

#### THE OFFICAL NEWSLETTER OF THE REPUBLICAN WOMEN OF SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA

### **Senator Sharon Hewitt**

#### Welcome

#### **New Members!**

- Samantha Jones
- Mackie Poe
- Stephanie Lavergne
- Faye Nunn
- Kimberly Trent
- Angelia Snider
- Lynell Hymel
- Patty Harper
- Kim Tassin
- lackie Glover
- Janice Ackley
- Kathy Colpitts

#### Newsletter Contributors

<u>Editor</u> Sarah Lavergne

#### Co-Editors

Roby Dyer Janice Areno Sharon Denson

Stephanie Lavergne Birdie Harter

#### **Photography**

Jacqui Tarbell

Deadline for submissions is the 1st Thursday of the month. Senator Sharon Hewitt is a Lake Charles native and a lifelong Republican. As a state senator she has focused on stabilizing the state budget, improving education, creating jobs, investing in infrastructure, advocating for families, and restoring Louisiana's coast. She currently serves as vice-chair of the Senate Transportation, Highways & Public Works Committee, and is a member of the Senate Environmental Quality Committee, the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget, and the Senate Finance Committee, which oversees the state budgeting process. Senator Hewitt also has a strong voice on how coastal restoration dollars are spent as a member of the Governor's Advisory Commission for the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority and the Select Committee on



Coastal Restoration and Flood Control. As a member of both the Select Committee on Women and Children and the Louisiana Policy and Research Commission, Hewitt advocates for policies that will improve the lives of women and children throughout the state. Senator Hewitt also represents the state of Louisiana on two important national energy panels - the Southern Legislative Conference (SLC) Energy and Environment Committee and the Energy Council. During the 2016 legislative sessions Senator Hewitt proved to be a strong voice for businesses and families, having received awards and recognition from the SWLA Economic Development Alliance, the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry, the National Federation of Independent Business, the Louisiana Engineering Society, and the Louisiana Family Forum for her work. Sen. Hewitt holds a bachelor of science in mechanical engineering from LSU. Prior to being elected to the Louisiana State Senate. she worked as an engineering executive, managing major deepwater assets in the Gulf of Mexico for Shell. She is also a recognized civic and community leader with decades of volunteer service to area children and families. Senator Hewitt married her husband, Stan, over 30 years ago and they have proudly raised two sons, Chris and Brad. They are longtime members of Aldersgate United Methodist Church in Slidell. Senate District 1 includes portions of St. Tammany, Orleans, St. Bernard and Plaguemines parishes.

# Join us for Lunch

Thursday, March 23, 2017 Buffet Lunch-11:30 AM General Meeting-12:00-1:00 PM

Reeves Uptown Catering 1639-B Ryan St. Lake Charles, LA Guest Speaker– Senator Sharon Hewitt

RSVP by Tuesday, March 21, 2017 Marsha Spear-(337) 842-4220 <u>mlspear59@att.net</u>

# **Announcements & Events**

**Tuesday, March 21, Noon** Reservation deadline for luncheon meeting

Thursday, March 23, 11:30 am Monthly luncheon meeting

Saturday, March 11, 2017, 8:30 am- 6:00 pm Early voting begins

Saturday, March 18, 2017, 8:30 am – 6:00 pm Early voting ends

Saturday, March 25, 2017, 7:00 am– 8:00 pm Spring Municipal Election **LFRW Spring Biennial Convention March 10-13, 2017** Shreveport, LA - More info will follow

**RPEC Meetings** Third Thursday of Every Month 5:30 pm Central Library, 2nd Floor

**City Council Meetings** 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month - 5:30, City Council Chambers, 326 Pujo St.

**Police Jury Meetings** 1st Thursday of each month, 5:30 1015 Pithon St.

## Member of the Month—Roby Dyer



Roby Dyer is our March Member of the Month! She also happens to be our new Regional Vice President for the LFRW.

#### How did you join the Republican Women of SWLA?

After my children left for college and with Syd working long hours at the hospital, I was looking for the right organization to volunteer. I always had an interest in politics and wanted to know more about the candidates that were running for office, as well as any other items on the ballot. The RW of SWLA was a perfect fit for me.

## What does a day in the life of Roby Dyer look like outside of being an awesome

#### **Republican Woman?**

My day starts with a cup of coffee and walking our miniature pinscher, Dalton. Then we have 7 horses to take care of, Rocky, Ana, Glory, Stormy, Jacquesimo, Sadie, & Chet. I try to fit in a workout before whatever the day brings. It may be playing with my 4-year-old granddaughter, Leah, or taking care of RW & RPEC duties. Most days are full.

#### What's a fun fact that people may not know about you?

I love sea turtles! We booked a sailing trip 2 years ago in St. Thomas just to swim with them. I would love to see them hatch and run to the ocean. It's on the bucket list!

#### What's your favorite thing about the Republican Women of SWLA?

The camaraderie. We all have different personalities that somehow work well together. I have made so many great friends through the RW of SWLA as well as LFRW and NFRW.



#### PAGE 2

# **LFRW 32nd Biennial Convention**

Some of our amazing Republican Women hit the road headed for the LFRW 32nd Biennial Convention in Shreveport, Louisiana. We are proud to announce that Roby Dyer was elected Region 3 Vice-President and the Republican Women of Southwest Louisiana received first place in seven categories. Our club also participated in the convention's market where our booth, managed by Gina Jones, sold over \$1,000 of merchandise. Congratulations to Roby and everyone else who has worked to make our organization such a success.











