

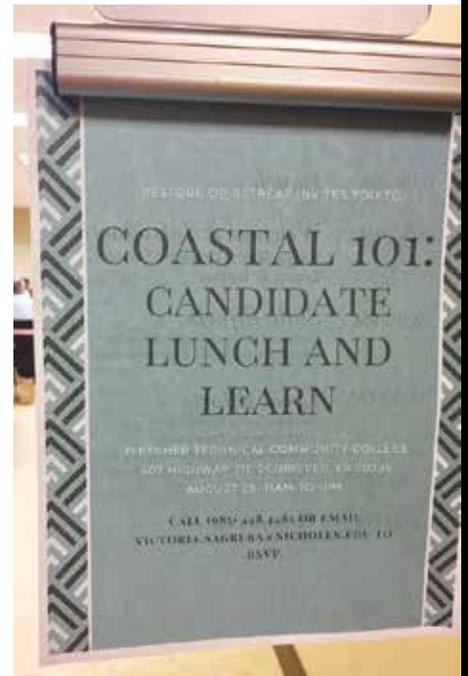


# 2019 Annual Report

## No Time to Lose

### ROR Hosts Coastal Candidate Luncheon

*Candidates were offered an extended informative lunch session detailing state and local coastal efforts for the Bayou Region.*



Advocacy for our coast, community and culture in both a state and local capacity is critical, especially at a time when there is no time to lose. Restore or Retreat hosted qualifying candidates in Lafourche and Terrebonne running for State Senate, State Representative, Parish President and Parish Council to Coastal 101: Candidate Lunch and Learn. This condensed coastal lunch session provided insight into coastal restoration, protection and resources for the Bayou Region.

Following lunch and an introduction, CPRA Chairman and Executive Assistant to the Governor on Coastal Activities Chip Kline welcomed the group and provided an extensive “Coastal 101,” describing the inception of the coastal agency and progress made so far in implementing the State’s Comprehensive Coastal Master Plan. Dwayne Bourgeois and Mitch Marmande, representing the North Lafourche Levee District and Terrebonne Levee and Conservation District respectively, were also on hand to talk about levee improvements in both parishes, as well as impacts from Hurricane Barry. Ben Malbrough of the Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District provided an update on their exciting work including funding for a brand-new pump station in Donaldsonville. ROR closed out the meeting by providing coastal resources to the candidates. We thank all of the candidates for their time and willingness to serve, and are grateful to our restoration and protection partners for presenting!

## ROR Introduces Coastal Workforce Opportunities to Local Students

*A coast-centric education event was held in the Bayou Region, linking community to coast.*

Restore or Retreat (ROR), with the support of Chevron, gave an increased focus to the upcoming generation that is tasked with saving our coast, community and culture in the face of Louisiana's land loss crisis through ROR's coastal workforce event, Working for Our Coast. Since the inaugural event in fall 2018, Working for Our Coast has introduced nearly 1,400 Lafourche and Terrebonne Parish students to the current state of our coast and related career options surrounding coastal research, protection, restoration, functionality and resiliency.

Lafourche Parish ninth grade students gathered at Fletcher Technical Community College in spring 2019, while Terrebonne Parish ninth graders did so in the fall, both to engage in coastal career presentations by a large variety of distinguished professionals in engineering and design, construction, protection, journalism, coastal science and biology, among others. Students also had the opportunity to explore coastal field equipment such as airboats, survey boats, excavators, ATVs, drones and informative exhibits from area organizations and businesses. Finally, all students received a folder containing helpful tools and resources for a successful future, such as a résumé template, soft skills guide, information on admissions to both Fletcher and Nicholls State University, and further details on ROR and CPRA. Students transportation and lunch were provided thanks to support from the Callais Family Fund through Bayou Community Foundation and Fourchon Oilman's Association.

The future of our communities depends upon the next generation's commitment to saving our coast, restoring what was lost and protecting what still stands. Through our Working for Our Coast event, ROR provided the first steps in connecting these students to coastal career opportunities and sparked an interest for them to become and remain involved in local efforts to better our coast.



## ROR Celebrates Our Coast with Terrebonne Parish

*Terrebonne Parish Coastal Day provided a full day of activities showcasing protection and restoration improvements in our area.*

Another successful Terrebonne Parish Coastal Day brought residents, industry leaders and local, state and federal officials together for an interactive showcase of coastal protection and restoration projects in the parish. Hosted by Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government and the Terrebonne Levee and Conservation District, the day kicked off with the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority's monthly board meeting followed by a dedication of the \$35 million Falgout Canal "Jimmy Dagate" flood gate with Governor John Bel Edwards and other officials at Falgout Canal Marina in Dularge. The public was then welcomed to the Houma Civic Center to enjoy a large variety of coastal restoration and protection displays and equipment by local and state businesses and organizations, including Restore or Retreat.

ROR helped participants "visit our coast" with COAST360 virtual reality headsets, including construction of a barrier island project on Whiskey Island and even a quick stop at Cecil Lapeyrouse's store. The event concluded with informative panels with local, state and federal officials and industry partners, plus remarks from state legislators.





## Delta Dispatches Celebrates 100th Episode

*The weekly coastal radio show covers Louisiana’s coast, its people, wildlife and jobs, and why restoring it matters.*



One hundred episodes ago (yes, 100!), we asked what happens when a Theriot and a Hebert walk into a radio station! The answer is engaging coastal conversations, riveting personal stories and insight from experts, and of course, a lot of laughs!

