



# The Tesson Times

A Publication of the  
Tesson Ferry Township Republican Club  
Volume 21 #05  
May 2016

## May 2016 Meeting

**Date:** Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
**Time:** 7:00 pm  
**Place:** Abiding Savior Lutheran Church  
4355 Butler Hill Road , Cafeteria  
**Speaker:** Dr. Randy Jotte, Candidate for  
Missouri 1<sup>st</sup> District Senate Seat



Our speaker for May is Dr. Randy Jotte, candidate for Missouri Senate District #1. Our regular meeting will be 7:00 pm on April 14<sup>th</sup> at Abiding Savior Lutheran church, 4355 Butler Hill Road. (North of the Schnucks shopping center at Highway 55 and Butler Hill Road.) Our meeting room is located on the lower level of the church and is accessible by elevator. Park in the back of the church.



## April Meeting Highlights

Rick Stream, candidate for Missouri Senate District 15, spoke at our April meeting. He made a number of important observations regarding the Obama administration and the state of our country. Obama has basically wrecked the middle class with no job growth and an actual unemployment rate of 11%. Our military strength is dangerously low. The Navy is at World War I levels, the Air Force has the lowest number of planes in history and the Army is at 1940's level before we entered World War II. Our biggest enemy to our freedom lies in Washington, DC. The Democrat Party is the party of the past while the Republican Party is the party of the future and we need to support whoever the Republican candidate for president may be. Mr. Stream outlined his priorities for the state. (1) Economic development which includes reducing the tax burden on both businesses and individuals. He wants to attract new businesses to this state. (2) Educational reform. (3) Right to work. (4) Fighting Corruption. Things will dramatically change in Missouri if we get a Republican governor in office. Mr. Stream is a Navy veteran, a project manager in the Dept. of Defense and a former Missouri state representative. Be sure to visit his website: [www.teamrickstream.com](http://www.teamrickstream.com).

Cloria Brown updated the club on progress in the Missouri legislature. The house has passed 236 bills, but they are bogged down in the Senate. The paycheck protection bill which passed both houses has been vetoed by the governor and 109 votes are needed to override this in the house. The house passed a pro-life bill that closed some loopholes regarding reporting practices by Planned Parenthood. A bill that Cloria sponsored has passed. Twenty-five other states have similar bills that require businesses to post signs with a hot line number to report human trafficking.

The club voted David Gregory to serve as Sergeant-at-Arms.

John Judd updated the club on various items. Over 500 people attended the St. Louis County Lincoln/Reagan Days banquet. Mike Tschlis won a seat on the Lindbergh School Board but Lori Trakas lost her re-election bid for the Mehlville School Board. The April 9<sup>th</sup> township caucus went smoothly with 51 attendees. Four propositions were passed by the caucus to be taken to the state convention. (1) A requirement that Missouri adopt a closed primary system. (2) A change in Medicare rules that would not penalize people for drawing into their retirement assets to pay for nursing home care. (3) Federal term limits for all congressmen. (4) State term limits for those Missouri offices that currently lack such limits.

Calendar items included:

- (1) The April 17<sup>th</sup> ROY fundraiser banquet with over 100 people attending.
- (2) The April 24<sup>th</sup> Governor's Forum at Lindenwood University.
- (3) The April 30<sup>th</sup> Second Congressional District Republican caucus at Parkway West High School.
- (4) The May 12<sup>th</sup> regular TFTRC meeting featuring Dr. Randy Jotte, candidate for Missouri Senate District 1.
- (5) The May 15<sup>th</sup> Comedy Luncheon fundraiser for Dan Reuter, candidate for Missouri Representative District 96.
- (6) The State Convention, May 21<sup>st</sup> in Branson, Missouri.

