

Lake Borgne

# 2011 Annual Report



[www.StBernardChamber.org](http://www.StBernardChamber.org)

# Our Year At A Glance

## 2011 St. Bernard Chamber of Commerce Events and Community Participation

If you want to make a valuable investment in your business and in the community, The Chamber is the place to start. With premier business and networking opportunities among its countless benefits, the Chamber offers reliable support to help your business grow and prosper. Your membership is an investment that pays dividends in the form of new customers for your business, a stronger economy, and an exceptional quality of life in St. Bernard Parish.

- 196th Anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans.
- Chamber Luncheon "St. Bernard Parish Port System" with guest speaker Dr. Robert Scafidel of the St. Bernard Parish Port, Harbor, and Terminal District.
- Chamber Luncheon "Parades and Carnival Krewes of St. Bernard Parish" with guest speakers Lena Nunez, Robby Showalter, Billy Showalter, and Chad O'Neil.
- U.S. Chamber of Commerce party held at the Washington D.C. Mardi Gras.
- St. Bernard and Plaquemines Parishes Breakfast held at the Washington D.C. Mardi Gras.
- Chamber Roast of St. Bernard Parish Public Schools Superintendent Doris Voitier.
- Chamber Luncheon "St. Bernard Parish Soft Second Lot Program Initiative" with guest speakers David Gorbaty and Cliff Reuther.
- 3rd Annual Celebrate St. Bernard Event.
- Art in April.
- Chamber Annual Crawfish Boil
- Chamber Luncheon "The History of St. Bernard Parish" with Parish Historian Bill Hyland
- Chamber Luncheon "The Impact of Fishing in St. Bernard Parish" with guest speaker Captain Jack Payne.
- Chamber Networking After Hours with a presentation on "Every Door Direct Mail Service" with guest speaker Mark Stephens of the U.S. Postal Service.
- Annual St. Bernard Chamber Business Expo and Trade Show.
- Chamber Luncheon "Hurricane Preparedness" presented by Molly Buckley with Entergy.
- Chamber Luncheon "Tour and Presentation of Jackson Barracks."
- Chamber Political Forum for Senate District 1, Senate District 3, House District 103, St. Bernard Councilman at Large East, Councilman at Large West, and Justice of the Peace Ward G
- Chamber Political Forum for St. Bernard Parish President, Sheriff, Assessor, and Clerk of Court
- Chamber Political Forum for St. Bernard Parish Council Districts A,B,C,D,and E.
- Chamber Luncheon "November 19th Transfer Tax Amendment Presentation" with guest Speaker Malcolm Young, CEO of the Louisiana Realtors.
- Chamber Luncheon "Louisiana Insurance Issues" with Louisiana Commissioner of Insurance Jim Donelon.
- Shop St. Bernard
- Chamber Annual Event and Meeting
- Chamber Networking After Hours with a presentation on "Healthcare Legislation and Your Business" presented by Gulf Coast Bank.

# Organization Achievements

## 2011 St. Bernard Chamber of Commerce Events Growth and Development

### Administration, Action, and Advocacy

- 9 Regular Board Meetings.
- The development and launch of the new St. Bernard Chamber of Commerce website.
- The re-envisioning of the organizational structure of the St. Bernard Chamber, and the creation of a CEO position.
- The transition to a new system of Chamber Financial Reports.
- The Development of a new St. Bernard Chamber of Commerce Brochure.
- The appointment of several committees including the Chamber Roast Committee, the Business Expo Committee, the Marketing Committee, the Legislative Committee, the Budget Committee, the Networking Committee, the Programs Committee, the Shop St. Bernard Committee, and the Nominating Committee.
- Admittance of Vice-Chairman to the Institute for Organizational Management.
- Support of the St. Bernard Community Foundation Beautification Grant.
- The creation and implementation of a new Annual Sponsorship Program.
- The First Chamber Roast was held with a portion of funds raised being donated to the St. Bernard Parish Public School System.
- Hosting 3 locally televised political forums for the 2011 election cycle.
- The expansion of the Business Expo and Trade show to exceed the attendance of previous years.
- The expansion of the Shop St. Bernard Event to a 30 day event with 40 participants and sponsors.
- The Annual Filing and administration of all organizational paperwork.
- Weekly marketing in multiple news outlets.
- Membership to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.
- Redesign of St. Bernard Chamber Logo
- Representation at community events including the St. Bernard Parish Public School's Reflection Breakfast, Celebrate St. Bernard, the Art and Wine Walk, etc.
- Hiring of a Dual Enrollment student from Chalmette High School to aid in administrative and secretarial tasks.
- Showcased multiple times throughout the year in multiple media outlets thanks to Press Releases and media relations efforts.
- Aligned with St. Bernard Economic Development Foundation to promote the DADCO study.

