

— IN THE SPOTLIGHT —

SC REPUBLICAN PARTY STATE CHAIRMAN TO SPEAK JAN. 25



KATON DAWSON

The Greenville County Republican Women's Club is fortunate to have Katon Dawson, chairman of the South Carolina Republican Party, accept our invitation to speak at our Jan. 25th meeting.

Governor Mark Sanford, at his inaugural ball last week, introduced Katon as "the best state party chairman in the whole country!"

With those credentials, who could possibly pass up this golden opportunity. Come hear the fascinating details of how

Katon aligned a coalition of Southern states to ensure that South Carolina maintains its prominent position as first in the upcoming presidential primaries.

Join us and get the inside scoop on such topics as which of our elected officials have already thrown their support to a particular presidential candidate; which presidential candidate plans to spend the most time in our state; as well as, learn the details for the all important presidential debate to be held in Columbia in May.

Start 2007 off in the right way by inviting a friend and joining us for another delicious lunch and an invigorating meeting at the beautiful Poinsett Club in downtown Greenville at noon on Jan. 25th. *Geri Warren.*

Quarterly board meeting

Official call for South Carolina Federation of Republican Women quarterly board meeting, Saturday, Feb. 3.

To: SCFRW Executive Committee, Local Club Presidents, Standing Committee and Appointed Committee Chairmen (local club members are encouraged to attend).

From: LaDonna Ryggs, president. The SCFRW quarterly board of directors meeting will take place Saturday, Feb. 3, at 10 a.m., at the Columbiana Convention Center (being renovated to Radisson), 2100 Bush River Rd., Columbia, SC 29210, phone (803) 731-0300. The cost is \$18 per person (including tax and gratuity).

The format for the meeting is business from 10 to 12:30; lunch from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.; special program from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Special speaker will be Nancy French, author of *Red State of Mind: How a Catfish Queen Reject Became a Liberty Belle*. A book signing will take place. Her website is www.nancyfrench.com.

Deadline for reservations is Tuesday, Jan. 30, and reservations will be turned in on Wednesday, Jan. 31. If you make a reservation and cancel after the deadline date, you will be billed for your meal. The SCFRW has to pay for all reservations that are made.

Please send your reservation request to LaDonna Ryggs, www.scfrw.org, 137 Marcie Rush Lane, Greer SC 29651, phone (864) 801-3663, e-mail lryggs@bjju.edu.

MEMBERS, MAKE YOUR RESERVATION TODAY!

Members, please call the appropriate person below or e-mail Carol Cobb to make your luncheon reservation by **8 p.m., Monday, Jan 22.**

- Last Name • A — C: Nancy Cline 281-0534
- Last Name • D — F: Linda Slaton 288-0560
- Last Name • G — J: Ann Brown 295-3964
- Last Name • K — M: Lucy Kilby 233-6000
- Last Name • N — P: Karen Mims 288-2162
- Last Name • Q — R: Manisay Gabbard 335-8892
- Last Name • S — Z: Shirdale Hebert 268-2540

Carol Cobb — e-mail contact: carolbcobb@aol.com by 8 p.m., Monday, Jan. 22.

Cancellations: Call 220-5068 by 8 p.m. on the Monday before the luncheon.

Please note: You will be billed \$14 if you make a reservation and do not come to the luncheon.

WELCOME

NEW MEMBERS!

GALE CRAWFORD, JUNE ANN FABIO, THOMAS HANSON (ASSOCIATE), ELEANOR LEWIS, VIRGINIA WATERS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members:

Happy New Year! I am looking forward to another exciting year. We will give you interesting speakers, informative programs and opportunities to be involved in the Republican selection of a President.

Geri Warren, Anne Danciu and I attended the inauguration of Gov. Mark Sanford and other constitutional officers.

We went to the prayer service at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral. The sermon was given by Rev. Gregg Surratt, pastor of Seacoast Christian Community Church in Mount Pleasant. He seemed to know Gov. Sanford extremely well. It was a beautiful service.

