

– IN THE SPOTLIGHT –

LOCAL AND STATE LEADERS TO SPEAK AT MARCH MEETING



Jason Miller



Butch Kirven

This month we are pleased to have Butch Kirven and Jason Miller join us for our GCRW luncheon on March 22.

Mr. Kirven's position as chairman of the Greenville County Council provides him with an opportunity to make a significant impact on our everyday life. However, it also makes him a magnet for controversy and criticism. For example, you have no doubt heard about the issues related to development along Woodruff Road. Fortunately, Mr. Kirven is a leader with a proven background. He graduated from Presbyterian College, and he served as a brigadier general in the Army National Guard.

The Greenville County Council is instrumental in our economic growth and is responsible for building a strong infrastructure for our county, broadening our tax base and enhancing our quality of life. As Greenville continues to grow, the challenges facing the county and County Council grow exponentially in both number and complexity. Mr. Kirven's topic for our luncheon will be Republican Principles in a Dynamic Economy.

Our other speaker, Jason Miller, is the deputy chief of staff for Coalitions and Strategic Planning in the Governor's Office. As Gov. Mark Sanford has often said, the governor of South Carolina has less authority and power than virtually every other governor in the United States. In contrast to our sister states, our state's power is held

in large part by the legislature. As a result, South Carolina's governmental departments are often said to be too costly, operating inefficiently and with little true supervision. Almost everyone recognizes that many, if not most, SC governmental agencies are slow to adopt necessary changes for the 21st Century. From the Department of Transportation controversy to reform of the workers compensation system, Gov. Sanford seeks to streamline and modernize our state government.

Mr. Miller will speak to us on the continued efforts by the governor to restructure our state government. As we move further into Gov. Sanford's second term, the importance of pushing his agenda for the reform of South Carolina's government requires all of us to become more active in supporting him.

Join us on Thursday, March 22, at the beautiful Poinsett Club for our monthly noon luncheon as Mr. Kirven and Mr. Miller discuss these important state and local issues. *Geri Warren.*

Members, Make Your Reservation Today!

Members, please call the appropriate person below or e-mail Carol Cobb to make your luncheon reservation by **8 p.m., Monday, March 19.**

- Last Name A C: Nancy Cline 281-0534
- Last Name D F: Linda Slaton 288-0560
- Last Name G J: Ann Brown 295-3964
- Last Name K M: Lucy Kilby 233-6000
- Last Name N P: Karen Mims 288-2162
- Last Name Q R: Manisay Gabbard 335-8892
- Last Name S Z: Shirdale Hebert 268-2540
- Carol Cobb e-mail: carolbcobb@aol.com by 8

p.m., Monday, March 19. Cancellations: Call 220-5068 by 8 p.m. on the Monday before the luncheon.

Please note: You will be billed \$14 if you make a reservation and do not come to the luncheon.

**WELCOME
NEW MEMBERS!**

Amy Earle, Cheryl Garrison, Laura Godwin, Megan Kocis, Melinda Kocis, Bob Kocis (associate), Betty Miller, Angela Phillips, Jeanne Pittman, Lisa Simpson

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members:

The 2007 SCFRW Legislative Day sounds exciting and different this year. This will be the first time our group will visit the constitutional officers. I hope you will make plans to go with us to Columbia on April 17.

We had 173 in attendance at the February meeting. This is a record for our club. You did a great job inviting friends and family.

Geri Warren and I have issued invitations to all presidential candidates to speak at our club. If you are in contact with any of them, please let us know.

Did you attend your precinct meeting? Were you elected

an officer? Are you planning to attend the Greenville County GOP Convention on Saturday morning, April 21? Please contact me with the above information.

If you have not paid your dues for 2007, please give \$15 to Pat Jenkins as soon as possible. LaDonna Ryggs, SCFRW president, is having a membership contest. We must get 10 new members by the end of March. Invite a possible new member to our March 22 meeting.

See you at the luncheon.

Sincerely,
Betty Poe

— PROFILES: Judy Cooter —

Highlighting members of GCRWC — By Joanne Meadows

Politics has been a part of Judy Cooter's entire life.

Her father worked for the public housing department in Atlanta.

When Judy was in the second grade the family moved to the Washington, D.C., area. Her father, a Democrat, worked for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Judy has changed from passing out Democrat fliers in her teen years to supporting Republican governors and legislators.

Judy and her future husband, John Cooter, attended the same Baptist church in Arlington, Virginia, but they never met. Their classes were separate for boys and girls. She met John, a junior at William and Mary, when she was a freshman. Judy graduated with a major in political science.

The Cooters were married in 1963 after her graduation. They moved to her birthplace, Atlanta, where John worked as a certified public accountant. They later moved to Greenville. He was involved in the early formation and growth of the Greenville County Republican Party.

Judy slowly changed to the GOP as she studied the Republican platform. It was more closely aligned to the doctrines in her Bible study.

The Cooters have two sons in Greenville. Dr. Michael Cooter is an ear, nose, and throat specialist. Mark Cooter, a CPA



with a specialty in taxes, is a partner at Elliott-Davis & Co. Their wives, Amy and Rachel, are beloved additions to the family. Judy and John have also been blessed with four grandsons and one granddaughter.

Judy is a four-year breast cancer survivor. She is also a peritoneal ovarian cancer survivor. Her reports are good.

