

The Trumpeter



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February 2012



CHAIR CORNER

by Michelle Loftus

2012 has roared in with a busy schedule. San Juan County Republicans are working to be heard. We are all busy watching the National Republican Presidential Debates and considering the strengths of those to lead us in the next eight years. However there is much to consider locally. The CAO and Charter Review meetings are currently in process. Thank you to all involved in these decisions for our county. So much personal time is sacrificed by the participants. You are truly appreciated.

Quickly upon us is the February 14th vote for the school district levies. The levies vary from district to district so I encourage all to read and decide if this is what you want your tax money to support. On San Juan Island the League of Women's Voters will sponsor a Town Hall Meeting January 24 at the Mullis Center 5:30- 6:30. We will be courted with slogans such as "It is for the children" and "It is a renewal not a new tax". You decide if the need is great enough to deserve your and your neighbor's money. Maybe it is deserving but maybe it could wait another year or two until the economy recovers. Maybe those people facing foreclosure on their homes and businesses could use that money in their pocket. Maybe the levy could wait. You decide and vote.

State wide we have seen the attention diverted away from the budget and focused on changing the definition of marriage. So when we were told Referendum 71 was enough it was a lie. What is marriage to you? Contact your state representative Kevin Ranker and let him know.

While you have Senator Ranker's ear let him know what you think about the new bill constructing layers of federal government control over our coastline. He says it is designed to help aquaculture and coastline industries but he is no businessman. Read SB 6263 and see the layers of agency approval he proposes for private and business coastal activities.

With state redistricting our Congressional District 2 has become smaller and bluer. With this challenge defeating Larsen will not be easy. I will keep you informed on this battle.

Our State Executive and Central Committee meeting has been delayed to February due to weather. I hope to visit there with candidates and party leaders. I will report to you in our next newsletter. Keep on your radar Michael Baumgartner, Kim Wyman, Bill Finkbeiner, Reagan Dunn and of course Rob McKenna. Find their websites and fill free to contact me if I can answer questions.

Michelle

SPECIAL EVENT

**Atlas Shrugged
Part I**
Free showing of
the movie
At the American
Legion Museum
Thursday, Feb. 2,
7:00 PM

SAN JUAN COUNTY CAUCUSES SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 2012

Politics ought to be the part-time profession of every citizen who would protect the rights and privileges of free people and who would preserve what is good and fruitful in our national heritage.

Dwight D. Eisenhower

Chances are that 80% of the people reading this have never attended a precinct caucus. And, chances are you're saying to yourself, "Why should I bother?"

Caucuses are important.

Here's why.

The Precinct Caucus is a traditional biennial meeting of the Republican and Democrat voters. You may have seen a lot in the news about the Iowa caucus. Only a few states still hold caucuses and Washington is one of those states that holds both a caucus and primary.

WHAT HAPPENS AT THE CAUCUS?

In most of Washington, voters from each precinct gather at separate locations. San Juan County, holds "pooled caucuses", with multiple precincts meeting at a designated location.

At the Caucus, attendees are asked to discuss and then fill out questionnaires about issues of most importance to them. The important part is that each of the caucus attendees has a chance to speak to the group about their preference as to who the presidential candidate for their party should

be.

After discussion, the group elects delegates to the county convention. The candidates to the county convention are usually elected based on their stated preference for a certain candidate.

Based on population, each precinct is allotted a certain number of delegates and alternates to the County Convention.

At the county convention, delegates are elected to attend the state convention, and the voting delegates develop the party platform for the biennium. The platform expresses the goals that the political party will work to achieve throughout the next two years.

WHY IS THE CAUCUS IMPORTANT?

In a state where there is no registration by political party, the caucuses serve as a way for Republicans and Democrats to identify party members. Voters must choose whether to attend the Democrat or Republican caucus and must sign a declaration of party affiliation in order to participate.

The caucus is also the place where neighbors can discuss political issues and candidates and get information. It's a place to use your powers of persuasion to convince others to vote for your choice of candidate.

In Washington State, voters choose the delegates to their county convention at the caucus. Those delegates to the county convention then vote on the county party platform and choose the

delegates to the state convention. At the state convention, delegates are entrusted to vote on the state party platform and to choose the candidates to the national convention where the party candidate for the office of President will be decided.

The caucus is truly the grassroots of politics and if you choose not to participate, you are missing out on one of the most direct and participative ways to be a part of the political process.

You should attend the caucus if you are interested in being a delegate to the county convention or if you want to have a say in who will be representing you at the convention and who your party candidate for President will be.

The people who represent us at the county and state convention will make a difference in what goes into the platform that represents our political views.

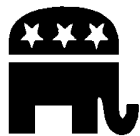
Republicans will hold their caucuses on Saturday March 3 at 10:00 AM.

All precincts will have pooled caucuses. Orcas 1, 2, Decatur, Blakely and Waldron are at the Orcas Island Firehall, 24 Lavender Lane, Eastsound.

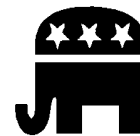
Orcas 3,4 at the American Legion 793 Crescent Beach, Eastsound. Lopez 1,2 at Woodmen Hall on Lopez. Shaw caucus will be at the home of Levi Rawls.

All of San Juan Island Precincts and Stuart Precincts will be at the San Juan Island Grange on First Street in Friday Harbor.





2012 Membership Opportunities



SAN JUAN COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY WORKING FOR YOU

Please send your check, payable to SJCRP, with this form to:
P.O. Box 2735
Friday Harbor, WA 98250

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

(Federal law requires us to collect employment information of all contributors. Contributions from foreign nationals are prohibited. Contributions to the SJCRP are not tax deductible for federal income tax purposes.)

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 Please contact me about volunteering my time & talents
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 Elephant Club \$250.00/year
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Thank you for your support! All monies raised stay in San Juan County.

Michelle Loftus
Chairman 378-4738

Dennis Hazelton
Vice Chairman 378-2080

Gordy Peterson
Secretary

Alex Gavora
Treasurer

Rebecca Johnson
State Committee Woman

Nick Johnson
State Committee Man



**San Juan County
Republican Party**

**P O Box 2735
Friday Harbor, WA 98250**

**Phone: 378-4738
Michelle Loftus , Chair
meloftus@centurytel.net**

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**CHECK THE WEBSITE!
HTTP://SJCPRP.ORG/**

**FRIEND US ON
FACE BOOK**

**San Juan County
Republican Party Officers**

**PRECINCT COMMITTEE
OFFICERS**

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Vice Chair: Dennis Hazelton
Secretary: Gordy Petersen
Treasurer: Alex Gavora
State Committee Man: Nick Johnson
State Committee Woman: Rebecca Johnson

Newsletter Editor: Minnie Knych

JOKE OF THE MONTH

Occupy Friday Harbor photo taken 1/13/12



“Stupid is as stupid does.”
~ Forrest Gump’s mom ~

**Who pays Federal Income Tax?
47% pay nothing**

Already 47% of American Taxpayers pay NOTHING to federal income tax.

What does 99% mean? Are these people protesting so that 99% can pay nothing in taxes—yet receive more support from those of us who pay? It’s a spending problem not a revenue problem.

You be the judge.

CAPTION CONTEST

What should the caption for this photo be? Send your entry to knych@rockisland.com We’ll print the winning entries along with another photo of the Occupy Friday Harbor group in the next newsletter.