



Chair's Letter January 2024

Happy New year!

"Don't blame me, I voted for Trump." While the 2024 Presidential Election dominates the news headlines and provides plenty of drama, there is lots of political action here in New Mexico and Santa Fe County as well. This Saturday, January 6<sup>th</sup> (9am at Rudy's, \$10 convention fee) will be our County Central Committee meeting and County Pre-Primary Convention. Wondering how you can get involved? It's easy. This is the time when we select the members of the Central Committee and the Delegates to the State Pre-Primary Convention. There are actually hundreds of openings on our Central Committee, so any Santa Fe County Republican who wants to can get a spot. Just come to the meeting and self-nominate and you're in! We will be electing 41 members of the Central Committee to be delegates to the State Pre-Primary Convention. That's where Republicans from around the state determine who will be our candidates on the June 4<sup>th</sup> Primary ballot. The State Pre-Primary Convention will be March 2<sup>nd</sup> at Hotel Albuquerque (\$65 delegate fee.) We will also be having a County Quadrennial (TBD) and State Quadrennial Convention (April 27<sup>th</sup>), and of course the big show is the Republican National Convention in Milwaukee July 15<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup>.

Besides the presidential race there will be elections for Senator Martin Heinrich's seat, and Congressional districts 1, 2 and 3. Locally the Santa Fe DA, County Clerk, and County Treasurer are up for election. On the County Commission three seats are up: Anna Hansen in District 2, Anna Hamilton in District 4 and Hank Hughes in District 5. Needless to say, they are all Democrats. Wouldn't it be great to give the people of Santa Fe a Republican option for County Commissioner?

Then there is the New Mexico Legislature. In the State Senate we have Gregg Schmedes in District 19 as our only Republican representing Santa Fe County. Other Santa Fe County State Senate seats are District 5 (Leo Jaramillo), District 24 (Nancy Rodriguez), District 25 (Peter Wirth), District 39 (Liz Stefanics) and District 6 (Roberto Gonzales). In the State House we have District 41 (Susan Herrera), District 43 (Christine Chandler), District 45 (Linda Serrato), District 46 (Andrea Romero), District 47 (Reena Sczepanski), District 48 (Tara Lujan), and District 50 (Matthew McQueen). Those reps happen to include some of the most egregious radical leftists in the entire NM House of Representatives.

The filing date for Declarations of Candidacy and Nominating Petitions for the 2024 election is February 6<sup>th</sup>. This year the Secretary of State has enabled Nominating Petitions to be signed online on the SOS website. So, Santa Fe County Republicans, let's give the people what they want. Choices! Please consider running for office. Your county and your state need you.

Sincerely,

*Robert Witsenhausen*

Robert Witsenhausen, Chair