



# THE CADDO REPUBLICAN



JUNE 2014

EDITOR: LOUIS R. AVALLONE

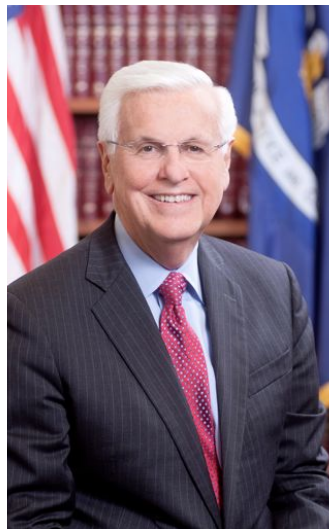
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***We Must Inspire To Lead; Avoid  
Becoming Some "Other Party"***

## THIS MONTH'S MEETING

Speaker for this month's luncheon at **12 noon** on **Tuesday, June 3** at the Clarion Hotel on E. 70th Street will be **Louisiana Commissioner of Insurance, Jim Donelon.**



Prior to becoming Commissioner of Insurance, Jim Donelon served the Louisiana Department of Insurance in leadership positions as Chief Deputy Commissioner and Executive Counsel.

Jim is a native New Orleanian, graduate of Jesuit High School, the University of New Orleans and Loyola School of Law. Jim's public service career includes 33 years of

military experience in the Louisiana Army National Guard where he retired with the rank of Colonel. He was first elected to office in 1975 as Chairman of the Jefferson Parish Council and then served in the House of Representatives from 1981-2001 where he served as Chairman of the Committee on Insurance.

In 2001 Jim joined the staff of the Department of Insurance and was appointed Commissioner of Insurance in February 2006. He was elected to fill the unexpired term later that year and was re-elected in 2007 and again in 2011.

Jim serves on the National Association of Insurance Commissioners' (NAIC) Executive Committee as Immediate Past President and also serves as Chairman of the Surplus Lines Task Force. He is also on the Board of Directors of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill in New Orleans.

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

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Dear Fellow Republicans,

People of all ages are becoming less engaged with the political process. There are ample reasons why folks don't feel "inspired" by our politicians. In fact, 1 in 5 Americans don't trust either the Democrats or Republicans. There is such broad dissatisfaction with both parties in Congress, in fact, that nearly 7 out of 10 Americans say they are inclined to look around for someone new this fall to send to Washington.

The number of voters registering as "other party" is increasing – now 1 out of every 4 registered voters. And even though Republicans are winning major state elections here at home, *The Advocate* also reported recently that voters "registered as 'other party' or not registered with any political party, are climbing too, as voters distance themselves from either of the mainstream political parties".

I believe the migration trend of some voters to "other party" can be explained very simply: voters are not inspired. And this was the subject of our roundtable discussion at the April Caddo Republican luncheon. Thanks to all who participated last month, as we worked to answer the question of how best to inspire others to follow us, as Republicans.

You see, voters increasingly are less and less inspired to follow any political party, it seems. In his book, *Start with Why*, author Simon Sinek explains that people don't buy "what" you do, but they buy "why" you do it. For example, how many voters know "why" the Republican Party exists? Or "why" the Party should matter to anyone? The answer may be fuzzy at first, but that's the rub in all of this. You see, once a political party, or any organization for that

matter, clearly communicates their "why" (their purpose, their cause, their belief), then (and only then) can they inspire others to follow. Our state is served well by individuals who get involved in party politics, and don't merely check off a box on their voter registration card. These are the volunteers that are the lifeblood to our democratic process.

They are the ones walking the neighborhoods, calling supporters, and who spend countless hours organizing party events, speakers, luncheons, and rallies. They do it because they believe the political process is meaningful and that their work makes a difference...they do it because they are inspired.

Right now we need a great deal of inspiration, from every one of you reading this right now, to get voters involved this election year, in the very democratic process that has nourished our republic now for almost 238 years – before we lose an entire generation to some "other party".

