



The

Elephant's Ear

Vol. 1 No. 11

December '08

THE ECONOMY???

DR. RAYMOND SAUER
CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

WHAT'S NEXT FOR THE GOP?

DR. BRENT NELSON
FURMAN UNIVERSITY

DEC. 11 LUNCHEON

We are honored to have Dr. Raymond Sauer and Dr. Brent Nelsen as our guest speakers for our December 11 luncheon.

Our nation is in an economic crisis. Our president-elect is determined to move aggressively to rescue the plunging economy. What role should the government play in solving the problem? What would have prevented this crisis?

Dr. Raymond Sauer

Dr. Raymond Sauer will be discussing the economy. Dr. Sauer is professor of Economics and chair of the John E. Walker Department of Economics at Clemson University.



Dr. Raymond Sauer

His research interests are broad, ranging from the economics of regulation to the organization of industry and the application of the supply and demand model of markets to just about anything.

He is the author of numerous scholarly papers that have been published in the leading professional journals. He is the founder of *The*

Sports Economist, a popular multi-author weblog focusing on economic aspects of sports.

He was awarded a Ph.D. by the University of Washington in 1985, and has also served on the faculties of the University of New Mexico, Stanford University and the University of Louisville.

Dr. Brent Nelsen

Dr. Brent Nelsen will be talking to us about "What's Next for the Republican Party?" Dr. Nelsen is often seen on WYFF Channel 4 providing expert analysis on the local and national political scene.

In a post-election editorial in *The Greenville News*, Dr. Nelsen wrote: "The Democrats are celebrating total victory; they haven't been this happy since 1964. The Republicans are licking wounds; they haven't been this discouraged since Nixon resigned. Each party sees nothing but success (Democrats) or failure (Republicans) from now to eternity. Both are wrong.

"The beauty of the American two-party system is that neither party can hold its dominance for too long.



Dr. Brent Nelsen

"Sober Democrats will recognize that governing a country at war and in recession will be difficult. But as hard as the next few years will be for Democrats, it is Republicans who will spend the next years in agony. But what will emerge will be a New Republican Party."

Dr. Nelsen earned degrees from Wheaton College and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He received his Ph.D. in political science in 1989 and began teaching at Furman in

January 1990, where he now serves as the chair of the Department of Political Science.

He teaches courses on the politics of Europe and the European Union, as well as a course on the politics of the international economic system.



Christmas music



In addition to the beautiful Poinsett Club all decorated in its finest Christmas attire, composer and musician **Glenn Christianson** will entertain us on the piano with a prelude of Christmas music. I look forward to seeing each of you at the December 11 luncheon.
Kathy Davis.

Christmas Caring for America Project

It has been GCRW's tradition at Christmas to remember a worthy group who has special needs by bringing special gifts. This year **Kathy Snyder-Garrett**, chairman of our Caring for America Committee, has chosen **Triune Mercy Center** — "the best kept secret in Greenville."

Please bring two or more of the items listed below to our Dec. 11 luncheon or call Kathy at 787-8550.

Peanut butter ● cereal ● canned vegetables ● boxes of pasta ● canned meat (Vienna sausages, tuna, chicken, ravioli, beef stew) ● spaghetti sauce ● pop-top cans of ready-to-eat spaghetti and meat balls, etc.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

Although the national election didn't go as we had hoped, we pray that the Republican Party can now unite behind conservative principles and act as a counter-balance to the liberal Democratic agenda.

And out of the Obama ashes, may there rise up a "Reagan" — like one of our own: Gov. Mark Sanford, Sen. Jim DeMint or ???

At any rate, 2008 has been a year of accomplishments for the Greenville County Republican Women's Club. As the year comes to an end, I am reminded of all that our members, committee chairmen and officers have done to make GCRW such a success:

Highlights of 2008

- 167 members and 26 associate members, surpassing last year's number, which was the largest in the state.
- More than \$5,000 raised at auction, the most ever made at a fundraiser



Election Night Event at Furman

The stage was set for a grand victory celebration at the Younts Center on the campus of Furman University on election night. GCRW along with the Greenville County GOP, Furman College Republicans and the South Carolina College Republicans teamed up to sponsor an election night celebration

A beautiful array of tasty hors d' oeuvres was spread across a grand table; red, white and blue bunting and balloons were strategically placed throughout the large hall; a huge screen that practically covered one entire wall was in place to bring the latest results from around the country; WYFF was even on hand to interview and report on the festivities of the evening. Unfortunately, there was not a whole lot to celebrate . . . at least on the national level.

