



The Elephant's Ear

Volume 5 No. 5 May '12

OUR SPEAKERS FOR THE MAY 24TH LUNCHEON ARE CANDIDATES FOR SENATE DISTRICT 12 AND COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICTS 18,20,21, AND 22

CANDIDATES FOR GREENVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL

DISTRICT 18

JOSEPH BALDWIN

- Represents District 18
- Serves on the Public Works & Infrastructure Committee and the Planning and Development Committee
- Served as a City Councilman in Greer for 15 years prior to taking his seat on County Council in 2008

MIKE BARNES

- Owner of Barnes Towing for 30 years and is a member of the Greenville County Planning Commission
- Stated that, "cultivating a business-friendly environment to support existing businesses and recruiting new ones is vital to a prosperous community"
- Will run on government transparency and making his votes public

DISTRICT 20

SID CATES

- Has been a high school math teacher and principal
- Principal of Bob Jones Academy and was appointed Educational Director of Bob Jones LINC
- Serves on the Public Safety and Human Services Committee and the Finance Committee

SCOTT STEPHENS

- Owns Camille's Sidewalk Café in downtown Greenville
- Served as Director for Harvest Hope Food Bank and Calvary Home for Children
- Serves as a deacon at First Presbyterian Church in Greenville

DISTRICT 21

JIM BURNS

- Is running for his third term on County Council from District 21
- Is married to Kathy and has three children—Kelly, Colin, and Joshua
- Has served on the Finance & Planning and Development Committees and has championed increased transparency and comprehensive planning for the growth of the county

FEDRA CAMPBELL

- Is a Christian, conservative Republican, with an Associate Degree in Public Service and a major in Criminal Justice
- Is a Board Member, Secretary and acting Treasurer of Life and Hope Assembly
- Advocates small government, and the ability of citizens to keep their rights and make their own decisions

DISTRICT 22

BOB TAYLOR

- 1988—1998—South Carolina Reinsurance Facility Board of Governors—Appointed by the Governor
- 2001—present Greenville County Council. 2008-2012—Vice Chairman of Greenville County Council
- 2006-2012—Greenville Area Development Corporation Board Member

Notes of Interest from the President

Debbie Spaugh

PLEASE NOTE - OUR LUNCHEON IS MAY 24TH, NOT THE LAST THURSDAY OF MAY!

2012 Membership Directory—Photos will be taken at our May luncheon for the Directory. As I stated in an email to our members, due to technical problems, the photographer will need to re-take photos of our members who had their photos made in April. We are very sorry for this inconvenience. On the positive side, this gives members one more opportunity to have their photos taken for the Directory. Photos will be taken before the meeting—11:15 to 11:55 and after the meeting—1:00 to 1:30. To off-set the cost of the Directory, ad space is still being sold for \$25.

LEGISLATIVE DAY BY MARY BELLINGER

I wanted to thank each lady who went to the SCFRW Legislative Day in Columbia. We had the largest group in the state.

Our day in Columbia began with a continental breakfast at the Palmetto Club. We were updated on current issues by Attorney General Alan Wilson, Secretary of State Mark Hammond, Treasurer Curtis Loftis, Comptroller General Richard Eckstrom, Superintendent of Education Mick Zais and SCGOP Chair Chad Connelly. Following our breakfast meeting we went to the Capitol, where the Federation ladies were recognized in both the House and Senate.

After a photo shoot on the steps at the Capitol, we were provided lunch by the Palladian View (the Digital Magazine for Conservative Women) headed by Karen Floyd. The Republican women's legislative members were introduced and made brief comments. Our club member, Jane Kizer, running for Senate District 7, was also asked to speak.

Our visit in Columbia ended with a Southern Tea at the Governor's Mansion. All of us had the opportunity to speak with Governor Haley and have our picture made with her.

I am looking forward to getting a LARGE Bus for next year's Legislative Day. I hope that all who did not get to go this year will plan on going next year.

Thank you Kathy Davis and Mary Carolyn Garton for all the hard work you did to help me make this day successful. A great big thanks goes out to Deb Marks, the Legislative Day chair who planned this day for the federation and to Charm Altman the president of the SCFRW.

COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT 22 (CONTINUED)

JENNIFER WEBB

- Employed by Lockheed Martin and holds a DOD Secret Clearance
- Supports her company's involvement in the Clemson Women in Science and Engineering; and Science, Technology, Engineering and Math programs.
- Served on the Commerce Club Board of Governors and Safe Harbor Board of Governors

SENATE DISTRICT 12

SENATOR LEE BRIGHT

- Is known as a fiscal and social conservative and was elected to the SC Legislature in 2008
- Received the Friend of Taxpayer Award from the Spartanburg County Taxpayers Association
- Serves on the William Wallace Caucus, which votes against government intrusion, wasteful spending, and unnecessary regulation

JOHN HAWKINS

- Served as a Conservative Republican State Senator from 2000 to 2008
- Was recognized as the Legislator of the Year by the SC Victims' Assistance Network and the SC Humane Society
- Served 23 years in the SC National Guard, retiring in 2009 as a Major in the JAG Corps

One of the biggest victories in education was a bill supporting charter schools. It allows for the application of a charter school to be started or a public school to be converted into a charter school. This bill sets the guidelines and even protects teachers who advocate for converting a public school into a charter school. It also defines financial sponsors and the funds/facilities that will allow the school to function. H3241 was recently signed by the Governor at our very own Greenville Tech Charter School. We have recently passed our crossover deadline and many bills are being addressed in committees of the House and Senate. We will see if some of the other action items of the House Republican Caucus and the Governor make it through to ratification. The next couple of months will be spent highlighting this last month our legislature is in session.

Many of you may have heard about the recent ballot controversy. I wanted to explain a few details about it here. Although it is not legislation, it will affect future legislators and whether we can get conservative legislation passed over the next 4 years. There was a lawsuit against candidates in Lexington county, stating the candidates did not file the proper paperwork when filing to run for office. Candidates are required to file a Campaign Disclosure form, stating what funds have come in and what funds have been paid out. They are also required to file a Statement of Economic Interests, declaring any money they receive from the state or lobbying groups. For the first time, after a 2010 law was passed, these 2 forms were to be filed online at the state ethics website. Unfortunately, the law was confusing after the passage of the new 2010 law. It stated a candidate must fill out the form online. It also stated the candidate must hand in a paper copy of the form at the time of filing.

There were a number of new challengers, about 200, who had never run for office before and were challenging incumbents in the primary. Because of this lawsuit, the State Supreme Court ruled these candidates could not be on the ballot in June. After some candidates had been campaigning for years, they were knocked off the ballot in a matter of moments. The biggest injustice is the voters would not get to have a real choice in this election.

But all was not lost, or at least it appeared there was hope. Conservative legislators were working on a potential legislative solution to fix this quickly. The main issue was keeping the primary on June 12th. If a bill was passed affecting election laws, it would have to go through the justice department for approval. But such a requirement would surely delay the primary. I watched this debate on the Senate floor. It was quite evident which incumbents had a serious threat to keeping their seat, because they argued vehemently for fairness to those who filed correctly, while forgetting those who intended to file correctly and yet were improperly instructed. In the end, the solution was voted down. Incumbents - 1. The people - 0.

★
★ **Welcome to our New Members for April** ★
★ Joyce Kay, Kimberly Blythe-Benson, Ida McKinney, Catherine Wilcox, Pam Evans, Karen ★
★ Morrey, Susan White, Jenn Webb ★
★

The Membership Committee wishes your assistance in making our Membership List 100% accurate. A complete member list will be provided at each table. Please find your name and review. Put a check by your entry if correct and if not, please correct the information in the space provided. Please remember to write carefully and legibly. Committee members will collect during the meeting.

Greenville County Republican
Women's Club
Debbie Spaugh - President
108 Four Lakes Drive
Easley, SC 29642

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

Join us on Facebook
Greenville County Republican
Women's Club

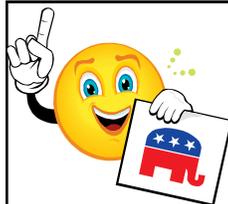
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GCRWC Luncheon Dates

12:00 - 1:00 PM

Thursday	May 24
Thursday	June 28
Thursday	July 26
Thursday	August 23
Thursday	September 27
Thursday	October 25
Thursday	December 6



**May Luncheon 12:00 - 1:00
THE POINSETT CLUB**

Please make reservations to gcrwreply@yahoo.com or by calling Cheryl Cuthrell at 864-335-8094 by 8:00 PM Monday, May 21. Cancellations must be made by 8:00 PM on Tuesday, May 22 to avoid the \$15.00 luncheon fee.

If you have a standing reservation contract for the 2012 year and not able to attend, please email Cheryl by 8:00 PM on Tuesday, May 22.