



The Elephant's Ear

Volume 5 No. 6 June '12

Thursday, June 28, 2012

AMERICANSIM PROGRAM

The Fourth of July is a great opportunity to renew our dedication to the principals of liberty. John Adams wrote to his wife Abigail on July 3, 1776 the following words regarding the Declaration of Independence "I am well aware of the toil, and blood, and treasure, that it will cost us to maintain this declaration, and support and defend these states. Yet through all the gloom, I can see the rays of light and glory; I can see that the end is more than worth all the means, and that prosperity will triumph."

Our Americanism Program will feature **Noah and Nicole Stratton** along with **Dr. Nicky Chavers** from the Academy of Arts and **Glenn Christianson** on the piano. Their performance will include several period figures along with musical selections. Nicole is no stranger to the stage. She grew up singing with her three sisters in churches, schools and events all over the United States. Walt Disney World asked Nicole and her sisters to sing there, but Nicole's eyes were on a more long-term goal: the lives and hearts of the youth of America. She directs, sings, and acts in 7 full-scale professional productions a year at the Academy of Arts Logos Theatre on Main Street in Taylors. She holds the title of Artistic Director. Her husband Noah is the Executive Director. He grew up in Lima, OH where he was heavily involved in fine arts – performing in collegiate and school plays, and winning multiple awards in speech at the state and national level. Noah's passion is young people and wants to see them using whatever talents they have for an eternal purpose. Dr. Nicky Chavers founded the Academy of Arts in 1971. He is blessed with many talents and began using them at a young age. When he was ten years old, he sang on two of his own TV shows. He has written hundreds of pieces of music as well as 26 full-length plays and musicals. In 1989 Nicky purchased the Old Taylors Elementary School and began the process of renovating it into what it now their national headquarters, the Logos Theatre. The Logos Theatre has 7 full-scale professional dramas, musicals and concerts each year that reach thousands. The team continues to travel to 25 schools and homeschool groups a year teaching them how to perform their own dramas. Nicky is heavily involved as the President of the Academy. He is married to Sheri who is a member of the Upstate Republican Women's Club. We have been honored many times with the musical talents of Glenn Christianson and welcome him back to accompany the Strattons and Dr. Chavers.

Two of the figures who will be portrayed will be Patrick Henry and John Adams. According to The Colonial Williamsburg Official History Site, Patrick Henry was a symbol of American struggle for liberty. He was a leader in every protest against British tyranny and in every movement for colonial rights. In March 1775, Patrick Henry urged his fellow Virginians to arm in self-defense, closing his appeal with the immortal words: "I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death."

An article that I read online from The Heritage Foundation states – "The ringing phrases of the Declaration of Independence speak to all those will strive for liberty and seek to vindicate the principles of self-government. But it was an aged John Adams who, when he was asked to prepare a statement on the 50th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, delivered two words that still convey our great hope every Fourth of July 'Independence Forever.' " **Please make your plans to attend this special Americanism program and invite family and friends.** **Kathy Davis - Americanism Chair**

Notes of Interest from the President Debbie Spaugh

Senator Marco Rubio will be in Greenville Thursday, July 5th for a book-signing of his book, [An American Son](#). The signing will be at Fiction-Addiction. Plan to arrive by 4:00– 4:15 pm. He will only be signing for a short time period. The store's phone number is: 864-675-0540. Go to the stores' website for more information: <http://www.fiction-addiction.com/>.

PERMANENT MAGNETIC NAME TAGS

The Club is ordering permanent name tags. It is an upgraded name tag, and a few members have samples for you to see. It has the GCRWC logo on it and your names. The regular paper name tags will still be available for all members at no charge. To order your tag please have \$11.00 and see Cheryl Cuthrell at the meeting. Tags will only be ordered if they are paid for up front. Cheryl Teague Cuthrell, Reservations, gcrwreply@yahoo.com, 864-335-8094.

THE NASHVILLE CONNECTION-HEROES SALUTE

The GCRWC is working with Joan Betros, Chairman of FUTURE, to promote The Nashville Connection-Heroes Salute. The event will be held June 27-June 30, and among many other activities, such as a musicians workshop and a band-off, will be bringing The Traveling Vietnam Wall to the TD Convention Center. Jane Kizer, our Legislative Chair (and candidate for SC State Senate) is in the performance and songwriter competition on Friday! This 4 day event benefits The Vietnam Veterans of America, The Honor Flights of the Upstate, Not Alone, and Welcome Home. The Nashville Connection-Heroes Salute Gala will be held on June 30 at 8:00 pm at the TD Convention Center. It will feature Country Star Darryl Worley, Martha Reeves and the Vandellas, and other recording artists. The tickets are \$65 per person and \$40 with a military ID. If you are interested in attending the gala, please email or call Kirstin Griffin, our Public Relations chair at: kirstin_griffin@hotmail.com or 864-918-0299.

