



Volume 3, Issue 2

Summer '07

Letter From the Chairman

Summer begins the season of backyard barbecues and family picnics, and here in Cuyahoga County we're grilling pork.

I hope you've seen our *News from the Pork Barrel* emails, which have caused a bit of a stir lately. It seems that Commissioner Jimmy Dimora is not used to being criticized for the decisions he makes, and has come to feel that he can spend County taxpayer dollars irresponsibly and with impunity. Our job as a Republican Party is to highlight the most egregious examples and to question why our County leaders have let us down for well over a decade. As a recent Pork Barrel release asked:

Why has our County workforce grown by nearly 16% over the last 20 years, while our County population has shrunk by 9% over that same time? If you are not receiving *News from the Pork Barrel* and would like to begin, or if you want to sign up a friend, please send me an email.

Also, the RPCC Policy Committee has approved a draft Platform, for which a meeting on ratification is scheduled for July 25. This will be a joint meeting of the RPCC Central and Executive Committees to debate, discuss and presumably pass the Platform in an approved version. If you are a Central or Executive Committee

member and have not yet received your meeting notice, or if you want to receive an additional copy of the draft Platform, please email me or call Executive Steven Backiel at 216-621-5417.

The Platform process is an important part of our Party taking the next step toward winning County-wide races

and additional local offices in the current and coming years. The Platform deals with important topics such as reforming or eliminating certain state taxes, reforming our system of education, ending legislative term-limits and eradicating state unfunded mandates on local government. The Platform is also the opportunity for the RPCC to continue its

message of the need for the reform of Cuyahoga County government, and to call for the reform of Cleveland City government as well.

By not only pointing out what is wrong in our County government, as we are doing in the *News from the Pork Barrel*, but also by offering our ideas and solutions on taxes, education and other governance issues, as we will do through our Platform, the Cuyahoga County GOP will begin to speak with a clear and unified voice for a vision of resurgence for our region.

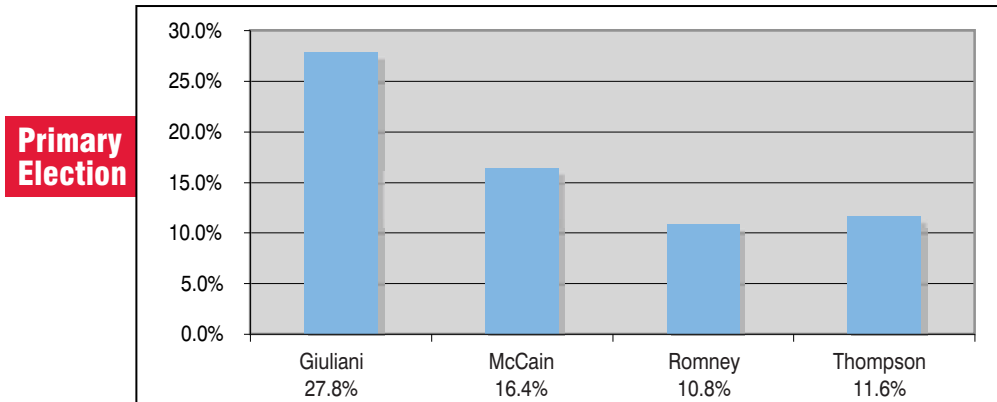


To contribute online or learn more about the RPCC please visit us online www.cuyahogacountygop.com

Head to Head Presidential Polling

Time seems to be flying along, as we are already halfway thru 2007. November is right around the corner; however, let's take a moment to look ahead to 2008. Since our last issue outlook on the Presidential race has changed form mostly due to the emergence of former Senator Fred Thompson as a potential, and rather likely, candidate. In fact, by the time this newsletter reaches you Senator Thompson will have very likely declared his candidacy. Rudy Giuliani is still the front running Republican candidate, although his numbers have dipped slightly since our last issue. To the right, you can see a recent poll that is a combined average of the following polls: Quinnipiac, Marist, Rasmussen, Newsweek, Hotline/FD, and Zogby.

