



The Elephant's Ear

GCRWC 2017
Luncheon Dates

June 22
July 27
Friday, August 25 *
September 28
October 26
December 7 *

* Note date changes

For Reservations:

gcrwreply@yahoo.com

or call

Tracy Phillipott

864-420-6259

or go to

www.go-greenevents.com



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our website:

www.GCRWC.org



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Greenville County
Republican
Women's Club



Volume 10, No. 6

June 2017



June 22 Luncheon Meeting
12:00 Noon, Poinsett Club
\$18.00 Members
\$20.00 Non Members

In honor of our military appreciation month and meeting, all current and former military will pay the Member rate of \$18 for the June lunch. What a nice opportunity to invite your hero to be recognized for their service and to hear this special program!

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Mary Beth Green

Are you finally fed up? Do you know how many abuses the Founders listed to justify the Declaration of Independence to declare they were fed up with the greatest tyrant of their time? After winning the French and Indian War, Great Britain was broke. Colonists, including George Washington, had helped King George win that war and the King turned his tyranny toward taxing the colonists to replenish his treasury.

President Trump is focusing on tax reform, healthcare and immigration, but the Democrats and the dishonest Democrat Press are focused on the bogus Russia hoax. The Swamp is trying to block Trump from making the changes *we elected him to do*. The first of 29 listed abuses in the Declaration is identical to what we are currently witnessing. King George blocked the colonists from establishing rules that were "the most wholesome and necessary for the public good."

South Carolina representatives both nominate **and** vote on judges. The ninth listed abuse in the Declaration was that King George, "... made Judges dependent on his Will alone for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries." Does this sound familiar with what is going on today?

South Carolina state representatives currently do not have to provide documentation of their meetings and communications under the Freedom of Information Act. Can you believe this? This is exactly the manner in which King George kept his subjects in the colonies in the dark by having his legislative bodies meet, "... at places unusual, uncomfortable and distant from the depository of the Public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures." This is the fourth abuse listed in the Declaration of Independence.

Drain the Swamp!



June is here, children are out of school and summer is in full swing. All across America homes are draped in flags and patriotic bunting as we pause to celebrate our freedom and honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice to protect it. It's only fitting that our **June 22nd** program will feature remarks from Greenville native and Army Ranger, Bobby Cox, and our very own Stacy Shea, spouse of a retired Navy SEAL and mother of a cadet at the United States Military Academy at West Point.

After nearly 16 years of being a nation at war, it's easy to lose sight of the costs, the demands and the brutality of war. In that context, Stacy Shea will be discussing one of the most important military charities in America, **The Fisher House**, with the exciting news that the first Fisher House in South Carolina is opening in Charleston.

Greenville native, 2002 Citadel graduate and Army Ranger, Bobby Cox will be discussing the unique demands on a new generation of military leaders, as one of many junior officers who went from a military academy directly into the battlefields of the Global War on Terror in the opening months of this protracted conflict.

Be sure to attend our June 22 meeting by clicking on gcrwreply@yahoo.com to make your reservations.

***** COME TO THE MEETING EARLY TO MEET AND MINGLE WITH OTHER MEMBERS! *****



*For the Freedoms
that we all enjoy -
Our thanks go to the
young men and women
serving in all
branches of the military.
We Salute You!*



****** MEMBERSHIP ******

Dianne Mitchell, Membership Chair

The Membership Committee would like to thank the officers, committee chairs and new members who came to the orientation and social. It was a beautiful evening on Dianne's back porch and many kept saying how great it was to be around politically like-minded **engaged women**. We will set up another one in the next few months.

PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS....

**Trish Hamel * Nora Hayden * Chris Kelly
Jacquie Vick * Phyllis Henderson (Associate)**



Roberts Rules Class, Saturday, June 24, 9 a.m. - 1

Held at Pelham-Batesville Fire Department, 2761 S. Hwy. 14, Greer. There will be a 4-hour introductory session to *Robert's Rules of Order*. Learn the basics, with some practice time available. Casual atmosphere, so come, learn, participate! A portion of each \$15 registration fee will be donated to the Pelham-Batesville Fire Department. See the following link for details.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/roberts-rules-class-tickets-35014490283?aff=es2>

Sherry Capitan, Caring for America Chair, will be collecting items for the **Richard M. Campbell Veterans Nursing Home** during our meetings through July. Please consider donating the following items:

- | | |
|--|--|
| Body Spray/cologne sets | T-shirts |
| Body Wash | Pictures/Posters |
| Individual wrapped snacks | Paint canvas/paints |
| Jogging suites-all sizes | Wall clocks |
| Individual puddings/Jello | Craft projects |
| Diabetic snacks | Board games-Trouble, Trivial Pursuit, Big Checker Boards |
| Personal CD players | CD players |
| CD's-all types | Easy to do crafts |
| Stress balls | iPod Shuffle |
| Deodorant | DVD's - musicals, comedies, Gaither DVD's, Oldies i.e. Andy Griffith, HeeHaw |
| Bird seed | Gunsmoke, Mash, etc. |
| Popcorn-microwave or bags with oil for poppers | Hot chocolate |
| All Occasion cards | |
| Skid proof socks | |

Sherry's father was a career US Coast Guard officer and received his medical care in a Veterans Hospital. She understands the importance of helping our nation's military veterans. Let's all join together in honoring our veterans by donating!



