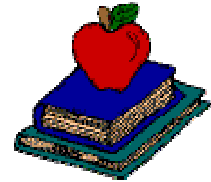


Newsletter CULLMAN COUNTY REPUBLICANS

(CCRP) Cullman County Republican Party (CCRW) Cullman County Republican Women
(CAYR) Cullman Area Young Republicans (CATR) Cullman Area Teenage Republicans
cullmangop.com cullmanrepublicanwomen.org

September 2011



Chairman's Report Ken Brown

Inside this issue:

If you are an **American Republican**, you have to be gratified that Obama's experiment in Socialism, higher taxes, higher spending, higher debt, wealth redistribution and overwhelming regulation is self destructing. His foreign policy, if you can call it policy, is a standing joke, and his administration appears both clueless and rudderless on every issue. I only hope we Republicans don't give him an early front runner to distract the voters from the mess Obama is making of America.

If you are an **Alabama Republican**, you have got to be pleased with the legislative achievements (see accompanying article) of our new Republican Majority in their first session in 136 years. If people thought there was little difference between Alabama Republicans and Alabama Democrats, that issue has now been laid to rest.

If you are a **Cullman County Republican**, you have got to be pleased with the appointment of two, strong Republicans to the circuit and district judge positions, the aggressive and positive leadership being displayed by our new Republican County School Superintendent Billy Coleman, the steady improvement in the Cullman County Sheriff's Department and anti-drug successes of new Republican Sheriff Mike Rainey, and the streamlined and improved efficiency of the Revenue Office under Barry Willingham. Our Republican County Commissioners are now working together with the city and each other, and our Republican legislative delegation is proving to be a breath of fresh air, to say the least.

I want everyone reading this newsletter to consider something, as we begin this next election cycle (primary campaign begins this month). It is very easy to criticize bad government and difficult to get around to applauding good government. Think about thanking your Republican officeholders for the extraordinary job they have done and are doing this year and if you are indeed pleased with what Republicans are doing to bring better government to Alabama and Cullman, consider getting involved in the Cullman County Republican Party to assist us in growing in numbers and strength. Next year's election will give us all an opportunity to send a strong message to Washington and take our country back from Obama's Socialist administration. We can reelect our own State Judge Terri Willingham Thomas; can defend our current, local Republican-held seats and have an opportunity to win the Democrat-held offices of Circuit Judge, Probate Judge and Circuit Clerk.

Now, I'm hoping at this point, if I haven't put you to sleep, that you might be entertaining a thought, deep in the recesses of your mind, that maybe I could help just a little bit. Just on the off chance that that is the case, let me tell you how. You can come to our monthly breakfasts at the Cullman VFW, the first Saturday of each month, listen to our primary candidates and help us pick the strongest to win next year. We pass the hat at these breakfasts and a few bucks from each person helps us pay our monthly expenses, without dipping into campaign cash we have raised to assist our candidates next year. If you are willing to help make some calls and go door-to-door one day next year, you can join a precinct team to help deliver your neighborhood to our Republican candidates. If you have \$500 you can spare to help us build our campaign 2012 war chest, you can join our Winner's Circle. County races now average \$25K and our candidates can't be competitive without your help. If you would like a leadership position, ask to join our Executive Committee or step up to being a Precinct Captain. If you like to meet people, join our Republican Roadshow Team that registers new Republican voters and volunteers at various community events throughout the year. Finally, if you are either an Auburn or Alabama Fan--and who isn't--for \$25, you can purchase two chances to win a pair of Iron Bowl tickets. There are sooooo many opportunities for you to excel in helping us bring stronger, more conservative government to Cullman County and to defend our gains against the future campaign efforts of the union and trial lawyer-dominated state and local Democrat Party. I encourage all of you to get engaged right now, as we build momentum for Campaign 2012! Follow all our upcoming activities on our great web site at cullmangop.com.

