



Thursday – March 9, 2017

"Will Trumpism Lead to a Long-term Party Realignment?"

Presented by Rich Piper, Ph.D.

Rich Piper (Ph.D., Cornell University) is Professor Emeritus of Political Science at The University of Tampa, where he taught for 32 years, directed the Honors Program for 12 years and also chaired the faculty and the Division of Social Sciences. He is the author of **two published books, *Ideologies and Institutions* and *The Major Nation-States of the European Union***, as well as numerous scholarly articles on American and European politics. Rich is also a political activist in numerous progressive groups and divides his time now between these political causes and caring for his grandchildren, aged four and three. Rich is a current member of our club and a past board member.



Although the 2016 outcome holds no silver lining, it does create an opportunity to take stock of center-left strengths and limitations, bolster party organizations, and devise new and more effective strategies for organizing and mobilizing citizens. Come and hear Rich's ideas about our political future.

Be sure to join us for this very important program. Please RSVP ASAP. GPDemocraticClub@aol.com or 727-360-3971.

CLUB OFFICERS

President-Mike Clifford
Vice Pres-Barbara Della Lucia
Secretary-Sharon Clifford
Treasurer-Janelle Quinn

BOARD MEMBERS:

Mary Lou Ambrose
Joe Barkley
Paul Drecchio
Ben Friedlander
Nancy Hoppe
Betty Morgenstein
Dr. Arnett Smith



WHEN:	MARCH 9, 2017 SOCIAL HOUR: 6:00 PM DINNER: 6:30 PM
WHERE:	BANQUET MASTERS 13355 49 TH St N (One block south of Ulmerton)
MENU:	Banquet Masters' Buffet
PRICE:	\$18.00
RESERVATIONS:	Betty Morgenstein 727-360-3971 Susan Sullivan 727-577-6359 Email: GPDemocraticClub@aol.com

Please honor your reservation!!



LET'S TRY SOMETHING NEW (Stop Meeting Reminder Phone Calls?)

As you know, we have been trying to convert our notices to email and, although there have been a few glitches, it seems to be going very well. We feel we can reach many more people this way and save time and money.

Now, I would like to try something else. For years our stalwart callers have been making monthly calls reminding you of the meeting. Most of the time the callers have had to leave messages. With our ability to email reminders to you, I am hoping we would not need these wonderful callers. I would like to try this month not having them reach out to you.

Remember, the meetings are always the second Thursday of the month. To make a reservation, follow the instructions on the notice. Our goal is always to “Grow the Club.” In these trying times, our work is certainly cut out for us. Betty

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WELCOME TO THE LOONEY BIN



January 20, a day that will live in infamy. A day that began the notorious “100 days.” As each day has clicked off, there has been one surprise after another. As billionaires and mere millionaires have been named to cabinet posts for which many of them were totally unqualified, as first daughter’s clothes have been bumped from stores, as the president tries to figure out what he thinks of Russia, the world stares at us in amazement. Enough has been said about The Donald but, saddest of all, is the reaction of the Republican Congress. In spite of all the craziness, they have been following blindly agreeing with everything Trump wants.

The Women’s March showed that all of America was not insane. However there are still Trump voters who think he is doing a good job. As this man without any political experience continues to do and say the wrong thing, ignores the truth, and places blame on everyone else, we watch and wait for the other shoe to drop. Stay tuned, it will be coming.

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DUES ARE DUE NOW! INVOICES HAVE BEEN MAILED

At \$15 per year, membership in the Greater Pinellas Democratic Club is the best bargain in town. You should have received a Dues Invoice with a self addressed envelope for your convenience in remitting to us. Your check should be made payable to **GPDC** and mailed to PO Box 11175, St Petersburg, FL 33733.

COFFEE MUGS

The coffee mugs we’ve started giving to our speakers are a big hit. We will have some available for sale at our March meeting for \$10



SEE HOW TRUMP IS (UNWITTINGLY) ACTUALLY MAKING
AMERICA GREAT AGAIN - REALLY!

