

New Hanover County Democratic Party

NEWSLETTER

February 2011

www.newhanoverdems.com

Date set for 2011 county convention *New Hanover County party officers to be elected*

Mark your calendars now for Saturday, April 16, the date of the 2011 New Hanover County Democratic Party Convention. This year's convention will be held in the Assembly Room of the New Hanover County Historic Courthouse, 24 N. Third Street, Wilmington. Conventioneers will sign in at 9:30 a.m. Convention business will begin at 10:00 a.m.

The April 16 convention will be a significant event for our party since we will elect new officers. We will also elect 15 State Executive Committee members and 162 delegates to the Seventh Congressional Democratic Party Convention. New officers and State Executive Committee members will serve two-year terms, including the 2011 and the 2012 Presidential Election.

Nominating committee appointed

A nine-member nominating committee has been appointed to present a slate of officers at the convention. The nominating committee consists of Tony McEwen (chair), Helen Worthy, Sue Bulluck, Margaret Haynes, Margaret Herring, Ruth Downey, EB Davis, Diana Hill, and Reese Smith.

The committee is interested in your opinions and recommendations for prospective officers and state executive committee members. February 16th is the deadline for New Hanover Democrats to submit recommendations for officer positions for the county party. You can submit recommendations to the committee by sending an e-mail to boo_uncw_2001@msn.com

Please feel free to include any background information you feel is important, and whether you are recommending the person for a specific officer position or an overall position on the board.



State and District Party news

New state party chair elected

The North Carolina Democratic Party's State Executive Committee has elected David Parker of Iredell County as the new Chair of the new State Party Chair.

Parker was a guest at our 2010 Unity Banquet (he was the man who inspired us with oratory and entertained us on the guitar). Parker said our Unity Banquet slide-show made a huge impact on him. "Your community outreach initiatives, including Adopt-a-Highway; Relay for Life; and the Martin Luther King Parade have inspired me to incorporate community outreach as key element of my statewide strategic plan," he said.

District Chair Melvin Williams of Duplin County was elected State Party Secretary, and Tony McEwen of New Hanover County was re-elected State Party Third Vice-Chair.

Seventh Congressional District Democratic Party to elect new officers

Speaking of conventions... Mark your calendars for May 14, the date of the Seventh Congressional District Democratic Party Convention. The location is the East Arcadia School, 21451 Hwy 87 East, Riegelwood, NC 28456 and the starting time is 11:00 a.m.

A new slate of district officers will be elected at this convention. Before running for State Secretary, Melvin Williams announced that after 8 years he would not run again for District Chairman.

\$800 will be awarded to the county party with the highest overall attendance. \$400 will be awarded to the county party with the highest attendance of Democrats under the age of 36.

Annual precinct meetings begin

"Two-week window" is February 26 – March 11

The New Hanover County Democratic Party will hold annual precinct meetings February 26 through March 11. Several precinct chairs have already scheduled their meetings.

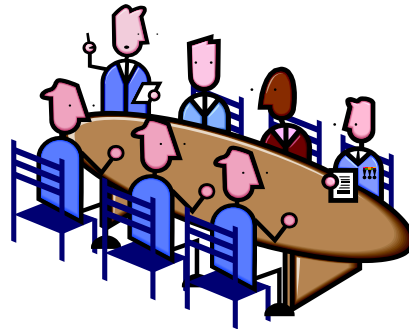
Democrats who attend their precinct meetings will elect precinct officers to serve on the county party Executive Committee and delegates to the county convention. These delegates elect the county party officers, the State Executive Committee, and the Delegates to the Seventh Congressional Democratic Party Convention.

Precinct chairs should schedule their precinct meetings now. First Vice-Chair Deborah Maxwell and County Chairman Jim Morgan need the date, time, and location of your meeting at least two weeks in advance. Precinct packets will be distributed at the February Executive Committee Meeting.

