

CRWC TEMPO

Alexandria, VA

December 2009

Message from the President

Dear CRWC,

I am really looking forward to the Holiday Party on December 17th at Julie Lineberry's home. It is always such a fun time and we certainly have a lot to celebrate this year. In addition to our recent election wins, the Commonwealth Republican Women's Club has an exceptional slate of new officers for 2010.

And if my reading of the political climate is correct, we are going to need to be more vigilant and work harder than ever. I have already seen public, well orchestrated, attacks on our newly elected Republican officials. Of course, some of this can backfire. In my opinion, in order to throw mud you have to have it in your hand. But, the political theory is if you throw enough mud enough times some of it has to stick.

Thankfully, CRWC is about positive politics. As part of this, I want to ask all members to mark your calendar for Thursday, May 20. CRWC member Maeve Rigler has generously offered her home for us to hold a fund raiser. Thank you, Maeve!

And thank you to all members of CRWC who have worked so hard to make 2009 such a successful year!

Amy Millican
CRWC President



**& presentation to
Community Lodgings
Thursday, December 17, 7:00 pm**

**Home of Julie Lineberry
500 High Street, 22302-4110**

We have a lot to celebrate: the election of Bob McDonnell, Bill Bolling and Ken Cuccinelli and the election of CRWC's officers for 2010! Family and friends are invited to this festive event.

Bonnie Baxley, Director, Community Lodgings, will review the year's accomplishments. Bring your book donations for Community Lodgings to the meeting; bring books from one of the following series, all appropriate for middle school boys: Hardy Boys, Crime Series Investigation or Step into Reading.

BE PREPARED: Need a last minute gift? Look no further than a White House ornament, available at the December meeting. Still: \$20. Or perhaps one of the gift baskets on which you may bid that evening - come prepared with your checkbook!

For directions: 703-548-7663

Democrats' Sleight of Hand is Reaching into Your Wallet

While the nation is poised on Red Alert over the Democrats' plans to socialize medicine and institute a cap-and-trade national energy tax, Washington Democrats are quietly pushing through financial regulatory reform that would doom us to repeat many of the mistakes of the past year.

The financial regulatory reform legislation being shepherded through Congress by Congressman Barney Frank and Senator Chris Dodd would essentially institutionalize the Wall Street bailouts that have cost American taxpayers trillions of dollars. Over the past year or so, Congress and the White House have decided which companies are "too big to fail," or whose bankruptcy would cause disproportionately damaging disruptions to the financial markets. Those companies have been propped up by taxpayer-funded bailouts. Essentially, we've socialized risk and privatized profits, a formula that doesn't work for American capitalism or democracy.

Instead of learning from those mistakes, the new financial regulatory reform would set up a structure to continue the bailout pattern permanently. And, the Democrats' legislation would expand the authority of the Federal Reserve – which has spent about \$2 trillion of your money in the past year and a half with almost no Congressional or public oversight – in 20 different ways, giving it broad discretion to decide which companies are worthy of taxpayer bailout.

In the midst of Congress' consideration of this legislation, Neil Barofsky, the Special Inspector General who was appointed to give some oversight of the bailout program, TARP (Troubled Asset Relief Program), has issued blistering report after blistering report. He has noted time and again that there is little account-

ability for the funds that have been spent and little likelihood of taxpayers recouping their investment.

Most recently, on November 17th, Barofsky issued a report faulting the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, under the leadership at the time of now-Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner, for costing the taxpayers billions unnecessarily in the bailout of AIG. As he noted in his report, despite the fact that several of AIG's major partners were willing to take less than 100 cents on the dollar to keep AIG from going under, Geithner's intervention kept the bailout at full-cost, costing taxpayers tens of billions of dollars more. The fact that the Federal Reserve had already propped up AIG with \$85 billion before this second bailout caused the Fed to act more as a creditor than a regulator, concludes Barofsky's report.

We can expect more of the same if the financial regulatory reforms make it through Congress and into law. Republicans have an alternative that would keep government from picking winners and losers in the financial world and let taxpayers off the hook for risky financial decisions made on Wall Street. The Republican reform would phase out taxpayer support for Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac and would bring transparency to the dealings of the Federal Reserve.

