

The Conservative Voice

ARW President's Message to: ARW MEMBERS and ASSOCIATES

Mardi Gras has come and gone and I do hope you had a blast because LENT, for all of you who observed, is upon us.

Sunday 2/14/16 Valentine's Day and I do hope all of you enjoy the flowers, candy, cards, and of course the LOVEXOXO !

The Iowa and New Hampshire Primaries are over, then Super Tuesday and Louisiana is next March 5th, 2016. Last day to register to vote was 2/3/2016

Deadline to Request a Mail Ballot from Registrar is 3/1/2016

Deadline for Registrar to Receive Voted Mail Ballot is 3/4/2016

Early Voting February 20-27 2016 for Presidential Primary

Only Registered Republicans Vote in the Republican Presidential Primary

Congressman Charles Boustany, 3rd Congressional District, will be ARW's Speaker for February 16th Meeting. The Congressman will speak on the issues he is working on in Washington, DC. Please come prepared with your questions written out (you may sign them or not) and put in the Bucket provided on table by entrance. If you have questions that are not picked or answered; you may visit with the Congressman after the Meeting.

Looking forward to seeing all of you at this Luncheon meeting; and ARW is as always inviting the Public to attend this meeting thru Facebook and Twitter; so do invite your friends and family to attend.

MONDAYFEBRUARY 22NDPRESIDENTS' DAY

Carita Wilson, ARW President

acadianarepublicanwomen2016@gmail.com www.lfrw.org www.nfrw.org

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NFRW

Web site: www.nfrw.org

Member Web site:

Use your email address & password issued to you by NFRW



February 16th MEETING

Please remember to make your reservation: RSVP contact: Helen Granger at granger_hj@cox.net Meetings are from 11- 1 at River Oaks Catering Center and Lunch is \$20.00. (Optional to eat or not)

Members and Associates: Regarding Speakers

Besides politicians-----those seeking election —I am scheduling speakers from various organizations which the Executive Committee feel will be of interest to you.

In the interest of time and fairness there will be **one question per member**. It will be a single question with no a, b, c parts. Each questioner wants his/her turn. Guest speakers are brought to inform/educate the membership. ARW is not here as a platform for personal, political views; **please stick to the issues!**

I believe we all want to “win friends and influence enemies”. The way an organization treats a speaker is important; believe me, **WORD DOES GET AROUND**. Please speak to our speakers as you want them to speak to you.

Courtesy, decorum and respect are the words of the day.

Gail Dysart, Program Chairman



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1.) **City Council** meetings 1st, 3rd, and 4th Tuesday of each month at 5:30 PM

2.) **Lafayette Parish Executive Committee(PEC)**
2nd Thursday of month /5:30/ 6:30.
City Court Bldg., Convent St.

3.) **Republican State Central Committee Meeting**
2016 Saturday. 10:00 AM

4.) **Louisiana Association of Business & Industry (LABI)** Building 3113 Valley Creek Drive, Baton Rouge, La. 70808

4.) **ARW Monthly Executive Committee**
2nd Wednesday /month 9:30am/12pm

South Regional Library,
6101 Johnston Street, Lafayette, La.

5.) **ARW monthly luncheon meetings** on the 3rd Tuesday of each month - Meetings 11:00AM/ 1:00 PM River Oaks Catering Center, Cost: Buffet Lunch \$20. Optional to eat or not.....Reservations are required.

granger_hj@cox.net RSVP



JUDYAMES'S COLUMN
“Events, Politicians, & ARW “

February 11, 2016

Judy at the Pizza Village Event “Cruz’s Grassroots Organization Meeting” with other ARW Members getting involved in the 2016 Presidential Primary..... Julie and Ross Little

Attending: ARW

Debbie & Jay Smith, Patti Carter, Whitney Carter, Sandy Hindelang, Peggy Buckels, & Pat Soulier

Photos by: Judy Ames



FEBRUARY 22ND, 2016 PRESIDENTS' DAY

David Azerrad devotes his time and research to increasing public understanding of America's founding principles. As director of the B. Kenneth Simon Center for Principles and Politics and AWC Family Foundation fellow, he teaches the tenets of the American political tradition to policymakers, political leaders and the public at large, while connecting our founding principles to the thorny questions of the day.

