

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT
RCS Membership Meeting Notes
5/20/2026
Gary Phillips

The Republican Club of Solivita held its bi-monthly meeting in the Ballroom on 5/20.

June 13 is next member forum, plan to attend. Details at Table in Farmers Market (Mondays and Fridays).

The 250th Birthday party of our Nation is planned for 6/28. Tickets on sale since 5/18, expected to sell out in near future. Costume of Era Heroes encouraged. (Examples-George and Martha Washington, Abe Lincoln, Betsy Ross, Ben Franklin and a British Soldier already taken).

Grady Judd will be our re-scheduled primary speaker at our August 3 town hall meeting, in lieu of his cancellation from Nov 2026.

The Basket of Cheer Raffle to raise funds for education and scholarships has changed to now supporting the Turning Point USA (TPUSA) movement. We hope to have a presentation of an award later this year with TPUSA Executive speaking to our membership.

Speakers--

Kate Wallace.

Currently on School Board District 3. She was appointed by Governor DeSantis when a vacancy occurred and she has since decided to run for the Board in upcoming election, (8/18).



Her competition is Sarah Corona, both are conservative leaders.

Kate began her political career starting with a campaign for Adam Putnam and worked with Jeb Bush on school choice. She feels school boards need to correct bad policies set out by Teachers Unions. She is for Parental empowerment, Academic excellence (better prepared graduates), protecting tax payers

(eliminating waste, promoting smart investments), Keep schools strong and safe with agreements with local law enforcement. She believes in Charter Schools, expanded choices for disabled children, and she is endorsed by Sheriff Grady Judd and Governor Ron DeSantis.



Blaise Ingoglia--Current Florida Chief Financial Officer, (CFO) and past vice chair of RPOF (2013) and state Senator.

He supports DEI—Deport Every Illegal. Since 2020 Florida has raised its gross national product to almost \$1 Trillion, while NY has lost nearly \$270 M and CA has lost over \$370 M to its economy. Florida is number 1 in Freedom and arrest and deportation of illegals. We are considering property tax reform (on the ballot this fall).

The CFO role in Florida has audit authority to locate and remedy Waste, Fraud and Abuse.

He defines Waste as governmental excess spending, Fraud is defined as Candidates who run on promises to cut spending and then increase spending by policies they enact. Abuse is defined as more and more tax.

DOGE in Florida has found wasteful spending in Jacksonville \$199 M, Orange Co has \$300 M, (\$738 since 2020), Brevard Co has over \$189 M, DOGE has identified over \$2.2 B in 17 governments in Florida (both Republican and Democratic jurisdictions). This is a tax payer issue.

The goals are to identify and rectify up to \$10 B, he has 8 years to get it done. He mentioned that School Boards are the most wasteful.

His view is that government should be kept small and never grow faster than the national inflation rate.

Miami with a population of 509K just hired 3500 new employees and increased their budget to \$1 B (This is needs to be looked into).

Financial health of Florida is strong. The reserve fund will remain for hurricane clean up so we don't have to rely on FEMA (delays getting funds and incur paybacks).



Jay Collins—Current Florida Lt Governor and candidate for Governor this Fall. Jay Collins—has only been in politics for the past 4 years. He was hand picked by Governor Ron DeSantis when Jeannette Nunez vacated the position. He was an Army veteran in Army intelligence (E-6). Been married for 25 years and two children (14 and 11.) Seven years after an injury during which he lost his leg and he then came back to re-qualify as a Green Beret. They live in Tampa.

He was angered by the way we left Afghanistan, we turned off the lights and left. No planned evacuation.

He was confronted by an angry citizen over the Don't say Gay bill. He asked the man if he had read the bill. He gave the bill to him, he read it and the man agreed with the bill. He was congratulated for being a republican in disguise. So often the opposition objects in their own preconceived ideas rather than research it out and critical think before speaking.

He is pro 2nd amendment and believes Leadership is taking action and accepting responsibility.

He is concerned with teachers unions in Florida and their influence outside education system rather than trying to fix problems inside education. (Overstep?) Teachers salaries start around \$30k and can't afford a house in Florida. Florida has the 6th highest education budget in the nation. Classical education should be K-8 (with concerns to help children learn to problem solve and critical think.), Grades 9-10 reserved for specialization(understanding the economy) and grades 11-12 reserved for trade exploration and instruction. He referred a question to Blaise who helped with a bill to hold school Boards Accountable for misuse. This issue is not an issue of income but a spending problem.

The Insurance industry has problems in no fault and court reforms. Blaise had referred to Florida as a "Lawsuit hellhole" In 2023, Florida had 8% of national population, they also had 8% of the claims but they also had 76% of the lawsuits. Tort Reform is badly needed. Since 2023 20 new insurance companies have expressed interest to return to Florida due to some recent changes. More to come.

Un-insured and under insured motorist are items that need reform.

Data centers entering our state should not need to be subsidized by tax payers to come here and finally AI cannot replace people.

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