The party faithfuls who attended were sorely disappointed (*depressed* might be the better word), but somehow were comforted by the fact that Republicans won overwhelmingly in the state of South Carolina.

On a positive note, the party itself was a well organized and first class event thanks to **Taylor Hall**, chairman of the Furman College Republicans, who organized the event, and **Congressman Bob Inglis**, who was the major contributor. By the way, congratulations to **Congressman Bob and Mary Ann Inglis** on Bob's re-election! *Gerri Warren.*

- Our very own GCRW seal
- A chartered bus trip to the State House and tea at the Governor's Mansion for Legislative Day
- GCRW's first pictorial membership directory
- An absolutely amazing Americanism program
- A voter registration drive at North Greenville University that brought in 100 new voters
- GCRW's nominee for NFRW's internship in Washington was one of three national winners
- Outstanding speakers and well-attended programs
- Candidates! candidates! . . . and more candidates!

Thanks for trumpeting the conservative cause. And wait until you find out what we're planning for next year — hang on for a wild and exciting ride.

Merry Christmas,
Gerri Warren

Sunshine Report

Please keep associate member **Jackie Fiedler** in your prayers. Jackie has had several complications following knee replacement surgery. She is in long-term care at St. Francis and would enjoy humorous cards.

Laura Richards is doing well while continuing her radiation treatment.

Welcome New Members!



Heidi Aiken, Harriett L. Carmichael, Jane Cottingham, Gwen Crosland, Elizabeth Herman, Brandi Koontz, Debbie Spaugh, Lee Anne Townes and Christina Jeffrey (associate).

New GOP Headquarters

The Greenville County GOP Office has moved to
850 Wade Hampton Blvd.
Bldg. C
Greenville 29609
(864) 271-1100

Remember

Our Military at Christmas



Pat Jenkins suggests a **card** to:

A Recovering American Soldier
c/o Walter Reed Army Medical Center
6900 Georgia Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20307-5001

Gisela Dales recommends a **check** to:

Fisher House Foundation, Inc.
1401 Rockville Pike, Suite 600
Rockville, Maryland, 20852

Legislative Corner

Reportedly, the rules will be changing in the S.C. House of Representatives this session to allow **Speaker Bobby Harrell** to appoint chairs of committees rather than the previous process of chairs being elected within their committee.



Republican House Caucus members insist that this is necessary to keep Democrats' power in check, while critics see this as an opportunity for the speaker to continue to consolidate powers and seek retribution on members who are out of line with House leadership.

Critics cite one specific example as the true reason for the rule change. **Rep. Nikki Haley** supposedly had the votes to become the powerful Labor, Commerce and Industry (LCI) chairman until she became cross-wired with Speaker Harrell over the publicly touted transparency bill, and now critics argue that Speaker Harrell is using this to push Rep. Haley aside as LCI chairman.

Proponents of the rule argue against this example by stating that the speaker already appoints committee members and if he wanted to seek retribution then he would not appoint a member to a committee. Regardless, it looks like the 2009 legislative session is shaping up to be an interesting one.

GCRW Literacy Project 2008



Sharon Dowell (left), principal of Monaview Elementary School, and Christian Przirembel, GCRWC member.

The GCRWC participated in the Dictionary Project this year as part of the National Federation of Republican Women's Literacy Project.

The Dictionary Project is a nonprofit organization that assists students in completing the school year as good writers, active readers and creative thinkers by providing them with their own personal dictionary. The dictionaries are a gift to each student to use at school and at home for years to come.

According to the Dictionary Project web site, "reading is the most important skill of all. It is the starting point for all the economic and social opportunities this world has to offer."