*** LEGISLATIVE NOTES ***

Debbie Spaugh, Legislative Chair

SC Infrastructure & Economic Development Reform Act (Act # 40) (Gas Tax Hike Bill)

In this article by the South Carolina Policy Council, it becomes clear why the majority of SC Legislators were determined to pass the Gas Tax Increase Bill this year: "The Gas Tax, the Infrastructure Bank, and Lawmakers' Word Games" 5/9/17. To sum it up: 1. The Legislature has been "diverting fees to the Infrastructure Bank" since 2005. The Infrastructure Bank uses this revenue to issue bonds to fund large transportation projects. It does not repair existing roads. 2. The South Carolina Constitution prohibits debt from revenue bonds from being repaid by revenues from any tax. 3. To get around this law, the Legislature has been changing taxes into fees. In 2003 the Legislature changed the gas tax to a "motor fuel user fee". In Act #40 passed May 2017, sales taxes on vehicles have been renamed as fees. 3. This Act also includes other new or increased vehicle and license fees. 4. Why is there an urgent need for more revenue for the Infrastructure Bank? Due to the excessive amount of bonded debt of the SC Infrastructure Bank, Moody's has downgraded the STIB's credit rating. In order for the STIB to issue more bonds and fund more of the Legislator's pet projects, the STIB needs to have a steady "pledged revenue base" and improve its credit rating. 5. Act #40 creates an "Infrastructure Maintenance Trust Fund" which is supposed to ensure that money goes to repair and maintenance of existing roads. However, as noted by the SC Policy Council, Senator Tom Davis, and others, the wording of the law leaves the door wide open for money in this Trust Fund to go to the STIB, which doesn't repair roads.

The SC Policy Council's article, "If You Want to Hold Transportation Policymakers Accountable, Here's How", lists five actions citizens can take. This is the link to the article: <http://www.scpolicycouncil.org/featured/gas-tax-now-what>. It includes: 1. "Citizens can insist that DOT commissioners have no financial ties to the transportation industry." 2. "Citizens can contact their DOT commissioners to inquire about the repair of egregiously damaged roads and bridges." If you live in the 4th Congressional District, your DOT Commissioner is Woodrow Willard. His office number is 803-737-0013. His cell number is 864-542-7949. If you live in the 3rd Congressional District, your DOT Commissioner is Ben Davis. His office number is 803-737-0013. His cell number is: 864-980-5294.

Road Maintenance Fee Hike in Greenville County

Meanwhile, the Greenville County Council just voted to approve a \$10 fee hike to the current \$15 road maintenance fee on vehicles registered in the county. The final vote was 7-5. The five who voted against the fee increase are: Lynn Ballard, Joe Dill, Michael Barnes, Willis Meadows, and Sid Cates.

WIN AN iPad!

Be sure to support our club fundraiser by purchasing your Raffle Tickets for a chance to win an iPad. Only \$5 a ticket - and if you already have one, maybe it's time for a new one, or it would make a great gift! ☺



The ticket drawing will be held at our August 25th meeting, so you have time to buy one (or more!) at each monthly meeting!



A special thank you to our members for all the work you have done from June 2015 through June 2017.... Janice turned in 8,451 hours! Way to go GCRWC!!

*** CAMPAIGN NOTES ***

Janice McPhee, Campaign Committee Chair

My thanks to all of our members who submitted their Volunteer Hours worked for our club and the Republican Party to help our club achieve the Diamond Award. The drawing for the Volunteer Hours contest was held at the May meeting. Gail Stanley and Jill Hancock were the winners of a free lunch at our June meeting - congratulations!

Please remember to continue to post your volunteer hours worked until the end of the year when I will turn over the Campaign Committee work book to the next Campaign Chairman. See me at the next meeting to enter your volunteer hours worked, and if you have any questions, you can email me at jatmwgm@charter.net or call 864-967-9618.

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June 22 Luncheon

12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Poinsett Club

\$18 Members, current/retired military

\$20 Non Members

Make reservations by clicking on gcrwreply@yahoo.com, or call

Tracy Phillpott at 864-420-6259 by Sunday, June 18

You can also click on www.go-greenevents.com,

click the Greenville Women's Club link, and pay ahead of time by credit card.

Be sure to make reservations for all guests, also. Any lunches (including "standing reservations") not cancelled by noon on Monday, June 19 will be billed by the club. Please be aware that once the number of reservations has been turned in, the club must honor our commitment to pay for that number of lunches. Thank you! ☺

Greenville County
Republican Women's Club
Mary Beth Green, President
117 Mitchell Avenue
Clemson, SC 29631-1533

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