Name: John J. Hall

Years: July 23, 1948 - Present

Relevance: Congressman of the 19th Congressional District in New York’s Hudson Valley.

Brief Biography: Born in Baltimore Maryland, Hall attended Notre Dame then Loyola College studying physics before leaving in 1972 to pursue interests in music. By the age of twenty-one, he was an achieved singer and songwriter who wrote and directed musicals for Broadway productions. His musical career truly began with the band Orleans, which he is credited for co-founding. He left Orleans in 1977 but they have reunited several times since. He has released eighteen albums since as a solo artist and as a member of Orleans. His most recent album *Rock Me on the Water* released in 2005 was influenced by a sailing trip he took from Kingston to the Caribbean and then back to Maryland. In 2006, he was elected to be Congressman of the 19th district in New York, which includes Putnam and parts of Dutchess, Orange, Rockland, and Westchester counties.