



# The Elephant's Ear

Vol. 1 No. 4

April '08

## CANDIDATES TO SPEAK AT APRIL 24 MEETING



Patrick  
Haddon



Dan  
Hamilton



Pete  
Smith



Tommy  
Stringer



Bill  
Wylie



Bob  
Leach



Wendy  
Nanney

We are pleased to have a lineup of candidates for the June 10 primary who will be introduced at our April luncheon. We will have the candidates for House Districts 18, 20, 21 and 22 and Senate District 6 represented.

**Patrick Haddon**, a landscaping company owner, will be running against incumbent **Mike Fair** in Senate District 6. Haddon is chairman of the South Carolina Federation of Young Republicans, vice president of Greenville County Farm Bureau board of directors, a Parker Fire and Sewer District commissioner, and is an associate member of GCRWC. He and his wife, Shelley, have one son and another child due in May. Shelley is a member of GCRWC.

**Dan Hamilton** will be replacing his father, Glenn, in House District 20. He is the operating partner of Keller Williams Realty and is a principal in a residential development and construction company. Dan and his wife, Kelly, have three children. Before starting his real estate business, Hamilton worked as an aide to then Congressman Jim DeMint. His mother, Joan Hamilton, is a member of our club.

**Tommy Stringer** and **Pete Smith** will face each other in the June primary for House District 18. Stringer founded his own pension compliance company eight years ago. He was elected to serve on the Coastal Carolina University board of trustees by the General Assembly in 2006. He and his wife, Carrie, have one son. Smith has been an optometrist for the past 30 years, and his practice is in Greer. He and his wife, Rosalind, who is also an optometrist, have two children. Both candidates are lifelong residents of District 18.

**Bill Wylie** will be running against incumbent **Bob Leach** for the House District 21 seat. Leach has been the representative for District 21 since 1997 and was on Greenville County Council from 1980 to 1996. He serves as the chair of the Invitations and Memorial Resolutions Committee and is on the Ways and Means Committee. He and his wife, Marilynn, have five adult children (one deceased). Wylie was the executive director of Goodwill Industries of Upstate/Midland South Carolina from 2002 to 2007. Before that he was president of Stone International from 1998 to 2001, Umbro America from 1996 to 1998,

executive vice president of Umbro International from 1991 to 1996 and vice president operations for Stone Manufacturing from 1985 to 1991. He and his wife, Janie, have three grown children and 10 grandchildren.

**Gloria Haskins**, the incumbent for House District 22, will be facing **Wendy Nanney** in the June primary. Gloria has been in the House since 2001. She is on the Invitations and Memorial Resolutions Committee and the Judiciary Committee. She was married to the late Terry Haskins and she has four sons. Gloria will be represented by her son at the meeting because the General Assembly is in session. Wendy is credit manager for Interfilm Holdings in Piedmont. She is immediate past chairman of the Greenville County Republican Party and former treasurer of Upstate Republican Women. She and her husband, Tim, have five children. Tim is Greenville County's register of deeds. *Kathy Davis.*

### Here Come the Directories!

Do you remember W-A-Y back in high school, how excited we all felt when it was time for our long anticipated yearbooks to arrive? Well, I feel like it's that time again!

Our hard-working Membership Directory Committee, made up of Karen Mims (chairman), Melinda Lindberg, Nancy Cline, Virginia Waters and Tom Hanson, has been planning, typing, calling, running, correcting, etc. for more than three and a half months, and the Big Day is fast approaching. Our directories will be ready for distribution at our monthly meeting on April 24! Make sure you are there so you can receive your beautiful GCRWC pictorial membership directory — hot off the press!

The pictorial directory will be a great asset for our club, enabling us to put the right GCRW name with the right Republican face and providing all of us with a convenient resource for con-ly[lf\_]Y[ 'gl' ]j'Yf\ 'e Yf q'g^gmj ]d [l] \ 'g'p[ 'd&k&A` gh] 'qgm will make a special effort to thank each member of the Membership Directory Committee and thank them for the outstanding job they have done! On the entire club's behalf, I want to say, THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

*Geri Warren*

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

We are looking forward to hosting seven candidates for the South Carolina House at our meeting on April 24. This is a wonderful opportunity to listen, evaluate and determine who gets your vote.

As you know, the upcoming elections are more important than ever as we go through the economic times we are facing. These men and women will have the power to take our money in taxes, improve or worsen our educational system and expand or reduce some of the freedoms we now enjoy. And the list of issues they can and will face could go on and on.

Let's make sure we come to the meeting on April 24 prepared to ask the important questions of this outstanding group of candidates. We can ask those questions in a cordial and polite way, but we need to ask them the questions that you feel

are important in determining for whom you will vote. As the meeting approaches, be sure to be thinking about the question, or questions, you would like to have them answer. There are certainly plenty of issues confronting us this year.

Also, remember that there is a great opportunity for you to volunteer to help your candidate as they campaign this year. Be sure to count the hours you work toward your volunteer hours for GCRW. And don't forget to pass this information along to Carol Cobb. We want to continue to be recognized as one of the most active clubs in the state.

We have many, many events and parties coming up, so be sure to check our calendar of events in the newsletter or on [www.gcrwc.org](http://www.gcrwc.org). We don't want you to miss out on any of these events because we're having a great year and a lot of fun when we get together.

Sincerely,  
Geri Warren

## — Grassroots: Peggy Kirby —

*Highlighting members of GCRW — By Fiona Davidson*



Peggy Kirby and her husband, Will, have lived in Greenville for many years and are active in Northgate Baptist Church. Peggy and Will met at First Baptist Church in Clemson when Peggy was a senior in high school. They will soon celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary.

