



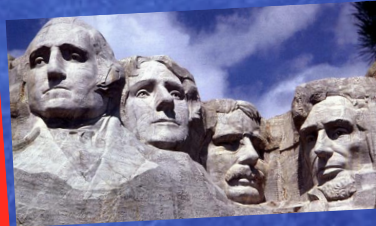
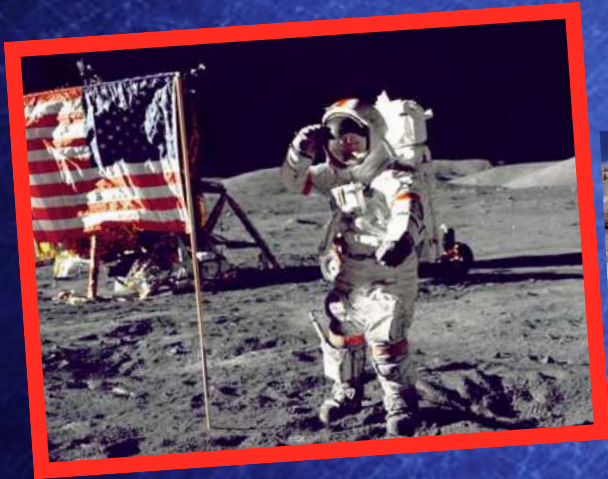
THE CADDO REPUBLICAN



JUNE 2016

EDITOR: LOUIS R. AVALLONE

VOLUME 22, EDITION 6



**Where there is no vision...
the people perish.**

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

Our guest speaker for this month's luncheon at **12 noon on Tuesday, June 7, 2016** at the Wyndam Garden Hotel on E. 70th Street will be **candidate for the 4th Congressional District, Rick John.**

John, a Republican, is a founding partner in the law firm of Smith & John, and a partner in Landmark Title Group of Shreveport. "We need to put America's house in order," says John, "We need members of Congress who are completely honest about the problems facing our nation and who will work to find solutions; we need problem solvers, not whiners."

"I am a husband, father and businessman. I do not want to sit idly by as our economy declines, our constitutional rights are eroded, our borders are ignored, and our infrastructure fails. We can do better in America. We don't need politicians who only pander to special interests to win personal fame. We don't need politicians who want to join Washington. I will be a Congressman willing to fight Washington to release the stranglehold our government has on all Americans." said John about his candidacy. John, a champion for our veterans, is the former Vice-Chairman of the Board of

Trustees for Soldiers' Angels. Soldiers' Angels is a national organization that provides support to U.S. military soldiers on active duty,



wounded, veterans, and their families. He also served Soldiers' Angels as the National Guard Liaison, as chairman of the Hurricane Katrina relief fund and as legal counsel. For his compassion and commitment to the Armed Forces, John was awarded the Louisiana National Guard Distinguished Civilian Service Medal **and the Military Bloggers Recognition Award.**

John, 47, is married to pediatrician, Dr. Angela Cush-John, and they have three children. A lifelong resident of Shreveport, he graduated from Loyola College Preparatory in 1986 and received his Bachelor of Arts in 1990 from Tulane University and in 1993, John earned his Juris Doctor from Louisiana State University. **Join us Tuesday** and let's visit. Reservations not required. Eating is \$13 and listening is free.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Dear Fellow Republicans,

There's an old saying, "Tell me to what you pay attention and I will tell you who you are." So, who are you? Who are we, I mean, as a country?

We pay attention to what Miley Cyrus twerks, what Jay-Z and Beyonce say, and a hundred other insignificant matters, but fewer than half of all Americans know that there are three branches of government, or can even name them. We obsess over an American dentist who shot a lion named Cecil in Zimbabwe and a bison calf that had to be euthanized in Yellowstone National Park, but don't even give more than a glancing look at the almost one million abortions that are performed every year in our country – even with organizations like Planned Parenthood chopping up and selling baby body parts, like a poultry processor, and yet a majority of Americans still view Planned Parenthood favorably and want the federal government funding for them to continue.

Are you kidding me? But I get it, in a way, though. It's easy to get spread out too thin, and get distracted from what's most important. And sometimes the urgent in our life wins out over the important.

Like how too many in our country are obsessed with making it more acceptable, and accessible, for grown men to go to the restroom alongside our aging mothers and young daughters. The media and Washington, D.C. crowd choose to focus more on the 0.3 percent of the population in our country that could be uncomfortable going into the restroom of their natural, physical gender, even though there are 40 million more of our young daughters (who are under 18) that may now feel uncomfortable themselves going into the restroom, as a result.

But what about getting uncomfortable about the senseless killings in our communities? Or generational poverty, or rising incarceration rates? What about becoming uncomfortable with rising unemployment, or a generation of Americans growing up without fathers, or the risk of terrorism here at home?

Bottom line, you can't do big things if you don't know what the big things are in the first place, and you can't know what those big things are if you're distracted by all the small things. It's a bit of a chicken-in-the-egg situation, here.

It's like when President Kennedy told Congress in 1961, "I believe that this nation should commit itself to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to the earth."

