



The Elephant's Ear

Volume 8, No. 11 December 2015

Thursday, December 3, 2015

GCRWC 2016 Luncheon Dates

January 28
February 25
March 24
April 21
May 26
June 23
July 28
August 25
September 22
October 27
December 1

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

Check us out
on our website:
www.GCRWC.org



Join us on
Facebook!
Greenville
County
Republican
Women's Club

December Meeting:

GCRWC will host their Christmas celebration at the Poinsett Club. We will have Christmas music from Steve Eager who did our Patriotic music before and a \$5.00 gift exchange. Dress in your Christmas finest and come enjoy a lunch with your Republican friends, Please invite your friends. Your reservations can be made by emailing gcrwreply@yahoo.com. As last year - if you want to exchange a gift then bring one. You will receive a "ticket" then at the appropriate time we will exchange with the ladies who participate.

Notes of Interest from Our President, Mrs. Linda Slaton:

PRESIDENT'S NOTES:

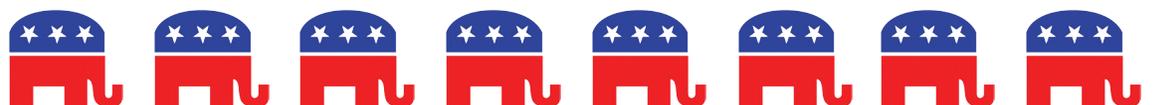
Congratulations to Geri Warren who was chosen as Republican Woman of the Year at the South Carolina Federation of Republican Women Convention. Geri was noted for having doubled the GCRWC membership in her presidential term, and is currently serving on the membership and nominating committee for the SCFRW. Geri is the Greenville County Republican Party's secretary. More than her involvement with the GOP and SCFRW, Geri is known for her creative talents with decorating.

Congratulations--Geri Warren.

Our club was presented a membership award for having the largest number of members in the state. A big thank you to Janice McPhee, Membership Chair, for a job well done. Susan Kendrick, Publicity Chair, shares the spotlight with membership as she has brought in the most new members in the last two years. Thanks to both of you.

It has been my honor and privilege to have served as your president for the past two years, but please remember that it takes 6 officers, and 21 committee chairs to run this club. I want to thank all of you who have served in any of these positions. You have stepped up to the challenge to make sure this club has continued to educate our members to the concerns facing our country for the past two years.

We are having a book drive for our December meeting. Please bring new or good condition used books. The books will be given to the Nichol Town after school program.



Legislative Notes -- Karen McManaway H-1B Visas Are A Raw Deal for Americans!!!

What is the controversy surrounding the H-1B Visas? An article from the National Review written by Ian Tuttle caught my attention, is very informative and worthy of sharing. In a 2013 letter to President Obama and congressional leaders, more than 100 tech executives complained: "One of the biggest economic challenges facing our nation is the need for more qualified, highly-skilled professionals, domestic and foreign, who can create jobs and immediately contribute to and improve our economy." The executives were petitioning on behalf of the 2013 "I-Squared" bill, which would have raised the cap on the number of H-1B visas distributed yearly to select "highly skilled" foreign workers. But is there really a shortage of STEM-proficient American workers? (STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Qualcomm, the San Diego-based cellphone smart-chip producer, recently its plans to lay off 4,500 employees. But just four months ago, Qualcomm was "scrambling" to hire H-1B applicants. Likewise with Microsoft, which announced last year that it would be laying off 18,000 workers and introduced plans for another 7,800 cuts in July this past year, even as it remains an enthusiastic supporter of the resurrected I-Squared bill co-authored by Marco Rubio earlier this year. That bill would triple the number of H-1B visas to 195,000.

It's not hard to imagine that Qualcomm, Microsoft, and others hope to follow the Disney model. Late last year, Disney, a company with significant IT interests, laid off 250 workers. They were replaced by H-1B recipients. And, like some 400 workers laid off from Southern California Edison last year, the Disney employees were required to participate in a "knowledge transfer" — i.e., they were forced to train the foreign workers who took their jobs. What is happening? Ron Hira, of the left-leaning Economic Policy Institute, reports that in 2013 Infosys and Tata, two leading offshoring firms, paid computer-systems analysts on H-1B visas \$20,000 less than the average annual wage (\$91,990) for analysts in Los Angeles that year — despite the legal requirement to pay H-1B employees the "prevailing wage" in an area for their given occupation. Summarizing the findings of a group of economists studying the impact of H-1B employees on companies, a writer in the National Review's June 22 issue wrote: "H-1Bs don't appear to make firms more innovative, but they do lead them to hire fewer U.S. workers than they would have otherwise, and they do make them more profitable." The evidence indicates that "the chief motivation of employers seeking H-1Bs is to restrain growth in labor costs."

