



THE CADDO REPUBLICAN



MAY 2014

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More Taxes, More Debt

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

Speaker for this month's luncheon at **12 noon** on **Tuesday, May 6** at the Clarion Hotel on E. 70th Street with be **YOU**.

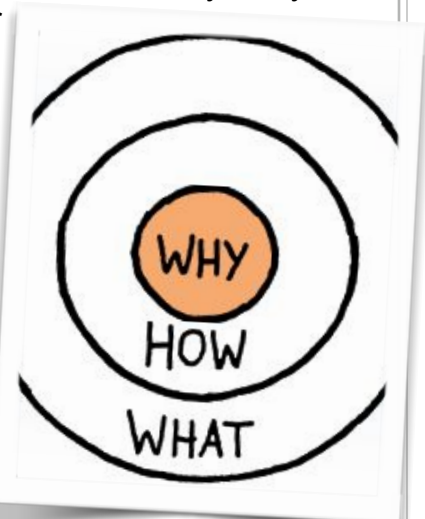
Yes, you! For what is likely the first time in our luncheon's history, the guest speaker will be — you!

Why? Well, it's simple really. We want to shape the future, for the strongest Republican Party in Caddo Parish, for many generations to come.

This requires Party members to have clear objectives, and a clear message, which reflects our passion, and why we believe what we do, as Republicans. Have you ever felt like no one really "got" you? Well, it's likely because you



can only communicate your passion to others when it becomes crystal clear to you. When it's clear to you, you can make it clear to others, and others will follow you or otherwise support your cause or join your group. In his book, *Start With Why*, Simon Sinek says, "People connect to your why before they connect to your what".



So that's "why" we're going to have a fast-paced, energetic, and interactive luncheon, that will call upon you to share your opinions, to shape the future path of the Republican Party in Caddo Parish.

In the meantime, please consider the following:

All organizations function on three levels: 1) What you do, 2) how you do it, and 3) why you do it. Most organizations, however, don't clearly know "why" their organization exists. And the "why" for a political organization, such as ours, does not mean "to get votes" — that is a result of what we do. The "why" is our purpose, our cause, or our belief. When the "why" is clear to everyone, it separates the successful organizations from all the rest.

This is why some organizations are able to inspire — and others aren't. Innovative organizations are not defined by what they do; they are defined by why they exist.

And while that may be clear to you already, the more clear it becomes, for everyone, then the more likely it will be that others will join us, and support our conservative principles in Caddo Parish because they simply "get it".

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

FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Dear Fellow Republicans,

We have a real opportunity ahead of us to shape the future of the Republican Party in Caddo Parish, for many generations to come. I hope that you will make a special effort to attend the May luncheon. We will spend a fast-paced hour identifying what is most important to those who volunteer their time, and contribute their hard-earned dollars, to support Republican candidates and causes in Caddo Parish.

Voter participation levels are at historic lows throughout our country, compared to the political partisanship throughout the late nineteenth century which led to consistent turnouts of over 90% of the electorate. Back then, mobilizing voters was the basic campaign strategy. To find new supporters, politicians systematically canvassed their communities, talking up the state and national issues of the day.

We still do that today, but the methods have changed, from Facebook to Twitter to blogs.

And if current trends continue, it will not be long before half of the national voting age population will identify itself as unaffiliated with either major party, and dropping any kind of party label at all.

Remember that those who start with "why" never manipulate, they inspire. And the people who follow them don't do so because they have to; they follow because they want to.

This is "why" it is so important that you not only attend our May luncheon, but you bring along a like-minded friend, who is purpose-driven like you, to shape the path for the future of Caddo Parish.

Louis R. Avallone

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. **Medallion Members:** Jim and Martha Allen, Harold and Margaret Coates, Jack Daniel, Barrow Peacock, and Olive G. Stuart.



CADDO'S CLIMBING TAXES

The rich just get richer. If there was ever any question about that statement, the Caddo Parish Commission has certainly put it to rest now. And not only are the rich getting richer, they are doing so with your money, and more of it than ever before in history. And who are the rich here? The Caddo Parish Commission.

You see, there's a special election being held on Saturday, May 3 in Caddo Parish to increase taxes on every Caddo Parish family by \$333, or \$23 million overall, supposedly needed to make improvements to parish roads, parks, and other facilities. But that's a false argument, because the premise is that without the \$23 million, potholes will become deeper, and children will have no

place to play. That's simply not true, though. In fact, the Commission already has on hand \$160 million in cash currently, according to demographer and pollster Elliott Stonecipher – and all the while, Caddo Parish families are still paying the highest property taxes of any other parish in Louisiana. History is littered with communities where higher property taxes have provided disincentives to start businesses, or expand existing ones.

Look at cities like Detroit. They went bankrupt largely because elected officials continued borrowing money, even while population growth and property values declined. The same is true for Cleveland, Buffalo, St. Louis, and even Washington, D.C.

If it's true, as Will Rogers said, that "we should be thankful that we're not getting all the government we're paying for," then the residents of Caddo Parish must consider themselves the most thankful citizens in our great state.

LANDRIEU ETHICS COMPLAINT

A Louisiana Republican political activist is filing an ethics complaint against Sen. Mary Landrieu (D-LA) for filming a campaign advertisement in the Louisiana statehouse. Landrieu made headlines after it was discovered that she re-created and filmed a scene from one of her United States Senate hearings for a political advertisement. The scene was reportedly filmed in a room in the Louisiana statehouse. In an April 29 letter to the Senate ethics committee, Ursula Marie Anderson says Landrieu may have broken Senate ethics rules by filming in a state-funded building, which could constitute an improper contribution to her campaign.

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If you are an email subscriber to the newsletter, please don't forget to advise the editor (louisavallone@mac.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 Azalea Room of Good Eats, 2177 Airline Drive. "Meet and Greet" starts at 5:30 p.m. Meals are \$19.00. Listening is free. Call Robin Rue-Graves (965-5001), robinsbirdnest@yahoo.com for reservations (RSVPs, please, by Wednesdays prior to meeting). Men are welcome as associates.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- May 3** - Election Day
- May 6** - GOP Luncheon, "A Purpose Driven Party"
- May 15** - PEC meeting, 6:30
Piccadilly Cafeteria
- May 20** - PRWC dinner
- May 21** - WRC luncheon
- May 27** - 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. 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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|-----------------------------------|-------------------|----------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
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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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