2008 Presidential Election



General Election

Giuliani		McCain		Romney		Thompson	
Giuliani	46%	McCain	44%	Romney	36%	Thompson	44%*
Clinton	45%	Clinton	46%	Clinton	50%	Clinton	47%*
Rasmussen 6/2007		McCain	42%	Romney	31%	Thompson	44%
Giuliani	51%*	Obama	44%	Obama	54%	Obama	47%*
Obama	39%*	McCain	42%	Romney	28%	Thompson	36%*
Rasmussen 5/2007		Edwards	47%	Edwards	55%	Edwards	50%
Giuliani	45%					*Rasmussen 5/2007	
Edwards	45%						

RCP Average used unless indicated otherwise by * Rasmussen 6/2007 - This national telephone survey of 637 Likely Republican Primary Voters was conducted by Rasmussen Reports on May 29-31, 2007. The RCP Average is taken from the four (4) most recent head-to-head polls for each particular match-up. Polls used in obtaining the RCP Average may include, Zogby, Quinnipiac, Newsweek, Rasmussen, Marist, LA Times/Bloomberg, Hotline/FD, NY Times, CNN, USA Today and Time, among others. The respective polls used in the above were taken between 4/25/07 and 5/20/07 have an average sample of approximately 950 registered voters, and an approximate average margin of error of +/- 3.5%. The RCP Average is compiled by RealClearPolitics.com, which has offered an average of various national polls for several years. Charlie Cook of The National Journal has cited the RCP Average as a handy benchmark and it has proven reasonably accurate in past elections. In the closing days of the 2004 election, the national polls were mixed in terms of whether Bush or Kerry held the advantage. The final RCP Average had Bush beating Kerry in the popular vote by about 2 points. In reality, Bush won by 3 points.

State of the Board of Elections from Jeff Hastings

Well. . . Two months under my belt on the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections ("CCBOE") and we've had four meetings, one successful primary election, are preparing for a Special Election on July 3rd in Cleveland Ward 21 and by the time the Party's newsletter hits the press we will have interviewed, (and hopefully selected) a Director for the CCBOE. The selection of Director is one of the most important decisions we will make. It has also become clear to me that I am fortunate to serve with our most able Chairman Rob Frost and two very competent and able Democratic appointees, who are all committed to ensuring fair, impartial, and accurate elections for the residents of Cuyahoga County. From my brief perspective (and in addition to the hiring of a Director and Deputy Director) efforts must remain focused on poll worker recruitment and training and on addressing the hardware and software issues that are necessarily associated with computerized voting. Finally, while there are many administrative matters that must be addressed at the CCBOE, I am confident that the Director and Deputy Director that are hired will address these matters in a timely fashion and take all the committed CCBOE employees to the next level of election performance. *Stay tuned. . .*

School Board Update

from Dave Gusman

Serving on a local Board of Education is often a thankless task, but it is an extremely important one. This position directly impacts each and every resident of our communities, and is at the heart of how our communities will prosper in the coming years. It is, after all, the local Board of Education that sets school policy, approves curriculum, and is responsible for determining how to spend the property taxes that each of us pays, and when to go back to the taxpayer for increases.

In recognition of the importance of electing good candidates, the County Republican Party has established a committee to recruit and assist candidates for the local School Board races that will be held this fall. To facilitate this process, the committee will be holding a training session in July to educate candidates and potential candidates on what is involved in running for your School Board, how to mount your campaign, and what is involved in the job once you win.

We will be sending out more information later this month, but if you are a current Board member up for reelection, or are considering running for a spot as a member of your local Board of Education, please contact the County Party to be put on the mailing list for this session. For more information, please contact David Gusman, School Boards Committee Chairman, at 440-846-0413.

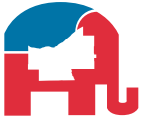
Judicial Spotlight

HAGAN

Brian F. Hagan, candidate for Judge of the Rocky River Municipal Court, is a partner in the Fairview Park Law Firm of Rego, Hagan & Carlin LLP. Mr. Hagan is currently President of the Rocky River City Council serving as Ward Four Councilman since January 2004. Mr. Hagan, a St. Ignatius High School graduate, earned his undergraduate degree from Saint Francis College (now Saint Francis University), of Pennsylvania in 1978 and his law degree from Cleveland Marshall College of Law, Cleveland State University in 1981. Hagan is admitted to practice before all courts in the State of Ohio, as well as the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit and the United States District Court, Northern District of Ohio. In April of 1991, Hagan was appointed as Magistrate and Referee of the Rocky River Municipal Court, a position he held until March of 1993. He served as Acting Judge of the Court from January 1992 through April of 1992, and has also served as Acting Judge on several occasions during 2006 and 2007. Brian and his wife of 17 years, Mary Louise, reside in Rocky River with their two daughters Maura (16) and Erinn (14) and their son Liam (12). The Hagan's are members of St. Christopher Parish, Rocky River and St. Angela Merici Parish, Fairview Park.

