

THE NATIONAL PACHYDERM

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1555 Kisker Suite
St. Charles MO. 63304

2009 Pachyderm Conference in Vegas



You asked for it. you got it.

The one question that I have invariably been asked after each Pachyderm Conference over the last ten years is "Why don't we have this in Vegas?"

The answer was always, "We do not have a club in Vegas and we need a local club's assistance to make a conference successful".

Well, we now have a club in Vegas and not only did they offer to host the conference, they pretty much insisted. You might say they made us an offer we could not refuse.

On a serious note, Las Vegas is indeed a very good location for the next National Pachyderm Conference for a number of reasons:

We have never held one of our conferences in the Southwest and doing so provides an opportunity to build clubs in the region.

At a time of decreasing Air Service into many markets, Las Vegas remains both easy and inexpensive to fly to.

Las Vegas is a city designed to host events of all sizes and will provide our attendees not only with a tremendous facility for the conference, but a variety of entertainment option for before or after the conference as well.

Like most of us, the members of the Las Vegas Pachyderm Club have been rather busy working on campaigns and as a result we are not yet ready to announce all of the details, but we are far enough along to give you the dates.

The National Board will convene at 9 AM on Thursday September 17th for its meetings so Board Members should plan to arrive no later than the evening of the 16th. All meetings of the National Board are open to all members who would like to attend.

The General membership activities start at 9 AM on Friday September 18th and conclude with a banquet on Saturday the 19th. Sessions will include training on both Pachyderm club and political operations. Additionally, elections will be held for three National Board positions, Club and individual awards for 2007 and 2008 will be presented and the Saturday Night Banquet will feature a Keynote speaker and the installation of your National Officers for 2009-2011.

The hotels with which we are negotiating are all offering aggressive rates for the Sunday through Thursday night in advance of the conference and as such we would recommend making plans to arrive in Vegas a day or two in advance of the conference.

As soon as the negotiations are complete, we will be sending out the details of room rates and the costs for the conference itself. Our goal is to keep the registration fee including the Banquet, two breakfasts and two luncheons to \$ 185 or less and we are on track to achieve that goal.

Rooms for the Sunday - Thursday are anticipated to be in the \$ 50 per night range for single or double occupancy including tax with the Friday and Saturday night rate being around \$ 115 including tax. All the rooms are spacious mini suites which should work very well both the conference portion of your trip and the vacation that you may decide to add on the front end.

This conference will be an ideal opportunity to mix a lot of fun with some Pachyderm programming with a splash of vacation.

We look forward to seeing you in Vegas next September!

VIVA LAS VEGAS !!!

Free Government requires *ACTIVE* citizens



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www.pachyderms.org
www.pachyderms.org



**President's
Ponderings**

Joe Briggs - National President

Fellow Pachyderm members,

As I write this I am taking a brief break from the campaigns I am working on and I find myself feeling a bit guilty for doing so. In the crush of campaigns I find it difficult enough to focus on my profession, let alone divert my attention to one of my not quite so political volunteer task like Pachyderm. I suspect that many of you feel the same way and as such have focused all your available time recently working to elect Republican candidates. For this I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

I have been working on campaigns for thirty two years now and I can honestly say that I have never experienced a more difficult environment for Republicans than this election. I suspect the same is true in your area as well. The national media has been brutal and has cast a shadow over all of the accomplishments of anyone running under the Republican banner. In spite of this, you and the candidates you have been working for have pressed on. No one can fault your resolve or efforts regardless of the outcome.

Since I am writing this in advance of the election, I obviously do not know what the outcome has been. I do not know who will be in the White House come January, I only have my hopes at this point. I do not know which party will control the Senate and House in DC, nor in my state capital. I only know that I am proud of the effort we have put forward and that not all of our efforts will be successful.

This is one of the reasons, I am taking the time to finish this newsletter now even though I know that it will likely not reach you until after the election.

As Pachyderms, we have a critical mission to begin immediately following the election, we have to keep our unsuccessful candidates and volunteers from becoming disenchanted with the process. We have to open our clubs and arms to those who were not victorious and provide them an environment in which they can gather strength for the next time.

