



The Elephant's Ear

Volume 5 No. 3 March '12

March 22, 2012

FIVE CANDIDATES FOR SC STATE SENATE DISTRICT 8

CHAD GROOVER

- a family man, lawyer, and small business owner who is active in his church and community
- His experience as a small business owner has prepared him to lead the charge on abolishing corporate income taxes for SC businesses.
- has served as a federal and state prosecutor and has the knowledge to address SC's violent crime problem
- As a lawyer for the US Senate Judiciary Committee, he investigated fraud and waste in the US government.

JIM LEE

- a Christian conservative, an information technology and business management consultant, and a retired Air Force veteran of 32 years service
- He has consulted with large corporations and small companies, as well as government clients to simplify complex issues and solve business problems.
- has been married for 31 years, has five children, and 2 grandchildren
- has been GOP precinct President or Ex. Committeeman for 16 years and volunteers for several charities

JOE SWANN

- unapologetic pro-life conservative Republican who will make a difference
- proven record of results oriented business leadership as President of Rockwell Automation Power Systems and Founder/Chairman of Integrated Power Services
- serves on the Board of Kemet Corp., Board of Trustees of Clemson University and Advisory Board for Azalea Capital Funds II and III
- believes in a Constitutionally limited government that is fiscally responsible and accountable

SENATOR DAVID THOMAS

- has a Master of Divinity, law degree, and is President of the family printing business
- As a businessman, he learned the impact that government regulations can have on small businesses.
- He was elected to the SC State Senate in 1984. He also married his wife, Fran, that year.
- In the Senate, he helped lead the fight for landmark residential property tax relief and welfare reform.
- He was a leader in passing "truth in sentencing" and "three strikes and you're out" laws.

ROSS TURNER

- a small business owner with over 26 years of experience in the insurance business
- He serves on the Upstate Judicial Merit Selection Committee reviewing candidates for circuit and family court judgeships in SC.
- has been married for 22 years, has 3 children, and is very active in his church
- He has served twice on the Board of the Independent Insurance Agents and Brokers of SC.

Notes of Interest from the President Debbie Spaugh

Charm Altman, President of the South Carolina Federation of Republican Women, will attend our March luncheon!

2012 Membership Directory—Photos will be taken at the March and April meetings, before the meetings—11:15 to 11:55, and after the meetings—1:00 to 1:30. **Please remember to pay your 2012 dues, so that your photo will be in the Directory.** To off-set the cost of the Directories, ad space is being sold for \$25. So far, ads have been purchased by: Jim Lee - candidate for State Senate, Tom Pence—ACUMEN Design and Consulting, Karen Russell Titcomb—Independent Beauty Consultants, Linda Slaton—Primerica, and Helen Fields—County Bank Mortgage.

I would like to encourage everyone to pay for your dues and lunches by check. Also, please remember that “no shows” will be billed.

Legislative Day in Columbia by Mary Bellinger

We are so excited about the upcoming SCFRW Legislative Day that is being planned by Deb Marks, the legislative chair for our state federation. We will all wear our "RED" proudly to the State House to attend the House and Senate while they are in session, then on to the Governor's Mansion.

Deb Marks will be providing more information regarding the date, the agenda and also the cost. As soon as we know the agenda and the cost for the day - we will pass this information on to you. Two tentative dates for the Legislative Day are Wednesday, April 18th or Wednesday, April 25th. The cost has typically been \$10.00 for the event.

Parking is at a premium in Columbia and moving from one location to another during the day makes it more difficult to find parking spaces. I have contacted several chartered bus lines to check on their availability and the cost. Based on 36 ladies attending - the approximate cost for the bus would be \$26.00. We have taken a bus several times and it is very convenient to leave Greenville at 8:00 AM, have the driver drop us off at the State House, pick us up and take us to the Governor's Mansion, and bring us back to Greenville by 5:00 PM. I have had many inquiries and requests about chartering a bus.

We plan to have a sign-up sheet available at the March luncheon. If you are a member interested in attending and will not be at the luncheon, please call me at 268-3942.

FUNDRAISER by Kathy Snyder-Garrett

We will sell two books at the March luncheon at a cost of \$20 each. Our club keeps \$10 from each book sold. The author of the books is Don VerHulst, M.D. Count To 10 And Be Healthy is a children's book with a simple, Biblically based approach to health. Ten Keys That Cure includes Bible Truths for Better Health Today.

Volunteer Hours—Linda Slaton

Please be ready to report your volunteer hours at the March meeting. Janice McPhee, Lenore Skelton, and Karen Mims will come to each table to help you record your volunteer hours.

This legislative update will be all South Carolina. These days, there is not a lot of movement in the U.S. Congress . The U.S. Senate hasn't passed a budget in over 1000 days. Be sure to support some conservative Senators in 2012, so we can get moving again in Congress. Check out senateconservatives.com to see who the conservatives are who are running. This website is for Jim DeMint's Political Action Committee. Good stuff!

It is well known that there is a lot of abuse in the unemployment system in SC. It should be easier to root this out, but it seems there is resistance even by the federal government in this area. SC House bill 4043 allows employers to notify the Department of Employment and Workforce if someone who has applied for a job fails a drug test. This will allow benefits for unemployment to be suspended due to the failed drug test.

H4625 removes the Department of Transportation Commission and instead has the Governor appoint a Secretary of Transportation to oversee the DOT. Many low priority road projects have been approved by the Commission while higher priority projects and maintenance have been ignored. Just look at the roads in your area for evidence of that. This restructuring will help in eliminating these special favors and get the important projects done first.

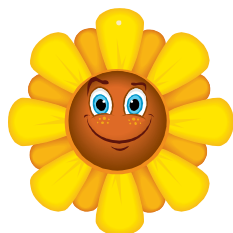
We probably all knew this one was coming. H4451 limits the use of electronic devices (cell phones, etc.) while driving a motor vehicle. It would still be OK to have a GPS unit. It is also still OK to use hands-free phones. This recently passed the House.

Budget week in the House starts Monday, March 12th. Also mark your calendars for March 20th. H3110, a bill for Registration by Party, will be heard by the Judiciary Committee. This could our best chance to get this passed, since the Judiciary committee chairman is not running for reelection. Be sure to let your legislators know we support this bill! Our Department of Administration bill, H3066, will also be discussed after the budget is finished in the House. This could either be great or pointless based on what the House does with it now. We'll keep you updated.

Welcome to our New Members for February

Tiffany Bunney, Linda Holbrook, and Sue Weiss

Sunshine News



Our prayers are with Mary Carolyn Garton after the death of her husband, Charlie.

Our prayers are also with the Cobb family after the loss of Edna Cobb's sister.

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

**Check out our
website:**

[www:gcrwc.org](http://www.gcrwc.org)

Join us on Facebook
Greenville County Republican
Women's Club

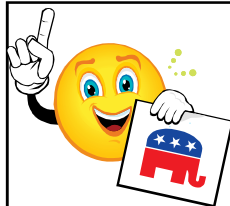
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GCRWC Luncheon Dates

12:00 - 1:00 PM

Thursday	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



**March 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, March 19. Cancellations must be made by 8:00 PM on Tuesday, March 20 to avoid the \$15.00 luncheon fee.

If you have a standing reservation contract for the 2012 year and are not able to attend, please email Cheryl by 8:00 PM on Tuesday, March 20.