



PLAQUEMINES
Association of Business & Industry

4th Quarter 2010

the PABI "BIZ"



Message From The Chair

Welcome to the 4th Quarter 2010 edition of PABI "Biz". The last three months have been very busy with issues that have implications on PABI and

the business community.

On October 2, 2010 our local and state elections were held. Parish President Billy Nungesser was re-elected for a second term and several council and school board seats were decided. Plaquemines Parish will definitely have a new look in the legislative branch with a minimum of three new seats on the parish council. Two council seats are still undecided in Districts 1 and 7. PABI looks forward to working with Councilmember's elect Kirk Lepine and Byron Marinovich along with all existing and incoming council members. We will continue to work with the Parish Government to enhance the business climate and quality of life for our members and the people of Plaquemines Parish.

In other news of interest, on October 8, 2010, the Louisiana Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal ruled in favor of the Plaquemines Parish Charter Commission in its suit against the Plaquemines Parish Council. The suit seeks to force the council to submit the commission's proposal charter changes to the voters of the parish. It is very likely that the council will appeal this decision, regardless, PABI will continue to support the Charter Commissions efforts in letting voters decide if the proposed changes to the charter are enacted.

In other news that has a huge impact on the local businesses, the moratorium on deep water drilling in the Gulf was lifted. The Obama administration announced its decision on October 12, 2010. This was certainly good news for the many PABI businesses and people that depend on deep water drilling to maintain their way of life. PABI was engaged from day one with all the statewide business associations, along with state and local officials in lifting this

moratorium. Hopefully in the months to come we will start to see some positive results from this decision.

Finally, my tenure as your Chairman has but two months remaining. I want to thank our Board of Directors and Committee Chairpersons for working so hard this past year on the issues that affect our business and people of this great parish. With the holiday season just weeks away, I would like to wish all of our membership the best as we move into 2011.

Sincerely,

Bart J. Breland

Bart Breland
2010 Chairman

PABI Is Pleased To Welcome Our Newest Members:

First Planning District
Star Electrical Contractors
Xpress Supply
Tevich Enterprises
Trapolin-Peer Architects, APC
Delta Ice, Air and Heat
H. Davis Cole &
Associates, LLC.

NEW PABI WEBSITE

Communications Committee
By Reid McLellan, Chair

On behalf of our Chairman, Bart Breland, the PABI Board of Directors, and the PABI Communications Committee, I would like to officially announce the launch of our new and improved WEBSITE! The new website is more user friendly and easier to navigate than its predecessor. We ask that all members view the website and provide us with your feedback. Please note that our quarterly newsletter is available on the website as well as the application for those businesses wishing to join PABI.

Also, a list of all members can be found under the members tab. Please review your listing to make sure it is accurate. Let Executive Director, Bobby Thomas, know if any of your info needs to be changed.

I would like to thank Bobby Thomas, and Administrative Assistant, Noelle Williams, for doing the leg work to make this new website possible. Also, I want to thank DP1 for designing the website and working with the Communications Committee on changes we requested.



Check it out at:
<http://pabigroup.com/>

The PABI Biz

is published quarterly for members of
The Plaquemines Association of
Business & Industry
P. O. Box 908 Belle Chasse, LA 70037
504-393-2999 - fax: 393-2725
www.pabigroup.com

2010 PABI Officers and BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- 2010 Chairman Bart Breland
- Immediate
Past Chairman Michael Bush
- Chairman Elect Mike Ford
- First Vice-Chairman Reid McLellan
- Treasurer Ed Camnetar
- Board Member Dale Adams
- Board Member Darren Angelo
- Board Member Darren Barrois
- Board Member Darryl Bubrig
- Board Member Kevin Guidry
- Board Member Rhonda Panepinto
- Board Member John Tesvich
- Board Member Jeff White

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- Education/Workforce Michella Ford
- Governmental Affairs Dale Benoit
- Maritime & Coastal
Restoration Darren Angelo
- Membership Bill Bubrig
- Military Reid McLellan
- Oil & Gas George Pivach
- Tourism Rhonda Panepinto
- Transportation
& Infrastructure David Pavlovich
- Venice Revitalization Danica Ansardi

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

- NAS JRB Bruce Keller
- GNO Inc. Thomas Rush

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Robert L. Thomas

Parish Permits Going Online

Plaquemines Parish is making its permit process simpler with a new internet application process. The new permitting software called "My Permits Now" will allow the public to fill out a permit application online, getting a jump on the permitting process. The program includes applications for all building permits, oil and gas permits, and planning and zoning type permits.