RUMES

Kevin Wayne Rumes, candidate for Judge of Parma Municipal Court, was raised in Parma Heights and is a life-long West-sider. He attended Parma City Schools, received his undergraduate degree from Baldwin-Wallace College, and earned a Juris Doctorate from Cleveland-Marshall Law School. Mr. Rumes has worked as a claims representative for Progressive Insurance Company and as a mediator for the City of Cleveland. Rumes was a Prosecutor with the City of Cleveland for 10 years where he earned a reputation for winning many trials, especially jury trials. Rumes has been in private practice since 2001 and has worked almost as many years defending municipal level cases as he did prosecuting them. Having worked both sides of the courtroom will undoubtedly lend Rumes invaluable experience that will serve him well as Judge. Kevin is married to Lisa Rumes and resides in Broadview Heights.



The Republican Party of Cuyahoga County

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Upcoming Events - June & July

JUNE & JULY Upcoming Events

Wednesday, June 13, 2007

Seven Hills GOP Pot Luck Dinner: Join the Seven Hills GOP Club at their pot luck dinner. 6:00pm
Contact: Lucille Mayer: (216) 524-7041

Wednesday, June 13, 2007

Bay Village Republican Club - 7:00pm
Bay Village Library: 502 Cahoon Road, Bay Village
Contact: George Fillingner: 440-333-6929

Thursday, June 14, 2007

WRWRC of South Chagrin Flag Day Celebration:
Guest Speakers include The Honorable Diane Grendell, The Honorable Joan Synenberg, and the Honorable Marilyn Cassidy \$30.00 per person - 11:30am The Hillbrook Club
14800 Hillbrook Drive Chagrin Falls
Contact: Sally Florkiewicz 440-247-6945 or sallysofchagrin@msn.com

Thursday, June 14, 2007

Parma GOP Club Meeting
7:30pm - Parma Memorial Hall: 6617 Ridge Road at Ridgewood Drive, Parma
Contact: Pat Wright: 440-842-6121

Monday, June 18th, 2007

Ward 21 GOP Club Meeting 7:00pm - St. Mel's Rectory, 14436 Triskett Rd, Cleveland
Contact: Richard May: 216-252-7202

Monday, June 18, 2007

Brooklyn Republican Club Meeting - 7:00PM
Brooklyn Senior Center: 7727 Memphis Avenue
Contact: George A. Johnston 216-749-7764

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Lyndhurst GOP Club Meeting
7:00pm - Lyndhurst Community Center
Contact: Lillian Turjanica: 440-442-1371

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Berea GOP Club Meeting - 7:00pm
Berea Public Library: 7 Berea Commons, Berea
Contact: Phil Henry: 440-234-4832

Wednesday, June 27th, 2007

Ward 20 GOP Club Meeting: 2nd Ward 20 picnic.
Special Guest: Cleveland Municipal Court Judge Marilyn Cassidy. 7:00pm
Hawks Landing Apts. W. 147th St @ Puritas.
Contact: Richard May: 216-252-7202

JULY

Sunday, July 1, 2007

35th Annual RPCC Family Picnic: Please join us as at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo for the 2007 RPCC Picnic! (prices TBA shortly)
Picnic Lunch served at 1:00pm- includes Grilled hot dogs and hamburgers, potato salad, coleslaw, baked beans, lemonade and assorted cookies for dessert.
10:00am-4:00pm
Cleveland Metroparks Zoo-Primate Picnic Canopy
Contact: sbackiel@cuyahogacountygop.com or 216-621-5415

Monday, July 9, 2007

Strongsville GOP Club Meeting - 7:00pm
Strongsville Public Library: 18700 Westwood Dr
Contact: Dave Gusman: 216-446-4552

Tuesday, July 10, 2007

Euclid GOP Club Meeting - 7:00PM
Euclid Public Library: 631 E. 222nd St., Euclid
Contact: Mike Akos: 216-289-6453

Wednesday, July 11th, 2007

Ward 20 GOP Picnic - 7:00pm
West Park Slovenian Home: 4583 W 130th St, Cleveland
Contact: Richard May: 216-252-7202

Thursday, July 12, 2007

Parma GOP Club Meeting
7:30PM - Parma Memorial Hall
Contact: Pat Wright: 440-842-6121

Monday, July 16, 2007

Brooklyn Republican Meeting - 7:00PM
Brooklyn Senior Center, 7727 Memphis Avenue
Contact: George A. Johnston: 216-749-7764

Thursday, July 19, 2007

Lyndhurst GOP Club Meeting - 7:00PM
Lyndhurst Community Center: Located behind Lyndhurst Municipal Center on Mayfield Rd.
Contact: Lillian Turjanica: 440-442-1371

Thursday, July 19, 2007

Berea GOP Club Meeting - 7:00PM
Berea Public Library: 7 Berea Commons, Berea
Contact: Phil Henry: 440-234-4832

**For more information on these
and other local events please
visit our website:**

www.cuyahogacountygop.com