



The

Elephant's Ear

Vol. 2 No. 2

February '09

OUR FIRST SC GOP CHAIRMAN: GREG SHOREY

Are we ever in for a treat during the sweetest month of the year? **Greg Shorey** has been a longtime advocate of voters registering by party, and Samuel Harms, Greenville County GOP chairman, was given the authority to initiate legal action through the federal court on the basis that under the First Amendment right of association, a political party has a right not to associate with members of another party, and therefore has the absolute right not to have members of another party participate in choosing their party's nominees. Come hear Greg Shorey present the case for the importance of registering by party.

Greg Shorey

Greg has been involved with the Republican Party for many years. He was president of the Young Republicans at Boston University in the 1947-48 school year. He was the South Carolina campaign chairman for Eisenhower for President in 1952 (the year I was born) and again in 1956.



Greg Shorey

He was the Greenville County Republican chairman from 1952 until 1954 and now is a life member of the Greenville County Executive Committee. Greg is the **first and only Greenville** to ever hold the position of South Carolina Republican State Party chairman, and he held this position from 1956 until 1962.

He has been a delegate to South Carolina State Conventions since 1956 without missing a single convention. He was a delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1960 and again in 1964. Greg was awarded the South Carolina Order of the Palmetto by Gov. Jim Edwards in 1978. From 1992 until the present he has been a delegate for Beaufort County. He was the vice chairman for the Beaufort County Board Voter Registration and Election Commission from 1993 to 2002. He received the Greenville County Life Time Achievement Award in 2004. For more than 50 years he has been involved with the Greenville and Beaufort County's Bronze Elephant, South Carolina Silver Elephant; sustaining member of the Republican National Committee, Presidential Task Force, and Congressional and Senatorial Committees.

Kevin Hall

Our second speaker will be **Kevin Hall**, who is a candidate for chairman of the South Carolina Republican Party. He hopes to fill the vacancy created after Katon Dawson's resignation. Katon was a candidate for the National GOP chairman and lost narrowly to Michael Steele, a moderate to conservative former

OUR NEXT SC GOP CHAIRMAN? KEVIN HALL

lieutenant governor of Maryland. Mr. Hall has been endorsed by Sens. DeMint and Graham to fill this position.

Kevin has worked as a grassroots activist in the Republican Party since 1980 when, as a 15-year old, he volunteered for Ronald Reagan's primary and general election campaign. Kevin got his start in South Carolina politics as student at USC, where he served as a student volunteer for John Courson's first Senate campaign in 1984.

Since that time, Kevin has worked in Richland County, across the state and across the country as a volunteer, counselor and fundraiser for the Republican Party and its candidates. Each election cycle, Kevin has been instrumental in recruiting, training and coordinating poll watchers and Election Day legal operations in South Carolina and other states.

He has served as a county convention delegate, a state convention delegate, and as president of the Sixth Congressional District Convention. He is a sustaining member of the Republican National Lawyers Association (RNLA) and is a frequent speaker at RNLA seminars and the RNLA Election School, which trains GOP lawyers across the country in election law and related issues. Kevin is an active member in the conservative Federalist Society.

In addition to his grassroots efforts for the party and its candidates, Kevin played an instrumental strategic role in several statewide campaigns. In 2002, he took a six-month sabbatical from his law practice to advise and help manage Gov. Sanford's campaign and transition. In 2004, Kevin assisted Sen. DeMint in his inaugural Senate campaign. In 2008, Kevin served as Finance Committee co-chair for the SCGOP's Victory Committee, and he was elected as an alternate delegate to the Republican National Convention.

In his law practice, Kevin has represented numerous Republican candidates and conservative causes on a pro bono basis. He has served as legal counsel to the SC Republican party, Sens. Jim DeMint and Lindsey Graham and Gov. Mark Sanford. He received the 2008 President's Award from South Carolina Citizens for Life for his successful efforts to win approval of the "Choose Life" license plate. This is a perfect opportunity for you to meet this candidate and have your questions ready for him.

I look forward to seeing you at our February luncheon. Bring a guest (and future member), and I know they will be glad you invited them. *Kathy Davis.*



Kevin Hall

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Elections Are Over, But the Politics Are Going Strong!

Dear Members,

Most people who don't follow politics probably thought the campaigns and the recent elections were the peak of political activity. As we have seen this past month and a half, however, the political issues in our State and on the national scene are just as significant and challenging.

In South Carolina, we have been closely watching **Gov. Sanford's** efforts to bring more and better management to the **Employment Security Commission**. That agency spends millions and millions of dollars and holds the responsibility for providing unemployment compensation for those unemployed through no fault of their own. State employers pay much of the cost of unemployment, but obviously government funds are involved to a large extent, and Gov. Sanford does not believe the agency is being managed properly.

