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**Calendar notes**

**Election Day, Tues., Nov. 7** – referendum on Amendment 2, the “10-mill bill.” (Please copy and distribute the enclosed flyer! See “A few words from Kimble” for details.)

**Nov. 11-19** – “Living the Dream – Co-creating the Beloved Community of Humankind,” a week of nonviolence, education and action. Organized by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and Alabama New South Coalition, the event will begin in Selma with a nonviolence orientation session, followed by a walk across the Edmund Pettus Bridge and a motor caravan to Montgomery. A rally on the Capitol steps will kick off a five-day march to Columbus, Ga. To support the core group of marchers, others are invited to join daily activities at stops along the way. In Columbus, participants will join the 17th annual demonstration to close the School of the Americas/Western Hemispheric Institute for Security Cooperation. For more information, visit [www.livingthedream2006.org](http://www.livingthedream2006.org).

**Hold the date!**  
**Thurs., Feb. 15, 2007**  
**“Let Justice Roll!”**  
**Arise Citizens’ Policy Project**  
**Poverty & Policy**  
**Conference**  
 Birmingham-Southern  
 College  
 Stay tuned for details.

# Report

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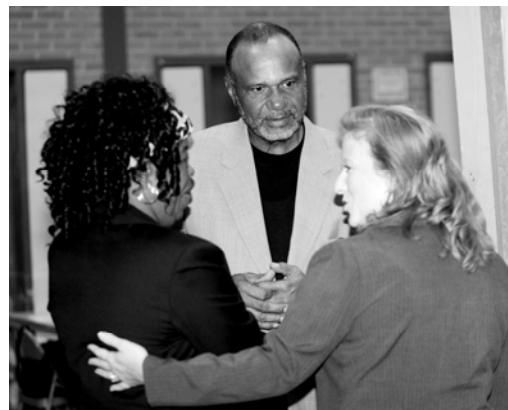
## Annual Meeting 2006

# Members adopt three new issues

**Hoping to build on the momentum from this year’s wins in tax reform and tenant rights**, ACPP/Arise members have approved an ambitious 2007 legislative agenda that includes three new priorities – Medicaid long-term care reform, environmental justice, and campaign finance reform. The issue vote at the September 9 annual meeting at Resurrection Catholic Church in Montgomery also affirmed Arise’s long-standing work on tax reform, public transportation funding, constitutional reform and a moratorium on executions.

**A highlight of the gathering was the testimony of five Coden residents** on their year-long effort to secure federal disaster relief for their unincorporated community devastated by Hurricane Katrina in August 2005. Member groups voted to include fair allocation of relief funds as an endorsement issue on the legislative agenda. In addition, Portersville Revival, representing the unincorporated coastal communities, was one of four new groups welcomed into ACPP/Arise membership. The others were Lester Memorial United Methodist Church, Oneonta; St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church, Indian Springs; and World of Opportunity Center, Birmingham.

**Representative John Knight of Montgomery**, Alabama’s leading legislative advocate for tax reform, told the assembly in his after-lunch talk that “only Kimble could get this many people out on a Saturday when Alabama, Alabama State and Auburn are all playing football.” While



*Rep. John Knight greets Coden residents Nancy McCall (left) and Edwina Bates at the ACPP/Arise September 9 annual meeting. (Photo by Vasha Hunt)*

noting this year’s “remarkable successes,” Knight urged his audience not to rest easy. “We’ve still got a ways to go on the income tax,” he said. Knight and Arise favor raising the threshold to the federal poverty line, just over \$20,000 for a family of four.

**In closing the meeting, Kimble called on members to take the next step toward tax fairness** by rallying support for the “10-mill bill” on the November 7th ballot (see enclosed flyer).

**Policy staff position open**  
**Policy analyst** on tax & poverty issues. Requires economic expertise, strong writing skills, working in Montgomery. Master’s degree preferred. Salary based on experience. Health & retirement plan. Send resume, writing sample to ACPP, Box 1188, Montgomery, AL 36101. Minority applicants encouraged. ACPP is an equal opportunity employer.

## A few words from Kimble —

**We're looking for 71 intrepid volunteers** to tackle a big challenge: distributing 1,000 flyers on the "10-mill bill" before Nov. 7! It sounds daunting, but 29 members have already signed up to distribute the flyers to their neighbors, their friends, their congregations, at the beauty shop and the PTA meeting and anywhere they can think of.

**The idea that local districts should meet a bare minimum** of property tax support for schools dates back many years. The late Rep. Nelson Starkey introduced the proposal year after year, and we believe its time has come.

**We think Amendment 2 will pass**, but we can't take it for granted. Now that 101 school districts receive 10 mills or more, it's likely that voters will agree that the other 30 districts should meet this bare minimum of support for local schools. However, it wasn't long ago that opposition emerged in the final weeks of a campaign for another amendment we considered a no-brainer – the bill to remove racist language from the Constitution. The same resistance to property taxes for education could undo this effort as well.

**Don't just take the challenge** – Let us know you're taking it! We want to meet that goal of 100 members who agree to distribute 1,000 flyers. Just think – You could distribute 1,000 just by contacting two or three school principals. Of the materials I've read, our flyer makes the clearest, most compelling case. You can make your own copies or give us a call and we'll send as many as you need.

**One more note:** We're moving upstairs to the 9th floor of the Bell Building. If you have a hard time reaching us at the end of October, it may be because we're moving boxes!

With peace,



# Thank you, contributors!

*ACPP thanks the following donors for their generous gifts received between June 28 and Sept. 30, 2006:*

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