



The Caroline County Democrat



The Official Newsletter of the Caroline County Democratic Committee

Volume V, Issue I

January/February/March 2010

Upcoming Meetings

Mark Your Calendar

February

On **February 13th** the Caroline County Democratic Committee will hold its regular monthly meeting at 10:00 am. The meeting will be held at Aunt Sarah's in Carmel Church. We are excited to have Scott Robinson, who is running for nomination in the 1st Congressional District visit us and discuss his views and plans for the district. Scott is a retired Army Colonel and grew up in Northumberland County. He is also a recent graduate of the Sorensen Institute at UVA and announced his run for Congress on August 1, just one day after retiring from the Army. He is an excellent speaker and anxious to visit our meeting and talk to voters and answer their questions.

March

On **March 13th** the Caroline County Democratic Committee will hold its regular monthly meeting at 10:00 am. The meeting will be held at Aunt Sarah's in Carmel Church.

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Be a Part of the Process

This year is set to be one of rebuilding and rethinking in the Democratic Party. From our local committee all the way up to the federal level, Democrats are concerned that the wins of 2008 are now a distant memory as we have lost gubernatorial elections in VA and NJ in 2009 and now a senatorial special election in MA in 2010. Every member of the U.S. House is up for election this year and that means that all of Virginia's voters will have the opportunity to go to the polls in November to vote for new representation. Here in Caroline we are divided into the 1st Congressional District and the 7th Congressional District. We currently have two candidates vying for the Democratic nomination in the 1st to run against Rob Wittman in November and one candidate willing to take on Eric Cantor in the 7th.

Don't miss one opportunity to help these candidates, spread the word of the Democratic Party, and support President Obama. Here are some important dates for our local committee and the Democratic Party of Virginia.

Upcoming Meetings of the
Caroline County Democratic Committee –
Feb. 13, March 13, April 10, May 8, June 19, July 10,
Aug. 14, Sept. 18, Oct. 9, Nov. 13, Dec. 11

Upcoming Steering Committee and
Central Committee Meetings of the DPVA -
Feb. 5&6 Richmond, June 11&12 Charlottesville, Sept.
10 & 11 Fredericksburg, December 3 & 4 Newport News

1st District Convention in Fredericksburg –
May 8

7th District Convention location to be determined –
anticipated date May

Wittman Continues Career of Offering Less

Retired Colonel continues his tradition of serving his country by offering more.

Tappahannock, VA – In a notice to local municipalities, Rep. Rob Wittman has decided to no longer make requests on their behalf for federal earmarks to be returned to Virginia's 1st congressional district. Considering this another example of Wittman's track record of doing less with his position, retired Army Colonel and Democratic challenger Scott Robinson took issue with the new policy.

"We are living in tough economic times. People are working harder and longer days, paying their taxes and paying Rob Wittman \$170,000 a year, but they are getting less," said Robinson. "The answer is not to tell people you are going to do less in Congress. The answer is working just as hard as they do and making sure you bring back their tax dollars to build a better economy," Robinson continued.

Robinson made a pledge that as the district's next congressman, he would push for reform in how earmarks are awarded and committed to abiding by the criteria regardless if any legislative changes are made. The criteria would apply to all non-defense spending requests.

"Members of congress need to stand up and fight to change the system, not just lay down and quit on it like Wittman is doing. I pledge that I will fight for every dime to be returned to our district and reform the system at the same time. I will work within the guidelines that as long as it is a proven job creator, it does not serve a special interest group and does not come from a contributor to my campaign, then I will do my best to secure those funds and put people back to work," Robinson concluded.

Note: Scott Robinson will be a guest of the Caroline County Democratic Committee at our next meeting. Please plan on attending so that you will have the opportunity to ask him questions and talk to him about your concerns.

Make Your Voice Heard on Legislation Planned by the Virginia General Assembly

Legislation is advancing in the Virginia General Assembly that would make it easier for banks to acquire credit unions. There is concern that the legislation does not adequately protect the rights of credit union members. It does not address such basic issues as voting procedures for credit union members in these cases, and it fails to recognize the vast differences between not-for-profit credit unions and for-profit banks, which have different structures, missions and legal requirements. If you are concerned about this legislation passing, please contact your Delegate and State Senator to let them know that you oppose House Bill 482 and Senate Bill 440 as introduced.

Another bill would make it so that car dealers and insurance companies didn't have to report flood damage to a car unless the total reached \$5,000 or more. This would mean you could buy a car with as much as \$5,000 in flood damage without knowing. If you think that is ridiculous then contact your Delegate and your Senator immediately and ask them to oppose the passage of House Bill 392 and Senate Bill 539. These bills are just four of many pieces of legislation that can directly affect your lives as citizens of the Commonwealth.

For more information on contacting your Delegate or Senator you can go to <http://legis.state.va.us>. This web site provides contact information for legislators, access to bills and resolutions, membership on committees, committee schedules, and much more. You can even determine your own legislators by clicking on "Who's My Legislator" on the top right side of the page.

For more on almost any information you would need about the legislative session, including text and status of bills and resolutions, detailed information on each Delegate and Senator, committee schedules, budget bills and activities of budget committees, daily floor calendars, subject index of bills, as well as the Code of Virginia and the Virginia Administrative Code. Information is also available for past legislative sessions on the Legislative Information System (LIS) at <http://leg1.state.va.us/>.

If you need to contact Delegates or Senators by phone, you can reach Delegates by dialing 804-698-10xx, replacing the xx with the delegate's two digit House district number; for Senators, dial 804-698-75yy, replacing the yy with the senator's two-digit Senate district number.

Be a part of the process and make sure your voice is heard!

Officers:

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

Important Dates!

- February 2 -** Fundraising Committee Meeting 7:00 pm at Jack Wilcox's house
- February 5 & 6 -** Steering Committee and Central Committee of the Democratic Party of VA in Richmond at the Marriott Downtown
- February 13 -** Regular Meeting
- February 13 -** Lifetime Achievement Award Meeting Immediately Following the Regular Meeting
- February 15 -** President's Day
- March 6 -** Hanover County Democratic Committee Annual Pancake Breakfast – 9:00 am, Ashcreek Community Center
- March 13 -** Regular Meeting
- March 14 -** Daylight Savings Time Begins
- March 20 -** Spring Begins

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