

Issue 10 May 2022



**May 4 – Middle Keys Republican Club Monthly Meeting**, Social Hour at 5:00 Free Raffle, Meeting at 6:00pm. American Legion 4115 Overseas Hwy, Marathon. Speaker: Sam Steele, Tax Collector.

**May 16, Southernmost Republican Club, Key West Yacht Club, 2315 North Roosevelt Blvd, Key West, Social Hour: 5:30; Meeting at 6:30. MEETING CANCELLED.**

**May 18, Florida Keys Young Republican Club**, Coldwell Banker Schmitt Real Estate Office 100430 Overseas Hwy; Key Largo; Meeting begins at 6:30pm. Speaker: To be announced.

**May 21, Republican Executive Committee (REC - Marathon)**, Florida Keys Country Club, 4000 Sombrero Boulevard, Marathon, Meeting begins at 10:00am.

**May 25, Upper Keys Republican Club**, Key Largo Civic Club. 5:30 pm Social Time, Meeting begins at 6:00pm. Speaker: To be announced.

We encourage you to check <http://keysgop.org/calendar-of-events> for last-minute additions or changes of the speaker, date, or location.

\* \* \*

### **2022 REC MEETING DATES**

May 21, 2022 REC Meeting

June 11, 2022 RPOF Meeting

June 18, 2022 REC Meeting

June 21, 2022 Flag Day

July 23, 2022 REC Meeting

August 20, 2022 REC Meeting

September 17, 2022 REC Meeting

September 17, 2022 Constitution Day

October 22, 2022 REC Meeting

November 19, 2022 REC Meeting (TBD)

December 3, 2022 REC Meeting/Christmas Luncheon



Chairman Mulick has been busy with REC business as we head into the 2022 election season, and he hopes to see you at the upcoming meeting.

\*\*\*

## *A Comparison of Monroe County New Republican Voters*

### *Monroe County Active Registered Voters*

	<u>12/22/21</u>	<u>4/26/22</u>
Democrats:	18,128	17,784
Republicans:	23,942	24,117
Others:	15,932	16,130
Total	58,002	58,031

This is really exciting - our Republican membership has grown by just over 10% this year!

Note: The total voter numbers by party are lower in 2022 because the Supervisor of Elections Office removed the Inactive Voters.

## *Important Election Dates*

Monroe County Candidate Qualifying Dates:	June 13 - June 17
Primary Election (Early Voting):	August 8 – August 20
Election Day (Primary):	August 23
General Election (Early Voting):	October 24 – November 5
Election Day (General):	November 8

## *Young Republicans*

Our Young Republicans are really on the move. Last week at their monthly meeting, two of Governor DeSantis' aides, Daniel Layta-Vidal and Claudia Farinas, stopped by. On Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Florida Federation of Young Republican's approved the Monroe County of Young Republican's charter.

They are planning an environmental cleanup on Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> at Anne's Beach in Islamorada at 10:00 am for a couple of hours. The next meeting will be on May 25<sup>th</sup> at the Coldwell-Banker Schmitt Office in Key Largo. If you would prefer to attend by Zoom, please call Daniel Rodriguez at 305.904.9754.



Sitting L-R : Claudia Farinas, Daniel Leyte-Vidal, Lee Wardlaw, Melissa Ptomey, Rhonda Rebman-Lopez, Daniel Rodriguez.



Senator Rubio Campaign Materials: Rhonda Rebman-Lopez Email: Rhonda@pecointlelec.com  
 Governor DeSantis Campaign Materials: Stephen Hammond Email: StephenHammond1@aol.com+  
 For State and Federal Candidates see: [www.dos.elections.myflorida/candidates](http://www.dos.elections.myflorida/candidates)  
 For County Candidates see: [www.keyselections.org](http://www.keyselections.org).

## Local Elections

The cities of Islamorada, Key Colony Beach, Layton, Marathon and Key West are having elections in November, and we recommend members visit the SOE website to review the candidates in local elections.

