

July 2011 General Meeting/Luncheon Bayou Barriere Golf Club

The PABI 2011 Legislative Session Review was held on July 26, at Bayou Barriere Golf Club with our state delegation as guest speakers. Senator A.G. Crowe, Senator David Heitmeier, Senator John Alario and Representative Ernest Wooton spoke about their assessment of the 2011 Session and the impact on Plaquemines Parish. The general overview conveyed by all delegates was that although the fiscal session started with a \$1.6 billion deficit, they were able to pass a balanced budget without raising taxes. Senator Crowe spoke of the elimination of 1,600 state positions to help reduce costs as well as privatizing some state services and possibly leasing out prisons. Health Care and the successful creation of the Violent Crimes Task Force (VCTF) were a couple of items discussed by Senator Heitmeier. The VCTF has a 98% conviction rate and has accounted for the capture of over 200 felons. Senator Alario spoke about Baptiste Collette By-Pass. He also mentioned the deficit and credited Governor Jindal with sticking to his vow not to raise taxes. Representative Wooton stated that he fought hard to keep Plaquemines Parish all in one district, but was unable to get enough support. He said he will always be a part of Plaquemines Parish and will help anytime he is needed.



Photos by Zu Carpenter Photography