



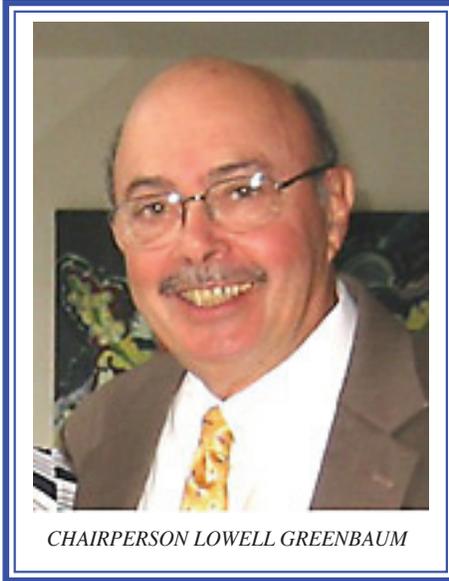
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We the people are the rightful masters of both Congress and the courts, not to overthrow the Constitution but to overthrow the men who pervert the Constitution.
Abraham Lincoln

A partisan publication of the Richmond County Democratic Committee
EDITOR BOB SHANNON

CHAIRPERSON SPEAK



CHAIRPERSON LOWELL GREENBAUM

The Inauguration and the Republicans

The Richmond County Democratic Party was well represented at the inauguration on January 20. Families of Mtesa Wright, Frank Williams, Representatives Ed Tarver and Hardie Davis, John Bell, and the Greenbaums all attended and all enjoyed the tremendous crowds and hoopala. The cold made it a bit of a

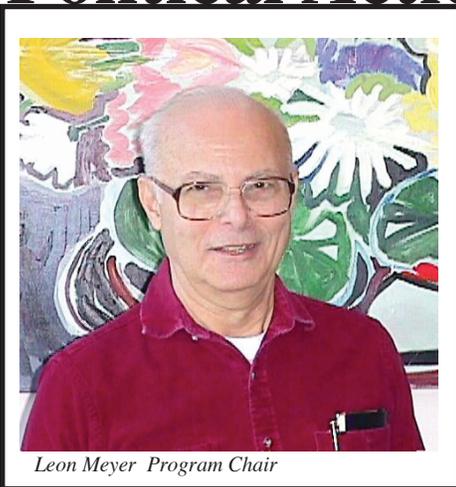
survival day but all would agree it was worth it.

I am sorry to say however, that the Republicans still don't get it. The inauguration ushered in a new period of bipartisanship which gave all of us hope that the Bush folks would see the light. President Obama went the extra mile to meet with the Republicans to answer any questions they had about the "stimulus package" which meant some 9 billion (that's billion) dollars to Georgia. But as ants step into the tracks of the leader, Representative Eric Cantor, the minority whip, led every Republican to vote "NO".

The Democrats steam rolled the package with their new majority and the Republicans were left with their mouths open and the disrespect of the public which desperately needs jobs, health care, loans, and money to buy essentials. No one can question the motives of President Obama, but plenty question the motives of Republicans who obviously don't want our young president to succeed. Despite them, he will.



Political Action Beat



Leon Meyer Program Chair

Political Action Beat
 Leon H. Meyer
 Program Manager

This column in September 2008 defined the challenges that faced our local party in the upcoming General Election. Through extraordinary effort our party met the challenge and carried Richmond County for Democratic candidates in essentially all competitive races. In large measure, the nation followed suit, and on January 6th a new Congress with impressive Democratic majorities in both Houses convened. Then on January 20th a Democratic President was sworn into office for the first time in 8 years. For us and all good Democrats, these events were

occasions for great celebration. Again we measured up to the challenge and celebrated with genuine enthusiasm.

The celebrations are behind us now, and new challenges are emerging daily. Our recently inaugurated President Obama is trying desperately to win some Republican support for his economic stimulus plan. Because of the last 8 years under Republican leadership, the American economy is in its direst shape since the great depression of the early 1930's. Our expectation was that the Republicans, because of the seriousness of the situation and because of their monumental defeat in the 2008 elections, would want to become more cooperative in ending the divisiveness that so characterized the George W. Bush administration. However, thus far, such has not been the case. The first stimulus bill passed the House of Representatives by a comfortable margin, but without a single Republican vote. Prospects for the future may improve, but for the moment there is no real basis for optimism. Despite their defeat in 2008, the Republicans don't seem to have learned very much.

We Democrats need to use much caution in trying to woo our Republicans adversaries. There could

be real danger in conceding too much in an effort to buy bipartisan support. If we have to forego bipartisanship to enact our programs, then I believe the American electorate is attuned to stand behind us and give us a chance to prove the wisdom of Democratic positions.

To Understand President Obama you must understand Abe Lincoln

Don't interfere with anything in the Constitution. That must be maintained, for it is the only safeguard of our liberties.

Abraham Lincoln

I am a firm believer in the people. If given the truth, they can be depended upon to meet any national crisis. The great point is to bring them the real facts.

Abraham Lincoln

Am I not destroying my enemies when I make friends of them?

Abraham Lincoln

America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves.