**Ernie Trakas** announced his candidacy for the **Sixth District St. Louis County Council** seat. He is running because the status quo is not acceptable and District 6 is basically unprotected. He cited a recent incident in which a respectful Oakville resident was thrown out of a county council meeting and the district representative failed to stand up for this resident's concerns or questions. Ernie outlined his stand with regard to some important district issues. (1) He opposes the city-county merger. (2) He opposes the Metro-Link expansion into South County. (3) He supports the sale of a portion of Suson Park to Jefferson Barracks for expansion of the cemetery. (4) He wants to slow the number of multi-housing developments in District 6. His campaign website will be: [www.ErnieTrakas.com](http://www.ErnieTrakas.com).

#### **Quote of the Month**

*The only difference between death and taxes is that death doesn't get worse every time Congress meets. .*

*Will Rogers, American Actor 1879-1935*



## **Larry Conners Highlights 2016 ROY Banquet**

Larry Conners, long-time TV news anchor and currently radio personality on KTRS, had an entertaining, informative and conversational exchange with those attending the Republican of the Year banquet , Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>. He shared his background growing up in Texas and moving frequently as his dad pursued employment in both Texas and New Mexico. He focused on his long career in broadcast journalism and how he strove to be truly objective in his presentation of news events. He must have succeeded, because his colleagues from both the left and the right accused him of being both liberal and conservative – usually in a pejorative tone. He made an important distinction between news reporting and commentary. These two types of journalism are often confused with one another. People like Rush Limbaugh and Sean Hannity are engaged in *news commentary* while news anchors are supposed to be objectively reporting the news although that is often not the case.

Christy Hessel, newsletter editor for the club, was presented with the Republican of the Year award. Her remarks are presented in the following article. Lori Trakas was also publicly thanked for her service on the Mehlville School Board. A host of candidates for public office as well as current office holders were introduced. The previous Republicans of the Year were also presented. It was an engaging and thought-provoking evening.

## **Re-Nominate Roy Blunt for U.S. Senate on August 2nd**



I am personally inviting you to support Roy Blunt in the August 2nd primary. He is a strong pro-lifer. He supports our Second Amendment rights as well as the traditional definition of marriage. He and his campaign team have a tremendous work ethic. Roy will drive across the state to meet with 20 to 30 patriots. With your help, Roy has the ability to raise the money necessary to win the race and he could very well be the 51<sup>st</sup> Republican vote in the U.S. Senate in January. You don't need to be reminded of all the bad things that happened the last time the Democrats controlled the Senate. Most importantly, he favors the Senate taking no action on Judge Garland to fill the Justice Scalia seat. You can sign up for campaign updates at [www.royblunt.com](http://www.royblunt.com). Thank you and please vote for Roy on August 2nd.

*John Judd-Committeeman*

## 2016 ROY Speech

A number of people asked that the speech that I gave for the 2016 Republican of the Year Banquet be printed in the May newsletter. I had originally asked our emcee, Carl Hendrickson, what I should talk about. He said, “Just tell them why you joined the club.” So the following are the remarks that I gave.

*Christy Hessel*

People who know me well, know that I do not join groups. I am intensely introverted. But in 2012, I joined two: the Life Ministry Team at my church and this club. I joined them for the same reason: I had to do something about the moral rot and the loss of freedom that I see around me. I found that both groups have the same problem: it's hard to get people to join. Why? Because the same people who care enough to join this club are the same people who are involved in their churches and other civic groups. They're doing the work of the 80% who do nothing.

We're in an election cycle that is dominated by anger. The voters are angry because their elected officials are unresponsive to their needs. And yet, many of these same angry people are themselves unresponsive to the needs of their own churches and civic groups. Are we not reaping what we've sown?

My generation is now retiring. And there's a new term in vogue: “bucket list.” It's all the things you want to do during your retirement. Yes, there's a place for dreams and goals, hobbies and fun. But if your bucket list doesn't include at least one group or one activity that tries to turn this mess around, it's sadly lacking in substance.

I have one example. His name is Todd Beamer and you know his story. He got on Flight 93 on September 11, 2001. He and the other people on that flight faced the unthinkable: their plane was hijacked and turned into a terrorist weapon. Todd and the other brave men on that flight had a decision to make. They could sit in their seats, make their peace with God, make a last phone call to a loved one they would never see again and be angry at the unfairness of it all. But they got out of their seats and changed history.

