



THE CADDO REPUBLICAN



OCTOBER 2015

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Raising Voices and Elbows, or Just Raising Awareness, Before We All Go To The Polls?

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

Speakers for this month's luncheon at **12 noon on Tuesday, October 6, 2015** at the Wyndham Garden Hotel (formerly the Clarion Hotel) on E. 70th Street will be **the Republican candidates for state and local elections** as the Caddo GOP honors these candidates for their willingness to serve and sacrifice. It's our way to say "thanks" before the election, and give each Republican candidate an opportunity to say a few words regarding their campaign in these final days leading up to voting.

"We are grateful to these candidates, and all candidates, indeed, who sacrifice their time, disrupt their personal and professional lives, and commit themselves to making the community a better place, for generations to come," says Caddo Republican PEC Chairman Louis R. Avallone, "and while every candidate may not earn the voters' support, they each deserve, however, our respect."

Most local campaigns have been polite, and likewise, most candidates have not had to raise their voices or their elbows to be heard, or to be seen. There have been countless candidate forums all over the city, and throughout Caddo Parish, for that matter, for nearly all races.

However, "polite" would not be how most people would characterize the race for Caddo Parish Sheriff, where Democrat challenger Eric Hatfield has levied allegations against some in the community from everything involving the destruction of his campaign signs, to his posting that someone had "stalked" his wife, and taken photographs of his property — with the obvious implication that these actions are all politically motivated. Goodness.

So join us Tuesday. Reservations not required. Eating is \$13 and listening is free.



FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Fellow Republicans,



The qualifying period for the general election in Louisiana ended last month, and the slate of candidates that will appear on the October 24 ballot this month has been set. However, there's an ocean of difference between the candidates who "qualified" for the election this fall by simply signing-up, and those who are the best candidates for the position because they can solve the problems facing our community – instead of just complaining about them, or stating the obvious with more speeches and empty promises.

Regardless of who is "qualified" or not, our election process works best only when "we the people" must show up. Did you know that only about a third of Louisiana's voters voted in the last gubernatorial election in 2011? It's estimated that only 1 million of Louisiana's 2.8 million registered voters went to the polls. This was the fewest number of voters to cast ballots in a governor's race since 1975.

There's probably a lot of folks out there right now who would just as soon stay at home on election day. In fact, that's what happened in the 2012 presidential election. For Republicans, it is estimated that 3-4 million conservative voters stayed home. They just didn't show up on election day.

And the Democrats, too, have less engaged, fewer motivated members than at any time in their history. As President Obama's former campaign manager described the Democrat Party, "We have a turnout issue."

And perhaps this is why 42% of Americans, on average, are estimated to identify themselves as political independents or "no party". This is the highest percentage of political independents in more than 75 years of public opinion polling.

You see, here's what's going on, and I hope you are sitting down: Our political party

system is dying, and sadly, it is perhaps the last, best defense we have in guarding our freedom.

Here's why: The special interests and the media have already virtually replaced the people's interests, for all intents and purposes, because we've allowed them to take the place of our political parties. The special interests and the media, in fact, feel entitled to it now.

But large-scale democracies need an institution, like political parties, to educate the electorate and organize public opinion. Edmund Burke deemed it impossible for legislative bodies to make policy without forming coalitions. In fact, he believed that parties are wholly necessary to the performance of this public duty.

And to the 25% of Louisiana voters registering as "no party", I say this: Whether you feel that your party's leadership in Congress, or in Baton Rouge, has abandoned you, you have not abandoned what you believe, in your heart of hearts. And if you value democracy, it's time to renew our political party system, and take back the power of the people. It can start with you – whether you feel "qualified" or not. Get involved in your Republican party: attend a luncheon, come to a PEC meeting, call any of the numbers on the back of this newsletter and let us know you're ready to renew our democracy...and we'll be ready for you.

In closing, and as always, please consider making a contribution to the Caddo Republican Parish Executive Committee, or to volunteer your time. Contributions of any amount may be made by mailing a check to: **Caddo RPEC, 1941-C East 70th Street, Shreveport, LA 71105** or by clicking the following link to contribute by credit or debit card, <http://bit.ly/CaddoRPEC> (but you don't need a Paypal account to contribute online).

Very truly yours,

Louis R. Avallone

MEDALLION CLUB (IS GROWING)

Join The Ranks!

The 2015 Medallion Club membership drive well underway. The Medallion Club effort raises the necessary funds to run the office, pay for the newsletter, and conduct other Party activities. Gold Medallion members level is \$200 and above, Medallion membership is \$100-199 and Supporter level membership is up to \$99. You can contribute online by visiting <http://bit.ly/CaddoRPEC> or checks may be dropped off to the office at 1941-C East 70th Street, Shreveport 71105. Contributions are not tax deductible. **Gold Medallion:** Art Scheffler, William Golden, M.F. Graham, Gary Moore, Austin G. Robertson, Jr., Dee Simpson, B.L. "Buddy" Shaw, G.A. Frierson, II, Maudie M. Lawson, PRWC; **Medallion:** M.T. Arceneaux, Jim and Martha Allen, Harold and Margaret Coates, Jack Daniel, Ted Roberts, Elmo Norton, George Penfield, Oliver Jenkins, Max Edwards, Barrow Peacock, Mike Thibodeaux, Steve C. Gibson, Women's Republican Club of Shreveport, Frances A. Simpson and Steve Riall. **Supporter:** Olive Stuart, Blanca Collins, and Stanley Kolniak.



