



The Elephant's Ear

Volume 7, No. 1 January 2014

Thursday, January 9, 2014

GCRWC Luncheon Dates

Jan 16, 2014
Feb 27, 2014
Mar 27, 2014
Apr 24, 2014
May 22, 2014
June 26, 2014
July 24, 2014
Aug 28, 2014
Sept 25, 2014
Oct 23, 2014
Dec 4, 2014

For Reservations:
gcrwreply
@yahoo.com or
Call Evelyn Balsiger
at 864-630-2315

**Speakers for
February are
Dr. Mick Zais &
Common Core**

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on our website:
www.GCRWC.org**



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Greenville
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Republican
Women's Club**

GOVERNOR NIKKI HALEY

We are honored to have Governor Nikki Haley coming to speak to our club on January 16th, 2014.

Governor Haley has led the nation in conservative stands. She was elected the 116th Governor of South Carolina on Tuesday, November 2, 2010 and will be running for the office again in 2014.



Since taking office, Governor Haley has focused on creating jobs and improving the business climate in South Carolina. Other states now look to South Carolina as an example for how to recruit new businesses while taking care of the businesses they already have.

Governor Haley has been proud to announce nearly 40,000 new jobs created and over \$9.6 billion invested in South Carolina. One of her major accomplishments has been fighting for good government reforms. After a three year fight that began during her time in the Legislature, she was able to pass roll call voting reform which keeps legislators from voting anonymously and allows citizens to see the spending habits of their elected officials.

Governor Haley has also been able to pass tax relief for small businesses, pension reform, Medicaid reform, illegal immigration reform, Voter ID, and created an Inspector General to help remove waste and abuse in state government.

For her efforts to cut taxes and slow the growth of government spending, Governor Haley was named "Friend of the Taxpayer" by the S.C. Association of Taxpayers in 2011. She has lifetime "A" ratings from the South Carolina Club for Growth, the Palmetto Family Council, and the National Rifle Association. She received the 2011 State Leadership Award from the United States Chamber of Commerce.

Governor Haley's husband, Michael, is a full time federal technician with the South Carolina National Guard and an officer in the Army National Guard. He has just returned from a one-year deployment in Afghanistan. They have two children, daughter Rena and son Nalin.

If you have any questions for Governor Haley please submit them to Cheryl Cuthrell at cherylcuthrell@mail.com before the luncheon. There will be no questions from the floor.

Notes of Interest from Our President -- Linda Slaton

I would like to begin by thanking Debbie Spaugh for the work she has done for our club during the 2011-2013 term. She has been a diligent, hard working president, and I congratulate her on her accomplishments, especially for our club receiving the Diamond Award. This is the highest award given by the Federation of Republican Women. Only 2 clubs in the state received this award from the National Federation. Thanks too Debbie or all your help with the transition.

We are so honored to have Governor Nikki Haley as the first speaker for the 2014 year. To help expedite the check-in process I am requesting all members who will be paying Membership Renewal Fees and/or Luncheon Fees to please have your checks written out in advance. Checks need to be made out to Greenville County Republican Women's Club, or GCRWC . The cost is \$16.00 for the luncheon. Renewal of your membership , which is due this month, is \$20.00. You may combine fees and make out one check for \$36.00. We expect lot of Visitors to hear thee Governor. I know the members of our club will go out of your way to greet everyone. Make them feel welcome and comfortable so they will want to return and bring their friends.

Cheryl Cuthrell, 2nd programs. Dr. Zais, State Superintendent of Education, and a program on Common Core will take place in February. One program you do not want to miss will be Trey Gowdy and Jeff Duncan in April. Thank you, Cheryl, for your well planned programs. I am honored to serve as President of our club, and, am acutely aware that it takes the combined efforts of all of us to achieve the objectives of this club . Please remember that your Officers, Committee Chairmen and all members of these committees, are volunteers and serve for the love of and dedication to conservative republican values.

Legislative Notes - - Karen McManaway

The Implementation of Obamacare Fight Continues.

President Obama's healthcare law has a legal glitch that critics say could cause it to unravel in more than half the nation. The Affordable Care Act proposes to make health insurance affordable to millions of low-income Americans by offering them tax credits to help cover the cost. To receive the credit, the law twice says they must buy insurance "through an exchange established by the state."

