



Eye on Elections

Quarterly publication of the
Duplin County Elections Office

www.duplincountync.com/governmentOffices/boardOfElections.html

Duplin County
Board of Elections

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August 2008

May Primary Voters Turned Out in Record Numbers

Almost 40% (actual 39.76%) of all registered voters in Duplin County participated in the May 6, 2008 Primary election. This was the highest turnout in more than 20 years. In fact, this was even higher than the statewide average of 37%.

In light of a record turnout, Duplin County conducted a very successful Primary election, with no election protests or challenges filed from candidates or political parties.

One improvement implemented during the Primary was the way results were viewed and released to the public after the polls closed. The Duplin County Information Technology Department set up a large-screen version of the webpage that allowed the public to see results very easily. The auditorium at the Cooperative Extension Complex was the ideal site. One slight improvement will be added for the viewing public during the November results—we will have plenty of chairs for everyone in the auditorium.



Statewide Turnout Percentages

Year	Percentage
1988	31%
1992	30%
1996	22%
2000	18%
2004	16%
2008	37%

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Board of Elections Members: (2007-2009 Term)

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Ray Garriss

Member:

Carolyn B. Ingram

Director:

Suzanne W. Southerland

Staff:

Patricia Marable-Williams,
Deputy Director
Chiquitta W. Lesene,
Elections Specialist

Poll Worker Recruiting

Since record numbers of voters participated in the May Primary, experts are predicting unheard of participation in the November 4th Presidential election.

Therefore, the Board of Elections is seeking record numbers of qualified individuals to work in the polling places on November 4, 2008. If you, or someone you know, would consider working as a trained Precinct Election Official, please contact the elections office as soon as possible.

Phone 910-296-2170

Applications may be downloaded
from our Website at:

www.duplincountync.com

Please mail completed application to
Duplin County Board of Elections
PO Box 975
Kenansville, NC 28349

2008 Election Schedule

General:

Absentee Period: By-mail begins September 15
 One-Stop voting opens Oct 16 at 9:00 am
 One-Stop voting ends Nov 1 at 1:00 pm

Registration Books Close—October 10
 Observer List due from party chairs—Oct 30

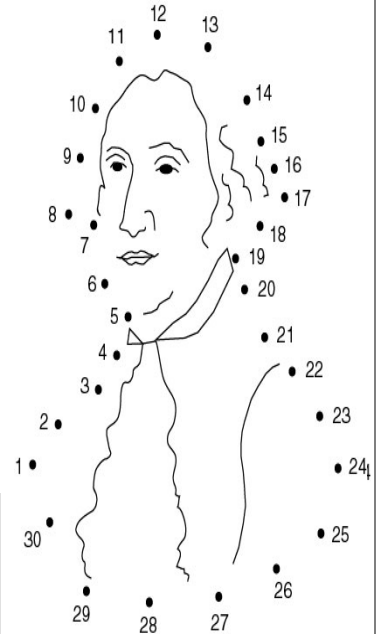
Election Day: November 4
 Polls open 6:30 a.m. - Close 7:30 p.m.

Canvass: November 14 at 11:00 am

State Board of Elections Canvass:
 November 25

A more detailed calendar is available on the internet at:
www.duplincountync.com

Can you identify this Founding
 Father and
 President of the United States?
 Just connect the dots!



Spotlight on Precinct Officials -



Osha Metters, serves as a special precinct official called a **Rover**.

As a Rover, Osha is responsible for supervising and troubleshooting at several precincts on election day. She is usually assigned from 3-6 precincts to oversee and spends the entire day going from one to the other. Osha does an excellent job leading her precincts and has also qualified to train new Rovers.

Over the past few years of service, Osha has improved her election skills by studying hard, working in the elections office, and asking lots of questions. She also excels at working with the public, and we are grateful to have her on our team!

Thank you, Osha, for a job well-done! We are so impressed and hope you will continue to serve as a shining STAR in your community!

“All we have of
 freedom, all we use or
 know - This our fathers
 bought for us long and
 long ago.”

~ Rudyard Kipling

- In order to avoid possible problems at the polling place, voters should update their voter registration information prior to the deadline on October 10th !
- Anytime there is problem at the precinct, a voter has the right to request to vote a provisional ballot.
- The easiest, fastest way to vote in any election is to have an absentee ballot mailed to you!

Registration Statistics as of July 2008

Duplin County	
Democrats	15,549
Republicans	6,742
Unaffiliated	5,057
Total	27,348



DUPLIN COUNTY'S VOTING EQUIPMENT

The Presidential Election in 2008 will be the first time for many voters to use the optical scan voting equipment being used in Duplin County. It is a simple system that allows voters to color –in the “bubbles” beside the names of the candidates for whom they wish to vote and then place their ballots into the scanner. Please help us educate all voters on how easy it is to use this equipment—*before they go vote*. The Board of Elections will be happy to demonstrate this equipment to groups throughout the county.



M100 Optical Scanner



Automark
(A marking unit for use by those with various disabilities)





Duplin County

Every vote counts!



160 Mallard Street
PO Box 975
Kenansville, NC 28349

Phone: 910-296-2170
Fax: 910-296-2167

E-mail: dcboe@duplincountync.com

On the Web!

www.duplincountync.com

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD:

The national Presidential election is just around the corner and the Duplin BOE is in full swing preparing for the upcoming event. We at the BOE are setting up training classes for our poll workers, checking to make sure that all of our election equipment is in proper working order, and updating all of our records to insure that every registered voter will have the opportunity to vote. Rest assured that everything that can be done to insure we will have a fair and impartial election is being checked and rechecked. If you have not registered to vote now is the time. Remember that it is your duty to help select the people you feel are going to do what is best for the people of Duplin County, North Carolina, and the United States.

Ray Garriss, Secretary

The mission of the Duplin County Board of Elections is to provide honest, open, and professionally managed election services to our community. We work for the Public and we do the Public's business. We strive to earn the trust of our citizens while providing timely, accurate, and correct information and . . .

. . . outstanding customer service.

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**Duplin County Board of Elections
PO Box 975
Kenansville, NC 28349**