### Republican County Candidates - (As of 4/29/2022)

#### Office: County Commissioner, District 2

Michelle Coldiron: 305 360-7666 [tropicalmichelle@gmail.com](mailto:tropicalmichelle@gmail.com)

#### Office: County Commissioner, District 3

Jim Scholl: 305 306-1567 Appointed by Governor DeSantis  
[jimschollmcd3@gmail.com](mailto:jimschollmcd3@gmail.com) , [jsswats1@aol.com](mailto:jsswats1@aol.com)

#### Office: County Commissioner, District 4

David Rice: 305 360-3538 [dricekeys@yahoo.com](mailto:dricekeys@yahoo.com)

#### Office: County Commissioner, District 5

Jose Felix Peixoto: 305 522-1727 [josepeixoto@reagan.com](mailto:josepeixoto@reagan.com)  
 Holly Merrill Raschein: 305 522-4721 [holly@hollyraschein.com](mailto:holly@hollyraschein.com)

**Office: School Board Members, District 1**

**Gabrielle Brown:** 305 397-6781  
**Darren Horan:** 305 294-4585

[gabriellebrownforschoolboard@gmail.com](mailto:gabriellebrownforschoolboard@gmail.com)  
[darrenhoranforschoolboard@gmail.com](mailto:darrenhoranforschoolboard@gmail.com)

**Office: School Board Members, District 4**

**John Dick:** 305 395-0657

[ccaps97@aol.com](mailto:ccaps97@aol.com)

**Office: School Board Members, District 5**

**Alexandria Suarez:** 305 505-1475

[alexandria@alexandriasuarez.org](mailto:alexandria@alexandriasuarez.org)

**Office: Mosquito Control Board, District 2**

**Phil Goodman:** 305 600-8441

[goodmanpl@aol.com](mailto:goodmanpl@aol.com)

**Office: Mosquito Control Board, District 5**

**Tom McDonald:** 305 852-3323

[tom.bestcpa@gmail.com](mailto:tom.bestcpa@gmail.com)

\* \* \*



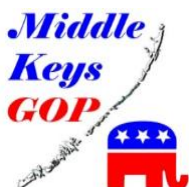
## *MKRC has New Officers*

The MKRC held the election of their Board of Directors at their April meeting. Dale Schumacher was elected President, and Tim Kollars elected Vice President; Treasurer, Suzanne Terpos, and Secretary, Bettye Chaplin, were re-elected.



**NEW 2022 MKRC OFFICERS**

**Front Row: Suzanne Terpos, Bettye Chaplin Back Row: Dale Schumacher, Tim Kollars**



**Middle Keys Republican Club:** Secretary: Bettye Chaplin, [middlekeysrepublicanclub@gmail.com](mailto:middlekeysrepublicanclub@gmail.com)

**MEETING LOCATION/TIME:** Typically, the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month American Legion, 4115 Overseas Hwy. Social time begins at 5:00 pm Meetings start at 6:00 p.m. Dues \$35 per person, \$50 per couple.

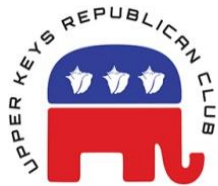


**Southernmost Republican Club:** President: Bob Harvey, bobharveykw@gmail.com

**MEETING LOCATION/TIME:** Typically, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at Key West Yacht Club, 2315 North Roosevelt Blvd. Social Time begins at 5:30 meeting starts at 6:30 pm.



*SRC March meeting was well attended as Mayor David Rice presented the State of the County.*



**Upper Keys Republican Club:** President: Casey Scheu, ukrc@keysgop.com

**MEETING LOCATIONS/TIME:** Meetings are the 4<sup>th</sup> week of the month and alternate between Key Largo Civic Club (Wed) and Islamorada Moose Lodge (Mon). Social time begins at 5:30 pm and meeting starts at 6:00 pm.



*State House Representative Jim Mooney was the guest speaker.*



**Florida Keys Young Republican Club:** President: Daniel Rodriguez, drodr417@fiu.edu

**MEETING LOCATIONS/TIME:** Meetings are typically held the third Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the Coldwell Banker Schmitt Real Estate Office, 100430 Overseas Hwy., Key Largo.



Keys Conservatives meetings are held in Big Pine Key on Tuesdays at 2:00pm at the Moose Lodge, 3681 Wilder Rd.

\*\*\*

### *Favorite Places*

**One of CONNECTIONS' new features is Favorite Places** – This will feature where our members go to get their news. If you would like to share your favorites news places, please send to: [KeysConnections@gmail.com](mailto:KeysConnections@gmail.com).

We caught up with Rick Berry at the Rod Shop in Islamorada to find out what his Favorite Places to catch up on political issues.

He loves the term “deplorable” and has been active with FreeRepublic.com for almost 20 years. He also likes to visit Steve Bannon’s War Room. He visits Breitbart.com for his world news.

He says that “Stew Peters will be the next Rush Limbaugh,” and you will find him at StewPeters.com. Rick also checks in on Zerohedge.com for small business news, and gab.