Poor George Washington. His birthday, spontaneously celebrated since the revolution and formally declared a holiday in 1879, has slowly morphed into the insipid Presidents Day you'll hear about Monday.

Washington, the "indispensable man" of the revolution who was rightly extolled for being "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen," has now been lumped together with the likes of James Buchanan, Jimmy Carter, Franklin Pierce and John Tyler. It gets worse. Washington's good name and great legacy are now shamelessly invoked to justify positions that he would never have envisaged.

In a Time Magazine special edition on Washington, historian Joseph Ellis matter-of-factly remarks: "He began the political tradition that produced a Union victory in the Civil War, the Federal Reserve Board, Social Security, Medicare and, more recently, Obamacare."

Washington, who called on Americans to display "pious gratitude" for their Constitution and warned against any "change by usurpation," is now a partisan of the sprawling welfare state and the unprecedented individual mandate.

Ellis even has the gall to hail Washington—the man who gracefully and voluntarily relinquished power after two terms when he could have stayed on for life—as the father of "strong executive leadership" and the precursor to Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who stayed in office for an unprecedented 12 years.

The true Washington still has much to teach us, in particular when it comes to the presidency, foreign policy, and religious liberty. Although much has changed in the past two centuries, his sage advice, and conduct in office have lost none of their relevance, anchored as they are in the timeless principles of the founding and a sober assessment of human nature.

Washington, like every president after him, swore the following oath upon taking office: I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States.

Unlike many presidents in the past 100 years, however, Washington took the oath seriously and did not try to place himself above the Constitution. He understood himself to be the president of a republic in which the people, through their elected representatives in Congress, make laws—not some visionary leader who must define what progress requires and lead the unenlightened masses there.

Washington took care "that the laws be faithfully executed," as when he quashed the Whiskey Rebellion in 1794. He did not try to make the laws himself, either by issuing executive orders that circumvented Congress or by regulating what could not be legislated. He left behind no "signature" legislative accomplishments as we would say today. He only used his veto twice—once on constitutional grounds and once in his capacity as commander in chief.

Washington gave, on average, only three public speeches a year while in office—including the shortest ever inaugural address. And, of course, he had to be persuaded to serve a second term.

As a president who took his bearings from the Constitution, Washington devoted considerable attention to foreign policy. Our first president sought to establish an energetic and independent foreign policy. He believed America needed a strong military so that it could "choose peace or war, as our interest guided by

justice shall Counsel.” His [Farewell Address](#) remains the preeminent statement of purpose for American foreign policy.

No survey of Washington’s legacy would be complete without acknowledging his profound commitment to religious liberty. Many today seem to have lost sight of the crucial distinction he drew between mere toleration and true religious liberty. As he explained in the memorable [letter to the Hebrew Congregation in Newport](#): All possess a like liberty of conscience and immunities of citizenship. It is now no more that toleration is spoken of, as if it was by the indulgence of one class of people, that another enjoyed the exercise of their inherent natural rights.

Abraham Lincoln: As manager of editorial services at The Heritage Foundation, Paul Gallagher promotes the think tank’s ground-breaking research to journalists nationwide.

There are many reasons to praise President Abraham Lincoln’s [Gettysburg Address](#), delivered 152 years ago today. Its eloquent expressions. Its healing tone. Its inspiring message. As an editor, however, I must tip my hat to something else: its brevity. A presidential speech that’s only 272 words long brings new meaning to the word “concise.” Indeed, Lincoln’s famed dedication to the Civil War dead was over so quickly that the photographer on hand was unable to get even one shot of him delivering it.

That’s all that was required, though, and Lincoln knew it. This despite the fact that 19th century politicians were expected to pontificate at length. A 10-sentence speech would be surprising even today, in an age of tweets, sound bites and viral vines, but at the time it was practically unheard of.