If you are a Republican—or—if you are a conservative Independent or conservative Democrat, you have to be put off by the liberal Obama Democrat Party, as well as proud of our state and local Republican officeholders. C'mon, join the Cullman County Republican Party, take a stand and make a difference in the future of your nation, state and community.

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CALENDAR

Event	Date	Time	Place	Speaker
Cullman Co. Republican Party breakfast	September 10	8:00 a. m.	VFW	ALGOP Executive Director T.J. Maloney
Cullman Co. Republican Women lunch	September 16	11:30 a.m.	All Steak	ALGOP Chairman Bill Armistead

*****Cullman County Republican Party*****

THE monthly Republican Party breakfast meeting will be Saturday, September 10 at the VFW Post, 112 Veteran's Drive SW.

Breakfast buffet at 8:00 a.m., with program to begin at 8:30.

- Speaker will be Alabama Republican Party Executive Director T.J. Maloney



T.J. Maloney



*****Cullman County Republican Women*****

The monthly luncheon meeting of Cullman County Republican Women will be Friday, September 16 at the All Steak Restaurant, 314 2nd Ave. SW. A buffet lunch will be available at 11:30 with the program beginning at 12:00.

- Speaker will be Bill Armistead, Chairman of the Alabama Republican Party



Bill Armistead



"You can envision and speculate, plan, theorize and guess about how things will turn out. The way to know for sure, though, is to step forward and make the effort."

—Ralph Marston



Cullman County Republican Women President's Message

Linda Schaffner

PRIMARY—Do you realize that our primary elections will be this coming March 13? In political time, that's not very long. We already have quite a few announced Republican candidates locally. I hope you will choose your favorites and work for them, stay involved in the election process.

PRESIDENTIAL—The field of Republican candidates for President of the United States has gotten, and is still getting, interesting. Mitt Romney and Michelle Bachmann have been front runners, but new entrant Rick Perry has swished ahead of both. Other good candidates, way behind, hope for some momentum. Then there is the possibility that Sarah Palin or Chris Christie may still decide to enter the race, and who knows who else, and that could upset the whole apple cart. I think this is becoming a very exciting time! The next Republican debate is coming up September 7, so be sure to watch it.

AFRW Biennial Convention—Oct. 28-29 in Huntsville. “ Our tentative agenda is as follows:

Friday, October 28: From 1-5, we'll have a **campaign management school**. This will be FREE to all who register for the full convention. That evening will be a western program like you've never seen before. It will pay tribute to Ronald Reagan's 100th birthday. Entertainment will be singing cowpokes, a live band, cowboy jokes and Reagan quotes by VIPs.

Saturday, October 29: We'll have a morning general session, at which time we'll hear from GOP leaders and candidates, conduct any business such as Bylaws changes or Resolutions, and elect new officers. That afternoon will be three 45-minute workshops. We're working on what those will be but all will have a theme of how Obama has taken our liberties and violated our constitution, and how we can beat Obama and take back our freedoms. Our dinner speaker will be presidential candidate **Herman Cain**. It's going to be exciting to hear a conservative black tell us how a radical black president is wrong for America!

This message can help us beat Obama in Alabama!” —Elois Zeanah, AFRW President

SPEAKERS—I am so pleased about our next two speakers! Definitely the cream of the crop! **Bill Armistead, Chairman of the Alabama Republican Party** will speak at our September meeting, and then **Mike Hubbard, Speaker of the Alabama House** will address us in October. Bill Armistead just presided over the most successful Republican Summer Dinner/Meeting ever, which incidentally, had Rick Perry as speaker. As for Mike Hubbard, our legislature had a fantastic beginning session with him as House Speaker and strong leader, and he will hopefully clue us in about what's next in 2012. We need to have a HUGE turnout for both of them! Be sure to come, and bring someone with you. We may have media there, as in The Cullman Times and local TV stations.

