

May 2012 General Membership Meeting/Luncheon Port Sulphur Community Center/YMCA

The May 2012 PABI General Meeting/Luncheon was held at the Port Sulphur Community Center/YMCA. The keynote speakers were Dr. John Day, Distinguished Professor, Dept. of Oceanography and Coastal Sciences and Coastal Ecology Institute, LSU and Dr. Paul Kemp, Associate Research Professor, Center for Coastal, Energy and Environmental Resources, LSU. They spoke about the 2012 Coastal Master Plan and their research included in the Mississippi River Delta Report. Dr. Day spoke on the impact of coastal deterioration and our decreasing marsh. Research shows that we could see the Mississippi Delta disappear by the end of the century if steps are not taken to restore and protect the coast. Dr. Day stated that everyone must learn how to protect the coast. Dr. Kemp spoke on the channel navigation issues. The channels need to be able to have a draft up to 50 feet, however it is difficult to handle even a 45 foot draft currently. There is more clay and silt sediment dropping instead of sand which poses a problem. He suggested that in order to obtain a 50 foot channel they need to dredge the sediment out to the sides which could in turn help restore the coast. The State is committed to this endeavor. For more information please visit www.mississippiriverdelta.org.



Photos by Zu Carpenter Photography