

HAMILTON COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY

NEWSLETTER

— JULY 2008—

Chairman's Message

The Primaries are over, neither party has had their convention, and the polls and pundits are already declaring the winner. Looking back by this time in his race George H. Walker Bush had lost to Dukakis, Ronald Reagan had lost to Jimmy Carter, and George W. Bush had lost to Al Gore and John Kerry. So fellow Republicans, John McCain is not doomed. Not since 1964 has any Democrat won by more than 50.1% of the vote and the public has a fondness for divided government. We are all suffering from the anxiety factor of a new face on the scene who the Democrats believe to be the prodigal son.

If you listen to the Democrats you will realize they are throwing out a smoke screen. They want to talk about their candidate's religious views, optimism for America and the embrace of diversity. What they are not talking about is their real agenda:

1. Raise taxes on upper income Americans thereby killing all initiative to invest in new businesses and innovations that create jobs. Raising the top bracket to 40% apply 12.54% FICA plus Medicare's 2% plus local and state taxes at 5-6% and what do you have, a 60% tax bracket. The jobs created by small business and start-ups will disappear like the rabbit in the hat.
2. Cover the 12 million illegal immigrants with federally mandated health insurance that would dramatically drive up healthcare costs. The program would cost a mere 50 to 60 Billion dollars to implement and who knows how much from then on.
3. Double the capital gains tax, saddling the 50% of Americans who own stock with dramatically higher taxes.
4. Double the dividend tax hitting those elderly coupon-clippers depending on fixed incomes.
5. Requiring Homeland Security to notify terror suspects they are under investigation. The solution to terror is to sit down and talk about our differences and promise not to offend them again if they promise not to send a suicide bomber to our airports.
6. Their solution to high gas prices is to raise taxes, do not increase exploration. To free us from the demand for oil; tax the oil company's profits. We'll just have to learn how to live off the land. Does this sound like the 1960's all over?

John McCain will offer real solutions to real problems. For a great beginning as Republicans let's show our community our support for John McCain by putting a bumper sticker on our car, wearing a McCain button, and placing a John McCain sign in our yard. Let's create the enthusiasm for this race and for John McCain. As I have said many times before "Let us pull up our boot straps and get down to business of winning this race."

Let us not forget we have a Hamilton County Sheriff's race coming up. The campaign is going great and the momentum is building. Jim Hammond will serve Hamilton County with honor and integrity.

Early voting starts July 18th thru August 2nd and Election Day is August 7th.

Your Party Chairman
Connie Weathers

HAMILTON COUNTY PACHYDERM CLUB

It's hard to believe half of 2008 is already in the history books. Think of what we've experienced since the beginning of this year: Obama, Hillary, Hillary, Obama, and ultimately, more Obama. It seems the battle over the democratic nomination has dominated the national news. It will be up to us as Republicans to insure that our nominee, Senator John McCain, dominates over the second half of 2008. The stakes have never been higher and we must all join together to insure that the stark contrast between the accomplished conservatism of McCain and the radical liberalism of Barack Obama is clear to the voters this fall. We believe that the Pachyderm Club is a great way for everyone to get involved in this process. Pachyderm offers conservative minded folks the chance to join together weekly in fellowship and discussion on the issues that matter in Chattanooga, Hamilton County, and our great nation.

As we observe the great independence of our country this month, I hope everyone will take a moment to consider their own level of activism for its preservation moving forward. The unique architecture of our country gives every citizen a voice and the chance to take a stand against all that might threaten to undo this great land. Make plans now to attend Pachyderm on Mondays and meet other like minded people, and discover ways you can be more involved. I was sixteen when I first attended the Pachyderm Club and credit that visit as planting seeds in my heart and mind for a future of involvement and interest in the Republican party.

Our line up of speakers in July is a good one:

July 7: OFF for Independence Day
July 14: Representative Gerald McCormick
July 21: Count Commission Chairman Bill Hullander
July 28: Georgia State Senator Jeff Mullis

Thanks to everyone who works hard to make our Pachyderm Club a great success!

The Pachyderm Club meets Mondays, Noon, at Niko's Southside Grill, Downtown Chattanooga. Lunch is \$14, but anyone may attend without eating to hear the speaker.

**For the Grand Ole Party,
Matthew Bryant, President
Pachyderm**

HAMILTON COUNTY YOUNG REPUBLICANS

We have no report this month from the Young Republicans but please check their website at www.hcyrs.com for information concerning upcoming meetings and activities.

*******REPORT FROM HCGOP HEADQUARTERS*******

We're happy to let you know we have McCain bumper stickers, buttons and signs at HCGOP Headquarters. Please stop by and pick up some things to show your support! We are always looking for volunteers. Please call us if you would like to be involved.

HAMILTON COUNTY REPUBLICAN WOMEN

The Hamilton County Republican Women held their annual picnic on June 2 at the Greenway Farm in Hixson with 100-125 people attending—including HCRW members, spouses, guests, elected officials and candidates.

