



the Darke T.E.A. Patriots

... because we care!

DARKE T.E.A. Patriots

March 2, 2010

Meeting report

The meeting started with a prayer, a pledge and an excellent rendition of our National Anthem by Terry Longfellow. An interesting footnote to the two hour meeting is that one of the first things discussed and also the last thing was the active quest for a simple but topical i.e. Darke County specific LOGO. Comments and discussion regarding the LOGO continued until the lights went out.

It was emphasized that this is a totally independent PATRIOTIC organization with the first order of importance in Darke County, then Ohio State and then the Federal Government. This fact was restated this week because of an invitation to become associated with and subordinate to the Dayton Tea Party Movement. The invitation was presented to the folks present. The sometimes emotion discussion that followed generated the consensus to remain independent and unaffiliated.

A question was asked that caused a little discomfort in some and an adrenaline surge in others. The question was, "Do you really think that this group can make a difference in Darke County, the State or anywhere?" The enthusiastic response from virtually all present was a resounding YES. The apparent basis for this YES is the May 4 Primary (in nine -9- weeks) and the General Election on November 2 General Election (in thirty five -35- weeks) and the part that this group can plan in making known our support or opposition to each candidate. Our position reports are to focus on Darke County but we can participate and interview state candidates based on our registration with the Ohio Secretary of State. If we chose, we can register with the Federal Election Commission for action for or against Federal Candidates.

The five minute speeches made by *Mike Stegall, Mayor Mike Bowers and Joe LeMaster* were well received and informative.

A question was raised regarding this year's census and The AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY currently being distributed. The basic question was "What questions do we have to answer". Before an answer was attempted, the response was categorized as an unofficial preliminary thought but in depth research would be required. It was immediately presented that THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES Article I, Section 2 states in part "*The actual Enumeration shall be made within three years after the first Meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent Term of ten years, in such Manner as they by Law direct.*" Constitutional Amendment XIV Section 2 adds instruction to the Enumeration process. *The fact remains that individuals [note that this means everyone not just citizens] must identify the number of people living at a specific residence. Do you have to answer the ten questions that are a part of the census or the fifty questions that are the AMERICAN SURVEY? United States Code Title 13 is the source of information regarding the current census. The document that I saved and reviewed is only 252 pages and 41,154 words. If you chose to simply furnish the number of people in a residence, you have responded in accordance with the Constitution but very possibly not within subsequent Congressional action. According to a response from John Boehner's office "Federal law does require each household respond to the census survey".*

- ' Open discussion covered many topics and caused comments pro and con but of special importance, caused each of us to think about the issues.
- ' Reports

Policy Committee - ***Foster***

RALLY Committee - Williams

School Committee - None

Legal Committee – Al Bliss

The attendance was greater on March 2 than at the February 23 meeting. Get the word out that our next meeting will be March 16, 2010 at 6:00 P.M. also at the Lighthouse Christian Center. Bring a friend to this meeting because it will be our final meeting before the March 30 RALLY in downtown Greenville.