

6/6/05

Greetings All,

Just when you thought it was safe to check your email . . . the Newsletter returns!

(This is my sixth attempt at sending the Newsletter--see item 2--sorry for any duplication!)

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1. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Johnson County Republicans will be at 7:00pm on Monday, June 13th. The meeting will again be held at 2010 Keokuk, Hawkeye Brokerage, in Iowa City. Driving south from Highway 6, it's just past the K Mart driveway on the left.

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2. The Newsletter

As some of you have noted, it's been quite a while since the last newsletter. I was unable to get out the May newsletter because of a combination of computer problems. ("Problems" not "issues." Let's call them what they are.)

One of the difficulties was that our internet service provider switched servers and software. We are still working out the changes, but everyone should be on the new list. Even so, because of some other news (see the last item), our JCR Chair, Todd Versteegh, is considering switching the lists to a Yahoo group or some other way to distribute the newsletter and other information. I noticed today that my addresses that are on the list were sent an automatic message that indicated that it was going to be sent as a monthly reminder. There may be a way to turn that feature off, but either way, please be patient while we work out some changes with distribution of the newsletter (as well as a long overdue update of the website).

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3. Remembering D-Day

I've been trying to get this newsletter out for several day, but perhaps getting it out on the anniversary of D-Day gives us a chance to reflect on the sacrifices made by the military of the WW II generation. It may also be worthwhile to consider whether such an operation would be possible today.

Today, the problem would likely be the criticism faced by an administration.

Just imagine the heat that FDR would be under for such an operation--and don't forget that D-Day occurred in June of a presidential election year.

I did a Yahoo search for "D-Day." There were several million hits, but here are a few of the top links:

<http://www.dday.co.uk> (Reflections on the 60th anniversary--2004--from a British site.)

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/dday> (I know, PBS, but it contains letters from GIs describing the invasion.)

<http://www.ddaymuseum.org> (National D-Day Museum website.)

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#### 4. Linn County Grassroots Dinner

The Linn County Republicans will be having their Grassroots Dinner on Thursday, June 9th at 7:00pm. The dinner will be held at the Longbranch Best Western on Twixt Town Road in Marion. The Honorable Mike Johanns is the special guest.

Cost for the dinner is \$25/person, \$250 for the Host Reception. Contact Todd Versteegh for tickets or more information (688-9125 , [dutchjedi@mchsi.com](mailto:dutchjedi@mchsi.com)).

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#### 5. Parades

I mentioned in the last newsletter that you should be thinking about this summer's parades. Although this is not an election year, at least two campaigns have expressed interest in marching in Johnson County parades this summer. This is a great grassroots community activity--and good exercise too--so make plans to join us this summer!

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#### 6. Johnson County Fair

We started the volunteer list for this year's Johnson County fair, but there are still plenty of openings available. This year the fair will be held July 25-28 and our booth usually opens at 10:00am and closes at 8:00pm. Shifts generally run two hours--but you can certainly stay longer! Contact Todd Versteegh (688-9125, [dutchjedi@mchsi.com](mailto:dutchjedi@mchsi.com)) if you can volunteer.

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#### 7. Are the Kooks Canvassing Your Neighborhood?

Last night a fellow came to my door and said he was with some "nonpartisan" organization that was gathering funds to stop the "privatization" of Social Security. I should have played with the guy a bit, but my first impulse was to say, "Why would you want to do that?" His reply was that they are going to "wreck it." I said that wasn't true and he just said I was wrong and walked away. I suppose the guy was somewhat sensible in walking away rather than trying to convince me otherwise, but it's good to be aware that these folks are out there continuing to lie and distort the facts about the President's plan to save Social Security--not to mention likely scamming folks out of money. Even if the fundraising is legit, it means that the Dems and their "nonpartisan" fellow travelers are already filling their coffers for the 2006 races. It's going to be another interesting election season!

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#### 8. Nussle Joins the Gubernatorial Race

In case you missed it, Congressman Jim Nussle started a barnstorming tour of Iowa on Wednesday to announce his decision to become a candidate for Governor.

Over the course of seven days he will visit 50 cities in 37 counties to kick off his campaign.

In addition to pledging to address continuing issues involving education and economic development in the state, Nussle promised to abide by President Reagan's 11th Commandment and not attack fellow Republicans. Most of you likely recall that the primary races in 2002 went beyond merely vigorous campaigns and weakened our candidates for the general elections. We can't let that happen again. Make sure that all the candidates stick to the issues and emphasize those differences so that we can pick a winning ticket for the fall 2006 election.

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#### 9. Should Jane Fonda Be Forgiven?

You may have noticed that Jane Fonda has been in the news of late. She has a new book and a new movie and has been very visible promoting both. Not surprisingly, the issue of her anti-war activities during the Viet Nam era has come up again. Some would go so far as to say traitorous activities. She apologized for some of these activities some time ago, but some don't believe that a simple apology should let her let her off the hook. Along those lines, one of you sent me the message below from someone who definitely isn't ready to forgive Fonda.

#### A TRAITOR IS ABOUT TO BE HONORED KEEP THIS MOVING ACROSS AMERICA

This is for all the kids born in the 70's who do not remember, and didn't have to bear the burden that our fathers, mothers and older brothers and sisters had to bear.

Jane Fonda is being honored as one of the "100 Women of the Century."