# Spring 2017 Municipal Election

Primary Election—Saturday, March 25, 2017

Lake Charles Mayor, City Council

Vinton Mayor, City Council, Chief of Police

**Special Election:** Calcasieu Parish School Board, District #12

**Special Election**: City of Sulphur, Councilman, District #3

**Propositions/Tax** City of Westlake, Propositions #1 and #2

> Polls Open at 7:00 am Polls Close at 8:00 pm

#### **Registrar of Voter Information**

Deadline to Register to Vote in person: Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2017 Deadline to Register to Vote online/geauxvote.com: Saturday, March 4, 2017

Early Voting Dates Saturday, March 11, 2017 - Saturday, March 18, 2017 8:30 am - 6:00 pm Daily (Closed Sunday) Lake Charles - Calcasieu Parish Courthouse 2nd Floor Sulphur - Sulphur City Annex

Visit geauxvote.com to view/print your ballot Voter Information may be found at geauxvote.com or by calling Registrar of Voters Office at (337) 721-4000 THE LADY REPUBLICAN

#### PAGE 5



The Republican Women of Southwest Louisiana was chartered in 1990 as an affiliate club of the Louisiana Federation of Republican Women (LFRW) and the National Federation of Republican Women (NFRW). Our club centers around Lake Charles, Louisiana and includes cities within the parishes of Calcasieu and Cameron, although members outside this area may join. Our club belongs to Region 3 of the LFRW. Part of our membership dues are sent to the LFRW and, in turn, to the NFRW. Thus each member of our local club automatically becomes a member of the state and national clubs when we annually send in our membership rolls and dues. Our objectives are to:

- Promote an informed electorate through political education and activity.
- Increase the effectiveness of women in the cause of good government.
- Foster loyalty to the Republican Party and to promote its principles and ideas.
- Support Republican objectives and policies and work for the election of Republican nominees.

### Are You Social? We Are!

#### Like our Facebook Page

Follow us on Instagram @republicanwomenofswla

Follow us on Twitter @RWofSWLA



### Check out our Website!

www.rwswla.com



# February's Luncheon







### Republican Women of Southwest Louisiana Monthly Meeting February 23, 2017 Reeves Uptown Catering

Call to Order- Jackie Hebert

We had 10 new members and special guests were recognized at this time.

#### Guest Speaker: Mayor Candidate for the City of Lake Charles, Nic Hunter

Sister Fontenot gave a brief summary of Mr. Hunter's resume. Mr. Hunter started by announcing he and his wife are expecting their first child. He thanked the Republican women and proceeded to explain how women were a big influence in his life, especially his grandmother. He is looking to the future of Lake Charles and has some great ideas on the way he would run his office, if elected Mayor. He wants to raise revenue without raising taxes by taking advantage of our assets, the lake front, the I-10 corridor, and our deep-water port. He doesn't want to sell our "dirt", but parcel it out to multiple investors with the city leasing to food and beverage. He said we should invest in drainage, roads, and sewer projects while bond rates are low.

#### Announcements:

Jackie Hebert gave a salute to Peggy Buckles who has served for the past 5 years as LFRW Region 3 Vice President and congratulated our Roby Dyer who is running for that position.

We have tickets to sell for the LFRW fundraiser. It will be an alligator hunt weekend with LA Attorney General Jeff Landry. Drawing will be held March 11.

Our RWSWLA club is selling tickets for our 2017 fundraiser/drawing. The first winner will be able to choose either a Glock 43 pistol or a Smith & Wesson M&P Sport II rifle. The second-place winner will receive the remaining gun. The drawing will be held at our August meeting. Get your tickets and more detail from any of our members.

#### **Closing Remarks:**

It is not too late to register for the LFRW Biennial Convention in Shreveport. The deadline is Friday, February 24.

#### **Door Prize Drawing**

Our donors for this month were Rosemary Smith and Diane Gaines

#### Meeting Adjourned

Submitted by Martha Polk, Recording Secretary Be Passionate \* Be Committed

# Republican Women of Southwest Louisiana Membership Application / Renewal Form

YOU MUST BE A REGISTERED REPUBLICAN TO JOIN

#### PLEASE PRINT

| Name:   |             | Spouse I | _Spouse Name:         |  |  |
|---|-------------|----------|-----------------------|--|--|
| Address:  |             |          | Apt. #                |  |  |
| City:   | State:      | Zip      | Parish:               |  |  |
| Home phone:   | Cell phone: |          | Work phone (opt):     |  |  |
| E-mail address:   |             |          | Birthday (month/day): |  |  |
| *Renewing Members: if any contact information above has <u>changed</u> , please mark it with *. |             |          |                       |  |  |

# Committees or Interests – Check all that apply.

| () | Membership (recruiting, recording)                     | CAMPAIGN WORK:        |
|----|--|-----------------------|
| () | Fundraising and Event Planning                         | () Clerical           |
| () | Legislative Issues                                     | () Voter Registration |
| () | Information Technology (newsletter, website, Facebook) | () Door-to-door       |
| () | Community Service                                      | () Phone Bank         |
| () | Public Relations (publicity, liaison w/media)          | () Yard Signs         |

Please list other clubs, other interests, or comments/questions.

#### 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 #\_\_\_\_\_)
 check #\_\_\_\_\_)