

– IN THE SPOTLIGHT –

**PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE MIKE HUCKABEE  
TO ADDRESS SEPT. 20 MEETING**



Mike Huckabee

The Greenville County Republican Women's Club is thrilled to have its third major presidential candidate coming to speak to us this year.

Former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee will be our featured speaker Sept. 20.

Described as an "authentic conservative with a vision for America," Gov. Huckabee has consistently been applauded for his showings in the

Republican debates.

He also had a strong second place finish in the Iowa straw poll, as his momentum continues to build and his poll numbers continue a steady surge. Results from a poll earlier this month by the American Research Group show that among Republicans, Gov. Huckabee is leading Mayor Rudy Giuliani, Sen. John McCain and Sen. Fred Thompson in Iowa, and he is leading Gov. Mitt Romney in South Carolina.

Gov. Huckabee is not only a true conservative, but he is an excellent speaker. His credentials and his ability as a speaker are reflected in the fact that he is a regular visitor on television shows such as *Hannity & Colmes*, *Fox and Friends* and various other news programs. His goal is to show the American people that the American Dream is still alive and well.

Gov. Huckabee served as the 44th governor of Arkansas, serving from 1996 until 2007. As a fiscal conservative, he succeeded in passing Arkansas' first broad-based tax-cut package, cutting more than 90 taxes by almost \$380 million. When he left office, he left a surplus of more than \$800 million, a major accomplishment in Arkansas. After leaving office, he set out on a nationwide tour to promote his fifth book,

*From Hope to Higher Ground: 12 Steps to Restoring America's Greatness.*

Gov. Huckabee has been recognized by many prominent publications and organizations for his accomplishments. *Time* magazine honored him as one of the Five Best Governors in America. He is past chairman of the National Governors Association, and he was chairman of the Education Commission of States. As a former chairman of the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission, Gov. Huckabee worked with the 37-state coalition to develop an energy policy and lobby Congress on energy matters.

On a personal note, you may not have known that he was diagnosed with Type II Diabetes in 2003, and he lost 110 pounds. WOW! Barely two years later, he completed four marathons and then finished his fourth book, *Quit Digging Your Grave With a Knife and Fork*. He also enjoys playing bass guitar in his rock-n-roll band, Capital Offense. As a member of the band, he has been the opening act for musical stars such as Willie Nelson and the Charlie Daniels Band, plus two presidential inaugural balls. All of this, and he is a champion of traditional marriage. He is also a prolife advocate.

With the media attention Gov. Huckabee is attracting, and coming off a debate in which many considered him to be the winner, our upcoming meeting promises to be another one you simply will not want to miss. Plan to join us on Sept. 20 at the Poinsett Club and bring a friend—or bring two or three friends. We need to continue to have good turnouts for these outstanding guests so we can continue to attract the speakers we all enjoy having at our meetings. We look forward to seeing you on the 20th for a rip-roaring political event. *Geri Warren.*

**WELCOME  
NEW MEMBERS!**

Janet Callaway, Margaret Jordan,  
Carolyn Rice and Pamela Sowell.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members:

Congratulations to all the delegates elected to attend the SCFRW state convention in North Charleston, Oct. 19-20.

I would like to meet with all the delegates at 11 a.m., Sept. 20, before our next meeting to discuss reservations and travel. It is important that you attend.

Please remember that you can attend the convention even if not elected as a delegate. We would love to have you there.

Are you turning in your volunteer hours? It is so much easier to do one month at a time rather than to have to go back

and try to reconstruct two years at one time. Please be sure to give your hours to Kathy Davis at the Sept. 20 meeting.

This month's meeting is one week early as Geri Warren and Mary Carolyn Garton will be attending the national convention in Palm Springs, Sept. 27 to 29. We wish both ladies an exciting trip and look forward to hearing of their experiences at our October meeting.

