



The Elephant's Ear

Volume 6 No. 10 October '13

Thursday, October 24, 2013

NSE' EKPO



Nse' Ekpo was reared in Sumter , South Carolina, where he graduated from Sumter High School. He is married to his lovely wife Tami and has three beautiful children. He teaches band at a local Charter school in Greenville. He is a conductor, clarinetist and music educator. Nse' received his bachelors and masters degrees from the University of South Carolina in Music Education and Orchestral Conducting respectively. He is working towards a doctorate in conducting at the University of Washington. Nse' has won numerous honors and awards including the Van Doren Award for Most Outstanding Graduating Music Education

Student, USC (2001) and Runner-up for Everett Youth Symphony Music Director Position in 2011.

Nse' Ekpo currently serves as the Second Vice Chairman of the South Carolina Republican Party and will speak about SCGOP plans.

LADONNA RYGGS



LaDonna Ryggs, a native of Greenville, is the Managing Editor of Palladian View, a digital magazine for the conservative Republican woman. Her deep ties to elected and governmental officials at all levels of government, and her understanding of the political process in both Washington, D.C. and Columbia has served her well in this capacity.

Ryggs is the immediate past chairman of the Spartanburg County Republican Party, having served two terms, and was Spartanburg's State Committeeman prior to her chairmanship. Her service with the federation began when she co-founded Palmetto House Republican Women in 2003 and was elected its first president. She then served as State President of the South Carolina Federation of Republican Women, and was elected Member at Large to the National Federation of Republican Women, serving as only the 3rd South Carolinian to be on the NFRW Executive Committee.

In 2011, Ryggs was named one of Politico's "50 Politicos to Watch." Ryggs earned her bachelors and masters degrees in Communications from Bob Jones University. She resides in Greer with her family.

2013 Elephant Auction Results! Kathy Snyder-Garrett

The first thing I am going to say is Congratulations and a big Thank You to our club members .So many of you not only baked, made quilts, found and donated unique items, gave wonderful household items, and jewelry; you also took those forms to businesses and collected great certificates and items to auction. Way to go. It paid off! We raised a little over \$6,000.00! Our Executive Board voted to

Notes of Interest from the President—Debbie Spaugh

VOTING ON AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS

We will vote on the proposed Amendments to our By-Laws at the October luncheon. Copies of the By-Laws and the proposed Amendments were distributed at the August luncheon, emailed to members in August, and mailed to members with no email in August. We will have some extra copies on hand if some of you do not bring your copies.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

We will elect our officers for the 2014-2015 term at the October luncheon. Only those members whose dues are paid by October 1 are eligible to participate. The Nominating Committee nominated the following for office: Linda Slaton—President, Kathy Snyder-Garrett—First V.P., Cheryl Cuthrell—Second V.P., Shirley Cowart—Recording Secretary, Sylvia Bass—Corresponding Secretary, and Mary Beth Green—Treasurer. Other than President, the nominees have no opposition, and will be elected by acclamation. Jane Kizer notified President Debbie Spaugh in writing of her intention to run for President and will be nominated from the floor. The two candidates for President, Linda Slaton and Jane Kizer, will each give a three minute speech at the October luncheon. Election for President will be by secret ballot.

VOLUNTEER HOURS:

We are still counting volunteer hours. You may have attended one or more of the speaking engagements held during August featuring Trey Gowdy or Jeff Duncan. Yes, just attending an event counts. There have been several extra meetings for the Executive Committee for the Greenville GOP. Many of you helped with the auction for the Sept. meeting. All of these count for volunteer hours for the club. If you have any questions about counting hours, please call me at 288-0560 or email ldslaton@yahoo.com. **Linda Slaton**

Auction (continued)

donate \$1,000 to The Julie Valentine Center and \$1,000 to Safe Harbor. There will be photos taken as checks are presented. This leaves \$4,000.00 for our club! It is a win-win when we can help charities for women, demonstrate our commitment to helping the community, and make such a large amount for our club. I want all of my fellow club members to help me say a big thank you to:

The Best Auction Committee Ever: Ann Powell, Barbara Koprowski, Jackie Beidlingmaier, Gayle Stanley and Kate Anderson! Extra thank you to Kate for producing forms, flyers, and the business booklet!

