

# The Patriot

Poll Workers of Okaloosa County

Summer 2017



## IN THIS ISSUE:

A Note from Paul Lux

Jane's Corner

2018 Class Schedule

Work Parties

Training Photos

National Voter  
Registration Day

Training Videos

## PATRIOT SUPPORT TEAM:

Supervisor of Elections  
Paul Lux

Poll Worker Coordinator  
Jane Linihan

Election Services Manager  
Karen Nennig

Voter Education & PR Coordinator  
Katie Wainwright

Elections Warehouse Foreman  
Dustin Ball

Voting Machine Technician  
Matt Cunningham

Patriot Poll Workers,

The March Municipal elections went off without a hitch, as expected. With just under half of the precincts opening, we didn't have spots to bring in all of our Patriot Poll Workers. Those of you who did work did an excellent job, and equipment problems and procedural issues were few and far between. Although the format of "voting for more than 1" was new to the voters of Fort Walton Beach, they handled it easily with your help and guidance.

The biggest challenge ahead of us will be pending personnel changes. I don't want to diminish any announcements made in other parts of this newsletter here, but suffice it to say that I continue to be just as committed to ensuring that one of my office's greatest assets — you, our Patriot Poll Workers — continue to have all of the support, training and materials that make Okaloosa County's Poll Worker Program the best in the nation!

I know we have had a plethora of retirements (many forced by illnesses) among your ranks as well. Those who are no longer able to serve have my deepest gratitude for all of their years of hard work, dedication, and service to the voters of Okaloosa County. They will be missed but never forgotten!

I will close with just a few words about Russian hackers and elections security. First, the election itself was not "hacked" in any State or jurisdiction in our nation. What is being called "election hacking" in the media is nothing more than a reference to intrusion of voter registration systems (mostly full of publicly available information) and email hacking (which occurs somewhere every single day). Second, I was privileged to have been asked by the Election Assistance Commission in Washington to participate in a symposium on Cybersecurity in Elections at the end of May. Know that my staff and I are committed to doing everything in our power to protect the integrity of our elections here and elsewhere.

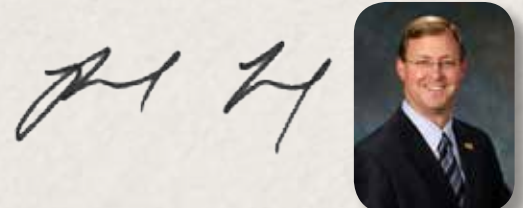
I want you all to have a safe summer and come back next year (I won't see many of you until July 2018), refreshed and ready to deliver two more flawless elections for our voters here in Okaloosa County!



**Jacque Blankenship, Margaret Blakley, Katie Wainwright, and Paul Lux at the 2016 Latin Salsa Festival**



**Jane Linihan leading a poll worker workshop**



# Jane's Corner

I became a poll worker over 30 years ago and worked two election cycles with a manual of about eight pages, which simply covered how to open and close the behemoth curtained lever machines. Election night ended about 10:30 p.m. as we finally got our counts and locked up the machines. We've come a long way!

The 2016 November election was almost flawless, and our count was in by 7:30 p.m. New equipment, new procedures, along with enthusiastic and dedicated poll workers trained in small groups by committed Trainers resulted in a huge election success.



**Advisory Board Members and Alternates**  
(standing, L to R: Kerrie Serpa,  
Henry Gross, Jacque Blankenship,  
Bill Ham, Pinky Ward  
Seated, L to R: Sharon Sasser,  
Sam Perman, Margaret Blakley)

Of course, there will always be changes. One change is having poll workers share their culinary talents by providing the snacks for classes. We tried this in the March municipal training sessions with great response. For example, Nancy Hale (pictured) brought red, white and blue fruit kabobs, muffins and sausage party ryes (recipe on the last page of newsletter).



**Nancy Hale and her delicacies**

A second change is the creation of our Poll Worker Advisory Board. Board members will represent and be advocates for the poll workers in interaction with the Poll Worker Coordinator and the Supervisor of Elections. The Board is comprised of five permanent members plus alternates, pictured. Bill Ham will be the Chair.