Our own **State Party Chairman, Katon Dawson**, was in the final running for the position of National Party Chairman. We were disappointed he did not win, but his contributions in South Carolina and his abilities were recognized by the national party, and no doubt he will continue to be involved on both the State and national level. Now, given his decision not to run for re-election as SC Republican Party Chairman, we find ourselves in the midst of another hotly contested campaign for that position.

On the national level, we still await the determination of one Senate seat, which could be critical for Republicans if the party is to have any political clout for the next two years. Losing that seat would reduce significantly the chances of Republicans to filibuster bad legislation.

There has obviously been no change in the corruption level in Congress. Several of President Obama's Cabinet appointees have had issues with paying their taxes, including the Treasury Secretary, who was recently confirmed.

In Congress, we can only watch the news as we learn that the **FBI raided** the offices of a lobbying firm with close ties to **Democrat Congressman John Murtha**. Following the raid, the *Washington Post* announced that the lobbying firm was listed as the employer for several persons who made the maximum contribution to politicians, but the persons named did not live in or near Washington, and they told the Post they had never heard of the lobbying firm, much less made the contribution.

Of course, we all know the "**stimulus bill**" passed. With the billions set aside by President Bush and the latest stimulus bill, we have now committed to spend over a trillion dollars. And we've barely finished one month of President Obama's term. There are 47 months to go, and he hasn't even gotten started on the massive spending required if he keeps all or part of the promises he made during the campaign.

With less than a month of his term gone, we already have seen that the President does not feel bound by his campaign promises. Neither he nor Speaker Pelosi felt any need to honor their **promise to post bills for public inspection** before passing such legislation.

It's a very challenging time for the Republican Party and our Country, our State, and even our County. We are now **re-organizing our precincts** in Greenville County. Those who become involved in their precinct will help shape our political future. We need every member to make a commitment to go to their precinct meeting March 2 and become an officer in your precinct. At the precinct meeting, you can and should also make an effort to become a county delegate. Becoming a county delegate will enable you to be elected at the County Convention to become a State delegate. These are very important positions that our members should be holding.

Each of us know that GCRWC has made a difference in the past. For the sake of our country, our children and our grandchildren, we need to redouble our efforts to get involved, to encourage other people to get involved with us, and to support conservative principles, elected officials and candidates. If we, including you, don't commit, who will?

Sincerely,

Gerí Warren

Sunshine Report

Please pray for associate member **Tom Mims**, who is having some health issues.

Please continue to pray for **Shirley Anderson** as she seeks to determine which, if any, followup procedures are necessary concerning her knee.

Betty Miller is recovering at home after heart surgery Feb. 11 to insert three stents. She also has bronchitis, which is delaying her recovery.

Associate member **Bob Dowd** is recovering after surgery to repair his snapped Achilles tendon. After six weeks in a cast, Bob is now in a "boot" and going to physical therapy.

LaVerle Dill, wife of associate member **Bob Dill**, is recuperating after surgery on her Achilles tendon. Would you believe Bob Dowd diagnosed LaVerle's problem and sent her to his doctor. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Thank you, Carol Cobb, for the thank-yous!

If you recall, our Elephant's Auction back in October was the most successful in GCRW's history.

This auction didn't just happen. We had a great energetic and "shopping-savvy" team who made it happen: **Wendy Foulke, Barbara Poole, Ann Powell, LeAnne Garrett and Jamie Bach**. And to continue our success on into next year, we want to show our merchants who donated so generously that we appreciate them. **Carol Cobb**, second vice president, volunteered to write the thank-you notes to those merchants — around **30** in all. Thank you, Carol. Thank you.

Wanted:

WANTED

Pictures of GCRWC Members

For our 2009
Membership Directory!

Our GCRWC 2009 Pictorial Membership directory is off to a good start thanks to **Tom Hanson, Karen Mims, Virginia Waters, Wanda Rabenda and Christian Przirembel**. Sixteen members were photographed at our January meeting.

If you are a new member, an associate member or a prior member who did not have your picture taken last year, now is the time. Get your picture taken, and fill out the information card. We plan to use 2008 photographs with updated information for members who had their pictures taken last year.

Tom Hanson will be helping us again before our Feb. 26 meeting beginning at 11:30 a.m., and he has agreed to continue taking pictures after our program for a short time.

So, new members, associate members, and prior members who did NOT have their pictures taken last year plan to be included in the 2009 Membership Directory. It will help us develop a closer relationship with our fellow GCRW members by being able to put a face with a name. We certainly want everyone in our Directory.

Special thanks to **Willis Meadows** for letting us once again use his backdrop.

