



FOUNDED 1982

The DOLPHIN NEWS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE DOLPHIN DEMOCRATS

A Chartered Affiliate of the Florida GLBT Democratic Caucus

FLORIDA'S Oldest
and Largest Gay,
Lesbian, Bisexual,
and
Transgender
Political Organization

WWW.DOLPHINDEMOS.ORG

Our Next Meeting

**June 8th, 2005
7:30 P.M.**

Board Meeting 6:00 P.M.

GLCC
1717 N. Andrews Ave.
Fort Lauderdale

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Florida Democratic Party Page 3

JJGALA

TURNING FLORIDA BLUE

Sat. June 11th

DIPLOMAT HOTEL, Hollywood

RECEPTION BEGINS AT 6:00 P.M.

DINNER BEGINS AT 7:30 P.M.



June 19th, Sunday

Parade at 11AM

WILTON MANORS

Street Festival 12 Noon to 7PM

Come By Our Booth

JULY 13th, 2005
Dolphin Democrats Meeting
7:30 P.M.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As I sit down at my computer to write this month's President's Message, I have one overriding thought in my head: I am really proud to be a Democrat. The shock of the November 2004 election has worn off and I'm ready to fight harder than ever before. I'm ready to fight for my rights as a gay American. I'm ready to fight for my Party and its values. I'm ready to fight for those without a voice in the current political climate. I'm ready to fight for those less fortunate.

All of us, as GLBT individuals, have been somehow victimized in the past. Some of us have been victimized by our religious institutions; some of us have been victimized by our families; some of us have been victimized by society; and all of us have been victimized by the Republican Party. I have never been one to accept the role of victim; instead, I have tried to learn from past experiences no matter how painful or unfair. You learn by not forgetting. What we cannot forget is that the Republican Party has never cared about us or our families. As a teenager, I remember President Reagan who treated us like second class citizens and intentionally refused to utter the word "AIDS" during his presidency. As a result, most of us lost loved ones to this terrible disease. And while the issues may have changed over the last 20 years, the treatment of us as GLBT Americans has not. The current administration is no different from its predecessors. Clearly, it is our obligation as Democrats to educate our friends, our families, our neighbors, our co-workers, and those we interact with on a daily basis, about the fundamental differences between the Democratic Party and the Republican Party. We desperately need to figure out how to reach out to those misguided individuals, both gay and straight, who tend to vote Republican.

The N.Y. Times recently published an article discussing a new Pew Research Center study of American voters. Its findings were enlightening. The Pew study showed that Americans at the top of the

KEN KEECHL, Esq.

earnings scale are divided into two opposite slices of the electorate. There are those educated liberals (anti-war, pro-choice, anti-tax cuts) who equate 19% of the electorate. These Americans vote



overwhelmingly Democratic. Conversely, there are those business class conservatives (pro-war, pro-life, and pro-tax cuts) who make up 11% of the electorate. These Americans vote overwhelmingly Republican. No matter how hard we try, we will never change their minds.

Interestingly, the Pew study showed that "poorer" voters are different. Surprisingly, they are not represented well by any Party, including the Democratic Party. According to the study, there are "poor Republicans" (more than 10% of the voters) who are hawkish on foreign policy and socially conservative; however, these "poor Republicans" like government programs and oppose tax cuts. We, as a Party, need to reach out to these voters. The fact that George Bush won the white working-class vote by 23 percentage points makes this statement obvious. Further analysis indicated that 76% of poor Republicans believe that Americans can raise their social and economic status through hard work, while only 14% of poor Democrats felt the same way. Obviously, the Republican Party is succeeding because it is seen by these voters as the party of advancement.

It is obvious to me that these "poor Republicans" should be identifying with the Democratic Party. Most of these poor Republicans are young women with children. Nearly 70% of them have trouble paying their bills every month. 80% believe government should do more to help those

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

who are in need (even if it means that the federal government will go deeper into debt) while only 19% of affluent Republicans feel that way. 83% of poor Republicans believe that big business is too powerful compared to 26% of affluent Republicans.

As GLBT Americans, there is obviously a clear choice between the Democratic Party and the Republican Party. However, we will only succeed in furthering our specific goals (the defeat of the Marriage Protection Amendment; the establishment of gay marriages, civil unions, and domestic partnerships; the enactment of stronger hate crimes legislation; and increases in the medically needy and other similar programs) if our Party is successful in winning elections locally, state-wide, and on the national level.

Therefore, it is incumbent upon each of us to work to make the Democratic Party stronger. That is also the goal of your board. We are excited about the direction of our Party. We are excited about the many Democratic candidates for office who are pledging their support to our issues. As proud Dolphin Democrats, for years we have been fighting hard for our rights and our party. We intend to fight even harder.

Democratically yours,
KEN KEECHL



Barb & Lloyd

When you think of the Dolphin Democrats it seems impossible not to think of Barbara and Lloyd Stuart. Their warmth and wonderful smiles are central to the heartbeat of the Dolphins and we wouldn't be the same without them. Whether they are spending yet another late night at the print shop to meet a deadline, offering design help, or ceaselessly volunteering to help with every event in sight, we are truly blessed to have them as family members of the Dolphins. Our heartfelt gratitude is yours, Barb & Lloyd, and we are so very grateful for all you do and all you give, but more importantly for who you are and for being part of our lives.



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Although it is extremely difficult for a novice like me to find accurate numbers of dead and wounded in Iraq, here is an estimate averaged from a number of sources. This does not include any numbers from Afghanistan, and, of course, by the time you read this, more flesh and blood human beings with real families and lives will have been turned into statistics of war.

American Soldiers Killed	1,261	Iraqi Soldiers Killed:	
American Soldiers Wounded	8,956	Estimates Between:	6,150 - 19,451
American Soldiers Medical Evacuation	22,000	Iraqi Soldiers Wounded:	
		Multiply the above number by at least	5
UK Soldiers Killed:	74	Iraqi Civilians Killed:	
Coalition Soldiers Killed:	72	Estimates Between	..21,940 - 24,897
Foreign Workers Killed:	157	Iraqi Civilians Wounded:	
Journalists Killed:	44	Estimates begin at ...	328,571

Children of the Bush Family, Senior Administration Officials, Senators, or Representatives killed or wounded:

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Weapons of Mass Destruction:

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Submitted by:
KATY PETERSON