



# ORANGE GOP

Your Orange County Conservative News

Volume 6, Issue 1

April 2025

## Save the Dates

### OCGOP Monthly Meeting

Thurs, Apr 10, at OCGOP HQ  
Meeting starts at 7:00pm

### 4<sup>th</sup> District Convention

Sat, Apr 12, 10:00am  
Whitted Human Services Ctr  
300 W Tryon St, Room 230  
Hillsborough

**RWCH-Chatham &  
Triangle Republican Women**  
Spring Fundraiser: "An Evening  
with Virginia Foxx"

Thurs, Apr 17, 6:00pm  
University Tower  
3100 Tower Blvd., Durham

**OCGOP Executive  
Committee Meeting**  
Sat, May 3, at 10:00am  
OCGOP Headquarters

**NCGOP State Convention**  
June 5-8, Joseph Koury  
Convention Ctr., Greensboro  
[www.ncgopconvention.org](http://www.ncgopconvention.org)

## Get Involved!

The Orange County GOP is an all-volunteer organization of your neighbors who are interested in smaller and more effective government that follows conservative principles.

**Your help will make a difference!** To volunteer visit [orange.nc.gop/volunteer](http://orange.nc.gop/volunteer).

To join our email list, sign up at <https://orange.nc.gop>.

Questions? Email us at [info@orangencgop.com](mailto:info@orangencgop.com)

**OCGOP Headquarters:**  
125 Boone Square Street  
Hillsborough, NC 27278  
(919) 245-1777

**Office Hours**  
M, W, F 12pm–2pm

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>OCGOP Monthly Meeting</b></p> <p>Please join us for our regular monthly meeting, where new County Chair Larry Smith will share his vision for the county party and discuss the recent tax valuations affecting property owners. Bring a friend!</p> <p><b>WHAT:</b> OCGOP Monthly Meeting <b>WHEN:</b> Thursday, Apr. 10, 7:00pm <b>WHERE:</b> OCGOP HQ, 125 Boone Square St, Hillsborough</p>
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## A Letter from our New Chairman!

Fellow Orange County Republicans,

I want to introduce myself as your new Chairman. I was born and raised in Durham and attended Durham public schools, graduating from Northern Durham High School in 1984. I attended and graduated from Campbell University in May of 1988 and began the Durham police academy that same year. I spent 28 years with the police department working several divisions and rising through the ranks. I spent the last 5 years as the Deputy Chief of operations and my final six months before retiring in 2016 as the Interim Chief of Police.

I have been married to my wife Tammy for 36 years and we have 2 sons and daughters-in-law. We also have 4 grandchildren. We have resided in Orange County now for 30 years. I have served my church, Bethel Christian Center, in Durham for more than 25 years and my faith in Christ and his word is the guiding principle of my life. While I have always been conservative and a registered Republican, it was the last few years in the police department that I realized that upon retirement, I needed to get involved.

Part of my duties in the last years of the police department was to attend the city council meetings. I would see groups come in and be heard espousing ideas and beliefs contrary to what I believed and noticed there was not a dissenting voice. Shortly after my retirement, I attended my first Orange GOP meeting and have been serving since as a precinct chair of Caldwell and as the 2nd Vice Chair. While I do not consider myself political, I felt compelled to get involved and work for the causes that I think are best for our nation.

I want to thank the Orange GOP for having the confidence in me to lead the party. I have a lot to learn but have several who have gone before me to rely on and an outstanding team to serve with during my term. I especially want to thank John Gaither for his years of service and will certainly be relying on John during the beginning of my time. My challenge to anyone reading this who has not gotten involved is come join us! Something I say often is that everyone can do something! Whether you are a registered Republican or just a conservative you are welcome and we need you with us. If we have not met, come to one of our monthly meetings and introduce yourself. To all of my fellow Republicans that have been getting it done for many years, I look forward to continuing to serve with you to advance the conservative message.

Standing for Freedom!

*Larry C. Smith, Chairman, Orange County Republican Party*

## County Convention Wrap-Up

Thank you to everyone who attended our recent OCGOP Convention, and congratulations to our new officers and newly elected precinct chairs!

- Chair - Larry Smith
- Vice Chair - Earl Tye
- 2nd Vice Chair - Shawnee Seese
- Secretary - Becky Mela
- Treasurer - Kevin Winpisinger

Your willingness to serve Republicans here in Orange County is appreciated!

With our county convention behind us, your Executive Committee leadership team is ready to get to work and has set the date of our first Executive Committee meeting.