Thank you to Betty Poe for auction headquarters, and Betty and Gary Hester Interiors for the Amazing and generous Auction items! Thank you to Carolyn Freeland for moving back to Greenville, downsizing to a condominium and giving us everything that did not fit! Big Thank You to our great “Honey Do” Willis Meadows for loading his truck slam full and helping Debbie Spaugh and me stuff the rest in our cars on Wednesday night, then meeting us early Thursday morning to unload! Above and beyond the call of duty! Thank you, Willis and Madam President!

Thank you, Robin Longino, Development Director for The Julie Valentine Center, who brought a guest, and was a big spender second only to Betty Poe! Thank you Billy Mitchell, for your big heart and attic to store all the items you bought. My offer still stands to help you put that crystal chandelier back together!

Last but not least, thank you Jenny Earl and Janice McPhee, for stepping in when the auction chair had a meltdown and spending hours to finish the Bookwork! Many of you expressed concern about my stress level at the auction. I promise it was not the auction. It was three funerals, a wedding and the auction, all in the same week. Thanks for your concern, it's all better now! Success is due to all your efforts. Yeah team!! We did it!!!

Government Shutdown

Our last government shutdown was in the 90's. And that is where we find ourselves again because of the excessive spending of the federal government and the great weight and cost of ObamaCare. This all started because we have yet to pass a budget for years and so the Congress has to pass continuing resolutions to fund the government every so often. The continuing resolution that was proposed by our Senate would fund everything as is. You might have heard about Senator Ted Cruz, who talked for 21 hours prior to the vote to fund ObamaCare in the resolution.

But what you might not be aware of is how this vote occurred. There are 2 votes that were critical in the passage of the resolution. The first vote is called cloture. A cloture vote tells the Senate it is time to stop debating the resolution and time to vote on it. A vote for cloture requires 2/3 of the Senate to pass. The democrats do not have a 2/3 majority in the Senate and so they are unable to vote for cloture without help. Unfortunately, many Republicans sided with the democrats to vote on cloture.

A lot of political moves in the legislative process are made through just such tactics. Since the Republicans don't have a majority, they don't have the numbers to stop legislation. But they do have enough numbers to prevent cloture and stop the taking of the vote. If the Republicans stand together, we can stop this bad legislation, but we have too many that jump ship. And then they vote against the legislation when we don't have enough votes to stop it. And then they claim they voted against the bill. This happens often by legislators and the more we are aware of what is going on, the more we can call them on their votes, including those for cloture.

Right now, we are in the midst of a government shutdown because our Senate and President would not negotiate on the House version of the continuing resolution. We are also about to hit our debt limit in the next few days. Call your House members and tell them to hold strong to slow our federal spending.

Welcome to our New Member for September

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that Carolyn Freeland joined the Club in September. She also was kind to submit articles for donation to the auction.

The Membership Committee wishes to remind our Members and Associate Members that club dues follow a calendar year regardless of when paid and will remain only \$20 for 2014. We ask that you complete a Renewal Form so that we can be certain to have all your correct information. Please note that only those members who have joined by October 1 may vote in the officer election on October 24th.

Sunshine News



Our thoughts and prayers are with Geri Warren and her family after the death of Geri's husband, Steve.

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

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

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Greenville County Republican
Women's Club

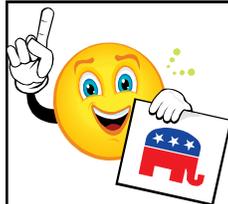
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GCRWC Luncheon Dates

12:00 - 1:00 PM

Thursday	October 24
Thursday	December 5



**October 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, October 21. Cancellations must be made by 8:00 PM on Monday, October 21 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, October 21.