The Patriot

Poll Workers of Okaloosa County

Summer 2012

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Poll Worker Coordinator
Jane Linihan

Election Services Manager
Karen Nennig

Election IS Manager
Darrell Tate

Voter Education &
PR Coordinator
Bridget Richard

Patriot Poll Workers,

Well, Election Season is not only here but in full swing! We've already conducted one of our three countywide elections this year, and I have to say that all of you did an awesome job dealing with the changes. That doesn't mean that we didn't experience some growing pains with some of our new procedures, but with a few tweaks and some more training, you will certainly have all the tools you need to succeed!

One of the additional challenges this year was an opportunity to re-draw precinct boundaries following redistricting. The number of our legislative representatives has shrunk, meaning that we have fewer splits and thus fewer ballot styles. Although this used to affect south-county precincts more, this time it is almost all confined to the north—with nearly all of the precinct boundary changes being done there. In the south county, instead of reducing and renumbering precincts, we have already begun to consolidate polling places. We have crunched the numbers and will be co-locating more and more precincts into combined locations, saving our taxpayers more money with each election.

Another change from the 2011 law—one we haven't been faced with yet—deals with the way poll watchers are managed. Bailiffs, you will be front and center as part of this new procedure, so expect a lot more in-depth training this time around.

One final note I want to add serves to emphasize what a great job you are doing. A Poll Worker Resolution praising you for your outstanding service and dedication was passed by the Florida Senate in February this year right before session ended. Congratulations on this well deserved recognition! We have included a copy of that resolution in this newsletter.

Good luck to each of you, have a great election and thank you!

Jane's Corner

One election down, two to go. Thanks to all of you who rearranged your schedules to participate in the January election that we had expected to have in March. We couldn't have done it without you.

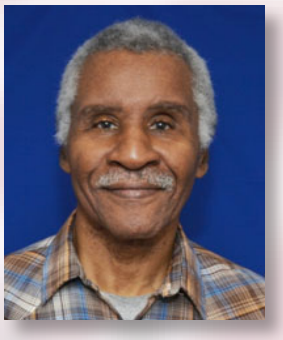
Many of you have been attending meetings, work parties, and extra training sessions to get ready for the next two elections. Eighteen precincts have merged or changed locations and poll workers have actively been involved in all these changes. Some of you will find you have new Clerks and will be going to new precincts.

Sheriff Ashley has accepted an invitation to speak to our Bailiffs at two lunch/training sessions scheduled on September 18th in Crestview and September 20th in Ft. Walton Beach from 10am – 1pm. This will take the place of the October training, so Bailiffs, mark your calendars.

I hope you know by now how much we appreciate our poll workers. You keep us laughing, smiling and proud.

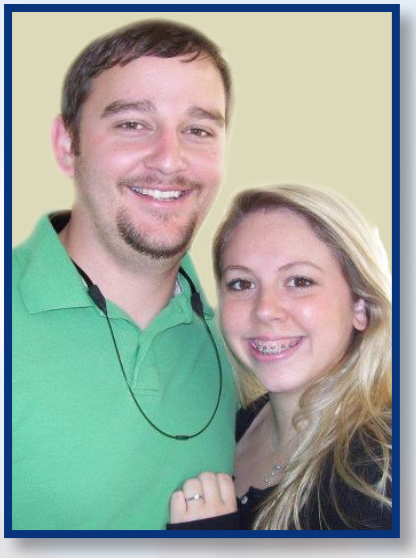
See you in July!

Jane



Dedication

We would like to dedicate this issue of The Patriot to the memory of Paul Lowe, a poll worker who suffered a heart attack at our January training class and ultimately passed away. Since 2010, Paul served as the Bailiff at Precinct 13, Woodlawn Baptist Church in Crestview. He took his job as Bailiff very seriously and was very conscientious about taking care of "his voters." He was always on the lookout for a voter who might need assistance, and always made himself available to help the Clerk and Assistant Clerk in any way possible. Paul's wife Eva, who is also one of our loyal poll workers, remains in touch with us, filling us in on family happenings. We wish her well, and we will miss Paul greatly.



