

### **Democrats Hold Reunion at Oak Hollow Lake**

HIGH POINT, N.C.-- Over 125 people gathered at the Democratic Reunion hosted by High Point Democrats in Action at Oak Hollow Festival Park Saturday afternoon. DJ Ron Wilson kicked off the party, as people arrived and socialized. People came from as far as Stokes and Yadkin counties to meet up with like-minded voters. Judges, elected officials, candidates, and local democratic organizational leaders were recognized and made remarks. The band Right Eye of Greensboro then entertained as the crowd enjoyed hot dogs, popcorn, home-baked goodies and more socialization, fanned by the lake breeze. Documentary videos ran, including Walter Cronkite's message on Social Security.

Kirby Heard, chair of High Point Democrats in Action, said, "This event was a great opportunity for us to meet and socialize with each other, and meet some of our elected officials and candidates face-to-face. We advocate full participation in the Democratic Process; good information and personal interaction allow for better voter participation." This mid-term election cycle does not include any statewide races other than some judicial positions, which are non-partisan, and voting a straight party ticket will not include them. "Voters need to be careful to read the full ballot and look for the Judicial positions when they head to the polls in November," said Heard.

Attendees met Appeals Court Judges, District & Supreme Court candidates; newcomers Rory Blake, challenging Howard Coble for the 6th District Congressional seat, and Ray Riffe, running in neighboring 3rd District, and Sheriff candidate Berkley Blanks. Senator Katie Dorsett, Rep. Pricey Harrison, Guilford County Commissioners John Parks & Kay Cashion, and School Board member Dot Kearns came to the Reunion and a representative from Rep. Mel Watt's campaign attended for the Congressman, who had a very full schedule Saturday, and will be in the Triad Monday and Tuesday (for more info visit [www.guilforddems.org](http://www.guilforddems.org)).

Candidate information was available, and info from Democracy NC, a non-partisan, non-profit advocacy group, whose credits include judicial public finance reform and felon re-enfranchisement. "Many people in NC are unaware that a former felon who has served time and had civil rights restored can now register to vote," Heard said, "and getting that information into our community and welcoming those folk back into full participation in the Democratic Process is a large part of our mission."

High Point Democrats in Action chose to participate in the national "Democratic Reunion" event to strengthen party unity, reach out to other concerned voters across party lines and register new voters. A handful of members organized the event, digging into their own pockets to fund it. The Democratic National Committee conceived the event and has provided downloadable materials, including "The Democratic Vision," the party's six-point plan for the 2006 elections: Honest Leadership & Open Government, Real Security, Energy Independence, Economic Prosperity and Educational Excellence, A Healthcare System that Works for Everyone, Retirement Security. For more information about The Democratic Vision, visit [www.democrats.org](http://www.democrats.org).

For more information on Democracy North Carolina, visit [www.democracy-nc.org](http://www.democracy-nc.org).

High Point Democrats in Action is a local, non-profit grassroots advocacy group dedicated to the founding principles of our democracy. Our Web site is [highpointdems.org](http://highpointdems.org). E-mail us at [redstatedems@mac.com](mailto:redstatedems@mac.com).