A third change is in the SOE staff. A new Poll Worker Coordinator will be named to take my place as I am finally retiring the end of September. I know you will welcome and support the new Coordinator and continue to be the best poll workers in the nation. It's been a pleasure working with Okaloosa County poll workers, the kind of people who love God and their country. I will miss you all!

*Jane*



**Advisory Board Members  
having fun with Jane Linihan**



# 2018 Election-Specific Training Classes

Classes are on a first-come, first-served basis.

DAY	DATE	TIMES	LOCATION	WHO
<b>March 13, 2018 Municipal Election Classes (Cinco Bayou, Destin, Mary Esther, and Valparaiso)</b>				
Tues.	Feb. 27	9:00 am	Salvation Army Chapel, FWB	All Poll Workers
<b>August 28, 2018 Primary Election Classes</b>				
Tues.	July 17	9:00 am	First Baptist Church, Crestview	Trainers <b>ONLY</b>
Wed.	July 18	9:00 am	First Baptist Church, Crestview	Clerks/Assistant Clerks
Thurs.	July 19	1:00 pm 5:30 pm	Trinity United Methodist Church, FWB Trinity United Methodist Church, FWB	Clerks/Assistant Clerks Clerks/Assistant Clerks
Tues.	July 24	9:00 am 1:00 pm 5:30 pm	Trinity United Methodist Church, FWB Trinity United Methodist Church, FWB Trinity United Methodist Church, FWB	Experienced Inspectors Experienced Inspectors Experienced Inspectors
Thurs.	July 26	1:00 pm 5:30 pm	Woodlawn Baptist Church, Crestview Woodlawn Baptist Church, Crestview	Experienced Inspectors Experienced Inspectors
Tues.	July 31	9:00 am 1:00 pm	First Presbyterian Church, Niceville First Presbyterian Church, Niceville	Exp. Inspectors: <b>ONLY</b> Pcts 16/37, 20, 25/36/43, 26/40, 46 All Other Experienced Inspectors
Thurs.	Aug. 2	10:30 am	First Baptist Church, Crestview	North County Bailiffs / Luncheon
Fri.	Aug. 3	10:30 am	Salvation Army Chapel, FWB	South County Bailiffs / Luncheon
Tues.	Aug. 7	9:00 am	Trinity United Methodist Church, FWB	<b>ALL NEW POLL WORKERS (never worked OR not worked since 2015)</b>
Thurs.	Aug. 9	9:00 am	First Baptist Church, Crestview	<b>ALL NEW POLL WORKERS (never worked OR not worked since 2015)</b>
<b>November 6, 2018 General Election Classes</b>				
Tues.	Sep. 25	9:00 am	First Baptist Church, Crestview	Trainers <b>ONLY</b>
Wed.	Sep. 26	9:00 am	First Baptist Church, Crestview	Clerks/Assistant Clerks
Thurs.	Sep. 27	1:00 pm 5:30 pm	Trinity United Methodist Church, FWB Trinity United Methodist Church, FWB	Clerks/Assistant Clerks Clerks/Assistant Clerks
Tues.	Oct. 2	9:00 am 1:00 pm 5:30 pm	Trinity United Methodist Church, FWB Trinity United Methodist Church, FWB Trinity United Methodist Church, FWB	Experienced Inspectors Experienced Inspectors Experienced Inspectors
Thurs.	Oct. 4	1:00 pm 5:30 pm	Woodlawn Baptist Church, Crestview Woodlawn Baptist Church, Crestview	Experienced Inspectors Experienced Inspectors
Tues.	Oct. 9	9:00 am 1:00 pm	First Presbyterian Church, Niceville First Presbyterian Church, Niceville	Exp. Inspectors: <b>ONLY</b> Pcts 16/37, 20, 25/36/43, 26/40, 46 All Other Experienced Inspectors
Thurs.	Oct. 11	9:00 am	First Baptist Church, Crestview	North County Bailiffs
Fri.	Oct. 12	9:00 am	Salvation Army Chapel, FWB	South County Bailiffs
Tues.	Oct. 16	9:00 am	Trinity United Methodist Church, FWB	<b>ALL NEW POLL WORKERS (never worked OR not worked since 2015)</b>
Wed.	Oct. 17	9:00 am	First Baptist Church, Crestview	<b>ALL NEW POLL WORKERS (never worked OR not worked since 2015)</b>

**Please note:** This 2018 Training Classes schedule is strictly for your planning purposes. Reserve the training date of your choice on your calendar **now**.