Sumptuous food was prepared by the membership and served by our able committee composed of Bettye and Marilyn Parker and Betty Lou Stone.

Thanks goes to Patsy and Larry Henry for setting the most attractive tables—white linen cloths with pink geranium centerpieces.

Dot Sertel and Marty Fairbanks presided at the registration table. Bettye Ficken and Billie Whiteside sold tickets for the beautiful quilt which was given to the lucky person—that person being Fran Coleman.

Dean Jackson drew the crowd to her display of baked goods. All the goodies were sold and were a great fundraiser. Last, but not least, was the jewelry table managed by Genendal Fratantuono. Many pieces were sold and another order was placed. By the way, she came to Chattanooga because of Katrina. Welcome to our city! You are a real asset to our city and club.

Following our meal, the president recognized the guests, officials and candidates. Each candidate was asked to speak briefly.

Then the “Entertainment” began. The “McCain Girls” who had been performing on the road for several weeks with the candidate, took a few hours off to perform for our club in Chattanooga. They were dressed in appropriate red, white and blue and danced and sang to the new recording of “OBAMA, OBAMA”—you don’t want him. You had rather have the cable guy. The girls who were in the troupe were Bettye Ficken, Eva Jo Smith, Patsy Henry, Billie Whiteside and Genendal Fratantuono and managed by Janelle Merritt. Two reporters from Times Free Press were there to interview and report (guess you saw the articles).

Next on the program was J. C. Barker, who is well-known in Chattanooga for his sense of humor. He kept everyone in stitches with his jokes. I highly recommend him for any club program.

After an evening of fun and fellowship we said goodnight. We shall see our members at our next meeting on Tuesday, July 15, at 11:00 at Country Place Restaurant on Shallowford Road (Board Meeting at 10:30).

P.S. Thanks to all who worked behind the scenes at the picnic.

Janelle Merritt, President
Hamilton County Republican Women

TENNESSEE VALLEY REPUBLICAN WOMEN

The laughter on all the faces tells the story behind this year's annual Tennessee Valley Republican Women's picnic at the Amnicola Riverpark. The women used this event as an opportunity to meet and greet fellow Republicans that included several currently elected officials as well as those who are running in the August primary. Hearing from the candidates themselves sparked the motivation that is needed to pull together that all important "Grass Roots" organization that will bring in the votes on August 7th.

Members and guests had an opportunity to hear from Greg Juster and Joe Dumas who are running for seats on the Hamilton County Board of Education. Jim Hammond spoke about his goal to become the next Hamilton County Sheriff. Jim Cobb and Jim Vincent each had an opportunity to ask for support as they seek the position of State Representative. Connie Weathers also spoke to the group on behalf of the entire Hamilton County Republican Party. She appealed to all those present, and especially the women, to get involved in getting John McCain elected as the next President of the United States.

The TVRW will continue to meet during the summer months of July and August as the organization works to support those candidates running for office. New members are always welcome. The next meeting will be at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 15th, at Karl's Restaurant on Hixson Pike near Northgate.

**Respectfully submitted by
Robbie Morgan, Secretary for
Delores Vinson, President
Tennessee Valley Republican Women**

DATES TO REMEMBER – July 2008

- Monday—July 7 **Pachyderm Club—NO MEETING** IN OBSERVANCE OF INDEPENDENCE DAY
- Monday—July 14 **Pachyderm Club**—Noon @ Niko's Southside Grill
Speaker: State Representative Gerald McCormick
- Tuesday—July 15 **Hamilton County Republican Women**—11:30 a.m.
Country Place on Shallowford Rd.; Speaker: TBA
Tennessee Valley Republican Women—6:00 p.m.
Karl's Family Restaurant; Speaker: Jim Hammond
Ice Cream Social for Jim Hammond
7:00 pm at Harold and Lil Coker's Barn & Car Museum
- Friday—July 18 **Early Voting Begins**
- Monday—July 21 **Pachyderm Club**—Noon @ Niko's Southside Grill
Speaker: Humorist Ed English
- Thursday—July 24 **Rally for Jim Hammond**, Chester Frost Park Pavilion,
6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m., **Free Barbeque but Reservations**
Required by July 22nd—Please call or e-mail HCGOP
Headquarters for your ticket (423-266-9351 or
hcgop@hcgop.com)
- Monday—July 28 **Pachyderm Club**—Noon @ Niko's Southside Grill
Speaker: Georgia State Senator Jeff Mullis

UPCOMING EVENTS

- *EARLY VOTING ENDS—August 2nd
*ELECTION DAY—August 7th
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*****PLEASE TAKE NOTICE*****

TO HELP CUT COSTS FOR MAILING AND PRINTING OF THE HCGOP NEWSLETTER, PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU PREFER TO RECEIVE IT VIA E-MAIL ONLY. THANK YOU!!

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