



# Lady Republican

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE  
REPUBLICAN WOMEN OF SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA



## **James Waskom– Director of Governor’s Office of Homeland Security ~**

James Waskom, was appointed by Governor John Bel Edwards on January 11, 2016 as the Director of the Governor’s Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP). Through GOHSEP, Director Waskom is responsible for homeland security and emergency and disaster preparedness and response for the State of Louisiana. His office coordinates the State’s activities to prepare for – prevent where possible – respond to, recover from

and mitigate against emergencies or disaster events.

As Director of GOHSEP and in carrying out his responsibilities for homeland security and emergency and disaster response and recovery, Waskom **coordinates** the activities of *all* agencies and organizations within the State and maintains **liaison** and **cooperates** with agencies and organizations of **other States** and of the **Federal Government**. He acts on behalf of the Governor in the event of an emergency or disaster as **Deputy Incident Commander** of the **Unified Command Group** (UCG). He is appointed by the Governor as the **Homeland Security Advisor** (HSA) for Louisiana and the **Governor’s Authorized Representative** (GAR) with FEMA. He directs the activities of statewide interoperability projects and serves on the **Regional Parish Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Directors Subcommittee** (Regional Directors Subcommittee).

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR LUNCH**

### Newsletter Staff

Editor-  
Roby Dyer

Co-editors -  
Janice Areno,  
Birdie Harter

Photography –  
Jacqui Tarbell

Deadline for submissions-  
2nd Thursday of the month

Thursday, February 25  
Buffet Lunch @ 11:30 am  
Regular Meeting @ 12:00 -1:00 pm

**Reeves Uptown Catering**  
1639-B Ryan St., Lake Charles, LA

**Guest Speaker - James Waskom**

Reservations by Tuesday February 23  
contact Marsha 842-4220 or  
[mlspear59@att.net](mailto:mlspear59@att.net)

*James Waskom, cont'd (information from <http://gohsep.la.gov>)*

Director Waskom is a retired Colonel in the U.S. Army who served the United States for 33 years, including three combat tours during Operations Desert Storm and Iraqi Freedom/New Dawn, totaling 30 months in a combat zone. During that time, he was the leader of two organizations directly responsible for the safety and welfare of more than 50,000 soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, Department of Defense civilians and foreign national workers. He previously owned his own law firm and practiced in the Acadiana region. He worked as a contract attorney with 15th Judicial District Court's Indigent Defender's Office. He is a former prosecutor in the 19th Judicial District and Inspector General of the Louisiana National Guard. He has a Master of Strategic Studies, MSS from the United States Army War College, a Juris Doctor, Law from Louisiana State University and is a Licensed Attorney.

Under his leadership, GOHSEP is managing approximately **\$18 billion** in Federal grants and more than 4,800 applicants involved in FEMA's grant programs for more than 35,000 separate projects.

Louisiana is a high-risk State for **emergency events** and disasters. In addition to numerous natural disasters – **hurricanes, floods, high winds** and **others** – that threaten our State, we are home to **critical supply routes** and **energy production resources** that are attractive targets for man-made disruptions.

**The Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP)** was created by an act of the Louisiana Legislature – Louisiana Revised Statute (LRS) Title 29:725, the [Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act \(Louisiana Disaster Act\)](#). We are the agency responsible for **coordinating** the State's efforts throughout the **emergency management cycle** to **prepare** for, **prevent** where possible, **respond** to, **recover** from and **mitigate** against to lessen the effects of **man-made** or **natural disasters** that threaten our State.

### Emergency Management Cycle



Louisiana's Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) – a state-of-the-art command and control center – is operated within and staffed by GOHSEP. The State's response during an emergency or disaster is managed through the SEOC. When activated, the SEOC serves as a central operations center for emergency response.

The SEOC serves as the state Multi Agency Coordination Center (MACC) in order to coordinate and synchronize state agency and federal agency response to all incidents.

#### Mission

To lead and support Louisiana and its citizens in the **preparation** for, **response** to and **recovery** from all **emergencies** and **disasters**.

#### Vision

To be a center of **excellence** for emergency management and homeland security known for **leadership, innovation** and **service** for the benefit of Louisiana, its citizens and all other stakeholders.

## Spring Presidential Preference Primary and Municipal Elections

- early voting is Feb. 20th through the 27th (except Sunday and holidays) from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. for the Mar. 5th primary election; and
- early voting is Mar. 26th through Apr. 2nd (except Sunday and holidays) from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. for the Apr. 9th general election.



## March 5 Presidential Preference Primary Election Quick Facts

### PURPOSE OF THIS ELECTION

The primary purpose of this statewide election is for voters of the major parties (Democratic & Republican) to express their preference for a person to be the nominee of the party for President of the United States and to elect members to their state central committee and parish executive committees. In addition, some parishes will also have Municipal, Special or Proposition Elections.

