



The Elephant's Ear

Volume 4 No. 9 September '11

Thursday, September 22, 2011

HISTORY OF THE NFRW AND THE SCFRW GCRW PAST PRESIDENT REGOGNITION

LaDonna Ryggs

Spartanburg County Republican Chairman

Women have long been under-represented in Washington, especially Republican women! There are currently only seventeen women in the U.S. Senate, five of whom are Republican and seventy-seven women in the U.S. House of Representatives, twenty-four of whom are Republican. There are several theories as to why Republican women are not as numerous.

In June of 2010 John Feehery, a well known Washington political strategist, wrote that he had a theory that to win a Republican primary you must win a majority of white men; to win in the general election you must win a majority of white married women. He pointed out that the gender gap has long been a thorn in the GOP's side as more and more African American and younger single women have turned to the Democratic persuasion.

Feehery believes that Democratic women office holders tend to make a bigger deal out of their gender than their Republican counterparts. They tend to wrap themselves in the pro-choice flag, stress women's issues and focus on the warm and fuzzies. He believes that Republican women office holders play down their gender while focusing on business issues and opposing government expansion.

As members of local state and national Republican Women it remains our responsibility to educate our peers as to the current issues and our objectives.

DID YOU KNOW?

Jeannette Rankin, a Republican from Montana, was the first women elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1916. Rebecca Felton, a Progressive white supremacist from Georgia, was the first woman elected to the U.S. senate in 1922. *Pamela Sowell*

LaDonna Ryggs

LaDonna Ryggs is the Party Chairman for the Spartanburg County Republican Party. She holds a bachelors and masters degree from Bob Jones University in Speech Communication. She has taught both English and Speech on the secondary level. She also conducts workshops for administrators developing communications programs in their schools. She spent several years in sales and management and has conducted motivational and training seminars. LaDonna is currently employed at Bob Jones University

LaDonna is a long-time Republican activist. She is a co-founder of Palmetto House Republican Women, and served as their president for almost 5 years. She is the current District 4 Director for South Carolina Federation of Republican Women, and is a member of the Board of Directors of the National Federation of Republican Women. She is a graduate of the first class of the South Carolina Winning Women program designed to get more women involved in Republican politics.

She and her husband Robert have 2 children and a 6 month old grandson. They are active members of Grace Baptist Church in Liberty where she plays the organ

Notes of Interest from the President—Kathy Davis

WOW—what a wonderful meeting in August with 362 reservations. We were proud to have US Senator Jim DeMint and US Congressman Trey Gowdy as our guest speakers. Our sister club, Upstate Republican Women's Club joined with us to sponsor the meeting.

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU to those who helped with check in, gathering tickets at the door, handing out books and ushering inside the ballroom. It would not have been a success without these volunteers. Our reservation chair, Mary Bellinger and her "right hand man" Pete worked tirelessly to ensure that our reservations were correct. I do not have the amount that we raised from the fundraiser yet.

IMPORTANT: We will be choosing 25 delegates for the SCFRW Convention that will begin on October 28 through October 30 at the Westin Poinsett. If you are chosen, GCRWC will pay the \$50.00 registration fee for you. As a delegate you will be able to vote at the board meeting. Many of you are very involved with our club and this will be of great interest to you. If you would like to be a delegate -you must be available Friday evening, all day on Saturday and through the prayer breakfast on Sunday. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend. It is the best way to get to know the other members of our club. The cost of the convention is ONLY \$50.00 which is in honor of the 50th anniversary of the SCFRW. When I receive the information regarding the convention I will forward to the members.

Our slate of nominees for the 2012-2013 term was introduced at the August luncheon by Joanne Meadows, chair of the nominating committee. Sylvia Bass, Mary Bellinger, Joanne Meadows, Gayle Stanley, and Geri Warren were the committee members. The following members are on the slate:

Debbie Spaugh - President
Patricia Arceneaux - 1st Vice President
Kathy Snyder-Garrett - 2nd Vice President
Treasurer - Jenny Earle
Recording Secretary - Nancee Lee Yearick
Correspondence Secretary - Cheryl Boyd

Additional nominations may be made from the floor provided that the nominee is qualified and has notified the President, in writing, that she will serve in that office if elected. Please have your name to me by Thursday, October 13.

Welcome to our New Members for August

Viann Ballentine

Sally Mayhew

Kit Bright

Dorothy Spaar

Judith Gisman

Vicki Sowinski

Jeannene Jeffress

Richard Jeffress - Associate

Elizabeth Lord

John Spaar - Associate

Sunshine News

Please continue to keep the following members in your thoughts and prayers as they recover from surgery: Mary Bellinger, Shirley Cowart and Faye Jay. Continue to pray for Charlie Garton.

Dates to remember:

Constitution Day Festival—Saturday, September 17. 5:00 - 8:00 PM - Charter Amphitheatre at Heritage Park in Simpsonville, SC sponsored by the Americas for Prosperity South Carolina. Please plan to attend.

Thursday - October 27 GCRWC Luncheon Representative Tommy Stringer, District 18 will be our speaker. We will also elect the officers for the 2012-13 term.

Thursday - December 1 GCRWC Luncheon

Greenville County Republican
Women's Club
Kathy Davis—President
10 Falcon Drive
Taylors, SC 29687

**Check out our
website:
www:gcrwc.org**

Join us on Facebook
Greenville County Republican
Women's Club

GCRWC Past Presidents

I have been able to confirm that the following past presidents of the GCRWC will attend our September luncheon.

Gerri Warren 2008-2009

Joanne Meadows 2003-2005

Anne Danciu 2000-2002

Betsy Farnsworth 1996-1997

Gale Crawford 1994-1995

Pat Haskell-Robinson 1976-1977

There are several more from the 80's and 90's that we are hoping to contact. If anyone knows the whereabouts of Winifred Griffith, please let me know. Kathy

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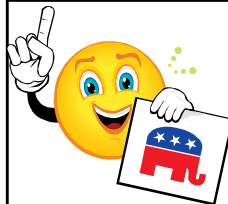
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2011 Luncheon Dates

12:00 noon

The Poinsett Club

Thursday	September 22
Thursday	October 27
Thursday	December 1



September luncheon - 12:00 noon

THE POINSETT CLUB

Please make reservations to gcrwreply@yahoo.com or by calling Mary Bellinger at 268-3942 by 8:00 PM on Monday, September 19. Cancellations must be made by 8:00 PM on Tuesday, September 20.

If you have a standing reservation and cannot attend please call or email Mary Bellinger by 8:00 on Tuesday, Sept. 20.