



The Caroline County



Democrat

The Newsletter of the Caroline County Democratic Committee

Volume III, Issue IV

April 2008

Upcoming Meetings

April

On April 19th the Caroline County Democratic Committee will hold its regular monthly meeting at 10:00 am. The meeting will be held at Aunt Sarah's at Carmel Church. We are currently expecting Don Mark, the new Deputy Political Director of Central Virginia for the Democratic Party of VA to come and speak to us about what is happening with the Democratic Party of VA, and how we all can get involved to help Democratic candidates in the coming election cycle. Immediately following the meeting, we will begin registering and credentialing people to participate in a caucus to determine delegates and alternates to the 1st and 7th District Committee conventions and the state convention. The caucus will begin promptly at 12:00 noon. Look for more information about the caucus on page 2 of this newsletter and at <http://www.carolinedems.com>.

May

On May 10th the Caroline County Democratic Committee will hold its regular monthly meeting at 10:00 am. The meeting will be held at Aunt Sarah's at Carmel Church. We are hoping to have one or more of the candidates for the 1st US Congressional District speak to us.

What Did You Miss At Our Last Meeting?

You never know who you might miss talking to when you miss a Caroline County Democratic Committee meeting. Most candidates have a tight schedule trying to see voters all over their districts, so we often don't know until well after our newsletter is printed that one might be stopping by to see us. That is exactly what happened last month when Anita Hartke and Brian Taylor, both candidates for the 7th US Congressional District, and Richard Culbert, this regions representative for the Mark Warner campaign, all showed up to speak to us.

Ms. Hartke and Mr. Taylor both gave a speech about their background, their beliefs, and their vision for the 7th Congressional District. Both candidates took questions from the Committee members and asked for help with petition signatures, and Ms. Hartke also left some informational sheets. Mr. Culbert provided information about the Mark Warner for US Senate campaign and left some bumper stickers and petition information.

For more information on the candidates go to <http://www.carolinedems.com> for links to the candidates' websites.

We are actively working to get speakers and presenters at upcoming meetings. If there is someone that you would like to hear speak, please let us know by e-mailing us at chairperson@carolinedems.com or by calling 804-448-4121.

1st District Committee Meets in Caroline

The 1st District Committee met at the Caroline Library in Bowling Green on March 15. The main focus of the meeting was to decide on specific items regarding the 1st District Convention that will be held on May 17 at the Williamsburg Marriott, 50 Kingsmill Road, Williamsburg, VA.

A major discussion was held on whether the Executive Committee would vote to run or to not run a candidate in the 1st District Congressional race. The final decision of the Executive Committee was to allow candidates to present themselves at the convention in May. The convention will then decide whether to run a candidate, and if so, choose a candidate out of those interested. Shawn O'Donnell of Fredericksburg and Dr. Keith Hummel of Westmoreland both were present at the meeting and expressed an interest in running. If you are interested in helping either candidate please visit <http://www.carolinedems.com> for a link to the candidates' websites.

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Call to Caucus

The Caroline County Democratic Committee will hold a required **caucus to elect delegates and alternates to the Congressional District Conventions and State Convention**. These conventions will elect the National Convention Delegates that will travel to Denver, Colorado from August 25th – 28th to nominate the Democratic candidate for President of the United States. Caroline's caucus will be held at **12:00 noon on April 19th at Aunt Sarah's Restaurant in Carmel Church**.

The caucus will begin promptly at 12:00 noon. Only those persons standing in line to register at 12:00 noon are allowed to participate, and the caucus doors will be closed until adjournment per Virginia Democratic Party protocol. To vote in the caucus you must be a registered voter, and be a Democrat who believes in the principles of the Democratic Party, and who pledges not to oppose the Democratic nominee. As Caroline is part of both the 1st Congressional District and the 7th Congressional District, we are allotted delegates and alternates for each district. A total of 2,000 delegates and 1,000 alternates will be elected from all over the state to attend conventions at the District and State levels. Our allotted delegates and alternates are as follows:

<u>Congressional District</u>	<u>Total Delegates</u>	<u>Clinton Delegates</u>	<u>Obama Delegates</u>	<u>Total Alternates</u>	<u>Clinton Alternates</u>	<u>Obama Alternates</u>
1	3	1	2	2	0	2
7	3	1	2	2	1	1

If you are interested in becoming a delegate or alternate you must register your intent to run and represent a specific candidate by completing a **pre-filing form** which must be returned to Maggie Sacra, Chairperson of the Caroline County Democratic Committee **by 5:00 pm on April 14th**. This form can be found on our website at <http://www.carolinedems.com> or you can contact us at (804) 448-4121 and a form will be sent to you. Pre-filing forms should be sent to PO Box 390, Ruther Glen, VA 22546. Postmarks of April 14th are not sufficient as a report must be sent to the Democratic Party of Virginia immediately after the deadline that confirms those pre-filing. The State Party is recommending a \$25 filing fee for each registrant, with division of the fee between the State Party, Congressional District Committees and the Caroline County Democratic Committee to cover the cost of expenses incurred to hold the caucus and conventions. If you or someone you know would like to run for a delegate or alternate position but cannot afford this \$25 fee it will not eliminate you from contention.

