



## Message from the Chair

I was recently reminded by Sarah Anderson, president of the Democratic Women of Johnston County, of why we work so hard at this thing called partisan politics. I hope she won't mind that I borrow some of her words which simply and eloquently define our motivations. I have faith that we are achieving far more than we ever imagined because we are a people interested in helping one another, people who have hope in one another, people who want something better for each other. Our time for that something better is now.

This morning I heard Elizabeth Edwards say that information is the currency of politics. The Johnston County Democratic Party works hard to inform you about and connect you to our candidates, provide information on voting rights, laws and calendars. We link you to other sources that you may find useful as you seek to know more about the issues and those who represent us. Please use us every single day. Because these decisions we make at the polling site do determine the way our lives are lived. Please have your say with your vote because what you say makes life better for all.

Sharon L. Castleberry,  
Johnston County Democratic Party Chairman

## Resolutions for County Convention

To be presented to the Johnston County Democratic Party County Convention  
on April 19, 2008.

These resolutions have yet to be endorsed by the County Party, but have been approved by the Democratic Precinct Committee from which each arises.

**Resolution #1**  
**Submitted by Walt and Allyson Caison**  
**Passed by West Selma Precinct Committee**

### Resolution for Withdrawal From Iraq

To: Sen. Elizabeth Dole and Sen. Richard Burr and Members of U.S. House of Representatives,

**Whereas** we can best honor the lives and memories of all who have died in Iraq by ending the war and supporting the rebuilding of Iraq by the Iraqi people.

**Whereas** we need to send a strong signal to the people of Iraq and the international community that the United States does not have imperial intentions in Iraq;

**Whereas** the U.S. occupation of Iraq creates more violence;

**Whereas** many nationalist groups have expressed a willingness to engage in political dialogue IF the U.S. clearly states its intention to withdraw from Iraq;

**Be It Resolved** that we call on the U.S. Congress to pass legislation in 2008, calling for the orderly withdrawal of U.S. forces and contractors and the closing of **ALL** U.S. bases in Iraq, and/or their transfer to international peacekeeping authorities, by November 2008.

*Continued on page 2*



## JCDP Officers

- Sharon Castleberry  
*Chair*  
[scastleberry@jcdp.org](mailto:scastleberry@jcdp.org)
- CP Thompson  
*First Vice Chair*
- Ronald Penny  
*Second Vice Chair*
- Patricia Branch  
*Third Vice Chair*  
[pbranch@jcdp.org](mailto:pbranch@jcdp.org)
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*Secretary*
- Robert Denning  
*Treasurer*
- Sarah Anderson  
*President, Democratic Women*
- CP Thompson  
*President, Democratic Men*
- Lisa Kuyath  
*President, Young Democrats*
- Janet Wise  
*African American Caucus*
- Leslie Hubbard  
*Moderator, democratic Discussions Group*



### Note from the Publisher

For changes, suggestions, or additional information, contact [PatKBranch@AOL.com](mailto:PatKBranch@AOL.com) or [pbranch@jcdp.org](mailto:pbranch@jcdp.org)



# Convention Resolutions Continued

## Resolution #2

**Submitted by Walt and Allyson Caison**

**Passed by West Selma Precinct Committee**

**In Support of Ending United States Use and Sponsorship of Torture**

RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party demands that the United States government eradicate current torture practices by requiring each and every federal agency adheres to federal and international prohibitions on torture described in the Geneva Conventions, the United Nations' Convention Against Torture, the United States Constitution and 18 U.S.C. §2340; and be it further

RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party calls on Congressional leadership to fully investigate and charge each and every United States citizen or official responsible for aiding, abetting, ordering, or conspiring to torture detainees in the custody of the United States, whether in Iraq, Afghanistan, Guantánamo, or secret facilities; and be it further

RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party insists that Congress also fully investigate and charge officials and citizens responsible for aiding and abetting in the abduction and illegal transport, or extraordinary rendition, of certain detainees to countries known for their systematic torture of prisoners; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Democratic Party of North Carolina calls on Governor Michael Easley, and the North Carolina legislature to ban private charter flight companies including, but not limited to, Aero Contractors, Limited (headquartered in Smithfield, NC), from operating and profiting from their support of the United States' use of torture – and especially the transport of detainees of the Central Intelligence Agency – by evicting such enterprise from public property everywhere in the state.

