



PLAQUEMINES

Association of Business & Industry

1st Quarter 2011

the PABI "BIZ"



Message From The Chair

As we begin another new year as a business organization and considering we have a newly re-elected Parish President and several newly-

elected Parish Council members and a PABI board that is diversified with representatives from varied sectors of business, some experienced on the board and others new to our board, one cannot help but look at the opportunities that are in front of us. Webster defines Opportunity as "an appropriate or favorable time or occasion: a good position, chance, or prospect for success". To me, that characterizes our situation as an organization and as a parish, but we must work together for the common good, remember our roles and responsibilities, and make decisions bearing those thoughts in mind. This year I hope that more than ever, PABI can be a partner working with the President and Parish Council to tackle the issues that pertain to the business community of our parish. Our organization will work hard in 2011 to continue to gain and grow the respect of our members, parish leaders, and our community.

The membership of PABI has grown to over 200 businesses, collectively representing thousands of jobs. We must continue to focus on keeping our members and our community informed on the issues. I will ask the board to consider forming a Speakers Bureau to have speakers available for our schools, local civic organizations and businesses. On that note, please

visit our website for the latest PABI information (www.pabigroup.com). Our communications committee has done a great job updating our website. I think we should also educate PABI Membership and newcomers to the Naval Air Station and the community on what goods and services are available through the members of PABI.

We will continue to focus on the ongoing projects such as the Peters Road Bypass, expansion of Baptiste Collette, Traffic enhancement in Belle Chasse and planned improvements to Hwy 23 throughout the parish just to name a few. We will also be alert and active in upcoming issues that affect our business community, such as CCC Bridge Tolls, Development of our Port, the new proposed Realm Realty development and the opportunities on our expanding Military Base that we are so fortunate to have. Another focus of this year must be to continue the effort on Workforce Development. We must partner with area schools to enhance training that meets our workforce needs for the future.

Thank you for the honor of serving as your chairman for 2011. I look forward to working with all of you as your partner for a better business community and organization.

We should all remember "You can accomplish a lot if you don't care who gets the credit".

Sincerely,

Mike Ford
2011 Chairman

PABI Is Pleased To Welcome:

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- PRINT-ALL, INC.
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www.pabigroup.com

2011 PABI Officers and BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- 2011 Chairman Mike Ford
Immediate
 Past Chairman Bart Breland
 Chairman Elect Reid McLellan
 First Vice-Chairman Kevin Guidry
 Treasurer Ed Camnetar
Board Member Darren Angelo
Board Member Darren Barrois
Board Member Chad Breland
Board Member Denise Buford
Board Member Cathy Madere
Board Member John Tesvich
Board Member Borden Wallace
Board Member Jeff White

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- Communications Reid McLellan
 Education/Workforce Michella Ford
 Governmental Affairs Dale Benoit
 Maritime & Coastal
 Restoration Darren Angelo
 Membership Kim Turlich-Vaughn
 Military Jeff White
 Oil & Gas George Pivach
 Tourism Corey Arbourgh
 Transportation
 & Infrastructure David Pavlovich
 Venice Revitalization Danica Ansardi

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

- NAS JRB Bruce Keller
 GNO Inc. Thomas Rush

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Robert L. Thomas

Message From The Past Chair

Last January as I was installed as your Chairman, my theme was persistence, patience, drive and continuous improvement within this Association. I believe overall we lived by that theme in 2010. Even with the oil spill tragedy we were able to keep our eyes on the ball and help the businesses of PABI with the opportunities that arose while at the same time working with other businesses and trade associations throughout our region to lift the moratorium and put our businesses back to work.

Again, through all of this chaos PABI continued to work on our long and short term initiatives. Just a few of the highlights for 2010 were:

- The Communication Committee revamped our website to make it more interactive and user friendly.
- Through the efforts of our Transportation Infrastructure Committee the Regional Planning Commission was able to get the funding for the environmental study of the eventual four (4) lane widening of Woodland Highway. We believe that through these efforts this project was moved up approximately 5 years.

