



# The Caroline County



## Democrat

The Newsletter of the Caroline County Democratic Committee

Volume III, Issue I

January 2008

### January Meeting

On January 12<sup>th</sup> the Caroline County Democratic Committee will hold its first regular meeting of the New Year. Please join us at 10:00 am at Aunt Sarah's Restaurant located in Carmel Church. We will be getting to work on the business of the Committee and planning for the year. We would love your participation and insight for the coming year.

We have a few points of business that we need to address immediately at the beginning of the New Year including the recommendation by the Committee of a replacement for Ted Johnson to the Electoral Board. Ted has served our county well in this position, but has decided to retire from the Board. If you or anyone you know is interested in the position, please call Maggie Sacra at (804) 448-4121 or contact her at [chairperson@carolinedems.com](mailto:chairperson@carolinedems.com).

Your input is needed and wanted in order for us to be a growing, strong committee. Please join us.

### Presidential Primary

A presidential primary will be held on February 12. Don't forget to register and vote in this historic primary. Your vote is important! You will help choose the Democratic nominee that will run for President of the United States in November 2008.

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### A New Year and a New Beginning

The Caroline County Democratic Committee met on December 8 and elected new officers for the coming two years. The new Board is diverse and enthusiastic, and plans to work hard over the next two years to reaffirm Caroline's position as a Democratic county, but we need your help. Even with a depth of experience on the Board including past chairpersons, leaders in the community, and former officers on various Boards of diverse community and social groups, we cannot succeed without your involvement and your backing.

We hope that we can count on each of you to help us move forward in Caroline to make a real impact on our community and to help us lead Caroline into the future. The ideals of the Democratic Party are ones that each of us believe, and many of us make a daily practice. We believe in fairness, equality, concern for our fellow citizens, and a government that works for the people and by the people. We welcome everyone to join and know that our strength is in our diversity and in the passion of our beliefs.

The beginning of the Preamble to the Party Plan of the Democratic Party of Virginia reads -

The Democratic Party of Virginia exists to facilitate and encourage the full participation of all Virginians in choosing their elected officials and controlling their political destiny. It is dedicated to the preservation of all the rights enumerated in Article One of the Constitution of Virginia.

Each of us carry those ideals with us every day and are empowered by their message. The Party Plan goes on to say the following -

It shall be the duty of every county and city committee, as well as each officer and member thereof, to seek the registration of voters, to perfect the Democratic organization within the county or city, and to do all within their power to aid in the victory of the Democratic Party's nominees in all elections.

Reaffirm your commitment and join us. We need you to help us protect and ensure these ideals. For more information call (804) 448-4121.

## Special Election Called for the 99<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

On December 11, Rob Whittman(R) won the 1<sup>st</sup> District Seat in the US Congress. With the win by Mr. Whittman, an opening occurred in the 99<sup>th</sup> Legislative District for the Virginia General Assembly. A special election has been called by Governor Kaine to fill that seat and is scheduled to be held on February 19<sup>th</sup>. At the printing of this newsletter, a caucus is set for January 12 to pick a Democratic candidate for the election. We will update you on the candidate chosen in our next newsletter.

Please register today and then plan to vote in this special election. Please go to [http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/cms/Voter\\_Information/Registering\\_to\\_Vote/Index.html](http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/cms/Voter_Information/Registering_to_Vote/Index.html) for more information or contact the Caroline County Registrar at 804-633-9083.

Also, if you are already registered and not able to vote on the day of the election, please contact the Caroline County Registrar to vote by absentee ballot. A request for absentee ballot by mail must be submitted by February 16<sup>th</sup>, or you may go directly to the Voter Registrar's office in Caroline (office open 9-5). The office is located at 109 County Street, Bowling Green, VA 22427. If you have additional questions, please call the registrar at 804-633-9083. Absentee ballot applications can be faxed to the registrar at 804-633-0362. Absentee ballots must arrive back to the registrar by election day.

