



The Conservative Voice

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NEWSLETTER

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Web site: www.nfrw.org
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www.nfrw.org/membership/
only

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Dear ARW members,

May is proving to be a busy month for all of ARW as well as our state and national legislators. In Baton Rouge the House and Senate are voting on bills that will have long ranging effects on our schools, and our health care as well as how we will be allowed to conduct business within our own businesses regardless of our personal religious beliefs. Many of our children, grandchildren and family members are graduating from high schools and colleges around the country. Family vacations are being planned and put in motion.

Then we have family and friends who are dealing with the devastating loss of homes and properties due to the extensive flooding all around Texas. We can only pray that God will continue to watch over our families and keep them all safe from harm.

Seems the news is full of devastating events all over the world, including right here in the U. S. The police are now the enemy according the news medias and we have city mayors and district attorneys allowing looters to have a free hand as they burn and destroy the cities because they feel they are justified. Then they are expecting the federal government to go in and rebuild their cities.

The lack of leadership from the White House down is destroying our country and unless the Republican Party can get behind one single candidate for President we will continue to see more of the same. Now, with a growing number of Republican candidates declaring they are running of President we will continue to destroy our party while watching Hillary gloat at the lack of power by our congress to hold her responsible or accountable for all her illegal activities.

God bless,

Donna Pelletier

MAY MEETING

Candidate for Lafayette Parish City Council District 8, Carol Ross and Julie Emerson candidate for Louisiana House of Representatives District 39 were guest speakers for the May monthly meeting on Wednesday, May 20th. Both ladies told the crowd a little about themselves and the reasons they have decided to run for office. Also attending as guest were several candidates running for Lafayette Parish Sheriff. Awards were handed out to the winners of the ARW Membership Contest. Joyce Linde won for bringing in the most new guest to monthly meetings and Sandy Hindelang won for bringing in the most new members for the first quarter of 2015. Our members also filled the donation boxes for the Lafayette Food Bank.

Don't forget to make your reservations for our next meeting on June 20th.



Carol Ross, Donna Pelletier, Rick Chargeis, Julie Emerson, and Joseph "Bobby" Richard .

YOU'RE INVITED

Pat Soulier and her membership committee are inviting you to join them.

WINE AND CHEESE MEMBERSHIP DRIVE PARTY

Date: Thursday, June 25, 2015

Time: 4:30 to 6:30 PM

Location: 1306 E. Bayou Pkwy

You are requested to bring a guest if you plan to attend!

With all the elections this fall we are going to need the support of every Republican woman in our community.

WOMEN IN NUMBERS = WIN!!

Call Pat for more information at
981-7050

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2015

City Council meetings are held the 1st, 3rd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 5:30 PM

Lafayette Parish Executive Committee (PEC)
Meets the **2nd Thursday of each month** from 5:30 to 6:30

Republican State Central Committee Meeting
April 25, 2015 Saturday 10:00 AM
Louisiana Association of Business and Industry
(LABI) Building
3113 Valley Creek Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70808

ARW has regularly scheduled monthly Executive Committee meetings the **2nd Wednesday of each month**. These meeting are held from 9:30 to 12 noon at the Southside Library.

ARW monthly luncheon meetings are scheduled on the **3rd Tuesday of each month** These meetings are from 11 to 1 at River Oaks Catering Center and the cost for the buffet lunch is \$20. **Reservations are required.**

LFRW Spring Board meeting June 6th
at the Embassy Suites in Baton Rouge, La

NFRW National Convention
September 13—
Phoenix, Arizona

QUOTE OF THE CENTURY

"The danger to America is not Barack Obama but a citizenry capable of entrusting a man like him with the Presidency. It will be far easier to limit and undo the follies of an Obama presidency than to restore the necessary common sense and good judgement to the depraved electorate willing to have such a man for their president. The problem is much deeper and far more serious than Mr. Obama, who is a mere symptom of what ails America. Blaming the prince of fools should not blind anyone to the vast confederacy of fools that made him their prince. The Republic can survive a Barack Obama, who is, after all, merely a fool. It is less likely to survive a multitude of fools such as those who made him their president"

Vaclav Klaus (former Premier of the Czech Republic)

MEMBERSHIP—AND THE WINNERS ARE ...

Pat Soulier, membership chairman, handed out prizes to winners of the Membership Drive contest that covered the first quarter of 2015. **Joyce Linde** won for bringing in the **MOST GUEST** and **Sandy Hindelang** won for bringing in the **MOST NEW MEMBERS**. Pat reports that ARW now has 121 members and 22 associate members as of May, 2015.

DAY AT THE LEGISLATURE

Tuesday, May 19th the LFRW hosted the annual Day at the Legislature for LFRW members from all over the state. Over one hundred Republican women dressed in red flooded the halls of the capital to set in on various bills as they were being debated in committee before moving on to the House or Senate for vote. The ladies enjoyed lunch at the Governor's Mansion prior to going back to the capital to sit in the House and Senate chambers and witness several bills going through the vote process. ARW members attending were Pat Soulier, Genell West, Linda Mount, Peggy Buckels, Jewell Caillet, and Ursula Anderson.



Jewell Caillet and Ursula Anderson
Checking out the Governor's Mansion



Linda Mount enjoying lunch
on the Governor's porch



BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION



ARW is asking members to start clipping the Box tops for Education from the many products in your pantry. Help us help the schools by collecting the box tops. The schools exchange them for computers for the classrooms, play ground equipment and other needed items for the schools. You can put them in a zip lock baggie and bring to the monthly meetings. In the fall we will give them to the various schools with which ARW is working.