A professor at Arizona State University noted that with the inception of the bailouts in late 2008, 30% of American profits came under government control. If the Democrats get their health care and cap-and-trade bills into law, that will add another 26% of our economy to government control. That's scary enough. But, implementing the Democrats' financial regulatory reforms would put virtually all our economy at risk of federal intervention.

Get Your Lincolns Ready for Santa's Stimulus Package!

At this December's meeting/Holiday Party, CRWC will be raffling off baskets full of goodies just in time for Christmas. For only \$5 a ticket you can support CRWC and have a chance at baskets full of items donated by our generous members. We will have bowls in front of the baskets, so once you've purchased your raffle ticket, all you need to do is place it in front of the basket you would like to win. Also, any members who would like to make a basket to donate to the December 17 raffle are welcome to participate. So, save your Lincolns for December!

(Special thanks to Linda Greenberg for coining the phrase "Santa's Stimulus Package".)

CRWC Newsletter
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Facebook is a wonderful networking and communication tool for CRWC. Through our CRWC facebook group we can instantly notify members of events or rallies where they could work to promote local candidates. There is a special tool to create event invitations which can be sent not only to group members but emailed to anyone. We also post information about the speaker for our upcoming meetings and links to information they have presented us. Photos have been added to our page from previous meetings as well as events, such as the George Washington Parade. Join us on facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=54856131881>

CRWC Election

The 2010 CRWC officers were elected at the November meeting and will be installed in December.

Congratulations and Thanks to:

Amy Millican - President
 Malinda Clark - First VP - Programming
 Maria Ciarrocchi - Second VP- Membership
 Recording Secretary - Luisa Rains
 Corresponding Secretary - Shari Simmans Bolouri
 Treasurer - Ann Kavaljian

HOSPITALITY REPORT

- Mary Kapellas and Gail Ledwig

Mary and Gail thank CRWC members for the wonderful refreshments provided throughout the year and now ask members to bring their favorite dish to the Holiday Party. To help ensure that all needs are covered kindly email Mary at kappyandmary@mac.com or Gail donaldgail@yahoo.com what you will be bringing.

A big thank you to Mary for the festive balloons and meat sandwiches for the November meeting and being available all evening in the kitchen. Thanks to Michelle McMahon and Pauline Bajac for cookies and fruit. See you at the Holiday Party.

PROGRAM REPORT - Linda Greenberg

At the November 19th CRWC Meeting members and friends filled Gail Ledweg's ample living room to hear Amy Gardner, Washington Post political reporter, review the demographics of the last several state-wide elections. Gardner's conclusion was that although party trends exist, i.e., voters going from red to purple to blue recently, events and issues and personal charisma make a difference, witness the election of the big three: McDonnell, Bolling and Cuccinelli. Plus, the Obama Independents, mostly first-time, young voters, fell by the wayside in this year's state elections in spite of the extreme efforts made by the Democrats to hold the Obama line. Looking forward, the candidates and their issues can change expected political outcomes in 2010 and in future Virginia elections. Case in point, the extreme southwestern coal counties for the first-time ever in November 2009 switched from voting Democrat to Republican because of cap-and-trade.



All around wonderful evening

A few happy shots from the October 24, even at the home of Maeve and Rob Rigler, Shelia Johnson join Maureen McDonnell to urge a final Push for support on Election Day! It obviously did the trick

Clockwise from above; 1. Shelia Johnson explains her support of Bob McDonnell to an enthusiastic crowd; 2. Ms. Johnson greets Jane and Connie Ring; 3. Photo op with Alicia Hughes and Vicky Vasquez, 4. Sasha Gong gets in the picture: and 5. Maeve Rigler welcomes Maureen McDonnell and Shelia Johnson to her home.



2009 - 2010 Calendar Save The Dates!!

CRWC Calendar – Thank you for participating!

December

Membership Meeting Thursday, December 17 – 7:00 pm – Holiday Party & Installation of New Officers at the home of Julie Lineberry, 500 High Street, Alexandria, VA 22302-4110, 703-548-7663(H) 703-489-2823 (C)

January

Board Meeting - Thursday January 14, 7:30 pm Home of Jane Ring

Membership Meeting - January 28 - TBA

Coming Soon!!

Thursday, May 20, 2010 - CRWC Fundraiser, Home of Maeve Rigler