Maxwell can be reached at dmaxwell3@ec.rr.com or (910) 264-5643. Morgan can be reached at dems@newhanoverdems.org

If your precinct is “unorganized” (doesn’t have a precinct chair), please consider accepting an appointment as “acting chair” to organize your precinct. We’ll help with names and contact information of other active Democrats in your precinct, so your precinct can be represented at the upcoming county convention.

The principal architect of the NC Democratic Party precinct organizational structure was Governor Jim Hunt. Gov. Hunt’s wife, Carolyn, serves as a precinct chair in Wilson County. Precinct meetings are free and open to any registered Democrat residing in the precinct.



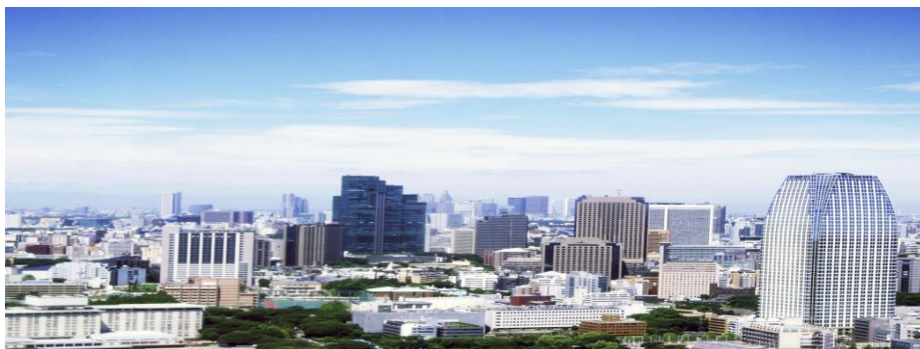
Charlotte to host 2012 Democratic National Convention

You may remember this: Our keynote speaker for the 2010 New Hanover County Democratic Party Unity Banquet was Charlotte Mayor Anthony Foxx. At the dinner we welcomed Mayor Foxx with posters that said, “Charlotte in 2012: *Reaching for Tomorrow.*” Well, it seems that tomorrow is almost here, as Charlotte, NC, has been now been selected to host the Democratic National Convention.

Mayor Foxx chaired the effort to bring the DNC to Charlotte. Now we can look forward to watching Foxx play a prominent role on the national and international stage at the convention.

This is the first time the Democratic National Convention will be held in the Tar Hill State.

This opportunity to host the Democratic National Convention was made possible only through the efforts of those of us who worked so hard to elect a Democratic President in 2008.



Message from New Hanover County Democratic Party chair

In 2008, we worked in unity to turn our state Blue in the one of the most fascinating and historical elections of all times.

In 2009, we swept the Wilmington City Council race, with the re-election of Mayor Bill Saffo, the re-election of Councilman Earl Sheridan, and the election of two additional Democrats.

2010 was a challenging and difficult time for Democrats across the entire nation. Still, in the face of a powerful national wave, we returned a Democrat to the United States House seat in the Seventh Congressional District; won the North Carolina House seat in the newly-created District 18; elected a Democratic Sheriff in New Hanover; re-elected a Democratic District Attorney; and returned four Democrats to judgeships in New Hanover County.

Moving forward, it is appropriate to hold in mind who we are and what we stand for. Consider these words from Ted Kennedy's "The Dream Will Never Die" Speech from 1980:

"We are the Party -- We are the Party of the New Freedom, the New Deal, and the New Frontier. We have always been the Party of hope. So, this year let us offer new hope, new hope to an America uncertain about the present, but unsurpassed in its potential for the future."

Now is the time to put hands and feet to ideas and organize to win in 2011 and 2012.

At this year's precinct meetings and conventions we will lay the groundwork for the 2011 municipal elections and the 2012 Presidential Election Year.

Let us continue to work together to help move our county, our state, and our nation forward – the *Democratic* Party way.

####

Paid for by the New Hanover County Democratic Party Executive Committee
www.newhanoverdems.com