



Republican Women of Madison

Volume 1, Issue 1

January 18, 2012

Welcome to the Republican Women of Madison monthly meeting! Today's speakers are qualified Republican candidates for the Madison County Commission representing District 2 and District 4.

Speaker Profile: Madison County Commission District 2

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GERALD CLARK

Gerald Clark is an Auburn educated and AL licensed Landscape Architect with Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood with extensive experience in community development projects, with emphasis on client interface and working within a budget. His focus would be the improvement of time management, more efficient use of county resources and accountability, while relying on communication with the people in his district in order to improve roads, schools, police and fire services. Gerald, who is 46, graduated from Johnson High School in 1983 before going on to Auburn. He and his wife Tina have two sons in the Madison City schools, and two grown sons and a granddaughter who live out of state. More information can be found on Facebook by searching "Gerald Clark for Madison County Commissioner District 2".

STEVE HARAWAY

Steve Haraway has been a Madison resident for 37 years and is currently a two term member of the Madison City Council, District 2, where he has also served as Vice Chairman of Madison Utilities, Secretary of the Madison County Communication District (911 center), and the Madison City Schools Capital Planning Committee. Mr. Haraway would use his City Council experience to build positive working relationships to support growth and economic development, along with responsible spending toward improvements in the new district. Steve and his wife of 19 years, Donna, have two sons attending Bob Jones High School and are members of Asbury United Methodist Church. Visit www.steveharaway.com for more information.

DAVID SMITH

David Michael Smith is a 26 year old Army Iraqi Combat Veteran who is studying at UAH for a degree in Political Science and a minor in business. His exceptional management experience, including over \$1 million dollars in assets and leadership traits in Iraq, earned him a recommended promotion ahead of his peers and recognition in the flag ranks. Upon returning to Alabama, David managed a campaign and worked on others, including the current governor of the state. David would use his experience to navigate through crucial decisions to improve the local economy while growing jobs, better planning for roads, schools and county services. David and his wife Angela have a daughter born in 2011 and attend Sherwood Baptist Church, where he is a deacon. More info may be found at www.davidmichaelsmith2012.com.

Speaker Profile: Madison County Commission District 4

PHIL VANDIVER

Phil Vandiver is an experienced farmer for over 28 years in Madison County and has served as President, Vice President, and Secretary of the Jeff Gin Company, along with leadership positions in over half a dozen other agricultural organizations. He is also a proven leader in the community as a Volunteer Firefighter, EMT, Legacy Elementary School Steering Committee and Advisor position, as well as being involved in the Mt. Zion Baptist Church as Deacon, Children's Director and Program Director. Phil is focused on improving road safety and congestion issues, along with community recreational facilities. Ensuring that the district's tax dollars are spent wisely and bringing jobs to Madison County are also a keystone of Phil's campaign. Phil, a graduate of Sparkman High School and Auburn University, and his wife Becky are the proud parents of their two school age children. His website is www.philfor4.com

DAVID VESS

David Vess was born in Florida but raised in Fayetteville, TN where he graduated from Lincoln County High School. He was a Volunteer Firefighter and former Harvest Elementary PTO President, as well as a Senior High Youth Minister at Meridianville Church of Christ. Currently the manager of the 325 acre Harvest Farm, David is also the Vice president of the Madison County School Board. His goals in District 4 include safe traffic solutions, especially around the new high school and busy intersections, maintenance support for the volunteer fire departments, addressing drainage issues, and growing jobs in the local community, while being committed to fiscal ethics and responsibility. He married his wife Christy in 1996, and their two children attend Harvest Elementary School. David's website is www.DavidVess.com

President's Message

Happy New Year! Your new board, Alicia, Laurie, Lana, Sue and I, are excited about the opportunity to serve you as we work toward the November elections. We feel our job is to educate and inform all our members-so you, in turn, can pass along what you have learned to your family, friends and neighbors. An informed electorate is what is needed to change the direction of our country-and we're counting on you to go forth and spread the word. We'll do our part-you'll find each meeting dedicated to exciting speakers and we will also furnish you with several opportunities to further your education. As you can see by this newsletter, we have expanded the content. We hope you will find it interesting and informative. We have set up a new email address where you can reach us: repwomenmadison@gmail.com. Let us know what you think about the newsletter and if there is anything else you would like to see in it, let us know. We'll do our best to make it happen.

We are updating the web site and Facebook page. You will find more information at both of those sites. If you are not a friend of Republican Women of Madison on Facebook, we invite you to become one. You will stay updated on political articles of interest, election news and we hope you will use Facebook as an opportunity to comment on politics in general and our state and county issues in particular. This will be YOUR opportunity to make your views known to a wider audience.

