

REPUBLICAN PARTY OF BENTON COUNTY NEWSLETTER

A newsletter for Members, Republican Elected Officials, Candidates and Friends

June 2009

Page 1 of 4

Chairman's Cookout

The Chairman's Cookout in May was very well attended. Our guest speaker, Chairman of the Republican Party of Arkansas, Doyle Webb urged us (in a jovial way) to find conservative individuals to run for all available positions from "Dog Catcher to Senator". In this way, create a grass roots base on which to grow and take back our government and our freedom.

Is the grass roots movement hidden from everyday life? Many of us work daily on our own grass roots organizations, be it our personal small businesses, our involment in helping out charitable causes, or mentoring childrens sports teams... all these have similarities. Some of those similarities are organizational skills, time and concern. All of us have these abilities within us and it's within our scope to create and do and grow our own personal grass roots effort. Maybe your talent is fundraising... it's within your scope to help someone who's running for an elected position to gain the needed funds for a successful campaign. Perhaps your special ability is that you have time on your hands when the children are at school... perfect for volunteering to work on mailings. These kind of grass roots involvements can be some of the most fulfilling times of our lives. Today our generation is carrying on with social, religous, economic, and political change that started hundreds of years ago with the grass roots involvement of those that started this great country of ours. Liberty and hopes of generations will be added to by your involvement. We must do this to mandate freedoms and a life from repression for our future generations. And while we do this, we must not ignore third world nations, but strive to support those grass roots organizations that attempt to help others who have not known the blessings bestowed upon us.

Many thanks to those who helped with the cookout, especially Sue Scott. The hall looked beautiful!



Pictured above left: Mike Sevak at the grill Center: Mike Sevak, George Spence (newly elected State Committeeman), Doyle Webb (Chairman -Ark Republican Party), Curtis Coleman (U.S. Senate Candidate, President of Safe Foods, Corp.)

"Each blade of grass has its spot on earth whence it draws its life, its strength; and so is man rooted to the land from which he draws his faith together with his life."

~Joseph Conrad (English novelist, 1857-1924)

www.bentoncountygop.org

REPUBLICAN PARTY OF BENTON COUNTY NEWSLETTER

A newsletter for Members, Republican Elected Officials, Candidates and Friends

June 2009
Page 2 of 4

In the news... an interview with County Tax Collector, Gloria Spring Peterson

By Leigh Nogy

Interesting how in life people can somehow come to embody their names... which is why I had to ask this brightly clad woman, Ms. Gloria about her apparent "middle" name. Spring, as it turns out, is the last name from a previous marriage, however, if you know Gloria, you would suspect the name was a mother's intuition at birth that the uncanny nature of this person would be like a glorious day in spring... well, none-the-less, Gloria Peterson is like that and it shows in how she does her job.

During her initial nine years working for the Assessor's office she developed an affinity for the people, for caring about their circumstances. This concern for helping them to come to understand how the law affects their real estate, personal property and business property ultimately sparked an interest in political service. In 1984, Gloria was tapped for the position of County Treasurer by Joe Yates who was the Collector and Assessor and in the Republican Committee. After much prayer and consideration, she made the decision to run for the position... which she held for the next 18 and 1/2 years. Thinking it was time to retire, she stepped back to a supervisory position, but soon decided it was time instead, to run for County Tax Collector. Her motto is "to strive to make tax collection as pleasurable as possible".... hmmm... tax collection... pleasurable? One might think, 'Is this woman off her rocker?' No, she went on to explain "People deserve to be treated with dignity and respect, even in light of significant issues with back or delinquent taxes. Most people, in general, make honest mistakes with their taxes, usually it's a timing difference when they move here from other states and taxes are due in different years." Arkansas is one of the states that collects taxes due from the previous year and base the future budget on the current year's assessed revenue. "Sometimes, people come into hard times and can't pay the business personal property tax as it was assessed in the previous year... in many cases, we allow people to set up an escrow account to try to help them. This troublesome economic time is especially difficult for everyone. It's important that we in the collector's office be cheeful and upbeat. Confidence will get them through this hard economic time."

So far, since her election last November and taking the office in January, the department has downsized the accounting department by adding the "Apprentice" software that is also used statewide. Two bookkeepers are cross-trained to ensure the department is secure if one becomes unavailable. The software ensures balanced records, can upload to the state system, and is user-friendly and internet secure. It provides detailed reports for data analysis, which is especially important for schools and fire departments to know their revenue stream. Also since January, four business departments within the office have been created: Bankruptcy, Veterans, Business Personal Property, and Redeemed Land.

In conclusion, I must also tell you about the mural that Gloria commissioned for the collector's office wall. It was paid for entirely by donations. It is a beautiful masterpiece by Randy Townzen, and not at all surprising that Gloria was behind it's creation for all to see and enjoy. Her office is just inside the Administration building in Bentonville, door on the right, ground level. Below is a picture of Gloria with the mural.



www.bentoncountygop.org

REPUBLICAN PARTY OF BENTON COUNTY NEWSLETTER

A newsletter for Members, Republican Elected Officials, Candidates and Friends

June 2009

Page 3 of 4

GOP Allied Club Notes...

