

ANNUAL REPORT

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Special points of interest:

- CHAMBER PURCHASES BUILDING
- 500 MEMBERS
- LEADERSHIP LIVINGSTON FIRST CLASS GRADUATES
- 150 EVENTS WITH NEARLY 5000 IN ATTENDANCE

CHAMBER BUYS BUILDING! 500 MEMBER MILESTONE!

In 2013, the Livingston Parish Chamber of Commerce experienced historic growth and headlines.

The Chamber reached 500 members representing nearly 20,000 jobs .

The Chamber has been on a clear path guided by a strategic plan and annual program of work.

Included in that plan is a goal for financial and facility stability to ensure a solid organization for the Chamber's members.

The Chamber was able to



Chamber's New Building

make a historic purchase and closed on the future home for the Chamber at the end of December, 2013.

The new location will allow for expansion and additional meeting space to accommodate the Cham-

ber's growth. A larger conference room is planned as well as increased office space to carry out the day to day operations of the Chamber. The Chamber is currently located at 133 Hummell Street. Plans are to move in 2014.

500TH MEMBER! WCK FOUNDATION

WCK Foundation was announced as the 500th member of the Chamber.

WCK was invited to join the Chamber by Ambassador Karen Demaree. Pictured at the 500 Member Celebration are: April Wehrs—Chamber

CEO, Denham Springs Mayor Jimmy Durbin, Shannon Bernard Chairman of the Board, Michael Wall—Owner WCK Foundation Re-



pair, Karen Demaree—Ambassador & Louisiana State Senator Dale Erdey.

THE CHAMBER'S
FIVE YEAR
STRATEGIC PLAN

*Public and Member
Awareness of the Chamber
and its actions*

*Professional Development of
members, volunteers and
staff*

*Increasing our Grassroots
Governmental Affairs
Reach*

*Financial & Facility
Stability*

*Membership Growth &
Retention*

Program Development

*Building Leaders and
Providing Leadership*

*Providing Business
Resources*

Promotion of Members

*Building of a viable
workforce*

*Advocating for infrastructure
for continued growth of the
parish*

MEMBERSHIP
BUSINESSES OF THE YEAR!

A main focus of the Chamber for 2013 was to implement an extensive outreach effort to **inform each member** of the Chamber's features, benefits and resources through comprehensive membership packages. Each and every Chamber member was delivered a packet either in person or through mail outs.

The Membership & Ambassador Committee assisted in this effort by personally visiting **120 member** busi-

nesses. The Committee also assisted in presenting the Leads for Lunch luncheon and Ribbon Cuttings. Other Committee results 108 attended all ribbon cuttings combined. 26 new members were added as a result of this Membership / Ambassador Committee. All committees combined had over 80 committee members. When surveyed, 100 % said they felt their service on a chamber committee was a positive experience and use of time!

In 2012, Businesses of the YEAR were:
North Oaks Health System,
The Livingston Parish News,
E. Jacob FaKouri Construction,
Sam's Club
Skid Marks Tires & Auto Service



FULL PARISH OUTREACH

As the parish's only Chamber of Commerce, it is our job to assure each area of the parish's businesses and communities are provided access and exposure by the chamber.

Mayor's Breakfast inviting Mayors throughout the parish to participate. Scholarship Luncheon was

held in Springfield. The Chamber's Annual Meeting was held in Denham Springs, the Chamber's Business & Community Expo was held in Satsuma, Mid year board retreat was held in Killian, Golf Tournament held in Springfield, Leads for Lunch held in Denham Springs, Committee appreciation luncheon held in

Watson, Leadership visited each area & rivers, Albany service project site Maurepas, French Settlement, Port Vincent, Springfield, Leadership retreat and graduation held in Springfield, Board Meetings held in Walker, trainings in Satsuma, Ribbon Cuttings—FULL PARISH REPRESENTATION.

