

Election Year, 501 (c) (4) & SOSFR

May 23, 2018



Not Superman, just Ken Cornell revealing a secret allegiance to OSFR. Ken is a strong advocate of the environment.



OSFR board member Kristin Rubin collects petitions at the Columbia County Courthouse

“In this new election year, OSFR has been following several political campaigns that are demonstrating strong environmental interests, to the benefit of our beautiful river.”



OSFR President Mike Roth arranges petition paperwork

This writer has long said that changing leadership is one important way to turn around the abysmal environmental direction in Florida. Interesting but not surprising is that two of our advisors are seeking public office: Merrillee Malwitz-Jipson for Florida State House of Representatives and Marihelen Wheeler for Alachua County Commission.

Both these candidates as well as Ken Cornell, running for Alachua Co. Commission, have proven backgrounds in environmental concerns.





OSFR co-founder Merrillee with Garth Brewster
in Columbia County
collecting petitions in Suwannee Co.

Merrillee

One percent of the candidate's population determines the number petitions needed. District 10 has 91,000, hence 911 verified petitions. Many are rejected after careful scrutinization by the Supervisor of Elections office in each county.



Columbia County resident Earl Kinard signs a petition. Merrillee is now officially qualified for and will be on the state-wide ballot in November. As an NPA (no party affiliation) she will have no primary election.

OSFR volunteers canvassed in Baker, Hamilton, Suwannee, Columbia and part of Alachua counties. An astonishing number of people are not registered to vote and do not want to be.

Another segment of the population cannot vote because they are convicted felons.



Marihelen Wheeler, OSFR advisor and candidate for Alachua Co. Commission

Candidate's Petition Signatures

2018 General Election

State Representative

District 10

Merrilee Malwitz-Jipson

No Party Affiliation

Total Required	Total Verified
911	942

County	Last Verified Date	Total Verified Number
Alachua	05/11/2018	47
Baker	05/10/2018	23
Columbia	05/21/2018	747
Hamilton	05/01/2018	12
Suwannee	05/21/2018	113

“The above chart is what various OSFR members and other volunteers worked very hard to achieve.”

Comments by OSFR historian Jim Tatum.

-A river is like a life: once taken, it cannot be brought back-