Our country is like Flight 93. It too has been hijacked. It's wildly off course and it's going down fast. We too have a decision to make. We can sit on our seat and be angry at what other people won't do for us. Or we can get off our seat and try to turn things around. Todd Beamer's last words were: “Are we ready? Let's roll.”

# Coming Events

- **Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm.**, TFTRC meeting, Abiding Savior Lutheran Church
- **Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2:00-5:00 pm**, Kurt & Celeste Witzel home, see flyer.
- **Sunday, May 15, 2:00 pm**, Dan Reuter fundraiser, Andre's Banquet Center, 4254 Telegraph, doors open at 1:00 pm.
- **Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>**, State Convention, Branson, Missouri.
- **Sunday, July 10<sup>th</sup>**, Ernie Trakas fundraiser banquet, Genesis Banquet Center, 2651 Telegraph, doors open at 4:30. Additional details to follow.



## Good Book to Read

The Democrat Party has long posed as the champion of women's rights in order to garner their votes at election time. But their actual track record tells the opposite story. Katie Pavlich, a Fox News contributor and a contributing editor for *Townhall Magazine* wrote a hard-hitting book, *Assault and Flattery: The Truth About the Left and Their War on Women*. Although this book was published in 2014, it is extremely relevant during another presidential election year, especially with Hillary Clinton as the Democrat presidential nominee. Just as the Republican Party championed civil rights long before the Democrats claimed it as their own, the Republican Party also pushed long and hard for voting rights for women while the Democrats actively blocked its passage for decades. While Republican candidates are routinely castigated for being insensitive to women's issues, Democrat office-holders including several presidents have sordid personal track records as serial philanderers and abusers. In addition, their support for abortion on demand only exploits women. Ms. Pavlich devoted a chapter to Hollywood's shabby treatment of women as well. It's ironic that the people who claim to respect and empower women are the very ones who suppress and abuse them the most. Find this book at St. Louis County Library.

**The Tesson Times will be mailed by US Postal Service only to TFTRC members who requested it and whose dues are paid.** After you read this newsletter, please pass it on to a neighbor or friend. The opinions printed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Tesson Ferry Township Republican Club, but those of individual writers. Paid for the Tesson Ferry Township Republican Club, Joe Garavaglia, Treasurer and not authorized by any candidate or candidate committee

## Renew Your Memberships

If you haven't done so already, please renew your membership for 2016. A single membership is still only \$20/year and a family membership remains \$30/year. A membership form is attached. Send your completed membership form and check to Joe Garavaglia, 4352 Honeydew Lane, STL, 63128. Make the check out to *TFTRC*.

## Angry? Think Twice

Republicans are at each others' throats in this knock-down drag-out primary season; to the point where some disgruntled ones are threatening to vote for Hillary Clinton if Trump wins the nomination. Really? Granted, Donald Trump is a seriously flawed candidate, with large negatives in public polls, but how could a Hillary Clinton presidency benefit our country more than a Trump presidency?

What would a Hillary presidency bring? (1) An overwhelmingly liberal majority in the Supreme Court. You can kiss your second amendment rights goodbye along with a truckload of other freedoms. (2) A foreign policy exemplified by Benghazi. (3) A sleazy repeat of the first Clinton pay-to-play presidency. Anything and everything is for sale if you pay the Clinton Foundation enough dough. (4) The most secretive, law-breaking administration in history. Hillary should be doing time in Leavenworth, not the White House. If elected, she will continue to break any law that gets in her way; after all, laws are for the rest of us poor schlubs. (5) No borders. (6) No viable Republican party after four years of unlimited immigration coupled with voting rights for all new-comers. (7) More taxes for those lucky enough to have jobs. Remember, it's not all about you or your anger. There's a lot at stake and your vote should be for the best future for this country, not just a fit of anger.

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