Our very own warehouse North County troubleshooter Dustin Ball and his fiancée Miss Autumn Rudd will marry on July 14th. The couple plan to honeymoon at Disney World.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Hello, Patriot Poll Workers! I'm Bridget Richard, your new Voter Education and Public Relations Coordinator. I am truly excited to be working for the Supervisor of Elections! I grew up on the Emerald Coast and graduated from Ft. Walton Beach High School. After college I worked in higher education, media public affairs and advertising. I look forward to meeting and working with all the wonderful Poll Workers I've heard such great things about!

Bridget

OKALOOSA COUNTY
2012 ELECTION-SPECIFIC TRAINING CLASSES

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	WHO
August 14, 2012 Primary Election Classes			
Mon. July 16	8:30 a.m.	FWB Water & Sewer Bldg., 3rd Floor Conference Room	Trainers Only
Wed. July 18	8:15 a.m.	Trinity United Methodist Church, FWB	**ALL NEW POLL WORKERS (never worked OR not worked since 2009)**
Thurs. July 19	8:15 a.m.	First Baptist Church, 798 Pearl St N, Crestview	**ALL NEW POLL WORKERS (never worked OR not worked since 2009)**
Fri. July 20	8:15 a.m. 1:15 p.m.	First Presbyterian Church, Niceville First Presbyterian Church, Niceville*	Experienced Inspectors/All Bailiffs Experienced Inspectors/All Bailiffs
Mon. July 23	8:15 a.m. 1:30 p.m. 5:45 p.m.	Trinity United Methodist Church, FWB Trinity United Methodist Church, FWB Trinity United Methodist Church, FWB	Experienced Inspectors/All Bailiffs Experienced Inspectors/All Bailiffs Experienced Inspectors/All Bailiffs
Tues. July 24	1:00 p.m. 5:45 p.m.	First Baptist Church, 798 Pearl St N, Crestview First Baptist Church, 798 Pearl St N, Crestview	Experienced Inspectors/All Bailiffs Experienced Inspectors/All Bailiffs
Thurs. July 26	8:15 a.m. 1:30 p.m. 5:45 p.m.	Ag Building, Crestview Trinity United Methodist Church, FWB Trinity United Methodist Church, FWB	Clerks/Assistant Clerks Clerks/Assistant Clerks Clerks/Assistant Clerks
November 6, 2012 General Election Classes			
Mon. Oct. 8	8:30 a.m.	FWB Water & Sewer Bldg., 3rd Floor Conference Room	Trainers Only
Wed. Oct. 10	8:15 a.m.	Trinity United Methodist Church, FWB	**ALL NEW POLL WORKERS (never worked OR not worked since 2009)**
Thurs. Oct. 11	8:15 a.m.	First Baptist Church, 798 Pearl St N, Crestview	**ALL NEW POLL WORKERS (never worked OR not worked since 2009)**
Fri. Oct. 12	8:15 a.m. 1:15 p.m.	First Presbyterian Church, Niceville First Presbyterian Church, Niceville*	Experienced Inspectors/All Bailiffs Experienced Inspectors/All Bailiffs
Mon. Oct. 15	8:15 a.m. 1:30 p.m. 5:45 p.m.	Trinity United Methodist Church, FWB Trinity United Methodist Church, FWB Trinity United Methodist Church, FWB	Experienced Inspectors/All Bailiffs Experienced Inspectors/All Bailiffs Experienced Inspectors/All Bailiffs
Tues. Oct. 16	1:00 p.m. 5:45 p.m.	First Baptist Church, 798 Pearl St N, Crestview First Baptist Church, 798 Pearl St N, Crestview	Experienced Inspectors/All Bailiffs Experienced Inspectors/All Bailiffs
Thurs. Oct. 18	8:15 a.m. 1:30 p.m. 5:45 p.m.	Ag Building, Crestview Trinity United Methodist Church, FWB Trinity United Methodist Church, FWB	Clerks/Assistant Clerks Clerks/Assistant Clerks Clerks/Assistant Clerks

New Afternoon Class in Niceville!