### POLLING INFORMATION

#### DATE:

**March 5, 2016**

#### BE PREPARED:

Polling Locations and Sample Ballots are available 2-3 weeks prior to the election using our [GeauxVote App](#) or [Voter Portal](#). Other voting information is available at [www.GeauxVote.com](http://www.GeauxVote.com)

## INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ELECTION

### ELECTION TIMES

POLLS OPEN: 7 AM

POLLS CLOSE: 8 PM



### LOUISIANA AT A GLANCE

The following 24 parishes also have Municipal, Special or Proposition Elections:

**Acadia, Beauregard, Caddo, Caldwell, Catahoula, Concordia, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Evangeline, Iberville, Jackson, Jefferson, Lafourche, Livingston, Morehouse,**

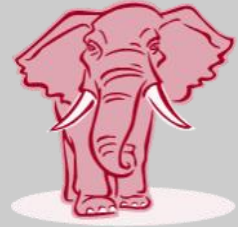
#### Important election dates:

Feb. 3 - registration deadline  
 Feb. 20 - early voting begins\*  
 Feb. 27 - early voting ends\*  
 Mar. 1 - last day to request ballot  
 Mar. 5 - election day, unofficial results  
 Mar. 17 - official results

Mar. 9 - last day to request a recount  
 Mar. 14- last day to contest candidate election  
 Apr. 18 -last day to contest a proposition  
 May 16 –last day to contest a tax proposition

\*except Sundays & Holidays

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS



### Upcoming Events

**Tuesday, February 23, Noon**  
Reservation deadline for luncheon meeting

**Thursday, February 25, 11:30 am**  
Monthly luncheon meeting

**Tuesday, March 1, 6:00 pm**  
Prepare packages for the Troops  
Faith Temple, 1200 Patton St., Sulphur

**February 20-27, 8:30am-6:00 pm**  
Early voting, except Sunday

**Saturday, March 5, 7:00 am-8:00 pm**  
Primary Election

**LFRW Spring Board Meeting**  
New Orleans  
Dates and location coming soon

### Republican State Central Committee race

Three of our SWLA Republican Women are currently running for the Republican State Central Committee race. In Senator Blade Morrish's District 25, Roby Dyer is running in Div. B and Jackie Hebert is running in Div. C, In Senator Chris Hazell's District 27, Sharon Galicia is running in Div. C.  
Please consider supporting our members!

### Web site and Facebook pictures

We need your help! So many of us get caught up in the moment that we miss great photo ops of our social events. If you attend one of these and have your cell phone, snap a quick photo and send it to **Tina Mosca, 337-794-8187 & Jackie Hebert, 337-794-0778**. They

***Check us out on the web!***



*Republican Women of  
Southwest Louisiana*



# JANUARY 2016 MEETING



**Republican Women of Southwest Louisiana  
Monthly meeting November 19, 2015  
Reeves Uptown Catering**



The meeting was called to order by president, Roby Dyer. Janice Areno led the invocation. Jackie Hebert led the Pledge of Allegiance

New Business:

Martha Hains gave an update on the membership committee. New members were recognized and all guests were welcomed.

Guest Speaker:

Jackie Hebert introduced former State Representative Brett Geymann.

- Brett served in state government for the past 12 years and term limited out.
- He was not always on board with our former Governors and spoke on several issues that he felt could have been done better to make our state budget more in line.
- He stated several times that we all need to be in contact with our Representatives and to stay involved as much as possible.
- He let us know that we will be asked to increase taxes and may see some more cuts in Health and Education.
- He feels we should look at what is the best return for our money and the state should be held accountable for their spending. He also said credits and tax increases need to make sense.
- He is against Common Core. He said we should continue to send emails and make calls to our Representatives to try to get some control over.

The floor was then opened for questions and discussion. There were many great questions, discussions and ideas on what Louisiana will be facing for 2016.

Roby thanked Mr. Geymann, presented him with a plaque and a OneTouch pillow for his time and generosity in attending our meeting.

Announcements-

- Membership Social, Thursday February 18, 2016, Blue Dog Café, 5p.m.
- Continue to send Corresponding Secretary alerts to Beth Morris
- Fundraiser luncheon for Charles Boustany, February 18 from noon-1pm at the Lake Charles Country Club.
- Volunteer opportunities for Trump and Cruz campaigns.

Closing Remarks:

Door prizes were donated by Ruth Giaimis and Martha Hains. The meeting was adjourned.

Recording Secretary Martha Polk

# Republican Women of Southwest Louisiana Membership Application / Renewal Form

YOU MUST BE A REGISTERED REPUBLICAN TO JOIN

**PLEASE PRINT**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. # \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone (opt): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday(month/day): \_\_\_\_\_

\*Permission to include your e-mail address in our club directory? **Yes** **No**

Referred by: \_\_\_\_\_ Are you a member of another LFRW club? \_\_\_\_\_

\*Renewing Members: if any contact information above has changed, please mark it with \*.

## Committees or Interests – Check all that apply. Thanks!

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership (recruiting, recording)                     | <b>CAMPAIGN WORK:</b>                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising and Event Planning                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Clerical                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative Issues                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Voter Registration       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Information Technology (newsletter, website, Facebook) | <input type="checkbox"/> Door-to-door             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Service                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Phone Bank               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations (publicity, liaison w/media)          | <input type="checkbox"/> Yard Signs               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archiving, Photography, Scrapbooking                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer at Campaign HQ |

**Please list other clubs, other interests, or comments/questions on reverse of this application.**

### Membership Dues: (Check one)

- RENEWAL – \$30/yr** (Renewal period: Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> – Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>. Renewal dues after Dec 31<sup>st</sup> - \$35.)
- NEW – \$30/yr** (Joining Oct 1<sup>st</sup> – Dec 31<sup>st</sup> covers your membership dues for the following year.)
- ASSOCIATE – \$15/yr** (For a male Republican **or** an active member of another LFRW club.)

**Paid by:** cash (\$\_\_\_\_\_) **OR** check (\$\_\_\_\_\_ check # \_\_\_\_\_)

**Make Check Payable To: RWSWL      Mail To: P.O. Box 754 Lake Charles, LA 70602**

**SIGNATURE** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE** \_\_\_\_\_