Bella Vista Republican Women (BVRW) - Meetings will slow down a bit for the summer... no meeting in June, but be ready for a party in July in the evening at Riordan Hall.

Benton County Republican Women (BCRW) - General Meeting June 16th, 2009 at the Samaritan Community Center, 1211 Hudson Rd. in Rogers, AR., 12 p.m. Guest Speaker: Joseph Woods - Treasurer of the Republican Party of Arkansas Please come and be our Guest! All Republican Women are welcome. Email: sjohnston@daisy.com Schedule for July Guest Speaker: State Senator Cecile Bledsoe, August Program: Single Parent Scholarship Fund. Visit our website: <http://www.bentoncountyrepublicanwomen.org/>

Republican Men of Benton County (RMBC) - Meetings are on the fourth Friday at Metfield Club, 1 Euston Rd. in Bella Vista, at 12 p.m. Contact: Sen. Kim Hendren, Club President, Ph. 479-790-5600, kimhendren@cox.net

Republican Women of Bentonville (BVRW)- will meet June 11 at 6:30 at Bentonville Poble Library. Kelly Cradduck will be speaking on "Girl Gangs." If interested, please contact Sarah Davidson. July Guest Speaker: Judge David Bisbee, September Fashion Show. Visit our website: <http://republicanwomenofbentonville.org/>

Siloam Springs Republican Women(SSRW)- The Siloam Springs Republican Women will meet June 22 at the Signature Bank Community Room, 200 Progress Ave. Coffee time is 6:30 and Program at 7. Daryl Pace will begin the program. The guest speaker is Dr. Peter Kohler, Vice Chancellor of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Medical Science Center. The subject is the Northwest Arkansas Medical Campus for 3rd and 4th year medical students. Members and Associate members will be hosting this event and visitors are welcome. For more information call 479-524-3461 or 549-5394. September Guest Speaker: Joyce Phillips, former Vice Chair for the National Federation of Republican Women. There will be no regular meetings in July and August.

Save the Dates:

Republican Party of Arkansas (RPA) State Committee meeting Saturday, June 27th, 2009, Hot Springs, AR convention center, hotel rooms at Embassy Suites. Governor Pawlenty of Minnesota will be speaking at the Governor's Dinner Friday night.

National Federation Republican Women (NFRW) Biennial Convention, Caribe Royale Hotel, Orlando, FL September 11 - 13, 2009.

Arkansas Federation Republican Women (AFRW) Board of Directors meeting, to be held at the RPA headquarters on Saturday, July 18th, 2009. Contact AFRW State President, Tricia Greene, for more info (501) 960-3801.

www.bentoncountygop.org

REPUBLICAN PARTY OF BENTON COUNTY NEWSLETTER

A newsletter for Members, Republican Elected Officials, Candidates and Friends

June 2009

Page 4 of 4

Next Republican Party of Benton County Meeting:

The next meeting will be June 23rd, 7 p.m. at the Benton County Public Services Building on Highway 102 West. Our Guest Speakers will be State Senator Kim Hendren, Curtis Coleman, Gilbert Baker, Tim Griffin and Buddy Rogers all speaking about their run for the U.S. Senate. As usual, we are asking all those that come to the meeting to please bring 2 canned food items to the meeting. We will donate the food to the Samaritan Community Center this month.

Check out the Republican Party of Arkansas' new website: <http://www.arkansasgop.org/>

Upcoming Events:

Fish Fry with Congressman John Boozman: Saturday, June 13 at McClure Park at 201 McClure Street in Lowell, AR from 4:30 to 6:30. \$40.00 per couple, \$25 individual, \$7.50 for children under 12. For more information, and to RSVP please contact Jody McAnally, Jody@boozman.com

Celebrate America in Downtown Bentonville, June 28th with Twila Parks at 7 p.m. Please come out for fun and free food!

From the website developer, Alex Martinez:

We are excited to announce that we can now be found at Facebook and Twitter. For those that are on Facebook and Twitter please begin to follow us today. You can find our links on our website: www.bentoncountygop.org under "Follow Us" or you can go directly to: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Rogers-AR/Benton-County-Republican-Committee/82034112295> or <http://twitter.com/bcgop1>

Submissions to the newsletter:

Please submit articles, associated club news, meetings, fundraiser announcements, etc. by the 9th day of the month to Barbara Tillman, Secretary RPBC, Secretary@bentoncountygop.org.

Contact Information:

Mike Sevak, Chairman, chairman@bentoncountygop.org

"As long as our social order regards the good of institutions rather than the good of men, so long will there be a vocation for the rebel."

~richard roberts, President Emeritus Oral Roberts University

www.bentoncountygop.org