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JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2011

A Bi-monthly Publication of
the Iberville Chamber of Commerce

Citizens', Chiasson get top honors at Chamber banquet

Citizens Bank & Trust Company was awarded the Outstanding Community Business Partner Award; and Stacey Chiasson, Public Affairs Leader of the Dow Chemical Company Louisiana Operations, was named volunteer of the year at the Chamber's annual banquet. Held at Nottoway Plantation on January 27, the event was another sell-out and featured former LSU baseball coach and Athletic Director Skip Bertman as guest speaker.

Citizens Bank has been a member of the Plaquemine and Iberville Parish business community since 1916. This locally owned and operated bank also has branches in Baton Rouge. Its employees have extremely strong and positive relationships with the community because of its participation in many different outreach activities. By donating volunteer time and money, Citizens dedicated employees play an
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Outstanding business partner... Chamber Director Hank Grace is shown with Ed Middleton of Citizens Bank & Trust Company, which was named Outstanding Community Business Partner for 2010.



Volunteer of the year... Chamber Director Hank Grace is shown with Stacey Chiasson of The Dow Chemical Company. Stacey is the Chamber's Volunteer of the Year for 2010.



Changing leadership... Lori Gary, outgoing Chair of the Chamber Board of Directors, hands the gavel to Guy Ruggerio, the 2011 Chair of the board.

Leadership program planning underway

The NEW Leadership Iberville program will kick off this fall, with applications for the program being taken in July. This is a great opportunity for professionals to build leadership skills, network among Iberville's top business and governmental executives, and better understand the roles of agencies and programs in our community. Watch for more information in the coming months.

CHAMBER 13TH ANNUAL GOLF SCRAMBLE

*The Island Country Club
Monday, March 28*

Registration at 11:00 a.m., Shotgun start at 1 p.m.

Sponsorship packages now available! Call now to get your company involved in this popular networking event! Corporate, hole-in-one, hole, food and award sponsorships available!

For more information call the Chamber at 687-3560, or e-mail Brenda (bourso@ibervillechamber.com) or Jennifer (jslandry@ibervillechamber.com).



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Dow donates \$1 million to Iberville Tech College

The Dow Chemical Company announced on February 1 that it will donate \$1 million toward the construction of a new technical college featuring an Industrial Maintenance curriculum in Iberville Parish.

The \$1 million grant by Dow to the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) Foundation is the largest donation ever made to the Foundation, and the largest made by a company in Iberville Parish.

The Iberville Chamber played a key role in working with Dow and local governmental agencies to advance both the technical college project and Dow's donation. The new Capital Area Technical College Westside Campus construction is the result of a unique government/industry partnership that includes funding and support of numerous government agencies and Dow.

Dow's donation will provide for the original 15,387 square feet facility to be increased to 20,942 square feet – adding 5,555 square feet to the state-of-the-art facility. The facility is being designed to accommodate expansions as the college grows. Construction is expected to begin in September, with the school opening by the fall of 2012. Other curriculums planned include healthcare, information technology (IT) and business studies.

"We are excited to play a major role in the construction and development of this facility, which will transform the lives of Iberville families by providing the technical training necessary for residents to get quality jobs right here," said Sharon Cole, Site Director of Dow's Louisiana Operations site in Plaquemine. "The Industrial Maintenance curriculum will educate and train students and residents for jobs with the local chemical industry, where they will be needed in the coming years."

"Dow's donation will be significant in helping us to advance this project and build a world-class facility that will be used to help educate and train Louisiana's future workforce," said Dr. Joe May, LCTCS President.



Shown at the press conference announcing the \$1 million donation are, at back, Iberville Parish President J. Mitchell Ourso, Jr., and Stacey Chiasson, Public Affairs Leader for Dow's Louisiana facilities; and at front from left, Dr. Kay McDaniel, LCTCS Regional Director; Christel Slaughter, LCTCS Foundation President; Sharon Cole, Dow Louisiana Operations Site Director; Dr. Joe May, LCTCS President; State Rep. Karen St. Germain, and Iberville School Superintendent Edward Cancienne.

Iberville Parish President J. Mitchell Ourso, Jr., noted, "Dow came to me and asked what it could do to most improve the quality of life for local residents. I recommended this project because I believe having these educational opportunities in our community will transform lives and families for generations to come."

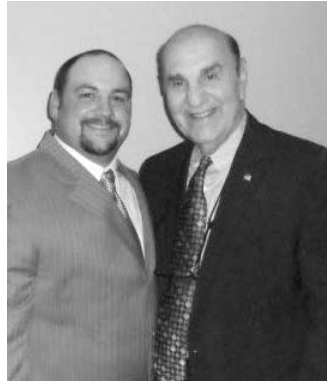
Iberville School Superintendent Edward Cancienne noted, "The location of the college next to Plaquemine High School will provide students attending PHS with the opportunity to take dual enrollment and early college courses. We know this will be extremely beneficial to our students, and thank Dow for its wisdom in wanting to be a part of educating our future workforce."



Chamber holds planning meeting... The 2011 Chamber Board of Directors held a three-hour planning meeting at The Island Country Club on January 12. The board reviewed 2010 goals and accomplishments, discussed general goals for 2011, and will have its committees draft specific goals for the year in their January/February meetings. Shown is a scene from the meeting.



Scenes from the annual banquet

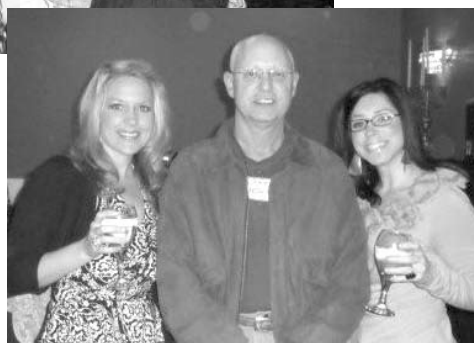


Chamber banquet

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important role in helping the Chamber of Commerce, the City of Plaquemine, and the surrounding communities to grow and prosper.

