



# THE CADDO REPUBLICAN



Volume 18, Edition 12

Editor: Louis R. Avallone

December 2013

## *This Month's Meeting*

Speaker for this month's luncheon at **12 noon on Tuesday, December 3** at the Clarion Hotel on E. 70th Street will be **Mr. Joey Hester**. Mr. Hester has announced he is running for Shreveport City Marshal in 2014 and he will discuss his campaign, and why it is so important for leadership change in the Marshal's office.



After 25 years of service to our community through the Shreveport Police Department, and after 7 years of service through the Shreveport City Marshal's Office, Mr. Hester is currently with the Caddo Parish Constable's Office.

For 30 years he has mentored more than a thousand children of all ages by volunteering his time as a coach through Dixie Baseball, YMCA, SPAR, Evangel Christian Academy, and Calvary Baptist, just to name a few.

He serves as the President of the Norris Ferry Landing Homeowner's Association, and is a member of the South Shreveport Lion's Club and Krewe of Justinian.

As a father of five – Adam, Jacob, Chance, Mackenzie Grace, and Jon-Thomas – he and his wife Tina are members of Grace United Methodist and Calvary Baptist Church in Shreveport.

Reservations not required. Eating is \$13 and there is no cost to listen. Parking is free.



## *From the Chairman*

There are many good folks who become involved politically by joining the activities of their Party and doing their best to make things better for themselves and for the sake of others. For the most part, those who are in the Republican Party are Christian, Conservative, and Patriotic Americans. One such couple comes to mind. June and Leonard Green were (and still are) very active for the Conservative causes that we all cherish.



They have been married for 49 years. June was active in the PRWC for many years and kept up with the reservations for the monthly dinner meetings, among many other duties. She had been a social worker for the State of Louisiana. Leonard worked as a civilian at BAFB as an Aircraft technician for 26 years. During the Great Depression, he was known as the guy who asked for, and got permission, to take two damaged airplanes and make one good one, in order to fly. That trick was successful, however, his bosses insisted he be on the first test flight. I'm glad he is here to tell about that experience. He later taught sheet metal work at the Caddo Career Center for 11 years.



June and Lenard are huge Lady Techster fans and travelled to many of their games, even out of state. They once travelled to one of the Caribbean Islands for a game. Leonard was known by the team as the 'banner man' because he made so many banners in support of The Lady Techsters.

A huge Caddo Parish Republican THANK YOU and SALUTE goes out to this fine couple who continue to serve as an inspiration for so many because of their passion for what they believe.

*Harold*

### **Medallion Club**

The 2013 **Medallion Club** membership drive is kicking off with a number of early joiners. 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 level is \$100-\$199 and Supporter level membership is up to \$99. Checks made payable to the Caddo Republican Party can be sent to the Headquarter's Office at 1941-C East 70th Street, Shreveport, 71105. Contributions are not tax deductible.

*Thank You*

**Gold Medallion Members:** Jim and Martha Allen, Max Edwards, G.A. Frierson II, William Golden, M.B. Lawson, Jean Laster, Jeff Loftin, PRWC, Olive G. Stuart, and Thelma Woods. **Medallion Members:** Harold and Margaret Coates, Jack Daniel, Steve Gibson, Marshall Graham, Martha E. Jackson, Creighton Light, Elmo Norton, Sybil Patton, George Penfield, Barrow Peacock, Steve Riall, Ted Roberts, and B.L. "Buddy" Shaw.

### **PEC-n-Order**

The Caddo Republican Parish Executive Committee met November 21st. **Attending:** Nancy Adcock, Jim Allen, Harold Coates, Micheal Collins, Steve Gibson, Alan Koloc, Creighton Light, Barry Rachal. **Absent:** Louis R. Avallone, Neil Carlisle, and Betsy Malone.

The meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at the Picadilly Cafeteria in St. Vincent Mall.

