

Tammany West Chamber holds banquet

By Andrea Daniel

St. Tammany News

The St. Tammany West Chamber of Commerce held its Installation and Awards Banquet Jan. 12 at the Castine Center.

Before the ceremony, approximately 400 patrons glitzed the scene in ballroom gowns and black tuxedos bidding in the silent auction and ordering a drink from the open bar.

At 7:15 p.m., dinner was served and the presentation began, emceed by WDSU reporter, Heath Allen.

Retiring board members were the first to be recognized: John Dussouy, Dussouy Insurance Agency; Jim Heap, Louisiana Department of Labor; Kerry Milton, St. Tammany Parish Hospital; and Danny Shaw, Bearman, Caldwell and Berkowitz.

A special tribute was made to Maura Donahue, 2005-2006 chairman of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and parish president Kevin Davis presented the installation of the 2007 board of directors.

In a ceremonious passing of the gavel, 2006 Chairman of the Board Marty Mayer, CEO of Stirling Properties, presented 2007 Chairman of the Board Reid Falconer, an architect and developer. Falconer presented Mayer with a plaque of gratitude for Mayer's service to the board.

The Community Leadership Award was presented by Matt Faust of Capital One to Jimmy Rogers of Iberia Bank. A small video presentation highlighted Rogers' career.

The Tammany Award was presented by David Duplantier of Chevron, USA to Todd Hornbach, CEO of Hornbach Offshore Services.

A live auction also was held where several artwork pieces were sold for hundreds to thousands of dollars.

The silent auction continued after the awards show, followed by dancing until 11 p.m.



From left are: incoming 2007 Chairman of the Board Reid Falconer; Lacey Toledano, executive director; and 2006 Chairman of the Board Marty Mayer.