**Louis R. Avallone**

## VOTE TO GROW

As Shreveport voters consider who will be their next mayor, and as the issues are debated, there seems no greater "elephant" in the room than our declining population. Elliott Stonecipher recently reported that Shreveport's population remains stagnate after three-plus decades. With July 1, 2013 population of 200,327 - down -1,739, or -0.9%, compared to one year earlier - Shreveport's population is now 5,493 below its 1980 Census count, 205,820. By contrast, three of the nation's five fastest-growing cities are right next door, in Texas. Along with our highest property taxes in the state, there very well may not be a more pressing issue to consider when electing our next mayor.

## MEDALLION CLUB

The 2014 Medallion Club membership drive will begin shortly. 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. Checks may be dropped off to the HQ's Office at 1941-C East 70th Street, Shreveport 71105. Contributions are not tax deductible.



**Gold Medallion Members:** Max Edwards, Austin Robertson, and **The Professional Republican Women's Club.** **Medallion Members:** Jim and Martha Allen, Harold and Margaret Coates, Jack Daniel, **Elmo Norton**, Barrow Peacock, and Olive G. Stuart.

## FOSTER FACES FOE FOR PSC

Public Service Commissioner (PSC) and notorious liberal Foster Campbell will be challenged for his District 5 seat this fall by Keith Gates, the current City Prosecutor in Winnfield and former Louisiana Supreme Court clerk.

Gates said he decided to run against Campbell because the people of Louisiana deserve "less bull." Gates also said that Campbell spends entirely too much time on the PSC focusing on energy efficiency and phone regulations for jails.

"We here in North Louisiana have watched as our commissioner, at the behest of Obama allied green energy

groups from Washington, D.C., have allowed utility companies to charge us extra fees in order that the companies may then give those fees to whoever they please to study energy efficiency," said Gates.

"While our commissioner concentrates on helping the jailbirds and the green energy groups, our utility service is still unreliable and our rates are still high. That's bull."

## DR. BEN CARSON - JUNE 5

Dr. Ben Carson is coming to Shreveport on Thursday, June 5 to sign copies of his new book ONE NATION: What We Can All Do To Save America's Future. ONE NATION is a clarion call to return to our historic culture of personal responsibility in order to solve the expanding list of America's ills. In his journey from poverty to the top of his field, Dr. Carson has lived the American dream. He shows how we can save that dream for future generations by restoring a moral, informed citizenry that will support "one nation, under God, indivisible." For more information, please visit: <http://realben Carson.com/one-nation-tour-dates/>. Here's the location and time:

**Thursday, June 5th - 7:30 PM**  
Lifeway - 7050 Youree Drive  
Shreveport, LA 71105  
[318-797-7685](tel:318-797-7685)

## LAGOP SETS UP IN S'PORT

The Louisiana GOP has established several regional offices this election year, around the state, including here in Shreveport at 910 Pierremont Road, Suite 216, 71106. Kyle Lacroix is the Northwest Louisiana Regional Political Director for the LAGOP. To join the effort and get involved, please contact [kyle@lagop.com](mailto:kyle@lagop.com), or just stop by.



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Shreveport, LA 71105

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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](mailto: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](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 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](mailto:robinsbirdnest@yahoo.com) for reservations (RSVPs, please, by Wednesdays prior to meeting). Men are welcome as associates.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- June 3** - GOP Luncheon, Jim Donelon
- June 5** - Dr. Ben Carson visits
- June 17** - PRWC dinner
- June 18** - WRC luncheon
- June 19** - PEC meeting, 6:30  
Piccadilly Cafeteria
- June 24** - 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 at [louisavallone@mac.com](mailto:louisavallone@mac.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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| • Vice Chairman                   | Barry Rachal      | 469-2277 | • Women's Republican Club of S'port  | Linda Brooks    | 294-3775     |
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| • Caddo/Bossier Republican Office |                   | 797-1777 | • Webmaster                          | Allen Marsalis  | 841-0199     |

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