

Minutes of Indian Hill Tea Party  
March 15, 2010  
Indian Hill Primary School Auditorium

**Welcome**

Jack Painter called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm. He reviewed the Indian Hill Tea Party key principles (fiscal responsibility, limited government, and free markets) and reiterated that we are a non-partisan group not affiliated with any political party. Printed agendas will no longer be available at the meetings but may be obtained at our website ([www.indianhillteaparty.org](http://www.indianhillteaparty.org)).

Throughout the meeting Jack referred people to the website for information, education, discussion and sharing. He praised and thanked Dr. Bill Ivers and Club Essential for developing this site for free. Site features include:

- Any member can post information under Announcements or Bulletin Board, such as emails or links to attachments or websites. Submissions must be cleared with Jack and the Webmaster.
- Town Hall discussion forum (which will be accessible by members only) will allow conversation on 8-10 categories and help coordinate activities.

Jack acknowledged the candidates for various offices in attendance. Each introduced himself / herself and made a brief comment. Present were:

- Scott Fischer – Court of Appeals
- John Williams – Juvenile Court
- Dr. Ginger Sadler Kubala – State Assembly, 35<sup>th</sup> District
- Debbi Alsfelder – 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District
- Mike Robison – running against Denise Driehaus (Steve Driehaus' sister) for State Representative from the 31<sup>st</sup> Ohio District.

**Committee Reports**

Candidate Support (Susan Wisner) — The recent fundraiser for Mike Wilson, founder of the Cincinnati Tea Party and candidate for State Representative, was very successful. Over 110 people attended, and the event raised \$5,000. Mike impressed many in attendance.

IHTP members will sponsor a fundraiser for Steve Chabot, who is in a nationally-watched race against Steve Driehaus. The event will take place May 13, 7:00 – 9:00 pm at the Kenwood Country Club. Suggested contributions are \$1,000 for the Host Committee, \$75 per person or \$125 per couple at the door.

Precinct Organization (Barbara Holwadel) – The audience was seated by Precinct to facilitate collecting volunteers to help with the election of Precinct

Captains, who will be chosen in May for 4-year terms of office. IHTP has volunteers to run in all 6 Indian Hill precincts:

- A – Sandra Musekamp
- B – Marsha Haberer
- C – George Vincent
- D – Marcie Garrison-Longenecker
- E – Bill Moore
- F – Eric Holzapfel

IHTP aims to have 25 of its members active in each precinct. These people will: (1) help influence the vote by identifying like-minded people and getting them out to vote; (2) educate people on the issues; and (3) promote the Tea Party to attract more people to our cause and increase our influence.

This kind of grassroots involvement can have a huge multiplier effect. In Hamilton County, Tea Party candidates are running in approximately half of the over 300 contested Precinct Executive races and have the potential to give the Tea Party a significant voice in the Hamilton County Republican Party. In Ohio, the difference of 10 votes per precinct can influence as many as 110,000 votes statewide.

Barb shared a personal story she titled “counting the cost.” She described how 30 years ago her mother and a friend faced a choice. The city of Cincinnati was set to destroy the pavilion in Ault Park because vandals had turned it into a hazard. Barb’s mother and friend considered the cost of sacrificing their time, talent and treasure vs. doing nothing and decided to act. They managed to preserve the pavilion and thousands have enjoyed it ever since.

Today, America is like the pavilion of 30 years ago – with its foundation eroding. Our goal is to return the country to its founding principles and restore its glory.

Speakers Committee (Kellie Peters) – Our speakers committee has developed a survey to determine what members want in our meetings. It is available on paper at the sign-in desks or can be accessed at the website.

Key upcoming events include:

- March 29 Candidates Night with all 8 filed candidates for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District. The event is being co-sponsored by the Tea Parties of Anderson, Mason, Union Township and Cincinnati East. The new Tea Party in Morrow may send 50-100 members, as well. At the event, candidates will have about 5 minutes for opening remarks and then respond to questions from our members. The program will be at the Mariemont Elementary School Auditorium, starting at 7 p.m.

- March 24 Candidates Night sponsored by Citizens Organized Against Spending and Taxes (COAST). This will be held at the Crowne Plaza in Blue Ash and focus on the Hamilton County Commissioner race, the 7<sup>th</sup> Ohio Senate District, and the 28<sup>th</sup> Ohio House District.
- April 12 IHTP meeting to feature Matt Mayer, President of the Buckeye Institute for Public Policy Solutions. He will discuss the Institute's recent report on the "State of the State of Ohio," with a particular focus on how government workers compare to private sector workers in terms of salary and benefits.

### **New Business**

- Kate Streicher shared with us her experience as a campaign worker in Steve Chabot's 2008 race. This Miami University grad ('08) coordinated grassroots efforts, such as phonebanking to identify likely voters, going to festivals and parades, and writing letters to the editor. She found the experience intense and rewarding.
- Scott Ross updated us on the petition drive to repeal the Ohio estate tax. There has never been a tax rolled back as a result of action by Ohio citizens, but the Tea Party movement is having a powerful impact on this issue. 407 petitions were turned in tonight vs. the IHTP commitment to collect 3,000. We need 120,000 statewide.

Ohio is one of 20 states with an estate or inheritance tax. It has the lowest exemption level of any state at approximately \$330,000. The tax produces .1% of state revenues. Polls show 64% of Ohio citizens want it repealed, in part because it drives wealthy people out of state.

- April 15 Tax Day Rally to be held at the 5/3 Center at UC. Speakers include:
  - Jonah Goldberg, author of *Liberal Fascism*
  - Bob Murphy, author of *Politically Incorrect Guide to Capitalism*
  - Sonja Schmidt, Fox News contributor
  - Matt Mayer, President of the Buckeye Institute
  - Mike Wilson
  - Our own Jack Painter

Mia Rodebaugh is coordinating volunteers to help with the set-up and clean-up.

IHTP is distributing 500 free tickets – to be mailed to those who request them. Once those are gone, tickets may be purchased for \$5 on the website of the Cincinnati Tea Party.

- Poll work application forms are available. This is an excellent way to get involved on the "front lines." Poll workers help voters get the correct ballot and fill it out properly. The 680 precincts in Hamilton County each need 2

Democrats and 2 Republicans. Poll workers go through a 4-hour training session.

- IHTP members can help block the Health Care bill in a couple ways:
  - Call the Blue Dog Democrats who voted against the bill last time. Go to the IHTP website to find links to elected officials. FAX or mail comments if you can't get through on the phone.
  - Howard Jinkinson described the [www.OhCongress.com](http://www.OhCongress.com) site where form letters are available to be sent to our representatives.

### **Passion in Action**

- Donna Painter described her positive experience working the phone banks for Steve Chabot's campaign. She definitely felt she was on the front lines as she helped educate people on issues. She enjoyed the charged atmosphere of working with a diverse group of passionate, energized people.
- Jim Troppmann told the group about the formation of the Committee for Responsible School Spending. Indian Hill school district residents who are concerned about fiscally irresponsible spending by the Board have come together to persuade the Board to bring spending in line with other excellent schools. The Committee welcomes other concerned citizens to join them.

Our next meeting will be April 12 at 7:30 p.m. in the IH Elementary School Auditorium

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58pm.

Submitted by Jim Troppmann