

# The Trumpet

MAY 2019

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www.lfrw.org/opwrc

Mickey Jackson, Editor

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## Mark Your Calendar

### **Monday, May 6**

OPWRC Regular Meeting at the WMCC – buffet line opens at 11:30 AM

**TWO SPEAKERS**

**PROGRAM TO BEGIN AT 11:45**

### **NO BUSINESS SESSION**

**The executive report will be placed on all tables.**

Representative Jane Smith  
The 2020 Census  
Impact on Louisiana



Eddie Risponse  
Candidate for Governor



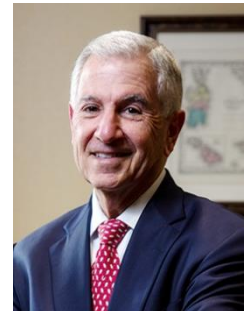
## Republicans Campaigning for GOVERNOR

TWO successful businessmen in the Republican Party are vying to become Governor of Louisiana. They are U.S. Congressman Ralph Abraham, a physician and farmer from Alto; and, Eddie Risponse, Baton Rouge businessman and owner of ISC Constructors. *ONE of them must win this election!* Republicans in Louisiana CAN unseat John Bel Edwards in the fall election. We are blessed to have two outstanding candidates for Governor. Both are intelligent and accomplished individuals who deeply care about the future of our state. Regardless of how you vote, voting for one of the Republican candidates on October 12 will help defeat Edwards.



**Ralph Abraham** grew up in Northeast Louisiana building fences and breaking horses. He attended LSU, became a veterinarian, then returned to Richland Parish. Ten years later, responding to the dire need for rural doctors, Abraham attended LSU Medical School and earned his medical degree in family practice. For three decades he served as physician, family man, and a respected community leader in the rural community of Mangham. Abraham is a strong Christian, motivated by moral values in his family and business life. He and his wife, Dianne, have three grown children and nine grandchildren. The astute businessman stepped out as a statesman for Louisiana in 2014 when he entered the U.S. House of Representatives. “Doc” is a licensed pilot and instructor who served with the 20<sup>th</sup> SFG Airborne Division of the Army National Guard. He volunteers in the local Pilots for Patients group.

Growing up in a blue-collar family of nine, **Eddie Risponse** recalls having to work hard to get what he wanted. The family mantra was “*You can’t get anything done unless you start; and if you start, you finish.*” Growing up his ideals were anchored in Christian values. He learned to wire air conditioning units while he was in high school; and he used his electrical skills to work his way through college. Risponse is a graduate of LSU with a business degree in construction technology. He worked his way up in project management for a company in Baton Rouge where he honed his business acumen for 14 years before co-founding ISC Constructors with his brother, Jerry. He grew ISC into a multi-million-dollar business with 3,000 employees across Louisiana and Texas. ISC is an industrial engineering and construction company that supports global chemical and petrochemical companies throughout the United States. In 2005, Eddie lost his first wife (Phyllis Moberley) to cancer after 35 years of marriage. Twelve years ago, he married his present wife, Linda, who was also widowed. Between them, they have seven children and 24 grandchildren. They have promoted educational projects to build a skilled workforce in science and technology at McNeese University; and, they have been staunch supporters of parent choice in K-12 education.



# Recruitment Boosts OPWRC Membership 202 Members – 49 Associate Members!



Even in a rainstorm, you can count on Republican men and women.

On a rainy Saturday morning, Amanda and Jim Barry welcomed the cheerful guests into their beautiful bayou home on Pargoud Landing. Jim and a few other Associate Members served as *escorts*, armed with umbrellas, for the ladies as they emerged from cars. Such chivalry made the occasion even more delightful. Thanks so much, guys!

The beautiful table in the formal dining area beckoned guests to feast on a sumptuous banquet of breakfast foods. A fresh floral arrangement of red roses, iris, and greenery adorned the buffet. A matching floral design created by Amanda graced the antique desk where Kenda Reed presided over registration.

Donna Cathey (Vice-President and Membership Chair) narrated a short slide presentation to explain the goals of the Ouachita Parish Women's Republican Club.

Thanks to Penni Aulds, Shondra White, Sherry Allen, Charlotte Nugent, Joanna Massey, and Donna Cathey for serving as co-hostesses with Amanda Barry.

## NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS FOR APRIL

1. Judy Auger
2. Donna Bodan
3. Tammy Brown
4. Amanda Clark
5. Susie Cameron
6. Delores Cooper
7. Nikki Dailey
8. Ashley Delrio
9. Carolyn Ferguson
10. Lauren Ferguson
11. Jean Gilstrap
12. Karen Hanna
13. Paige Hodnett
14. Ashley Jones
15. Hannah Livingston
16. Katie Murray
17. Debbie Nugent
18. Donna Payne
19. Kathy Pool
20. Lynn Ramsey
21. Ashley Robinson
22. Kay Robinson
23. Stephanie Sikes
24. Charlene Smith
25. Debbie Takewell

251



### Officers of OPWRC

Mickey Jackson	President
Donna Cathey	First V-President
Misti Cordell	Second V-President
Kenda Reed	Treasurer
Janet Knott	Recording Secretary
Beth Correro	Cor. Secretary
Verda Gates	Past President
Sherra Fertitta	Public Relations
Regina Wilson	Hospitality
Kathy Ray	Caring for Community
Katie May	Literacy Project
Angie Robert	Constitution Project
Helen Holmes	Veterans Project
Jane Ellett	Scholarship Project



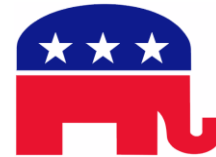


Left to Right: **Michael Echols, Monroe City Council Member; Stewart Cathey, Sr. and Dickie Jackson** visited in the kitchen after they escorted the ladies into the living area. These guys helped the hostess with the pre-party activities. OPWRC appreciates the active involvement of so many Republican men in our club activities. Other associates in attendance were **Foy Gadberry, Stewart Cathey, Jr. and Jim Barry** who hosted the event with wife, Amanda.