LEGISLATIVE & GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE RESOLUTION

In 2013, the Chamber's Legislative Agenda included Interstate 12, Highway 190 Highway 447 Healthcare, Education The Chamber also approved and signed a resolution in regards to the Biggert Waters Act with concern for the economic impact and effect implementation of the act as it was written will have in re-

gards to significant increases and affordability for the businesses and residents of the parish. The Chamber also responded to the Juban Bill and workforce initiatives. The Chamber was represented at

Northshore Focus day at the Capitol, Leadership Power Breakfast, Second Home Legislative Reception, NLA legislative conference & the US Chamber of Commerce Governmental Affairs Conference.



Governmental Affairs / Your CHAMBER your advocate!

LEADERSHIP LIVINGSTON FIRST CLASS GRADUATES

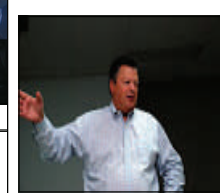
The Chamber's community leadership program, modeled after programs in the region, state and country was launched in 2012. The program consists of 25 to 30 approved applicants sponsored by their business or public entity. The class is exposed to varying topics with direct emphasis on the Livingston point of view. Criminal Justice, City & Parish Government, Commerce & Economic Development, History, Culture, Outdoor recreation, Education and State Government are explored and presented by those who operate within those topics daily.

The class of 30 was divided into 2 group project teams. Their challenge was to define a community need and plan a project to address that issue through collaborations, team work, resources and awareness. The Livingston Parish Veteran's Memorial Wall was landscaped. Keep Livingston Beautiful was assisted through roadside clean up.

Mighty Moms received \$20,000 through the group projects efforts and an extensive barrel program collected food items. The Chamber



Criminal Justice Day



Chris Ferrara



Leadership Livingston

Inaugural Class Graduates:

Layton Ricks

Jason Ard

Jerry Denton

Sonya Allen

Derek Babcock

Shannon Bernard

Donna Bliss

Shelby Andrews

Heather Crain

Wayne Dugas

Travis Eiermann

Sherry Mely

Rhonda Nichols

Jolene Ott

Dawn Pevey-Mauk

Ashley Rivere

Brandy Roberts

Jay Robicheaux

Kimberly Sanders

Regina Scott

Nick Terito

Jennifer Thomas

Mickie Thompson

Michelle Tranchina

Tim Whittington

Dean Williams

Jill Wyble

BUSINESS RESOURCES & PROMOTION

Business Education
Entrepreneurship Training
Roberts Rules of Order
Search Engine Optimization
Monthly Business Tip
Business Expo
Leadership Program
Social Media Education
Website Login & Utilization

Training
Member packet presentation with orientation
Member resource for
JOBS LISTINGS
HOT DEALS
EVENTS
NEWS RELEASES
SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



EDUCATION EFFORTS / SCHOLARSHIPS 2013

71 students applied
11 Winners were chosen including students from Doyle, Walker, Live Oak, Holden, Maurepas and Denham

Springs high schools.
26 Chamber members sponsored . 28 judges scored.
Scholarship winners will attend Southeastern Louisiana

University, Louisiana State University, Tulane University, Northshore Technical Community College, Centenary College of Louisiana and Louisiana Tech.



GENERAL MEETINGS & SPEAKERS

Annual Meeting
State of the Parish with Parish President, CEO's North Oaks, Ochsner and Our Lady of the Lake Hospitals, Louisiana Insurance Commissioner,

Superintendent of Livingston Parish Public Schools, **May** - US Senator, **June**— Leadership Graduation, **July**— Mayor's Breakfast, **August** - Riverside Landing Development, **September**—Sheriff &

sources, Babcock Insurance, Henry Powell Wright & Percy, BHAA, First Guaranty Bank, Skid Marks, Lard Oil Company
Topics included discussion on the health care changes, parish growth, parish crime, education in Livingston Parish and economic impact.



Hospital CEO's address the Chamber on the Affordable Care Act

District Attorney, **November**—Oil and the impact on Livingston Parish, **December** -500 Member Celebration!

Thanks to lunch sponsors:
North Oaks Health System, Design Re-



62
Committee, Board and other Meetings were held in 2013 with over 660 in attendance

CHRISTMAS PARADE TRANSITION

The Chamber transitioned leadership and facilitation of the Denham Springs Christmas Parade to the Kiwanis Club of Denham Springs.

