

Republican Club at The Villages Newsletter May 2021

Thumbs on the scale of injustice – by your editor

The official results of the 2020 census were released in late April 2021. It was immediately apparent that the Biden administration had its “thumb on the scale.” The results differed widely from the estimates that were released by the Census Bureau on December 22, 2020 and evidently in every case favored blue states over red states.

To be clear, some blue states will lose seats in the House of Representatives, and some red states will gain seats. Per the Internet, apportionment calculations based on the 2020 Census show that Texas, Colorado, Florida, Montana, North Carolina, and Oregon will gain seats, while California, Illinois, Michigan, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia will lose seats. But these results have been skewed in favor of blue states, say the Republicans on the House Oversight Committee.

Per Newsmax, the Republicans on the Committee questioned “political interference.” They said that the Biden administration’s involvement was “surprising.” What started out with inoffensive “politician-speak” ended leaving no doubt as to the accusations.

Their letter to Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo started out politely enough with “*We have questions* about the methodology and the role the Biden White House *may have played* in releasing these numbers.” “Remarkably,” the letter continues, “the outcomes are ‘*strikingly completely different*’ from the Inhabitants Analysis estimates launched mere months in the past.” (*Italics mine*)

They pointed out that the Census figure for the state of New York, for example, is almost 900,000 greater than the estimate. “Likewise,” they say, “states such as New Jersey and Illinois experienced large population increases of hundreds of thousands of individuals compared to the December estimates, while states such as Arizona, Florida, and Texas experienced large decreases from the December estimates.”

Clever use of terms like “remarkably” and “may have played” seem to say that the committee members are not surprised by the interference, but are shocked at the audacity. They only find it remarkable that the Biden administration was so obvious about it. What they are really saying is “STOP!” “TILT!” “THUMB ON SCALE!” But who is listening?

FROM THE COMMITTEES

From Cathy Pope - Sunshine Corner:

As noted last month, it has been a long and difficult year. Our last general meeting was in February of 2020. While we look forward to being together again, hopefully soon, we need to acknowledge that time takes its toll:

Del Herfurth, the Club's 1st VP-Speaker Chair, has had to resign his position due to health issues.

Bill Eckert, our Newsletter Distribution person, has also had to resign his position for health reasons.

June Hayes continues to recover from breast cancer surgery.

Please keep June and our Club leaders and each other in your thoughts and prayers as we look forward to being able to gather together soon.

If you know a member who needs a little sunshine, please contact Cathy Pope at 408-270-2141 or email her at c2popes@gmail.com.

From Laura Swenson – Treasury and Membership:

We collected \$1,995 in membership dues for 2021 from 133 members.

We made a donation to the Santa Clara County Republican Club of \$1,200. Luis Buhler's note of thanks reads in part: "To Burt and the Villages Republican Club: I wanted to thank you again for your Angel Donor contribution to the SVGOP. Attached is the donor recognition slide we showed at last week's on-line event. I thought you would like to see it. Again, our thanks for your support of the SVGOP."

In the absence of operating activities, our account balance remains at \$4,906.

Meetings and Speakers:

Del Herfurth has continued in recent weeks to pursue leads on speakers. He reports that, subject to the Club's actual meeting dates and locations, both Luis Buhler and Chairman Shane of SVGOP are interested in speaking at our events. As General meeting dates become clear, speakers will be confirmed and announced. As noted last month, once Villages' facilities become available, meetings will follow the traditional pattern: The fourth Thursday of each month, alternating between morning meetings and dinner meetings.

Co-Secretary and Publicity Chair, Gary Hill, will announce meetings and speakers as soon as they are known, and will publish related information in the Villager weekly paper. Recipients of this newsletter will be among the first to know of schedules and speakers, before they ever hit the paper.

Speaking of speakers:

Sen John Kennedy of Louisiana said, among many other things:

"Many Democrats...their attitude seems to be, 'I was born in America, but I overcame it.'"