"The goal is to reduce the time the applicant spends at the Permit Department counter," said Mike Metcalf, Superintendent of Permits, Planning and

Zoning. "We are bringing the permitting process into the 21st Century."

"This is a long, overdue upgrade that will benefit the residents and businesses of Plaquemines Parish by creating a more efficient permit process. We're working to use the best programs available to keep the Parish up to date with technology," said Plaquemines Parish President Billy Nungesser.

The online permit program will be accessible via a public portal link on the Parish website. It is scheduled to go live the week of November 8th.

September 22 PABI Luncheon/Meeting Woodland Plantation

Mr. Richard Bertel, Chairman and CEO of Rio Grand Pacific Railroad (Ft. Worth, TX) was the keynote speaker. He addressed plans to relocate the railroad tracks from Gretna to Belle Chasse away from LA Hwy 23. This is a high priority of

PABI in conjunction with the Peters Rd./ Walker Rd. bypass. The current plans call for the realignment to parallel Peters Rd and cross the ICWW/Algiers Canal at the same location as the Bypass road and intersect Hwy 23 at Walker Rd.



DAVID PAVLOVICH,
PRESIDENT

CELL 504-554-6565
DAVIDPAV@BELLSOUTH.NET

ANSWER SERVICE 24 HRS.
BELLE CHASSE PLANT
504-394-6600
FAX 504-394-6610
NAIRN PLANT
504-657-9891



PLAQUEMINES PARISH FAIR & *Orange Festival*

Big River Band Sat. 11:00 a.m.

Dec. 4th and 5th

Bruce Daigreport Sat. 2:00 p.m.

Ernie Wilkinson & The Hot

Sauce Band Sun. 10:00 a.m.

Weathered Sun. 12:00 p.m.

Southern Cross Sun. 2:00 p.m.

GREAT LOUISIANA DELICACIES

CARNIVAL RIDES

open Friday-Sunday

HOME AT LAST
For the first time since Katrina



FIND US ON FACEBOOK



www.orangefestival.com

HISTORIC FORT JACKSON, BURAS, LOUISIANA

La. Hwy. 23 - 65 Miles South of Gretna

Will Homeowners Insurance Decrease?

By Dale Adams, State Farm Insurance Agent, Belle Chasse

Property owners in Plaquemines Parish would like know with the recent changes in our fire department, will the cost of fire insurance go down? Well, it is a step in the right direction.

Fire rates are based on fire protection classes (ex. Protection class 6, 7, 10), which are determined by Property Insurance Association of Louisiana (PIAL). However the premiums are calculated by the individual insurance companies.

The sole purpose of PIAL is to evaluate fire defense for use in property insurance rate making. They evaluate, inspect, and grade the current capabilities of cities, municipalities, and fire districts.

Some of the criteria for evaluating fire suppression rating (as written in a previous article) is as follows in an abbreviated manner. Organization, Membership, Training,

Alarm Notification, Apparatus. When are the evaluations done? Each graded area will be graded on a five year interval. If there is at least a two- grade change, then PIAL will re-evaluate the fire protection of this area in two to three more years. There are a minimum of four random evaluations done yearly.

Please keep in mind this is a short explanation of how protection classes are determined. So now that we have a paid for fire department, it will take a few years of evaluations and inspection before the results are determined. Once these results are calculated I think the citizens of Plaquemines Parish will be satisfied.



For Life Insurance, call a good neighbor.

Call me and I'll help you choose the right life insurance for you and your family.