Peggy and Will have raised two sons, Gary and Dee. Gary and his wife live in Atlanta, where Gary works as a marketing and public relations specialist for real estate development. Dee, his wife and young son live nearby in Greenville. Dee works for AT&T Mobility. Peggy and Will enjoy their first grandson, Daniel, and their granddog River.

Peggy was born in Seneca and grew up in the Clemson area as her father was a professor at Clemson University. She graduated from Daniel High School and then went to Winthrop University and received a degree in Elementary Education. Peggy taught school in Greenville County for nine years.

Will is originally from St. George, South Carolina, and graduated from Clemson University with a degree in History. He then spent two years in the Army. Will works as a business consultant for physicians and dentists and prepares their tax returns. As you can imagine, Peggy does not see much of Will at this time of the year.

Peggy's family has quite the Clemson University connection. Peggy's father graduated from Clemson in 1933.

He obtained his doctorate in horticulture and taught at Clemson for many years.

He retired from teaching in 1975. At 98 years young, he still likes to attend football games.

Will graduated from Clemson in 1964, and both of their sons, Dee and Gary, graduated from Clemson in the late 1970s. Gary served as student body president.

Peggy has many hobbies and interests that include volunteering at schools, snow skiing, antiquing and traveling with her family. Peggy has a lifelong love of music.

Peggy is also talented at decorating and gardening. It comes from a reliable source (that would be our own president, Geri Warren) that Peggy's Christmas decorations are something to behold. Peggy and Will have about two acres of land and her favorite plants are azaleas and ferns.

Peggy is proud to be a Republican, and her family also follows politics closely. Peggy joined the GCRWC about five years ago and serves on the executive board as committee chairman for decorations.



Peggy Kirby

## Old Fashioned Stump Meeting May 24

The Greenville County Republican Party will have an old-fashioned stump meeting Saturday, May 24, in a hangar at the Greenville Jet Center at the Downtown Airport.

: ] l l q H g ] \$ b j k l ' n d ] [ ' Y a e Y f ' g ^ the Greenville GOP, said the event will feature Republican candidates running in the June 10 primary, pop corn, hot dogs and soft drinks.

The event, a fund-raiser for the Greenville GOP, costs \$15 for adults and \$5 for children. For more information contact Betty Poe at 907-1577.

## Sunshine Report

Doris Latham is improving after her stroke and has regained her balance.

Carol Cobb's electronics in her home are slowly being replaced after lightning struck her home a couple of weeks ago.

Dot Stroud's health issues are improving, and she hopes to be joining us again soon.

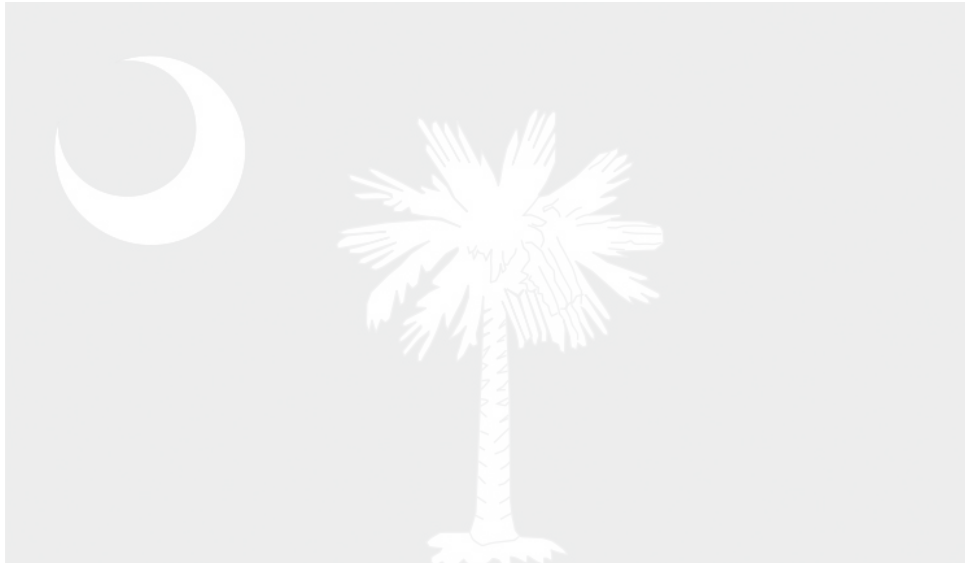
## Welcome New Members!

Mitsy Ballentine, Susan Beeco, Karen Lawton, Marilynn Leach, Sandra Price, Z Rosti, Cheryl Smart, Linda Wallace and Janie Wylie.



Greenville County  
Republican Women's Club  
Geri Warren, President  
P.O. Box 53  
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Postage



GCRWC web site  
[www.gcrwc.org](http://www.gcrwc.org)

Join Us for the April Luncheon Meeting  
Thursday — Noon — April 24  
Poinsett Club downtown Greenville



The  
**Elephant's Ear**  
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**Make Your Reservation Today!**

Please e-mail Cheryl Pressley at [gcrwreply@bellsouth.net](mailto:gcrwreply@bellsouth.net) or call her at 246-6448 by noon, Monday, April 21. To avoid paying \$15, cancellation must be made by 8 p.m., April 21.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

April 21	Fourth Congressional District Convention, 7 p.m., Verne Smith Auditorium, Greenville Tech.
April 24	Noon: GCRW at Poinsett Club
May 3	SCFRW Quarterly Board Meeting Embassy Suites, Columbia
May 22	Noon: GCRW at Poinsett Club
May 24	Old Fashioned GOP stump meeting Greenville Jet Center, Downtown Airport
May 30	Silver Elephant Dinner, Columbia
May 31	South Carolina Republican Party Convention
Sept. 1 to 4	National GOP Convention Minneapolis, Minnesota

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