

REPUBLICAN PARTY OF LOUISIANA STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
October 27, 2007 – NOON
Louisiana State Police Training Academy Auditorium
7901 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA.

Vice Chairman Polly Thomas 80B called the meeting to order at 12:12 PM. Ruth Ulrich 16A voiced the invocation and led in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Dan Kyle 70C introduced Senator David Vitter who addressed the SCC by outlining the progress and growth of the party in the recent past. Vitter pledged to help in every way including raising \$125,000 to help in 13 targeted races this fall. Vitter praised Chairman Villere and the party for the progress made over the past four years and vowed to work with us very closely in the future.

Thomas introduced Chairman Villere 81B to come forward and he enthusiastically introduced State Treasurer John Kennedy, our newest state-wide elected Republican official. Treasurer Kennedy stepped up to speak. He began by quoting a verse from Proverbs 17:22 “A merry heart doeth good but a broken spirit dries the bones.” He thanked the SCC for welcoming him to the party and being so nice to him since he’d never been in a party where people were nice to him. He welcomed suggestions or questions about his office and the way it runs. He’ll be sending everyone his contact information. His optimism for the future of LA rests in the changes that the Republican Party of Louisiana is making in the state. He supports Governor-elect Jindal’s ethics policies. “When you do the business of LA you can’t do business with LA.” Kennedy sits on the lottery board and LA law states that he cannot buy a lottery ticket. After all, how would it look if he won the lottery? He concluded by thanking us once again for being so nice to him.

Thomas introduced Charlie Buckels 31C to introduce Insurance Commissioner Jim Donelon. Donelon is the incumbent and candidate for re-election for Insurance Commissioner. He reminisced about his former seat-mate; David Vitter’s success in making term limits a reality. He spoke of his plans for private owned insurance for the people of Louisiana. Donelon solicited help in his reelection efforts next month.

Kay Kellogg Katz 16A was introduced to come forward and introduce Agriculture Commissioner elect Dr. Mike Strain. Dr. Strain spoke about his decision to run for this state wide office and what he hopes to accomplish now that he has been elected. He spoke highly of the reform he hopes to bring about within the department and how he wants to make the department run in an efficient, honest and ethical way. He promised to work hard to accomplish his goals and to help the party finish the job in electing good men to the legislature. He presented the chairman with a check for \$5,000.

Thomas called on National Committeeman Ross Little, Jr 31A to introduce the candidate for Attorney General Royal Alexander. Royal spoke briefly on his race and how Governor elect Jindal needs a good Attorney General to back up his changes that he

hopes to accomplish. He made an appeal to those in attendance to be sure and introduce him to their regions. Thomas invited Alexander to reveal which areas in the state where he isn't well known. He reported that St. Tammany and the north shore are the most critical areas.

Thomas introduced East Baton Rouge Sheriff candidate Greg Phares (R) who made an appeal for help with his campaign.

Thomas asked all who were in a runoff in their election to come forward. She recognized all who had offered themselves for public office and did not make the runoff as well as those retiring from public service with a round of applause.

Ruth Ulrich 16A is in a runoff for BESE in District 5.

Raymond "Lala" Lalonde is in a runoff for state representative district 39.

John Ware is in a runoff for house district 71.

Thomas encouraged all SCC members to get involved in campaigning for their candidates to be elected this fall.

LFRW President Suzanne Crow 77D was introduced to give her report on the organization. Crow reported that several members of the LFRW had been elected to various offices. She recognized the members of the SCC who are also LFRW members. She thanked them for the honor of being elected by them to represent the organization on the SCC Executive Board. Crow remembered LFRW members who had recently passed away: Marie Key Martin and Jane Steele.

Thomas called on National Committeeman Ross Little, Jr for his report. The next meeting will be January 16, 2008. He encouraged everyone to choose a presidential candidate and start working actively for them because all of our candidates are better than any of theirs.

Thomas called on everyone to honor Chairman Roger Villere with a hearty round of applause for the great work he has done to make the major changes in our state government.

The Vice Chairman called on Villere to make his report. He admitted that he did not know what he was really getting into when he ran to be chairman of the party. Villere gave credit to his executive committee and his staff for helping to make these past four years so successful. Looking back on the past week, it has been amazing to see the races won and the ethical way it has been accomplished. We're headed in a new direction for LA. Jindal won a state wide office with over 54% of the vote. It's a new day and we're open for business in LA. The world has noticed! Thanks to Senator Vitter for his help in securing the victories in LA. Just one year ago, the Democrat party held all of the state wide offices and now the Republican Party holds 5 seats with one in the runoff. Please

help in these next three weeks to get 11 more representatives in the house to help Governor elect Jindal. Please help to win more seats in the Senate to help the new Governor. Thank you for allowing me lead the change in Louisiana these past four years. We've heard the cries of the people of Louisiana and we've accomplished so much. Villere recognized the passing of SCC member Marie Key Martin with a moment of silence. He thanked the committee for all of its hard work and encouraged everyone to continue their work toward the election on November 17.

Kay Kellogg Katz, our National Committeewoman, spoke briefly thanking all SCC members for their service to the party. She thanked the committee for allowing her to serve as National Committeewoman representing Louisiana on the RNC.

Shirley Bowler 78B presented the Credential Committee report with 72 members present with 9 proxies for a total of 81. The report was approved and there is not a quorum present.

Treasurer Charlie Buckels was called on to present his report. Buckels reported that the total amount raised in the past ¼ year is well over \$744,000. We are 100% debt free and the cash on hand made electing Republicans this fall much easier in order to change Louisiana for the better. The money that is on hand will be used to fund candidates in the November 17 runoff election. The Treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

Thomas thanked everyone for allowing her to serve as Vice Chairman of the body for the past four years. Thomas adjourned the meeting at 1:40 P.M. due to a lack of quorum.

Respectfully submitted:

Lillie Brady

Lillie Brady, Secretary
Republican Party of Louisiana