



The Elephant's Ear

Volume 6 No. 11 December '13

Thursday, December 5, 2013

DECEMBER LUNCHEON

For our December luncheon, we will depart from the usual format. We will not have a speaker. We will vote on the recipient of the Pennies From Heaven Fund, and we will have the swearing in ceremony for the new officers. We will be treated to a great Christmas musical program. We are honored again this year to have the Goodwin String Quartet and Glenn Christianson on the piano. I received requests to have time for fellowship for our members, associates and guests.

NOTES OF INTEREST FROM THE PRESIDENT

I would like to say a big thank you to the officers, committee chairs, committee members, and volunteers who worked very hard to make the last two years a success. Our club was one of the two clubs in South Carolina to receive the Diamond Award (the highest award) from the National Federation of Republican Women for Club Achievement for 2012-2013.

Our speakers included: Governor Nikki Haley; Congressmen Trey Gowdy and Jeff Duncan, two of the best (most conservative) representatives in Washington; and Doctor Tom Kendall, President of the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons (the conservative alternative to the leftist American Medical Association, to which only 17% of physicians are members). Mary Quinteros Tallouzi, who works for the Wounded Warrior Project, came to us from New Mexico to share her story about caring for her severely wounded son, who died from a mortar attack in Iraq. Arlene Bridges Samuels spoke to us about the work of AIPAC, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, which works to enact public policy that enhances the U.S.-Israel relationship. Nse' Ekpo, Second Vice Chairman of the South Carolina Republican Party, spoke to us about SCGOP plans, and LaDonna Ryggs, who served on the NFRW Executive Committee, presented a fascinating history of Republican women and the NFRW.

We hosted candidate forums for Republican candidates for S.C. Senate Districts 5, 6, 8, and 12. Our club members volunteered 24,714 campaign hours. Our club helped plan and sponsored the "Take Our Country Back Rally 2012". We developed information sheets on Obamacare and on the Obama Economy, and distributed them at the Rally. Our members took action on various bills in the S.C. House and Senate, including calling senators about H.3096, the State Health Care Freedom Bill, and calling House members about H.3101, the S.C. Freedom of Healthcare Protection Act. Our club participated in the NFRW Voter Registration Drive by having a Drive at North Greenville University. Our club "Supported the Troops" by donating \$200 to the "Nashville Connection/Hero Salute"; contributing \$250 to Troops Direct; and \$250 to Wounded Warrior Project. We planned and participated in a Blood Drive and donated \$250 to the Greenville Literacy Association. (Continued on next page)

Notes of Interest from the President—Debbie Spaugh

(Continued from page 1) We held a very successful Auction, which served as a fundraiser/membership recruitment event. Our club made almost \$6,000 with the Auction. We donated \$1,000 to The Julie Valentine Center, which helps victims of child abuse and sexual abuse. We also donated \$1,000 to Safe Harbor, which helps women and children who are victims of domestic violence. Congratulations again to all those who made the Auction such a success!

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your President for the past two years. It has been an honor to be President of our club. I wish the very best to our new President, Linda Slaton.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND OTHER INFORMATION

Please note the change of date for our January 2014 luncheon. The luncheon is on January 16th, the third Thursday in January. We are honored that Governor Nikki Haley will be our speaker!

At the December luncheon, we will vote on the recipient of the Pennies from Heaven Fund. Please be prepared to make a motion to suggest your pick for a recipient. I have already received one suggestion. It is the Piedmont Emergency Relief Center.

Plan to attend the Greenville observance of Pearl Harbor Day on December 7th at 11:00 a.m. at Wade Hampton High School. Captain Stephen D. Brown, a U.S. military chaplain who served in Afghanistan, is the scheduled keynote speaker. Patriotic music, video of the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, a salute to veterans, and distribution of the book *Pearl Survivors*, by Dick Jensen, will be included in the observance. There is no admission charge.

