



The Pender County Republican Party 2026 Convention.

On March 14th, at SALT Church in Hampstead, we held our 2026 Convention. Members from across the county attended to prepare for the upcoming general election. The event began with precinct meetings, where each precinct selected its delegates for the District 7 and State GOP Conventions.

The convention opened with remarks from County Chair Josh Smith, who expressed his appreciation to everyone who participated in the recent primary and shared his enthusiasm for the strong slate of candidates heading into the fall general election. He reaffirmed the party's commitment to supporting Republican candidates at every level and keeping Pender County **RED!**

Following the official business, many of the general election candidates took the opportunity to address the crowd. Each expressed gratitude for the party's support and shared their vision for the future of Pender County.

A special thanks to all the volunteers that made this event possible: Carolyn Justice, Al Hegarty, Donna Richter, Valerie Achorn, Shelia Jones, Kim Thomas, Wendy Graffius, and Joe Hurtle.

Speakers for the Convention:

US House District 7: David Rouzer's Representative Telia Kivett

District Court Judge - District 6: Kurt Fryar

NC House District 16: Carson Smith

District Attorney: Jason Smith

Clerk of Superior Court: Camille Costin Harrell

Board of Commissioners District 1: Shayne Frey

Board of Commissioners District 2: Ryan Collins

Board of Commissioners District 3: Andy DeVane

Board of Education District 1: Jennifer R. Hansen



The Party Chair with our outstanding volunteers that made the convention successful!

Vice Chair Wanted!

The County Party is seeking to fill the Vice Chair position, which was vacated by Ryan Collins the Party nominee for Board of Commissioners District 2.

We would like to thank Tiffany Norris and Louis Saunders for stepping forward. The Executive Committee will hold the vote in April for the new Vice Chair.

New Precinct Chairs.

The following individuals have been selected as Precinct Chairs for the newly established precincts:

- Kenny Ramsey - Burgaw Precinct
- Max Beckwith - Malpass Corner Precinct
- Charles Schoonmaker - Penderlea Precinct
- Ken Jones Jr. - Upper Holly Precinct

Congratulations, and thank you for stepping up to ensure each precinct has the leadership needed for the general election. You are on the front lines of keeping Pender County red and ensuring Republican success up and down the ballot.



County Chair Josh Smith making his opening remarks.



Board of Commissioners - District 1 Nominee Shayne Frey.



Clerk of Superior Court Nominee Camille Harrell



Board of Commissioners - District 2 Nominee Ryan Collins.

The next regular party meetings will be held on Thursday, April 16, and Thursday, May 21, at Olde Point.

Be on the lookout for events this summer and fall—we are planning a major event in September. There will also be numerous volunteer opportunities to represent the party at local festivals.

In October, we will need many volunteers to staff early voting sites (October 15-31), as well as support efforts on Election Day, November 3.

Check out our website Pender.nc.gov

- Email us at pender.gop@gmail.com

- Like us on Facebook @PenderCountyNCGOP