

***PABI General Membership Meeting
July 20, 2012
Bayou Barriere Golf Club***

The July PABI General Membership Meeting was held July 20 at Bayou Barriere Golf Club in Belle Chasse. This meeting was PABI's annual Legislative update. Members of our State Delegation that attended to recap the 2012 Legislative Session were: Senator John Alario, Jr., District 8 (Senate President); Senator David Heitmeier, District 7; Representative Ray Garofalo, District 103; and Representative Chris Leopold, District 105. Before the program began Danica Ansardi, Ansardi Financial Services, LLC, gave an update on the expansion of Baptiste Collette. She stated that the feasibility study has been completed and has been sent to Washington for review and approval. Sen. Alario mentioned the raising of Highway 23 being a vital issue for residents and businesses in the southern Plaquemines Parish. The funding for this project is in HB2 and is scheduled to go before the bond commission soon. Sen. Heitmeier spoke on the status of Peters Rd Bypass and the new Bypass Road bridge as well as replacing the tunnel. Rep. Garofalo stated that individuals impacted by Deepwater Horizon disaster now have a new claims process that is more objective. He encouraged anyone who's claims have been denied or who have not filed yet, to do so soon with the Gulf Coast Claims Facility. Rep. Leopold also spoke on the raising of Highway 23 and stated that when the State Bond Commission process is complete he can brief local government on the next step. He mentioned the concerns of the constant water in the tunnel as well as an increase of state police presence on Highway 23 to reduce the number accidents. All of the officials encouraged everyone to stay in contact with the members of the local delegation.



Photos by Zu Carpenter Photography