



THE CADDO REPUBLICAN



JANUARY 2016

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A Mandate From Voters?

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

Our topic for this month's luncheon at **12 noon on Tuesday, January 5, 2015** at the Wyndam Garden Hotel on E. 70th Street will be **State Representative Alan Seabaugh** who will offer insight and commentary on the tug-of-war between the Governor-elect and Republicans in the House, regarding who should be the next Speaker of the House.

In an article appearing in the *The Advocate*, Louisiana Democrats say they recognize that Governor-elect John Bel Edwards had the perfect "three-legged stool" to boost his campaign from a potential afterthought in 2015, to winning the race outright. "We've gotten pretty darn good at not only ID'ing who the voters are we need to have contact with, but also how to have those conversations," said Louisiana Democratic Party Executive Director Stephen Handwerk.

He said technology has spread efforts out. In the past, the party would work with precinct captains in areas that they knew were voter-rich. Now, they can target voters anywhere that meets the profile of a possible Democrat

voter who just needs a little urging to head to the polls.

Despite the "perfect three-legged stool", Edwards claims his election is a mandate from the voters. "Walt is going to be speaker," said Edwards, who is meeting individually with each legislator regarding his choice of Walt Leger for Speaker.



Edwards says, "The situation today is much like it was eight years ago (when Republican Gov. Bobby Jindal took office). We had a Democrat as Senate president and a Republican as speaker."

And Edwards has proclaimed, "I told the people what I wanted to do and I believe voters gave me the mandate to do them." But for conservatives, is it really a mandate?

Join us Tuesday and let's discuss. Reservations not required. Eating is \$13 and listening is free.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Fellow Republicans,



“Thank you” for the work we have done together over the past year. The ending of the year reminds us all that “endings” are not only necessary, but can be very helpful, as well. After all, without the ability to end things, people stay stuck and never become who they are meant to be; never accomplishing all that their talents and abilities should afford them. The same applies to organizations and groups of all kinds, too — including our nation.

2015’s elections are in our rear-view mirror, and the new year ahead represents an opportunity, like each and every day, to begin again. After all, it’s more important where we’re going, than where we’ve been. There are countless examples to prove this is true.

Consider that Lucille Ball was dismissed from drama school with a note saying she was “wasting her time.” Or that The Beatles were first told by a recording studio that their sound was awful and that “guitar music was on the way out.” And that Michael Jordan was cut from his highschool basketball team.

The point is that if our past equaled the future, what chance – what hope – would any of us have to better ourselves, redeem our lives, or enrich those around us? There’s no mistaking that the “rear-view mirror” is often much clearer than the “windshield” of life, but what lies ahead of us is much more important than anything behind us.

2016, I believe, will reveal that Americans have largely settled into two (2) distinct camps: Those who want to “feel” better and those who want to “do” better. Those who want to “feel” better are the ones who value political correctness over results.

Those who want to “do” better will have no time for political correctness, of any kind. As conservatives, of course, we believe that government cannot “fix” all things for us. Government cannot make us content, make

us feel respected or accepted, confer achievement upon us, build our self-esteem or eliminate life’s inevitable ups and down.

We believe that “fixing” our problems by being politically correct, or being all things to all people, has not worked, and perhaps if we stopped trying to “fix” everyone’s problems, we could solve our most important ones for good. We believe America is more than just a place. It’s an idea. It was founded on an idea – that our rights come from God, and not from government.

The lynchpin for the conservative movement in 2016, is whether we, as conservatives, will continue taking life on and grabbing the issues by the collar, whether it “sounds” politically correct, or not.

Will we allow those who want to “feel” better overrule our personal freedoms, from our freedom to worship to our right to bear arms? Will we continue to allow competition and merit to be diluted, and national security compromised, because of political posturing? Or will we remain silent, as hard work is replaced with entitlements? Will we allow the government to run us, instead of us running the government? I know your answer, but we must remind our less conservative friends to remain committed as well, whether it “feels” good — so that we can “do” good, instead.

In closing, and as always, please consider making a contribution to the Caddo Republican PEC, 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).

We’re all in this together. Let’s make 2016 a very Happy (and Conservative) New Year!