Currently 36 states have decided against opening exchanges for now. Although the law permits the federal government to open exchanges instead, it does not say tax credits may be given to those who buy insurance through a federally run exchange. This went unnoticed when the bill worked its way through the House and Senate. The IRS tried to fix it by creating a regulation that redefined "exchange" to include a "federally facilitated exchange."

Critics of the law have seized on the glitch. They have filed four lawsuits that urge judges to rule the Obama administration must abide by the strict wording of the law, even if doing so dismantles it in nearly two-thirds of the states. And the Obama administration has no hope of repairing the glitch by legislation as long as the Republicans control the House.

By a 5-4 vote, the Supreme Court justices ruled the government may impose a tax penalty on those who can afford to buy insurance but decline to do so. But in a 7-2 decision, they said states had the option to expand their Medicaid coverage under the law, or to turn down extra federal money.

The states have now split evenly, as 25 of them have opted to take the extra money from Washington and expand their Medicaid coverage, and 25 have refused. As a result, the law's aim to provide free healthcare for those who are poor will go forward in only half of the nation.

Legislative Notes - by Karen McManaway, Cont....

The new suits focus at the parts of the law that offer subsidies to those who are above the poverty level but still may struggle to pay for insurance. A single person with an income up to \$45,960 can qualify for subsidies now, as can a family of four with an income up to \$94,200. If the federal government cannot offer these subsidies in the 36 states without exchanges, it cannot enforce the mandate to have insurance. This could be devastating to Obamacare.

In our state, Republican-led state Senate is scheduled to vote on fast-tracked legislation that would prohibit all state agencies, public officials and state employees from implementing the federal health care law. Governor Haley is expected to sign the South Carolina Freedom of Health Care Protection Act (H 3101), which could become a model for other states.

The bill would forbid state employees from participating in federally mandated insurance exchanges, and reimburse individuals in the form of a state tax deduction for any federal tax penalties they incur for not buying health insurance.

The bill, which easily passed South Carolina's House of Representatives in April on a 65-34 vote, would "render null and void certain unconstitutional laws enacted by the Congress of the United States taking control over the health insurance industry and mandating that individuals purchase health insurance under threat of penalty."

The bill would also "prohibit certain individuals from enforcing or attempting to enforce such unconstitutional laws, and to establish criminal penalties and civil liability for violating this article."

It also instructs the state attorney general to "bring an action" if there is "reasonable cause to believe that a person or business is being harmed by implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act."

The U.S. Congress can pass laws, but it cannot compel the states to utilize either their treasury or personnel to implement those federal laws. According to the 10th Amendment Center, the South Carolina bill "stands on extremely strong legal footing. The states are not required to assist the federal government. The Supreme Court has repeatedly held that states can, in essence, 'opt-out' and leave enforcement to the federal government."



**Welcome to our New Members for December
Cindy Cohen and Elizabeth Scott**

Membership Notes

It's time to renew your membership for the 2014 year! The annual membership fee is \$20. If you have any changes to your address, phone or Email please drop by the Membership Committee table at the next luncheon January 16th so we can update our records; or you can Email Janice McPhee at airborne82@charter.net with your changes. If you are interested in working on the Membership Committee we could use another volunteer please contact Janice McPhee Membership Chairman.

** If you would like a permanent name tag, they are \$10. Please contact Cheryl Cuthrell to order, cherylcuthrell@mail.com. **

Greenville County Republican
Women's Club
Linda Slaton - President
21 Dahlglen Avenue
Greenville, SC 29607

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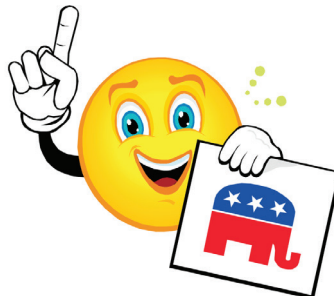
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January Luncheon 12:00 - 1:00
THE POINSETT CLUB

Please make reservations to gcrwreply@yahoo.com or by calling Evelyn Balsiger at 864-630-2315 by 8:00 PM Monday, January 16th. Cancellations must be made by 8:00 PM on Monday, January 16th 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 Evelyn by 8:00 PM on Monday, January 16th.