Far more typical for that era was the speaker who preceded Lincoln to the podium that day. Edward Everett, widely considered one of the great orators of his day, spoke for two hours. Yet who can quote even one of his 13,607 words? Long before the phrase “always leave them wanting more” was coined, Lincoln understood the need to make his point and get out. There’s no question that his two-minute speech is remembered primarily for the persuasive power of its finely tuned phrases and for how it clarified the stakes of the war. Lincoln’s writing prowess was beyond question.

Address Delivered at the Dedication of the Cemetery at Gettysburg
Abraham Lincoln November 19, 1863

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate -- we can not consecrate -- we can not hallow -- this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us -- that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion -- that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain -- that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom -- and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

ARW MEMBERSHIP 2016 IT IS TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR YEAR 2016 !



May Heatherly
Chairman of
Calling
Committee
2016
**RSVP TO MAY
WHEN SHE
CALLS YOU BY
PHONE**



Pat Soulier
2nd Vice President
Membership Chairman
Phone: 337-981-7075
Email:
pjsoulier18@gmail.com

GET TO KNOW THESE TWO ARW WOMEN! THEY ARE YOUR CONNECTION TO ARW AND ITS MEMBERS AND TWO FEDERATIONS (LFRW & NFRW) THAT MEMBERS ALSO BELONG TO:

INVOICE

2016 ARW MEMBERSHIP

**RENEW OR JOIN
ARW OFFICERS CANNOT RUN
THIS CLUB ALONE...
ARW
NEEDS YOU!**

PRINT NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE # _____ CELL # _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

Your email address is very important as this is the easiest way to communicate with you.

*****IF YOU ARE RENEWING THIS IS ALL YOU NEED TO TURN IN TO MEMBERSHIP CHAIR.**

It is time to renew *for 2016 membership* in Acadiana Republican Women. As we approach the Federal Elections in 2016, it is very important for Republican Women to continue to belong to STATE AND NATIONAL Federation OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN !

\$35 MEMBER Dues will start January 1, 2016. ASSOCIATES DUES: \$20.00

Please consider renewing at the FEBRUARY 16TH Luncheon.

Pat Soulier ARW Membership CHAIRMAN 131 Digby Dr Lafayette, La 70508

**ARW EMAIL LIST WILL BE PURGED BY FEBRUARY 29TH...RENEW NOW.
MEMBERSHIP IS NOW AT 62**

LEGISLATIVE REPORT FOR February 2016 Legislative Chairman: Patti Carter

LOCAL The Lafayette Parish School Board has a new strategic plan to improve academic performance and graduation rates by the year 2020. The plan is called **"Vision 2020"**, and it replaces the **100 Percent In-100 Percent out Turn Around Plan** adopted under the previous superintendent.

Vision 2020 centers on four fundamental commitments:

- 1.) All children enter Kindergarten ready to learn
- 2.) All children are on grade level in reading and math when starting the fourth grade
- 3.) All students are proficient in English-language arts and math when they start high school
- 4.) All high school graduates are college or career ready.

The school board would like to be able to raise the average ACT score from 20 to 22, and raise the current graduation rate from **68.8%** to **80%**.

I-49 Connector Project: -In January of 2003, the Federal Highway Administration approved the I-49 Connector Project. The actual document approving the route, along the Evangeline Thruway, was called the **"Record of Decision."** In this document, notation was made that the route would go thru 2 known contaminated sites along railroad properties. **These contaminated sites sit above the Chicot Aquifer, also known as the source of some of Lafayette's drinking water.** There have been a number of public meetings discussing the route of 5.5 miles of elevated roadway, or the I-49 Connector. Pilings for this elevated roadway will cut into some of the contamination and some say possible spread its reach. The approximate cost of the project is estimated to be close to **1 billion dollars.** There will be more public meetings regarding this project, but the DOTD (Dept. of Transportation) says the route cannot be changed regardless of public objection.

-Congress Street, starting at the intersection with University Av., will be reduced and re-stripped from 5 lanes of traffic to 3 lanes. Bike lanes will be added and the current 35 mph will be reduced. The changes are currently being put out for bid by the city.