I can't believe I'm saying this, but it looks like Trump is actually making America great again. Just look at the progress made since the election:

1. Unprecedented levels of ongoing civic engagement.
2. Millions of Americans now know who their state and federal representatives are without having to google.
3. Millions of Americans are exercising more. They're holding signs and marching every week.
4. Alec Baldwin is great again. Everyone's forgotten he's kind of a jerk.
5. The Postal Service is enjoying the influx cash due to stamps purchased by millions of people for letter and postcard campaigns.
6. Likewise, the pharmaceutical industry is enjoying record growth in sales of anti-depressants.
7. Millions of Americans now know how to call their elected officials and know exactly what to say to be effective.
8. Footage of town hall meetings is now entertaining.
9. Tens of millions of people are now correctly spelling words like emoluments, narcissist, fascist, misogynist, holocaust and cognitive dissonance.
10. Everyone knows more about the rise of Hitler than they did last year.
11. Everyone knows more about legislation, branches of power and how checks and balances work.
12. Marginalized groups are experiencing a surge in white allies.
13. White people in record numbers have just learned that racism is not dead. (See #6)
14. White people in record numbers also finally understand that Obamacare IS the Affordable Care Act.
15. Stephen Colbert's "Late Night" finally gained the elusive #1 spot in late night talk shows, and Seth Meyers is finding his footing as today's Jon Stewart.
16. "Mike Pence" has donated millions of dollars to Planned Parenthood since Nov. 9th.

17. Trump has succeeded where thousands of history teachers failed - now everybody knows who Frederick Douglass was.

18. Melissa FREAKING McCarthy.

19. Travel ban protesters put \$24 million into ACLU coffers in just 48 hours, enabling them to hire 200 more attorneys. Lawyers are now heroes.

20. As people seek veracity in their news sources, respected news outlets are happily reporting a substantial increase in subscriptions, a boon to a struggling industry vital to our democracy.

21. Live streaming court cases and congressional sessions are now as popular as the Kardashians.

22. Massive cleanup of facebook friend lists.

23. People are reading classic literature again. Sales of George Orwell's "1984" increased by 10,000% after the inauguration. (Yes, that is true. 10,000%. 9th grade Lit teachers all over the country are now rock stars.)

24. More than ever before, Americans are aware that education is important. Like, super important.

25. Now, more than anytime in history, everyone believes that anyone can be President. Seriously, anyone.

Sean Conners, AmericanNewsX - <http://americannewsx.com/author/sean-conners/>

ANNUAL PICNIC 
SUNDAY - MAY 21, 2017 - 11 AM - 3:00 PM

We're back in Pavillion 14 at Ft DeSoto Park. If you have attended before, you know what a wonderful, fun event this is. You can swim in the Gulf, meet our candidates and elected officials, socialize and commiserate with other friendly Democrats, and enjoy some good food.

This is our primary fundraiser for candidates so we encourage your participation. Please consider becoming a sponsor. You will be acknowledged on a banner which we will hang at our meetings. Sponsorship levels include Silver (\$50 - \$99), Gold (\$100 - \$199) and Platinum (\$200 +).

Additional information will be forthcoming at our meetings and via email.

DEM SHORTS

UPCOMING ELECTIONS IN PINELLAS COUNTY

March 14, 2017 – The following **Pinellas County Municipalities** will be holding an election on this date: Gulfport, Indian Rocks Beach, Madeira Beach, North Redington Beach, Redington Shores, Safety Harbor, South Pasadena, St Pete Beach, Tarpon Springs and Treasure Island. If you live in any of these communities, you can click on this link to check out the sample ballot: <http://www.votepinellas.com/Election-Information/Municipal-Offices-Up-for-Election>

August 29, 2017 - **St Petersburg Primary Election** will be held on this date. Offices up for election are Mayor and Council Seats 2,4,6,8.

November 7, 2017 - **St Petersburg Municipal General Election** will be held on this date. On the ballot will be the offices of Mayor and Council Seats 2,4,6,8. There will also be a **Countywide Referendum for Re-Authorizing the Penny for Pinellas**.

DARDEN RICE - St Petersburg City Council Chair, **DARDEN RICE**, will be kicking off her reelection campaign on **Monday, March 6, 6:00 – 8:00 PM**, at The Chattaway, 358 22nd Avenue South, St Petersburg, FL 33705. Light snacks will be provided and drinks will be available for purchase. Darden represents City Council District 4.

2017 GPDC MEETING DATES (FOR YOUR CALENDAR)

Thursday - April 13, 2017

Thursday - May 11, 2017

Sunday - May 21, 2017 – PICNIC

Thursday - June 8, 2017

Thursday – July 13, 2017

Thursday – August 10, 2017

Thursday – September 14, 2017

Thursday – October 12, 2017

Thursday – November 9, 2017

Thursday – December 14, 2017

CLUB ELECTIONS WILL TAKE PLACE MARCH 9TH

In addition to the Officers and Board members listed at the first page of this newsletter, member **Philip Hawko** has thrown his name into the rink. We'll be voting on the slate March 9th.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: greaterpinellasdems.org

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!--Greater Pinellas Democratic Club

Link to other Pinellas Democratic Clubs:

<http://www.pinellasdemocrats.org/about-us/democratic-clubs-and-caucuses/>