- Our Education and Work Force Committee was established in 2010. This new committee is going to fill the gap that existed between business and education in Plaquemines Parish in the past and help identify the areas of need to eventually provide a roadmap for many of our school children to enter our local workforce.

- All of our committee's continue to work on long term goals and objectives of PABI. From the dredging of Baptiste Collette, the Peters Road By-Pass, Venice Revitalization, coastal restoration and many more.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our new 2011 Chairman, Mike Ford along with his officers and board members. Through Mike's leadership PABI will continue to be the driving force for successful business in Plaquemines Parish.

Thank you all for a great 2010,
Sincerely,



Bart Breland
Immediate Past Chairman



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Did you know...

that the ritual of Spring Cleaning is rooted in historic necessity, dating back to the 18th century?

During the cold winter months, houses were heated with soot-spewing, coal-burning furnaces. Come springtime, windows were thrown open and entire houses got a thorough scrub-down.



**DAVID PAVLOVICH,
PRESIDENT**

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SINCE 1957

2011 PABI Board

The Board of Directors of the Plaquemines Association of Business & Industry ratified the 2011 slate of officers at the December 15th Board Meeting. The following Officers, Directors, Committee Chairs and Community Representatives will lead PABI in 2011: Mike Ford, Riverbend Nursing and Rehab, will serve as Chairman of the Board; Bart Breland, Immediate Past-Chairman; Reid McLellan Chair-Elect, Kevin Guidry, First Vice Chairman; Ed Camnetar,

Treasurer. Board members for 2011: Darren Angelo, Darren Barrois, Chad Breland, Denise Buford, Cathy Madere, John Tesvich, Borden Wallace and Jeff White.

Committee Chairs for 2011 appointed by the Chairman are: Dale Benoit, Governmental Affairs; Darren Angelo, Maritime & Coastal Restoration; Reid McLellan, Communications; Michella Ford, Education/Workforce; Kim Vaughn, Membership; Jeff White, Military; George

Pivach, Oil & Gas; Corey Arbourgh, Tourism; David Pavlovich, Transportation & Infrastructure; Danica Ansardi, Venice Revitalization.

Bruce Keller and Thomas Rush will serve as Community Representatives to the Board for 2011.

The Board was officially sworn in at the PABI Annual Banquet, January 20, 2011.

2010 PABI Christmas Party

Photos by Zu Carpenter Photography



Education Workforce Committee

By Michella Ford, Chair

A Spring Conference, similar to the Winter Conference which was held in Port Sulphur in December, is being planned. It will be held in the Belle Chasse Auditorium and will accommodate the other half of 9th grade students in the parish.

PABI members will be invited to attend to show support of the Journey to Careers program and to shake hands and mingle with students. A Couple of PABI members will be invited to speak about their business, education and skills required for employment at their business and what it would be like to work in their business.

The Plaquemines Parish Learning Center Grand Opening was January 10th,

2011. It has a full culinary kitchen which is being used for the culinary arts academy. Other skills which will be identified by the workforce needs survey will be taught there as well.

The committee is awaiting dates for a tour of the Certified Nursing Assistant program in a LaFourche Parish high school and a windshield tour of industry in Jefferson Parish. The purpose is for the committee to see first hand how these programs work and how to implement them for educating students on careers which may be available to them and educating business on what will be expected from them when Plaquemines Parish schools begin windshield touring their facilities.

The Education Workforce committee is working on a presentation for the membership to inform of the mission and goals of the committee. Kelly DiMarco is designing a flyer to show the components and objectives of the committee and its relationship with education.

Windshield tours will be a component of teaching students, counselors, and parents what jobs may be available for them upon graduation from high school and receiving appropriate certification.

A workforce needs survey was sent via email to all PABI members. Data from that survey will be collected and a report issued to PABI members.

