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NH PRIMARY STORIES

23 Feb 2016 3:47 PM | *Kelly Bryer (Administrator)*

During the days leading up to the NH Primary on February 9, 2016, GSAs staffed our usual welcome centers at Manchester-Boston Regional Airport and in Downtown Manchester. We also had a special information table in the lobby of the Radisson Hotel in Manchester, and two GSAs made the trek up to Dixville Notch for the midnight vote. There was a lot going on, and lots of folks in town, from media personalities both famous and lesser known, presidential candidates, primary 'tourists' come to see the spectacle, protesters, and even a flash mob! Thanks to all who volunteered, and please enjoy the stories and photos below.



What an exciting morning! Saw Jeb Bush, Carly Fiorina, and Chris Christie. Also three cows and a pig.

—Anne H (not pictured), *League of NH Craftsmen Class 2012*

Tazzy the Pig was around for much of the weekend – she's shown here posing with GSAs Marlene T and Alice W on Saturday night.



I was volunteering with Sandra at the Manchester Downtown Information center on Sunday during the 3-6 shift when I noticed a camera crew setting up just outside the center. I went outside and ask what they were setting up for and this really pleasant technician from Fox News said that Carl Cameron was going to be there shortly. I said "OMG I just love Carl Cameron," and it's true from his earlier days at WMUR to his successful career at Fox News. She said I should come back and say hello when he arrives. I came out of the Information Center when he arrived and the technician immediately introduced me to Carl. I asked if I could take a photo of him and he said "Wait, I'll take a picture with you."



Honestly I was thrilled because he just confirmed my feelings about how nice a person he is by that remark. Thoughtful indeed! He also said "he was happy to see that the Information Center was being utilized," and he knew we were volunteers at the center. I confirmed that we were Granite State Ambassadors.

—Sally C, *Children's Museum of NH Class 2013*

We staffed to Radisson Primary Booth on Super Bowl Sunday, 2/9/16 from 6:30 – 9:30 p.m. There was quite a flurry of activity around 7:30 p.m. when David Muir, the ABC News Anchor, entered the hotel to check in. He graciously allowed for what seemed like 25 selfies.

Mark Halperin and John Heileman, political journalists, co-hosts on MSNBC and Bloomberg's program "With All Due Respect," and co-authors of Game Change and Double Down Game Change 2012, were attentive to the press notables in the crowd that we were trying to name. We tried to name their next potential book on this election. Andrea Mitchell checked in, a real pro, as she managed to get to the elevator fast, despite a pleasant interlude with fans.



John Heileman humorously and humbly explained to us that he just narrated the campaign moves but Matthew Dowd, ABC News political analyst, "Was the Chopra of Politics." John was patting Matthew on the shoulder. Before Matthew pushed the elevator button we got to ask what was going to happen. He said it would be Trump and Sanders. Now that was 2 days before the primary which proved him true. He said it is because of the state of the country that makes people grasp for strange things.

There were cheers and groans in the crowd but it was from those watching the Super Bowl.

-Kate B, Great Bay Class 2001 (photo by Gary B, same class)

During my afternoon shift on Monday, a group began gathering in the lobby of the Radisson... and within about 15 minutes there were at least 30 people who formed a big circle, and began a flash mob chant and circle line dance. Vermin Supreme, the fringe candidate joined in the dancing (not appreciated by all of the flash mobbers), and the whole thing lasted about 5 minutes; then the people slowly dispersed. Quite a bit of fun. When talking with one of the flash mobbers, I said I was curious how long they practiced for the song and dance... and she said the whole idea was conceived and executed in less than 24 hours!

-Jean S, St. Mary's Bank - America's Credit Union Museum Class 2008

From the Manchester Downtown Information Center, Monday before the Primary: First there was the student video crew from American University who taped me and Yvonne on what it had been like living with the primary. Then there was the fellow who was a bit delusional and signed the guest book as Jesus to see if he could get a rise out of people reading it. Not much else, except for some people coming in to stay warm while waiting for the bus. Oh, and then there was the news crew from Voice of America who taped a news feed in Turkish on the sidewalk just outside our door. And I thought VOA was just a radio station. The guy being taped stood on a box so the videographer could get a good angle. They also came in to get warm.



-Moe D, Comfort Inn Airport Class 2011

Life was exciting at the Hale House on the Balsams grounds. We arrived at 9:15 p.m. to start greeting the press and others gathered for the voting. In the limited space available, all the networks were represented, and all the locals we watch on TV or listen to on the radio from New Hampshire were there as well. Among the people we talked to were former US Senator Gordon Humphrey, a young man from AARP, reportedly the best reporter in Europe from Belgium, another reporter from Denmark, and the local Boy Scouts who were presenting the flag, showing the media how the vote would be done, and helping with the parking.

-Gretchen Z, Stonewall Farm Class 2004



Governor Hassan stopped by to say hello on Primary morning! For more photos from the week leading up to the NH Primary, use this link: <https://goo.gl/photos/BiA4urBESS6ZL1Ee9>. Photos from the Primary Training on January 7 are in this album: <https://goo.gl/photos/Aw8XXBe9P6MvD89bA>

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