



The Elephant's Ear

Volume 6 No. 8 August '13

Thursday, August 22, 2013

**ARLENE BRIDGES SAMUELS
SOUTHEAST REGION CHRISTIAN OUTREACH DIRECTOR, AIPAC**

Our speaker this month, Arlene Bridges Samuels, will give us an up to the minute overview of the volatile Middle East with a focus on Israel, the only stable democracy in the region. Her talk will include important and encouraging - updates on AIPAC's work and Congressional actions which are strengthening, on a bipartisan basis, the US-Israel relationship.



Arlene Bridges Samuels is the Southeast Region Christian Outreach Director for AIPAC, **The American Israel Public Affairs Committee**. Before joining AIPAC's staff in 2007, she and her husband lived in Mt. Pleasant, SC where they owned a small business. Arlene speaks throughout the region, and nationally, on a wide range of issues regarding the US-Israel relationship including the Iranian nuclear threat, advocacy with the US Congress, and Israel's Quest for Peace. Arlene has been active in the pro-Israel movement for more than twenty years.

Growing up in Florence, South Carolina, Arlene received her BA from Winthrop University and her Master's Degree at the University of Alabama. Her professional career includes senior church staff positions, Director of Refugee Resettlement, and Writer-Public Relations Specialist for Mercy Ships, the world's largest Christian hospital ship serving in poor nations worldwide. In addition to living on board the flagship, she and her family also lived and served in Switzerland and Romania. This spring marked Arlene's 15th trip to Israel. She and her husband reside in metro Atlanta and have two young adult children.

THE AMERICAN ISRAEL PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

As America's leading pro-Israel lobby, AIPAC works to enact public policy that enhances the U.S.-Israel relationship. AIPAC's staff and citizen activists in the Jewish, Christian, African American, and Latino communities educate decision makers about the bonds that unite the United States and Israel and how it is in America's best interest to help ensure that the Jewish state is safe, strong and secure.

With headquarters in Washington, DC and ten regional offices, AIPAC is a 100,000-member grassroots movement of activists committed to ensuring Israel's security and protecting American interests in the Middle East and around the world. AIPAC's priority is to ensure that both America and Israel remain strong and that they collaborate closely together. Described by *The New York Times* as "the most important organization affecting America's relationship with Israel," AIPAC advocates for U.S. cooperation with Israel on a wide range of issues. From promoting peace between Israel and its neighbors to facilitating U.S.-Israel exchanges of expertise and equipment for homeland security, defense and counterterrorism to collaborating on technology, science and agricultural products, AIPAC is there to encourage the close working relationship between the countries.

AIPAC is registered as a domestic lobby and supported financially by private donations. The organization receives no financial assistance from Israel, from any national organization or any foreign group. AIPAC is not a political action committee and it does not rate, endorse or contribute to candidates. To learn more, log on to <http://www.aipac.org/>

Notes of Interest from the President—Debbie Spaugh

SCFRW 2013 BIENNIAL CONVENTION

We will elect 14 delegates to the SCFRW Convention at our August Luncheon. As a delegate, you will be able to vote at the board meeting. The Convention will be Friday, October 25 and Saturday, October 26. The Registration fee is \$100, which will be paid for by our club. Registration includes lunch on Friday, breakfast, lunch and a gala dinner on Saturday. Attendees will depart on Sunday morning. The Convention will be at The Tides Hotel, Folly Beach, SC. All rooms face the ocean and are at the reduced rate of \$169 plus tax per day. There is no cost for parking. Please contact the hotel directly for room reservations: Tides Hotel (843)588-6464. Tell them you are with the SCFRW for the special rate. I will send out more information, as soon as the President sends out “The Call To Meeting”.

Our Slate of nominees for the 2014-2015 term will be announced by the Chairman of the Nominating Committee at our August Luncheon. The Election will be at the October meeting. 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 October 10th.

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 26th, 4PM—Nikki Haley Reelection Rally, on the Plaza at the BI-LO Center. Emcee— Senator Tim Scott. Also taking part are Governors Scott Walker (Wisconsin), Bobby Jindal (Louisiana), and Rick Perry (Texas).