NAVAL AIR STATION • JOINT RESERVE BASE, NEW ORLEANS



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1911



2011

AIR SHOW



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LOCATED IN BELLE CHASSE, LA • GATES OPEN AT 8:00 A.M.

SATURDAY MAY 7 & SUNDAY MAY 8, 2011
FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO WWW.NAWLINSAIRSHOW.COM

Communications Committee

By Reid McLellan, Chair

As we start 2011, it is my hope that the members of PABI feel this organization is keeping you informed and up to date on the many projects and issues we have been involved in. Over the past few years, we have conducted a survey, started a quarterly newsletter, and completed a complete overhaul of our website. We hope these advancements in our communications have been beneficial to you, our members. We encourage your feedback on how we can continue to improve the way we communicate with you. If you are interested in advertising your business in

the newsletter or on the website, please contact Bobby Thomas.

Also, it is critical that our members understand the vital role PABI plays in making sure the businesses of Plaquemines parish are heard. PABI is your voice to local, state and federal government officials. PABI knows what is important to the advancement of business and economic development in Plaquemines parish. Without this single voice of over 200 businesses in our parish, we would not be able to get the attention of these officials. I have the privilege of working with the PABI

Board and can say with great confidence that our organization does a great job of speaking on the behalf of Plaquemines parish businesses.

I want to thank Dale Adams, Dale Benoit and David Pavlovich for serving on this committee the past few years. They have been instrumental in helping launch the newsletter as well as improve our website. Another thank you to Bobby Thomas who has executed our plans and made them realities. I look forward to another successful year with PABI.

2011 PABI Installation



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Drive-Ups	
Belle Chasse 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. M.- F. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. - Sat.	Harvey 8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. M.- F. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. - Sat.
Port Sulphur 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. M.- F. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. - Sat.	

Belle Chasse 392-1111	Harvey 391-6965	Port Sulphur 391-6995
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Photos by Zu Carpenter Photography

Military Committee

By Reid McLellan, Chair

ARE YOU READY FOR THE AIR SHOW?!! That's right. The NASJRB New Orleans located in Belle Chasse will host the 100th Anniversary of Naval Aviation Air Show on Saturday, May 7th, and Sunday, May 8th, this year. Over 100,000 people are expected to attend this great family event. The Blue Angels will return to once again dazzle the crowd along with many other great performances. It is important to note that the air show will fall on the actual anniversary of naval aviation. It is an honor for the base here to be chosen to host this air show. Many dignitaries are expected. PABI is a proud supporter of this event. Also, we have emailed to all our members the different sponsorship opportunities that exist. If you have not received the information by now, please contact our Executive Director, Bobby Thomas. He will be happy to forward the information to you.

Also, there is a lot happening on the base these days. Many construction

projects are under way. The new commissary and exchange opened at the beginning of February. New housing is in the works to handle the growing number of military families who will be stationed here in the near future. What is now the back gate will become the new front gate within the next few years. All of these advancements means that the 5th largest employer in the state of Louisiana will continue to be located here in Plaquemines Parish.

On a final note, Jeff White is your new Military Committee Chairman. He has served on the military committee for the past year. I know Jeff will continue to build on the relationships we have with our military neighbors. I also want to thank Jeff, Priscilla Borne and Corey Arborough for volunteering their time to serve on this committee. It has been a pleasure working with them. I look forward to seeing you all at future PABI meetings and the air show!

INTERESTED IN PABI MEMBERSHIP?

For information about membership in the Plaquemines Association of Business & Industry, please contact Bobby Thomas, Executive Director:
Office-(504)393-2999
Cell-(504)458-6167
Email: rthomas@pabigroup.com

Next PABI Meeting:

March 23, 2011 - "State of the Parish Address"
by President Billy Nungesser
11:30 am Woodland Plantation
Reservations required • PABI Office: 393-2999

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