



Volume 12, No. 5

May 2019

GCRWC 2019  
**Luncheon Dates**

- May 23
  - June 27
  - July 25
  - August 22
  - September 26
  - October 24
  - December 5\*
- (not the 4th Thursday)

*May 23<sup>rd</sup> Luncheon Meeting*  
*12:00 Noon, Poinsett Club*  
**\$25.00 Members**  
**\$25.00 Non-Members**

**A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

*Julie Hershey, President*



*“The Republican majority, left to its own devices from 1995-2000, was a party committed to limited government and restoring the balances of federalism with the states. Clearly, President Bush has had a different vision, and that vision has resulted in education and welfare policies that have increased the size and scope of government.” ~ Vice President, Mike Pence*

There are ten core Republican values that are worth revisiting – especially for our elected Republican officials at the local, state and federal levels. These core values are found in the National Republican Platform and they are: 1) the sanctity of human life – we assert the inherent dignity and sanctity of all human life and affirm that the unborn child has the fundamental individual right to life which cannot be infringed; 2) the protection of marriage; 3) support for the right to keep and bear arms which is solemnly confirmed by the Second Amendment; 4) the safeguarding of religious liberties and the free exercise thereof; 5) ensuring equal treatment for all people regardless of gender, race, age, religion, creed, disability, or national origin; 6) freedom of speech and of the press; 7) protection of our national symbols; 8) lower taxes – Americans cannot and will not continue to pay higher taxes. National, state and local taxes must be decreased to safeguard the financial health of our citizens and country; 9) smaller government – government growth must be stopped at all levels or we will never be able to lower taxes; and 10) encouraging the growth of business through the elimination of all unnecessary regulations that slow the growth of business, especially small business.

Let’s be sure to hold our elected Republican officials accountable to these standards – the health of our communities, state and nation depends on it!

For Reservations:  
[gcrwreply@yahoo.com](mailto:gcrwreply@yahoo.com)  
 or call  
 Evelyn Hargett  
 864- 630-2315  
 or go to  
[www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com) and  
 type in Greenville County  
 Republican Women’s Club,  
 then click the event

Check out  
 our website:  
[www.GCRWC.org](http://www.GCRWC.org)



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## MAY LUNCHEON SPEAKER

### *Racine Cooper, Program Chair*

Karen Watson is a native Texan who lives in Dallas. She graduated with a liberal arts degree and minor in speech and began her career as a banker, but eventually started her own mortgage firm.

Her interest in the Republican party began when she met Ronald Reagan at the '84 Republican National Convention in Dallas while she was in high school.

In 2012 she, along with Larry Eng and Mark Aldridge, created **GOPBuzz.com**, an internet portal for Republican events nationwide, and she is also a columnist with Politichicks and other national blogs and newspapers. She believes "if you show people what is going on locally for them – and all politics is local when you get down to it – you can connect people to the party." She is an interesting and entertaining author who has written three books including Being Black and Republican in the Age of Obama, How Democrats Stole the Black Vote and How the Republicans Can Win It Back! and Jackass: The History of the Democratic Party and Their Abuse of Black Americans.



As a keynote speaker for many Republican events, and numerous interviews on radio and TV, Watson communicates her message that "Republican and Conservative values are the right values for Americans, regardless of race or gender."

### CAMPAIGN NOTES

#### *Janice McPhee, Campaign Committee Chair*

LAST CALL FOR VOLUNTEER HOURS! All volunteer hours, including state convention hours if you are attending, are due to me by May 24<sup>th</sup>. At our June meeting I will draw three names of people who have turned in hours and they will receive lunch for free at their next meeting.

As always, call (864) 967-9618 or email [jatmwgm@charter.net](mailto:jatmwgm@charter.net) with any questions.

### SUNSHINE NEWS

#### *Gayle Stanley, Sunshine Chair*

Kathy Davis had knee surgery in March and is recovering nicely.



Please send all Sunshine News to Gayle at [t-gstanley@att.net](mailto:t-gstanley@att.net).

### During the April 25<sup>th</sup> meeting, the following members were voted to be on the Nominating Committee:

Brenda Barrett

Polly Dilworth

Tracy Phillpott

Ann Powell

Debbie Spaugh

**Alternates** are Gwen Crossland and Mary Beth Green.

According to Article VIII, the Nominating Committee will elect its chairman and secretary from one of its own members. The committee will present a slate of officers at the August meeting. Additional nominations may be made from the floor provided that the nominee is qualified and has notified the President, in writing, that she will serve in that office if elected. The Nominating Committee will be responsible for ballots.

Elections of club officers will be conducted during the October 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. Only those members whose dues are paid by October 1 shall be eligible to participate. Elections will be held by secret ballot.

