

Wicomico Republican

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Summer 2007

Crab Feast slated for September 15

On Saturday, September 15 the officers of the Wicomico County Republican Club invite you to join your Republican friends and families for an afternoon of good food, fun times, and political chitchat. And for those finicky eaters who aren't into seafood, we'll also have burgers, hot dogs, KFC chicken, and corn on the cob for those folks.

The Crab Feast serves as the main fundraiser for the WCRC. While the ticket price (\$25 for adults, \$8 for children under 17) defrays the cost of providing the food and drink, it's the silent auction that is the key element of raising dollars for our club. It's also the most difficult to get items for, so we look to our members and friends to step up and donate items.

So please accept our invitation to join us on Saturday, September 15 from 1-4 p.m. at the Schumaker Park Pavilion in Salisbury.

Special meeting September 24th

Monday, September 24 will be a special meeting date for the WCRC. Instead of normal club business, this meeting will give members and interested guests an opportunity to have an early say in who they think the 2008 nominees for President and the First Congressional District should be!

Our first Wicomico County Straw Poll will serve as a way for local voters to express their preference and a unique opportunity to help out the Wicomico County Republican Club.

As of this writing there are ten hopefuls in the Presidential field and incumbent Wayne Gilchrest faces a challenge from State Sen. Andy Harris to keep his seat in Congress.

For more details on how the Straw Poll will work, please turn to Page 2.

Website is up!

On July 1st the new-look Wicomico County GOP website came online. It features new and updated links, information about our club and its officers, the club's by-laws, and upcoming events. It's a one-stop source for the Republican Party in Wicomico County, so check back often.

The web address is www.wicomicogop.org or www.wicomicocountyrepublicanclub.org.

Bylaw changes debated at June meeting

For the club's June meeting it was decided we not enlist a speaker but rather do some of the inhouse work on updating and revising our bylaws, after soliciting ideas for changes at our April meeting.

Suggested revisions included adding a non-voting Associate membership category for those who aren't yet registered Republicans, a definition of how the club will spend its election money in support of officeseekers, and the timing by which the club

supports candidates whether prior to the primary or strictly afterward.

A formal proposal incorporating all of the changes will be given to membership at our August 27th meeting.

How the straw poll will work:

On September 24 the WCRC will get together for its usual 4th Monday meeting at the usual location, Salisbury's Chamber of Commerce building.

After presentations are made, members will receive a sheet of paper with the current choices for the Republican Presidential nomination as well as those seeking the First Congressional District seat. They can simply turn in their choices at the conclusion of the meeting and cast one vote in each race. However, if an attendee wants to put more weight behind his or her vote, they will have an opportunity to purchase additional votes for \$1 each, up to \$20, for each of the two races. The additional proceeds from this part of the Straw Poll will go to the club, enabling us to put together better events and more

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Straw Poll

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strongly support local Republican candidates.

To help those who are undecided, the club has undertaken an effort to secure literature and/or a representative speaker from each campaign. The speakers will be asked to give a 3-5 minute pitch on behalf of their favored candidate.

At the end of the evening both the raw votes and purchased ballots will be tallied up and released to the press and the various candidate campaigns.

This is a case where we encourage our Republican faithful to act like Democrats - vote early and often!

Upcoming speakers

We have extended an invitation to Delegate Jeannie Haddaway to speak at our October meeting, and anticipate Congressional candidate State Sen. Andrew Harris to also address us at a meeting, either in August or for our November meeting.

Haddaway represents the western end of Wicomico County as part of District 37B in the House of Delegates. Her district extends northward to take in portions of Dorchester, Talbot, and Caroline counties as well. The Easton native was appointed to the House of Delegates in 2003 and won her first full elected term in 2006. She serves on the Economic Matters Committee as part of her duties in the House of Delegates.

Dr. Andrew Harris hails from Cockeysville and represents parts of Baltimore and Harford counties in the State Senate (District 7.) Serving in the Senate since 1998, Andy is seeking the First Congressional District seat currently held by Kent County resident Rep. Wayne Gilchrest.

Speaking of Congressman Gilchrest, as this newsletter was being completed it was confirmed that he will be the speaker at our August 27 meeting.

With the 2008 campaign just around the corner and a special session looming for the Maryland General Assembly, the WCRC will be working to get topical speakers who can give us insight on the issues we care most about.

Know your WCRC officers

President	George Ossman
First Vice-President	Marc Kilmer
Second Vice President	Michael Swartz
Third Vice President	Brad Bellacicco
Fourth Vice-President	Helen Shockley
Secretary	Dave Parker
Treasurer	Thomas Hughes

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.

Meeting dates for the remainder of the year are as follows: August 27, September 24, October 22, and November 26. As noted on Page 1, the Crab Feast is set for Saturday, September 15 and the Christmas Party is tentatively slated for Sunday, December 9th.

Wicomico County Republican Club
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