Chris H. Chambless
Clay County
Supervisor of Elections

Summer
Edition
2015

Voice of the Eagle

Ah, Summer! While many are taking the time to Re-Charge and Re-Group, The Elections Office has been particularly busy with outreach, continuing education, voter advocacy and equipment upgrades; your elections office never stops.

Voter Outreach enjoyed a successful county fair, conveyed our Voter Education Program to 2575 students, registered/preregistered 581 students, provided Sunshine State Young Readers Award and mock elections for 2176 students.

Professional education is one of the major tenets of our organization. We are dedicated in pursuing higher education in honing our skills to ensure that the Clay County Elections office is poised to meet the needs of the voters today and tomorrow. I support my staff in the pursuit of the Master Florida Certified Elections Professional (MFCEP) and continued education. MFCEP is a huge accomplishment in the professional lives of our staff; I could not be more proud of their hard work in achieving this designation. The Florida Certified Elections Professional program, organized by the Florida State Association of Supervisors of Elections (FSASE), provides Florida election officials and their staff the opportunity to receive election education courses. I have had the privilege of being a part of this great association, FSASE, for several years. As a result of this commitment, I was recently sworn in as President Elect. I look forward to leading this association made up of professional men and women who strive every day to bring secure, transparent, professionally conducted elections to ALL in the State of Florida. I assure you that this too is my goal each and every day. My excitement grows as I contemplate the evolution of our association and its members as we prepare to make a positive impact in 2016.

The message of commitment, preparation, and professionalism will be communicated repeatedly to the new incoming Supervisor of Elections (SOE) during an Orientation and Educational workshop that I will champion here in Clay County this fall. During this orientation, SOE's from all over the state who are recognized as experts in key areas of service will share best practices and time tested procedures to our new supervisors.

It has often been said that there is no greater advocate for the voter than the SOE, and this was definitely exhibited in this year's legislative session. Our association is excited about the prospects of Online Voter Registration Application (OVR). OVR will allow Florida citizens who already possess a FL Driver's License or FL Identification to complete an online application to register or make changes to an existing registration in a secure environment providing verification and an electronic confirmation of the transaction to the voter. Recently, I was appointed to the FSASE OVR Implementation Oversight Committee; I am excited to be a part of bringing this online application system to the citizens of Florida.

You may have heard that we're expecting! Yep, it's true. We are expecting the latest and greatest elections equipment to arrive any day. The Clay County Board of Commissioners responded to our recommendation for an upgrade to several pieces of our voting equipment which reached its end of life. Be sure to read 'We're Expecting' from Holly to hear more about this exciting delivery.

As you have read, it has been an exciting 2015. Your elections office never stops in striving to meet the needs of the voters today and tomorrow. It has been great seeing many of you during the year at various outreach or community events. If I have not told you recently, THANK YOU! These words do little to fully express the impact that many of you provide with your time and talents for the benefit of this office and your community, but know that we at the Clay County Elections Office are deeply appreciative. I look forward to seeing you in the coming days, weeks, months ahead and stay tuned for the exciting announcement of a fall Clerk's Roundtable Workshop.

Chris

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SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS
CLAY COUNTY

UPCOMING EVENTS

Election Worker Orientation	August 5, 6, 13, 26, & 27
FLYCA Camp Blanding	August 12
Election Worker Orientation	September 2, 3, 9, 10, 23, & 24
Election Worker Orientation	October 8
High School Voter Registration Drive	October 13-16 & 20-23
Fall Festival OP Town Hall	October 17 & 18

Professional Education

Supervisor Chambless presented the Master Florida Certified Election Professional award to Lisa Hogan. The MFCEP program designation is achieved by an elections official who successfully completes Levels I, II, & III of the FCEP core classes. The classes equate to more than 120 hours of coursework taught within 2-3 years. Only 16 Supervisors of Elections & 21 staff members throughout Florida's 67 counties have achieved this distinguished certificate. In Clay County, this certificate is held by:

- Supervisor Chambless
- Robin Conte
- Holly DePaul
- Lynn Gaver
- **Lisa Hogan - Congratulations!**

Currently enrolled in FCEP program:

- Marti Chase
- Scott Miller
- Thunder Nkere

NEW ADDITIONS TO OUR OFFICE FAMILY

Kemie joined our team as an Election Worker in 2012 and became a Voter Services temporary employee during the 2014 Election Cycle. We are happy to have her back as a permanent employee. She is a wonderful addition to the Voter Services Bureau; we enjoy her enthusiasm, eagerness to learn and commitment to the voting process.

Kemie Mahan

Raised in Clay County, Kemie is the oldest of five girls. She was homeschooled and then received her AA degree from St. Johns River State College. When she's not busy working at the Elections Office Kemie enjoys reading, spending time with friends, and playing with her dogs.

While on active duty, Thunder joined our team as an Election Worker in 2004. and became a poll worker training instructor in 2012. In 2015, she became full time; as the Voter Outreach and Elections Communication Coordinator, she is thrilled to teach in our community & schools. Her excitement & dedication to teach is a welcomed impact in our community.

Thunder Nkere

After retiring from 20 years of Naval Service, she calls Fleming Island home. She received her Masters of Education (M.Ed.) in Special Education from UNF. In her *spare time*, she enjoys time with her family, learning about Clay County history and crafting.