The sun shined brightly on the swearing-in ceremony. We were excited to hear the Furman Singers and members of the South Carolina Governor's School from here in Greenville.

Lt. Gov. Andre Bauer was sworn in by Sen. Glenn McConnell and Bauer's third grade teacher. Chief Justice Jean Toal administered the oath of office to Gov. Sanford. At the conclu-

sion of the oath, there was a jet squadron flyover. This always gives me chills.

The governor's address was inspiring and one of the best I have heard him give.

After the service, we were invited to the Palmetto Club for a luncheon hosted by Atty. Gen. Henry McMaster, then on to a reception at the office of Mark Hammond, secretary of state. Next was a visit to the Governor's Mansion to have our picture made with the Governor and First Lady Jenny Sanford.

We ended our day by going to a barbecue at the Watermelon Shed at the Fairgrounds. Thirteen barbecue restaurants from around the state offered anything you could want in pig or chicken.

If you can, you must do this at least once in your lifetime. It was a day to be proud to be a South Carolinian.

Sincerely,

Betty Poe

— PROFILES —

Highlighting members of GCRW — By Joanne Meadows

Marlene Dowd is an active Greenville County Republican Women's Club member behind the scenes. She sends e-mails reminding members of the luncheons. She cannot attend many meetings because of her teaching obligations, but she stays informed.

Born on Long Island, New York, Marlene received a B.S. in business education in 1970. Then she taught school in New York, San Francisco, and again in New York. In 1985 Marlene married Bob Dowd, a New York City police sergeant.

The family moved to Greenville 21 years ago. Bob worked as an investigator for the Solicitor's Office until his retirement. The Dowds have one daughter, Meghan, a first-

year pharmacy student at the SC College of Pharmacy in Columbia.

Marlene taught at Greenville Tech for 10 years in the Office Systems Technology department. She has taught the past 10 years at Northwood Middle School as a keyboarding teacher. She was honored with a nomination for the South Carolina Middle School Business Education Teacher of the Year 2007.

If you called Marlene last year, chances are she was out. The Dowds were on the political trail. They worked as a team on numerous campaigns: Phillip Shoopman, SC House Seat 18; Thomas Ravenel, SC treasurer; Lewis Vaughn, SC Senate District 5; and Karen Floyd, Superintendent of Education.

Bob, Marlene, and Meghan worked online, put out signs, made phone calls, knocked on doors, attended press conferences and receptions, and finally celebrated in Columbia. Marlene is also her precinct president.

In addition, Marlene finds time to read and work puzzles. She loves cats. The family also enjoys annual visits to North Carolina mountains and High Hampton Inn and Country Club, where they have made many friends.



From left: Bob Dowd, State Treasurer Thomas Ravenel, Marlene Dowd, Meghan Dowd and state Sen. Lewis Vaughn.

BE THANKFUL

By Author Unknown

Be thankful that you don't already have everything you desire. If you did, what would there be to look forward to?

Be thankful when you don't know something, for it gives you the opportunity to learn.

Be thankful for the difficult times. During those times you grow. Be thankful for your limitations, because they give you opportunities for improvement. Be thankful for each new challenge, because it will build your strength and character.

Be thankful for your mistakes. They will teach you valuable lessons. Be thankful when you're tired and weary, because it means you've made a difference.

It's easy to be thankful for the good things. A life of rich fulfillment comes to those who are also thankful for the setbacks. Gratitude can turn a negative into a positive. Find a way to be thankful for your troubles, and they can become your blessings.

I am thankful for you and your prayers. *Sandra Bryan.*

Matters of the heart

The GCRWC extends deepest sympathy to Ann Brown in the passing of her husband, Steve. The Browns had been married 20 years. Ann is thankful for the wonderful memories she has of their life together.