### *Update from Precinct Operations*

: We are gearing up for door-to-door and phone canvassing this election season. Daniel Leyte-Vidal is the DeSantis Grassroots Coordinator covering Monroe and he has confirmed that we’ll be using the cell-based app “Sidekick” with some updates and improvements from the version used in 2020. We are also hoping that we’ll be able to target our calling efforts within Monroe County rather than random locations throughout the state. **We need to hit every door of Republican and “leans Republican” voters in Monroe County.** Training sessions will start this summer and be held throughout the Keys – you’ll be well prepared to help GOTV! Please contact Tonia Shusta @ 305-393-6620 or [antonias@aol.com](mailto:antonias@aol.com) to learn more and volunteer.

### *Gossip, Rumor, or the Truth*

We encourage members to consider the candidate’s voting record before discussing a candidate’s stance on the issues to avoid sharing incorrect information with others.

### **Would You Like to Learn More About Our Constitution?**

If so, there is a [great FREE online Constitution Course](#) offered by Hillsdale College.

\*\*\*

# *RPOF Chairman Gruters' Message*

## ***Eliminating Gerrymandering***

Florida Senate and House Republicans voted to approve a Congressional redistricting plan that removes unconstitutional gerrymandering and creates more compact districts for Florida members of Congress to represent.

The districts are race-neutral and more in line with recent U.S. Supreme Court rulings, such as *Cooper v. Harris*, a 2017 case in which the U.S. Supreme Court ruled 5-3 that North Carolina committed “unconstitutional racial gerrymanders” by drawing districts too heavily based on racial makeup.

Race-neutrality is still what most Americans want, despite Democrat leftists' intent on making every single issue about race and gender. Americans are tired of it and the Supreme Court has ruled against it specifically in redistricting.

While the media will run the Democratic talking points that this is racist for breaking up a racialized district that gerrymanders through a long part of North Florida, it is actually anti-racist by removing skin color as the determining factor in district makeup.

Governor DeSantis called the racial gerrymandering wrong. “That is not the way we've governed in the State of Florida.” Florida Legislators agreed this week and approved the new districts.

---

## ***WALT DISNEY***

### ***Florida eliminates Disney's special carve-outs.***

Disney going woke and uber political in defense of radical LGBTQ+ agendas in elementary schools' lower grades has now come with a cost.

The Legislature voted to rescind a long-standing special district that gives Disney self-governing powers that no other Florida companies enjoy — including Disney competitors.

The Reedy Creek Improvement District, created in 1967 to lure Disney to Florida, includes 25,000 acres in Orange and Osceola counties and allows Disney to determine land use and not deal with government regulations and zoning that its competitors must. Disney even has eminent domain powers to condemn and take private property in its district like a government would, paying what it deems fair market whether the seller is willing or not and with no public accountability.

A second bill approved would eliminate an exemption for all Florida theme parks resulting from a 2021 law the Legislature passed that targeted social media giants such as Twitter and Facebook for de-platforming users over views the tech giants didn't like.

*(continued...)*

“I have a hard time understanding why that would be a controversial issue. Let’s apply the law equally to everyone,” said Republican Senator Jennifer Bradley, who sponsored the bills.

In fact, both bills accomplish just that. Disney now must follow the same rules other Florida theme parks must.



If you have a question, please contact one of our board members:

<b>Chairman</b>	Nicholas Mulick	Nicholas.mulick@keysgop.com (305)852-9292
<b>Vice Chairman</b>	Casey Scheu	C.Scheu@sea.navy (305)360-3054
<b>Secretary</b>	Vicky Fay	VickyFay139@outlook.com (305)394-1719
<b>Treasurer</b>	Tom McDonald	TomBestCPA@gmail.com (305)852-3323
<b>State Committeeman</b>	Stephen Hammond	Stephenhammond1@aol.com (305)766-9919
<b>State Committeewoman</b>	Kathy Ovide	Kovide@comcast.net (305)304-1431



### KEYS GOP CONNECTIONS

The purpose of KEYS GOP CONNECTIONS is to bring you news and information from the Monroe County Republican Party about upcoming events, candidates, and information. Any opinions expressed herein are those of individual members and not necessarily the Monroe County Republican Executive Committee.

**[join our mailing list](mailto:JOINKEYSCONNECTIONS@keysgop.com)** by emailing [JOINKEYSCONNECTIONS@keysgop.com](mailto:JOINKEYSCONNECTIONS@keysgop.com) and [to be removed from our email list](mailto:unsubscribe@keysgop.com), email [unsubscribe@keysgop.com](mailto:unsubscribe@keysgop.com).

*United We Stand!*

Political advertisement paid by The Republican Party of Monroe County,  
Nicholas Mulick, 91645 Overseas Highway, Tavernier, FL 33070.