



# THE CADDO REPUBLICAN



MARCH 2015

EDITOR: LOUIS R. AVALLONE

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## Caddo Parish Commission Covered Up In Controversy

### THIS MONTH'S MEETING

Speaker for this month's luncheon at **12 noon on Tuesday, March 3, 2015** at the Wyndam Garden Hotel (formerly the Clarion Hotel) on E. 70th Street will be **Caddo Parish Commissioner Mike Thibodeaux.**

From the controversial issues regarding Elio Motors, to the Commission's attempts to raise taxes and increase the number of consecutive years that commissioners may serve, as well the most recent allegation that the Caddo Parish Commission created and unanimously voted themselves into "CPERS," the Caddo Parish Employees Retirement



System in 2000, which was unconstitutional then, and continues to be unconstitutional now, there's a lot to talk about, and Commissioner Thibodeaux will take your tough questions, and hopefully provide some insight into what's really going on. Most recently, the Parish filed a lawsuit against the state asking a judge to determine if contributing to "CPERS" on behalf of commissioners does not violate a Louisiana constitutional provision. The suit was filed in the 1st Judicial District Court.

Elected in 2008 to the Commission, Mike has a B.A. in Economics from Louisiana Tech University and a Masters in School Administration from Centenary College. He has been a Real Estate investor for 35 years, retired teacher-coach of 25 years, and a Caddo Parish School board member from 1986 to 2002. He is married 42 years with 1 daughter and 2 granddaughters.

Reservations not required. Eating is \$13, no cost to just listen, and free parking.

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Dear Fellow Republicans,

Last November, I poll watched at Sunset Acres Elementary in Shreveport. Arriving shortly after dawn, I was inspired, as the sunrise turned to mid-day.

It was like having a front row seat to the goodness of God. After all, Thomas Jefferson said, "God who gave us life, gave us liberty," and there is perhaps no better expression of this than by voting, and making each of our voices heard, which together, sounds like a symphony.

That night, however, my inspiration turned to desperation, as I realized that the votes at my precincts were more lopsided than the Titanic, just before its bow submerged beneath the surface of the cold waters of the Atlantic Ocean.

How, I wondered to myself, could the black community vote so overwhelmingly (95%) for the same party, and for the same candidates? I know they must see that the government programs, implemented 50 years ago, that were intended to help them, have actually hampered the prosperity of their community, and eroded the opportunities that would have otherwise been available to them?

They know that in 1960, only 22% of blacks children were born into single parent families, but that after the Democrat-led welfare programs of the Great Society, that the illegitimacy rate in the black community has tripled to almost 70%.

They know that the unemployment rate among young black men in the late 1940s was not only far lower than it is today, but was nearly the same as the unemployment rates among young whites the same ages.

Don't they know that the average black 12th-grader has the academic achievement level of the average white seventh- or

eighth-grader (according to the National Assessment of Educational Progress).

And for anyone that doesn't know these facts, it's up to us, as Republicans, to tell them. As Republicans, all we can only offer "to do" for the black community is to get government off their backs, and get out of their way, so that they can pursue happiness.

So while the Democrats have been "doing things" for the black community all these years, the poverty rates, unemployment rates, illegitimacy rates, income inequality, and declining education standards have all worsened in the black community, and primarily in the fifty (50) years since the Great Society programs were initiated.

In closing, and as always, I'd like to ask you to consider making a contribution to the Caddo Republican Parish Executive Committee, or to volunteer your time. Your support helps maintain a local office, publish a monthly newsletter, and conduct important Party-building activities aimed to recruit, as well as support Party members throughout the parish.

Contributions of any amount, from \$50 to \$100 to \$200 (and higher) 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).

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration – especially before an entire generation forgets the principles upon which our nation was founded – and which still make America the "shining city upon a hill".

Very truly yours,

*Louis R. Avallone*

## DEMOCRATS DOWNED (AGAIN)

Two Republicans made the run-off for the state House of Representatives in District 66 last month, with the lone Democrat, Susan Nelson, finishing at just 11%. Nelson, who actually ran as "no party" to disguise her Democrat affiliation, is the former communications director for the Louisiana Democratic Party. A whopping 89% of the voters chose a Republican over Nelson in an embarrassing defeat for the liberal party. This raises serious questions about Democrat morale and tactics in post-Landrieu Louisiana.

"We are witnessing a complete collapse of the Democrat Party in this state," said LAGOP Chairman Roger Villere. "Republicans swept three of the four House seats this evening. Democrat voters outnumber Republicans by a 2-to-1 margin in District 49, yet the Democrat Party failed to even qualify a candidate to run," he said.

Republicans retained House Districts 8 and 49. Blake Miguez was elected in Acadiana in District 49 and Mike Johnson was unopposed in the Northwest Louisiana District 8. "Mike Johnson and Blake Miguez are both sharp, intelligent young conservatives who offer a wealth of expertise on these important issues," Villere said. "I congratulate them on their elections and look forward to working with them," Villere said.

## MEDALLION CLUB

*Now, Contribute By Credit Card Too*

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: Gary Moore, Austin G. Robertson, Jr., Dee Simpson, Jim and Martha Allen, and Harold and Margaret Coates. Supporter: Olive Stuart, Elmo Norton, and Blanca Collins.**



## STUPID IS AS STUPID DOES

Ridiculousness is contagious and it's reaching epidemic levels – especially with the nonsense thinking in our society that places more value on how something looks or feels, rather than what it is actually. Does it bother you that our president is more concerned with “showing” the world that Americans are united together to fight ISIS terrorists, instead of him simply freeing up our military commanders to go break things and kill the bad guys (instead of just “showing” the bad guys how united we are in spirit)? And does it bother you that NBC anchor Brian Williams wanted to look more heroic when said his helicopter was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade as he was covering the Iraq war in 2003 (when it really didn't), or when Hillary Clinton said she landed in Bosnia in 1996 under sniper fire (when there wasn't any)? Or when Connecticut Sen. Richard Blumenthal wanted to appear as a war hero and said he served in Vietnam (when he hadn't). If any of these examples bother you, speak out, be heard. There's more people who think like we do than we might realize. And like fleas, roaches, rats, rust, and termites, if you say nothing, or ignore the problem, it will only become worse. So don't be silent about things that matter, and call it like it is, no matter what side of the aisle you are on.

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1941-C East 70th Street  
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

- March 3** - GOP Luncheon, Caddo Commissioner Mike Thibodeaux
- March 17** - PRWC dinner
- March 18** - WRC luncheon
- March 19** - PEC meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- March 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 [louisavallone@caddogop.com](mailto: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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| • 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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