SCFRW Report – Quarterly Board Meeting

Five GCRWC members attended the **South Carolina Federation of Republican Women's Club** quarterly board meeting Feb. 7. **Geri Warren, Betty Poe, Mary Carolyn Garton, Joanne Meadows and Andrea Pisarcik** enjoyed the luncheon meeting in Columbia at the Palmetto Club.

Speakers at the luncheon were **Katon Dawson**, outgoing SC GOP chairman, and two candidates for GOP chairman: **Rick Beltram** and **Kevin Hall**.

Betty Poe, SCFRW first vice president, reported on upgrades to the SCFRW web site. **Geri Warren** was elected to represent District 4 on the nominating committee. **Irby Schultz** was elected chairman.

The next SCFRW board meeting will be June 20. The SCFRW biennial convention will be in the new Holiday Inn Hotel in Beaufort Oct. 16-18. The Regents committee will be planning special events for Regent members in the historic town during the weekend. *Joanne Meadows.*

Advertising Opportunity. . .

Showcase Your Business **Card** for Only \$25

This is your opportunity to advertise your business card in our pictorial membership directory for only \$25.

We welcome businesses (yours or a Republican friend's), candidates or individuals as sponsors to be included in this year's directory.

In order to defray the cost of printing, we are offering a space for your business card for \$25 in the back of the directory. Each page will hold six to eight cards.

There will also be a page dedicated to sponsors at various levels of contribution: Palmetto Tree, \$100; Carolina Wren, \$50; and Yellow Jasmine, \$25. This would include anything from personal contributions to businesses, elected Republican officials or candidates.

Thanks to **Bill Wylie**, member of the S.C. House of Representatives, **Charlene Kelly**, YTB Travel Network, referring travel agent, and Samuel Harms, Harms Law Firm, PA, for signing on.

Meals on Wheels Receives Gift from GCRW



Liz Seman (left), executive director of Meals on Wheels of Greenville, receives a 2008 Pennies From Heaven check for \$504 from GCRW's President Geri Warren at the Jan. 22 meeting.



SCFRW and GCRW Membership Contests

Not One but Two Contests!

How does a weekend on a beautiful S.C. beach sound? [Garden City to be exact]

The **SCFRW** is sponsoring a statewide Membership Contest for the member who brings in the most new members (at least five). The contest runs from February 2009 to May 31, 2009. (For more details – www.scfwr.org.)

The **GCRWC** is also sponsoring a (new member) membership contest with three extravagant prizes.

First place – \$65 dinner for two at Soby's

Second place – \$40 dinner for two at City Range Restaurant

Third place – \$25 lunch for two at Mary's (in Falls Cottage)

Wildcard! A drawing will be held for third place. The more new members you bring in the more chances you have. Example: three new members equals three chances to win.

The GCRWC contest runs from Feb. 09 to Aug. 2, 2009. The same GCRW member could also be the winner of the SCFRW Beach Weekend. Go for It, Girls!

Greenville County
Republican Women's Club
Geri Warren, President
P.O. Box 53
Greenville, SC 29602-0053

Postage



GCRWC web site

www.gcrwc.com

or

www.gcrwc.org

Join Us for our January Luncheon Meeting

Thursday — Noon — Feb. 26
Poinsett Club downtown Greenville



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MAKE YOUR RESERVATION TODAY!

Please e-mail Cheryl Pressley at gcrwreply@bellsouth.net or call her at 246-6448 by noon, Monday, Feb. 23. To avoid paying \$15, cancellation must be made by 8 p.m., Feb. 23.

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*Editor: Geri Warren
Layout: Thomas C. Hanson
www.ThomasHanson.com*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Feb. 26	GCRWC Noon at Poinsett Club
March 2	Greenville County GOP Precinct Reorganization
March 26	GCRWC Noon at Poinsett Club
April 6	Greenville County GOP Executive Committee Meeting
April 25	Greenville County GOP Convention
April 28	SCFRW Legislative Day and Brunch at Governor's Mansion
May 15	Silver Elephant Dinner, Columbia
May 16	GOP State Convention, Columbia

**LATE NIGHT
FOR**

**GREENVILLE COUNTY GOP
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**ON
FEB. 2**

By Wanda Rabenda

GCRWC Members Present: Heidi Aiken, Sylvia Bass, Jeannie Carmichael, Anne Danciu, Maureen Dowd, Joanne Meadows, Karen Mims, Betty Poe (first vice chairman), Wanda Rabenda, Linda Slaton, Debbie Spaugh, Patty Stoner, Geri Warren (second vice chairman); and associate members Bob Dill, Joe Dill, Bob Dowd, Patrick Haddon, Tom Hanson, Samuel Harms (chairman), Constance Holmes, Billy Mitchell and Willis Meadows.