Winston Churchill said, among many other things:

"Success is not final, failure is not fatal: It is the courage to continue that counts."

Tucker Carlson, speaking about Loudoun County, Virginia, outside Washington, D.C., said that it is now the single richest county in the entire United States. And "... any place you find easy money, you'll also find large numbers of unhappy white liberals, those brittle neurotics with masks on, screaming at everyone else to get in line."

(Underlining is mine – Ed.) I love it. "...those brittle neurotics with masks on..."

Thomas Sowell, African-American economist, social theorist, and senior fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution. Born in North Carolina in 1930, Sowell grew up in Harlem, New York:

"If you have always believed that everyone should play by the same rules and be judged by the same standards, that would have gotten you labeled a radical 60 years ago, a liberal 30 years ago and a racist today."

Biden's \$2.2 trillion infrastructure plan

Dick Morris, political strategist and former adviser to Bill Clinton, is quoted as saying, "This is a Christmas tree. They say a Trojan horse; it's really a Christmas tree, and hang any ornaments on it you want."

Former Trump economist Stephen Moore describes it as "a blizzard of spending that we don't need...a very aggressive left-wing tax-and-spend agenda — massive spending for everything from babysitting services to free healthcare, everything is going to be free."

Fortune Magazine hastens to point out that it is the media that calls the initiative an infrastructure plan. The Biden administration calls it the American Jobs Plan, and it consistently proposes creating or protecting jobs, especially union jobs.

But a recent CNBC headline read: "Jobs report blows past expectations as payrolls boom by 916,000 in March." And the unemployment rate declined to 6%. So who needs this American Jobs Plan, with its \$trillions in government borrowing and spending?

Fortune Magazine continues: "Infrastructure as many people think of it—construction or improvement of bridges, highways, roads, ports, waterways, and airports—accounts for only \$157 billion, or 7%, of the plan's estimated cost."

The definition of infrastructure can reasonably be expanded to include upgrading wastewater and drinking water systems, expanding high-speed broadband Internet service to 100% of the nation, modernizing the electric grid, and improving infrastructure resilience. That brings the total to \$518 billion, or 24% of the plan's total cost."

Wait a minute! The private sector is well-suited to handle much of this expanded definition – internet, modernizing the electric grid, improving infrastructure resilience. The 24% here is probably more like **12%**. Our infrastructure estimate: 12% of the \$2.2 Trillion = approximately \$264 Billion. The rest supports the Left's radical agenda.

Fortune Magazine next uses the term "suprastructure" to describe additional spending that begins to expose some of the Green New Deal elements: "For example, the plan calls for building, preserving, or retrofitting more than 2 million homes. Another provision would subsidize and incentivize the production and purchase of American-made electric vehicles plus the installation of electric vehicle (EV) charging stations by state and local governments and private companies."

"And then," Fortune continues, "there are the plan's elements that *may or may not be worthy policy objectives but don't claim any relationship to infrastructure.* (**Italics mine – Ed.**) "One of the plan's largest programs, budgeted at \$400 billion, would create jobs and raise pay for home care workers. Another of the most expensive programs, at \$300 billion, would give targeted aid to manufacturers and small businesses across industries, regardless of any infrastructure connection." This is government trying to do (poorly) what the private sector does well.

Passing on from Bay Area GOP.com's May newsletter Publisher Luis Buhler.

Luis is a non-Villager member of the Republican Club at the Villages. As such, he receives our newsletters and attends our general meetings, as schedules permit.

The newsletter introduces us to State Senator Scott Wilk, unanimously selected by his colleagues to serve as Senate Republican Leader. Mr. Wilk's comments include reference to the recall of Gov. Gavin Newsom: "Eradicating pandemics one signature at a time." He says that the only thing consistent with Newsom during the pandemic has been his inconsistency: "Constantly moving goalposts have caused more economic harm in California than anywhere else in the country."