Her work at Piedmont Women's Center has been her passion for many years. She started out as a counselor for pregnancy crisis intervention. She taught the Bible study *Forgiven and Set Free*.

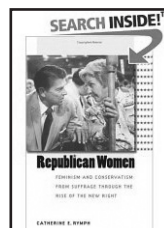
Judy along with Jeannie Stoner and Caroline Rice, wrote a manual, *Facilitating Biblical Healing*, which has been used in Russia, the Ukraine and in Greenville. The fall meeting here included leaders from 23 states and Canada. The attendees were trained to help women deal the guilt of past abortions.

The fine arts are also important to Judy. She served six years on the SC Arts Commission. She now loves exposing her grandchildren to art and music.

The Cooters have lived on McDaniel Avenue for 20 years. They attend Mitchell Road Presbyterian Church.

Book of the Month

Republican Women: Feminism and Conservatism from Suffrage through the Rise of the New Right, by Catherine Rymph.



2007 RNC Women's Leadership Conference

The 2007 Republican National Committee (RNC) Women's Leadership Conference will take place April 27 and 28 at the Hilton Nashville Downtown. The registration cost is \$45.

Join Jo Ann Davidson, RNC co-chairman, and other national and regional Republican operatives, strategists, and leaders to learn about how you can play an integral role in the Grand Old Party. Women make up more than 50 percent of voters, and together we can win back our majorities and once again claim victory in the White House.

The conference will include an in-depth review of lessons learned in 2006 and opportunities ahead in 2007 and 2008. Hone your fund-raising, communication and event planning skills. Learn how the work you do in 2007 will help guarantee a Republican victory in 2008.

If you are interested in attending, please see Betty Poe.

2007 Dues

A reminder: If you have not paid your GCRWC 2007 dues, please pay \$15 at the March 22 luncheon or mail to Pat Jenkins, Treasurer, 10 Capers St., Greenville, SC 29605.

Member honored

Marlene Dowd was named Teacher of the Year in Business Education for 2007 by the South Carolina Business Education Association Feb. 24.

DATES OF INTEREST

March 22	Noon GCRWC at Poinsett Club
March 28 - 31	NFRW spring board meeting, Washington
April 17	SCFRW legislative day in Columbia
April 21	Greenville GOP convention, Palmetto Expo Center, 9 a.m. to noon. Elect county party of cers and elect delegates to state GOP convention.
April 26	Noon GCRWC at Poinsett Club
May 14	Silver Elephant Dinner, Columbia
May 15	Presidential debate of GOP can- didates, Koger Center, Univer- sity of South Carolina
May 19	South Carolina Republican Party convention

SCFRW Legislative Day

The South Carolina Federation of Republican Women will travel to the state capital Tuesday, April 17.

Plans for the day sound exciting:

- Brunch at the Governor's Mansion with First Lady
- Introduction to S.C. House and Senate
- Meet with Gov. Mark Sanford
- Visit the offices of constitutional officers

Our club would like to take the largest group from the state. If we can sign up at least 40 members, we could reserve a bus for \$18 each.

All of us on a bus would be a blast.

Contact Mary Carolyn Garton as soon as possible. Telephone: 850-1804.



2006 Legislative Day with Gov. Mark Sanford

Gov. Sanford calls for removal of grants review proviso: bad for taxpayers

COLUMBIA—Gov. Mark Sanford issued the following statement in a press release March 13 on the S.C. House's budget, including the soon-to-be-debated proviso setting up a new process to award tens of millions of dollars in grants at the state level.

"First off, I'd give real credit to the House for much of what's in their budget document, which to a large degree mirrors what we'd proposed in our own Executive Budget," Gov. Sanford said.

"Up our long-term retiree health care liability, they're cutting income taxes, and they're paying for the unfunded liability in the tuition prepayment program. As well, the House budget limits tuition increases, puts dollars in the Commerce closing fund, puts new Troopers on the roads and funds a down payment on the port access road in North Charleston—all of which are important budget priorities for the state.

"All of that being said, though, we remain very concerned about things like the House's budget proviso regarding awarding millions of dollars in grants through an unaccountable and not at all transparent process.

"Right now, those grants reside at the Budget and Control Board, where a temporary hold has been placed on awarding those grants until an accountable and transparent process is put into place so those grants can truly be awarded competitively, rather than on a 'who knows who' basis preferred by some in the legislature.

"The House proposal is the exact opposite of what we've been pushing for in terms of restructuring, and it creates a real danger of turning this grants process into a legislative favor factory where certain members of the General Assembly would be able to hold sway over tens of millions of dollars and use them for political purposes.

"I'd urge every House member to consider this issue carefully during budget deliberations this week, and to vote against provisos like this one that would undermine much of the good work they've done on this budget."

— INFORMED —

Local and National News Important to GCRW

Immigration bills in General Assembly

The 2007 S.C. General Assembly is putting forth several bills dealing with illegal aliens in South Carolina.

Senate Bill 392, Illegal Immigration Reform Act, is a comprehensive bill that addresses employment screening of valid Social Security numbers, penalties to employers who violate immigration laws, authorization of S.C. law enforcement to uphold and enforce current immigration law, alien screening to access social services, illegal alien screening in our prison system, and a crackdown on illegal aliens who are unlicensed, unregistered and uninsured motorists.

The S.C. House has introduced H-3148, the SC Immigration Compliance Act of 2008.

Call your local representatives and ask for their support of these important bills. *Submitted by Patty Stoner.*

