

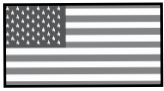


The

Elephant's Ear

Vol. 2 No. 9

September '09



SEN. JIM DEMINT



MONDAY, SEPT. 21

Our club is honored to have Sen. Jim DeMint as our guest speaker for our Sept. 21 luncheon. Since his first campaign for Congress in 1998, Jim DeMint has proven to be a principled leader who has fought to secure South Carolina's and America's future.

Elected as South Carolina's 55th senator in 2004, DeMint quickly established himself as one of the most effective conservative leaders in Washington, seeking to enact innovative solutions to improve America for future generations. He has been a tireless advocate for smaller government, individual liberty, a strong national defense and traditional values.

DeMint has earned national acclaim for his work to end the system of earmarks, also referred to as the "congressional favor factory." Following the November elections in 2006, the senator stood up against big spenders in Congress and stopped more than 10,000 wasteful pork projects. Washington journalist Robert Novak called him a hero. *Wall Street Journal* editor Steve Moore said the senator's actions saved Americans about \$17 billion and called him the "taxpayers greatest ally."

In early 2007 DeMint also fought for commonsense immigration reform by leading the effort to defeat the amnesty bill and calling on government to first secure our borders, enforce the laws already passed and streamline the legal immigration system.

Last year, just as Ronald Reagan had done more than 20 years earlier, DeMint delivered the keynote address to the nation's largest gathering of conservative activists at the annual Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC). He was ranked as the Senate's most conservative member by *National Journal* and as the No. 1 senator voting for responsible tax and spending policies by the National Taxpayers Union.

The senator and his wife, Debbie, live in Greenville, and are the proud parents of four married children. They are greatly enjoy their new role as grandparents. (The preceding is from the bio for Sen. DeMint from his website).

Sen. DeMint was born in Greenville and graduated from the University of Tennessee with a bachelor of science degree in 1973 and an M.B.A. from Clemson University in 1981. His committee assignments are Commerce, Science & Transportation; Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs; Foreign Relations; and the Joint Economic Committee.

This luncheon promises to be one of the highlights of the year. Please plan to arrive early since we will have many

guests and are expecting to fill the ballroom.

Key issues for Sen. DeMint are as follows:

Border security: By maintaining the law, we ensure the safety of our homeland and uphold the sanctity of American citizenship.

Economic growth: Washington can give Americans a fighting chance by cutting taxes and giving businesses the opportunity to compete.

Education: We must invest in innovative ideas that will ensure our students a lifetime of employability.

Family values: Strong families are the true strength of America.

Health care: Every American should have access to quality, affordable insurance that they can own and keep from job to job.

National security: Defending our nation against its enemies is the first and fundamental commitment of the federal government.

Retirement security: Keeping our promises to this generation — and the next.

Transportation and Technology: The engine driving the 21st century

Veterans: Our nation's veterans honored us with their service when we needed them most, and we must continue to honor them.

Wasteful spending: Government spending has ballooned out of control, creating a situation where we've mortgaged our children's future. *Kathy Davis.*



Sen. Jim DeMint

Special Patriotic Music

During the Sept. 21 meeting, you will be treated to the magnificent voice of **Bruce Schoonmaker**, professor of Music at Furman University, who will be accompanied by his wife, **Gail**. Also, back by popular demand, **Glenn Christianson** on the piano will provide a prelude of patriotic music.

TEA Party in Washington, D.C.

GCRW club members **Aurie Latham**, her husband **Bob** (son of longtime member **Doris Latham**), and their daughter **Julie Nussman** from Charlotte left Greenville on Friday morning Sept. 11 going to the TEA Party in Washington, D.C. They were in one of the eight buses from Greenville traveling to the TEA Party.

On Saturday, a large group (DC Park Services estimated the crowd at 1.5 million) of determined Republicans, Democrats and Independents marched up Pennsylvania Avenue to the Capitol. We were all



Julie Latham Nussman and Bob Latham.

there amid signs, state flags, T shirts, many "Don't Tread on Me Flags" and numerous speeches to let Washington know that we do not believe that we are being represented.

The crowd was a group of peaceful, likeminded, well-behaved people who are hoping that the President, House and Senate have heard us now. If not, we will be back.

Aurie Latham.

