Purpose of Pachyderm

To provide a practical means for broad citizen participation in politics.

To promote practical political education and the dissemination of information about our political system.

To promote the development of potential political leaders.

To assist in carrying out the purposes of the Republican Party, whose purpose we believe includes:

- To provide Leadership in Government.
- To protect Individual Rights and Freedom.
- To promote Clean Government with local emphasis.
- To keep the Public Informed on the status of their government.

PACHYDERMS STOLE THE SHOW AT MRLC

As leading event sponsors at the Midwest Republican Leadership Conference (MRLC) held September 13-15, 2013 in Kansas City, MO, Pachyderms were all the buzz. With 750 in attendance from all across the Midwest Region, not everyone was blessed to have come from a Pachyderm stronghold. So with all of the attention, we found ourselves answering the question, “What is a Pachyderm?” often.

The National Pachyderm Federation teamed up with the Missouri Pachyderm Federation to sponsor the Saturday evening dinner with former Congressman Allen West as the speaker. The dinner was attended by 190 people. Both National Federation President John Wiemann and Missouri Pachyderm Federation President Bill McCoy addressed the audience.

Pachyderms also hosted one of two hospitality suites on Friday and the one-and-only hospitality suite on Saturday evening with an estimated 125 conference attendees stopping by each night.

Our prominently placed Pachyderm booth allowed staff and members of the National and Missouri Federation Board to interact with Conference attendees.

On Saturday afternoon members of the National and Missouri Federation Boards were invited to a personal meeting with Reince Priebus, Chairman of the Republican National Committee. Priebus expressed his appreciation of Pachyderms’ efforts and grassroots support.

Thanks to Missouri Republican Party Chairman Ed Martin and Executive Director Shane Schoeller (both longtime Pachyderm members) for allowing us the opportunity to show what Pachyderms are all about.

Visit Our Store

Want to show your Pachyderm Pride? Visit the online Pachyderm Store at store.pachyderms.org and check out our shirts, hats, awards, name badges, literature and gifts.
THE BOARD PRESIDENT’S REMARKS

This past year our organization experienced some low and high points. After the Republican Party lost the opportunity to win back the White House, many of our members were devastated, depressed, and quite frankly mad about the 2012 election results. As a result, our membership along with many other civic political organizations experienced a significant decline. So far this year, it appears that our membership renewals are going strong and that there is a renewed momentum in our Party.

After seeking congressional inquiry and joining a class action lawsuit against the IRS, we learned this past year that the IRS denied our group tax exemption application (National Pachyderms has been a tax exempt, 501 c(4) since 1974, but our Clubs need to individually be recognized or we need to be recognized as a group) on the grounds that many of our local clubs had not filed 990 forms and that all local clubs must become compliant before the IRS would reconsider our group tax exemption application. At this point in time, the issue remains unresolved; however, the National Board is currently seeking additional outside advice and counsel regarding our options to bring all clubs into compliance with the IRS. We are optimistic that a plan of action to resolve this situation will be finalized this year.

One of the highlights from 2013 was our National Convention in San Antonio, Texas. The Alamo Club was the host club and did an outstanding job. During the Convention we had many outstanding speakers, including Texas Governor, Rick Perry. Also, during the convention we added several new board members; Ruth Ahlemeier, Bill McCoy, Larry Minniear, John Proud, and Bev Randles to help rejuvenate the national leadership. We also recognized those departing board members, Luanne Dewitt and Penny Henke for their service to the National Board.

While at the National Convention, the Board of Directors met and discussed the need to revise our strategies for accomplishing our mission. In order to become more relevant with the political environment and to grow our membership and organization, we decided to address the three most important requirements for a successful organization: MONEY, MESSAGE and MANPOWER. The Board agreed to move forward with supporting the first annual National Pachyderm Golf Tournament to be held in St. Louis. Working in conjunction with three local Pachyderm Clubs in the St. Louis metro area, our goal is to promote the Club, add new members, and raise money for both the local clubs and National Federation.