If you wish to run for a position as a delegate or alternate, please be aware that you must be available to attend the District and State conventions. The 1st District Convention will be held on Saturday, May 17th, and the 7th District Convention will be held on Saturday, May 10th. The State Convention will be held at the Hampton Roads Convention Center in Hampton, VA on June 14th.

If you have any questions about this process or the process to register to run as a national delegate, go to <http://www.vademocrats.org/>, e-mail us at chairperson@carolinedems.com or call us at (804) 448-4121.

We Need You – Join, Participate, Donate!

This election cycle is an important one. We not only elect the President of the United States, but in Virginia, we vote for a seat in the U.S. Senate, and since Caroline is divided into two Congressional districts, the 1st and the 7th, each of us will be choosing a U.S. Congressperson for one of those districts. This election will be vitally important to the entire country and is a great opportunity for us to get strong Democratic leaders elected.

This election cycle is so important that each of us can make vital contributions by joining, donating or volunteering. The Caroline County Democratic Committee needs your help to make our Committee strong and allow us to help candidates at every level. We need new members, additional donations, and very importantly, we need members who want to be involved to work for Democratic ideals and candidates.

The Caroline County Democratic Committee has just started to form active sub committees including a Finance Committee, a Fundraising Committee, a Newsletter Committee, an Outreach Committee, and a Get Out the Vote Committee.

If you are interested in joining, donating or volunteering please use the form on the next page and follow the simple instructions. If you have any questions, please contact us at chairperson@carolinedems.com, or please call (804) 448-4121.

Use the form below to - Join the Caroline County Democratic Committee,
Donate more if you have already joined,
Send us updated information about yourself,
Let us know you want to volunteer, or
Let us know if you would like to receive this newsletter by e-mail.

A newsletter by e-mail helps us save money on printing and postage so we can help candidates more.

Caroline County Democratic Committee Membership Application & Donor Form

(Please print clearly and fully complete the form – Your information is needed to help us keep you informed about Democratic activities, and to maintain contribution records as required by the State Board of Elections.)

Tell Us About Yourself:

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____ - _____

Home Phone (____) _____ - _____

Cell Phone (____) _____ - _____

E-mail Address _____

Employer _____

Business Address _____

Occupation _____

Please circle one choice for each statement below:

I'd like to receive the monthly newsletter: via e-mail or via regular mail

Contact me about volunteer opportunities: Y or N

I'd like to be a member:

Regular Membership: _____ \$15

Additional Donation: _____

Total _____

I'm already a member but I want to do more to help Democratic Candidates:

Additional Donation: _____

Please make your check payable to the Caroline County Democratic Committee.

Mail your membership/donation to: Caroline County Democratic Committee
PO Box 390
Ruther Glen, VA 22546

Officers:

Margaret "Maggie" Sacra – Chairperson
chairperson@carolinedems.com

Jack Wilcox - 1st Vice Chairperson
1stvicechairperson@carolinedems.com

Matt Rowe – 2nd Vice Chairperson
2ndvicechairperson@carolinedems.com

Rose West– Secretary
secretary@carolinedems.com

Pam Mastropaolo – Treasurer
Lucille Bush – Assistant Treasurer
treasurer@carolinedems.com

Christine Tillman – Director of Outreach
outreach@carolinedems.com

Ernest Rollins – Sergeant-at-Arms

Matt West – Parliamentarian

PO Box 390
Ruther Glen, VA 22546
(804) 448-4121

Please send comments about the newsletter to
newsletter@carolinedems.com. We welcome newsletter
writers. Please let us know if you would like to help.

Mark Your Calendars!

- April 10 - Culpeper County Democratic Committee JJ Dinner with guest speaker Howard Dean, 5:30 pm. Tickets are \$75.
- April 13 - ERA in VA kickoff and fundraiser to support Leslie Byrne for the 11th US Congressional District Seat. 2:00 pm Central Library at 1201 Caroline Street, Fredericksburg, VA.
- April 14 - Deadline to pre-file as a candidate for delegate/alternate to run at the assembled caucus to be held on April 19. See page 2 for more info.
- April 19 - Regular Committee Meeting, Aunt Sarah's Carmel Church, 10:00 am.
- April 19 - Assembled Caucus to pick delegates and alternates for District/State Conventions Aunt Sarah's Carmel Church, 12:00 pm. See page 2 for more info.
- May 10 - Regular Committee Meeting, Aunt Sarah's Carmel Church, 10:00 am.
- May 10 - 7th District Convention, Short Pump Middle School, 4701 Pouncey Tract Road, Glen Allen.
- May 17 - 1st District Convention, Williamsburg Marriott, 50 Kingsmill Road, Williamsburg.
- June 10 - 7th District Primary

www.carolinedems.com

Caroline County Democratic Committee
PO Box 390
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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