

U.S. Chamber of Commerce encourages participation in national events

By Helen Wale Turner

John Gonzales of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, guest speaker at the July 14 general membership meeting, told local Chamber members that the national organization supports meaningful commonsense reforms in the federal government, but said the new national healthcare bill fails to meet that commonsense criteria because it will, among other things, force Medicare cuts and necessitate new taxes or tax increases, including employers' taxes.

"One thing it *does* do is create new jobs – for the IRS, to regulate the complex bill," Gonzales quipped. He believes changing the healthcare bill "will be the major focus in the fall elections."

Gonzalez reported that the national Chamber is concerned about the jobless rate and believes the administration's measures are not working. The U. S. Chamber also opposes the federal moratorium on oil drilling in the Gulf of Mexico.

He urged the audience to get involved and go to the national Chamber's election central website, www.vote4business.com, and choose issues to become involved with. He also directed people to the group's free enterprise website, www.freeenterprise.com, for information on the Jobs for America Summit 2010 currently taking place in Washington, D.C., and



Honored as Best of the Best Principals of Livingston Parish schools at the Chamber of Commerce July meeting were, left to right, Tracy McRae, Jim Richardson and Rachel Jenkins. Dianne Adams, far right, owner of Forrest Grove Plantation sponsored the awards.

other business issues.

Best of the Best Principals

The Livingston Parish Chamber last month honored three teachers as part of its new Best of the Best program which was designed to recognize excellence in education and in the Livingston Parish

public school system. The Chamber continued the program in July by recognizing three top principals.

Jim Richardson has been an educator of 26 years and a principal for 12. He is the first and only principal of Gray's Creek Elementary, and has led his schools to marked positive growth. Rachel Jenkins is in her third year as principal at Albany Middle School. She has worked at eight different schools in the system and has also served as a Home Economics teacher. She also teaches Sunday School. Tracy McRae became principal of Live Oak High School after first serving as assistant

principal there. She has been an educator for 25 years and an administrator for eight. She believes her school's success

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Calendar

- July 20: Breakfast on the Run, Greystone Country Club 7:30 - 9:00 a.m., sponsored by BANCORP SOUTH.**
- July 21: Rally for Economic Survival: Lift the Moratorium, Lafayette Cajundome 11 a.m.-1 p.m. The Rally is free and the public is encouraged to attend.**
- July 22: Seminar "The Power of Email Marketing" the Louisiana Small Business Development Center at SLU and the Chamber host this seminar at the Literacy and Technology Center, 10 a.m.-12 noon. No cost to attend, but pre-registration is preferred. For more information or to register call 225-664 -6638 or email sbdc@selu.edu.**
- August 11: General membership meeting, Forrest Grove Plantation.**



Tips to reduce spam flow into your E-mail

If you are an E-Mail user at all you have likely experienced the junk mail or spam phenomena that has taken over inboxes across the world. It is widely known that over 50%

(sometimes upwards of 80%) of all E-Mail that travels the Internet is unsolicited. What follows is a short list of tips to reduce the spam flow in your E-Mail:

1. E-Mail Filter – Utilize a mail client that filters spam or junk mail, such as Microsoft Outlook, Mozilla’s Thunderbird or Apple’s Mail.

2. Purchased Filtering - A purchased product to block and regulate spam may also be of assistance. The best solution may be a third party hosted anti-spam and e-mail filtering service (also handles viruses – Teknarus’ favorite option) such as mailfoundry – www.mailfoundry.com, Postini – www.google.com/postini or Spamcop - www.spamcop.net.

3. Do Not Expose E-Mail Addresses – Never publicly expose e-mail addresses on the Internet. Spammers mine the web for exposed addresses to target. One of the most common places that e-mail addresses are exposed is your own website, typically on the “contact” page. Another scenario would be if you contribute to online forums and a signature with

e-mail is published.

4. Subscribe With Care – Be careful of the e-mail services and lists in which you participate as non-reputable sources may publish your address. Only give your address to places that you are certain in which you will have the option to unsubscribe later.

5. Use Multiple Accounts – Setup a free account with Gmail, Yahoo, etc. in order to have an address to use when filling out online surveys and contest forms that are likely to bug you with mailings in the future and almost certain to increase your spam.

In the event you end up with a spam issue that will not seem to go away, the only option may be to stop using the affected address and to employ the above tactics once using a new one. While this may be a drastic solution it may be the only way to stop the inflow of junk mail. Ask your IT department or provider for assistance with the above methods and even others for a more productive e-mail experience.

Located at 1130 South Range Avenue, Suite D, Denham Springs., Devin Zito of Teknarus provides innovative technology solutions for websites, software and databases, systems interfacing, hardware and software support, network and server administration, email and web hosting, offsite backup and design and branding. See teknarus.com or call 225-243-7099.

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Attorney Brian K. Abels is responsible for the content of this Ad

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is based on its motto, “Have pride, show character, build tradition.”

Principals were selected by the Livingston Parish Public Schools administration; each honoree was presented a \$200 cash award.

Forrest Grove Plantation, Denham Springs, is the sponsor of these principal awards. Forrest Grove Plantation is a premier full-service catering facility. Owner Dianne Adams has children and grandchildren who attend parish schools, and she is a big supporter of the schools and the Chamber.

Announcements

- The Chamber office is implementing changes to the "Chamber Chat" newsletter and website; watch for the improved products coming soon! The permanent web address effective immediately is livingstonparishchamber.org.

- Chamber Member EMAIL BLASTS are now available through "Constant Contact" so call for details, rates and tell what you would like to promote!