### **PRWC Meeting**

The Professional Republican Women of Caddo regularly meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. at Savoie's Catering Place at 2441 East 70th Street. Meal price is \$12.00. For reservations, email [PRWC1989@gmail.com](mailto:PRWC1989@gmail.com) or contact Pam Gutekunst at [pamgutekunst@bellsouth.net](mailto:pamgutekunst@bellsouth.net), or phone 797-0802.

### **Obamacare "Flying" Lessons**

The confusion over Obamacare reminds me of an old saying: "You don't fly an airplane while still under construction!"

### **Bossier Republican Women Meeting**

Regular meetings are held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of every month at the Azalea Room of Good Eats, 2177 Airline Drive. "Meet and Greet" starts at 5:30 p.m., followed by the meeting at 6:00 p.m. Reservations are to be made to Babb Dockall at 318-949-8558, or [traveller38@suddenlink.net](mailto:traveller38@suddenlink.net). If you don't plan to eat, there is no charge to come and listen. Men are welcome to attend and join as associates.

### **WRC Meeting**

The Women's Republican Club meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of each month at 11:30 a.m. at the East Ridge Country Club. Price of the meal is \$18. Call 795-0870 or email [RSVP.WRC@gmail.com](mailto:RSVP.WRC@gmail.com).

### **Rhymes with "Machiavellian"**

Adjective 1 cunning, scheming, and unscrupulous, esp. in politics or in advancing one's career. 2 of or relating to Niccolò Machiavelli. Noun a person who schemes in such a way.

### **Are You Kidding Me?**

The Obama administration has banned all U.S. government agencies from producing any training materials that link Islam with terrorism. In fact, the FBI has gone back and purged references to Islam and terrorism from hundreds of old documents.



### **A Messy Accident**

*By Louis R. Avallone*

Shell-shocked. That what it felt like, when it happened. It was like being rear-ended along busy and bustling Youree Drive traffic, and then suddenly being thrust forward as your neck snaps back, and then forward, from the impact. Your vehicle's rear-end is smashed into oblivion, and you are pretty sure you'll need to see a doctor, and as soon as possible. But when you step out your

vehicle, the other driver (who rear-ended you) gets out too, shouting out, and waving to you, "Sorry about that," as he backs up and drives off, leaving you to deal with the aftermath left in his wake.

There was no, "Oh my goodness," or "I'll make it right," from him. Nothing. No contrition. No accountability.

Well, that's what it was like when President Obama "apologized" last week for the millions of Americans losing their health insurance coverage because of Obamacare. He said, "I am sorry that they are finding themselves in this situation based on assurances they got from me."

That's it? Really? That's what you are going with?

4.2 million Americans have already lost their health insurance, and by the end of this year, that number is estimated to grow to 156 million – more than half the population – while almost 80 percent of people in the individual market will lose their policies, and that's all the President has to say? Who is going to repair this mess?

Author John C. Maxwell once wrote, "A man must be big enough to admit his mistakes, smart enough to profit from them, and strong enough to correct them." Well, the President's "apology" last week lacks any evidence whatsoever of any of those virtues.

Instead, his apology smacks more of Napoleon Bonaparte, who said, "In politics...never retreat, never retract...never admit a mistake."

You see, an apology is the simplest of acts; an expression of genuine regret to another for having harmed them in some way. But you first have to admit the mistake, and not simply deepen the chasm by convincing yourself, and everybody else around you, that it's important to stubbornly stay the "course". As many might humorously say here, "Denial ain't just a river in Egypt."

No, it takes confidence to truly admit to your mistakes and learn from them. Without confidence, you will end up defending things you do wrong, and never allow yourself the opportunity to grow and get better at whatever you do.

But what seals the deal is a commitment to changing, and it must be simple, feasible and specific. Obama's apology could have delayed by one year the penalty facing Americans who do not

enroll in insurance plans in 2014, because of all the technical glitches and other controversies. But it didn't.

The President's apology could have included a delay for the individual mandate, just as businesses were given more a time to comply with Obamacare. But it didn't. In fact, his Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius said "delay is not an option".