Not only do we have one of the highest *unemployment* rates in the country, he points out, but more than 19,000 businesses have closed their doors forever. Unemployment statistics do not adequately reflect the plight of these business owners, scrambling to salvage some of their life's savings, trying to make good on business loans, etc., along with trying to feed their families.

Published early in the month, many of the May events announced in Luis Buhler's newsletter have already taken place. But to draw our attention to these organizations and events, for example during May:

The Santa Clara County Republican Club (SVGOP) held a fundraiser with special guest Senator Paul Rand.

The South Peninsula Area Republican Coalition (SPARC) and the California Congress of Republicans (CCR) jointly hosted Congressman Ken Buck of Colorado and Federal Communications Commissioner Brendan Carr for a discussion of Big Tech.

The Mt. Diablo Republican Club presented "Importing Poverty, Exporting Innovation – an Aligned Agenda.

Under "Save the Date" are:

September 24 – 26: California Republican Party Fall Convention

October 2: Pacific Research Institute Presents - Annual Gala with Mark Levin!

You may contact Luis Buhler at Luis@rockledgeassociates.com.

If you would like me to forward you the email in which I received the Bay Area GOP.com newsletter, just let me know. It includes several useful links. Contact me at (tomzades@gmail.com.)

A Rose by Any Other Name – Shakespeare’s Juliet Capulet

I have a hunch that high school kids hear words like liberal versus conservative and think ‘liberal-minded,’ ‘open-minded’ versus ‘old fashioned’ and ‘closed-minded.’ I don’t know how the liberal/conservative terminology got started, but it is not helping us a bit. And then the Liberals stole the term “Progressive.” What does that make us then? Regressive?

And then there is the similarity between “democracy” and “Democrat.” “Republican” sounds like an old-fashioned term for an old-fashioned party. We never hear America called a republic, except during the Pledge of Allegiance: “...and to the Republic for which it stands.” (Are they even allowed to recite that in school anymore?)

I would think that 90% or more of the 18-year-olds graduating from high school and voting for the first time just naturally gravitate toward candidates and causes falling under the ‘liberal’ and “progressive” umbrellas. Who would vote for a candidate who is probably old fashioned, close-minded and backward-looking, since he/she is called ‘conservative?’

The voting age in most states is 18, with provisions in some states for registering at age 17 or even 16. California’s rule, for example, states that “You can pre-register to vote at age 16 or 17 and if you do, you will automatically be registered to vote on your 18th birthday.”

Those young voters form voting habits that may last a lifetime, particularly if they don’t tune in and pay attention. Entering the colleges and universities as Liberals, they emerge four or five years later mostly as far left radicals. But that’s another issue.

Getting back to the subject of terminology, I notice that liberals avoid the word ‘abortion,’ choosing instead ‘Choice’ and ‘Planned,’ as in Planned Parenthood and a woman’s choice. Isn’t that a stroke of genius? It is actually the planned *avoidance* of parenthood, but they call it planned parenthood. And they would never say they are “Pro-Abortion.’ It is always about a woman’s right to choose (“Pro Choice”.) Voters not paying attention (the majority?) are easily fooled.

“Liberal” has come to mean the opposite of its name. It is open-minded only to its ‘woke’ believers. “Conservative” actually means upholding our founding values of personal freedom *for all*, opportunity *for all*. Those are very open-minded, forward-looking values. How about Free and Fair Elections, the very foundation of democracy? Which group intervened, disrupted and stole the last presidential election? **(Sorry-strike that - Ed.)**

Juliet would likely agree that a stinkweed by any other name would still stink. Same thing with “liberal.” It stinks. “Liberal” now means ‘closed-minded’ and regressive. Conservative means just the opposite. Go figure.

From your Editor

PICTURES WORTH THOUSANDS OF WORDS



FOR THE RECORD

General Meeting Dates
(All Thursdays)

Schedule for 2021 to be announced when known

Board of Directors
First Monday of the Month
10:00 a.m. at the home of Burt Lancaster
7903 Caledonia Drive until further notice

2021 OFFICERS

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