The GCRWC donated 72 dictionaries to Monaview Elementary School in Greenville. These dictionaries were taken by club member, **Christian Przirembel**, to Principal **Sharon Dowell** Oct. 24. Mrs. Dowell appreciated the gift and said she was going to give them to her fourth and fifth grade classes. *Christian E. Przirembel.*

Going once, going twice . . . Sold to the highest bidder! And it was — to the tune of more than \$5,000. What a great success, thanks in large part to the vision, innovation, planning, organization and hard work of our co-chairmen **Wendy Foulke** and **Barbara Poole**, and their highly motivated auction committee members **Ann Powell** and **Le Anne Garrett**.

Early last year Wendy and Barbara came to me and said that they

*Our Elephant's Auction
Was . . .
Fabulously
Successful!*



had some ideas for the auction and they would like to head up the auction committee. (That's right! They *volunteered* to be in charge of the auction. Am I lucky or what?) They were definitely in their element! Not only did they furnish many items themselves, such as the White House cuff links,

the cashmere shawls, beach house weekend — just to name a few — they also invited a whole table of shopaholic friends to be their guests at the auction.

As an added bonus, Wendy and Barbara asked their friend, professional radio host **Heidi Aiken**, to be our mistress of ceremonies and auctioneer. What a great addition she was.

Also, thanks to such associate members as **Bob Dill** for donating the historical picture of President Nixon, a big ticket item on its own.

A special thank you to **Carol Cobb**, who volunteered to write individual thank you notes to the businesses that donated items for the auction. These notes along with GCRW members' patronage of these businesses will let them know how much we appreciate their generosity and maybe they will want to donate again next year.

All in all, it was a fabulous auction, and the most successful fundraiser we have ever had. Thank you all for proving the GCRW with the necessary funds for the coming year.

Special thanks to: Abigail's Jewelry and Fine Gifts ● Ascot Earth Systems ● Augusta Grill ● Brick Street Café ● Chloe & Grace ● Childress Jewelers ● Cocobella Boutique ● Especially Yours ● Frameworks ● G&S Electrical Services ● Garrison's Opticians ● Girlfriends 205 ● Hissy Fits ● Josef & Stephen Salon ● Justin's Steakhouse ● Luthi's Sport Shop ● Maiale Boutique ● Mariani's Boutique ● Massage Envy ● Monkee's of the Westend ● Mary Beth's ● Moxie Equestrian ● Muse Shoe Studio ● Pierce & Parker ● Pink Bee ● Satters Creek ● Scarlet Macaw ● Southern Touch ● Tarrah Cosmetics ● Upstate Skin Care Center and Spa ● Lindsey Graham, Mary Anne and Bob Inglis, Bruce Bannister, Gresham Barrett, Andre Bauer

Heidi Aiken from B 93.7

and all the members and friends
who so generously donated to support the GCRWC!

Dues Are Due

Please remember to renew your membership for the January to December 2009 club year at our December 11 meeting. Please bring a check for \$20 made payable to GCRW, designated for Annual Membership Dues or mail it to Mary Carolyn Garton, 107 Sabra Drive, Easley, SC 29642-2959.



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

Postage



GCRWC web site

www.gcrwc.org

Join Us for our December Luncheon Meeting

Thursday — Noon — Dec. 11

Poinsett Club downtown Greenville



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MAKE YOUR RESERVATION TODAY!

Please e-mail Cheryl Pressley at gcrwreply@bellsouth.net or call her at 246-6448 by noon, Monday, Dec. 8. To avoid paying \$15, cancellation must be made by 8 p.m., Dec. 8.

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*Editor: Geri Warren
Layout: Thomas C. Hanson
www.ThomasHanson.com*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec. 11	GCRWC Noon at Poinsett Club
Jan. 22	GCRWC Noon at Poinsett Club
Feb. 2	Greenville County GOP Executive Committee Meeting
Feb.	SCFRW Quarterly Board Meeting, Columbia
March 2 (Tentative)	Greenville County GOP Precinct Reorganization
April	Greenville County GOP Convention
May 15	Silver Elephant Dinner, Columbia
May 16	GOP State Convention, Columbia