



The

Elephant's Ear

Vol. 2 No. 11

December '09

U.S. CONGRESSMAN GRESHAM BARRETT, CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR, TO SPEAK DEC. 3

Rep. Gresham Barrett, from the third congressional district, and a candidate for governor, will be our guest speaker Dec. 3.



Gresham Barrett

Rep. Barrett was born and raised in Westminster, and his parents instilled in him the conservative values he carries with him today — faith in God, service to others, hard work, devotion to family, love of country, individual freedom and personal responsibility.

Barrett earned a bachelors degree from The Citadel, and after graduation, he served four and a half years in the army — First Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas. In 1987, Gresham returned to Westminster to help run the family furniture store.

First elected to the State House of Representatives in 1996, Gresham led the successful fight to ban partial birth abortion in South Carolina and stood up for the rights of taxpayers.

For his work in the U.S. Congress, the American Conservative Union gave Gresham their second-highest conservative score, while *National Journal* ranked him the fourth most conservative member of the U.S. House. Gresham has repeatedly earned the endorsements of the National Rifle Association, the National Federation of Independent Businesses and the National Right to Life Committee. The National Taxpayers Union has repeatedly named Gresham Barrett a Taxpayer's Friend.

Gresham and his wife Natalie have three children — Madison, Jeb and Ross.

Karen Floyd, South Carolina Republican Party chairwoman, will give us an update on the Republican Party in South Carolina, and install the GCRWC officers for 2010-2011.

Karen began her legal career as a staff attorney for the South Carolina Senate.

She also served as Spartanburg County's youngest chief magistrate. Today Karen serves as CEO of the Palladin Group, a business development, technology and marketing firm she founded more than 10 years ago. She is married and has two sons.



Karen Floyd

Installation of Officers

Kathy Davis	President
Pamela Sowell	First Vice President
Jamie Bach	Second Vice President
Betty Orders	Recording Secretary
Carol Cobb	Corresponding Secretary
Patricia Arceneaux	Treasurer

I look forward to seeing each of you at the December luncheon. Please bring a neighbor or friend who is interested in joining the GCRWC. *Kathy Davis*.

Special Christmas Music



Our Christmas music will be presented by the Goodwin String Quartet: Joshua, violinist; Jordan, violinist; Merry, cellist; and Mindy, violist. They are members of the Greenville County Youth Orchestra and students of the Fine Arts Center.



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 Meals on Wheels (MOW).

Please bring two or more cans of **fruits or vegetables** to our Dec. 3 luncheon. According to GCRWC member **Liz Seaman**, MOW executive director, fruits and vegetables are easiest to work into their menus and are much needed.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



GCRWC Continues to Influence Republican Politics

Dear Members,

As I reflect back to December 2007, I wonder how could two years have flown by like the blink of an eye, but then I realize it's because almost every day, every meeting, every rally, every debate, every project, every convention was filled to the limit, with no time to spare. And what a thrilling two years it has been.

Our club has continued to grow and maintain its status as the largest Republican Women's Club in the state, and it continues to stand at the center of South Carolina Republican politics. Our club has played host to Sen. DeMint, Gov. Sanford, Congressmen, state and county leaders, heads of departments of several universities, and candidates, candidates, candidates. You may ask — why have we been able to attract such top speakers? I believe it's because they recognize GCRWC's influence on the political stage.

The Greenville County Republican Women's Club has not become the strong organization that it is today because of any one, two or three individuals but because of the many members who have that conservative core belief and are willing to work hard and donate their time and talents not just for this club, as an end in itself, but in hopes that we will be able to save our country and our way of life for our children and grandchildren.

The fact that Republicans lost the Presidency and majorities in the House and Senate in '08 has made the role of our club far more important.

GCRWC members have taken up the gauntlet and have become more active in Republican Party politics. You have organized precincts, become elected officers in precincts,

including executive committeemen, volunteered in campaigns, organized rallies, marched on Washington, and have run for office. The GCRWC is very involved!

