



The Elephant's Ear

Volume 8, No. 3 March 2015

Thursday, March 26, 2015

March Meeting & Fundraiser:

GCRWC Luncheon Dates

Mar 26, 2015
Apr 23, 2015
May 28, 2015
June 25, 2015
July 23, 2015
Aug 27, 2015
Sept 24, 2015
Oct 22, 2015
Dec 3, 2015*

For Reservations:

gcrwreply

@yahoo.com or

Call Evelyn Hargett

at 864-630-2315

or

<http://go-greenevents.com/GCRWCMarch-Event>

**Event for April:
Ashley Landess - SC
Policy Council**

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



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

Kris "Tanto" Paronto

- Former Ranger, 2nd Battalion, 75th Regiment
- Security and Military Consultant
- Hero of Benghazi Attack

Kris Paronto - "Tanto" as he is affectionately known in security contracting circles - is a former Army Ranger from 2nd Battalion 75th Ranger Regiment and private security contractor who has deployed throughout South America, Central America, the Middle East and North Africa. He also worked with the US Government's Global Response Staff conducting low profile security in high threat environment throughout the world.

Mr. Paronto was part the CIA annex security team that responded to the terrorist attack on the US Special Mission in Benghazi, Libya, September 11th, 2012, helping to save over 20 lives while fighting off terrorists from the CIA Annex for over 13 hours. Mr. Paronto's story is told in the book "13 Hours" written by Mitchell Zuckoff and his five surviving annex security team members.

Mr. Paronto was born in Alamosa, Colorado and obtained his Bachelor's Degree from Mesa State College in Grand Junction, Colorado and Masters Degree from The University of Nebraska at Omaha. He served 4 years in the US Army and an additional 4 years in the US Army National Guard reaching the rank of Sergeant then becoming a commissioned officer in 2003. He started contracting for Blackwater Security Consulting in 2003 and continued to deploy on various security contracts, to include the Global Response Staff until 2013.

Mr. Paronto has been involved in security operations in hostile environments for over 10 years and his and team's involvement with the September 11th, 2012 attack on the US special mission in Benghazi, Libya was paramount in the saving of US lives and assets. He is a proven leader, teammate and friend to those who have deployed with him, and a devout father to a loving wife and two remarkable children.



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

PRESIDENT'S NOTES:

The Nominating Committee, who will select our slate of officers for the 2016-2017 year, will be elected at our April Meeting. Nominations will be taken from the floor which means that members will be nominating other members to serve. If you would like to serve on this committee, you will need someone to nominate you. If you would like to nominate someone then plan to discuss this with them beforehand to determine if they would be willing to serve.

The SCFRW has sent out a form asking for anyone who is willing to serve on a state level to apply. Forms can be found on the GCRWC Web site and copies will be made available at the March meeting. Requirements for holding a state office are listed on the form. With our club being the largest in the state, we should have representation at the state level. At present Kathy Davis, serves as state treasurer, and Geri Warren is the member-at-large serving on the nominating committee.

We are still trying to collect a list of each member's SC House and SC Senate representatives. Karen McManaway, Legislative Chair, is planning to alert us for a Call to Action (each member calling their representative) for specific legislation that will be coming up for a vote this year. Please go to SCVOTES.org, look to a column on the right for "Check your voter registration" This will open a place where you can put in your personal information to find your representatives. Please bring this information to the next meeting.

Save the date for April 18th for the Greenville County Convention to be held at the TD Center. If you did not attend your precinct meeting, you are still able to attend the County Convention as a visitor for the price of \$10.00 with no voting rights.

Legislative Notes -- Karen McManaway

Petición · South Carolina State House: Protect South Carolina

Taxpayers - Don't raise our gas taxes without transparency and accountability at the SCDOT.

Considering that SC's gas tax is very low, at first it seemed reasonable that we may need to increase our gas tax to repair and build roads. The more you learn about the management of road funding it becomes obvious that it's not fair to consider an increase until we have real reform within the SC DOT. The lack of accountability is shocking! This has been portrayed in the media as a huge crisis that we need to rush and pass one or more of the 17 tax increase bills that are currently moving through the legislature. All this despite the fact that our state treasurer, Curtis Loftis, isn't even sure we even need more funding because of a lack of transparency within the South Carolina DOT. Then, when you see all of the special interest groups who stand to benefit from these new taxes (many of them aren't even in South Carolina) and who are creating a sense of urgency, it's like something straight out of Washington DC.

