



## **Suggested text for the welcoming of new members**

Just what is a Pachyderm anyway? As a member of Pachyderm, you should expect to hear this question from time to time. The word Pachyderm comes to us from the Greek and translates as “thick skinned.” The more modern usage is a term for a group of thick-skinned nonruminant hoofed mammals such as the rhinoceros and elephants.

In our case, the name Pachyderm signifies our relationship with the Republican Party through our shared mascot, the elephant.

In joining Pachyderm you have become a part of an unfortunately small group of Americans who are active in their system of government. Pachyderm provides a vehicle for you to both learn about our political system and if you choose, effect change. How involved you become is entirely up to you, but no matter how engaged you choose to become, you will certainly become better informed just by attending.

By joining Pachyderm, you have demonstrated a commitment to both our nation and the preservation of freedom. The Pachyderm motto expresses the requirements for maintaining a Republic very succinctly, “Free Government requires Active Citizens.”

On behalf of the National Federation of Pachyderm Clubs and the \_\_\_\_\_, it is my privilege to present you with your Pachyderm lapel pin signifying both your membership in Pachyderm and your active involvement in your nation.

Thank you for joining Pachyderm and thank you for becoming an active citizen.