



The Elephant's Ear

Volume 5 No. 1 January '12

January 26, 2012

TWO REPUBLICAN WOMEN WHO MAKE US PROUD



It is our privilege to honor our dear friend and leader, Betty Poe, to her newly elected position as the 3rd Vice President of the National Federation of Republican Women for 2012-2013. We are very proud of you, Betty, as one of our leaders locally, and on the state, and now national level. Betty has been an encourager and leader to me personally. We celebrate with you and give you our warm congratulations! *Patricia Arceneaux*

NIKKI R. HALEY - Governor of South Carolina

Nikki Randhawa Haley was elected the 116th Governor of South Carolina on Tuesday, November 2, 2010.

One of the strongest fiscal conservatives in state government, Nikki was first elected to represent the 87th District in Lexington County in 2004, when, as a virtual unknown, she beat the longest serving state legislator in a Republican primary. In 2008, Representative Haley was sent back to the Statehouse with 83 percent of the vote – the highest percentage earned by any lawmaker facing a contested South Carolina election that year. She won the Republican Party nomination for governor on Tuesday, June 22, 2010.

Her time in Columbia has been marked by conservative leadership and an unwavering commitment to the taxpayers' bottom line. She has fought wasteful spending at every turn, pushed for smaller, more efficient government, and led the fight for accountability and transparency that, before her arrival, was sorely lacking in the Legislature.

For her efforts to cut taxes and slow the growth of government spending, Nikki was named "Friend of the Taxpayer" (2009) by the S.C. Association of Taxpayers and a "Taxpayer Hero" (2005) by Gov. Mark Sanford. She has lifetime "A" ratings from the South Carolina Club for Growth, the Palmetto Family Council, and the National Rifle Association. Nikki has also received the Palmetto Leadership Award from the S.C. Policy Council for her expertise on policy matters and the Strom Thurmond Excellence in Public Service and Government Award from the S.C. Federation of Republican Women for the outstanding constituent service she provided to her district.

Born in Bamberg, S.C., the daughter of Indian immigrants, Nikki's first job was keeping the books for her family's clothing store – at the age of 13. She went on to graduate from Clemson University with a B.S. degree in accounting and, following her graduation, worked as Accounting Supervisor for the Charlotte, N.C. based corporation FCR, Inc. and five of its subsidiaries. Nikki then went back to the family business where she helped oversee its growth into a multi-million dollar operation.

Nikki and her husband Michael, a full time federal technician with the South Carolina National Guard and an officer in the Army National Guard, attend Mt. Horeb United Methodist Church in Lexington. Nikki and Michael have two children, Rena, 13, and Nalin, 10.



**NOTES OF INTEREST FROM THE PRESIDENT
DEBBIE SPAUGH**

I would like to begin by thanking Kathy Davis for her excellent term as President of the Greenville County Republican Women's Club, and for her immense help to me in this transition period. I am honored to serve as President of our club. We have a tremendous responsibility in 2012 to educate our families, friends, co-workers, etc. about what is at stake in the primaries and elections this year.

PLEASE VOTE IN THE PRIMARY ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 21ST, AND ENCOURAGE ALL OTHERS WHO WANT TO SAVE OUR CONSTITUTIONAL REPUBLIC TO VOTE!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

January 26th – GCRWC Luncheon – Honored Speaker- Governor Nikki Haley

January 27th – Americans for Prosperity Foundations' School Choice Town Hall – go to www.putkidsfirst.com and RSVP.

February 6th – Greenville County Republican Party Executive Committee meeting

PLEASE NOTE: WE WILL TAKE PHOTOS FOR THE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY BEFORE AND AFTER THE FEBRUARY AND MARCH LUNCHEONS.

NEWSLETTERS – IF YOU HAVE AN EMAIL ADDRESS, YOUR NEWSLETTER WILL BE SENT TO YOU BY EMAIL ONLY, UNLESS YOU HAVE REQUESTED A HARD COPY.

**CAMPAIGN NOTES FROM LINDA SLATON, CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE CHAIR
VOLUNTEER HOURS**

If you

- a. attended any presidential primary events
- b. worked the polls (and were not paid)
- c. worked as a poll watcher
- d. volunteered with no pay for any primary events in any capacity
- e. attended the SCFRW Convention (includes travel time, as well as time spent in preparation for the meeting)
- f. attended the NFRW Convention (includes travel time, as well as time spent in preparation for the meeting)
- g. presented political programs or speeches at local civic clubs
- h. worked at or for a special event (such as the Constitution Day Festival)
- i. attended any county/state party meetings

Please, have your hours totaled and plan to enter them at the sign-in table at the January meeting.