We are excited to have Mike Huckabee, our third major presidential candidate, to talk to us this year, after having heard from Mitt Romney in February and Duncan Hunter

in April. This is a good opportunity to invite a friend to hear Gov. Huckabee. What other club can boast of having three presidential candidates speak to them in one year—and the year isn't over yet.

Sincerely,  
Betty Poe

### — PROFILES: WANDA RABENDA —

*Highlighting members of GCRWC — By Joanne Meadows*

Wanda Elizabeth Rabenda is a first generation American of Polish descent.

Wanda's parents were victims of the worldwide tragedy that was World War II. They had been captured and placed in labor camps until they were liberated by the Allied forces.

After the war, since their homes were destroyed by the Nazis and their homeland was put under Communist rule, they accepted America's invitation to resettle here as part of the Displaced Persons Act of 1948.

A kind rancher in Texas sponsored her parents and helped them get their work visas to work on his ranch. After a few years, they moved to South Bend, Indiana, where her mother worked for Notre Dame University and her father for the old Studebaker plant.

Wanda and her sister were born in South Bend. When the plant closed, the family moved to Chicago to get better jobs. Wanda graduated from an all girls Catholic high school there.

She graduated from DePaul University with a Bachelor of Science degree in marketing. She worked for 15 years for the Leo Burnett advertising agency. The firm creates advertising for major consumer brands.

In 1995 Wanda moved to Greenville, South Carolina. She wanted a family friendly environment in which to raise her daughter. Wanda's mother died when she was a teenager. Her father lived his final years in South Carolina with Wanda. He loved the nearby mountains, which reminded him of his region in Poland.

Wanda stopped work to be a full-

time parent. This gave her time for landscaping and other outdoor activities including hiking, kayaking and canoeing. She has taken up tennis and golf as she prepares for her more mature years.

She is a past president of the Silverleaf Garden Club and is also a member of the Prince of Peace Catholic Church.

Her daughter attended Riverside High School and has returned to Chicago and is currently living with her father to establish residency there. She plans to attend DePaul University next year to study entrepreneurial business management. Meanwhile, her dreams include modeling and a career in music.

Now that Wanda has an empty nest, except for her two cats, she plans to re-enter the job market. She is about to launch her job search in marketing.

Even though she grew up in a Democratic society in Chicago, Wanda has always leaned toward Republican ideals. Her Polish-Catholic roots and associations with Republican groups helped to form and reinforce conservative standards.

She heard about GCRWC three years ago and called for a reservation. She has gotten active and is now the Silverleaf precinct executive committeeman from Greer. Wanda was a delegate at the Greenville County and South Carolina state conventions. She will be a delegate in Charleston for the SCFRW convention.

She has become a true Southerner. She attended her first Clemson football game on Labor Day, learned the cheer and loved all the excitement.

### State convention delegates

The following members were elected to represent the GCRWC at the state convention in North Charleston, Oct. 19 and 20.

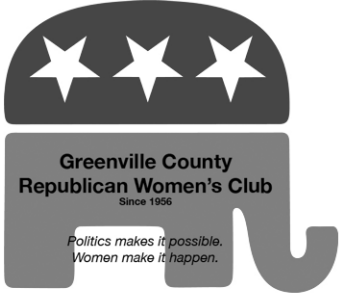

Gisela Dales, Anne Danciu, Kathy Davis, Marlene Dowd, Becky Egert, Becky Fleming, Mary Carolyn Garton, Shelly Haddon, Faye Jay, Joan Novelli, Cheryl Pressley, Wanda Rabenda, Patty Stoner and Nancee Lee Yearick. Alternates are Somer Grasser and Liz Seman.

### Fisher House thanks GCRWC

Fisher House Foundation, which provides a home away from home that enables military family members to be close to a loved one at the most stressful time—during hospitalization for an illness, disease or injury, thanked the GCRWC for a donation of \$250 the club made this summer.