August 26th, 6:30PM—”Faith & Freedom BBQ” with Congressman Jeff Duncan at the Anderson Civic Center. He will be joined by Senators Tim Scott and Rand Paul. Register at <http://www.jeffduncan.com/>, or call Drea at (803) 413-5951.

September 3rd, 6PM (doors open at 5PM)- Congressman Trey Gowdy Picnic and Town Hall; Hopkins Farm, 3717 Fork Shoals Road, Simpsonville; \$5 for Buffet, Limited Seating—RSVP to upstate.yr@gmail.com.

Auction Update

Just some bullet point reminders as Auction Day gets closer!

I. Two types of Auction Items

A. unique items you shop for such as: sale items, Republican items, Tiger and Gamecock items, antiques {like the coffee table and chandelier at last year’s auction} quilts, and baked goods

Bakers - You know who you are.

B. Take the Auction Donation Form to businesses you frequent and ask for donations: Gift Certificates from Restaurants, Salons, Boutiques, Fitness Centers, etc. Get creative.

Attach the donor’s business card to the Form {This will go into flyer to advertise their business}.

II. New Auction Headquarters

A. Drop off items at Betty Poe’s home, 300 Crescent Avenue, Monday-Thursday, 8am—4pm,
Friday 8am -2pm.

B. Bring items to the August 22nd meeting.

Most of the legislative articles you read have been about past votes or ones that are about to occur. This article will be about something that is looming on the horizon and is very significant for our country and our party.

At the end of 2012, you might remember Congress passed a continuing resolution related to our federal budget. A continuing resolution is required if a budget has not been passed by Congress. In order for government to continue to function, a resolution must pass to determine what the funds available will be, how they will be obtained, and where they can be spent. In 2012, Congress agreed to raise the income tax on those who make a lot of money. Many conservatives were upset about how much Republicans gave away with that vote.

In 2011, a similar vote occurred to raise the debt ceiling. The debt ceiling is the cap at which the federal government cannot add more debt without Congressional approval. So, we can't borrow more money, which is a good thing. But, we still raised the debt ceiling without getting much in return. Our credit rating was also downgraded at this time.

And so in the next couple of months, we'll be talking about this again. Because Congress will need to pass another continuing resolution to keep our government, our very bloated government, functioning next year. And not only that, but we will meet our debt ceiling cap again around November. It is interesting to look at the history of our debt ceiling increases. It has started spiking since 2003, and especially since 2010.

The big debate for Republicans will be do we shut down the government or do we go along to keep the majority in the House of Representatives in 2014? And, do we pass a continuing resolution that will fund ObamaCare or not? I still believe the majority of Americans want a responsible government and vote against Republicans because we don't do what we say we will. Let's make sure our Republican SC Congressmen and Senators now we support cutting spending, and that we support them as they fight for our nation.

Auction Update (continued)

The Auction Committee is meeting at Betty Poe's on Monday, August 19th at 11:30am.

We are creating an invitation to Auction to give to members at the August luncheon.

To promote more attendance to the Auction, we are listing some of the auction items.

So, call me at 864-787-8550 by the 19th and tell me items you are bringing, or if you have any questions! We have great items coming in!!! Keep them coming!!!

Thank You! **Kathy Snyder Garrett**

Greenville County Republican
Women's Club
Debbie Spaugh - President
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Easley, SC 29642

**Check out our
website:**

www.gcrwc.org

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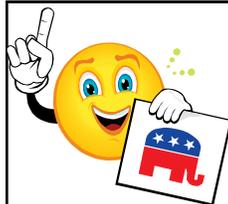
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GCRWC Luncheon Dates

12:00 - 1:00 PM

Thursday	August 22
Thursday	September 26
Thursday	October 24
Thursday	December 5



**August 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, August 19. Cancellations must be made by 8:00 PM on Monday, August 19 to avoid the \$16.00 luncheon fee.

If you have a standing reservation contract for the 2013 year and not able to attend, please email Cheryl by 8:00 PM on Monday, August 19.