I would like to recognize the following officers and committee chairmen who have contributed greatly to GCRWC's success in 2008 and 2009:

Betty Poe, Kathy Davis, Mary Carolyn Garton, Pat Jenkins, Betty Orders, Carol Cobb, Gisela Dales, Pam Sowell, Cheryl Pressley, Wendy Foulke, Barbara Poole, Jamie Bach, Pat Browning, Joanne Meadows, Patty Stoner, Nancee Lee Yearick, Faye Jay, Kathy Snyder-Garrett, Peggy Kirby, Mary Drawdy, Pat Earle, Karen Mims, Gayle Stanley, Catherine Pence, Laura Richards, Betty Solesbee, Shelly Haddon, Sylvia Bass, Debbie Spaugh, Patricia Arceneaux and Karen Crane.

And thanks to the following associate members who have given strong support to the GCRWC: **Bob Dill, Willis Meadows, Tom Hanson, Billy Mitchell, Bob Dowd and Jan Williams** and many others.

I'm confident that we will have strong leadership with President-elect Kathy Davis and the 2010 GCRW slate of officers. I'm sure they will continue to bring in candidates and excellent speakers while at the same time continuing to grow our membership and increase our influence within the Republican Party.

It has been an honor to serve as president of the Greenville County Republican Women's Club.

Merry Christmas!

Sincerely,

Geri Warren

About Our GCRWC Family

Mary Earle Drawdy: a Historical Heritage

Mary Earle Drawdy is a 10th generation Earle and is a descendant of Col. Elias Earle. Col. Earle was a member of the South Carolina House of Representatives from 1794 to 1798, the South Carolina Senate 1798-1804 and a U.S. Congressman in 1805-07, 1811-15 and 1817-21. The Earle family was among the first settlers of Greenville.

Mary grew up in Greenville and attended Greenville High School. She is a graduate of Furman University and earned a B.A. in French. After graduation she worked for the Navy Department in Washington for two years and then married. Thereafter, she became a homemaker and mother and worked various jobs including medical secretary and substitute teacher.

Mary is a charter member of Greenville Republican Women's Club. She grew up a Republican and her entire family is Republican. She was married to Vance B. Drawdy, who was instrumental in getting the Republican Party established in South Carolina. Mr. Drawdy was an attorney and partner in the Horton Drawdy Ward & Jenkins law firm.

Mary has one son, Vance Earle Drawdy, who is an at-

torney and partner in the Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak and Stewart law firm. Vance is married to **Sarah Ganss Drawdy**, also an attorney, who has her own law firm in Anderson. Sarah is also a member of GCRW.

Mary has other family members who are members of GCRW, her sister, **Elizabeth Farnsworth**, sister-in-law **Pat Earle** and her niece **Jenny Earle**.

Mary was a charter member of the Legal Auxiliary, which has recently disbanded. One of the purposes of the Auxiliary was to educate children regarding safety at home and in the streets. The group visited schools and performed skits that the children could relate to. The nationally recognized program was HouseWise/StreetWise.

Mary is also a member of the Greenville Historical Society and the South Carolina Genealogy Society. She is an accomplished portrait artist, having exhibited pictures in the Poinsett Club Art Show. She has studied with Bob Bruns and is currently studying with Janet Fleming Smith. Most of her portraits are of family members and occasionally friends.

She is co-chair of the Mamie Eisenhower Library Project and a member of First Baptist Church. *Karen Crane.*



Mary Earle Drawdy

22 GCRW Members Attend State Convention in Beaufort

By Whitney Brady

BEAUFORT — Twenty-two GCRWC delegates attended the South Carolina Federation of Republican Women's bi-annual convention at the Holiday Inn in Beaufort, Oct. 15-18.

The Beaufort County Republican Women's Club played hostess to the other Republican Women's groups from around the state.

Our Beaufort sisters did a wonderful job with great organization, delightful decorations and a fantastic hospitality suite and provided everyone with an SCFRW tote bag filled with goodies from the candidates.

The festivities began Friday, Oct. 16, with a meet and greet luncheon hosted by Ken Ard, candidate for governor.

The afternoon continued with workshops on topics such as "Dealing With the Press," "Clubs, Meetings and the Law," "Communicating Effectively" and "Building Coalitions."

