

The Louisiana Club Of The Villages - Membership Meeting

Date: July 17, 2025

Place: Lake Meona Rec Center

Members Present: 89

Start Time: 6:04PM

President Ron Schexnider welcomed members to the meeting and asked all to stand and join in The Pledge of Allegiance.

Dinner

Time: 6:08PM

Menu: Member Pot Luck, Cookies, Community Coffee and Water

Each table was served as their table numbers were called, beginning with Duchess Carol Zembrowski and Duke Bill Osterhold's tables.

The menu was our always popular, annual pot luck by club members. There were classic Louisiana dishes, traditional American items and several more modern options. With the wide variety of offerings, everyone found something to satisfy their hunger.

The club provided an assortment of cookies for dessert. There were also a few additional desserts brought by members.

Special Dinner Speaker:

During dinner Claire Francois, The LSU's Foundation's Director of Development, spoke to members about the tremendous growth of LSU, not only in athletics but in academics as well. She said that this growth has required the current building of new dormitories on campus to accommodate the record number of incoming freshmen. There is also a national search underway to find a new school president to replace the current interim president, Dr. Matt Lee. She wanted to make sure that members knew that they can reach out to her anytime they want to connect with the Foundation or the University. She is available via email, phone call or text. Claire closed her brief talk with a cheery "GO TIGERS"!

Contact information:

Claire Francois, MBA - LSU Foundation, Director of Development

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Business Meeting

Time: 6:50PM

Business meeting was called to order by President Ron Schexnider.

Presidents opening statement:

President Ron Schexnider introduced the Board Members in the style of a Cajun Band:

"On Drums"- from Houma, LA, Vice President Keith Blanchard

"On Violin"- from Houma, LA, Treasurer Sarah Johnson

"On Vocals" - from New Iberia, LA, Secretary Tina Roy

"On Accordion" - from Breaux Bridge, LA, Member at Large Richard Calais

"On Washboard" - from Hackberry, LA, President Ron Schexneider

Minutes:

President noted that the minutes from the June meeting were posted on the club's website. With no errors or omissions identified, the minutes stand approved.

Treasures Report:

Opening Balance: \$10,560.47

Revenue: + \$915.00 [50/50, Dues, Burger Meal Tickets]

Expenses: - \$935.16 {burger supplies, tablecloths, 50/50 Payout and wine, engraving}

Closing Balance: \$10,540.31

Treasures report stands approved.

Vice Presidents Report:

Golf Report:

Unfortunately this month's golf outing was rained out. There were a few troupers that were ready to go but the rain was too heavy.

The next golf social is scheduled for Wednesday, August 6th.

Please let Richard Calais know that you want to join in by Monday, July 28th.

Keith added, "So come out and join us, it's always a fun time."

*Bourre

We had just a couple of tables last month.

The next Bourre is on Wednesday, July 23rd at Laurel Manor Rec in the Washington Room at 7-9PM.

Additionally, there was a training table set up during this evening's meeting to learn to play Bourre.

*Upcoming Meetings

August - College Colors night, with LSU Bingo, menu: Brats

Tonight we'll play Bean Bag Baseball, a really fun and lively game. There is also regular Corn Hole game set up as an alternative.

Board Member at Large Report:

Board Member at Large Richard Calais presented the following membership statistics for the club.

2024 Ending Membership Count: 286 (63 did not renew for 2025)

Current 2025 Membership Count: 241 (with the rate of growth we will likely meet the same membership count as last year by the end of 2025)

Average Length of Membership: 6+ Years

Current Longest Memberships: 19 Years

Ron thanked Richard for his report and added that there are 4 remaining founding members; Geri Calais, Richard Calais, Ruby Barker and Bill Barker with 19 years of membership each.

President's Report:

Ron reported that at the September meeting the board will announce the theme for the 2026 Mardi Gras Ball and some of the details we already have in place. Additionally, he said that the ball will be on February 1st and should be a really good "shindig".

He then announced that on Friday, August 29th, the club will participate in College Colors Day at Lake Sumter Landing. We'll have our 2 LSU canopies set up along side other schools such as FL State, Florida, Penn State, Clemson, etc. It's a good get together and it raises money for local food pantries. Last year a record \$70,000 + was raised. So we're looking forward to breaking that record again this year.

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

President Schexnider acknowledged 2 members that were present and celebrating birthdays and 4 members present and celebrating their anniversaries during the month of July.

New Members, Prospective Members and Guests:

New: Thomas Shultz - New Orleans

Prospective: John and Deborah Hartman - New Orleans

Becky and David Hochhalter - Belle Chasse,

Butch and Dinah Segura - Lafayette

Brian and Shawna Creamer - Bossier City

Guests: Charlie Roy's brother and sister in law, Jordan and Lauren Roy were visiting from Diamond Head, MS, They are originally from Patterson and Centerville, respectively. Maryann and Earl Wilkinson's 15 year old twin grandsons, Caleb and Emory were visiting from New Orleans. They were enjoying their visit by keeping busy with the many activities in and around The Villages. At home they attend Isidore Newman High School and are active Lacrosse and Football payers.

Entertainment

Time: 7:12PM

The club played the very lively game Bean Ball Baseball. There were three stations of the game with two teams of ten at each station completing against each other.

Each station had a large board with pockets representing the bases, as well as with foul balls, outs and home runs.

Much like regular baseball, each player had three throws from home plate to get a bean bag into one of the pockets. There were bases behind the board that teammates stood on as they played. Chairs alongside the stations represented the dugouts.

Because it was such a challenge to get the bean bags into the pockets, there were many shouts of delight when a teammate was successful.

A fun time was had by all.

50/50

Time: 7:50PM

The 50/50 raffle was held with cash prizes of 1-\$25, 2-\$30, 2-\$40, 4 bottles of wine and 2 special Louisiana license plates donated by Claudia, Sirmon and Rick Reneau.

President Schexnider closed the meeting by thanking everyone for coming and asking God to bless the United States of America and the United Parishes of Louisiana.

Time: 8:03PM

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Roy, Recording Secretary