POSSUM DAY—How can we give Steve Cummings adequate credit for this wacky, clever idea? The second annual Possum Day, the southern alternative to Groundhog Day, was again a success. Lots of people attended along with real possums, and another yard-sale-dressed queen was crowned. Great live music entertained; our teenagers sold barbeque, hot dogs, funnel cakes (I have to have at least one a year), and drinks; and there were several earlier activities which sounded intriguing (Redneck Yacht Races?). As I said before, what would the liberal media do with this information??? Thank you, Steve, for coming up with this interesting event for our community, which also contributes to several charities, by the way.

COUNTY FAIR—Don't forget the County Fair from September 22 to October 1. We Republicans will have a booth at the fair and of course will participate in the Fair Parade again. I've heard that there will be a return appearance of the fantastic 12' trumpeting elephant on our float, put together by Melinda and Barry Camper. That was a smashing success last year and I'm so glad we'll use our elephant again. Tell me, Melinda, where on earth do you go to find a 12' resin elephant?

NEWS FLASH—I'm watching Fox News as I write this on Tuesday and I just heard that Rick Perry may not participate in the Republican debate Wednesday night because he has pulled away from the campaign trail to return to Texas, which is battling horrific fires resulting from the state's ultra-dryness from a long and severe drought. I, personally, am very disappointed because I've been straining to hear more of and from him, but we pray for rain to put out Texas' fires and end their drought.



ALABAMA HANDSHAKE SUCCEEDS

Ken Brown



Many folks say politicians are all alike and nothing worthwhile ever comes out of Montgomery. But, this year, after 136 years of Democrat control, we had a new Republican Majority in our legislature and some new politicians who promised they would deliver conservative change, which they have in fact done.

In a special session last December, Republicans passed new ethics reform laws, banning PAC to PAC money transfers and giving enforcement teeth to the State Ethics Commission (cleaning up Montgomery). They also passed a bill requiring state revenue estimates be based on a 15 year rolling average to allow future "proration-proof" budgets for education (less crises in our school systems). They passed a bill allowing small business employers and employees to deduct 200% of what they pay in health insurance premiums from their state income tax (boosting small business success and job creation).

Over the past few weeks, in their regular annual session, the Republican Majority passed a bill insuring an individual's right to vote to join, or not join, a union by SECRET BALLOT (limiting union power in Alabama); a bill requiring elected officials to publically disclose spouses employed by state or federal government (cleaning up Montgomery); a bill requiring all voters to show a photo ID before voting (reducing voter fraud); a constitutional amendment allowing Alabamians to opt out of the individual requirement in OBAMACARE (saying no to exploding medical costs); bills balancing both the general and education budgets; a bill banning abortions after the 20th week for Alabamians (reflecting our conservative pro-life values); bills on tort reform limiting the amounts people can be sued (reducing runaway lawsuit abuse); one of the toughest anti-illegal immigration bills in the nation, requiring police to check the legal residence status of anyone they stop for any reason and suspect of being an illegal alien (Alabama leading the nation on a common sense issue the Federal Government has failed to address); a bill requiring elected officials to publically disclose contracts they have with state agencies (cleaning up Montgomery); and a bill that requires participants in the Retirement Systems of Alabama to pay more toward their retirements (reducing the cost of government—a novel idea!).

Regardless of your political party affiliation, if you are truly a conservative, as most Cullman County citizens say they are, you have got to be pleased with this impressive string of conservative legislative victories, delivered by your newly elected Republican Majority who promised you in the 2010 election thru their handshake with Alabama that they would bring conservative government to our state for the first time since reconstruction. I, for one, am very proud to be an Alabama Republican!

"Perseverance is the golden key to being successful in anything you do.

Be it losing weight, improving relationships or even starting a business.

It's a matter of hanging on long after others have quit.

Perseverance overcomes almost everything. When you fall, perseverance tells you to get up.

When you're defeated, perseverance tells you to try again.

When you feel like quitting, perseverance doesn't let you.

If at first you don't succeed, try, try, try again. Therein lies the secret to being a winner. " —Jane Powell

"I have not failed. I have just found 10,000 ways that don't work." —Thomas Edison, U.S. Inventor

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