



Lady Republican

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
REPUBLICAN WOMEN OF SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA



M. MARC EHRHARDT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GROW LOUISIANA COALITION

Marc Ehrhardt has served as executive director since the Grow Louisiana Coalition's inception in January 2014. With more than 13,000 members, the Grow Louisiana Coalition works to educate and inform the people and elected leaders of Louisiana that the oil and gas industry is essential to the state's economy and essential to the way of life of the 300,000 Louisianans working in and alongside the industry each day.

In previous positions, he managed public affairs, corporate image, national media relations, issues management and crisis management programs in the economic development, retail, financial and manufacturing industries.

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting!

Newsletter Staff

Editor-
Roby Dyer

Co-editors -
Janice Areno,
Birdie Harter
Sharon Denson

Photography -
Jacqui Tarbell

Deadline for submissions-
2nd Thursday of the month

PLEASE JOIN US FOR LUNCH

Thursday, October 22
Buffet Lunch @ 11:30 am
Regular Meeting @ 12:00 -1:00 pm

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

Guest Speaker - Marc Ehrhardt

Reservations by Tuesday October 20
Marsha 337-842-4220 or
mlspear59@att.net

Upcoming Election Information

Fall Gubernatorial Election

The following is important information for the **Nov. 21, 2015 general**:

- **early voting is Nov. 7-14 (except Sunday and holidays) from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. for the Nov. 21st general election.**

Spring Presidential Preference Primary and Municipal Elections

- The following is important information for the **March 5, 2016 presidential preference and municipal primary** and **April 9, 2016 municipal general**:
- qualifying period is Dec. 2nd, 3rd and 4th until 4:30 p.m.;
- state candidates qualify in the executive offices of Secretary of State Tom Schedler at 8585 Archives Ave., in Baton Rouge. There are no state candidates (other than president) scheduled to run in this election, however, a special election may be called in the event of a vacancy (secretary of state's office hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.);
- local and municipal candidates qualify with the clerk of court in the parish in which they are registered to vote (contact your local clerk of court for office hours);
- view a list of qualifying fees (payment must be in the form of cash; certified or cashier's check on a state or national bank or credit union; United States postal money order; or money order issued by a state or national bank or credit union);
- download the standard fillable qualifying form or the presidential preference primary fillable qualifying form;
- **early voting is Feb. 20-27 (except Sunday and holidays) from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. for the March 5th primary election;** and
- **early voting is March 26th thru April 2nd (except Sunday and holidays) from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. for the April 9th general election.**
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Info from: <http://www.sos.la.gov/ElectionsAndVoting/GetElectionInformation/Pages/default.aspx>



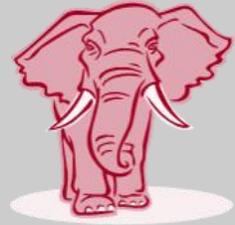
2016 Presidential Preference Primary

A statewide presidential preference primary election is held on the **1st Saturday in March in 2016 and every 4th year thereafter** for the purpose of allowing the electors of each political party in the state which has 40,000 or more registered members to express their preference for a person to be the nominee of the party for president of the United States.

- This election is a closed party election. There are only two political parties involved, the Democratic and Republican parties, because they have 40,000 or more registered members.
- Democratic voters may only vote on candidates for the offices of Democratic presidential nominee and Democratic state and local committees, plus any local offices and/or propositions.
- Republican voters may only vote on candidates for the offices of Republican presidential nominee and Republican state and local committees, plus any local offices and/or propositions.
- All other voters may vote only for any local offices and/or propositions if any are on the ballot.
- There are no runoff elections for the Democratic and Republican offices. A general election is held only if local offices are on the ballot and no one receives a majority vote in the primary election.
- **The 2016 Presidential Preference Primary Election will be held on March 5, 2016.**
- **Qualifying will be on December 2-4, 2015.**
- **The last day to register to vote in this election is February 3, 2016.**
- **Absentee by mail ballots may be requested until March 1, 2016.** *(Except for military stationed anywhere, civilians overseas, persons hospitalized, and sequestered juror voters)*
- **Early Voting will be held February 20-27, 2016.**

Info copied from : [http://www.sos.la.gov/ElectionsAndVoting/
PublishedDocuments/2016PresidentialPreferencePrimary.pdf](http://www.sos.la.gov/ElectionsAndVoting/PublishedDocuments/2016PresidentialPreferencePrimary.pdf)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS



Upcoming Events

Thursday, October 22, 11:30 am
Monthly luncheon meeting

Saturday, October 24
Go Vote!

