



Landmarks

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KEEP LOUISIANA BEAUTIFUL 2016

Keep Louisiana Beautiful (KLB) is the state’s anti-litter and community improvement organization. Affiliated with Keep America Beautiful, KLB’s mission is to “promote personal, corporate and community responsibility for a clean and beautiful Louisiana.” Founded in 2000, Keep Louisiana Beautiful’s focus is on education, enforcement, awareness, litter removal and beautification. The 39 affiliates and 23,000 volunteers improve communities and transform public spaces. Everyone knows that litter is harmful to the environment; however, knowing about the problem doesn’t solve it. In order to create a litter-free Louisiana, everyone must do their part. Keep Louisiana Beautiful provides the tools and resources needed to improve a community’s appearance and preserve Louisiana’s natural beauty.

Keep Louisiana Beautiful hosted its annual state conference on September 28-29 at the Galvez Building Conference Center in Baton Rouge, La. The conference opened with welcome messages from Tricia Farace, KLB Board Member; Kip Holden, mayor of Baton Rouge; Denise Bennet, Deputy Secretary La. Department of Environmental Quality; and Eligha Guillory, Master of Ceremonies. Following the welcome remarks was keynote speaker Dr. Wes Shultz who discussed how to bring about behavioral change in hopes of increasing sustainability efforts. The topic of recycling was heavily discussed from a variety of different perspectives including Brenda Pulley of Keep America Beautiful



First lady, Donna Edwards with Department of Environmental Quality Secretary, Dr. Chuck Carr Brown, and Octagon Media.

who spoke on reusing, reducing, and recycling. Other recycling-based presentations included Refill Not Landfill by Tammy Millican, LSU; How to Make Your Case for School Recycling by Gretchen Vanicor, ULL and Amanda Waddle; Recycling at festivals by Greg Guidroz, Bayou Vermilion District; and Eco Green Events: Integrating Sustainability into Community Events and Planning by Valerie Longa, Alabama Coastal Foundation. The final session of the first day, focused on raising money to fund KLB projects, was presented by Mike Rogers of Keep America Beautiful. The evening closed with the Everyday Heroes Award Banquet, featuring keynote speaker Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser. The conference continued the following day with an opening session by Alexandra Miller of Asakura Robinson who explained planning and tools for communities to cut down on vacancy and blight, as well as calculating the cost of blight by Cecile Caron of Keep America Beautiful. Litter was a primary focal point of the discussions during the second day of the conference with speakers such as Rick Moore, St. Tammany Parish Constable; Max Ciolino, No Waste Nola; and Susan Russell, Executive Director of Keep Louisiana Beautiful. *(continued on page 2)*

IN THIS ISSUE...

| | |
|---|-----|
| Keep Louisiana Beautiful 2016 | 2 |
| BVPA Water Symposium..... | 2-3 |
| Featured Project:Caminada Headlands | 3 |
| Girl Scouts B.I.G. Event | 4 |

DATES TO REMEMBER...

| | | |
|-------------------|---|-----------------|
| Nov. 3 | BTNEP Management Conference #77 | Thibodaux, LA |
| Nov. 11 & Nov. 19 | LPBF Volunteer Swamp Restoration | Maurepas, LA |
| Nov. 15 | Chenier Plain Authority Meeting | Cameron, LA |
| Dec. 7 | CWPPRA Technical Committee Meeting | Baton Rouge, LA |
| Dec. 10-15 | Restore America’s Estuaries 2016 Summit | New Orleans, LA |

BVPA WATER SYMPOSIUM

The Bayou Vermilion Preservation Association (BVPA) is an organization which creates awareness of our natural environment by providing education and outreach to the general community about ways to conserve, protect and enjoy the Bayou Vermilion Watershed. The BVPA hosts an annual festival to commemorate and celebrate the Vermilion River as a cherished working river which contributes to Lafayette and Vermilion parish by confluences of small bayous in St. Mary and St. Landry parish. The theme of BVPA's 3rd Annual Water Weekend on the Vermilion was "Backyard to the Bayou" which included a visionary water symposium directed toward understanding your role as the general public in the preservation of the river.

This year, the BVPA worked toward answering the question on many resident's minds-How can we best inform and involve the community in preserving the bayou? In an attempt to answer this question, the water symposium discussed opportunities and threats for the Bayou Vermilion by presenting a series of distinguished speakers. Speakers include Peter Mayeux, owner of All Seasons Nursery and Landscaping, who spoke on ideas for best management practices on an individual's property, followed by Rusty Ruckstuhl, landscape architect with Grassroots Landscaping, who discussed ideas and concepts of homeowner water management irrigation and drainage. Michael Cullen, landscape architect with Land Architecture, LLC.; Pamela Gonzales Grainger,



Michael Cullen discusses landscape for a more sustainable community. A panel discusses how to best inform and involve the community in preserving the bayou.



(Keep Louisiana Beautiful continued from page 1) First Lady Donna Edwards along with Department of Environmental Quality Secretary Dr. Chuck Carr Brown and Octagon Media released Louisiana's new anti-litter slogan, "Love the boot, don't pollute." The new slogan will be featured as a bumper sticker on all state vehicles and will be available to the public for further exposure and promotion.

The Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act Public Outreach staff attended the conference as exhibitors providing information and materials to be used to educate the public on wetland and coastal restoration. Publications such as *Partners in Restoration*, *Understanding CWPPRA*, and *Henri Heron's Louisiana Wetlands* were distributed in addition to numerous editions of *WaterMarks* and two of CWPPRA's *Protect Our Coast* posters. ■

landscape engineer with Macbad Engineers; as well as Jeff Foshee and Teddy Beaulieu, Southern Lifestyle Development, each discussed relevant topics of their field for considerations toward sustainable community development. John Lopez, Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation, and Brad Klamer, New Orleans Sewage and Water Board, each gave insight into current successful projects in their respective regions, followed by Donald Sagera, Teche-Vermilion Water District; David Cheramie, Bayou Vermilion District; and Bess Foret, Lafayette Consolidated Government, who discussed management of the bayou. The 3rd annual visionary water symposium closed with a panel discussion including Bess Foret, Michael Cullen, Pamela Gonzales Grainger, and Daniel Didier, where views were exchanged on how to involve the community in preserving the Bayou Vermilion.

The Coastal Wetland Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act's Public Outreach staff attended the symposium and distributed various informational publications to symposium attendees. ■

FEATURED PROJECT: CAMINADA HEADLANDS BACK BARRIER MARSH CREATION, INCREMENT 2

The Caminada Headland is defined as the area south of Louisiana Highway 1 between Belle Pass and Caminada Pass. The Project is located directly behind Caminada headland beach east of Bayou Moreau and west of Elmer's Island. The Project is located in CWPPRA Planning Region 2, Barataria Basin, Lafourche and Jefferson Parishes.

The Caminada Back Barrier Marsh Restoration Project is located in an especially dynamic area of the Louisiana Coast. The landward shoreline migration of the beach will significantly impact the project area over the 20 year life of the project. Historic shoreline migration



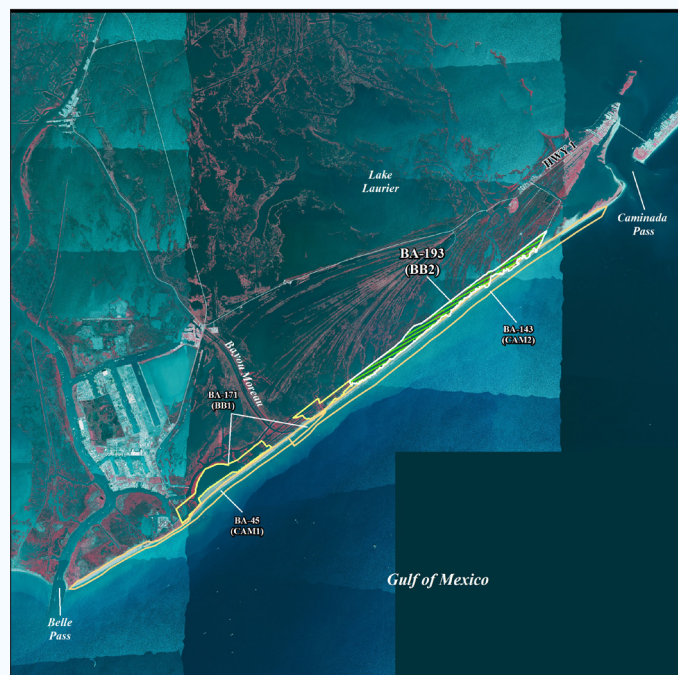
Dredge material from the Gulf of Mexico will be pumped into open-water areas which will create 246 acres of back barrier marsh and nourish 198 acres of emergent marsh behind 4 miles of the Caminada Beach.

rates average 41.4 feet/year over the last century. The increased losses occurred after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005 since the breaches remained open for an extended length of time. In addition, the losses were exacerbated by Tropical Storm Fay and Hurricanes Gustav and Ike in 2008. Significant prolonged breaches greatly increase the net export of sediment from the headland.

This project would create 246 acres of back barrier intertidal marsh and nourish 198 acres of emergent marsh using dredged material pumped from the Gulf of Mexico. The marsh creation and nourishment cells are designed to minimize impacts on existing marsh and mangroves. Assuming some natural vegetative recruitment, vegetative plantings are planned at a 50% density, with half planned at Target Year 1 (TY1) and half planned at TY3. Containment dikes will be degraded or gapped by TY3 to allow access for estuarine organisms. The project would result in approximately 207 net acres over the 20-year project life.

The project will work synergistically with BA-45 Caminada Beach and Dune Restoration Project (construction completed December 2014) and BA-143 Caminada Beach and Dune Restoration Increment 2 Project (scheduled to be completed with construction in July 2016), as well as BA-171 Caminada Back Barrier Marsh Creation Project (scheduled to be completed with E&D late 2016).

This project is on Priority Project List (PPL) 25. It was approved for Phase I Engineering and Design in January 2016 and is funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority. ■



Project map for BA-193 Caminada Headlands Back Barrier Marsh Creation, Increment 2.

GIRL SCOUTS B.I.G. EVENT

On September 24th, nearly 1,000 Girl Scouts, their leaders and parents congregated at Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond, La. to participate in the Believe In Girls (B.I.G.) event—the annual gathering of girl scouts from the 23 southeast Louisiana parishes to celebrate the beginning of a new scouting year.

The event offered a day of hands-on activities and presentations showcasing organizations which foster and encourage Girl Scout involvement and education, focusing on Girl Scout Initiatives such as STEM, healthy living, financial literacy and outdoor legacy. Keynote speaker, Representative Helena Moreno of Louisiana's 93rd District encouraged the girls to seek their own identity and take pride in being a girl. Participants were encouraged to find exhibits displaying topics of interests according to each girls' likes for a wider range of learning experiences.



The Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act's Public Outreach staff engaged the science interests of many participants by testing their coastal landscape, wildlife, and plant knowledge through CWPPRA's Wetland Jeopardy and Wetland Animal Tracks games. Both games connect the importance of science to the significance of coastal protection and conservation. In addition to games, CWPPRA also provided *Henri Heron's Louisiana Wetlands* activity book, stickers, wetland hero coloring sheets, and a variety of different CWPPRA publications. ■



COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

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