

# **First Coast** **Tiger Bay Tracks**



**January 2019** The First Coast Tiger Bay Club, Inc. P.O. Box 2608, Jacksonville, FL 32203

## The 2018 Elections: What Happened and What's Next? January 18, 2019

Florida has a well-deserved reputation for the excitement of hotly contested and costly elections as well as nail-biting recounts. Two major Florida races established records in terms of closeness of the outcome and in campaign spending. To help us understand that election and what it means for Florida's future, the **January 18<sup>th</sup> First Coast Tiger Bay Club** program features **Dr. Michael Binder**, University of North Florida Associate Professor of Political Science and long-time analyst of Florida government.

Republican Ron DeSantis defeated Democrat Andrew Gillum 49.6% to 49.2% in the Governor's race; in the Senate contest Republican Rick Scott won 50.1% to 49.9% for Democrat Bill Nelson. Both were the closest races for those offices in modern history. Campaign spending levels also broke the record in the senate race. By election day Bill Nelson's campaign spent \$31.5 million and Rick Scott a whopping \$82.8 million not even counting outside spending. Scott contributed nearly \$64 million to his own campaign but that was still less than what he gave to his first campaign for governor. Perhaps former Senator Phil Gramm (R, Tx) said it best: "Ready money is a candidate's best friend." See the accompanying table for how much each candidate's campaign spent per vote excluding outside money.

*Money Spent Per Vote in the 2018 Florida Elections?*

<u>Race for Governor</u>		<u>Race for Senate</u>	
Ron DeSantis	\$12.84	Rick Scott	\$20.20
Andrew Gillum	\$11.59	Bill Nelson	\$ 7.71



We are fortunate to have an expert on Florida elections as our guest speaker. Michael Binder, Ph.D. is an Associate Professor of Political Science and Public Administration at the University of North Florida. He also has been the Faculty Director of UNF's Public Opinion Research Laboratory since 2013. Formerly a Post-Doc and Visiting Scholar at Stanford University's Hoover Institution, he received his Ph.D. from the University of California, San Diego in 2010. His research interests include voter decision-making, direct democracy, American politics and public opinion. He is a regular contributor to various media outlets and his research has been published in numerous peer-reviewed journals.

We invite you to join the dialogue about the meaning of the last election led by Dr. Binder on Friday, Jan. 18th.

For another thoughtful analysis of the Florida race for governor and what it means see long-time Tiger Bay friend Dr. Susan MacManus, University of South Florida Distinguished Professor Emerita:  
[https://www.sayfiereview.com/featured\\_column?column\\_id=78](https://www.sayfiereview.com/featured_column?column_id=78)

**2019 Tiger Bay Officers**

George Mackoul, President  
 Dr. Stephen Baker, Vice President  
 Henry Cordes, Secretary  
 Marcia Turner, Treasurer

**FIRST COAST TIGER BAY CLUB** meets for lunch every month, except December, on the 3rd Friday at 11:30 at The River Club, 1 Independent Drive, 35th Floor. Cost for the event, which includes the wonderful buffet and parking, is \$28. 00

**Reservations are required:** Call (904) 571-5337 or E-Mail: [fcTigerbay@gmail.com](mailto:fcTigerbay@gmail.com)

## November 2018 Straw Results

(n=21)

1 - How much positive personal interaction have you had with homeless individuals?

- 4% - A lot
- 38% - Some
- 29% - Not much
- 29% - None

2 - How much negative personal interaction have you had with homeless individuals?

- 4% - A lot
- 29% - Some
- 48% - Not much
- 19% - None

3 - Do you think that the presence of homeless people in the downtown area has hindered the revitalization of downtown?

- 34% - Yes, a lot
- 52% - Yes, somewhat
- 10% - Yes, but not so much
- 4% - Not really

4 - Would you support expanding the state hospital system for the mentally ill in order to have a place to house severely mentally ill people?

- 90% - Yes
- 10% - No

## 2019 Meeting Changes for The First Coast Tiger Bay Club

This year the number of meetings per year will change from eleven to nine. The months we will not meet will be **June, July and December**. This change is being made to accommodate the vacation and holiday plans of the members. All other meetings will continue to be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month.

Dues will be reduced to **\$75.00** for the year. Due to an increase in the cost of the meal, lunch will be **\$28.00**. There will also be an option for those who wish to pay in advance. If you pay in January the cost will be **\$275.00**, which covers dues and meals for the year. This is a cost savings of \$52.00 per year.

Attached is the membership application for 2019

*The First Coast Tiger Bay Club is a multi-partisan political forum that promotes free and open debate but does not support any candidates or issues.*

*Dr. Stephen Baker, Newsletter Editor*

*Henry Cordes, Publisher*

**Reservations are REQUIRED. Please RSVP by  
Tuesday January 15, 2019  
E-mail: [fctigerbay@gmail.com](mailto:fctigerbay@gmail.com) or 904-404-5471**

The First Coast Tiger Bay Club is a multi-partisan political and civic forum designed to explore crucial issues of the day by interacting with outstanding speakers in an open format. The club is non-partisan, never supports particular candidates, nor take sides on issues.