Tuesday, November 3, 6:00 pm
Prepare packages for the Troops
Faith Temple, 1200 Patton St., Sulphur

**Next meeting is 3rd Thursday,
November 19**

Saturday, November 21
Runoff election - Go Vote!

**Club Christmas Party, Tuesday
December 8, 6:30 pm**
Pioneer Club

Use the links below to search for the latest news:

National GOP - <https://gop.com/news/>

Congressman Boustany - <http://boustany.house.gov/#dialog>

Senator David Vitter - <http://www.vitter.senate.gov/from-davids-desk>

Senator Bill Cassidy - <http://www.cassidy.senate.gov/issues>

LFRW - <http://lfrw.com/>

NFRW - <http://nfrw.org/>

Check us out on the web!
www.rwsvla.com



*Republican Women of
Southwest Louisiana*



Pillows Project Update

One Touch staying in touch

Sharing just a few exciting stories, to help you see how **YOU'RE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!**

We met Sherina Leggette at Military Family Support Group (FRG) in Baton Rouge last month. Her husband Chad is currently fighting in the war zone and received a OT Pillow with one of our shipments. When we met Sherina, we got her name and the names of her children; then we sent them all a pillow with their names embroidered on them, so they have a pillow just like their dad.

This is what Sherina said:

*"It was an honor meeting you in Baton Rouge, thank you so much for our One Touch pillows! The embroidered names were extra special for all of us, my children loved them and said this will always be their cuddle place to think of daddy and to pray for him and everyone else!!!
You all are so kind and touch many hearts with these special blessings!!!"*



Sometimes a gesture may seem small—but can have a powerful impact. These sweet children miss their dad. This is a way for them to feel close to him and know people are praying for him while he's in harm's way.

Pillows Project Update

The following is from the director of One Touch Awakening & club member, Marlene Roy:

RWC of Southwest Louisiana has been a very faithful supporter and we are thankful for that! We get cards and emails of appreciation on a regular basis. And we would like to share a few with you, since you help make it happen. We want you to see how your generous donations are making a huge impact in lives in a personal way! God bless you and thank you for your continued support!

LETTERS FROM THE WAR ZONE

To Whom It May Concern:

We received a care package from you/your organization yesterday. Your generosity is appreciated and will touch, encourage, and remind the men and women in uniform that others are thinking of and praying for them. We are grateful for those like you who serve our Nation by serving our Nation's military. On behalf of all serving, I want to say thanks to you and all supporting your efforts. God bless you!

Chaplain Wiggins

We met Andre at a military re-entry program, Yellow Ribbon. Although he did not get a pillow while he was in the war zone, his note reminds us there is a **definite need!** We were happy to give him a pillow in appreciation of his service.

“Thank you for your kindness and generosity. Coming from Afghanistan, where all I had was a little piece of foam for 15months, I'll enjoy many comfortable evenings with your wonderful gift. Again, many thanks.”

Sincerely,

Andre

We were excited to meet Chris Gueydan, he recently returned home from the war zone. We met him at Yellow Ribbon as well and he said:

I slept on a One Touch pillow every night! I was so thankful to have it, I used it like crazy!





Message from the President, Roby Dyer~ I just wanted to take a minute to let each of you know how proud I am of the growth and camaraderie of our Club members. Everyone is working together and enjoying the meetings. We really have a great group right now. This past year has gone by so fast that I can't believe it is October. It has been such a whirlwind. I have had such a good time attending the events, meetings and working with the different the campaigns this year with you.