Another objective we had last year was to promote the Pachyderm Club to state and national Republican organizations along with conservative groups across the country in order to encourage membership and club growth. In 2013 we participated in several key Republican and Conservative events around the country. In particular, we had the opportunity to be a sponsor for the Midwest Republican Leadership Conference that was held in Kansas City, MO. We also exhibited at the CPAC Regional Conference in St. Louis, MO. Both events offered our organization a relatively inexpensive way to promote Pachyderms to groups and individuals who have not been exposed to us. Most recently, I was invited to be a guest at the Republican National Committee Winter Meeting in Washington, D.C. In the past, the National Pachyderm President, along with many other auxiliary allied organizations were invited to attend the RNC meetings. However, for the past ten years, we were not allowed to attend because of the McCain/Feingold law. Most recently, the RNC Chairman, Reince Preibus, has reached out to the grassroots organizations to become more involved with the party. At my first RNC meeting, I had unprecedented access to many State Party Chairman, National Committee members and other Republican organizations from around the country. Moving forward, our leaders and Club must continue to reach out to Republican Party leaders to ask for their support and assistance with expanding the Pachyderm movement in their state.

This year I am excited about the opportunity for Pachyderms to make another leap forward as an organization. We are gaining momentum and our new Board of Directors are energized and ready to drive Pachyderms to another level.

On a personal note, I have decided to seek public office this year. I formed a campaign committee last year and will be filing for office in late February to run for Missouri State Representative. At this point, I expect to have a primary opponent and therefore will take a leave of absence as National President until after the primary election. I am excited about the opportunity to serve my community, state and country in a new capacity and look forward to solving the challenges we face as citizens.
Downtown Houston Pachyderm Club hosted its Awards Luncheon & Fundraiser featuring U.S. Senator Ted Cruz on January 24th. Club President Sophia Mafrige welcomed everyone and Senator Cruz was given a standing ovation as he entered the room.

The opening prayer was lead by Bishop Anthony Williams of New Harvest Christian Outreach, followed by the U.S. Pledge by Jared Woodfill and the Texas Pledge by Paul Simpson. Hope Johnson sang the National Anthem beautifully. Club Vice President Jack Lee introduced elected officials. Club Secretary Tom Zakes introduced Candidates. Board member and past president Ed Johnson, acknowledged sponsors. Sophia Mafrige thanked the committee members, Board and members of Houston Young Republicans who volunteered to make the event a success. Colonel Sean Seibert presented the Club with a flag he flew in its honor over Kabul, Afghanistan on September 11, 2013.

Meritorous Service Awards were presented to Judge Analia Wilkerson (a founding member of the Club) and Club Secretary Tom Zakes. The Tough Tusk Award was presented to Senator Ted Cruz.

Several past award recipients in attendance were acknowledged, including the Honorable Bill Phelps, former Missouri Lt. Governor and State Representative. Following the Awards presentations, Ed Johnson formally introduced Senator Cruz as the keynote speaker.

Senator Cruz exhibited a great sense of humor as he spoke about his time in Washington D.C., the challenges we are facing, and concerns for the future. The Senator was given several standing ovations throughout the day.

The event concluded with Hope Johnson leading the crowd in “God Bless America” followed by a prayer by Bishop Williams to close the event. More than 100 sponsors of various levels supported the event. Bob Price of TexasGOPVote.com was the photographer.

Despite a terrible ice storm which resulted in road closures all over the city, hundreds came to hear from Senator Ted Cruz, truly a testament to the Senator and the support of his constituents. It was a wonderful day for the Downtown Houston Pachyderm Club and we are grateful to all who made it possible.