Americans for Prosperity (AFP), the largest grassroots, free market organization in America, is launching a chapter in South Carolina. I am the Field Coordinator for AFP-SC. We are hosting a FREE "Kickoff Party" at Tommy's Country Ham House, 214 Rutherford Street, Greenville on Monday, December 16th from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. We are excited to announce that the President of Americans for Prosperity and South Carolina native, Tim Phillips, will be a featured speaker. We are also privileged to announce that Congressman Jeff Duncan will be a featured speaker. In order to join us for a complimentary dinner and a chance to make South Carolina a better place to live, work and raise a family, RSVP at our website: <http://americansforprosperity.org/south-carolina/event/afp-sc-kickoff-party/>, on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/AFPSC/events, or see me after our December luncheon. Debbie Spaugh

Please be ready to turn in your volunteer hours at the luncheon. Many of you have accrued hours for the following: working with the Auction; attending the SCFRW Convention (count the time from when you left home to when you returned, minus any time for side trips); regular and extra meetings of the GCGOP, and any event you attended to hear a GOP speaker that is a Republican Party sponsored event. You may email your hours to ldslaton@yahoo.com or call 864-288-0560. **Linda Slaton**

I need two more members to work on the Membership Committee. If you are interested in working on the Membership Committee, please call me at 864-967-9618. **Janice McPhee**

It has been such a blessing to be able to share the legislative news with you over the past two years. While we might not approve of a lot that is going on, we MUST remain informed and share that information with as many people as we can. We also need to encourage our legislators that are fighting for our freedoms against the odds.

For those in Greenville County, there was a recent vote in County Council related to a 1% sales tax increase. Council was voting to allow a referendum so the people could vote on the tax increase. But grassroots activists and the Republican Party contacted the Council members to get the votes necessary to defeat the referendum. It is important to see these victories to encourage us to continue the fight.

In Washington, news is not as promising. You may have heard about or seen the filibuster earlier this year from Ted Cruz. Each bill allows for debate on the floor of the Senate. It takes 60 votes (two-thirds) to end that debate. This two-thirds requirement was a rule in the Senate to allow the minority (Republicans right now) a voice. Since this is a Senate rule, the Senate can change the rule. Harry Reid and Senate Democrats have done just that for appointment confirmations. The majority can now force a vote on presidential appointments with only 51 votes. While two-thirds are still necessary, at present, to confirm Supreme Court nominees and end debate on legislation, this is a key move that shows the Democrat majority in the Senate and our current president have no intention to work with anyone. Let's work hard to change the Senate in 2014!

The Membership Committee is reminding you that our club membership is based on the calendar year. It is time to join for 2014. We ask that you pick-up a Renewal form at the check-in tables so that we can update the Membership List for 2014 with all the information we and the NFRW require. Membership Dues remain at \$20. Please have your 9 digit zip code, which can be found on bulk mailings, including magazines. Also, know your Federal Congressional District which numbers 1-7. Membership has maps to assist, or it can be found on new Voter Registration information from you County Elections Commission. If you voted for Mick Mulvaney, you are in District 5, Trey Gowdy is District 4 and Jeff Duncan is District 3.

Mary Beth Green

Sunshine News



We send our deepest sympathy to Joanne Meadows and her family upon the passing of her father, Lloyd Phillip Hare, Sr., on November 18, 2013.

We also send our deepest sympathy to Charm Altman, President of the SCFRW, and her family upon the death of her husband, John Altman.

Greenville County Republican
Women's Club
Debbie Spaugh - President
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**Check out our
website:**

www.gcrwc.org

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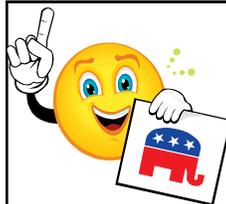
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GCRWC Luncheon Dates

12:00 - 1:00 PM

Thursday December 5



**December 5th 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, December 2. Cancellations must be made by 8:00 PM on Monday, December 2 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, December 2.