STATE -Governor John Bel Edwards has called a special session to fix the state budget on February 14th. Louisiana needs to close an immediate **budget shortfall of over \$700 million dollars.** There are estimates that the state could have a 1.9 billion shortfall next year. The governor can set the dates and subject matter for the session and it can last until March 9th. The budget must be balanced when the fiscal year ends June 30, 2016. The governor is proposing many tax increases to his plan for balancing the budget.

-The presidential primary for Louisiana will take place March 5th. This is a "closed" election where **only registered Republicans can vote in the GOP primary** and only Democrats can cast votes in the Democratic primary. This is a change from recent statewide elections that have not been restricted by party.

-Governor Edwards has set a date of July 1, 2016 for his planned expansion of Medicaid in Louisiana. The state will need a minimum of 250 new health department workers to handle new enrollment. The governor estimates that an additional 300,000 people could be added to this program. He has not stated how Louisiana will pay for the cost of this expansion, especially amid the state's current financial condition.

-The Republican National Convention will be held in Cleveland, Ohio July 18-21st.

- At the end of January, the **Dept. of Homeland Security (DHS)** announced modifications to the visa waiver program. This program allows citizens from **38** different countries to travel to the United States **without a visa**. Under the Obama administration's amended plan, people who have recently traveled to, or are dual citizens **of Iran, Iraq, Sudan, and Syria** can still travel to the United States if they obtain a special visa through the State Dept. Representative Dennis Ross (R-Fla) said he would be introducing a bill to formally **rebuke the President**, and accuses him of violating provisions in legislation passed by Congress last year that actually tightened the visa program. This measure by Obama was actually put in the Omnibus budget bill that many **Republican Representatives** gave their approval for in December, 2015.

- **President Obama has proposed a tax of \$10.00 for every barrel of oil produced** in the United States to fund new "spending" on "green" infrastructure programs. Forgotten by many, presidential candidate Gov. John Kasich of Ohio proposed a similar tax early in 2015. In February of 2015, Gov. Kasich attempted to levy a tax of 6.5% on oil production from hydraulic fracturing activity in Ohio. This would have amounted to \$3.25 per barrel of oil. Before that, in 2014 Gov. Kasich was in favor of tax on oil production.

- **Two Republican** lawmakers, Reps. Duncan Hunter (R-CA), a former Marine, and Ryan Zinke (R-Mont.), a former Navy SEAL, introduced legislation to compel young women to register for the **Selective Service** when they turn 18 yrs.

-**Senator Andre Cushing has initiated a bill in the Maine Legislature that would prohibit "gun bans"** for individuals in government subsidized housing. This Republican's bill addressed housing "privately owned" but "federally funded;" such as Section 8 housing. Senator Cushing said that landlords that accept "public" money cannot violate the 2nd amendment rights of their tenants.

- In early January Congress passed the **"Restoring Americans Healthcare Freedom Reconciliation Act."** It was a bill designed to dismantle key components of Obamacare and defund Planned Parenthood. The bill was vetoed by President Obama. Republicans filed a lawsuit against the Obama Administration for appropriating money from the Dept. of Treasury without Congressional approval. The basis for the suit was the Dept. of Health and Human Services was deemed, by Republicans, to have improperly paid out more than 5 billion dollars to insurance companies for subsidies for individuals in the health exchanges.



DR. CHARLES BOUSTANY, CONGRESSMAN FOR THE 3RD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT / ARW SPEAKER FEBRUARY 16, 2016

Congressman Charles W. Boustany Jr., M.D., a cardiovascular surgeon with more than 30 years of clinical experience, was first elected to Congress in 2004. Boustany represents Louisiana's Third Congressional District, covering South Louisiana. In Congress, Boustany has championed international trade, tax reform, and sound energy policy focused on building a comprehensive vision providing solutions for all Americans.

