

HAMILTON COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY

NEWSLETTER

— MAY 2008 —

Chairman's Message

While the Democrats continue their current struggle between Mrs. Clinton and Barack Obama, the Republican Party has made its choice in John McCain and is moving on toward victory in November.

Change seems to be the buzzword these days and yes, our times have changed. John McCain is the man to face the challenges of change head on.

When we look at the history of the United States and think back on all the historic events like Washington crossing the Delaware, "D" Day, Victory in Europe and the defeat of the Nazis, Victory in Japan, all of these events are great moments in history that will bring tears of pride or a lump in the throat of any veteran. John McCain is the man that carries these kinds of events in his bones. He is the grandson and son of admirals. Pearl Harbor and the great carrier battles in the south Pacific made a deep and lasting impression on his childhood. He experienced the meaning of sacrifice by giving over five years of his life to lead his men through the most unthinkable conditions a human could live under. He chose sacrifice over freedom in a Vietnam prison camp. While others talk of courage, honor and dedication, John McCain exemplifies these virtues.

During these frightening times of "Radical Islamic Terrorism" is it better to have a President with that kind of experience, or choose a "glamorous ambivalent candidate from Men's Vogue?" Should the voters choose a candidate who was serving his country in a prison camp or the Democratic candidate that at the same time was an elementary school student? Or maybe a hippie love child of the 60's who was busy making peace signs and now believes the country owes her something.

To quote John McCain "We are fighting a war in two countries, and we're in a global struggle with violent extremists who despise us, our values and modernity itself." John McCain knows the costs of defeat. Do the Democrats understand defeat and the total price that will be paid? Probably not.

There is no doubt that change is good. Every newly elected candidate brings change. But not every candidate has the experience and passed the test of sacrifice that it takes to truly implement change.

To use a football analogy, we're at the half time; and the question for all Republicans is whether to get off the bench for the second half of the game or not to play. We can say we will try or say maybe, but at this point in the game that's not good enough. We have to say we will and we can.

May is the beginning of an exciting time for the Hamilton County Republican Party. On March 27th we conducted a County Convention that nominated Jim Hammond, the next Republican Sheriff for Hamilton County. Jim Hammond will bring trust and integrity back to the Office of Sheriff and lead the proud and courageous men and women of the Sheriff's Department.

Our Convention was a great success. The candidates had two opportunities to connect with the delegates and the alternates. We had a forum allowing the candidates to have a one-on-one exchange with the delegates and we allowed them to speak as they were nominated at the convention.

It is now time to rally behind our candidate Jim Hammond and proudly support him in winning the Sheriff's race August 7th. Call the Headquarters and be involved.

Jim Hammond's website is www.hammondforsheriff.com. We have also listed his speaking engagements at www.hcgop.com.

Your Party Chairman
Connie Weathers

HAMILTON COUNTY PACHYDERM CLUB

Greetings! It's hard to believe that springtime has arrived and the GOP primary is already in the history books. Before long, we'll be in the thick of this century's most important presidential campaign! The Pachyderm Club is going strong and doing its part in our county to pave the way for Republican victories in 2008. The elections this year--from the presidential election in November to our sheriff's race in August--are absolutely critical for us to keep and to gain!

Your Pachyderm Club is off to an incredible start this year. Now meeting at Niko's Southside Grill on Cowart Street, our membership has grown, attendance has been strong, and the lineup of speakers has been incredible. As of today, our membership is just a dozen or so shy of breaking our own all time membership record--and with over 210 members, our club is easily the largest in the country. Our May lineup is fantastic--we'll hear from Judge Jeff Hollingsworth on May 5, May 12 will be Assessor of Property Bill Bennett, and on May 19, we'll welcome Judge Barry Steelman to the podium. Many thanks to Charlie Peavyhouse for his work as program Chairman for the month of May.

Please make plans to join us each Monday. The Pachyderm Club is a fantastic way to connect with fellow Republicans, rub shoulders with area political leaders, and to have access to YOUR representatives at all levels of government.

Finally, a couple of reminders: Renew or begin your membership now! Dues are \$35 annually. We will be preparing our membership directories in the next month, so now is the time to insure you are included. Also, please note that there will be NO MEETING on May 25 in observance of Memorial Day.

Thanks to everyone for their hard work and dedication to making this a great year for Republicans!

HAMILTON COUNTY YOUNG REPUBLICANS

The Young Republicans' regular monthly meeting was held Thursday, April 10, at the Shoney's Restaurant in East Ridge. Our guest speaker was Jim Hammond, the Republican candidate for sheriff of Hamilton County. We thoroughly enjoyed hearing from Mr. Hammond, and I feel confident that he will indeed be our next sheriff. We appreciate his presence and willingness to speak to us.