## Resolution #3

**Passed by North Pleasant Grove Precinct Committee**

**Resolution to Protect Election Integrity in North Carolina: "The Public Confidence in Elections Act"**

WHEREAS, the Public Confidence in Elections Act - Session Law 2005-323 – (hereinafter the "Act") was passed unanimously in August 2005, which has become a model for improving voting integrity and given North Carolina a leadership position in the country; and

WHEREAS, the "Act" immediately worked to restore the public's confidence in elections by weeding out weak and unreliable vendors, resulting in North Carolina being declared the country's leader in efforts to ensure accurate elections by the non-profit Brennan Center; and

WHEREAS, the "Act" was improved in July 2006 to require that the State Board of Elections SHALL not select precincts to take part in hand-to-eye audits until after Election Day, thus making the audits truly random, and

WHEREAS, even though they are required to select precincts to audit after Election Day, the State Board of Elections is still selecting precincts to audit before Election Day, claiming that the language of the bill is imprecise; and

WHEREAS, some advocacy groups have recently encouraged NC legislators to change the "Act" and make it less strict to allow, among other things, more companies to "compete" for the multi-million dollar contract allowing the purchase of more – not fewer – expensive and error-prone DRE touchscreen voting machines, and

WHEREAS, being number one does not mean being perfect – some touchscreen counties reported failure rates as high as 9% for their thermal-paper trail printers

which greatly exceeded the 1.5% to 2% failure rates claimed by the manufacturer, meaning it is not possible to do a 100% accurate hand-to-eye recount should it become necessary; and

WHEREAS, the integrity and confidence of the voting process and the recording of votes is essential to democracy, and such integrity and confidence has been restored and reinforced using voting methods which produce a Verified Paper ballot that can be audited and recounted; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the North Carolina Democratic Party and elected and appointed Democratic officials urge the NC State Board of Elections to perform random election audits in precincts selected AFTER the election as the law requires and not take shortcuts to undermine election integrity; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the North Carolina Democratic Party and elected and appointed Democratic officials urge the NC General Assembly to not make changes in the Act that make it easier for counties to purchase DRE touchscreen machines; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the North Carolina Democratic Party and elected and appointed Democratic officials urge passage of a federal version of our "Act" that requires all voting machines provide for a Voter-marked paper ballot that is counted either by an Optical Scanner or by Hand, to ensure the validity of the voters intent and for use in the event of a recount, and for tough mandatory random post-election audits.



# NC Primary: May 6, 2008

**FOR THE MAY 6, 2008**

**One Stop Voting & Registration  
PRIMARY ELECTION**

Office Site  
Smithfield Town Hall  
Council Chambers  
350 E. Market Street  
Smithfield, NC

**Dates, Times & Location**

<b>Thursday &amp; Friday</b>	
April 17 – 18	8:00 am to 5:00 pm
<b>Saturday</b>	
April 19	9:00 am to 1:00 pm
<b>Monday – Friday</b>	
April 21 – 25	8:00 am to 5:00 pm
<b>Saturday</b>	
April 26	9:00 am to 1:00 pm
<b>Monday – Friday</b>	
April 28 – May 2	8:00 am to 5:00 pm
<b>Saturday</b>	
May 3	9:00 am to 1:00 pm

**2 Additional Sites  
Dates, Times & Locations**

<b>Tuesday – Friday</b>	
April 22 – 25	12:00 noon to 7:00 pm
<b>Saturday</b>	
April 26	9:00 am to 1:00 pm
<b>Tuesday – Friday</b>	
April 29 – May 2	12:00 noon to 7:00 pm
<b>Saturday</b>	
May 3	9:00 am to 1:00 pm

The Church at Clayton Crossing  
11407 US Highway 70 West  
Clayton, NC

Cleveland Fire Department  
9039 Cleveland Road  
Clayton, NC

## Candidates in the Democratic Primary Election, May 6, 2008

US PRESIDENT

Hillary Clinton  
Barack Obama

US SENATE

Kay Hagan  
Duskin Lassiter  
Jim Neal  
Howard Staley  
Marcus Williams

GOVERNOR

Richard Moore  
Dennis Nielsen  
Bev Perdue

LT. GOVERNOR

Dan Besse  
Walter Dalton  
Hampton Dellinger  
Pat Smathers

NC TREASURER

Janet Cowell  
Michael Weisel  
David Young

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC  
INSTRUCTION

June Atkinson \*  
Eddie Davis

INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

Wayne Goodwin  
David C. Smith

LABOR COMMISSIONER

Robin Anderson  
John C. Brooks  
Mary Fant Donnan  
Ty Richardson

STATE AUDITOR

Fred Aikens  
Beth Wood

NC SENATE DISTRICT 12

Kay Carroll  
Patricia Oliver

JOHNSTON COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

District 4  
Donald Byrd  
Glenn McLamb

Judicial races are nonpartisan.  
These are the Democrats running.

