

Wicomico Republican

Volume 2, Number 4

Spring 2009

Tax Day “Tea Party” on April 15

Despite the fact this is not an “official” Wicomico County Republican Club event, chances are that our readers will agree that the fiscal direction taken by those in charge in Annapolis and Washington has strayed far down the wrong path.

Inspired by a February broadcast on CNBC where correspondent Rick Santelli called for a modern-day tea party from the floor of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, the movement has attracted a number of prominent conservative media members including Newt Gingrich, Sean Hannity, and Michelle Malkin.

Salisbury’s version occurs April 15th and appropriately is slated to be held on the steps of the Government Office Building downtown, with the program starting at 4:30 p.m. and running until around 6:30.

Other Maryland Tea Parties are slated for the same date in Annapolis, Bel Air, Chestertown, Cumberland, Frederick, Hagerstown, and Westminster.

Salisbury election wrapup

While the recent city election was technically non-partisan, there was a GOP presence. Unfortunately, neither of the Mayoral candidates who call the Republican Party home were able to advance through the primary.

Bob Caldwell’s 614 total votes left him just 22 short of attaining a spot in the April 7th General Election won by Jim Ireton. Mike Della Penna finished fourth with 153 votes.

The Republicans can claim a victory, though, in that one key election issue in the city was fiscal conservatism. Hopefully the victor can temper his idealism with the reality that tax revenues are declining and many city residents feel overtaxed already! That will be the story of his term, which begins April 20th.

The Lower Shore Young Republican Club meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. Membership is open to interested people ages 18 to 40. If interested in attending, e-mail to lowershoreyoungrepublicans@gmail.com.

Delegate Elmore speaker at April WCRC meeting

District 38A Delegate Page Elmore, who represents the southern end of Wicomico County along with all of Somerset County, will serve as the speaker at the upcoming WCRC meeting on April 27. Social time begins at 7:00 p.m. with the meeting gavelled to order at 7:30.

Because the fourth Monday in May is Memorial Day, we will not have a May meeting. The next scheduled WCRC meeting after Elmore's appearance will be June 22nd with a speaker to be announced.

As always, the WCRC will have a food booth at the upcoming Salisbury Festival on April 24th and 25th.

Not only are people needed to staff the booth during its hours of operation but also to help set things up on Thursday, April 23rd and take down the booth on Sunday, April 26th.

And don't forget - the brownies are a hot-selling item too. We'll need folks to supply our booth with chocolate goodness.

Volunteers can contact George Ossman at (410) 749-4835 or via his e-mail: ossman@intercom.net.

Lincoln Day Dinner draws enthusiastic supporters

As announced in the Winter 2009 *Wicomico Republican*, state Party Chair Dr. Jim Pelura delivered his remarks on the past, present, and future of the Maryland GOP to a good gathering of over 60 party faithful.

Pelura also commented on the election of Michael Steele as the national GOP chairman and thought that two winnable issues for 2010 (besides the obvious one of fiscal conservatism) would be education and immigration reform.

We also took time to honor the Republican of the Year winners for 2008, Mark McIver and Cynthia Williams. State Senator Andy Harris helped present the honor to McIver, while Williams, who couldn't attend the dinner due to a previous engagement, received her award at the February WCRC meeting.

If you haven't already done so, it's past time to renew your membership for 2009! (But we'll still welcome you back with open arms.)

Applications will be available at our next meeting or on the WCRC website: www.wicomicocountyrepublicanclub.org

WCRC officers picked for 2009

At our February meeting, new club officers for 2009 were officially selected through unanimous consent. Five holdovers and two newcomers comprise the group.

For 2009, Marc Kilmer continues in his second year as club President. However, he has a new First Vice-President as Dustin Mills takes over the office from outgoing 1st VP George Ossman (a former Club president as well.) Both Kilmer and Mills are also active in the Lower Shore Young Republican Club, meaning the youth movement in the WCRC ranks is alive and well.

The Second and Third Vice-President posts are unchanged from 2008. Michael Swartz remains as the 2nd VP for a third year while Ryan Hohman enters his second term as 3rd VP.

Deb Longshore is the second newcomer, taking over from outgoing Fourth Vice-President Helen Shockley. Tom Hughes stays as Treasurer for a third year and Dave Parker, the dean of the officer corps, remains a fixture as club Secretary.

Committees formed to study 2010 focus and scholarships

During our March meeting club president Marc Kilmer announced the formation of two new committees and a new procedure designed to address a number of financial requests in recent months.

One committee will look at how to best allocate club resources for the 2010 election - not just money for donations but volunteers, get-out-the-vote efforts, the need for a county headquarters, and raising our profile in the community. It's expected to have a report for later this fall to be ready for the 2010 campaign.

In addressing a continuing concern brought up by a few members, the other committee will look at the procedures and feasibility of providing a scholarship or award to area students, and what criteria would be used for both selection and purpose.

It was also announced that a new submission form would be developed for monetary requests from the club, due to a number of inquiries in recent months.

Reminder - events and speakers

April 24-25, 2009	Salisbury Festival booth - one of our main fundraisers!
April 27, 2009	Regular meeting with speaker: Del. Page Elmore
May 25, 2009	Memorial Day - *No Meeting*
June 22, 2009	Regular meeting with speaker: TBA
September 20, 2009	Republican Club Crab Feast - details to follow in the Summer 2009 <i>Wicomico Republican!</i>

The Wicomico County Republican Club meets on the fourth Monday each month at the Chamber of Commerce Building, 144 E. Main Street in Salisbury. Meeting social hour starts at 7 p.m. and business at 7:30.

Wicomico County Republican Club
P.O. Box 133
Salisbury, MD 21802