## 2011 ANNUAL SPONSORS



### **ASSOCIATED TERMINALS**

#### Quick Facts

- The St. Bernard Chamber represents over 193 Members that employ over 3800 employees.
  - The St. Bernard Chamber coordinated 14 Ribbon Cuttings and Grand Openings in 2011.
- In 2011 there were over 6,000 visitors and 92,815 hits to the St. Bernard Chamber website at [www.StBernardChamber.org](http://www.StBernardChamber.org).
- Three Letters of Support or Resolution were drafted in 2011 to aid in efforts by the St. Bernard Community Center, the Lake Borgne Basin Levee District Board, and Chalmette High School.
- Over 14 Ribbon Cuttings and Grand Openings.
- Ex-Officio Board Member Dr. Warner represented St. Bernard Parish and the St. Bernard Chamber on GNO, Inc.'s Board of Directors.
- The St. Bernard Chamber was one of a number of financial sponsors for a new Welcome Sign at the entrance of the Parish in Arabi.

## 2011 Executive Officers

Chairman  
Sam Catalanotto  
Ditto's Printing

Vice Chairman  
Jodie Lohfink  
Regions Bank

Secretary  
Jerry Calcagno  
Todd's Technology

Treasurer  
Fred Sigur  
Frederick J. Sigur Investments

Chief Executive Officer  
Stephen Reuther

## Ex-Officio Members of the Board

Dr. Mike Cusack  
Louisiana Small Business Development Center

Ruta Gue  
Meraux Foundation

Cindy Graf  
Business and Career Solutions Center

Rebecca Martin  
St. Bernard Economic Development Foundation

Elizabeth McDougall  
St. Bernard Office of Tourism

Dr. Robert Scafidel  
St. Bernard Port, Harbor, and Terminal District

Jack Stephens  
St. Bernard Sheriff's Office

Craig Taffaro  
St. Bernard Parish Government

Doris Voitier  
St. Bernard Parish Public Schools

Dr. Thomas Warner  
Nunez Community College

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## 2011 Board of Directors

Rose Campagna  
All About Me

Richie Clements  
Clements Insurance

Joey DiFatta  
J & J Jewelery

David Fennelly  
Associated Terminals

Mike Fradella  
Fradella's Collision Center

Will Hinson  
Chalmette Refining, LLC

Walter Leger  
Leger & Shaw

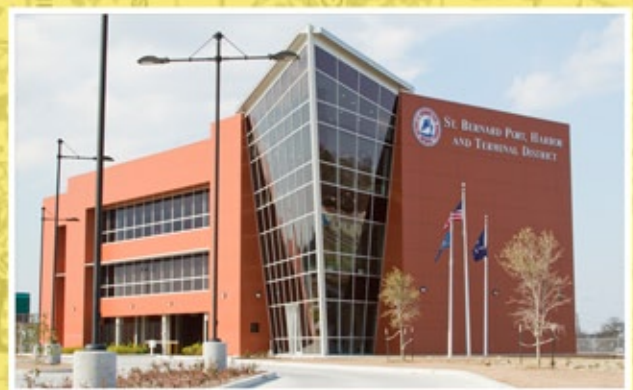
Neil Ponstein  
Ponstein's Food Store

Claudette Reuther  
Gardner Realtors

Charlene Walsh  
Olive Branch Emporium

Sean Warner  
Gulf Coast Bank

Carl Zornes  
Valero Meraux Refinery



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