The evening was our own, and many of us chose to visit Beaufort's delicious and scenic Bay Street eateries, after which a Ghost Tour by horse-drawn carriage carried many of us through a scenic tour of Beaufort's Historic District. Eventually, the spirits moved us back to the hotel where we enjoyed an ice cream and dessert social.

Saturday morning we enjoyed a breakfast with the candidates for lieutenant governor. After a board of directors meeting, we commenced the official portion of the conference. Beaufort's ROTC cadets provided a flag ceremony and presentation of the colors as we had a prayer, sang the National Anthem and "America the Beautiful". President Mary McAbee called the convention to order and our morning meeting began.

Greenville's own Betty Poe was sworn in as president of the SCFRW for 2010-2012. Resplendent in a lipstick pink



CONVENTION DELEGATES — GCRWC delegates to the South Carolina Federation of Republican Women's convention included **Geri Warren, Betty Poe, Kathy Davis, Patricia Arce-neaux, Sylvia Bass, Cheryl Boyd, Whitney Brady, Michelle Chambers, Gloria Cullens, Gisela Dales, Jenny Earle, Kathy Snyder-Garrett, Mary Carolyn Garton, Caroline Head, Faye Jay, Pat Jenkins, Joanne Meadows, Andrea Pisarcik, Pam Sowell, Debbie Spaugh, Gayle Stanley and Jane Erkes.** [Photo by Kathy Pflug]

jacket, Betty Poe thanked Mary McAbee for her leadership and hard work and looked forward to her continued involvement as past president.

Poe promised to work effectively with her officers and to bring more women in the Republican Women's groups into roles on committees. In fact, she had sign-up sheets ready to capture her willing audience's enthusiasm!

During the luncheon, the installation of officers for 2010-2012 took place and we welcomed Betty Poe as President, Lisa Sox as First Vice President, Mary Pearson as Second Vice President, Linda Garner as Treasurer and Johnny Bellamy as Secretary.

The afternoon session concluded and many of us raced to the hallway where a spirited silent auction was in progress.

The bidding continued throughout the afternoon on baskets from around the state. Each club sponsored a basket from their area as a fundraiser for the SCFRW. Joanne Meadows won several of the auction's offerings.

Saturday evening's awards banquet was a sell-out with a packed ballroom and gubernatorial candidates lining the stage for early in the election cycle speeches. The main event of the evening was the presentation of awards, and Greenville seemed to be the belle of the ball by garnering numerous awards resulting from lots of hours of hard work.

Sunday's sunrise brought us to a conclusion with a prayer breakfast with prayers and spiritual thoughts from several speakers including Cindy Clark, the SCFRW Chaplain, and Tim Scott, Republican candidate for governor.

We closed the wonderful weekend session with a beautiful prayer and regretfully, loaded our cars for home. Fortunately, many of us have lots of stories to share with the group until the convention in 2011!

Betty Poe Elected SCFRW President

The SCFRW elected **Betty Poe**, from Greenville, as President of the South Carolina Federation of Republican Women for the 2010-2012 term.



Betty Poe sworn in

Betty served as past president of the Greenville County Republican Women's Club and serving on several committees within the club and the SCFRW over the years.

"Betty Poe was elected because of her proven leadership skills," said fellow GCRWC member Faye Jay. "She is always prepared, she is enthusiastic and she's passionate about issues of concern to Republican women in both SC and the Republican Party."

GCRWC Largest Republican Women's Club in State

Finally, the moment we waited for, the award for South Carolina's largest club went to . . . Greenville!

We won handily this year, and many congratulations and thanks go to our members who brought in the largest and record number of new members this year.

This was due in large part to GCRWC's President **Geri Warren's** wise offering of incentives and prizes for new member referrals.

Geri herself was lauded many times during the awards banquet for several awards she had garnered over the past year, including the President's Award. The GCRWC received the Diamond Award.

Congratulations to all the GCRWC women whose drive and determination to grow Greenville gave us all the victory. Remember, we can still grow in 2010! *Whitney Brady.*



GCRWC Business and News



Membership Dues: Please Join Us!

Presently we have 238 members in the GCRWC and 46 associates. It is my goal as the President Elect that each of you rejoin our club and that you will be able to attend our monthly luncheon.