It's for this reason that ten senators (five Republicans and five Democrats) have called on the Department of Justice, the Department of Homeland Security, and the Department of Labor to investigate the use of the H-1B visa program at Southern California Edison, and another senator, Bill Nelson (D., Fla.), has called on DHS to investigate Disney on the same grounds. The H-1B program has become an arrangement through which well-connected companies can save cash by betraying qualified American workers. The H-1B program accounts for a fraction of all legal immigration to the United States every year — which is about a million people. But the program highlights the question that should be at the heart of America's larger immigration debate: For whom does our immigration system exist?

The American immigration system must work, first and foremost, for Americans. Certainly there are foreigners we would be lucky to welcome to our shores; as is often noted, the labors of immigrants have been imperative to our nation's success, economic and otherwise. But a nation that refuses to prioritize the interests of its own citizens over the interests of foreigners is not much of a nation — and is sure not to last as one for long. The H-1B program has become an arrangement through which well-connected companies can save cash by betraying qualified American workers. An immigration system — and a government — that facilitates such a scheme is broken, indeed.

According to the US Citizen and Immigration Services the US H1B visa is a non-immigrant visa that allows US companies to employ foreign workers in specialty occupations that require theoretical or technical expertise in specialized fields such as in architecture, engineering, mathematics, science, and medicine. Under the visa a US company can employ a foreign worker for up to six years. Applying for a non-immigrant visa is generally quicker than applying for a US Green Card, therefore the H-1B visa is popular for companies wishing to bring in staff for long-term assignment in the US.

Individuals are not able to apply for an H1B visa to allow them to work in the US. The employer must petition for entry of the employee. The H-1B visa is initially granted for up to three years, but may then be extended to a maximum of six years. Even though the H-1B visa is a non-immigrant visa, it is one of the few US visa categories recognized as dual intent, meaning the H-1B visa holder can apply for and obtain a US Green Card while in the US on an H-1B visa. If you are still in the US on an H-1B visa and wish to remain in the US for more than six years, you can apply for permanent residency in the US to receive a Green Card. If you do not gain permanent residency prior to the expiration of your H-1B visa, then you must live outside the US for at least one year before reapplying for another H or L visa. H-1B visa holders can bring their spouse and children under 21 years of age to the US under the H4 Visa category as dependents.

Membership Committee Notes

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS FOR OCTOBER!

Sharon Hibarger, Kathy Gibson, Patricia Webb, Christi Impson,
Chris Rible Caldwell, Maxi Cale, Laura Pritchett and Evelyn Roper

GCRWC FUNDRAISER



These are some of the pieces that will be available for purchase at our luncheon.

- Bracelets \$11.00
- Necklace \$11.00
- Pins \$9.00
- Poppers \$5.00

There are many new beautiful pieces Available on line gcrwc.yourselfexpression.com. I will have new jewelry to show that will be available to pre-pay and order or available online. Feel free to call with questions.

Kathy Snyder-Garrett: (864) 787-8550

Volunteer Work Hour Reminder -- Julie Hershey

This is a reminder to turn your volunteer work hours into Julie Hershey so that our club can receive credit for hours attending and working for Republican Party efforts and candidates for office. Have you attended committee meetings or attended Republican events? Be sure to count your travel time as well. Report your total hours by the month to Julie Hershey at jrhershey@charter.net.



SUNSHINE NEWS

If anyone has any Sunshine News, please notify Pat McManaway at patsymm@gmail.com or call her at 864-329-9030.

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

Check out our website:
www.GCRWC.org



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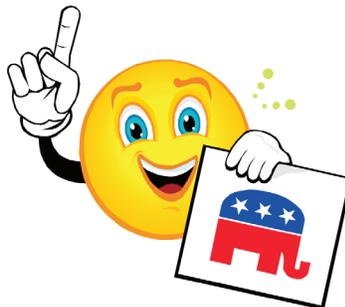
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December Luncheon 12:00 -1:00
THE POINSETT CLUB

Please make reservations to gcrwreply@yahoo.com or by calling Evelyn Hargett at 864-630-2315 by Sunday, November 30th . Cancellations must be made by 8:00 PM on Sunday, November 30th to avoid the \$17.00 luncheon fee. If you have a standing reservation contract for the 2015 year and not able to attend, please email Evelyn by 8:00 PM on Sunday, November 30th.