Abraham Lincoln

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The Lineup

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4'		4'0"
3'6"		3'6"
3'0"		3'0"

*If health insurance coverage were clothing...
 40 million Americans would be in jail for indecent exposure.*

Carot★
Simpson
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Letters

This is from Becky Marcus who is 11 years old and resides in Brooklyn, N.Y. She sent the following letter to President Obama. She goes to the Friends School in Brooklyn.
Dear Mr. Obama,

It is such a fertile seed of pride that you have planted in the American people. In economically unstable times you have allowed people to invoke this much needed change; made possible a feeling of power to race through an overworked person's arm as they pulled a lever rusted with the listlessness of an unchanging government.

Out of the many obstacles that will pave your path as president, I believe the Iraq war is the one that should be accomplished with the most haste. To counter this issue against the economic crisis one may consider which is more disastrous, another nation losing numerous lives or our nation, one of the richest in the world, losing money that can be sought by being dependent on our own oil. As for Climate Change, although it's extremely important, it's such a long term effect. For instance, it wouldn't make much of a difference whether we stop it this year or the next. Of course, it isn't an issue we can hold back for extended periods of time.

Sometimes I wonder whether you knew that you'd inspire so many people. As I knocked on doors, innumerable amounts of people had never voted before, had always voted Republican, or voted many times with lack of hope. Inspiration must be so immensely truthful, so hopeful, so promising in order to sway the minds of hundreds of people. And not just Americans. At the Florida Obama Headquarters, I met a woman so inspired by your words and beliefs that she came all the way from Columbia to canvas.

You have done something so much better than teach our nation to love diversity and unity. Instead, you gave us the opportunity to conjure it ourselves.

With Wholesome Admiration,
Becky Marcus

Obama's Inauguration: A Perspective from the Blue Stand

Mtesa Cottemond Wright 2nd Vice-Chair

January 20, 2009. I was there. In the crowd; cold, so cold, hungry too; but I would not be anywhere else. I had to be there for them. For those who did not live to see that day; for those that didn't even think, like me, that that day was possible. But that day was possible. So possible.

At 4 a.m. I start my journey (actually, I started Friday, Jan 16). I wake up my husband, Tony. By 6:15 a.m. we, Tony and my aunt, are downtown D.C. in the Blue section waiting for the gate to open at 8 a.m. There were already a lot people there. The sun comes up; finally we can get in, pushed and shoved, through the gate to the metal detectors. Searched. Now to find a place to stand where can I see the jumbotron (the very big tv screen), because we did not get there early enough to see behind the people to see the podium. We get a spot where I can see the screen really well and only Obama's arm with my Aunt's binoculars.

9 a.m. 10 a.m. important people arrive. The program starts. The moment is here. Obama's entrance is being announced. The crowd around me erupts. We all chant. O-ba-ma. O-ba-ma. O-ba-ma. Rev. Warren prays. We pray. It so powerful to hear the people around you praying the Lord's Prayer together, asking God to protect this Black man. I get teary eyed. I still can't believe it. But, there it is, Obama raising his hand. He looks as if he has the weight of the world on his shoulders. But, Michelle's there; she's always there. So help me God. The crowd erupts again. O-ba-ma. O-ba-ma. He takes the podium. I get the binoculars. I see his hand, his arm moves with his words. He looks relax now. He's in his element. He tells us that we have chosen hope over fear. He bashes Bush, without bashing Bush. He is amazing. The speech is amazing. And I am there. Amen, Rev. Lowery says. Say Amen.

And to think, I left Georgia without any tickets. But, with a heartfelt thanks to LC Myles, who gave me his ticket, and Congressman Barrow and his staff, I was able to obtain three tickets in the Blue section. To them, I am very grateful to have had the opportunity to be one in a crowd of two million; to hear the call to action from a democratically elected African-American President. I thank him for heeding his own call to action. I only hope that we all can do the same.

Recent Contributors

This new year, the year of our new president, Barack Obama, we thank our members for their outstanding generosity. The following people have paid their dues in various categories, each and every one appreciated for the ongoing expenses of the party.

SUPPORTING

- Stella H. Nunnally
- Anne M. Berlin
- Hilda W. Phinizy
- Harry Steine

PARTICIPATING

- Harold Bussey
- Ed Fletcher
- Nancy Messina
- Jean L. Embry

SPONSOR

- Liz & Gordon Johnson
- Mtesa & Tony Wright
- Lydia & Alvin Forrest
- Barbara L. Stenstrom
- Judith Krause
- Leon H. Meyer

CONTRIBUTING

- Vivian P. Rosier

Upcoming Meetings



The Richmond County Democratic Committee will meet at 1101 Greene Street at 7:30 PM on each 2nd Wednesday.

- 11 Feb 2009
- 11 Mar 2009
- 08 Apr 2009

Breakfast

- 21 Feb 2009
- 21 Mar 2009
- 18 Apr 2009

The Executive Board of the Richmond County Democratic Committee will meet prior to the regular meeting.

The Political Action Committee will meet at the call of the Chairman .