New Afternoon Class in Niceville!

* We have added a Niceville afternoon class to make class size more manageable.

PLEASE NOTE: This calendar is strictly for your planning purposes. You will receive a letter and return post card in the mail prior to each election's classes if we need you to work. Please wait until you receive your letter, and then mark your class selection and/or comments on the return post card supplied.

Classes are on a first-come, first-served basis so return your card immediately to reserve your seat.

POLL WORKER PRIDE

Florida Senate Resolution

By Senator Fasano

* * * * * * * * * * * * * *

A resolution commending those who serve as election day officials at polling places throughout Florida for their outstanding service and dedication.

WHEREAS, freedom is best maintained and nurtured through the democratic process, which requires fair and open elections that accurately reflect the intent of the electorate, and

WHEREAS, the supervisors of elections have long relied upon election day officials to assist them in administering elections, and

WHEREAS, those seeking to become election officials are extraordinarily committed in attending training sessions to learn policies, procedures, and responsibilities to ensure that voting is administered in a fair, nondiscriminatory, and transparent manner, and

WHEREAS, election day officials enthusiastically assist fellow citizens during the election process with early voting and at polling places, ensuring accurate and trouble-free elections along with timely results, and

WHEREAS, election day officials are responsible for administering all activities at polling places in Florida, and have remained willing, positive, and innovative throughout the many changes in election procedures, policies, and voting equipment, and

WHEREAS, election day officials have served as ambassadors of the supervisors of elections and have contributed to the high level of integrity in the election process in Florida, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

That the Senate commends those who serve as election day officials at polling places throughout Florida for their outstanding service and dedication.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * *

This is a true and correct copy of Senate Resolution No. 1296, adopted by the Florida Senate on February 23, 2012.

Mike Haridopolos
President of the Senate

ATTEST:

Debbie Brown
Secretary of the Senate

After-Action Meetings

After every election, the Clerks and Assistant Clerks get together with our Supervisor of Elections for an After-Action Potluck Meeting. These meetings have proven extremely beneficial for both staff and poll workers. We are able to discuss procedures, problems and interesting election-day stories, which help us to continue to provide excellent service on election day. Plus, the food at these meetings is always delicious!

South County After-Action Potluck Meeting

North County After-Action Potluck Meeting

Patriot Poll Worker Polos

Our very popular white patriotic polos will be available to purchase at our training classes in July. With a cost of $27 each, the shirts are affordable, very comfortable and lend an air of patriotism to the polling place.

If you would like to purchase a shirt on class day, please come prepared with cash or your check made payable to the Supervisor of Elections. We will have a limited quantity of these shirts on hand, so first-come, first-served!

Contact	Phone	Your Cost
Daisy Day Brands 99 Eglin Pkwy NE, #19 Fort Walton Beach FL 32548	850.664.2113	$5.50
Julie Sullivan Niceville FL 32578	850.897.7876	$5.50
Uniform Connection-Trophy Shop 779 Ferdon Blvd N Crestview FL 32536	850.682.6288	$7.00

Embroidery is entirely optional. You may choose to have your name embroidered by anyone of your choosing or you may choose to have your shirt embroidered with our Patriot Poll Worker logo. Our logo may only be embroidered by one of the three authorized locations listed.

Paul Lux, Supervisor of Elections
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GRAPE SALAD
Teresa Johnson, Pct 2

1 (8-oz) pkg sour cream
1 (8-oz) pkg cream cheese
½ c. sugar
¼ c light brown sugar
½ c. pecans
2 c. green or white grapes
2 c. red grapes

Mix together all ingredients except the grapes. Mix well and pour over the grapes. Place in refrigerator for several hours before serving. Have grapes as dry as possible, so mixture will stick to them.

Enjoy!

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