The Kiwanis Club has nearly 50 members and the resources to continue the family oriented event in coordination with the City of Denham Springs.

The Kiwanis Club of Denham Springs looks forward to hosting the Denham Spring Christmas Parade in 2014.



2013 Denham Springs Christmas Parade



GALA 2013 "A RED CARPET EVENT" GOLF TOURNAMENT 2013



Players at the Chamber's Golf Tournament and just a few of the stars at the Chamber Gala!

BUSINESS & COMMUNITY EXPO ONE OF THE LARGEST IN THE REGION!

*Only in its second year with 125 Vendors
Job Fair
Health Fair
Local Business
Community Organizations
Leadership*

*Project Presentations
Samples
Taste of Livingston
Packed Venue
Sell out event,
Over 600 in attendance*



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT RECOGNITION TRAINING FOR MEMBERS ASSISTANCE

Scholarships through the United States Chamber of Commerce Board of Regents, the Louisiana Chamber of Commerce Executives, Louisiana Association of Business and Industry. Scholarships were awarded to April Wehrs to attend the premier Cham-

ber professional development Institute of Organization Management by the US Chamber of Commerce. April Wehrs—Chamber CEO attended and was awarded scholarships to Institute of Organization Management Sessions One and Two,

Centers for Chamber of Commerce Excellence. Karla Needham was promoted to Office Manager. She attended Centers for Chamber of Commerce Excellence, Chamber Software Training, Chamber Software Webinars.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDIES, RETAIL GROWTH, JUBAN CROSSING, RIVERSIDE LANDING, RIBBON CUTTINGS

Cavender's, Tractor Supply, Rotolo's, Dangelos, Brians Supermarket in Maurepas, Louisiana Dental Center, CVS Pharmacy, McDonald's, Day's Smokehouse, Vintage Title, Village Family Medicine, Raising Canes, Walker Pharmacy, Beauty Addiction,

Lolly Lu's, Ashley Renee Bridal, Tutti Fruitti Frozen Yogurt, Warsaw Marina, Walker Family



McDonald's in Albany

Denistry, A Door of Hope, Elite, Empire Furniture, Nom Nom Yogurt, Kayla and Company

*29
Ribbon Cuttings
& Ground-
breakings with
over
964
in attendance*



Thanks to all Members, Sponsors, Volunteers, Committee Members, Staff, Stakeholders, Visitors, Elected Officials, Participants, Players, Board for a great 2013

Premier Level Members

First Guaranty Bank

North Oaks Health System

Our Lady of the Lake Livingston

E. Jacob FaKouri Construction

Richard Price Contracting, Co. LLC

Walmart

Client Technology Services

Forrest Grove Plantation

Forte & Tablada, Inc.

Legal Shield / Identity Theft Shield

Jefferson Financial Credit Union

LIVINGSTON PARISH CHAMBER
2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Committee

Shannon Bernard, Chairman of the Board
Primerica

Kim Sanders, Incoming
L.A. Champagne, LLP

Regina Scott, Outgoing
North Oaks

Sue Evarts, Treasurer
Bancorp South

Jackie Dykes, At Large
GMFS

Brian Abels, At Large
Boyer, Hebert, Abels, Angelle

April Wehrs, President/CEO
Chamber of Commerce

Sonya Allen
Realtor

John Blount
Blount General Contractors

Mike Cotton
Office Depot



Shannon Bernard
2013 Chairman of the Board

Wayne Dugas, 2015 Chair

Lard Oil Company

Adrienne Dunn

Mary Kay Cosmetics

Travis Eiermann

Labarre Associates

Donna Carlisle Erdey

Carlisle Heating & Air

Randy Gautreau

First Guaranty Bank

Ivy Graham

The Law Office of Ivy Graham

Margot May

Arceneaux Communications

Sherry Mely

Iberia Bank

Susan Olivier

American Gateway Bank

Earl Price

Richard Price Contracting

Chuck Raborn

Chuck's Sportscards of LA

Jonathan Whitman

Morgan Stanley

Jill Wyble

Our Lady of the Lake

Joining in 2014, Chad Cologne, Rotolo's & Candy

Forbes, D.S. Housing

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