

## Chamber of Commerce honors outstanding businesses

The Livingston Parish Chamber of Commerce annual awards banquet and gala was a resounding success. The Mardi Gras-themed extravaganza was held Jan. 23 at Forrest Grove Plantation in Denham Springs. A silent auction and raffle raised funds that will allow the Chamber to continue its diverse work in the community including funding scholarships for high school seniors, supporting parish businesses, helping facilitate ribbon-cutting ceremonies of new businesses, providing newcomer packets to individuals and businesses, providing informative speakers at monthly membership meetings and publishing an annual directory that is used to promote the parish.

The Chamber honored individuals who have gone above and beyond their committee and/or board duties to help the Chamber in all its endeavors throughout the year. Jackie Dykes was named Member of the Year, and Margot May was named Board Member of the Year. Sherry Mely was presented an award for serving as the 2009 Chairman of the Board. Incoming Chairman for 2010 is Jolene Ott.

The Chamber also recognized businesses that have been successful in the parish, participated in and helped advance Chamber events and been community leaders.

Winner of Small Business of the Year was the Livingston Business and Real Estate Journal. Medium Business of the Year was Forrest Grove Plantation and Large Business of the Year was Allstar Automotive.

Sean Casteel and Barbara Rogers of North Oaks were crowned King and Queen of the extravaganza. Following the awards, dinner and auction, attendees danced to the music of Primetime Express.



Jackie Dykes  
Member of the Year



Margot May  
Board Member of the Year



Sherry Mely (right), 2009 Chairman of the Board received a present from 2010 Incoming Chairman, Jolene Ott (left) and Outgoing Chairman Brenda Chabina (center)



Brenda Chabina presented Small Business of the Year award to (left) Helen Turner, Margot May, Howard Arceneaux and Bryan May of the Livingston Business and Real Estate Journal; Medium Business of the Year to (below, left) Diane Adams of Forrest Grove Plantation; and Large Business of the Year to (bottom left) Ed Mandujano of Allstar Automotive.

### LPC MISSION:

*Serve, educate and promote businesses in Livingston Parish*

### LPC GOALS:

- Improve efficiency and administration of Chamber office
- Market (promote/publicity) the value of the Chamber
  - Increase membership to 400 members (15% growth) by 2011
  - Promote Education - academics, community and workforce
  - Sponsor community events

### LPC MISSION

*Support and facilitate the growth and expansion of Livingston Parish by providing an environment that encourages both residential and business communities working together to build a healthy economy.*



2009 Gala King and Queen, Sean Casteel, clinic supervisor, and Barbara Rogers, nurse practitioner, at North Oaks Clinic in Walker.

**Livingston Parish  
Chamber of Commerce**

133 Hummell Street • P.O. Box 591  
Denham Springs, LA 70726

**225-665-8155**

**Fax: 225-665-2411**