David A. Coker, president of Fisher House, wrote to Pat Jenkins, club treasurer: "It is through donations such as yours that the Fisher House Foundation, Inc. is able to continue having a positive impact on the quality of life of our greatest national treasure, our military service men and women and their loved ones."

# Greenville County Republican Women's Club web site www.gcrwc.org

<p>Web site design by Hanson Communications</p> <p>You are visitor number 145 since Aug. 22, 2007</p> <p>Links</p> <p>National Federation of Republican Women</p> <p>South Carolina Federation of Republican Women</p> <p>South Carolina Republican Party Greenville County Republican Party Upstate Young Republicans</p> <p>SC House Republican Caucus SC Senate Republican Caucus</p> <p>South Carolina Government South Carolina Legislature Greenville County Government</p>	 <p>Posted 9:45 a.m., Wednesday, Sept. 5</p> <p>Huckabee to address Greenville County Republican Women's Club</p>	<p>Who we are</p> <p>Contact us</p> <p>Committees</p> <p>Presidential candidates coming to Greenville</p> <p>Dates of Interest</p>  <p>Elephant's Ear newsletter: current issue</p>
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The Greenville County Republican Women's Club web site [www.gcrwc.org](http://www.gcrwc.org) is now up and running. The site features photo galleries of past meetings, current and past issues of our newsletter, *Elephant Ear*, news of presidential candidates events in Greenville and links to favorite web sites that promote Republican and American ideals. Log on to [www.gcrwc.org](http://www.gcrwc.org) often to check out the latest club news, and tell others about the site.



Nancy Robinson (left), chairman of the Mamie Eisenhower project, presents three books on behalf of the GCRWC to Carolyn Page, media specialist at Cherrydale School. [Photo by Thomas C. Hanson]

## DATES OF INTEREST

Oct. 18-21	SCFRW Convention, Sheraton Hotel, North Charleston
Oct. 25	Noon GCRWC at Poinsett Club
Nov. 5	Greenville County GOP Executive Committee Meeting 7 p.m., Greenville Tech
Dec. 6	Noon GCRWC at Poinsett Club

## Auction Preview

It is hard to believe that we are just six weeks away from our annual fund-raiser—our auction.

Last year was a huge success because of you. You met all challenges. All I promised was that you would have fun, which we had lots of, but we also raised a record amount of money. Are you SOLD on the Greenville County Republican Women's Club? Be at the very best auction we have ever had. This year's challenges: more donations, more guests, more fun and less time. Wanda Rabenda, my vice chairman, and I have been brainstorming and I think we have some great ideas for this year's event. You will hear much more at the Sept. 20 luncheon. If you have any suggestions, please e-mail them to me at [morethanhair@charter.net](mailto:morethanhair@charter.net) or Wanda at [sowandaful@hotmail.com](mailto:sowandaful@hotmail.com)

Going once, going twice... *Kathy Snyder Garrett.*

## MEMBERS, MAKE YOUR RESERVATION TODAY!

Members, please call the appropriate person below or e-mail Carol Cobb to make your luncheon reservation by **noon, Monday, Sept. 17.**

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: Wanda Rabenda 325-6568  
Last Name • S — Z: Shirdale Hebert 268-2540

Carol Cobb — e-mail [carolcobb@aol.com](mailto:carolcobb@aol.com) by noon, Monday, Sept. 17. **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.*

Greenville County  
Republican Women's Club  
Betty Poe, President  
P.O. Box 53  
Greenville, SC 29602-0053

Postage



## Celebrate America!

*"America was targeted for attack because we're the brightest beacon for freedom and opportunity in the world. And no one will keep that light from shining."  
President George W. Bush, Sept. 11, 2001.*

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*Join Us for the September Luncheon Meeting*

**Thursday — Noon  
Sept. 20**

*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 NOON  
ON MONDAY BEFORE THE LUNCHEON**

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*GCRWC launches web site.*

*Editor: Betty Poe  
Layout: Thomas C. Hanson*