



The Elephant's Ear

Volume 5 No. 9 September '12

Thursday, September 27, 2012

OUR SPEAKER IS CONGRESSMAN TREY GOWDY



On June 28, 2012 Congressman Trey Gowdy released the following statement after the House of Representatives' vote to hold the Attorney General in both civil and criminal contempt of Congress for his failure to comply with a lawful subpoena request on October 12, 2011 from the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. "This is a sad day for those of us who believe in the rule of law. The same rules should apply to everyone and the chief law enforcement officer has failed to do so ... I would prefer the documents and the truth over a vote on contempt of Congress. The Attorney General has chosen not to do the right thing, so we must. I want the truth and will settle for nothing less."

Representing South Carolina's 4th District, Trey Gowdy enters Congress with a resolute commitment to the conservative principles that have guided him throughout his years in public service. At the core of those principles lies a firm belief in a limited government that inspires trust and demands accountability.

Representative Gowdy serves on the Committee on Judiciary, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and the Committee on Education and Workforce. In these capacities, Trey will fight to uphold the constitution, reign in the ever-expanding scope of the federal government, and restore America's trust with a renewed spirit of honesty and transparency.

Trey graduated from Spartanburg High School in 1982, Baylor University in 1986 with a degree in History, and the University of South Carolina School of Law in 1989 where he was a member of the scholastic honor society "Order of the Wig and Robe".

For 6 years as a federal prosecutor, Trey prosecuted the full range of federal crimes including narcotics trafficking rings, bank robberies, child pornography cases, and the murder of a federal witness. He was awarded the Postal Inspector's Award for the successful prosecution of J. Mark Allen, one of "America's Most Wanted" suspects. He also received the highest performance rating a federal prosecutor can receive – two years in a row.

As 7th Circuit Solicitor, Trey led an office of 25 attorneys and 65 total employees. During his tenure, he started a Violence Against Women Task Force, a Worthless Check Program, enhanced and expanded Drug Court, and implemented a Drug Mother Protocol designed to assist expectant mothers break the cycle of addiction.

He has been recognized statewide for his commitment to victim's rights, drunken driving enforcement, and nationally for excellence in death penalty prosecutions.

Trey is married to Terri Dillard Gowdy, and they have two children: Watson and Abigail.

Notes of Interest from the President—Debbie Spaugh

November 6th will be the most important election in our lifetimes. All of us who love our country should do everything we can to see that Republicans keep their majority in the House, attain the majority in the Senate, and remove Barack Hussein Obama from office. Here are some things you can do to help:

- Help with phone-banking at the Greenville County Republican Party Victory Office
- Help with phone-banking at the State Victory Office at 19 College St. in Greenville
- Help our club member, Jane Kizer, who is running for State Senate, with her campaign
- Contribute to Jim DeMint's Senate Conservative Fund, and/or particular candidates you support
- Write letters to the editor (especially the Greenville News). We need to combat all the Leftist drivel.
- Go see the movies: *2016:Obama's America and Atlas Shrugged Part 2 (coming out 10/12/12)*

We will have more information about these opportunities at our 9/27 luncheon.

To those of you participating in the SCFRW Bumper Sticker Project—please turn in your envelopes containing the money you have made and any left-over bumper stickers to me at the September 27th luncheon. I need to send these to Glenda Brady by early October.

2012 LEADING POLITICAL ISSUES

By Patricia Arceneaux

Leading issues face our nation as we face this year's presidential election. The economy, unemployment, taxes and how to manage the federal government's \$16 trillion debt are the top issues that must be addressed now.

Our conservative GOP candidates promise not to raise taxes, cut spending, and create jobs. Many are calling our financial situation a "fiscal cliff" that we are about to fall over. What is this fiscal cliff? It is when several tax cuts expire at the end of this year which represent a half trillion dollars in budget cuts and possible tax hikes that could push the U.S. into recession.

It is clear to most of us that no matter who gets elected President that the fight will be between congress and the President. The 2012 budget has not been passed as of yet, and it is unclear when it will be passed. Supposedly these tax cuts will be extended for those making under \$250,000, and include the expiration of the Bush tax cuts, middle class protection from the Alternative Minimum Tax, and more than 50 "temporary" tax breaks for individuals and businesses that have been on the books for years.

Our economy urgently needs to be addressed as it also could affect our national security. Spending more than we take in and borrowing from other countries could put us at the mercy of those we owe.

Several polls asking voters what they think is the most important issue facing voters, and the economy is number 1 on the list (according to [CNN/ORC poll](#)). Congress and the President will play a key role in deciding the budget and tax cuts or increases.

We have been trying to cover as many of the big pieces of legislation from our statehouse as possible from the past year. With the end of the 2 year session, any legislation that was not passed will now have to start over. Here is a quick synopsis of some of the simpler legislation.

The Governor recently signed two bills into law allowing children from Charter schools, home schools, and Governor's schools to take part in extracurricular activities at local public schools. So, if a charter school doesn't offer sports, music, speech, etc., then the child has the option to participate in such activities at the public school they would have attended.

The Charter School bill also gave more flexibility in how charter schools are created and managed. Single gender schools are allowed and institutions of higher learning can sponsor a Charter school, such as Greenville Tech's school that exists now. Students assigned to a public school, prior to that school's conversion to a charter school, must be given priority at the charter school. These public Charter schools can receive funds from the state or institution of higher learning.

The Governor also recently signed two bills protecting life. One was the Born Alive bill, which states if a baby is born alive after an attempted abortion, the doctor is required by law to attempt to save that baby's life. The second bill prevents taxpayer dollars from being spent to fund abortion, as it relates to the Affordable Care Act (ObamaCare). These are two great wins for life and there will hopefully be many more successes ahead.

In national news, we find ourselves in the middle of yet another continuing resolution to keep our government running. We haven't passed a budget in years and in fact, our last one was passed with both a democratic President and democratic Congress. Some lawmakers want to wait to pass the resolution after the recent embassy attacks. They would prefer no further monies be given to these countries which will not help us defend our citizens. Other lawmakers want to actually pass a budget to reduce our spending.

There is also concern of a lame duck session. This is the time when Congress meets after an election and current leadership is different from those who won the election. Some remaining issues that must be dealt with include the Bush Tax cuts that are about to expire, cuts to physicians' Medicare fees, reforming the postal service, and the annual Pentagon Policy bill. There is plenty of opportunity for legislation at the federal level and one of the biggest elections of our lifetime. Let's rally together and get involved!

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Welcome to our New Members for August
★ The Membership Committee appreciates all those who have verified or updated their address and other information. The Membership List is available at the Membership Table if you have not verified and updated any changes. GCRWC is pleased to announce the following new members who joined in August: Dani Lawrence, Gwen Young and Sunny Weigand. We will announce them at the September meeting.
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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

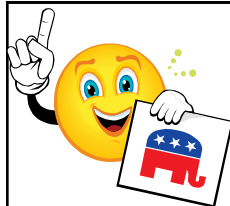
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GCRWC Luncheon Dates

12:00 - 1:00 PM

Thursday	September 27
Thursday	October 25
Thursday	December 6



**September 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, September 24. Cancellations must be made by 8:00 PM on Tuesday, September 25 to avoid the \$15.00 luncheon fee.

If you have a standing reservation contract for the 2012 year and are not able to attend, please email Cheryl by 8:00 PM on Tuesday, September 25.