OFFICE HIGHLIGHTS

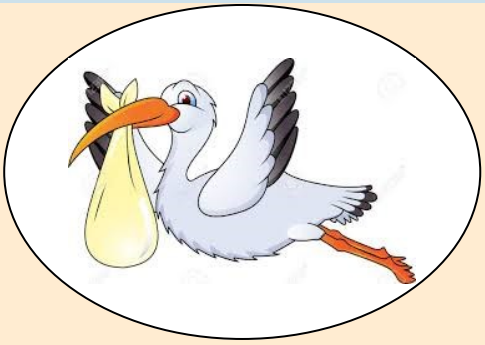
Office Anniversaries

Lauri ~ 1 Year
Linda ~10 Years

Upcoming Birthdays

Chris ~ July
Lisa ~ Aug
Brenda ~ Sept

Happy Birthday to all our Election Workers with celebrations in July, August and September.



We're EXPECTING…

The Elections Services Bureau has some exciting news to share. As some of you may remember, we used the iVotronic as our ADA voting solution and its' time has come to an end. We recently purchased the newly certified ExpressVote ADA voting machine. The ExpressVote is unique because it is an electronic marking device; it uses ballot stock that is half the size of a regular ballot; and it is inserted into DS200 for tabulation. We look forward to inviting our ADA voters to come for a demonstration and try it out later this year.

Additionally, we are keeping up with technology by implementing wireless air cards for our DS200 tabulators. Now, we will modem Election results wirelessly which ultimately creates a savings in time & money, not to mention faster reporting on Election Day.

With the new equipment and air card update, we are bustling around training on the new equipment, preparing new training & procedural documentation for our Election Workers, and testing…testing…testing in preparation for the BIG DAY.

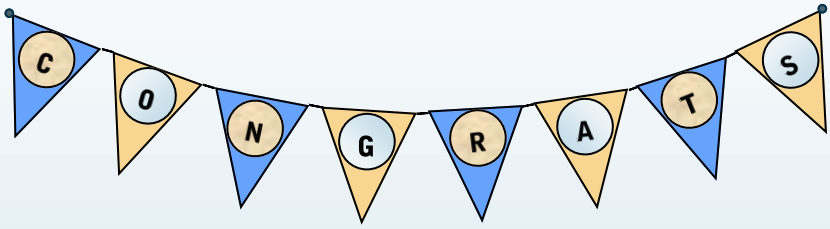
The Election Services Bureau Team is dedicated to the success of Clay County Elections and we are looking forward to the 2016 Election year!

Holly DePaul
Election Services Bureau Manager

Prepared & Ready!!

With hurricane season upon us, it brings us great comfort that we have a complete backup of ALL DATA at the County Emergency Operation Center (EOC). In the event that we are unable to conduct business as usual at 500 N. Orange Ave., we are now in a position to resume operations, complete with phone service, at the EOC.

Jim Krause
Systems Administrator



The Honorable Chris Chambless was recently inducted as the President Elect for the Florida State Association Supervisors of Elections (FSASE) and will serve as President during 2016. We are proud of Supervisor Chambless' commitment to this association and the voters of Clay County.

Offices up for Election in 2016

Federal
President & Vice President
U.S. Senator (One of two seats)
Representative in Congress

Multi- County & District
State Senator (Dist. 7)
State Representatives
State Attorney
Public Defender

County
County Court Judges
Clerk of the Court
Property Appraiser
Sheriff
Supervisor of Elections
Tax Collector
County Commissioners (District 1, 3 & 5)
Superintendent of Schools
School Board (District 2 & 4)

State (term expires January 2017)
Justices, Supreme Court of Florida

Nonpartisan (term expires January 2017)
Judicial Retention
Circuit Judges
County Court Judges

2015 Legislative Election Laws

Senate Bill 184 (SB 184) - Federal Write-In Absentee
The bill eliminates the restriction that a Federal Write-In Vote by Mail Ballot (FWAB) can only be used for state and local elections involving two or more candidates. *Effective July 1, 2015*

Senate Bill 228 (SB 228) - Online Voter Application
Requires the Division of Elections of the Department of State to:
1) Develop an online voter registration system.
2) Conduct a comprehensive risk assessment of the online voter registration system.
3) Make OVR system compare information submitted online with Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles records.
4) Report to the Legislature regarding online voter registration implementation by a specified date. *Effective July 1, 2015*

House Bill 185 (HB 185) - Public Records/Active Duty Service members and Families
Provides exemption from public records requirements for certain identification & location information of current or former service members of United States Armed Forces, Reserve Forces, or National Guard, & spouses & children.** *Effective June 2, 2015*

**Apply for exemption by visiting www.ClayElections.com and select "Confidentiality Request" under the VOTERS tab.

Election Workers

I hope to see all of our wonderful Election Workers in 2016. Clay County Election Workers are highly trained individuals, who serve their communities with great pride. They also enjoy working with the public and meeting each voter's needs. For those who worked in the 2014 Election Cycle, expect to receive an email sometime in November, about your availability for the 2016 Presidential Preference Primary. If you know of anyone who you feel would be a great Election Worker, please ask them to contact the SOE office or fill out an application on our website, www.ClayElections.com. Orientation classes for people who have never been a Clay County Election Worker will begin in August. With your help the 2016 Election Cycle will be a great one.

Lisa Hogan
Election Worker Coordinator

VOTE BY MAIL

Make your request by calling

(904) 269-6350

or

Visit

www.ClayeElections.com/ Voters/Request-A-Ballot

Future Workshops

New Supervisor of Elections Orientation ……....Oct 6 - 7, 2015

New Equipment ……...……..... Fall 2015

Clerk's Round Table ……...……...…TBA

Canvassing Board Member……... Jan 14, 2016

New Equipment ……....……..... Spring 2016

Press/Media ……..... Spring 2016

Candidates……...…Feb 2016