Unfortunately, many have forgotten and still countless others have never known how Ms. Fonda betrayed not only the idea of our country, but specific men who served and sacrificed during Vietnam.

The first part of this is from an F-4E pilot. The pilot's name is Jerry Driscoll, a River Rat. In 1968, the former Commandant of the USAF Survival School was a POW in Ho Lo Prison the "Hanoi Hilton."

Dragged from a stinking cesspit of a cell, cleaned, fed, and dressed in clean PJ's, he was ordered to describe for a visiting American "Peace Activist" the "lenient and humane treatment" he'd received. He spat at Ms. Fonda, was clubbed, and was dragged away. During the subsequent beating, he fell forward on to the camp Commandant's feet, which sent that officer berserk. In 1978, the Air Force Colonel still suffered from double vision (which permanently ended his flying career) from the Commandant's frenzied application of a wooden baton.

From 1963-65, Col. Larry Carrigan was in the 47FW/DO (F-4E's). He spent 6 years in the "Hanoi Hilton",,, the first three of which his family only knew he was "missing in action". His wife lived on faith that he was still alive. His group, too, got the cleaned-up, fed and clothed routine in preparation for a "peace delegation" visit. They, however, had time and devised a plan to get word to the world that they were alive and still survived. Each man secreted a tiny piece of paper, with his Social Security Number on it, in the palm of his hand. When paraded before Ms. Fonda and a cameraman, she walked the line, shaking each man's hand and asking little encouraging snippets like: "Aren't you sorry you bombed babies?" and "Are you grateful for the humane treatment from your benevolent captors?" Believing this HAD to be an act, they each palmed her their sliver of paper. She took them all without missing a beat. At the end of the line and once the camera stopped rolling, to the shocked disbelief of the POWs, she turned to the officer in charge and handed him all the little pieces of paper. Three men died from the subsequent beatings.

Colonel Carrigan was almost number four but he survived, which is the only reason we know of her actions that day.

I was a civilian economic development advisor in Vietnam, and was captured by the North Vietnamese communists in South Vietnam in 1968, and held prisoner for over 5 years. I spent 27 months in solitary confinement; one year in a cage in Cambodia; and one year in a "black box" in Hanoi. My North

Vietnamese captors deliberately poisoned and murdered a female missionary, a nurse in a leprosarium in Ban me Thuot, South Vietnam, whom I buried in the jungle near the Cambodian border. At one time, I weighed only about 90 lbs. (My normal weight is 170 lbs.)

We were Jane Fonda's "war criminals." When Jane Fonda was in Hanoi, I was asked by the camp communist political officer if I would be willing to meet with her.

I said yes, for I wanted to tell her about the real treatment we POWs received... and how different it was from the treatment purported by the North Vietnamese, and parroted by her as "humane and lenient."

Because of this, I spent three days on a rocky floor on my knees, with my arms outstretched with a large steel weights placed on my hands, and beaten with a bamboo cane.

I had the opportunity to meet with Jane Fonda soon after I was released. I asked her if she would be willing to debate me on TV. She never did answer me.

These first-hand experiences do not exemplify someone who should be honored as part of "100 Years of Great Women."

Lest we forget..." 100 Years of Great Women" should never include a traitor whose hands are covered with the blood of so many patriots. There are few things I have strong visceral reactions to, but Hanoi Jane's participation in blatant treason, is one of them.

Please take the time to forward to as many people as you possibly can. It will eventually end up on her computer and she needs to know that we will never forget.

RONALD D. SAMPSON, CMSgt, USAF  
716 Maintenance Squadron, Chief of Maintenance  
DSN: 875-6431  
COMM: 883-6343

PLEASE HELP BY SENDING THIS TO EVERYONE IN YOUR ADDRESS BOOK. IF ENOUGH PEOPLE SEE THIS MAYBE HER STATUS WILL CHANGE

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10. Amazing Ratio

One of you passed this along. The murder rate statistic for DC is actually from the time when DC was America's "Murder Capital," but several other cities now have more murder per year (though I didn't check their rates per 100,000 people).

"Amazing Ratio"

If you consider that there have been an average of 160,000 troops in the Iraqi theater during the last 22 months, that gives a firearm death ratio of 60 per 100,000.

The firearm death ratio in DC is 80.6 per 100,000. That means that you are more likely to be shot and killed in our Nation's Capitol, which has some of the strictest gun control laws in the nation, than you are in Iraq.

Conclusion:

We should immediately pull out of ... WASHINGTON, DC!

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11. So Long, and Thanks for All the Fish

Even if you don't recognize that line from the Science Fiction works of Douglas Adams (galactic hitchhikers, alien dolphins, etc.), it's a humorous way to let everyone know that I'm going to be leaving Johnson County for a job in DC.

More specifically, I've been named the Deputy Director of the Office for Victims of Crime in the Department of Justice. I start later this month and will be leaving town in about two weeks, so this will be my last newsletter--at least for a while. I'm taking a leave of absence from the University and expect to be in DC for at least one and possibly two years.

I'll still be in email and cell phone contact while in DC, but Todd will be finding someone else to take over the email list and newsletter. That will include the jcrepublicans@hotmail.com address, so messages to that address will no longer come to me.

Let me end this newsletter by expressing my thanks all those folks who sent me words of appreciation and encouragement (and newsletter items!) over the last few years. I look forward to reading future newsletters that continue to detail Republican happenings in and around Johnson County!

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Until next time,

Tim Hagle