We plan a couple of new activities for the club. Starting next month, as part of the greater NFRW/AFRW Caring for America Project, we plan to institute a "Can of the Month" program. Hunger doesn't know a season. Everyone is very generous around the holidays, but unfortunately, due to our current administration, there are a lot of people out of work. They need assistance. We are fortunate in that Madison has a local food pantry. Under our "Can of the Month" program, your Board asks that you bring at least one can of food to each meeting. We will let you know through the newsletter, Facebook, Web Site and the luncheon email reminder what that food item will be. Jill Archibald and Robin Maritt have agreed to provide a nice basket to hold your donations. After the meeting, they will deliver the cans to Inside-Out Ministries. The Liberal Democrats may say Republicans are heartless, but we know better-and we plan to show them!

I think all of us would do anything to keep from having to hold a fundraiser. We are hoping to limit this activity to perhaps one in August. As we know more, we'll keep you informed. In the meantime, we want to offer a member the opportunity to have their lunch paid for. In February, we will begin offering a "50/50" drawing; buy one ticket for \$1 or six tickets for \$5.00. If you are interested (and ONLY if you are interested), we will pass around a basket and you can contribute whatever amount of money you would like and you will be given a ticket(s) with a number. At the end of the meeting, we will draw a number. Whoever is the lucky winner will receive half of the "pot," which we believe should be enough to pay for your lunch. The other half will go to our treasury. It's a small way to raise money, but as the entire club has the opportunity to benefit, we hope you will be excited and choose to participate. Remember, you do NOT have to participate. To ease any concerns, I have checked with Elois to make sure this is not considered gambling (we don't want to break any rules) and she tells me that the Attorney General has ruled that it is NOT.

As the year goes along, we hope to have more opportunities for you to participate in activities, not only in the club, but in our community. If you have any suggestions or ideas on how we might serve the greater Madison area, please let us know. We want to hear from you-we're your officers and it's YOUR club!

Let's get busy!  We have a country to take back.

Liz Cuneo

Welcome New Members:

Tina Clark
Tracy Conover
Stacie Elmore
Shrail Heinrich
Ronica Ondocsin
Ashley Steward

Election News:

The last day for candidates to qualify with the Madison County Executive Committee was January 13th. The Madison County GOP website (<http://mgop.org/candidates.shtml>) will have a final, qualified list of candidates after that date.

Have You Heard?

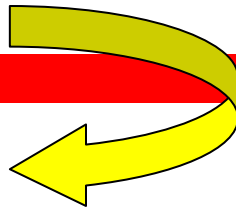
Todd Palin, Sarah's husband, has endorsed Newt Gingrich for President.

Lee Greenwood will appear in support of Dale Strong at a rally on Thursday, March 1st at the Jackson Center in Research Park.

The Limestone Republican Women's club is in the process of submitting paperwork for a charter from AFRW and NFRW.

The Bob Jones High School Young Republican Club is hard at work making a difference in our community. So far this year, they have sponsored both a voter registration and a canned food drive!

Thanks to Liz Cuneo, Alicia Liburdi, and Lana Graves for content submissions and Shrail Heinrich for managing the layout of the newsletter. If you have information for the next issue, please email Shrail at shrailh@aol.com.



2012 Calendar

- 1/17 AL Minority GOP meeting (11:15am)
- 1/24 Limestone Republican Women club meeting (6pm)
- 2/15 Republican Women of Madison club meeting (11am)
- 2/24 ALGOP Winter Meeting (Mobile, AL)
- 2/25 ALGOP Winter Meeting (Mobile, AL)
- 3/13 Alabama Presidential Primary

www.republicanwomenofmadison.org

AL Minority GOP

The Alabama Minority GOP meetings are held every third Tuesday from 11:15am-12:15pm at Eaves Restaurant, located at 501 Church St, Huntsville, AL 35801. For more information, visit www.almgop.org or contact Devinti M. Williams at devinti.williams@dmw-lawoffices.com.

Limestone Corner

A new club is being formed in Limestone County!

Their next club meeting will be Tuesday, January 24th, at Catfish Cabin II in Athens on Highway 72. The guest speaker will be Representative Mac McCutcheon.

The social will be at 6pm and the meeting at 6:30pm. If interested in attending, please contact Glenda Neill at gneill8@knology.net.

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Ellie the Elephant is hidden in each issue of the Republican Women of Madison newsletter. Did you spot her? Be the first to report her location to Liz Cuneo and you'll win a prize from the "Ellie-phant" prize basket..