

Minutes for August 2002 Meeting
of the Aiken County Republican Party
by Vicki L. Simons

The regular monthly meeting of the Aiken County Republican Party was held on Thursday, August 8, 2002, at the Aiken County Council Chambers. The following officers were present:

- * Chairman, David Nix,
- * Vice Chairman, Rachael Meehan,
- * Treasurer, Jan Carpenter, and
- * Secretary, Vicki Simons.

Chairman David Nix welcomed everyone to the meeting. Mike Simons offered the invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman David Nix:

- * Reported that the Treasurer's report showed a balance [for the two-month period] ending July 31, 2002, of \$3584.45 and commented that monies had come in from filing fees;
- * Congratulated Charles Barton in winning the runoff for Aiken County Council.
- * Stated that we have a full slate of Republican candidates.

Vice Chairman Rachael Meehan announced that the Georgia Republican Party is hosting a "Road to Majority" Conference on September 13-14. Having learned about the event through the Convention and Visitors Bureau in Augusta where she works, she mentioned names of several speakers, provided early registration prices and said that more information is available online at www.gagop.org. Chairman Nix added that this is a regular event, but this is the first time it will be held in Augusta.

June Cannon indicated that people could sign up for yard signs for Gresham Barrett, Mark Sanford and Lindsey Graham. She encouraged us to "promise only what you can deliver and deliver more than you promised"; be fair, consistent, considerate and don't tear the other guy down. We have a lot to do in a short time, "one dollar can do a lot in a campaign" and don't take a bumper sticker unless you put it on, she said.

Chairman Nix introduced Jason Whinghter, a candidate for the North Augusta city primary, and commented on North Augusta politics. Jason said that he grew up in Beech Island, graduated 1.5 years ago from Clemson University, is working for an engineering firm, and provided examples of how he has served people previously. If nothing else, running for office is a "great learning experience," he said.

Rene Ann Tewkesbury stated that Mark Sanford and Lindsey Graham would be conducting a 3-day tour, a stop during which would be made in Edgefield at the town square at 1:45 p.m. next Tuesday [August 13]. She introduced Alex Jarvis, who is Lindsey's Legislative Director. Other comments were made.

Deedee Vaughters (speaking in the stead of Arthur Andersen who is in Maine for the month):

- * gave an overview of what the Aiken Republican Club did in June and July,
- * said there will be no meeting in August, and
- * shared plans for meetings for the rest of this year.

She said they are trying to get the college Republicans involved. One plan is to offer them discount memberships and meals. She said the young people are our future.

Richard Perry, Executive Director of Victory 2002, spoke. He provided a brief overview of his background and why this year's victory program is different from other victory programs. [The website says their objective is to "Fully integrate all GOP grassroots activities under the Victory 2002 umbrella to support the Republican ticket in November 2002."] Mr. Perry said we have reasons to be optimistic in South Carolina and provided some statistics. He named those people who are helping in the field and said that Mac McClearn is the Aiken County Chairman of the Victory 2002 program. The conversation angled toward the state of the finances for the South Carolina Republican Party, with numerous people speaking.

Rene Ann said that a fundraiser for Lindsey Graham will be held on Tuesday, August 27. The cost is \$100 per couple or \$500 to be on the host committee.

Chairman Nix adjourned the meeting.

Minutes approved by: _____

on: _____

Chairman: _____

Secretary: _____