# Work Parties

Work parties are made up of poll workers who just love to volunteer! They iron first-time voter flags, clean binders for re-use, tab sample ballots for mailing, organize forms for the Blue Cart, help with ballots after an election, place new labels on booklets to update materials, and too many other jobs to list. All of the work they do saves taxpayer money.



**Henry Gross inserting tab labels in dividers**



**Jacque Blankenship preparing dividers for poll worker manuals**



**Bill Ham refurbishing binders**

Work parties are also an opportunity to visit with other poll workers, share experiences, and most importantly, go out to lunch together! To be a part of the group, all you have to do is call!



**Margaret Blakley and Sharon Sasser ironing first-time voter flags**

## 2017 Municipal Training



**Precinct 27/28**

Eighteen precincts participated in the 2017 Municipal Elections. Though the election was small and turnout low, poll workers trained diligently so we would have another smooth election.



**Precinct 9**



**Precinct 19**



**Paul Lux swearing in North County Bailiffs**



**Precinct 11**

# National Voter Registration Day



**Okaloosa**

**Niceville Walmart**

**Joe Reichal, Becky Matthews, Paul Lux  
Shirley Burt, Nita Naber**

National Voter Registration Day (NVRD) is held the fourth Tuesday of every September in an effort to help voters register to vote for the first time or to update their record. It's a great opportunity for us to get out and connect with voters. All four local Walmart stores participated by allowing us to set up a table at each location for a day of registration and interaction with voters all across Okaloosa County.



**Crestview Walmart**

**Colleen Delery, Jim Connors, Paul Lux**



**Destin Walmart**

**Paul Lux, Cathy Trotter, Don Rogers**

We more than doubled our registration totals from 42 in 2015 to 105 in 2016. We could not do it without all of you, our wonderful Patriot Poll Workers, and hope to have just as much enthusiasm this year! Our next National Voter Registration Day will be held September 26, 2017. If you are interested in volunteering this year, give me a call!

*-Katie Wainwright, Voter Education and PR Coordinator*

## Training Videos

We are pleased to announce that we have begun the process to put training videos online for you to review whenever you need to. The videos for the DS200 and the AutoMARK are nearing completion. Coming soon will be videos on the EVIDs, the Greeter position, the Bailiff position, and more! Stay tuned!



**Paul Lux, Supervisor of Elections**  
**Okaloosa County**  
**302 Wilson Street N, Ste 102**  
**Crestview, FL 32536**



FIRST-CLASS MAIL  
PRESORTED  
US POSTAGE PAID  
CRESTVIEW FL  
PERMIT NO 4

## Sausage Party Ryes

*by Nancy Hale*

1 lb. Ground Beef      1 t. Oregano  
1 lb. Sausage          2 Loaves Party Rye Bread  
1 lb. Velveeta

Cook ground beef and sausage in large skillet until brown; drain. Cut cheese into small squares and stir into meat mixture until melted. Add oregano. Spread 1 T. meat mixture on each bread slice. Place on baking sheets and bake at 400° for 8 minutes. Remove and enjoy! If you want to freeze to bake later, place in a single layer and freeze. Then put in plastic bags and return to freezer. Thaw before baking. (Recipe makes about 70.)



Didn't see yourself in our newsletter? See if your photo is on our Facebook Page!

[www.facebook.com/OkaloosaCountySupervisorofElections](http://www.facebook.com/OkaloosaCountySupervisorofElections)

*Share this issue of The Patriot with others! Our newsletter can be found online at [www.GoVote-Okaloosa.com](http://www.GoVote-Okaloosa.com).*

**Election Headquarters**  
302 Wilson Street N, Ste 102  
Crestview, FL 32536  
Phone: 850.689.5600  
Fax: 850.689.5644



**Branch Office**  
1250 Eglin Pkwy, Ste 103  
Shalimar, FL 32579  
Phone: 850.651.7272