P.S. GCRW member Debbie Spaugh also attended, and Sylvia Bass worked the phones from Easley.

Turning the Tide

National Federation of Republican Women 35th Biennial Convention

On Sept. 11, more than 1,100 Republican women from all across the nation gathered in sunny Orlando, Florida, for the 35th National Federation of Republican Women's Biennial Convention. "Turning the Tide" was the theme for the event in which convention speakers and programs were tailor made to help those in attendance prepare for Republicans to turn the tide in the upcoming elections.

One of the most heated debates during the session related to an issue that will directly impact our own GCRWC. The debated centered on the need for the NFRW to raise the amount it charges for dues. Current NFRW dues are \$8 per members. After some discussion, the NFRW dues were increased by \$2 per member for a total of \$10 per member. (I was one of only two from South Carolina to vote against the increase.)

Saturday afternoon was filled with two sessions of informative and useful workshops. Topics included campaigns, health care, membership and technology.

I was proud to "show and tell" our GCRWC 2009 pictorial membership directory. Many were curious and interested and wanted to examine one or better yet to keep one.

In addition to the debates and voting, the convention was filled with informative and inspirational addresses by Republican leaders, many of whom had familiar faces and names: Michael Steele, Gov. Charles Crist, Angela McGlowan (Fox News), Gov. Tim Palenty and Jackie Gingrich Cushman . . . to name a few.

Our own GCRWC was recognized in the program for winning the coveted Diamond Award, which is presented to local clubs that demonstrate excellence in membership development, campaign activities, programs and club functions. The Diamond Award is the top award for individual clubs. Congratulations to the Greenville County Republican Women's Club.

The election of officers was interesting in terms of the formality of the process. Each delegate was required to present a picture ID and her delegate badge in order to vote. The voting began at 6:30 Sunday morning and closed sharply at 8:30 a.m. It then took several hours for

the votes to be counted. In the end, the delegates elected the following officers for 2010 and 2011.

On the fun side — candidates sponsored parties and drop-ins in the evenings. One was a Fifties Party with poodle skits, popsicles and skits with music. The slate of officers invited everyone to a hamburger and hot dog party with all the trimmings. At an Unusual Dessert Party the first night, attendees chose their ingredients and flavors, which were then frozen instantly by liquid nitrogen from a large vat.

To read more about the convention you can go to www.nfrw.org. *Geri Warren.*

Attention GCRWC Delegates for State Convention

Delegates to the SCFRW convention in Beaufort, Oct. 16-18 are **Patricia Arceneaux, Sylvia Bass, Cheryl Boyd, Whitney Brady, Linda Brisse, Michelle Chambers, Erica Christian, Gloria Cullins, Gisela Dales, Kathy Davis, 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 Nancee Lee Yearick.** First alternate: **Jane Erkes.**

An important meeting for delegates will take place after our Sept. 21 meeting. Official registration forms must be completed and sent back to SCFRW by deadline date. Also, possible carpooling and other details will be discussed.

16 GCRWC Members to Receive SCFRW Pins

The following GCRW members will receive an SCFRW pin at our next meeting Sept. 21: **Patricia Arceneaux, Catherine Calogrides, Carol Cobb, Karen Crane, Kathy Davis, Mary Drawdy, Kathy Snyder-Garrett, Tammy Garrett, Amonda Hancock, Pat Jenkins, Joanne Meadows, Betty Orders, Camillia Ploof, Betty Poe, Gayle Stanley and Geri Warren.**

These members referred at least one new GCRW member who joined since Aug. 13.

GCRWC Business and News



GCRWC's Officers Elect for 2010 and 2011

GCRW's Nominating Committee, consisting of **Patty Stoner, Karen Mims, Gisela Dales, Pat Jenkins and Kathy Snyder-Garrett**, chairman, presented to the membership at the August meeting the following slate of officers they have selected for the 2010-2011 term.

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

The slate of officers will be voted on at our October meeting.

Many thanks to the Nominating Committee for the time and effort they have spent on this important selection process. Also, many thanks to the officers-elect for their willingness to commit to serve as our GCRW leaders for the next two years — and it is a HUGE commitment!

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

Sunshine Report

Tula Egan, a new GCRW member, is recovering from hip replacement surgery she had in early September. We wish Tula a speedy recovery!