CADDO GOP ENDORSES

The Caddo Parish Executive Committee is pleased to announce the following endorsements for this month's elections: David Vitter, Governor; Jeff Landry, Attorney General, Dhu Thompson, Caddo District Attorney, Steve Prator, Caddo Sheriff, Tom Schedler, Secretary of State; John Kennedy, Treasurer; Jim Donelon, Commissioner of Insurance; Mike Strain, Commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry; Jim Morris, State Representative, 1st District;



Alan Seabaugh, State Representative, 5th District; Matthew Linn, Caddo Commission, 4th District; Mike Middleton, Caddo Commission, 8th District; Jim Smith, Caddo Commission, 11th District; and James Alexander, Mooringsport Chief of Police. Congratulations to those who drew no opposition this election: Senator Peacock, Representative Carmody, Coroner Thoma, and Caddo Commissioner Dominick.



CADDO GOP ENDORSES LANDRY

In a press conference at LSUS, the Caddo Republican Party, along with area Republican Party leaders and elected officials, endorsed Jeff Landry for Attorney General. Local elected officials in attendance included State Senator Barrow Peacock and State Representative Alan Seabaugh. In issuing the endorsement of the Webster Parish Republican Party, Chairwoman Jerri Ray DiPingre said, "Jeff Landry is the Republican candidate for Attorney General. We urge conservatives in Northwest Louisiana to vote for Jeff on October 24." In accepting these endorsements, Landry concluded, "I started my campaign in Northwest Louisiana, and I intend to serve this area well as the next Attorney General. Landry has also been endorsed by the Republican Party of Louisiana, the PRO-LIFE Family Research Council, the Gun Owners of America, and Congressman John Fleming.

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Shreveport, LA 71105

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If you are an email subscriber to the newsletter, please don't forget to advise the editor (louisavallone@caddogop.com) when you change your email address. If you are not, subscribe via **full-color** email by emailing the editor today!

The **Women's Republican Club of Shreveport (WRC)** meets every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 11:45 a.m. at **East Ridge Country Club**. Lunch is \$18.00. Reservations can be made by emailing rsvp.wrc@gmail.com or calling 795-0870 and leave a message. Men are invited to attend and join as associates.

The **Professional Republican Women (PRWC)** meets at 6:00 p.m. at Savoie's The Catering Place on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Email PRWC1989@gmail.com or contact Pam Gutekunst

(pamgutekunst@bellsouth.net), 797-0802) for reservations (menu is fried catfish, unless chef salad is requested in advance). Men are welcome to attend and join as associates. Meals at \$12.00.

The **Republican Women of Bossier (RWB)** meet on the 4th Tuesday of the month at the Azalea Room of Good Eats, 2171 Airline Drive. "Meet and Greet" starts at 5:30 p.m. Meals are \$20.00. Listening is free. Call Robin Rue-Graves (965-5001), robinsbirdnest@yahoo.com) for reservations (RSVPs, please, by Wednesdays prior to meeting). Men are welcome as associates.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Oct. 6 - GOP Luncheon, Candidate Appreciation
- Oct. 15 - Governor's Debate at Louisiana Tech
- Oct. 20 - PRWC dinner
- Oct. 21 - WRC luncheon
- Oct. 24 - ELECTION DAY
- Oct. 27 - RWB dinner
- Oct. 28 - Presidential Debate

THE CADDY REPUBLICAN is the monthly newsletter of the Caddo Republican Party. Mail articles, suggestions, recommendations, and complaints to the Editor at **1941-C E. 70th St., Shreveport, LA 71105** or via email louisavallone@caddogop.com. This newsletter is designed to provide information regarding the subject matter covered. The editors are NOT engaged in rendering legal, accounting, or other professional services. If legal advice or other expert assistance is required, please seek the services of a competent professional. The opinions expressed are those of the Editors and contributors and not necessarily those of the Party.

OFFICERS AND KEY OFFICIALS

• Chairman	Louis R. Avallone	841-1277	• Professional Republican Women	Kerry Kimler
• Vice Chairman	Barry Rachal	469-2277	• Women's Republican Club of S'port	Linda Brooks 294-3775
• Treasurer	Micheal Collins	207-0405	• Candidate Assistance Chairman	Mike Thibodeaux 393-2996
• Secretary	Nancy Adcock	458-1637	• Parliamentarian/Publicity Chairman	Betsy Malone 868-3464
• Committee Attorney	Louis R. Avallone	841-1277	• Louisiana State Republican Party	225-389-4495
• Caddo/Bossier Republican Office		797-1777	• Webmaster	Allen Marsalis 841-0199

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