### MEMBERSHIP

#### *Dianne Mitchell, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President*

Please note this will be the last Elephant's Ear delivered to you unless your dues are current. Renew today and bring friends to hear our special speaker, Karen Watson. To renew call (864) 244-2717 or email [diannekm@charter.net](mailto:diannekm@charter.net).

**Please welcome our newest members Jacqueline Lapointe and Elisabeth Cox.**

## LEGISLATIVE NOTES

### *Stacy Shea, Legislative Chair*

The information below is as of May 6<sup>th</sup> but the first half of the two-year legislative session will have ended (May 9<sup>th</sup>) before you read this. The “crossover date” was April 10<sup>th</sup>, so any bill which had not been approved by both chambers by that date can only be acted upon with a two-thirds vote. Otherwise, such bills will be carried over to the second half of the session, which begins in January. A special session has been called for May 20-22<sup>nd</sup> to deal with the budget, gubernatorial vetoes, appointments, local legislation, bills already in conference committee, and matters having to do with Santee Cooper.

- The House passed the “Data Warehouse” bill (H.3757) and sent it to the Senate. The original bill was slightly amended in committee, but the changes were not substantive.
- The Senate passed a bill (H.4287) to solicit binding offers for the sale or third-party management of Santee Cooper. It would place the Department of Administration in charge of the process. The House had already passed its own bill prior to the crossover date, so the Senate version was treated as a “strike and replace” amendment to the House bill in order to avoid the requirement of a 2/3 vote.
- The Senate passed a House bill (H.3541) which makes some changes to the qualifications to run for sheriff. It amended the House version by including language from a different bill (S.1) which had passed the Senate but died in the House. That language severely limits the Governor’s power to make appointments to vacant offices. Whether the House will agree to that change remains to be seen. The additional language violates the constitutional “one subject” requirement, but this has become a common practice which the Supreme Court has been loath to curtail.
- The “Heartbeat Bill” (H.3020) passed the House (with an amendment to exclude pregnancies due to rape or incest) and was sent to the Senate.
- Numerous bills have been introduced during the last few weeks which will not be addressed this year. Among these are:
  - H.4532 which makes significant changes to the sales tax, including reducing the overall rate from 5% to 3%, applying the tax to services, eliminating a number of exemptions, and eliminating the exclusion from tax of individuals over the age of 85.
  - H.4516 which prohibits local governments from preventing the rental of dwelling units to short-term guests.
  - H.4531 which requires that Public Service Commission members be publicly elected.
  - S.797 which amends the parole hearing structure for sexually violent offenders.
  - S.780 which instructs the DOT to examine the possibility of funding bridge and highway projects with tolls and permits the DOT to implement tolls which it determines to be “substantially feasible” without further approval of the General Assembly. This bill was placed directly onto the Senate calendar without going through committee.
  - H.4472 which allows open carry by concealed carry permit holders.
  - S.759 which creates a department of alcohol licensing and enforcement and removes SLED from alcohol enforcement.
  - S.761 which requires that schools have one mental health counselor for every 500 students.
- Among the substantive bills which have already passed both chambers and been signed into law by the Governor are : Amendments to the Youth Access to Tobacco Prevention Act of 2006 (H.3420) to strengthen age verification requirements and include alternative nicotine products; making permanent the Tucker Hipps Transparency Act (H.3398) which requires public universities to maintain reports of misconduct by fraternities and sororities; and the waiver (H.3929) of up to three school days missed because of snow.



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# The Elephant's Ear

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*The May 23, 2019 luncheon meeting will serve as a fundraiser for GCRWC and the cost will be \$25.00 for all. Please make reservations by Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>.*

THE GCRWC Host Committee welcomes special guest speaker Karen Watson!

Racine Cooper  
Kathy Davis  
Polly Dilworth  
Robin Duffie  
Mary Beth Green  
Diane Hardy  
Julie Hershey  
Pat Jenkins  
Susan Kendrick  
Janice McPhee

Dianne Mitchell  
Brenda Muldrow  
Tracy Phillipott  
Aly Seppala  
Stacy Shea  
Barbara Sloan  
Debbie Spaug  
Christine Stahl  
Gayle Stanley

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[gcrwreply@yahoo.com](mailto:gcrwreply@yahoo.com)  
or call  
Evelyn Hargett  
864- 630-2315 or  
[www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com) and  
type in Greenville County  
Republican Women's Club,  
then click the event.

Greenville County  
Republican Women's Club  
Julie Hershey, President  
215 Rivendell Drive  
Pelzer, SC 29669

Polly Dilworth, Editor

Check out  
our website:  
[www.GCRWC.org](http://www.GCRWC.org)



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