Dale T Adams, Agent
8719 Highway 23, Suite C
Belle Chasse, LA 70037
Bus: 504.392-6935 Fax: 504-394-0774
www.daleadams.org

P092014 State Farm Insurance Company (Not licensed in MA, NY or WI), State Farm Life and Accident Assurance Company (Licensed in NY and WI) - Bloomington, IL

HCIA/PABI Trade Show A Winner

Rescheduled because of the great joy over the New Orleans Saints' Super Bowl win in February, the Harvey Canal Industrial Association (HCIA) in partnership with the Plaquemines Association of Business & Industry (PABI) scored heavily last month with a winning trade show at Boomtown Casino.

A total of 47 vendors showed their products and services, filling the second floor meeting room of the casino. Thanks to host Charlie Frederick, who made the space and light food available for the show. Frederick said hosting the trade show is Boomtown's way of giving back to the community.

The following PABI Member-Businesses participated in the show:

Care Services, Inc., Fabacher, Inc., Holiday Inn New Orleans West Bank, Me Me New Orleans Café and Catering, Vacation Makers Travel, West Jefferson Industrial Medicine, West Jefferson Medical Center, and Xpress Supply.

Plaquemines Parish President Billy Nungesser and State Senator A. G. Crowe (R-Slidell) visited the event.

Thanks to HCIA Executive Director Peggy Bourgeois for an excellent show.



July 22 Dinner/Meeting Bayou Barriere Golf Club

PABI Members received a review of the 2010 Legislative Session from our state delegation at the July monthly Dinner-Meeting at Bayou Barriere Golf Club. Senator A G Crowe, Senator David Heitmeier and Parish President Billy Nungesser discussed and evaluated the 2010 Session and the impact on Plaquemines Parish.





Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

SERVING PLAQUEMINES PARISH

Retirement Planning • Mutual Funds • Stocks • Bonds • IRAs

504-392-9088

www.edwardjones.com
Member SIPC

8451 Hwy. 23, Suite 3 • Belle Chasse

Reid B. McLellan, CFP®
Financial Advisor

Citizens Group Seeking To Move Plaquemines Forward

Several PABI members are participating in a group working to promote public awareness on issues being touted as good for the future off Plaquemines Parish.

The organization is called Moving Plaquemines Forward (MPF).

Hopes are that 5 issues will be addressed in the coming year either by the newly elected parish council or by a vote of the people.

One of the issues includes bringing the work of the Charter Commission to a vote of the people. The parish council has spent tens of thousands of dollars fighting to keep the issue off the ballot. Five issues being addressed are below.

Enterprise Fund – As it stands today, enterprise funds like the parish’s sewer fund operate at an annual loss. Fees charged to residents for services like water or garbage pickup often do not cover the actual costs to the parish. The deficit is then recovered from the general fund. MPF asks candidates to state if they would support placing a

charter amendment on the ballot requiring that enterprise funds have a balanced budget, which would free up millions of dollars for other operations.

Location of Parish Seat – Moving the parish seat from Pointe-a-la-Hache has come to a vote several times but not since Hurricane Katrina. MPF asks candidates to state if they would support placing a proposition on a ballot to relocate the parish seat and courthouse to land acquired by the parish on F. Edward Hebert Boulevard in Belle Chasse and subsequently require satellite offices be opened throughout the parish.

Charter Commission – Though the parish council authorized a Charter Commission to review the parish charter and propose changes, the recommendations of the commission have not been placed on a ballot. Instead, the issue went to court. MPF asks candidates if they would support allowing residents in Plaquemines Parish vote on the matter.

Port Harbor and Terminal District – Conflict over who is in charge of the port has gone on for more than 20 years. Currently, the parish council acts as the governing body of the port. MPF asks candidates if they would support having an independent board of experts oversee the port “as is the case in all of the other deep water ports in the state.”

Form of Government – Since Plaquemines Parish’s council/president form of government was instituted in 1987, the parish council has been made up of nine members representing nine geographical districts. MPF asks candidates if they would support placing on a ballot a proposition to have five single member districts and two at-large district in the parish.

Plaquemines residents and business owners wanting to participate or get more information can visit www.movingplaqueminesforward.com.