And so now, even Democrats, like Mary Landrieu, are speaking out to support Americans keeping their insurance plans, if they are happy with the ones they have. Nevermind, of course, that in 2009 Landrieu extolled the same principle, as she voted in support of Obamacare. And nevermind, of course, that she voted against legislation in 2010 that would have protected small businesses from losing their health plans' grandfathered status under ObamaCare.

You see, the problem with not being able to admit mistakes, whether you are the President or Mary Landrieu, comes when we



make a serious one because we don't learn from it, and we're likely to make the same mistake over and over again. Making mistakes is not altogether dishonorable, or even embarrassing. In fact, Thomas Watson, the founder of IBM, believed in building a culture that embraced failure. In fact, one of Watson's most famous quotes is, "The way to succeed is to double your error rate."

I'm not a critic of President Obama because of mistakes he's made. I'm a critic because he hasn't admitted them, learned from them, nor corrected them. He's stayed the proverbial "course" on Obamacare, despite overwhelming evidence to the contrary, and to the displeasure of millions of Americans. As one of our founding fathers once said, "A body of men holding themselves accountable to nobody ought not to be trusted by anybody."

At least if you are rear-ended on Youree Drive, emergency responders will be on the way to make the situation better. The question now, based on the President's "apology", is who has the courage in Washington to admit their mistakes, and answer the American people's 911 call for help?

The **Women's Republican Club of Shreveport (WRC)** every third 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](mailto:rsvp.wrc@gmail.com) or calling 795-0870 and leave message. Men are invited to attend and join as associates.

The **Professional Republican Women (PRWC)** meet at 6:00 p.m. at Savoie's The Catering Place on the third Tuesday of each month. Email [PRWC1989@gmail.com](mailto:PRWC1989@gmail.com) or contact Pam Gutekunst ([pamgutekunst@bellsouth.net](mailto:pamgutekunst@bellsouth.net), 797-0802) for reservations (menu is fried catfish, unless chef salad requested in advance). Men are welcome to attend and join as associates.

The **Republican Women of Bossier (RWB)** meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month at Azalea Room of Good Eats, 2177 Airline Drive. "Meet and Greet" starts at 5:30 p.m. Meals are \$15.00. Listening is free. Call Barb Dockall (949-8558, [traveller38@suddenlink.net](mailto:traveller38@suddenlink.net)) for reservations (RSVPs, please, by Wednesdays prior to meeting). If you don't plan to eat, there is no charge to listen. Men are welcome to attend and join as associates.

## Calendar of Events



- December 3 – Caddo GOP Luncheon, **Joey Hester**, Shreveport City Marshal
- December 17 – PRWC dinner
- December 18 – WRC luncheon
- December 19 – PEC meeting, 6:30  
Piccadilly Cafeteria
- January 7 – Caddo GOP Luncheon, **John White**, Louisiana Superintendent of Education



**Allen Marsalis**  
President

Office: 318.841.0199  
Cell: 318.347.0289  
Toll Free: 888.694.6161  
333 Texas Street, Suite 505 • Shreveport, Louisiana 71101  
Email: [am@bandwise.com](mailto:am@bandwise.com)  
[www.bandwise.com](http://www.bandwise.com)

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### Officers and Key Officials

• Chairman	Harold Coates	868-1212	• Professional Republican Women	Dottie Maziarz	797-4549
• Vice Chairman	Louis R. Avallone	841-1277	• Women's Republican Club of S'port	Roxanne Bosserman	655-2004
• Treasurer	Neil Carlisle	227-2719	• Candidate Assistance Chairman	Mike Thibodeaux	393-2996
• Secretary	Alan Koloc	564-3961	• Parliamentarian/Publicity Chairman	Betsy Malone	868-3464
• Committee Attorney	Louis R. Avallone	841-1277	• Louisiana State Republican Party		225-928-2998
• Caddo/Bossier Republican Office		797-1777	• Webmaster	Allen Marsalis	841-0199

**THE CADDO REPUBLICAN** 1941-C EAST 70TH STREET  
SHREVEPORT, LA 71105

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