Sydney Carter Breakfast Report

The February breakfast meeting of the Richmond County Democratic Party will be held at the Holiday Inn, 2155 Gordon Highway at 9:00 am on Saturday, February 21, 2009. The program will center on the recent inauguration of President Obama. Our Chairman, Lowell Greenbaum, will lead a report on and a discussion of events by local Party members who attended.



I am not bound to win, but I am bound to be true. I am not bound to succeed, but I am bound to live by the light that I have. I must stand with anybody that stands right, and stand with him while he is right, and part with him when he goes wrong.

Abraham Lincoln

I hope to stand firm enough to not go backward, and yet not go forward fast enough to wreck the country's cause.

Abraham Lincoln

The "Yellow Dog Cafe "



The Yellow Dog Cafe is open to serve cookies and coffee from 6:30-7:30 before our regular meeting. Members and friends are invited to join us and discuss issues affecting our world and plan the strategy that will take back our state.

THE RICHMOND COUNTY DEMOCRAT

www.richmondcountymocrats.com

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Augusta, GA 30904

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Welcome to the Richmond County Democratic Party 2009



Here is my contribution to aid the Party to keep the principles of government for the people alive and to keep Democrats in office.

Name(Print) _____

Mailing Street Address _____

City and ZIP _____ Date _____

Phone Contact () _____ E-Mail _____

*Employer _____

*Occupation _____

*Required for contributions of \$200 or more by federal law

Contribution Categories:

___(\$15 Participating) ___(\$25 Contributing) ___(\$50 Supporting)

___(\$100 or more Sponsor) Complete form and make out your check to:

RCDP; Mail with form to RCDP, P. O. Box 1843 Augusta, GA 30903

I am interested in the following committees or activities:

___Political Action; ___Publicity & RCDP Newspaper; ___ Fund Raising; _____Hospitality

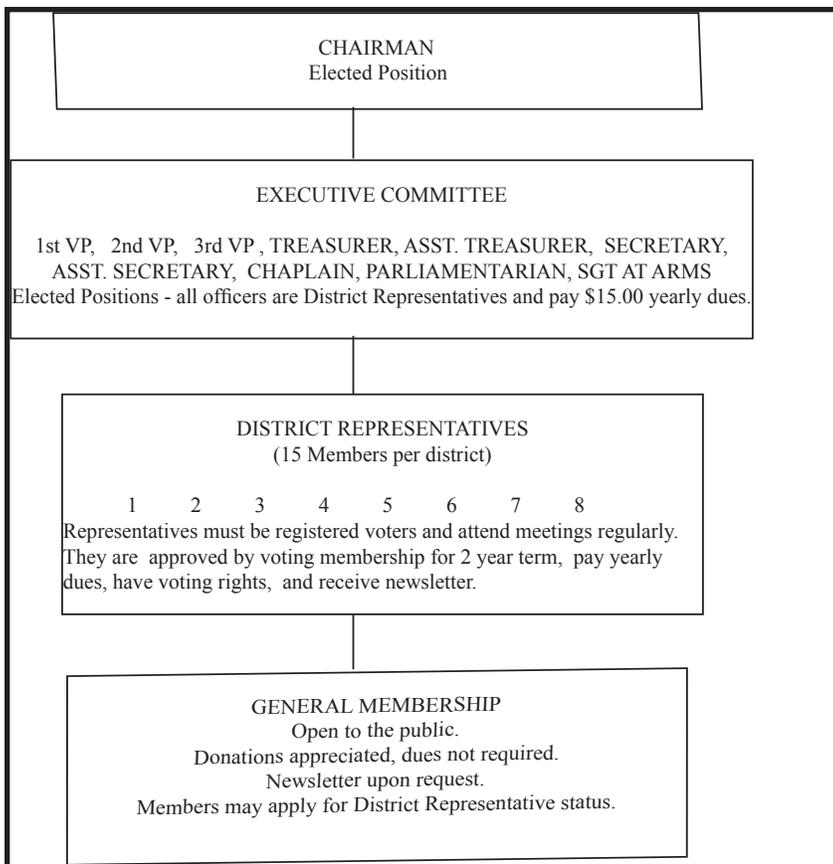
___Membership ___Ways & Means ___ Youth Task Force _____Voter Registration

I would like to be a full member of the Richmond County Democratic Party and join others in representing my voting district_____. (Requires election by membership)

Join the Richmond County Democratic Party

The application for General Membership is on the reverse side of this page. Membership is open to all qualified electors who live in Richmond County and believe in the principles of the Democratic Party.

All Democrats are welcome to attend meetings and encouraged to take part in discussions, however, only District Representatives may vote. If you want to participate in making the policies and in planning the direction of the local party, you must apply to become a District Representative. Contact Lydia Forrest (706-738-9781) or Claire Shannon (706-731-9525) for information and applications.



Membership Dues are paid yearly and are now Due.

You contributions are allocated first to dues of \$15.00 and then to the general fund.

We appreciate your support and involvement in the party activities.

ROBERT INGHAM

Governor
State Of Georgia
2010 Election

P. O. Box 1506
Hephzibah, GA 30815

706-771-0777
inghamincometax@bellsouth.net

Letters are solicited and Democratic candidates can receive one free ad on request. Ads are the size of a business card.