We reject any and all bills that raise taxes for road funding until:

- There is a comprehensive audit of road/gas tax revenues collected, borrowed or spent for roadway maintenance and repair.
- There is full budgetary transparency of all spending on every project by the DOT.
- Any road funding tax bill stipulates that all current road and bridge update and repair needs must be completed before road funding tax revenues can be used to fund new projects.

We make the SC Department of Transportation a cabinet level agency with the director chosen by the governor and approved by senate. The director must be fully accountable to the governor.

One person, the governor, must be fully responsible for all road spending.

All road and infrastructure funding monies should stay in the SCDOT where it can be tracked.

The SCDOT road project priority must be published and available to the public. The independent, road-selecting State Transportation Infrastructure Bank which spends billions on new projects with no oversight is eliminated.

All car sales tax must go to the SCDOT.

Please go to change.org or see me at the April meeting if you would like to sign the petition for this action. Before we spend more money we need to know where our dollars are being spent. It only makes sense.

This article is from the Center for Self Governance

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. Fill free to call with questions.

Kathy Snyder-Garrett: (864) 787-8550

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Joyce Bolding, Kathy Firme, Linda Fox, Sheila James, and Betty Kabas

Membership Committee Notes

SCFRW SPRING MEMBERSHIP CONTEST January 1, 2015 until May 1, 2015

The SCFRW (South Carolina Federation of Republican Women) is sponsoring a statewide Membership Drive contest. The object of the contest is to bring new members into our club. A new member is a woman who becomes a full member (not an associate member) of the club. The new member will be new not a renewal member. Membership is counted when dues are paid.

There will be a total of four individual winners: 1st place; 2nd place; 3rd place and a Wild Card Winner. The SCFRW will award prizes to our club which will include three gift packages of patriotic jewelry. The Wild Card winner will be determined in a random drawing of members who each recruit at least one new member. The GCRWC will also award a prize to the member who recruits the most new members.

If you have not received the new 2014 Membership Directory please stop by the Membership Table for your copy. If you have any changes to your information since the 2014 Membership Directory was published please give those changes to the Membership Committee after the meeting or via Email to Janice McPhee at airborne82@charter.net or call her at 864-967-9618. We will be updating members with changes to the directory in the coming months.

Remember if your have not renewed your 2015 membership please stop by the Membership Table after the meeting March 26th. The dues are \$20.00 for the 2015 year.

SUNSHINE NEWS

Please keep the following members in your thoughts and prayers. Grace Lynn Curry was in an accident while visiting her daughter in Pennsylvania. She has returned home and is doing well. Also, Barbara Koproski and Pat McManaway are both home from the hospital.

If anyone knows of any illness with a club member or their family, please notify Linda Slaton at 288.0560 or presGCRWC@yahoo.com. Linda Slaton will be filling in for Pat McManaway, Sunshine Committee Chair, until Pat is well.

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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GCRWC Luncheon Dates

12:00 - 1:00

Mar 26, 2015

Apr 23, 2015

May 28, 2015

June 25, 2015

July 23, 2015

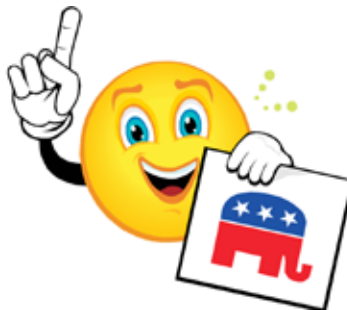
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March Luncheon 12:00 - 1:00
THE POINSETT CLUB

Please make reservations to gcrwreply@yahoo.com or by calling Evelyn Hargett at 864-630-2315 by 8:00 PM Monday, March 23rd. Cancellations must be made by 8:00 PM on Monday, March 23rd to avoid the \$20.00 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 Monday, March 23rd. For this meeting you can also make reservations online through [http://go-greenevents.com/
GCRWCMarchEvent](http://go-greenevents.com/GCRWCMarchEvent).