Those of us who were present can certainly attest to having participated in one of the most memorable Greenville County Republican Party meetings in recent years. First, U.S. Representatives Bob Inglis and Gresham Barrett, and South Carolina Attorney General Henry McMaster addressed the Executive Committee. Both Gresham Barrett and Henry McMaster are undeclared candidates for the South Carolina governor's office.

The Executive Committee also heard from two candidates for state GOP chairman: **Rick Beltram**, Spartanburg County GOP chairman, and **Allen Klump**, speaking for **Kevin Hall**.

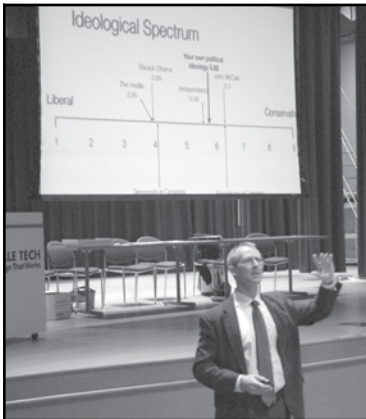
Two of the important reasons this meeting was so well at-

course of the day. The airwaves will be saturated with our announcements! But we still need you to mobilize yourselves and your interested neighbors to attend the March 2 precinct meeting! Why? Because it is at the **March 2 Precinct Reorganization Meetings** that you will elect your precinct officers and pay your fee to attend the **County Convention**, and it is at the County Convention that you will elect delegates to the **State Convention** May 16 in Columbia.

The Greenville County Convention will be held on Saturday, April 25, beginning at 9 a.m., at the Shrine Club Auditorium, 119 Beverly Road. If you want to attend the County Convention, you must:

1. Attend your precinct meeting on March 2.
2. At your precinct meeting, fill out an application and pay the \$15 fee.
3. At the same time, pay an additional \$15 fee if you want to put your name on the ballot for the State Convention.

In past years, most who wanted to attend the County Convention had an opportunity to do so, and we anticipate that everyone who submits their application and pays their fee on March 2 will



Rep. Bob Inglis



Rep. Gresham Barrett



Attorney Gen. Henry McMaster

tended was to hear the plans for precinct reorganization scheduled for March 2, and also for precinct officers to pick up their reorganization packets.

Currently, 105 of Greenville County's 139 precincts are organized. Samuel Harms' goal in 2009 is to organize all 139 precincts. To help realize this goal, Greenville County's Executive Committee has committed \$1,500 to a radio ad campaign on WORD in conjunction with Spartanburg County, principally, plus mentions on the Tony Beam Show (Christian Talk Radio) and WMUU. The radio campaign is estimated to reach 38,600 people.

The average WORD listener will hear the ad 7.3 times over the

be able to attend this year. **Greenville County** has **2,266** delegate seats allocated for the County Convention. That is by far the largest delegation in the state! By comparison, **Lexington County** has **1,312 delegates**, and **Spartanburg County** has **1,166**. Greenville has 65 whole delegates for the State Convention.

If you miss your precinct meeting March 2 for any reason, the make-up meeting is **Monday, April 6**, starting 7 p.m., at the regular Greenville County GOP Executive Committee meeting.

Evert Headley was elected to the **third vice chairman position** of the Greenville County GOP replacing **Emmanuel Daniel**, who has joined the armed forces in service to our country.



Welcome New Members!

Anne Brady, Lorie Nelsen,
Adrienne Pschirer, J. Whitney
Brady (associate) and
Dr. Brent Nelsen (associate).



Dues Are Due

Please remember to renew your membership for the January to December 2009 club year at our Feb. 26 meeting. Please bring a check for \$20 made payable to GCRW, designated for Annual Membership Dues or mail it to **Mary Carolyn Garton**, 107 Sabra Drive, Easley, SC 29642-2959.

Before You Forget . . .

Please bring a list of your July 1, 2007 to June 29, 2009 activities to the February GCRWC meeting or e-mail them to me at carolbcobb@aol.com.

Volunteer hours are accumulated while representing the Greenville County Republican Women. We have many members who are volunteering their time at Republican headquarters. Are you one of these? Go to the NFRW website (www.nfrw.org) where you will find a summary of guidelines.

I will be happy to have copies available for those of you who do not have Internet access. Just give me a call at 220-5068. Thank you for helping to make our club an award winner! *Carol B. Cobb*.

**Greenville County Republican Party
Precinct Reorganization Meeting**

March 2, 7 p.m.

Location — where you vote!

For more information go to

www.GreenvilleGOP.com

or call 271-1100