Coming up on Saturday, May 24, the YRs will be hosting a pancake breakfast fundraiser from 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at Wally's Restaurant on Ringgold Road in East Ridge. Tickets are just \$5.00 each, and sponsorships are available for \$100 each. Any elected official, candidate, business, etc., who chooses to sponsor the event will receive five tickets as well. If you would like to become a sponsor or purchase tickets, please email me at bllamb22@aol.com, or call 894-5298. We encourage everyone to take part as we anticipate a great time of fellowship.

Our next regular meeting will be held on May 15 at 6:30 pm. For more information about the location and guest speaker, please visit our website at www.hcyrs.com. We hope to see you there!

For the Grand Old Party,

**Brent Lambert
Chairman
Hamilton County Young Republicans**

HAMILTON COUNTY REPUBLICAN WOMEN

The Hamilton County Republican Women held their last meeting on April 15, 2008, with speaker Hamilton County Sheriff Candidate Jim Hammond. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 20, 2008, with a new start time of 11:00 a.m. The club's speaker for May will be Judge Suzanne Bailey. Please make a note that their annual picnic will be June 2nd beginning at 6:30 p.m. at Greenway Farm.

Janelle Merritt, President
Hamilton County Republican Women

TENNESSEE VALLEY REPUBLICAN WOMEN

The ladies of the TVRW opened their April meeting with wonderful comments that stemmed from their special day in Nashville. There were 11 members who participated in Ladies on the Hill on April 2nd. This was a wonderful opportunity to meet local legislators, listen to presentations by women who have been elected to serve, and hear a motivational speech from Shirley Sadler, president of the National Federation of Republican Women. Another very special event for the TVRW was the Teen Challenge banquet that was held at the Trade Center on April 24th. That organization is at the heart of the group's Caring for America project. The next activity for the local organization is to participate in the Barbara McAndrew Iris Fund dinner that will be held in May.

Johnnie Hunter announced that the annual picnic for the TVRW will be held on Tuesday, June 3rd at the Tennessee Riverpark on Amnicola Highway. The West Pavilion has been reserved from 4-8 p.m. with dinner being served at 5 o'clock. This will be a great opportunity to taste some of the dessert recipes that will surely be submitted for publication in a special cookbook that is being published by the Tennessee Federation of Republican Women. Local members have until Labor Day to submit their favorite recipes for this book.

As the TVRW continues to make plans for the state convention that will be held in Chattanooga October 23-25, 2009, the organization has purchased a very special tablecloth that has been sponsored by Laura Bush. TVRW will be selling raffle tickets with the prize to be given away at the December Christmas party. Proceeds will be used to help cover expenses for the state convention.

Guest speaker for the April meeting of the TVRW was Dr. Valerie Copeland Rutledge, a UTC professor whose primary responsibility is the Teachers Preparatory Academy. Dr. Rutledge, who served as the first female chairperson of the Hamilton County Republican Party (1991-93) has recently been honored as an inductee to the Tyner High School Hall of Fame. She told the group that the challenge of education is to get students ready to be successful. Her challenge to the TVRW group was to help find an answer to the question of how do we restore public faith in our schools. TVRW will find an answer by helping elect good, strong leaders who will support educational goals for our community.

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

DATES TO REMEMBER – May 2008

- Monday—May 5 Pachyderm Club—Noon @ The Choo-Choo
Speaker: Judge Jeff Hollingsworth
- Friday—May 9 Opening of Jim Hammond for Sheriff Headquarters
- Monday—May 12 Pachyderm Club—Noon @ The Choo-Choo
Speaker: Assessor of Property, Bill Bennett
- Monday—May 19 Pachyderm Club—Noon @ The Choo-Choo
Speaker: Judge Barry Steelman
- Tuesday—May 20 Hamilton County Republican Women—11:00 a.m. Country
Place on Shallowford Rd.; Speaker: Judge Suzanne Bailey
Tennessee Valley Republican Women—6:00 p.m.
Karl’s Family Restaurant; Speaker: to be announced
- Monday—May 26 NO MEETING--Pachyderm Club
HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY

*****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!!

YOU MAY RESPOND TO: hcgop@hcgop.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

- June 2 Hamilton County Republican Women’s Picnic
Greenway Farm (Dr. Spangler’s), 6:30 p.m.
- June 3 Tennessee Valley Republican Women’s Picnic
Riverpark, West Pavilion, 4:00-8:00 p.m.; dinner 5:00 p.m.

**CONTRIBUTIONS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME
A Big Thanks to Pam Hurst for her generous support of the party!**

We’d also like to thank Buddy Rogers for having the grass cut at headquarters!