Serving as a senior member of the House Ways and Means Committee, Congressman Boustany currently serves as the Chairman of the Tax Policy Subcommittee. As Chairman, he is leading the fight to lower taxes, close loopholes, and simplify the burdensome and complicated tax code that is hampering small business growth. Congressman Boustany was raised in Lafayette and received his bachelor's degree from the University of Southwestern Louisiana (now the University of Louisiana at Lafayette) in 1978. He graduated from the Louisiana State University School of Medicine in New Orleans in 1982. He returned to Lafayette in 1990 and began a successful medical practice. For fourteen years, he ran a small business and was committed to helping others by providing the highest quality healthcare to his patients and the community. Charles and his wife Bridget reside in Lafayette and have two adult children.

(Washington, DC) – Congressman Charles W. Boustany, Jr., MD, (R-Lafayette) criticized Governor John Bel Edwards for signing an executive order on his first full day in office expanding Medicaid in Louisiana without reforms.

Under the Affordable Care Act, states are provided the option to expand Medicaid to capture a population of able-bodied, working-age, childless adults earning an annual wage up to 138% of the Federal Poverty Line (FPL); roughly \$16,240 for an individual. The Medicaid program is dually funded by both, state and federal government – currently, the federal government will match up to 62% of total state dollars spent each year on Medicaid.

According to a recent [study](#) by economists at MIT, Harvard, and Dartmouth, the actual value of Medicaid services to its recipients is between 20-40 cents for every dollar of cost to the taxpayer. In Louisiana, Medicaid reimbursement for healthcare services is between [25-30% lower](#) than the Medicare reimbursement rate for the same services. As a result, very few providers accept Medicaid and even fewer are accepting new Medicaid patients covered by state expansions. A long-term [study](#) of the state of Oregon's decision to expand Medicaid revealed that no significant improvements in physical health outcomes were achieved in the state.

According to the [Heritage Foundation](#), the cost of expanding Medicaid in Louisiana will be roughly \$977 million (between 2017 and 2022). However, if the value to Medicaid beneficiaries is only 20-40 cents per dollar, this means only about \$195-391 million of that would directly benefit Medicaid beneficiaries in the state.

According to Jay Dardenne, the Commissioner of Administration, Louisiana's budget gap is [roughly \\$1.9 billion](#), including a midyear gap of up to \$750 million that must be remedied by June 2016.

Boustany said: “The Medicaid program is already driving up state deficits without providing meaningful coverage for participants leading to a high-quality doctor-patient relationship. Without reforms, these problems will add up to a deficit explosion exacerbating an already strained system. This isn't a Republican or a Democrat issue, it's an issue of what works. Expanding Medicaid lock, stock, and barrel under ObamaCare is an irresponsible choice for Louisiana's future.”

PRESIDENTIAL CAUCUS: PRIMARY : MARCH 1, 2016**ARW MEMBERS WHO WANT TO ATTEND / VOTE /VOLUNTEER ARE:**

PAT SOULIER, HELEN GRANGER, GAIL DYSART, SARAH BILLEAUD, MARSHA VINING, JUDY AMES, CARITA WILSON, MAY HEATHERLY, AND PATTI CARTER. ANYONE ELSE WHO IS INTERESTED PLEASE EMAIL:

ACADIANAREPUBLICANWOMEN2016@GMAIL.COM RAMADA INN FROM 3pm UNTIL 8pm

POSSIBLE TRAINING SESSION WILL BE ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON WITH LAGOP. WILL LET YOU KNOW BY EBLAST WHEN AND WHERE AND WHO WILL BE DOING THE TRAINING.

NOT AN ENDORSEMENT BY ARW

Be a Delegate to the Republican National Convention It's not too Late

It's not too late to become a delegate or alternate to the Republican National Convention. The Convention will be held July 18-21 in Cleveland, Ohio.

For Ted Cruz to win, we will need a significant grassroots effort.

There will be three (3) delegates and (3) alternates elected to represent each of the six (6) Congressional Districts in Louisiana. If you would like to serve as a delegate or alternate and play a significant role in recruiting precinct captains, send an email to RossLittle25@gmail.com. It will require lots of work.



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*****Notice the Women in Business: Please complete this form if you would like your business or place of business added to our monthly Newsletter..... Cost: \$50.00 per year**



“Republican Women Building a Strong Economy”

LFRW Women in Business LFRW

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Business Description/ Services Offered:

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Name of Club:
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