**MEMBERSHIP NOTES
FROM GERI WARREN, MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN**

What a great time to be a Republican in South Carolina, and to be more exact, to be a Greenville County Republican Woman! GCRWC membership dues are still just \$20 for the January to December Club year. Come be a part of this outstanding organization and do your part to **make Obama a one-term President!** Please pay \$20 to our Treasurer, Jenny Earle, at our January 26th meeting, or mail your check to Jenny at 220 Timber Lane, Greenville, SC 29609. This will also help to ensure your place in our GCRWC Membership Directory coming out this spring.

The fight for conservative values will always exist in the United States and in South Carolina. For a country that was founded on freedom and gives the power to the people, the attempt to restrain that freedom by the growing of government is ever present. On the very first day of the SC General Assembly's 2012 session, the people of SC were heard quite clearly. S211 was a bill called the I-95 Corridor Authority Act. This bill would create an Authority that could carry out economic development and educational improvement activities, enter into contracts, acquire property, appoint officers, agents, employees, and consultants, prescribe their duties, and fix their compensation. In essence, this was a bill to grow SC government and its spending. On May 19th of 2011, the House voted to pass this bill by a vote of 84-17. It also passed in the Senate. Governor Haley recognized this bill for what it was and vetoed it. The Senate then overrode her veto. Seven months later, our legislators had plenty of time to hear from their constituents. And apparently they did! On January 10th of 2012, the Governor's veto was sustained by the House by a vote of 76-47. So, what does all this mean? The voice of the people still makes a difference! But, this only happens if we are committed to standing up for conservative principles and communicate with our legislators.

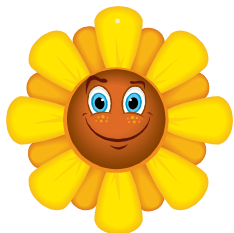
Let's hope this is the beginning of more great days in SC. The House passed a number of bills last year that are sitting in the Senate. We've found that the Senate isn't as motivated to pass reforms that bring less government and less spending, so we will need your help in the upcoming months. We will let you know about legislation that needs a little nudge so that you can contact your senators.

Finally, we have had a little news nationally related to SC as the Department of Justice ruled against our Voter ID bill and our Immigration law that were passed last year. Since the Voting Rights Act of 1965, SC and a handful of other states have to get approval by the Justice Department for laws such as our Voter ID law. Our SC Attorney General has already started fighting this political move by our Justice Department. It is worthy to note that GA passed a very similar Voter ID law last year that was approved by the Justice Department. Time will tell how long it will take before SC is given the same privilege.

As the I-95 vote has proven the people still have a voice and it is still heard. Get involved this year in the election process as we choose our House, Senate, and President. Meet a candidate, help with a campaign, and let us unite together in one voice for conservative Republicans in office from the Statehouse to the White House!

Welcome to our New Members for December

Katherine Oldis
Mary Strossner



Sunshine News

- Betty Orders – at home recuperating from a fall
- Carol Anderson – sister of Sylvia Bass – recuperating from a serious illness
- Charlie Garton – Mary Carolyn’s husband – with continuing health problems

Greenville County Republican
Women's Club
Debbie Spaugh - President
108 Four Lakes Drive
Easley, SC 29642

**Check out our
website:**

www:gcrwc.org

Join us on Facebook
Greenville County Republican
Women's Club

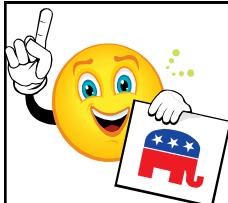
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GCRWC Luncheon Dates

12:00 - 1:00 PM

Thursday	January 26
Thursday	February 23
Thursday	March 22
Thursday	April 26
Thursday	May 24
Thursday	June 28
Thursday	July 26
Thursday	August 23
Thursday	September 27
Thursday	October 25
Thursday	December 6



**January Luncheon 12:00 - 1:00
THE POINSETT CLUB**

Please make reservations to gcrwreply@yahoo.com or by calling Cheryl Cuthrell at 864-335-8094 by 8:00 PM Monday, January 23. Cancellations must be made by 8:00 PM on Tuesday, January 24 to avoid the \$15.00 luncheon fee.

If you have a standing reservation contract for the 2012 year and not able to attend, please email Cheryl by 8:00 PM on Tuesday, January 24.