Education/Workforce Committee

By Michella Ford, Chair

Plaquemines Parish College/Career Day was held at Belle Chasse High School on October 12th with some participation from Plaquemines Parish businesses. Nearly all state universities, all area community colleges, branches of the military, local civil service employers were on hand. Over 800 students from grades 8 - 12 seized the opportunity to learn of future education and employment options.

Plaquemines Parish is nearly ready to rollout the Biz to School Program. Louisiana Department of Education now requires 9th grade students to choose their career path, therefore their education plan. Biz to School will introduce 16 education/career clusters to students, facilitating choices of education plans which will match their future employment. The program enlists business to mentor prospective employees in their junior year of high school. Students are allowed to learn first hand what the jobs require of employees day to day. They will intern in their field in their senior year of high school. PABI can help by disseminating information about the program and PPSB will have a website with information. The goal is to have as many members as possible to sign up for mentoring students in the Biz to School program.

A Plaquemines specific workforce need survey is currently under review by the regional authorities of the Louisiana Workforce Commission. The survey will

assist PABI and PPSB in determining which business cluster is in highest demand and which area of education is the most viable to begin in the new school/business partnerships. Need, availability of state funds, and business participation will be large factors in determining development of initial educational programs.

A one day seminar is in the planning stages for high school students to attend

this winter. The purpose is to provide a network atmosphere away from school where students can hear business owners speak about their business, educational requirements, and skill requirements. This will be held in December and will involve a casual lunch to be provided by one or more sponsors.

Sales Service Industrial Construction

Commercial Residential Installation Maintenance

D&B SERVICES

ELECTRICAL - INSTRUMENTATION - A/C HEATING - REFRIGERATION

ONSHORE AUTHORIZED DEALER OFFSHORE

LENNOX TRANE

504-398-9533

Mississippi River Bank

MEMBER F.D.I.C.

Big Enough To Be There. Small Enough To Care

Belle Chasse & Harvey 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Mon. - Thurs. 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. - Fri.	Port Sulphur 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Mon. - Thurs. 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. - Fri.
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
--	----------------------------------	--

Military Committee

By Reid McLellan, Chair

As we finish up 2010, the relationship between the military base and the Plaquemines Parish business community is as strong as ever. Our military committee includes Corey Arbourgh, Priscilla Borne, and Jeff White. We met over the summer to discuss ways we can make that relationship even better. One goal is promoting our member's businesses to the men and women who live or are stationed at the base. We want them to know that Plaquemines Parish has much to offer. To that end, we met with the MWR (Morale, Welfare and Recreation) Department and discussed ways we can distribute information to incoming military personnel. We are working on a welcome kit that can be included with other information provided to sailors, soldiers and their families.

A major accomplishment this past year was the establishment of Concurrent Jurisdiction between the base and the PPSO. The agreement will help make our parish safer. The agreement was made possible by the hard work of representatives of the military, PPSO, and Plaquemines Parish Government. I want to thank all those who made it possible.

Callender Commitment is off the ground and running. Our Executive Director, Bobby Thomas, and I serve on the board of this military support group. We meet with the base CO, XO and others once a month to discuss issues that affect both the military and the local community. We hope to expand Callender Commitment next year.

On a final note, the 2011 Air Show is on for May 6-8!! This show will be very special because it falls on the 100th Anniversary of naval aviation. The Blue Angels are expected to perform. In our next newsletter, we will provide many details about the air show. If you are interested in sponsorship opportunities for this great event, please contact me or Bobby Thomas. I want to thank everyone who supports our military. They make many sacrifices so we can live in a free country.

Did you know? The Belle Chasse Naval Air Station is the 5th largest employer in the state of Louisiana!

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

PABI Welcomes New Members
Message from the Chairman
New PABI Website
Parish Permits Going Online
September Luncheon/Meeting
Orange Festival
Will Homeowners Insurance
Decrease?
HCIA/PABI Trade Show
July Dinner/Meeting
Citizens Group Seeking to Move
Plaquemines Forward
Education/Workforce
Military Committee

Inside PABI "BIZ"

