

Happy New Year!

January 20, 2013

As I reflect back on 2011-2012 as it relates to the **Macomb County Republican Party (MCRP)** and my chairmanship, I wanted to give you my perspective on the changes that occurred recently in the county party leadership.

As the **MCRP**, we were fractured due to different ideologies (for example) the Ron Paul supporters (whose goal was for Ron Paul to be the Republican Party's presidential candidate in 2012) and also the goals of the PACs in the county, specifically the North Macomb PAC, and other Republican clubs which seemed to want to "take the place" of the county party. The County Party's Charter is to fund raise (Lincoln Dinner and other events) in order to provide financial support for our candidates, to recruit and train Precinct Delegates, for elections (EDO, election day operations), build party unity and work as a united team in order to elect Republicans. The PACS and clubs have different purposes and should not be recruiting Precinct Delegates and providing training especially if it is not state party approved. We, as conservative Republicans, do not seem to support our party leaders or candidates if we have *any* disagreements with their ideologies or their approaches to "governing"—thus our ground game suffers by infighting and spending less time and energy on winning elections.

In 2012, too much focus and energy was spent in defeating the previous **MCRP** officers/team by the PACs and Republican clubs, and also local state party employees instead of working toward defeating the Democrats. What a waste of time, energy, and resources!

My only ambition in 2011- 2012 was to lead the **MCRP**. I was honest and fair and treated people with respect which was not always shown to me in return. I have been in business and in leadership roles for more years than I care to count and I have never been treated with such antagonism and disrespect! Maybe I should have expected some of this behavior in politics but not from my own party. Being Chair was one of the most difficult things I have done and it has given me a new perspective on the Republican Party, being active in politics, and re-thinking my willingness to trust people especially my own party members.

Based on my experiences with the **MCRP**, I urge you to attend the Executive Board meetings, and the upcoming convention (February) and also all future conventions and to fully understand the by-laws of the **MCRP** which can be found on the website. I believe there may be some important changes coming that you will need to understand as **MCRP** members. Also support conservative groups such as the local Tea Parties.

I have heard from reliable sources that the current team is spreading rumors about the former officers which is yet another example of inappropriate and highly unprofessional behavior. I can assure you I am not aware of any improprieties by the previous officers in 2011 and 2012.

I greatly appreciated your support and encourage you to re-elect Stan Grot as 10<sup>th</sup> District Chair as his heart is in the right place for the party and he is a true American Patriot. Right now, it feels good to be on the sidelines as I felt 2012 was a constant uphill battle as Chair of the **MCRP**. I hope we have learned some valuable lessons from this election cycle—I am certain I have. Let's keep our focus on winning elections and not defeating ourselves from within.

I welcome your comments or questions. Feel free to email me at: [Barbara@vansyckel.net](mailto:Barbara@vansyckel.net) or call me at 586-731-9232.

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