Only the Bowling Green Precinct and the Port Royal Precinct are part of the 99<sup>th</sup> Legislative District. If you are a voter in either of these precincts, please prepare to vote and take a friend to the polls with you on February 19<sup>th</sup>. Precinct information is located below.

Bowling Green Precinct  
Bowling Green Town Hall  
117 Butler Street  
Bowling Green, VA 22427

Caroline only has two precincts in the 99<sup>th</sup> Legislative District. Only these two precincts will vote in the February 19<sup>th</sup> special election.

Port Royal Precinct  
Port Royal Fire Department  
435 King Street  
Port Royal, VA 22535

## A Letter from the Chairperson

On December 8, the Committee reorganized and elected new officers to lead for the next two years. I stand honored to be elected and will work to serve all the members of the Committee. Soon after the election, I wrote the following letter to the Caroline Progress. I reprint the letter here in our newsletter to re-emphasize to each member that I believe that we are strong as a Committee because of the diversity we have, the perspectives and experience we bring, and the acceptance of all those who are Democrats and want to get involved and work for the good of the Committee. I would love to speak to any of you that have ideas or want to be involved. Please contact me at (804) 448-4121 or at [chairperson@carolinedems.com](mailto:chairperson@carolinedems.com).

*Dear Editors –*

*I want to inform the voters of Caroline that the Caroline County Democratic Committee had its bi-annual reorganization meeting on December 8. The bi-annual reorganization meeting gives the Committee the opportunity to review its membership, and to elect new leadership for the next two years. We are pleased to announce a new Board that is diverse, dynamic, experienced and ready to meet the challenges of the next two years. Our Board ranges in age from twenty-something to retirement, and is made up of persons from varied backgrounds, races, ethnicities and outlooks. It is packed with experience with many of the Board having served as officers previously and three even having served as a chairperson. Our Board has the perspective of military veterans, educators, government veterans, and an accountant to name a few, and each Board member is anxious to invite you to join and become involved with the Democratic Process.*

*We also want to thank the outgoing Board members, especially Calvin B. Taylor, Sr., who has served as Chairperson of the Committee for the past year and a half. Calvin has shown a graciousness and poise, especially over the last couple months, which makes each of us proud to say he has served as a Committee chairperson. We look forward to working with Calvin, as well as all of the former Board members who have served the Committee well.*

*If anyone is interested in the Caroline County Democratic Committee and wants to get involved with this dynamic group, please visit [www.carolinedems.com](http://www.carolinedems.com).*

Margaret "Maggie" Sacra  
Chairperson, Caroline County Democratic Committee

Use the form below to - Join the Caroline County Democratic Committee,  
Donate more if you have already joined,  
Send us updated information about yourself, 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 & Donor Form

(Please print clearly –Your information is needed to help us keep you informed about Democratic activities,  
and to maintain contribution records as recommended 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 check one:

I'd like to receive the monthly newsletter via e-mail. \_\_\_\_\_

I'd prefer to receive the monthly newsletter 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** - 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairperson  
1stvicechairperson@carolinedems.com

**Matt Rowe** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairperson  
2ndvicechairperson@carolinedems.com

**Rose West**– Secretary  
secretary@carolinedems.com

**Vacant** – Treasurer  
This position is currently open – The person elected was unable to fulfill the duties and has resigned.

**Christine Tillman** – Director of Outreach  
outreach@carolinedems.com

**Richard Corker** – Sergeant-at-Arms

**Matt West** – Parliamentarian

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

Please send comments about the newsletter to  
chairperson@carolinedems.com.

**Mark Your Calendars!**

January 12 - Regular Committee Meeting  
Aunt Sarah's Carmel Church  
10:00 am

January 14 - Last Day to Register for the Primary

January 21 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day

February - Black History Month

February 9 - Regular Committee Meeting  
Aunt Sarah's Carmel Church  
10:00 am

February 9 - Absentee Voter Deadline for  
Primary

February 12 - Primary for Presidential Candidates

February 13 - Special Day to Register to Vote for  
the Special Election

February 16 - Absentee Voter Deadline for the  
Special Election

February 19 - Special Election –  
99<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

**www.carolinedems.com**

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