Jean Stillwagon is awaiting surgery to repair three fractured vertebrae incurred from a fall. Despite all of this she hopes to attend our next meeting. She really wants to hear Sen. Jim DeMint. Go for it Jean — we're pulling for you.

GCRWC Membership Contest Winners

Marlene Dowd	\$65 Gift Certificate Soby's Restaurant
Michelle Moody	\$40 Gift Certificate City Range Restaurant
Loretta Bell	\$25 Gift Certificate Mary's Restaurant at Fall's Cottage

South Carolina Federation of Republican Women SCFRW Convention in Beaufort

The SCFRW state convention will take place Oct. 16-18 in beautiful and historic Beaufort. Hosts for the weekend will be the Beaufort Republican Women. The registration fee is \$100 per person (if you are a delegate, GCRW will pick up that tab!).

A tea will take place in the beautiful and famous home of Catherine Ceips for regents on Thursday afternoon. We will sip tea from teacups that were buried during the Civil War and then later retrieved after the war.

A full day of activities is planned for Friday beginning with registration in the morning and a light lunch provided by Ken Ard, a candidate for lieutenant governor, and workshops in the afternoon on such topics as Communicating Effectively, Dealing With the Press, Building Coalitions, and more. . . .

We're on our own for dinner (that means we can go out to eat at a local restaurant and eat seafood (fried, of course) and then back by 8:30 to enjoy a dessert reception featuring the South Carolina House Republican Women's Caucus and all your soon-to-be new "girl-friends" from all across the state.

After our breakfast with candidates for lieutenant governor, we will then get down to business on Saturday with the election of our new slate of officers (two of whom are from Greenville — Betty Poe, President, and Linda Gar-

ner, Treasurer) and voting on by-law changes.

Saturday will be the Awards Dinner at the hotel (which is included with your registration fee). Candidates for governor will be our featured speakers.

Sunday we will conclude our convention with a prayer breakfast with speakers to be announced.

It sounds like a full schedule of informative and fun events. Hopefully everyone will come home rejuvenated and motivated to help us prepare for victories in 2010.

SCFRW Slate of Officers-Elect 2010-2011

Betty Poe	President
Lisa M. Sox	First Vice President
Mary Pearson	Second Vice President
Linda Garner	Treasurer
Johnnie Bellamy	Secretary

This year's SCFRW nominating committee consisted of the following members: **Irby Schultz** (Chairman), **Brenda Schoolfield** (Secretary), **Jo Ann Burroughs**, **Joanne Knapp**, **Glenda Rawlings** and **Geri Warren**.

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 September Luncheon Meeting

Monday — Noon — Sept. 21
Poinsett Club downtown Greenville



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SCFRW News and Business
State Convention, New Officers

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

MAKE YOUR RESERVATION TODAY!

Please e-mail Betty Poe at bspoe@charter.net or call her at 907-1577 or 246-4878 by noon, Friday, Sept. 18. To avoid paying \$15, cancellation must be made by noon, Sept. 18.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sept. 12	Constitution Celebration Senior Action Center, Simpsonville
Sept. 21	GCRWC, Noon at Poinsett Club
Oct. 5	Greenville County Executive Committee Hughes Library, Downtown Greenville
Oct. 16-18	SCFRW Convention Holiday Inn and Suites, Beaufort, S.C.
Oct. 22	GCRWC, Noon at Poinsett Club
Oct. 26	Upstate GOP Golf Tournament River Falls Plantation Golf Course Duncan, South Carolina



It's time to come out swinging for the GOP Upstate!

The Spartanburg and Greenville Republican Parties are joining forces to conduct a GOP Golf Tournament, Monday, Oct. 26, at River Falls Plantation with registration at 8 a.m. and a 9 a.m. shotgun start. The Captains Choice format provides you the opportunity to pair up with a politician.

NOW YOU CAN BUY A POLITICAN

A three-person team can pay for the politician. A drawing will be held just before the shotgun start.

You are buying one legally and you'll have his ear for more than four hours.

Cost per four man team is \$1,300 including two Mulligans and one Red Tee per player.

The tournament includes special awards, prizes for longest drive, closest to the pin and four par-three hole-in-one prizes.

**Register your team at www.gopupstategolftournament.com.
Questions? Contact Berry Ponder at berry.ponder@bellsouth.net.**