British army to fight for them in the Colonies.

According to the writings of his granddaughter Mary Gageby, he came to America and landed in Boston harbor the night before the battle of Bunker Hill, which would have been June 16, 1775. James and 12 other Scots-Irish boys deserted the British army that night. With many others he joined the American army that same night and the next day fought against the British at Bunker Hill.

While stationed with the army along the Delaware River, he and others were recognized by a British soldier who reported them to the British officers. Seven of them were arrested: James, his brother John, and men named Brown, Hamill, Donalson, Graham and Pollock. They were tried and sentenced to be shot the next day as deserters. They were put in a stockade and a guard was assigned to watch them. The guard turned out to be a friend who pretended to be asleep while they readied their escape. They cut up their knapsacks and made ropes to let themselves down to the river side of the stockade and swam across the Delaware to safety. Six of them landed at the same place on the safe side of the Delaware. John Gageby did not show up, and they never heard from him.

However, there was a family of Gagebys living in northeastern Pennsylvania who were thought to be his descendants.

James repeatedly enlisted in the American revolutionary army to the close of the war. He was in Philadelphia on July 4, 1776, and present in Independence Hall as an eyewitness to the reading and signing of the Declaration of Independence. This had the effect of convincing him of the righteousness of the American Cause and, there after, always observed the 4th of July by fasting and prayer.

Linda

Join your Republican friends at all the festivities in Sebastian on the 4th of July.

"We Care" will be our slogan this year. Help is needed on Wednesday evening to decorate the float. We will gather at Irene Bush's home, located at 13370 Old Dixie Highway in Sebastian at 6:00 p.m. You're also invited to walk or ride in the parade. This year, we're very happy that Congressman Bill Posey will be joining us in the parade. If you want more information on the parade, contact Pat Stelz at 772-360-7272 or patsy1760@aol.com. If you want to help out at our new and improved exciting "interactive" booth call Alisa at 678-361-6454 or asartigas@aol.com; or call Headquarters at 772-770-1661 to sign up. There will be games, give-a-ways, a water mister, and a fun time for all on the special holiday.



RWIR Members Meet Scholarship Winners

Winners and their parents were guests at the June meeting. It was such a pleasure to meet Brianna Blum (pictured on the left), from Vero Beach High School who will be attending the University of Florida and Tristan Worthington from Charter High School, who will also be attending the University of Florida. Each read their winning essay which focused on "The Importance of the First Amendment." Carol Johnson, Scholarship Chair, praised the girls for their patriotism and insight. She said, "I think we're all in good hands with young people such as these. They will make us proud, I'm sure; and we hope to hear back from them in the future."



A Farewell

President Linda Teetz, took the opportunity to recognize and say goodbye to Trish Hickey-Reid, owner of Blondies On Ocean. "I want to thank Trish for her support and encouragement of the RWIR in helping us raise money for our outreach programs. Over the years she has always been so helpful with fashion shows and anything else we've asked of her." Blondies will be closing and Trish will be moving.



An editorial by the editor

A PHONE CALL YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS

If you ever receive a phone call around 7 p.m. from U.S. Congressman Bill Posey's office—**ACCEPT THE CALL!** It's an invitation to join in a **Tele-Town Hall Meeting**, which you will find interesting, informative and fascinating. At least I did. This technique of interactive dialogue has been used since 2005 by most Congressional members. George Cecala, Posey's Press Secretary explained: "Look at it as a giant conference call. It's an effective and economical way for Congressman Posey to stay in touch with his constituents while working in Washington. And, more importantly, he gets one-to-one, immediate feedback."



Posey having a good time at our Political Rally in 2010.

Posey loves his Tele-Town Hall sessions. He's all about "feedback." He uses all the input he receives from "us" to guide his decision-making process. It shapes his questions at committee hearings and his speeches on the floor. These giant conference calls are randomly made to selected zip codes. Party affiliation has nothing to do with selection. In fact, when operating out of any of Posey's three offices, discussions regarding campaign business, fund-raising or politics is prohibited by a code of ethics. Those discussions are reserved for campaign offices. When I listened in on the Tele-Town Hall Meeting held Wednesday, June 5, it was fascinating. Callers from both sides of the isle had questions—some of them very pointed: "I'm writing a book about a sensitive subject, and no one knows about it. Why would I get a call from the FBI asking me questions?" "I've lived in Vero my entire life and have watched our Indian River Lagoon become a cesspool. What can you do about it?" On a few calls, Posey admitted that he would have to get more information and asked the callers to please contact his office the next day. Typically some 40,000 calls are generated and 25% of them are accepted. That means over 10,000 people could be on the phone with you at the same time. I find that mind-boggling. The entire process is orchestrated by a tele-conferencing company.