Its employees have a history of service on many boards, and as members of organizations such as the Iberville Chamber, Rotary, Kiwanis, Dow YMCA, St. John



School, St. John Church, Baton Rouge Green, United Way and St. Jude. Each year Citizens is a sponsor of the Acadian Festival Parade, Iberville Parks and Recreation's "Boo on the Belleview", and IPRD little league teams as well as

other various organizations, events and non-profits in the community.

The Chamber recognized Stacey Chiasson as Volunteer of the Year. Stacey is a very active member of the Iberville Chamber. She was first elected to the Board of Directors in 2007, and is currently serving on the board and as chairman of the Economic Development Commission. Stacey's strengths lie in her ability to develop innovative solutions to complex issues; and developing and leading alliances and partnerships among business and industry that produce results.

In 2010, while serving as the Iberville Chamber's Economic Development Committee Chairman, she led a diverse partnership of area, regional and state personnel that resulted in the first ever national awareness FAM Tour of Iberville Parish.

This effort resulted in seven nationally accredited site consultants touring Iberville Parish while helping to build solid business relationships with each of them. Her dedication to our Chamber and Iberville Parish has been instrumental to helping us achieve positive recognition at

many key levels.

The outgoing board of directors were also recognized and presented with a plaque at the banquet for their years of service on the board. They were Owen Cope of Entergy, Bernadine Legendre of St.

John School, and Totsie Temperaro, outgoing executive committee past chairman and Education committee chairperson.

Sponsoring the event this year as the platinum sponsor was The Dow Chemical Company. The gold sponsors for the event were SNF Flopam and the Iberville parish banks Bank of Maringouin, Citizens Bank & Trust Co., First Financial Bank & Trust Co., Iberville Bank, Plaquemine Bank & Trust Co., and the Bank of Commerce. The silver sponsors for the event were Georgia Gulf and Plaquemine Truck Stop and Travel Center. The bronze sponsors for the event were East Iberville-INC(Industry Neighbor Companies); Fusion Architecture, APC; and Lake After Hours.

This year's banquet again featured a silent auction and live auction. Auction items were donated by Addie's Gift Boutique, Assurance Financial, Beaded Treasures by Marietta, Blanchard's Building Materials, Baton Rouge Coca Cola, Don's Sportsman, East Iberville-INC, Entergy, Gabriel's House of Events, Iberville Parish Museum, Joe Guilbeau, Jones-Hamilton Co., Kelly's Industrial Services, Larry Rouse, Nottoway Plantation, Pediatric Associates, Plaquemine Bank & Trust Co., Pointe Coupee Electric Membership, Reagent Chemical, Shintech Louisiana LLC, S.J. "Blue" Guercio Contracting, The ARC-Iberville, The Bank of Commerce, The Dow Chemical Company, The Island Country Club, and Total Care Injury and Pain Centers.

Syngenta

Syngenta Crop Protection is recognized both as a global leader in agriculture and as an east Iberville community neighbor. Based in St. Gabriel, Syngenta has worked extensively in developing and maintaining a strong partnership with the local community. The company global headquarters is in Basel, Switzerland; and has a workforce of 625 (company and contract) at its St. Gabriel site.

Syngenta participates in more than 30 different outreach activities, such as providing resources as tutors, scholarships, Junior Achievement, donations to East Iberville School and Food Bank, Habitat for Humanity, the east Iberville Library and much more. The company also makes donations to a variety of programs through its membership in East Iberville-INC (Industry Neighbor Companies). Its employee volunteers reach more than 5,000 children annually!

Syngenta is one of the world's leading companies with more than 25,000 employees in over 90 countries dedicated to our purpose: Bringing plant potential to life. Through world-class science, global reach and commitment to our customers we help to increase crop productivity, protect the environment and improve health and quality of life. For more information about us please go to www.syngenta.com <<http://www.syngenta.com>> .

Chamber leaders for 2011

Executive Committee: Guy Ruggiero of Ruggiero & Associates Insurance, Chairman; Lori Gary of Mexichem Fluor Inc., Past Chair; Glynn Fontenot of Georgia Gulf, Chairman Elect; Brad Guerin of Fusion Architecture APC, First Vice Chairman; Marietta Krejci of Shintech Louisiana, Treasurer

Board of Directors for 2011: Bobby Blanchard, Iberville Bank; Ivan Cabrera, Plaquemine Truck Stop & Travel Center; Stacey Chiasson, The Dow Chemical Company; Linda Cornett, Reagent Chemical; Kit Janis, East Iberville-INC; Monica McDaniel-Lockhart, Datakeepers LLC; J. Mitchell Ourso, Jr., Iberville Parish Council; Edwin M. Reeves, Jr., A. Wilbert's Sons, LLC; Larry Rouse, Individual; Steve Smith, The AME Group; Jesse Thompson, Hess Engineers; Sharon Turner, Syngenta

2011 Chairman Board Appointees; David Dean, St. John School; Rick Gros, Shintech Louisiana LLC; and Clint Seneca, Iberville Parish Assessor's Office

2011 Committee Chairs; Stacey Chiasson of The Dow Chemical Co., Economic Development; Brad Guerin of Fusion Architecture APC, Education and Workforce Development; Glynn Fontenot, Leadership Iberville; Bubba Beatty, Loan Committee Chairman

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