



# President's Message

## NASSAU FEDERATED REPUBLICAN WOMEN

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The Way

# August 2009

### LUNCHEON

**August 14, 2009**

**11:30 Social**

**12:00 Meeting**

**12:45 Lunch**

**Guest Speaker:**

**Matt Shirk**

**Public Defender 4th  
Judicial District**

Dear NFRW Members:

We had a great meeting in July with Marco Rubio sharing his campaign plans with us for the U. S. Senate race. Marco discussed the Republican philosophy of less government and reduced taxes. He addressed his concerns that current politicians both Democrat and Republican do not seem to be able to curb spending. This meeting had the highest attendance that we have had, and we should continue on this trend!

We had another "Drive the Discussion" session after the July meeting with much of the discussion revolving around campaigning and training for successful campaigns. We would love to have more of you in attendance. If you have a special topic that you would like addressed please give me a call. By the time you receive this newsletter you should have received a copy of our proposed bylaws changes. Most of these are minor and sometimes an attempt to simplify. Some are to conform with either our state or national organizations. If you have any questions or comments, please call or email me. We need to vote on these changes at our August meeting.

Our August meeting with speaker Matt Shirk, Public Defender of the 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District will be back to normal reservations. Please note phone numbers and emails to use elsewhere in the newsletter. I hope to see you at our next meeting. Warmest regards,

*Cherie Billings*



Marco Rubio Luncheon



Please mail correspondence to:

**NFRW**

**P.O. Box 1338**

**Fernandina Beach, FL 32035**

## Get to know the August Guest Speaker:

### Matt Shirk, Public Defender 4th Judicial Circuit



Matt Shirk is the fourth Public Defender elected to serve the 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit. Winning the first ever contested election for the office in 2008, he began a four-year term in January of 2009.

Mr. Shirk is committed to providing quality and professional legal service to those who qualify for a public defender. His office strictly follows Florida statutes which govern the Office of Public Defender. He pledges to uphold the Constitution and aggressively seek justice in legal proceedings.

Prior to becoming Public Defender, Shirk spent time as a sole practitioner, as an associate with the Jacksonville law firm Tassone and Eler as well as five years as an Assistant Public Defender. He worked in the State Attorney's office as a law student.

Matt Shirk earned his J.D. from Florida Coastal School of Law in 1999. As a law student, he received various awards and accolades for his academic accomplishments as well as his extra-curricular involvement. Matt holds two Bachelor's Degrees from Western Illinois University ; Law Enforcement Administration and Political Science.

Presently, Shirk resides in Jacksonville with his wife Michelle and their son Pierce. He is on the Board of Directors for both the Clara White Mission and the Northeast Florida Safety Council and is a member of the First Baptist Church downtown.



### The luncheon dates for the remainder of 2009 are:

**September 18**

**October 16**

**November 20**

**December 11**

### LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS ARE IMPORTANT!

Please contact us by Tuesday, August 11, with a reservation. We must commit to the Golf Club of Amelia Island for food and set-up. Please make your reservation when you receive this newsletter by calling Liz at 904-225-2933 or Cherie Billings at 904-277-2995 or e-mail Cherie at [cherieb2@bellsouth.net](mailto:cherieb2@bellsouth.net). Lunch is \$15.00.

#### 2008-2009 Executive Board

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