SHOPPING TIME AT ARW

ARW is asking for your support in helping us raise funds to support our many projects planned for 2015. Come prepared to shop at the April meeting.



Help show your support for the local law enforcement officers by purchasing one of these magnetic ribbons and placing it on your car. The ribbons are **\$5 each**. They are blue in color with a white trim.



LFRW Coffee Mugs - \$12
Also available in blue



American car flags - \$10

We will also have available the Red umbrella's with the white elephant which sale for \$20 and a nice selection of jewelry.

SPEAKERS FOR JUNE

JUNE—Candidates for Lafayette Parish Sheriff: Chad Leger, Rick Chargois, Mark Garber and John Rodgers will be guest speakers at the June 16th meeting. Call or email Helen Granger to make your reservations. 837-6397 or granger_hj@cox.net

ARW FOOD BANK DONATION PROJECT

ARW member Pat Soulier, is shown standing by the Food Bank Donation Boxes at the May, 2015 meeting. She reports that the members were most generous at delivered over 4 large boxes of food and paper products.



Julie LaFleur

LEGISLATIVE REPORT FOR APRIL 2015

By Patti Carter

LOCAL

The Lafayette City/Parish Council voted 5-4 on Tuesday to kill a bill that would have banned smoking in bars in the city and unincorporated areas of the parish. Kenneth Boudreaux is the councilman who proposed the ban. Voting against the ban were: Jared Bellard, William Theriot, Andy Naquin, Don Bertrand, Keith Patin.

Lafayette School Board Superintendent, Don Aguillard, has proposed a reorganization plan which will eliminate seven existing top-level supervisory positions and creates three new ones. Positions to be eliminated are: Assistant Superintendent, Director of Academics, 3 academic officers, Director of Health and Wellness and a Supervisor of Mental Health Services. The three new positions are: Director of Elementary Schools, Director of Middle and Secondary Schools and a District Planning Administrator. Savings are expected to be around \$300,000.

Lafayette City/Parish President Joey Durel made a public statement that he was resigning as President of "The Farmer's and Artisan's Market, the nonprofit organization that controls activities, functions, and monies charged to citizens of Lafayette and surrounding areas. This took place after it was brought to the attention of the public at a City/Parish Council meeting by Patti Carter on April 23rd. City council members were not aware, nor was the public, that Joey Durel as well as a relative, Shelia Durel, were on the board of this non-profit. Seems everyone assumed that the city owned the non-profit because the city bought the Horse Farm, for over 6 million dollars. Joey Durel is listed as President of the non-profit on the Sec. of States website. Several councilmen questioned the definite impropriety of this situation, as when Joey Durel leaves office at the end of the year, the non-profit will NOT be turned over to the city.

STATE

Senator Bill Cassidy has proposed Senate Bill 1276, The Offshore Energy and Jobs Act of 2015, to expand offshore energy production by opening parts of the outer continental shelf (OCS) that are currently restricted from oil and gas exploration. This bill would also provide more revenue to coastal states in shared royalties from offshore drilling. One forth of the nation's energy supply depends on support facilities in South Louisiana! Co-sponsors of this bill were David Vitter, (R-LA), John Cornyn (R-TX), Thad Cochran (R-MS), and Roger Wicker (R-MS). Currently 87% of the OCS drilling area is restricted for offshore oil and gas production. The Obama administration removed 1.42 billion acres of the 1.65 billion acres available for production.

Louisiana's Religious Freedom bill "so known as HB 707, was defeated in committee on May 19, 2015, by a vote of 10-2.

The Louisiana House panel mistakenly believed that this bill would "authorize" discrimination towards the LFBT community. This bill was actually designed to block the government from pulling licenses, tax benefits, and other business privileges because of the owner's view of same sex marriages. Two hours after the vote taken, Governor Bobby Jindal issued an "executive order" to accomplish this bill's true intent, thus overriding the committee vote. Acadiana State Representative, Nancy Landry®, voted NO on the bill to allow owners to observe their religious objections, and run their businesses accordingly.

Mr. Mike Kreamer has declared that he will run for the District 7 seat on the State Board of Secondary Education (BESE) Board. The seat is currently held by Holly Boffy who is a strong supporter of Common Core. This area covers Acadia, Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, Jeff Davis, Lafayette, and Vermilion Parishes.

FEDERAL

The center for American Progress, a liberal advocacy group with close ties to the White House, is calling for the merger of the ATF and FBI. This would give the FBI greater enforcement of gun regulations. The NRA states that the problem with ATF is that we have a President who has second amendment issues. Obama's administration wants the merger despite all the scandals and issues such as "Fast and Furious" that already exist with the ATF.

The U. S. designation of Cuba as a state sponsor of terrorism expires on May 29, 2015. In an effort to normalize relations between the U.S. and Cuba, President Obama is trying to secure guarantees that our diplomats can travel wherever they want on the island. He wants them to be able to talk and meet with whoever they please. This includes dissidents and social reformers. Castro wants the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo to be closed and turned over to the Cuban government. The embargo has been loosened but only Congress has the power to revoke it entirely. The restoring of Embassies and the other negotiations are nowhere near completion. The only agreement reached so far is that Cuba being allowed to establish a banking relationship in the United States.