NC Court of Appeals (Wynn Seat)  
James A. (Jim) Wynn \*

NC Court of Appeals (Tyson Seat)  
Sam J. Ervin, IV  
Kristen Ruth

DISTRICT COURT – District 11  
(Murphy Seat)  
Allan C. DeLaine  
George Murphy \*

(Bullock Seat)  
Kayley Taber  
Charles Bullock \*

\*notes incumbent

*“Disillusionment about the promise of America keeps me awake at night. I get angry when people tell me it makes no difference if they vote or who is elected. They’re wrong. It matters. We need look no further than the policies of the Bush administration. We must make informed decisions and vote for the candidates who represent our best interests....”*  
Diana Belden, West  
Clayton 2 Precinct Chair



## Frequently Asked Questions

From Bob Hall, Democracy  
North Carolina,  
[www.democracy-nc.org](http://www.democracy-nc.org)

1. What's the last day a person can register to vote for the May 6 primary?

**Answer: May 3, using Same-Day Registration at the One-Stop Early Voting sites. April 11 is the last day to register to vote to be able to vote on Tuesday May 6....however if one misses that deadline, they can register and vote same day April 18-May 3 (FYI: they cannot register during that early vote period and then go vote on May 6, if they do that they will not appear on the precinct rolls and while they can cast a provisional ballot, it will not count....same day reg and vote is just that: registration must be done on same day for vote to count.)**

2. Can a 17 year old register and vote in the May primary? **Answer: Yes, if they will be 18 on Nov. 4**

3. What's the rule for college students? Can a student use a campus address to register, rather than a parent's address or a permanent mailing address? **Answer: YES**

4. Is it okay for an organization to pass out registration forms with a pre-marked party affilia-

tion and be careful to only let people who agree with that affiliation use the forms? **Answer: NO**

5. If, as a first-time voter, you are asked to show an ID at the polling place but you don't have one with you, can you vote and show the ID to the election officials a few days later? **Answer: YES, you can return and show the ID before the canvass date.**

6. On Election Day, can voters go to any precinct in their county to vote? **Answer: YES, but only ballot items they are eligible to vote for in their home precinct will be counted. (For instance if a voter from a House 28 precinct voted in a House 26 precinct and that voter cast a vote for House 26. That one vote on that seat would not count.)**

7. An ex-felon can vote if his or her "rights of citizenship have been restored" – what must convicted felons do to restore their citizenship rights? **Answer: Convicted felons temporarily lose their voting rights. Once they serve all parts of their sentence, including probation or parole, their rights are automatically "restored" and they can register and vote like any other citizen. They do not need a document declaring the restoration of citizenship rights.**

8. Is a person serving a jail sentence for a misdemeanor eligible to

register and vote? **Answer: YES. They can register and vote by mail.**

9. How many signatures of witnesses are needed for a mail-in absentee ballot to be counted? **Answer: Two**

10. Can a person registered as Unaffiliated use an absentee ballot to vote in the Democratic or Republican primary? **Answer: YES, but they must request the party's ballot.**

11. What is the latest an absentee ballot can be received at the board of election office and still count? **Answer: 5 pm on the day before Election Day (with this exception: a vote in the presidential race can be counted on a ballot received on Election Day)**

12. For the General Election, what's the youngest age a person can be to serve as a paid poll worker for a local board of elections? **Answer: 17 years old**



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## April

4/11 To register prior to voting, forms must be postmarked or delivered to BOE by 5 PM for May 6 Primary.

4/12 DMJC Meeting, 8 am, Parkside Café, Pine Level

4/17 **One-Stop Registration and Voting** begins for May 6 Primary. You may **register and vote** during One-Stop voting.

4/17 7pm, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Smithfield GOTV and Constructing Victory Workshop

4/19 Young Democrats Meet prior to County Convention to elect new officers. Interested Democrats welcome to attend, 9:30 AM

4/19 County Convention, Old Superior Courtroom, 10 AM

4/22 JCDP Volunteer Meeting, 7pm, Headquarters Clayton

4/26 Cleveland Strawberry Festival  
Call 550-4186 to volunteer

4/26 NCDP Jefferson Jackson Breakfast, Raleigh

4/29 Last date to request mail-in absentee ballot

## May

5/2 NCDP Jefferson Jackson Dinner, Dorton Arena, Raleigh

5/3 One-Stop voting & registration ends

5/3-4 Ham & Yam Festival, Smithfield  
Call 550-4186 to volunteer

5/5 Mailed absentee ballots must be received by BOE by 5 PM.

