



WHAT IS PAST IS PROLOGUE

The Prologue Society Newsletter

November 5, 2015

FROM THE CHAIR

The Prologue Society is getting better and better known! Karl Rove's people called us to see whether he could talk to us on November 30 about his recent book on the presidential election of 1896, an election that he says is still important today. We are pleased to have a writer of history who has played such a prominent role in politics in recent years come to Miami to talk about an election that took place over 100 years ago. No doubt we will be asking him about his thoughts concerning the next presidential election as well.

The Republican Party has asked whether they can come to the session; since the Board decided this past summer that members of the general public are welcome to attend a Prologue meeting on a one-time basis, we have decided to open this event to them. However, Prologue members will have first shot at registration. This is why you must register on or before November 17. Registration will be open to the general public between November 18 and 22, the closing date.

So—please register for the November 30 luncheon right away to hear Karl Rove present his new book, *The Triumph of William McKinley: Why the Election of 1896 Still Matters*.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: This is the *only* notice you will receive to register for the luncheon. We are no longer sending out reservation cards for each event.

If you haven't yet sent in your membership application, please do so right away (or activate and pay for your membership online). You will need to be on the membership rolls before we can accept your reservation for this and all future luncheons of this season.

NEXT LUNCHEON: KARL ROVE, NOVEMBER 30

The Triumph of William McKinley: Why the Election of 1896 Still Matters

To register:

- **The deadline for members to register for this luncheon is Tuesday, November 17.**
- **Online:** Go to www.theprologuesociety.org and follow the instructions;
- **OR by telephone:** Call 305-323-1154 and talk to Debbie Hirshson or leave a voicemail message that you plan to attend;
- **OR by regular mail:** Send note with a check for \$50.00 per person to The Prologue Society, 18495 S. Dixie Highway #373, Miami, FL 33157.
- **Include** the names of your guests.

- **IMPORTANT: IF YOU REGISTER BY MAIL, you must also call Debbie** (or reply to this email) so that she knows to expect you! Registration for this event will be: 1) open to the public, 2) advertised within the local Republican Party, and 3) closed after November 22. Our intention is to give Prologue members an opportunity to register before the general public is allowed to register online (after November 17), so **you must be sure to contact Debbie if you register via US mail.**

To pay:

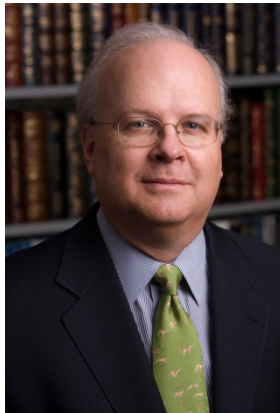
- **Enter your credit card number** on the website;
- **OR mail a check** for \$50.00 per person to The Prologue Society, 18495 S. Dixie Highway #373, Miami, FL 33157;
- **OR bring a check** to the November 30 event.

Note:

- **We are no longer** sending out registration cards for luncheon events.
- **This will be the *only* notice** you will receive to register for the November 30 luncheon
- This registration announcement is for the November 30 luncheon only.
- To speed up luncheon check-in and accounting, our preference is that you: 1) pay online, OR 2) mail a check well in advance of the luncheon.
- Mail is taking up to seven days to reach our office. You must get your registration in the mail to us by Saturday, November 14. (Remember to call or email Debbie right away if you're registering via the mail.)
- You will soon receive information about the December 10 luncheon with Sean McMeekin, though registration is now open for this luncheon as well.
- **Our office will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday November 24-29, so you must act right away if you would like to attend our November 30 luncheon.**

November 30: KARL ROVE
The Triumph of William McKinley: Why the Election of 1896 Still Matters

From *New York Times* bestselling author and political mastermind Karl Rove comes a fresh look at President William McKinley, whose 1896 campaign ended a bitter period of political gridlock and reformed and modernized his party, thereby creating a governing majority that dominated American politics for the next thirty-six years.



The 1896 political environment resembles that of today: A rapidly changing electorate affected by a growing immigrant population, an uncertain economy disrupted by new technologies, growing income inequality, and contentious issues the two parties could not resolve. McKinley found ways to address these challenges and win,

which is why his campaign is so relevant to our politics now.

McKinley, a Civil War hero who preferred “The Major” above any other title he was given, changed the arc of American history by running the first truly modern presidential campaign. Knowing his party could only win if it grew beyond its base, he reached out to diverse ethnic groups, including openly seeking the endorsement of Catholic leaders and advocating for black voting rights. Running on the slogan “The People Against the Bosses,” McKinley also took on the machine men who dominated his own party. He deployed campaign tactics still used today, including targeting voters with the best available technology. Above all, he offered bold, controversial answers to the nation’s most pressing challenge—how to make a new, more global economy work for every American—and although this split his own party, he won the White House by sticking to his principles, defeating a charismatic champion of economic populism, William Jennings Bryan.

The 1896 election is a compelling drama in its own right, but McKinley’s strategies offer important lessons for both political parties today.

~ Simon & Schuster

UPCOMING LUNCHEONS

December 10: Sean McMeekin

The Ottoman Endgame: War, Revolution, and the Making of the Modern Middle East, 1908-1923

OUR SPRING SCHEDULE WILL BE ANNOUNCED SHORTLY

Not committing to a full season's schedule too early allows Cristina Nosti, board member and our Books & Books liaison, the ability to add to our spring season authors with new releases and newly-scheduled tours.

ALL LUNCHEONS

are held in the Riviera Country Club Ballroom

1155 Blue Road, Coral Gables

12 Noon to 2:00 pm

Doors open at 11:30 am

For membership and luncheon information, please visit us online at www.theprologuesociety.org, email us at theprologuesociety@gmail.com or phone us at 305-323-1154.

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