Our membership runs from January to December 2010. It would be a big encouragement to the new slate of officers to enter the new year with at least 90 percent of the current members having paid their dues.

Many of our members sign a standing reservation form giving the reservations chairman permission to make a reservation for them for every meeting. If you are unable to attend – you would need to notify us.

Please plan to bring a check for \$20.00 for your dues to our December 3rd luncheon. If you will not be able to attend, please mail your \$20 check along with your contact information to **Mary Carolyn Garton**, 107 Sabra Drive, Easley, SC 29642.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at home in the evenings at 244-1155 or email me at kda-vis0410@charter.net. I look forward to a great year. **Kathy Davis**.

Sunshine Report

Two families in our GCRWC extended family have had more than just one member with health problems. One such member is **Anne Brady**, who is back on her feet after hip fractures over the summer.

Daughter **Whitney Brady** is helping out with Mom Anne and grandmother Miss Jay (soon to be 95), who is back in the hospital for a third visit in six weeks.

Also, please remember **Pat McManaway** and her husband **Clayton**, an associate member. Pat is looking forward to back surgery Nov. 23 to relieve back pain.

Clayton has completed more than half of his radiation treatments with few side effects.

On a happy note – GCRWC member **Lillie Craig** celebrated her 95th birthday Nov. 13. Happy Birthday, Lillie!

Memorial Ceremony Dec. 3

Dot Stroud Ruth Clinkscales
Bettie Christopher Jane Hansley

Remembering their Lives and Contributions
Catherine Pence, Chairman

Join the Greenville County Republican Women's Club on Facebook at www.Facebook.com

Greenville GOP Nets Close to \$10,000

The Greenville GOP conducted a successful fundraiser Nov. 5 with three candidates for Governor attending a party at the home of Geri and Steve Warren. With only a couple of pledges not yet in, the net total should be close to \$10,000.



The purpose of the even, aside from raising money for the local party, was to give party activists a chance to meet and greet the candidates running for Governor.

The candidates attending the event were state Rep. Nikki Haley, Attorney Gen. Henry McMaster and Lt. Gov. Andre Bauer. U.S. Rep. Gresham Barrett had been called back to Washington for the health care bill. State Sen. Larry Grooms did not attend.

GCRWC Members and Associate Members Attending: **Michelle Moody, Janie Wylie, Becky Horrace, Liz Seaman, Shelly Haddon, Sarah Drawdy, Mary Drawdy, Kathy Snyder Garrett, Betty Poe, Kathy Davis, Judy Cooter, Harriet Dempsey, Andrea Pisarcik, Joanne Meadows, Karen Crane, Aurie Latham and Kelly Hamilton, Bob Dill, Tom Hanson, Willis Meadows, Billy Mitchell, Connie Holmes, Suzette Jordan, Joe Dill, Patrick Haddon, Tommy Stringer, Dan Hamilton and Dan Herren.**

Dec. 7 at 7 p.m.
Bowater Building Downtown Greenville (near bridge)

Greenville County Republican Party

December 7th 7:00pm
Bowater Building Lobby
71 East Camerondown Way
Downtown Greenville

Greenville County Republican Party will be hosting a Christmas Social. All statewide office candidates are invited to attend. Come meet the candidates.

Dress: Business Casual Cost: Free to the public Parking: Free parking in Bowater Garage next door.

You're Invited!

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

Postage



GCRWC web site

www.gcrwc.com

Join Us for our October Luncheon Meeting

Thursday — Noon — Dec. 3
Poinsett Club downtown Greenville



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GCRWC News
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SCFRW Convention in Beaufort

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MAKE YOUR RESERVATION TODAY!

Please e-mail Cheryl Boyd at gcrwreply@charter.net or call her at 609-0500 by Monday, Nov. 30. To avoid paying \$15, cancellation must be made by 8 p.m., Nov. 30.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec. 3	GCRWC, Noon at Poinsett Club
Dec. 7	Greenville County Republican Christmas Party Bowater Building (near bridge in downtown Greenville) 7 - 8:30 p.m.
Jan. 28	GCRWC, Noon at Poinsett Club
Feb. 4	Education Forum With Candidates For Superintendent of Education Verne Smith Auditorium 7 - 8:30 p.m.