### 5/6 NC Primary Election

Polls open 6:30 AM and close at 7:30 PM

5/10 DMJC Meeting, 8 am, Parkside Café, Pine Level

5/15 DWJC Annual Potluck Supper

5/17 Second Congressional District Convention

5/17 Acorn Festival, Four Oaks

Call 550-4186 to volunteer

5/30-31 Johnston Democrats, Relay for Life, Johnston Community College. Con-

tact Marie Dodson at 550-4186.

## June

6/14 DMJC Meeting, 8 am, Parkside Café, Pine Level

6/21 NCDP State Convention, New Bern

6/21 Sanford Hunt Dinner, New Bern

6/22 NCDP State Executive Committee Meeting

## July

7/4 Area Fourth of July Celebrations

7/12 DMJC Meeting, 8 am, Parkside Café, Pine Level

7/15 NCDP Legislative Reception, Godwin House, Raleigh

DATES are constantly added to the calendar ~  
Please check [www.jcdp.org](http://www.jcdp.org) for the most current calendar!

**Newsletter paid for by the Johnston County Democratic Party, Not authorized by any candidate or candidate committee.**

## The Power of <sup>Ten</sup>

*We have changed our Ten to Win campaign to include not only contributions of \$10 but also other activities that will help Democrats to win the 2008 election.*

*With your help the JCDP will continue to grow and win.*

Donate \$10.00; Make 10 voter contacts on behalf of a candidate; Register 10 people to vote; Make 10 GOTV calls; Invite 10 new people to an Auxiliary or Party event.

*The JCDP can provide the names, phone numbers, materials and/or suggestions for these additional activities, needed. Simply fill out the coupon and return it to the listed address.*



JOHNSTON COUNTY  
DEMOCRATIC PARTY  
PO BOX 1064  
CLAYTON, NC 27528  
Phone: 919-550-4186

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
email

\_\_\_\_\_  
Occupation/Employer

**JCDP <sup>10</sup>**

\_\_\_ **\$10.00**

\_\_\_ **Voter Contact**

\_\_\_ **Voter Registration**

\_\_\_ **GOTV**

\_\_\_ **Help Auxiliaries**



JOHNSTON COUNTY  
DEMOCRATIC PARTY  
PO BOX 1064  
CLAYTON, NC 27528  
Phone: 919-550-4186

PRST STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
CLAYTON, NC  
PERMIT NO.  
255

Find Us on the web  
[www.jcdp.org](http://www.jcdp.org)

JOHNSTON COUNTY DEMOCRATIC  
HEADQUARTERS LOCATED  
401 E. MAIN ST., SUITE 208A  
CLAYTON, NC 27520

## ***How Can You Help?***

**We have many needs and those needs will continue to grow  
and change as we approach the 2008 election.**

### **Volunteers to Meet**

The Johnston County Democratic Party will hold a **Volunteers Meeting on Tuesday, April 22 at 7:00 PM**, at the Clayton Headquarters Office, 401 East Main Street, Suite 208A. This will be an opportunity for our volunteers, old and new, to meet each other and allow us to extend our appreciation to the many volunteers who keep this organization operating.

Additionally, your Johnston County Democratic Party needs volunteers. The headquarters office is open Tues. - Thurs., 10am to 3pm during April; Mon. - Fri., 10am to 4pm, May thru July. August through Election Day the office will be open Mon. - Fri., 9am to 5pm and Saturday, 10am to 1pm. We need individuals willing to form precinct committees in unorganized precincts, to assist putting up signs at polling places before the primary and general election and take them down the following morning. There are many more ways you can help, and not all of them involve coming to the office. Please call the JCDP office at 550-4186 or e-mail Diana Belden at [tudorrose3@yahoo.com](mailto:tudorrose3@yahoo.com) if you have questions about volunteering.

This experiment in democracy is a participatory process that continually evolves. We're in this together and we must take personal responsibility to preserve the promise, the hope expressed in the Pledge of Allegiance "...one nation, under God, with liberty and justice for all." What will you do to make a difference this year?