To view more photos go to: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/btcjznivt1nnqsi/lrU42Hk9e5

Award Recipients - Tom Zakes, Sen. Ted Cruz and Judge Analia Wilkerson

Club President Sophia Mafrige presenting Sen. Ted Cruz, member of D/T Houston Pachyderm Club the Tough Tusk Award

Sen. Ted Cruz and Bill Phelps, Past National Pachyderm Club President

Col. Sean Seibert presenting Club President Sophia Mafrige with a flag he flew in the Club’s honor
CLUB BRIEFS

Nightside (TN) Installation of Officers

L to R: Standing—Larry Minniear, National Director (installing officer); Chester Bankston, Director; Carnell Storie, Sec./Treas.; John Shackelford, President; Frank Cowan, Director; Dan Appleget, 1st Vice President. Seated—Esther Taj, 2nd Vice President; Barry Barsoumian, Director; Larry Grohn, Director; Larry Henry, Director.

Welcome to our Newest Club—Pachyderm Club of Northern Alabama

L to R: Mo Brooks, Alabama 5th District Congressman; Jim Samuelson, President; Tom Scovill, Vice President; Bobby Smith, Director; Priscilla Adams Dumont, Director; George Williams, Secretary/Treasurer; James Brown, Director; Larry Minniear, National Director.

St. Charles (MO) Club Presents Annual Scholarship

L to R: Penny Henke, Club Vice President; Stephen Johnson, Club President; Sarah Hinds, Scholarship Recipient; Rep. Chuck Gatschenberger; Mike Hazelbaker, Scholarship Fund Coordinator.

Hampton County (TN) Installation of Officers

L to R: Henry Hoss, President; Scott McColpin, Vice President; Ruth Ann Quiroga, Secretary; Joe DeGaetano, Director; Liz Norris, Treasurer; Luanne DeWitt, Director; Chris Helton, Director; Larry Minniear, National Director (installing officer).

Downtown Houston (TX) Pachyderm Club Officers

L to R: Jack Lee, Vice President; Nick Carter, Treasurer; Sophia Mafriage, President; Senator Ted Cruz; Tom Zakes, Secretary and Meritorious Service Award recipient; Ann Lee, Director; Peggy Lindow, Director; Ed Johnson, Director; Travis Bryan, Director.

San Angelo (TX) Pachyderm Club Award Recipient

L to R: Cheryl DeCordova, Dist. Man. for State Rep. Drew Darby; Tony Massaro, 2013 Club Pres.; Araceli Gutierrez, wife; Gregorio Gutierrez who received an award (per the Club’s request) from Gov. Rick Perry & the TX House of Representatives Speaker's Gavel from Representative Darby.
MIDWEST REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP

John Wiemann, National Pachyderm President addressing the MRLC crowd

Col. Allen West; Helen Van Etten, NFPC Board Member; Holly Lintner, NFPC Exec. Director & John Wiemann, NFPC Pres.

Former Gov. Haley Barbour speaking on Friday night

Bill McCoy, MO Fed. Pres. & NFPC Board Member addressing the crowd as Ed Martin, MO Republican Party Chair watches on

Ed Martin, Longtime Pachyderm Member & Missouri Republican Party Chairman; Col. Allen West; Shane Schoeller, Longtime Pachyderm Member & Missouri Republican Party Executive Director
**TOP 10 CLUBS AS OF 12/31/13**

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**THE PACHYDERM PRAYER**

While the National Pachyderm Federation does not require local clubs to say a prayer during their meetings. For those clubs that elect to do so, enclosed is a basic prayer that may be used to give praise to God.

> God of all goodness, through the breaking of bread together, you strengthen the bonds that unite us.

> May our lips praise you, and our lives proclaim your goodness.

> Our work give you honor and our voice celebrates you forever.

> Amen.

**PACHYDERM PREAMBLE**

It is our belief that most of the corrupting influences in American politics could be erased and the government generally made more responsive by one basic improvement. That is, simply for more good citizens to participate in politics. “We get the government we deserve, not the one we wish for,” remains a guide star for a free people. We offer a meaningful movement of political Clubs as the most practical means by which broad citizen participation may be achieved.