For Immediate Release:

From: Martha T. Weeks, Publicity Beaufort Republican Women's Club (BRWC) <u>mztweeks@gmail.com</u> 843-441-1304

Date: June 16, 2023

Re: June 14, 2023, Annual Flag Day Celebration

The Beaufort Republican Women's Club gathered on Flag Day, June 14, 2023, with special guests, Senator Chip Campsen, and City of Beaufort Councilman Phillip (Josh) Scallate. Between late afternoon rain showers, the group enjoyed a picnic at the home of BRWC club President Jane Culley and her husband Hazen Culley.

Councilman Scallate informed us about work the council has done on the city budget and police department, and on linking the Beaufort City bomb and crime units with Beaufort County units to enable cooperation between the two.

Senator Campsen spoke about the Second Amendment which gives every individual American citizen the right to keep and bear arms without the threat of government infringement. The Senator said that the group Palmetto Gun Rights (PGR) has tried to discredit him by circulating flyers and spreading the word that he is anti-gun. He said this accusation is not only absurd, but it's deceitful, given his history as a law-abiding hunter and outdoorsman who has served on numerous wildlife committees and boards and been honored by them. He said there was no way he would ever support Bill S.109 which would eliminate a law that already exists in South Carolina, the Concealed Weapon Permit (CWP) that is honored in 35 other states, and that requires the bearer to have a clean SLED criminal background check, to receive training in handling and firing a handgun on the range with an instructor, and receiving training in the complex laws that govern carrying a concealed weapon.

Though Flag Day is not a federal holiday, it is a nationwide day of observance celebrated by Americans to commemorate the adoption of the Stars and Stripes as the official flag of the United States.