Most of us who have come to know Congressman Bill Posey, realize that he is the consummate politician. He serves the people with this one thought in mind: **"How would I want my Congressman to conduct himself?"** And, that is how he comports himself in all his dealings. At a time when political corruption abounds, we find Bill Posey fighting for reform and cutting his operating budget so that he can return some \$500,000 back to the Treasury to the benefit of the taxpayer. He pays for his own foreign travel. And it doesn't stop there. In the four years that he has been in office, he has given back his \$4,700 a year Congressional raise/bonus. His net worth has actually declined since he has taken office. (Now, that's a novel concept.) Acting as a good steward, he strongly believes that serving the people in the political arena is not a career-building step. He has introduced bills that discourage and/or prohibit legislators from becoming lobbyists after retiring from politics. Cecala says, "After reading two books, *"Throw Them All Out,"* and *"Capitol Punishment: The Hard Truth About Corruption From America's Most Notorious Lobbyist,"* he became very focused on this subject. He believes that when you are elected to a political office, you do it as a public service...not to make money. To that end, since taking office he has abstained from all stock and real estate investing to avoid any conflicts of interest.

When it comes to serving all the people, Posey will work late into the night personally answering e-mails, posting information on Facebook, and utilizing as much of the social media as possible to "stay in touch." Typically, his beloved wife, RWIR friend, Katie, is right by his side. On those evenings during the Tele-Town Hall Meetings, Katie usually makes a home-cooked meal for staffers who work late with the Congressman. Now, this is how I want my Congressman to conduct himself! We're blessed to have Bill and Katie Posey as our friends.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Marie B. Storer
950 Regency Square, #326E
Vero Beach, FL 32967
772-999-2091
B/D 11/24
mariestorer@rocketmail.com

Gail Richardson has a new e-mail address:
GRaquel813@gmail.com

Dorothy Frances is now
Dorothy Frances-Osowski



July Birthdays

7/5 Gail Giacobbe
7/11 Janice Broda
7/14 Ladonna Thilenius
7/15 Carol Johnson
7/15 Carmen Noonan
7/19 Kay Clem
7/20 Jo Ann De Carlo
7/21 The Hon. Gayle Harrell
7/24 Marge Grall
7/28 Barbara Maclay

Keep These Members in Your Thoughts
And Prayers



Long time Republican activist Nancy Breedon passed away on May 29, after a lengthy illness.

On May 30, new member Inge Robinson passed away at the VNA Hospice House.

Last week Pattie Colvin's brother, Thomas Jordan, passed away.

Our sympathy and prayers go out to family and friends of these ladies.

What you missed at the last meeting!

FEELING THE PAIN OF OBAMACARE



Dr. Michaela Scott, a 45-year physician, who specializes in Internal Medicine and Hematology/Oncology, has practiced in Vero Beach since 1975. As a native of Germany, her global education and world view gives her a unique perspective on America's healthcare and government involvement. Her impassioned speech about Obamacare gave us much to think about.

Dr. Michaela Scott began her talk by apologizing for sharing such dismal information at such a lovely luncheon. "There is nothing 'affordable' about this Affordable Care Act known as Obamacare," she commented. "It was put into law on March 23, 2010, and to this day we still don't know what's in store for us because there are so many hidden agendas and so much bureaucratic involvement. It's a disaster." Remember, Nancy Pelosi said: "We have to approve this law before we know what is in it."

Unfortunately, Dr. Scott feels this government health care plan has been on the Democrats' drawing board for the last twenty years; and, on January 1, the general public will begin to feel the real pain of true Obamacare. "It's unexplainable why the Supreme Court upheld this law. It was passed with unprecedented partisan votes. Not one Republican voted in favor of it in either House," she said.

The trickle down effect of Obamacare is immense. The medical profession has already felt it with drastic cuts to Medicare patient reimbursement and restrictive access to hospitals and nursing services and facilities. The government now has control over all records and medical information. The new regulations will infringe on our personal freedoms and change the relationship we have with our doctors. She went on to say, "What is really frightening is that the office of the Secretary of Human Health & Services will have total control of the health care mandates. Basically, they will determine who gets care, where treatment is given and by whom. The criteria can be based on anything from age to degree of illness." Dr. Scott says these new mandates will fundamentally change the delivery of the health care that we have become accustomed to. Because the wheels have been in motion since 2010, she feels that even if we had a major change in our government, Obamacare is here to stay.

Medicare benefits will shrink because 40% of the funding for Obamacare will come from Medicare (that equates to 720 billion dollars). "To oversee Medicare, the administration has instituted an Independent Payment Advisory Board made up of 15 people who are from every walk of life except the medical field. They will have unprecedented power to decide who lives or dies. They will determine if it is worthwhile for you to get cancer treatment, dialysis, a pacemaker, heart surgery, etc. This board was created so the government is kept out of the decision-making loop. I pray that the public will rise up and say this is totally undemocratic in the sense that they were not elected, but appointed, and they are not responsible or accountable to anyone," Dr. Scott passionately explained.

