

PRESS RELEASE

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SML Democrats

March 6, 2020

SML Democrats General Membership Meeting

Members of the Smith Mountain Lake Democrats Club met on February 25, 2019, for their General Membership meeting. Sam Rasoul, VA House of Delegates, gave an update on 2019 VA legislative initiatives he supported. He commended the Club for their dedicated work for the Democratic causes and GOTV support. "Politicians come and go, but causes we fight for persist", stated Rasoul. Highlights about Rasoul's initiative Democratic Promise were reviewed. This outreach program, supported by SML Dems, encourages local Democrats to reach out to their neighbors offering help to find medical help and transportation, connect with government officials, file paperwork and grant applications navigate the DMV, and handle Veteran's issues. More information can be found at www.DemPromise.com.

In keeping with the Club's support of local charities, CATS (Children's Assistive Technology Service) President and Founder, Cathie Cummins, gave a presentation about her organization, a 501(C)(3) non-profit which oversees re-use of pediatric equipment and devices in Virginia. CATS serves as a no cost resource to children with disabilities who need adaptive equipment and whose families have limited resources. Rehabilitative adaptive equipment allows people with disabilities to gain greater independence and includes such items as walkers, bath seats, standing frames, wheel chairs, etc. In addition to raising funds to support its mission, CATS also needs volunteers to help facilitate their program. CATS was the selected charity at the SML Dems annual Holiday Party where \$750 was collected.

Jon Atchue, Chair, Issues Committee, closed the meeting with an overview of the Club's accomplishments and progress in 2018, and a plan for moving forward in 2019 and beyond. The Club continues to support a local office located at Halesford Center, 16483 Moneta Rd., Moneta, VA.

For more information, email sml Dems@gmail.com.

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