You may remember that after many years of running other peoples campaigns, I ran for office myself in 2004. I was successful, and I noticed that in the months after my victory I had many more friends than I ever knew I had. Everyone I met was a supporter and it was literally a year before I found a person who would admit they had not voted for me. One would have never guessed that I only received 54% of the vote.

Those candidates who were not as fortunate as I however, were not treated so well. All too often, they were ignored at functions, they were not the center of attention and in some cases were shunned.

While I realize that these are a natural response and people are not intentionally trying to be hurtful, that often occurs. We all love a winner, but the winner is not the one who needs your support right after the election.

Trust me, the winners have hundreds of new best friends vying for their attention. Our focus as Pachyderms should now be to turn to the future. We need to reach out to those disappointed candidates and their followers. We need to strengthen our clubs so that we can be of greater assistance in those years and we need to say thank you and give to those competitors who did not win the prize the respect and tribute they deserve.



**New Executive
Director Named**

In July, the National Headquarters of the Pachyderm Federation was relocated to St. Charles Missouri and an Executive Director was hired.

Arlene Hogue has been named Executive Director of the National Federation of the Grand Order of Pachyderm Clubs Inc. In her duties as Executive Director, Hogue will have the responsibility of the daily management of the organization's current membership base along with assistance in the development of additional clubs throughout the United States.

Hogue is a native of St. Charles where she currently resides with her husband. She has been a member of the St. Charles County Pachyderm Club since 1998. Her background includes sales and management experience in the hospitality industry prior to entering the association field. She served as the Executive Director to the St. Charles Chamber of Commerce for five years and most recently, seven years as the Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County. Her years of management and administration have demonstrated a tremendous ability to integrate individuals; both business and volunteer, into cohesive units, which have attained specified goals.

Hogue is a Committeewoman on the St. Charles County Republican Central Committee, serves on a State Board via an appointment from the Governor, and is a member of the First Capitol Republican Women's Club. She sits on the board of both the St. Charles County Historical Society and the Frenchtown Museum, and is a former deacon of her church.

"I am excited to be working with the National Pachyderms," says Hogue. "The volunteer management of the organization has done an outstanding job of laying the foundation, forming the structure and building an amazing organization. With the Board's direction, my aim is to bring the best value and resources internally and externally to the member Federations and Clubs, expand on communications and increase the membership base."

Hogue will take over the management duties previously performed by the Board Presidents as they served their terms of office. Having the National office in a permanent location will ease the burden of the presiding officer as well as establish a continuum of information and resources, uninterrupted by changes in the volunteer leadership of Pachyderm.

The National Board would like to take this opportunity to thank Trish Aliperto and Mary Jolley who served as our Office Managers while the National Office was located in Great Falls Montana.

We look forward to the continued expansion of services this new office structure will provide. Arlene can be reached via email at ahogue@pachyderms.org or via phone at 1-888-gopachy.

The Pachyderm Foundation

"The is no such thing as a democratic nation without political leaders"

The Foundation provides scholarships for students to help and encourage future political leaders.

**You can help; contributions to:
P.O. Box 585, Columbia, MO 65205.
A 501(c)(3) entity; gifts tax deductible.**

"Success without a successor is failure."

Pachyderm across the Nation



Regional Director positions available

Every two years at the National Pachyderm Conference, a series of elections take place to choose the governing body of the National Federation. When originally created, the National Board was solely a self-perpetuating board. This was done to protect the fundamental principles of Pachyderm and to prevent any issue-driven faction within the Republican family from attempting to utilize Pachyderm as a platform for their views. This structure has served it's function very well but does have the disadvantage of limiting the pool of potential directors. In order to retain the safeguards of a self-perpetuating board while at the same time opening up the board to a greater range of members, a new type of position was created called "Regional Director". These individuals serve as a liaison to all of the clubs in their region, assist the State Federations in their areas and are responsible for club extension and officers training in those states of their region where no State Federation exists. The regions are defined as follows:

Midwest Region:

Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin

North East Region:

Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virgin Islands

Southern Region:

Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia

Western Region:

Alaska, American Samoa, Arizona, California, Colorado, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming

Candidates for these positions may be nominated by any Pachyderm member in good standing. The nominations must be in writing and be received no later than August 17, 2009 at National Headquarters. In order to be eligible for election, the nominees must be members in good standing from within the region for which they are nominated and must have previously served or currently be serving as an officer of their local Pachyderm club or State Federation. In addition to the duties previously mentioned, these individuals are voting members of the board and are expected to attend one in-person board meeting each year as well as participating in telephone meetings and committee meetings throughout the year. Each club and State Federation is entitled to a single vote for the office of Regional Director. The election is held during the regional caucuses at the National Conference and a properly credentialed member of the club or State Federation must be present to cast their organization's vote.