VOLUNTEER HOURS—CRUNCH TIME

Volunteer hours count is taken from a July-June time-table. At the June 28th meeting, please turn in your hours from July 2011 to the present, or email them to Linda Slaton: ldslaton@yahoo.com. Suggestions to remember for volunteer hours:

1) All non-paid activities for the Republican Party and the GCRWC, SCFRW, NFRW, to include attending an event, as well as working at an event. (DO NOT COUNT OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS, UNLESS YOU WORK BEFORE OR AFTER THE MEETING). 2) Work done at home, i.e. mailings, phone calls, computer work, getting petitions signed, etc. 3) Working as a Poll Watcher, but not a Poll Worker 4) Attending County Council, City Council, and Executive Committee Meetings 4) Attending Campaign Management Schools 5) Travel time to and from an event.

JUNE BLOOD DRIVE

Greenville County Republican Women's Club is participating in a month long blood-drive initiative in cooperation with the SC Federation of Republican Women's Caring for America project. Our club is hosting a mobile unit blood-drive following the June 28th meeting from 1:30- 5:30pm in the parking lot of The Leprosy Mission on 120 Broadus Ave. If you are unable to donate after the meeting, you may visit another mobile unit or office location. **You must give the phlebotomist our club name and code 3GWC to insure proper credit for our club at your time of donation.** You have until the end of June to donate and non-members can participate as well. Please pass the word along to your friends and family that we need their help with our efforts. Please visit www.thebloodconnection.org for office locations, mobile unit locations, and testimonials. Let's show our support for The Blood Connection and for the SC Federation of Republican Women's Caring for America project! Shelly Haddon—Caring for America Chairman

The regular session of the state legislature has recently finished. Here are some highlights from the last week of the session. The school choice bill that was finally passed in the House this year was up for debate in the Senate. But that is also where it remained until the final moments of the final day. The bill that made it to the Senate would provide a very small tax exemption that would amount to about \$200 going back to the parent of a child in private or home school. The bill also offered privately funded scholarships for students in poverty areas. The fight will start again next year and we already know one of the six House members in Spartanburg has lost his bid for reelection. Two others will have opposition in November. This could be huge for the school choice issue. More to come after election day on that.

The bill S1125 was passed by both the House and Senate. It prevents unemployment benefits for 20 weeks if an employee is let go from their job for cause. This means if you are fired for stealing, you will not be able to receive unemployment for 20 weeks. Considering how many people are on unemployment and are taking advantage of the system, this is a good start. Perhaps bills like this will prevent some of the abuse so those who truly need help will have funds to receive.

There is a freedom of information act in SC that allows citizens to request a copy of public documents such as reports, administrative and financial records, and correspondence. However, in the past, legislators exempted themselves from this requirement. So, no one has been able to request public documents related to the legislature. H3235 was intended to change that. The bill made it through the House but was given a minority report by 2 Senators, Vincent Sheheen and Brad Hutto. It is a good thing Sheheen did not become Governor if he is not willing to have legislators' public records accessible by the public.

These are just a few highlights of the final days. We will be visiting some more bills that passed and also focusing on a number of good bills that did not make it through both the House and the Senate. The General Assembly still need to cover the Governor's vetoes and a couple other conference reports and will be doing that in the coming days.

Welcome to our New Members for May

★ Gloria Landry, Elaine Creel, Margaret Robertson, Lydia Poole, Fedra Campbell, Mary Ann Perez,
★ Judy Maney, Linda Erickson

★ For the last time this year, the Membership Committee is providing a copy of the Membership List at each table. Please
★ find your name and review. Put a check by your name if correct, and if not, please correct the information in the space
★ provided. Please remember to write carefully and legibly. Committee members will collect the sheets during the meeting.
★ PLEASE DO NOT TAKE THE LIST HOME WITH YOU.
★

Sunshine News



Patty Stoner's father passed away on June 5th. Our condolences to Patty and her family.
Cheryl Cuthrell's mother passed away on June 15th. Our condolences to Cheryl and her family.

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

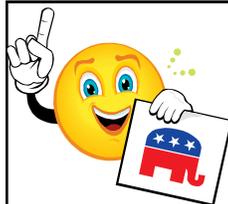
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GCRWC Luncheon Dates

12:00 - 1:00 PM

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



**June 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, June 25th. Cancellations must be made by 8:00 PM on Tuesday, June 26th 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, June 26th.