DATES OF INTEREST

Jan. 19-29	File for county council seat 20.
Jan. 25	Noon: GCRWC at Poinsett Club
Feb. 3	SCFRW board meeting, Columbiana Hotel, Columbia
Feb. 5	Greenville GOP Executive Committee meeting. A precinct officer will pick up packets for precinct meetings.
Feb. 22	Noon: GCRWC at Poinsett Club
March 5	Local precinct reorganization. (Pay to be delegate at GOP county convention and apply to be put on ballot for state GOP convention.)
March 20	Republican primary election for district 20
March 28 - 31	NFRW spring board meeting, Washington
April 21	Greenville GOP convention, Palmetto Expo Center, 9 a.m. to noon. Elect county party officers and elect delegates to state GOP convention.
May 14	Silver Elephant Dinner, Columbia
May 15	Presidential debate of GOP candidates, Kroger Center, University of South Carolina
May 16	South Carolina Republican Party convention

Book of the Month

A Time to Heal: the Autobiography of Gerald R. Ford, by Gerald R. Ford.



Campaign Hours

Please give Kathy Davis your campaign hours. There hours are needed for our club to win an award. Help!

The governor's state of the state address

Ladies:

Last night (Jan. 17), I was privileged along with several other SCFRW members, to attend Gov. Mark Sanford's State of the State address at the statehouse.

During the address, I was struck by the opportunity that we, as Republicans, have once again to make significant impact for good in our state. With Republicans in control of the Governor's office, the General Assembly, and all but one state constitutional office, we need to move forward the debate on big ideas to enact reform that benefits every taxpayer and resident of this state.

I pray that it is not optimistic idealism, but rather a realization that we all need to work together to accomplish many things for our state. As state Rep. Nikki Haley told me last night, "It is time to stop talking, and time to start acting."

I believe she is right. The people of South Carolina have elected our Republican team and expect them to accomplish much good for our state. The ideas brought forth by our Governor last night enable our legislators to debate weighty matters and propose legislation that is deliberated and beneficial to individual taxpayers, to businesses and even to prospective residents in the next several years. He discussed issues that affect our quality of life, such as: education, health care, land preservation, income and property taxes, workers' compensation reform and stronger DUI laws; and he discussed issues that affect how effective and efficient our government can and should be by addressing restructuring and spending limitations.

This session of the General Assembly along with our Governor and our Constitutional officers have the opportunity to do great things for our state, if they have the courage to debate and to act for the benefit of our future and our children's future. I pray that this session will see that courage.

I hope that each of you will keep an eye on what is being proposed, state your opinions to your legislators, and take an active role in ensuring that our state is impacted for good over this next session by our Republican majority. We should not take that role lightly.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you. If I can be of any assistance to you and your clubs, please feel free to contact me.

LaDonna Ryggs
SCFRW President

In Memoriam

Gerald R. Ford, 38th president of the United States, died Dec. 26. Ford was the oldest living former president.

Ford took the oath of office Aug. 9, 1974, after Richard Nixon resigned. From 1965 to 1973, he was House minority leader. Born in Omaha, Nebraska, in 1913, he grew up in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He starred on the University of Michigan football team, then went to Yale, where he served as assistant coach while earning his law degree. During World War II he attained the rank of lieutenant commander in the Navy. A few weeks before his election to Congress in 1948, he married Elizabeth Bloomer. They have four children: Michael, John, Steven, and Susan.

During his first 14 months as president he vetoed 39 measures. His vetoes were usually sustained.



Greenville County
Republican Women's Club
Betty Poe, President
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Postage



Celebrate America!

*Don't let anyone tell you that America's best days are behind her—that the American spirit has been vanquished. We've seen it triumph too often in our lives to stop believing in it now.”
Ronald Reagan, 1985.*

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Join Us for the January Luncheon Meeting

Thursday — Noon

Jan. 25

*at the Poinsett Club (807 E. Washington St.)
in beautiful downtown Greenville, S.C.*

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND & BRING A REPUBLICAN FRIEND.

THE COST FOR THE LUNCHEON IS \$14 PER PERSON.

— REMEMBER —

GUESTS NEED TO MAKE RESERVATIONS BY 8 P.M.

ON MONDAY BEFORE THE LUNCHEON

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