Pachyderm Gifts

Do you have a Pachyderm member in your family that is tough to buy for?

Don't forget, Pachyderm has a line of Hats, Shirts, Pens, Pins, Paperweights, Desktop flags and other Pachyderm Signature items available for your gift giving needs.

Visit www.pachyderms.org for a complete catalog of the items available. Perfect of the rapidly approaching Holiday Season, birthdays or any other occasion.

Show your Pachyderm spirit everyday or just start getting ready for Las Vegas during this upcoming gift giving season.

Pachyderm Ivory Circle

Since our organizations financial needs have changed and many of our previous goals met, it has been decided to launch a new organization called the "Pachyderm Ivory Circle" to replace the "Committee of 100". Like the old Committee of 100, the new group will provide an opportunity for Pachyderm members to go above and beyond their normal dues to assist in strengthening our organization. Funds raised by your contributions to the Ivory Circle will be used to enhance communications with our members, fund club expansion efforts across the nation, improve the quality of our training materials and to begin to save for a permanent Pachyderm Headquarters in Missouri.

The Pachyderm Ivory Circle program will provide recognition of both annual and lifetime aggregate contributions via a series of newly designed diamond shaped metal cloisonné pins sporting the gold and black Pachyderm emblem along with the appropriate donor level designation. They are designed to resemble and complement the Past President, Tough Tusk and optional membership pins we have been utilizing in recent years. In addition to the recognition provided by the new pins, our donors will also receive free admission to the VIP reception held at our biennial National Conference. Those who are a Bronze level or higher annual donor or have reached the Ivory level for lifetime contributions will also be listed in the the National Pachyderm Newsletter.

The Pachyderm Ivory Circle program levels recognize all annual contributions from \$25 to \$99 at the donor level, \$100 to \$249 places you at the Bronze level, \$250 to \$499 earns you the Silver designation and an annual contribution of \$500 or more makes you a member of Gold circle. A total lifetime contribution of \$5000 or more earns an individual recognition as an Ivory member.

National Pachyderm Board positions available

In addition to the three board positions which will be filled by regional caucuses at the 2009 National Conference, there will also be four positions which will be filled by appointment by the National Board itself. These four positions are each four year terms running until the Pachyderm Conference in 2013.

If you have an interest in serving, we would encourage you to send a resume to the National Headquarters outlining your background and desire to serve. Be warned however, this is not a paid position with travel to exotic locations. It is a working board of volunteers who contribute both their time and finances to the cause. Board members can request to be reimbursed for the costs of travel and lodging directly related to board meetings, but the cost of attending these meetings does not represent the total financial cost of serving on the board. I should also note, Board members are required to attend the annual board meetings and may be removed for failure to attend.

In summary, if you are looking for a position to pad your political resume, this is not it. If on the other hand you are committed to building the Pachyderm network of Clubs, wish to have a direct impact on the political climate of America and are ready to dig in and help build an organization, I would urge you to apply.

Please send your resume and other supporting information to:

National Pachyderm Federation
1555 Kisker Road Suite 150
St. Charles MO 63304



National Federation of Pachyderm Clubs
 1555 Kisker Road Suite 150
 St. Charles MO 63304

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Please send Club Start Information At large membership

Contact us at : 1-888-467-2249
www@pachyderms.org

Or visit us at: www.pachyderms.org

At large membership in the National Federation is available at a cost of \$25 per year for individuals who do not live near an existing Pachyderm Club. To join as an at large member, fill out this form and mail it along with your check for \$ 25 to:

NFPC
1555 Kisker Road Suite 150
St. Charles MO 63304

***Pachyderms &
 Las Vegas,
 this should be
 great !***



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