Each one of our Board members has devoted many hours to the efforts of our work, especially Janice Areno, Sharon Denson, Marsha Spears and Martha Hains. Janice organizes the "supper" for Pillows night and no one ever walks away hungry. Sharon has stepped up several times when I could not attend or organize an event. Marsha never fails to get the message out to each of our members, record the RSVPs and greet attendees of each meeting. Martha organizes all of our socials and the last one had the biggest attendance yet! I value each of our members and associate members and look forward to the future of our Club.

The next few pages are photos of some of the events over the past year.

Take care and see you at the next meeting!

Republican Women of SWLA Out & About



Candidate luncheon - Cash & Carry Building



Women's Conference
Laura Moody &
Sharon Denson with
Rowdy

Republican Women of SWLA Out & About



October 8 Club Social
The Harlequin

Republican Women of SWLA Out & About



Constitution Day with Judge Jeanine Pirro

Rosa Hart Theatre



An Evening with Laura Ingraham
LFRW Fall board meeting Baton Rouge

September meeting with Ronnie Johns & Keith DeSonier



**Republican Women of Southwest Louisiana
Monthly meeting September 24, 2015
Reeves Uptown Catering**



Call to order: President Roby Dyer
Opening Prayer: Susan "Lana" Hafner
Pledge of Allegiance: Janice Areno

Roby Dyer welcomed guests and recognized new members. Martha Hains reminded us that it is time for renewing our membership for 2016. Each member was given an envelope with their membership registration enclosed and a gift was given for renewing today. We were reminded that \$100 gift certificate will be given as a prize for the most new members. October 8, 2015 at the Harlequin restaurant is our monthly social. Please come and wear your red shirts.

Janice Areno was asked to help with the nominating committee for the upcoming officers for the 2016 year. The Nominating committee that was voted on and selected was Kathy Trahan, Laura Moody and Frieda Castillo. A motion to elect was made by Jonell Wilkinson, seconded by Marsha Spears, and the motion was carried

Vice President Birdie Harter introduced Dr. Keith DeSonier. Dr. Keith DeSonier is a Candidate for State Representative, District 36. He explains that he is a family man and is concerned with the health care issues that face our aging population. More medical professionals are entering the political arena because of the complex nature of our health care system. He is also concerned about providing the skills and education needed for the upcoming growth our area is experiencing. Education is also a top priority. The cuts to higher education have been crippling and need to be addressed immediately. Louisiana's tax structure needs to prioritize its spending and lay a foundation for economic growth for our future. Dr. DeSonier states that he is a medical doctor and a business man who has served in our military proudly and feels more than qualified for the open seat for State Representative, District 36.

Vice President Birdie Harter introduces State Representative Ronnie Johns, District 27, who is up for re-election. It does not take long for Representative Johns to get the issue on everyone's minds, the budget. He states we need budget tax regulations that lift up the middle class. He states the best government is a government ran by the people, a government that is limited, that adheres to the rule of law. Representative Johns has been a Pharmacist a State Farm Agent, a Senator 3 times and has brought conservative values to Baton Rouge every time we have elected him to serve. A cause that is close to his heart is human trafficking. He has recently gone to Rome to ask others, who have more experience, what Southwest Louisiana can do to better deal with this terrible problem. Another problem that must be addressed is the tax loop holes that out of state companies enjoy at Louisiana's expense. For example, the movie tax breaks that are in place now. He also wants to cap higher education budget cuts. Representative Johns ask for our help and used the quote from Edmond Burke "All that is needed for evil to prevail is for good men to do nothing."

Lana Hafner gave Senator Johns a One Touch blanket for his new grandson.
Tickets were drawn for the door prize. The meeting is adjourned.

Recording Secretary - Jackie Hebert.

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 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) | CAMPAIGN WORK: |
| <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. 1st – Dec. 31st. Renewal dues after Dec 31st - \$35.)
- NEW – \$30/yr** (Joining Oct 1st – Dec 31st 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** _____