That was a "big thing," and with that vision, Kennedy directed the attention of a country toward what was important, and mobilized the best and brightest our country had to offer, in the process. From medical imaging, to enhanced dialysis, and even the cordless vacuum – all were the result of our country's commitment to doing a "big thing."

What "big thing" is our country doing today? Or, are we so distracted by the insignificant that we are focused on "no thing"? If you feel we're not doing any "big thing" in our country today, maybe it's time we start focusing on the lack of leaders in our country, elected or otherwise, who have forgotten that leaders become great, not because of their power, but because of their ability to empower others.

This is no doubt what causes too many of us to have a sense of helplessness, or to feel we have no influence on what happens in our lives. But it's not entirely our fault. In fact, Margaret Thatcher once lamented about Great Britain that "we are governed by people who care more about feelings than they do about thoughts and ideas."

If the same is true about America today, this cannot end well for any American, for freedom anywhere, or the legacy of so many that fought and died protecting this experiment in liberty called America.

After all, the Bible says, "Where there is no vision, the people perish." But if we don't pay attention long enough to see what really matters, and are distracted by the inconsequential instead, what other outcome can there be?

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).

Very truly yours,

Louis R. Avallone

MEDALLION CLUB, NEW CLUBS

Join The Ranks!

The 2016 Medallion Club membership drive is roaring 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. **Gold Medallion:** Jean Laster, Austin G. Robertson, Jr., Harold Coates, PRWC. **Medallion:** Jim Allen, Martha Allen, Sylvia Norton, Steve Riall, Jack Daniel, and Olive Stuart.

The Caddo GOP has also introduced new ways to get involved and support your local Caddo Republican Party efforts. We'll include more information in our July newsletter, but you can learn more by visiting <http://new.caddogop.com/donor-clubs>. Thanks to **Creighton Light** for being the very first **Chairman's Circle Club** member, and **Harold and Margaret Coates** for being our very first **Ronald Reagan Club Member**. Without the generous support of our faithful members, our Party's presence in Caddo Parish would be greatly diminished.

DON'T BE DEFINED BY OTHERS

If you grow weary of the Republican Party being characterized as nearly always composed of white, angry, Protestant men, while the Democrat Party is portrayed as tolerant and progressive, then use this handy guide to help define for others what we believe as Republicans. Do you know the Republican Oath? Feel free to copy and paste the following link into your emails and texts to friends and family, including any liberal ones, and define who you are, in writing! Here is the link: <http://new.caddogop.com/the-republican-oath/>. Here's also a partial listing, but please visit the website for the complete listing:

- I believe that the proper function of government is to do for the people those things that have to be done but cannot be done, or cannot be done as well by individuals, and that the most effective government is government closest to the people.

- I believe that good government is based on the individual and that each person's ability, dignity, freedom and responsibility must be honored and recognized.
- I believe in equal rights, equal justice and equal opportunity for all, regardless of race, creed, age, sex or national origin. I believe that persons with disabilities should be afforded equal rights, equal justice and equal opportunity as well.
- Finally, I believe that the Republican Party is the best vehicle for translating these ideals into positive and successful principles of government.

THESE TRUTHS ARE SELF-EVIDENT?

Democrat and Shreveport legislator says students should not recite the Declaration of Independence because it was written when slavery still existed. State Representative Barbara Norton argued against a bill that would require fourth through sixth graders to recite a part of the founding document. Norton says she fought the bill because the Declaration of Independence was written when blacks were not free. "For the Declaration of Independence only Caucasians (were) free, and for you to bring a bill to require that our children will recite the Declaration of Independence, I think it's a little bit unfair," Norton said on the floor of the Louisiana House. Norton went on to say the Declaration was not even "validated" and that the bill was "unfair." Really?

NEW CADDO GOP WEBSITE LAUNCHES

The Caddo Parish Republican Party has launched an updated version of its website at www.caddogop.com. "Our new website leverages compelling visual imagery to drive our party's messages and makes it easy and simple to find important information voters need," stated Caddo Republican Chair Louis R. Avallone. "It's all a part of our Caddo RPEC's goal to enhance our communication with Caddo Parish voters and establish a more powerful presence for everyone to learn more about who we are as Republicans, what we're saying, and what we're doing to promote a better future for our community, and our country." New features include online sign-up to our Caddo GOP emailing list, including newsletter subscription, an expanded Republican Party history center, and a contacts directory of Louisiana public officials and Party leaders, Republican organizations, as well as an online portal to join any of our donor clubs, or to volunteer your time and talents to help.

THE CADDO REPUBLICAN

1941-C East 70th Street
Shreveport, LA 71105

PRSR STD
US Postage
PAID
Shreveport, LA
Permit No. 350

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 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

June 6	- D Day, WWII
June 7	- GOP Luncheon, Rick John
June 14	- Flag Day
June 16	- PEC Meeting
June 16	- Desoto RPEC
June 19	- Father's Day
June 21	- PRWC dinner
June 22	- WRC luncheon
June 28	- RWB Meeting

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

• 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