Very truly yours,

Louis R. Avallone

MEDALLION CLUB

Join The Ranks!

The 2016 Medallion Club membership drive is beginning and we are grateful for the tremendous support, and unwavering commitment of our Caddo Parish Republican supporters. As many of you know, 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.

PEC & SCC QUALIFYING COMPLETE

Qualifying for the March 5, 2016 election of the Republican Parish Executive Committee members and the Republican State Central Committee members was held December 2-4. The Caddo Republican Executive Committee (PEC) consists of 12 district members and 5 at-large members. The Caddo delegation to the State Central Committee (SCC) consists of 13 districts, which are subdivisions of the State Senate districts.

Of the 17 positions available on the Caddo PEC, candidates qualified for 14, leaving 3 districts vacant. In 13 of the PEC districts, candidates who qualified had no opposition and will be sworn in officially in March. They are: Nancy Adcock, Jim Allen, Harold Coates, Micheal Collins, Michael Johnson, Matt Kay, Creighton Light, Betsy Malone, Scott Morse, Jim Taliaferro, Barry Rachal, Matt Varnell, and Jake Woods. Two (2) candidates qualified for the 8th district: Louis R. Avallone and Martha Belchic.

Of the 13 positions on the SCC, candidates qualified for 12 seats, leaving only 1 vacancy. In 10 of the seats, candidates who qualified

had no opposition and will be sworn in officially in March. In 2 of the SCC seats, 2 candidates qualified for those seats. Those candidates who were unopposed for the SCC seats are: Louis R. Avallone, Harold Coates, Matt Kay, Kris Lucas, Sandy McDade, Scott Morse, Ronnie Remedies, Dhu Thompson, Matt Varnell, and Jake Woods. Jim Allen and Martha Belchic both qualified in the District 37C seat, and Richie Burford and Ed Lazarus qualified in the District 38D seat.

The election of the contested seats will be March 5, 2016, which is the same date as the Louisiana presidential preference election. After this election, all candidates elected to the PEC will be sworn in at the Caddo Courthouse, at a time to be determined. All candidates elected to the SCC will be sworn in at the first meeting of the Committee, which is Saturday March 19, in Baton Rouge.

THE HISTORY OF NEW ORLEANS

Democrat Mayor Mitch Landrieu is removing large chunks of the very history that so many millions of tourists have traveled to New Orleans to see. The *New Orleans Advocate* reported earlier in December that four (4) statues will be removed in New Orleans, destined for storage in a warehouse, because the City Council deemed them "offensive". They include the statues of Gen. Robert E. Lee in Lee Circle, Confederate President Jefferson Davis on Jefferson Davis Parkway and Gen. P.G.T. Beauregard at the entrance to City Park, plus a monument on Iberville Street near the river honoring the so-called Battle of Liberty Place, an 1874 rebellion against the state's biracial Reconstruction-era government by a group of former Confederates seeking to restore white "home rule." The 6-1 vote and Landrieu's quick signature mean all four are destined for a city warehouse, possibly within days, although monument supporters quickly filed a lawsuit in federal court to try to stop that.



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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 Stonebridge Country Club. "Meet and Greet" starts at 5:30 p.m. Meals are \$18.00. Listening is free. Email Gail Bradley at rwbmeal@gmail.com or by calling her at 572-5853, for reservations (RSVP, please, by the Monday before). Men are welcome as associates.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan. 1 - New Year's Day
- Jan. 5 - GOP Luncheon, "A Mandate?"
- Jan. 19 - PRWC dinner
- Jan. 20 - WRC luncheon
- Jan. 21 - PEC Meeting
- Jan. 23 - Life March North 2016
- Jan. 26 - RWB dinner

THE CADDO 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

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|-----------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| • Chairman | Louis R. Avallone | 841-1277 | • Professional Republican Women | Susan Taylor | 869-2795 |
| • Vice Chairman | Barry Rachal | 469-2277 | • Women's Republican Club of S'port | Jolene Woods | 617-7262 |
| • Treasurer | Micheal Collins | 207-0405 | • Candidate Assistance Co-Chairs | Betsy/Max Malone | 868-3464 |
| • Secretary | Nancy Adcock | 458-1637 | • Parliamentarian/Publicity Chair | 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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