

From the Chairman, By George McClellan January's meeting, 2010

My fellow Conservatives and Republicans

The Gilmer County Republican Party's January meeting was attended by 30 people who brushed aside all concern for the cold to come listen to two candidates vying for the 9th District Congressional seat to be vacated by Nathan Deal.

First up was Ellijay born Mike Evans, who has political experience in the Georgia Assembly between 1993 and 2001 and who is proud of his legislative history of opposing wasteful spending. Mike rose to the third highest position of Republican Party leadership in that body and was once honored as legislator of the year by the GOP. In his time in the Georgia house, Evans said he never once voted any any bill that contained "pork" and even offered an amendment to require pork be removed from bills submitted. Mike represented the 9th District on the Board of the Georgia Dept. of Transportation, later becoming its chairman, and the Department of Community Affairs.

Mike now turns his eyes toward service in the US Congress as 9th District Representative because he is concerned, as we all are, about what is happening to our government and our American nation and that change can only come with real reform. Mike said he fully supports the 2nd (gun rights) and 10th (states rights) amendments, is pro-life pro Fair Tax and pro small business. Mike wants to stop the bailouts, crush terrorists, roll back the left's nationalized health care scheme and board up the border with Mexico.

In a Q&A session that followed, Evans was asked if he supported term limits. He answered that he did not really like that idea because no matter who sits in an elected position in Washington, it's the hired bureaucrats, the myriad functionaries who inhabit the halls of Congress who really control how things get done and make things happen. Mike believes that that chain of control a representative has, is broken by term limits. Too, Evans said he completely understood the why's of term limits and the people's desire to not allow a respected politician turn into a career politician whose focus, in time, changes from the people who put him there to his own self interest. Mike Evans's web site is: Standstrongforfreedom.com.

Next up was Dr. Bert Loftman, MD a retired neurosurgeon and once candidate for US Senate addressed the group and immediately launched into his principled beliefs. Dr. Loftman said he stands on three main points from which all other remedies will flow: Enacting the Fair Tax, ending the Federal Reserve Bank and honoring the Constitution. He believes that for a healthy, conservative America, the income tax needs to be replaced and the Federal Reserve Bank abolished. Both, together, weaken American's ability to save and only strengthens government by spending what Americans should actually be saving. Simply doing those two things, Loftman said, will decrease the size of our strangling government and lower taxes.

Dr. Loftman provided a little history on the subject identifying 1913 when liberals introduced, and America accepted, a European banking and taxing system which included the income tax and a central bank (the Federal Reserve). This was followed by the Great Depression and later the New Deal and the size of our government, according to Loftman (and the evidence) grew from 5% to over 20% of the economy.

Loftman said the first objective is to destroy the foundations of Liberalism to prepare the way for Conservatism by replacing the Income Tax with the Fair Tax. Dr. Loftman's website is Loftmanforcongress.com.

A third candidate, Dr. Christopher U. Cates, MD, a heart surgeon and Blairsville resident, made an appearance to see and be seen. He introduced himself with a short, impassioned description of the shocking encounter he and a group of other leading Doctors had at an official meeting with a Democrat US Congressman Denny Hoyer. To hear the rest of that story Dr. Cates will be our Speaker at our March Meeting. You've got to hear this man's story.

By way of party business, we didn't have any. Our Treasurer, Rita Odom, was down with the Flu and one of the young daughters of our Secretary, Donna Chastain, apparently has pneumonia.

I invite the attention of all Conservatives to the next meeting of the very active Gilmer County TEA Party. It has, as its speaker next Tuesday, Jan 12th, the renowned leader of the Tennessee TEA Party movement.

Also, don't forget our own web site: gilmergagop.org and the excellent on line newspaper of Max Holstein: gilmernews.net. Both are great sources of what's going on in Gilmer County.

Go get'em,

George McClellan, Chairman,
Gilmer Co. GOP