**Below: Charlotte Nugent and Joanna Massey** enjoy themselves during the coffee.



Joanna brought five new members into our group. Congratulations, Joanna! We are delighted to have so many join our Republican organization. Two of Joanna's recruits are residents of Farmerville. **Judy Auger and Lynn Ramsey** - both of them are dynamic, high-energy women who are devoted to helping Republican candidates get elected to office.



OPWRC took the top award in every category of competition at the 33<sup>rd</sup> Biennial Convention for the LFRW. Held in Baton Rouge at the Crown Plaza, the convention featured nearly every statewide election official – except that democrat who occupies the Governor's office.

The Awards Packet with documents was compiled and submitted by Mickey Jackson, club President. A digital application for the Diamond Award will be sent to NFRW by June 1. Pictured at the Awards Ceremony were **Regina Wilson, Betsy Trapp, Misti Cordell, Mickey Jackson, Verda Gates, Janet Knott, and Maydra Pomeroy**. Besides being a member of our club, **Maydra** has served as LFRW Regional Vice-President for district five for four years. **Rosy Bromell of Ruston** was elected to serve the next term.

**Fourteen Members Attend LFRW State Convention  
OPWRC WINS FIRST PLACE in Twelve Categories**





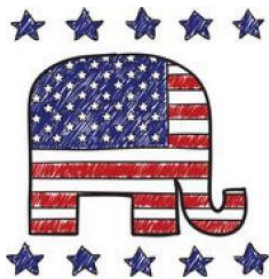
## Special Announcements

**YOU DID IT!** Members and guests sold all of the GOP cups during the month of April. This fundraiser yielded \$500 to RAISE THE AMERICAN FLAG. OPWRC donated \$200 to purchase an all weather, 4' x 6' American flag to fly above the Blue Star Mothers' monument honoring our veterans. The costs of erecting the flag pole were expensive so we determined to make this happen. Thanks to **Penni Aulds, Beth Correro, and Ann Sumlin** for selling the cups at our last meeting. Great Job!

**Stuart Hodnett**, Ouachita Green Director, coordinated the refurbishment of this patriotic site on the boulevard between Stella and Mill Streets in West Monroe. Five cypress trees were planted in the background with other shrubs and flowers. Water lines have been laid beneath the street and a sprinkler system was installed. **Foy Gadberry**, engineer and associate member of OPWRC, donated the flagpole. He offered to provide the drawings and specifications for erecting it. OPWRC members - **Kathy Ray, Angie Robert, Mickey Jackson, Jean Gilstrap and Mayor Staci Mitchell** worked on this project as well. Thanks to all of you.

### National Day of Prayer, May 2 (Thursday)

Our Community will hold a Prayer Breakfast at the Monroe Civic Center. The cost is only \$10 – begins at 6:30. We encourage members to attend this community gathering to thank God for His blessings.



## Memorial Day Flag Setting Event

Friday, May 24 – 9:30

**JOIN US** as we honor our veterans by erecting American flags on 400 graves in the Northeast Louisiana Veterans Cemetery on Highway 15, about 5 miles south of Rayville. Lieutenant Colonel Stewart Cathey, Sr. (US Army, Ret.) coordinates this activity. It only takes 20 minutes to drive there from Monroe.

**Saturday, June 8** Our annual Community Wide celebration of **FREEDOM** will be held a month earlier in hopes of cooler weather. The venue is the American Legion Hall and the beautiful Forsythe Park from 10:00 til 2:00. The program format is different this year. We will offer air-conditioned booths for candidates. Special entertainment and activities for children are planned. Tickets are only \$10. Dan Blakney is catering the barbecue .

## FUTURE SPEAKERS CANDIDATES BEING SCHEDULED for this FALL

Misti Cordell, Second Vice-President and Program Chairman, reports that slots are filling quickly as candidates request to address our membership during monthly club meetings. We will have two speakers for some months. Therefore, we will start the meetings 10-15 minutes early. **Our guests will speak before we conduct any business. Introductions will be brief in order to devote time to the candidates.**

As members of Ouachita Parish Women's Republican Club, you will be invited to many receptions, meet and greet events, and other activities for candidates seeking office. Please attend as many as you can.

Several of our members are running for the same office so we cannot endorse either of them. That is dictated by our by-laws. As individuals, you are encouraged to consider all of those who are running for an office. Then, support your favorite candidates by volunteering.

Guests already on our calendar include: May – Eddie Rispono; July – Billy Nungesser; August – Dr. Mike Strain; September – Jay Russell; October is still available; November – Tim Temple.

**ONLY MISTI CORDELL WILL  
SCHEDULE OUR SPEAKERS**



SAVE THE DATE!  
Ouachita Parish Republican  
Women present:

**PATRIOTS IN  
THE PARK.**

Saturday, June 8, 2019  
Forsythe Park  
Stay tuned for details!