**WHO:** OCGOP Officers and Precinct Chairs

**WHAT:** [OCGOP Executive Committee Meeting](#)

**WHEN:** Saturday, May 3, 10:00am

**WHERE:** OCGOP Headquarters, 125 Boone Square St, Hillsborough

***All precinct chairs are strongly encouraged to attend so we can meet quorum.***

Anyone with items for discussion they would like to add to the agenda should submit them to Becky Mela, OCGOP Secretary, at [secretary@orangencgop.com](mailto:secretary@orangencgop.com) by **Saturday, April 26**.

Who is on the Executive Committee? The [OCGOP Plan of Organization](#) lays out the structure of our organization and other administrative details related to day-to-day operations.

Specifically, the Executive Committee is comprised of:

- OCGOP officers: Chair, 1st Vice Chair, 2nd Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer
- OCGOP past chairs
- All current precinct chairs

If you are interested in serving as a precinct chair and being part of the Executive Committee, please let Chairman Larry Smith know by emailing him at [chair@orangencgop.com](mailto:chair@orangencgop.com) as we still need leadership in a number of precincts.

Members of the OCGOP Executive Committee have an important role in helping guide the county party so we can rack up wins in 2026!

### ***4<sup>th</sup> District GOP Convention***

**WHO:** Delegates elected at the Orange County GOP Convention on Saturday, March 29; guests may attend as non-voting members

**WHEN:** Saturday, April 12, 2025, 10:00am (doors open 9:00am)

**WHERE:** Whitted Human Services Center, 300 W Tryon St., Room 230, Hillsborough, NC

## 2025 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Convention

The 4th Congressional District Convention will be held on Saturday, April 12, at 10:00am. All Orange County Delegates elected at the County Convention are encouraged to register and attend!

The District Convention is an opportunity for Republicans from Orange, Durham, and parts of Wake and Chatham counties to come together and conduct the business of our district. This year, we will be voting on new officers for the 4<sup>th</sup> District including Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and At-Large

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**Follow us on X** at [https://x.com/orange\\_gop](https://x.com/orange_gop) and **Instagram** [@orange.nc.gop](https://www.instagram.com/orange.nc.gop)

**Donate** at <https://orange.nc.gop/donate>



Members. John Gaither, former Orange County GOP Chair, is running for the office of Vice Chair of the 4<sup>th</sup> District, so please come out and support him in this election!

Delegates will also vote on resolutions passed up from the counties. Candidates for both party and public office are anticipated as guest speakers.

While you must be an elected Delegate from the County Convention to be a voting delegate at the District (or State) Convention, others are welcome and encouraged to attend as non-voting guests. Both Delegates and guests must register and pay the convention fee of \$10 to be admitted. *Registration closes on Tuesday, April 8, 2025, at 5pm. There will be no same-day registration.*

The Convention will be held at the Whitted Human Services Center, 300 W Tryon St, Room 230, in Hillsborough (same location as our County Convention). Doors open at 9:00am.

Visit the District Convention tab at <https://district4.nc.gop/> for more information or to register.

## Republican Women of Chapel Hill-Chatham & Triangle Republican Women (TRW)

The Republican Women of CH-C invite you to a fundraiser in partnership with TRW and the Republican Women of Cary & SW Wake. "An Evening with Virginia Foxx" will be held on Thursday, April 17, at University Tower, 3100 Tower Blvd., Durham, NC 27707. Doors open at 4:30pm with dinner at 6:00pm.

Tickets are \$100. To attend, RSVP at their website (<https://rwchc-chathamncgop.nationbuilder.com/>) by April 12. For more information contact RWCHC Vice-Chairman Terri Tyson at (919) 923-2476 or [territyson100@gmail.com](mailto:territyson100@gmail.com).

## NCEIT News

The North Carolina Election Integrity Team (NCEIT) is encouraging citizens to contact their Congressmen and ask them to support HR 22, the SAVE Act. This bill requires individuals to provide documentary proof of U.S. citizenship when registering to vote in federal elections. The SAVE Act is expected to come up for a vote in the House the week of April 7, so please call!

## Turning Point Action

Turning Point Action, the "action" arm of Charlie Kirk's Turning Point USA, is working to start two new coalitions in the Triangle: Healthy Americans (think MAHA) and Gen Z (for our younger conservatives). Two coalitions formed last year include their Faith and Mothers Coalitions. If you are interested in helping lead or organize any of these coalitions, please contact Hudson Price, TPAAction field rep, at [Hudson.Price@TPAAction.com](mailto:Hudson.Price@TPAAction.com) for more information.