Job stimulation in the private sector will suffer; however, jobs will explode in the government sector. Case in point: On Oct. 1, the government will send out 15-page applications to 30 million uninsured people. Many will not be capable of completing these applications. So, the government has hired and trained thousands of workers (they will be called navigators) to assist. After application approval, a 60 page document will then be issued. These applications will be scrutinized by IRS and Homeland Security personnel. Doctors will be told who they can treat, how they can treat, where they can treat and with which drugs. The relationship between doctor and patient will be severed.

Eventually doctors will get frustrated with this process and quit. It is projected that by 2015, 60,000 more doctors will be needed than are available. In preparation for this new system, Blue Cross/Blue Shield has already put into place free-standing clinics that be staffed by registered nurses, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant. They will screen the patients and then make referrals to a doctor when appropriate. "Concierge medicine may be a viable alternative because it may be the only way you can have a personal relationship with a physician," she offered.

Contrary to his promises, since Obama took office in 2008, insurance premiums have risen a minimum of 10% a year and undoubtedly will continue to climb. The administration has labeled many of these new fees as taxes, but in essence they are fines/penalties. The regulations will stifle small businesses which will not be able to comply. Employee hours will be cut and people will need two jobs to support a family. Thus, the employment scene will become worse. Large corporations will probably opt to pay penalties because it's less costly than insuring their employees. All of these uninsured people will then go into a government supported insurance program (the Health Exchange Insurance Plan). New taxes and hidden excise fees will be imposed on the tax payer, so that Obamacare is funded.

"We're to blame also," she said. "We should have seen the short-comings of this law. Paul Ryan had a very realistic plan for our health care insurance. He gave us a great budget, a way to save Medicare and continue with the care we are accustomed to. But, as we all know, Republicans didn't step up and give him a chance."

In closing, she summed it up by saying that Obamacare comes down to this: rationing life-saving treatment, violation of your privacy, and second guessing your doctor. A very dismal picture, indeed.

Scholarship Winners

Freedom of Speech by Tristan Worthington

I believe the most important freedom our country has been blessed with is the freedom of speech. This seemingly simple yet incredibly powerful ability to share ideas, concerns and questions is what our very nation was founded upon. Without the voices of the oppressed colonial peoples ringing out together and the extensive collaboration and dialogue between our founding fathers, American independence would not have become a reality, nor would we today enjoy such a level of unobscured truth, government accountability, and the many other additional freedoms that stem from our ability to speak out and be heard.

Without freedom of speech, our right to assemble would become largely irrelevant - for what can a group of motivated people accomplish if they are suppressed from communicating and addressing each other? Likewise, our right to speak our minds is what ensures that our freedom to practice religion is protected: we are able to express our beliefs, inspirations and spiritual feelings with each other, which is the basis of interconnected religious communities. Because of our freedom of speech, the people can rally together when injustice is experienced, and call upon the government to address their grievances and right what is wrong. We are able to question the actions of authorities and the powerful and hold them responsible to the law.

Truly, there is nothing we should hold dearer than our right to express ourselves, our thoughts, our concerns; our right to learn, to teach and to spread information and knowledge to each other; and our right to propose solutions to create a better and more viable future for generations to come - for these are the very things that are an expression of our humanity and our unflagging commitment to justice.



Proud Parents



John and Karen Blum with Brianna and Summer and Chip Worthington with Tristan.

Freedom of Speech by Brianna Blum



Freedom of Speech is critical for a democratic society. At the core of what makes us human is the ability to express ourselves privately and through the media. Our thoughts and ideas and the ability to discuss them publically is what makes us unique in the United States.

When compared to other countries that do not have freedom of speech, the United States values and enforces our constitutional right to Freedom of Speech. It is a right protected by the First Amendment to the Constitution written on December 15, 1791. According to Google, there are limitations to our freedom of speech. "Speech that involves incitement, false statement of fact, obscenity, child pornography, threats and speech owned by others are all completely exempt from First Amendment protection."

What is it like to live in a country without freedom of speech? How would our daily life be different? The most censored country in the world is considered to be North Korea. Communistic North Korea has no independent journalists and all the television and radio receivers sold in the country are locked to government-specified frequencies. In North Korea there is a term called the "big lie" which is that all news reported is positive. North Korea willingly suppresses news of dangers and hardships faced by their citizens.

I could not imagine life without freedom of speech. I would not be able to pick up the newspaper and read about world events and local happenings. I would not be able to turn on the television and watch the Today Show or MTV. All the information presented to me would be censored and my knowledge would be limited to only what the government wanted me to know. To me, freedom of speech is critical, and life without it would be unimaginable.