

Republicans Independents Democrats United

Meeting Notes – including Starla Wing’s Facebook Post for all of us!

December 17, 2025

Our **Mission** as Republicans, Independents, and Democrats is to Empower individuals, Educate communities, and Energize a movement for truth, accountability, and integrity in our government. We seek to rise above partisanship to defend the values that strengthen our nation because real change starts when informed voices take united action.

Welcome - Jon Smith and Bev Brubaker

Introduction of Committee of Six

Bev Brubaker and Jon Smith – co-conveners
Janet Crelin – treasurer
Jean Bussell – secretary
Harold Bussell – Email coordinator
Kathy Stevens – at-large

Presentation of the Mission Statement – Jon

Treasurer’s Report + Materials available – Janet Crelin

\$297.45 in treasury. All bills paid including reservations for January, February, and March meetings at the Eaton Youth Center. No collection tonight, so be ready in January! Expecting to do postcards for mailing in January.

Thoughts about the November 19, 2025, meeting featuring Carol Roe with Johnny Bohrer – Bev

The information about gerrymandering was very good and provided details that were not so familiar to many of us. The Farm Caucus representative was appreciated even though he had invited himself!

Open Discussion – All

Shall we continue? – Resounding YES!!!

Why do you participate in RID United? Meetings? Protests? Post card campaign?

A place where people are like me!
Helps me feel less lost and alone!
A time to be political – NOW!!!
Protests got better and better especially as they grew, and we got more positive honks and attention! Plus, we attracted people from outside Preble County to join us, especially if they felt uncomfortable protesting in their own communities.

Enjoyed the speakers!

Visibility: helps others see that they are not alone, and the courage builds!

How can we stimulate continued enthusiasm?

Keep focusing on issues that matter.

Support candidates – Republican, Independent, and Democrat – who support our purposes.

Keep saying we are against MAGA, not against all Republicans!

Topics for attention – speakers, protests, other?

Immigration

Gender rights

Economic development

Health care continuing crisis and costs.

Actual tax decreases by income category to emphasize the BIG cuts for wealthy individuals and families.

Revisit/update previous issues such as veterans (especially since MAGA is eliminating thousands more positions and outsourcing health care and other services), SNAP (especially given the cuts in Ohio), and Medicaid and senior services as those are affected going forward.

Other topics as they develop during the year.

Outreach to those who cannot get to our meetings – social media, personal contacts, other ideas?

Web site goes active at the end of 2025. Many thanks to Nick for his work on developing it and supporting it. Content will include activities, events, mission, links to social media, etc.

QR code for our activities! Starla will help!

Bursts of information strategy: Use on all our social media and web site and email messages.

Encourage email recipients to share the emails they receive with their own email lists – family, friends, others.

Conduct “Find Five” campaign – each member reaches out to five others who reach out to five others!

Consider Podcasts and YouTube!

Create a postcard or business information card to handout to friends and others during conversations about RID United – QR code, social media links, etc.

Countywide mailing to introduce people to RID United.

Cover parades with handouts about RID United.

What else?

Remember we are the **WARRIORs!** We are the lucky ones – mostly retired – who can fight this fight while our children and grandchildren go about the work of working, schooling, and other community engagement as they make their own way into retirement. Let's make it as easy as possible for them to keep informed and participate however they can. Meanwhile, we are the **WARRIORs** for our own and for their own futures and for our country's future!

Let's continue!

Final Remarks and Adjourn – Jon Smith and Bev Brubaker

Take care of yourself!

TURN OVER FOR IMPORTANT DATES AND OTHER INFORMATION

Future meetings schedule:

January 28 – 1:00PM at Eaton Youth Center
February 25 – 7:00PM at Eaton Youth Center
March 25 – 1:00PM at Eaton Youth Center

Other dates of interest:

January 28 – 5:00PM at the Dover in Camden – Allison Russo, Democratic Candidate for Ohio
Secretary of State – Meet and Greet
March 12 (tentative) – John Kulewicz, Democratic Candidate for Ohio Attorney General – Meet and Greet

For Your Convenience, contact information for our state and federal representatives:

State Representative Rodney Creech – District 40. 77 South High Street. 12th Floor Columbus, OH 43215. Phone. (614) 466-2960.

State Senator Stephen A. Huffman – District 5. State Senate Building, 1 Capitol Square, Ground Floor 040. Columbus OH 43215. (614)466-6247

U. S. Congressman Warren Davidson – District 8. 2113 Rayburn HOB. Washington, DC 20515. Phone: (202) 225-6205.

U. S. Senator Bernie Moreno – 2113 Rayburn HOB. Washington, DC 20515. Phone: (202) 225-6205.

U. S. Senator John Husted – 304 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 Phone: (202)224-3353

Follow the news at Facebook at **RID United**

Instagram at **rid_united**

TikTok at **@rid.united**

Join the Email list at **hdbussell@gmail.com**

Watch for the Web site – coming soon!

*Special thanks to **Starla Wing** for posting this summary and action request on the RID United Facebook page. Including it here for all of you who do not use Facebook!*

Last night we had our monthly meeting.

Sometimes when there are big emotions, when things feel a little off, or when you're not quite sure what's happening beneath the surface, the best thing you can do is take the temperature. Pause. Listen. Ask what's working well and what we need to keep doing to sustain the momentum we've built.

That's exactly what we did.

We took the temperature—and what we heard was reassuring. People shared how much this space matters to them. How important it is to know they're not alone, not operating in their own little silo. There was appreciation for the speakers who come in to inform and educate us, and for how that knowledge helps us go back out and better serve and educate our community—always rooted in our mission.

One thing is clear, though: we still have work to do.

Nearly a year into this, there are people right here in our community who still haven't heard about RID United—who don't know this space exists. People shared, repeatedly, how important the existence of this space is for them, and that tells us we need to think more intentionally about how to reach those who share the same concerns we do about MAGA but haven't yet found their way here.

So, here's our ask:

If you're reading this, think of five people you could tell about these monthly meetings. Five people you could share our mission with. Five people who might be looking for connection, information, and a way to push back against MAGA, which is actively hurting and harming our neighbors and our friends.

Five people who are Republicans, Independents, and Democrats – because we share the belief that MAGA does not represent the United States. A country built on pluralism – where different beliefs, identities, and voices coexist. A country grounded in freedom. A country that celebrates diversity. MAGA actively works as the antithesis to the very foundations that truly make our country great.

Momentum matters. Community matters. And nights like last night remind us why we keep showing up.

Upcoming RID United Meetings:

January 28 – 1:00PM at Eaton Youth Center

February 25 – 7:00PM at Eaton Youth Center

March 25 – 1:00PM at Eaton Youth Center

Please note: Additional ways to get involved are coming soon, including a website launch. There will be more opportunities to connect, engage, and take back what has been lost through this MAGA movement.