Restore or Retreat’s Executive Director and Delta Dispatches co-host, Simone Theriot Maloz, along with co-host Jacques Hebert of Environmental Defense Fund, sat down with Governor John Bel Edwards and Chip Kline of the Governor’s Office of Coastal Activities to discuss coastal restoration and its associated challenges and opportunities to celebrate Delta Dispatches’ 100th episode. Thank you to our listeners who have made this journey possible!

Previous guests have included Congressman Garret Graves, Dr. Loren Scott, future coastal leaders, authors, filmmakers, and many more. Episodes can be heard at [www.deltadispatches.org](http://www.deltadispatches.org) and you can subscribe to the podcast on Spotify, Google Play and iTunes.

*“You’re going to see more construction going on; we’re going to make head way with respect to restoration and protection across coastal Louisiana...” – Governor John Bel Edwards*

## ROR Co-hosts Conservation on Tap Event

*The Houma event was an opportunity to talk about coastal restoration with sportsmen and women.*



Restore or Retreat partnered with Vanishing Paradise to bring “Conservation on Tap” to the Bayou Region. The event, held at Spigot’s Brew Pub, focused on gathering sportsmen and women in Lafourche and Terrebonne parishes to discuss current conservation and coastal restoration efforts in the area.

Our partner, Vanishing Paradise, is a program launched in 2009 by the National Wildlife Federation and Ducks Unlimited to advocate for restoration of the Mississippi River Delta among sportsmen and women across the country. They work with businesses, organizations and individuals nationwide to restore Louisiana’s waterfowl and fishing habitat by reconnecting the Mississippi River with its wetlands.

Representatives from ROR and Vanishing Paradise gave opening remarks and welcomed guest speaker Representative Jerome “Zee” Zeringue and event presenter, Darin Lee. Representative Zeringue gave coastal background of the area, discussed beneficial projects—both underway and upcoming—and gave insight into a few bills of the 2019 legislative session. Darin Lee, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority’s Coastal Resource Scientist in Operations Division, discussed the fundamentals of barrier island structure and recent barrier islands restoration projects.



# ROR

In the Field | 2019

***ROR is putting boots on the ground, from conferences to fly-overs and everything in between!***



The Creole Classic Fishing Tournament and ROR joined forces for the second time to host another successful "Launch Party at Creole Classic" during their mid-summer fishing tournament in Grand Isle, LA.



Victoria Bourque, ROR Special Projects Coordinator, celebrates Earth Day with educational coastal activities at Napoleonville Primary School.



ROR Executive Director, Simone Maloz, welcomes Senator Sheldon Whitehouse of Rhode Island to Louisiana, with a tour of Davis Pond Freshwater Diversion and its significant impacts to the area. Also on the tour was Congressman Garret Graves and representatives from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and CPRA. Check out Sen. Whitehouse's hat!



ROR attends the announcement of the newly appointed Executive Assistant to the Governor on Coastal Activities and CPRA Chairman, Chip Kline, at the LSU Center for River Studies in Baton Rouge, LA.

ROR Executive Committee Member, Tim Allen of Apache LA Minerals, addressing a panel discussion on creating coastal partnerships during Coastal Day at the Louisiana Legislature.

# Marsh Madness!



ROR welcomes Congressional Staffers to coastal Louisiana with a first-hand look into successful diversion benefits with an airboat tour of Davis Pond and a look at the effects of land loss by a seaplane fly-over of our coast.



ROR

# Project Highlights:

## Regional Protection and Restoration Projects Moving Forward with Secured Funding

### Louisiana's Coastal Program Receives Millions in Designated Dollars

2019 kicked off with an announcement from Governor John Bel Edwards with plans to designate more than \$350 million in coastal dollars, including \$55 million from FY18 surplus dollars, to Louisiana's coastal trust fund. Governor Edwards also highlighted nearly \$300 million allocated to hurricane protection projects across the next three fiscal years, which utilize enhanced Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA) revenues coming to the state. Of the projects receiving designated GOMESA funds, a large portion provide benefits to Lafourche and Terrebonne parishes, such as \$22 million in GOMESA revenues for the Morganza to the Gulf Hurricane Protection System, \$35 million for a critical Bayou Lafourche pump station and \$57.4 million for the Houma Navigation Canal Lock Complex over three years.

### Lafourche Parish Levee Protection Projects Move Forward

Levees were big winners in 2019 with secured funding announced for several local projects. In the fall, Governor John Bel Edwards signed an agreement allocating a total of \$41.7 million to both the North and South Lafourche levee districts for storm protection projects. Of the total \$41.7 million, \$36 million is allocated from the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA) funds and \$5.6 million in surplus to the South Lafourche Levee District. With the secured funding, North Lafourche Levee District has five projects slated for construction, while South Lafourche Levee District has three projects.



### Terrebonne Barrier Islands and Barrier Headland



Strides in a restoration project off the coast of Terrebonne Parish have been made in 2019, as restoration funding was secured for the beach, dune and marsh habitat along Trinity-East Island, Timbalier Island and West Belle Barrier Headland. The Terrebonne Barrier Islands project intends to address the impacts of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill through a restoration effort funded by the Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund, which is administered through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

In June, the state's coastal agency, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, and the U.S. Bureau of Ocean and Energy Management signed an agreement to dredge 10 million cubic yards of sand from federal waters for the project; this equates to nearly seven miles of shoreline and 1,400 acres of beach, dune, supratidal and marsh habitats being restored and a 68-acre feeder beach for West Belle Barrier Headland being created.

In September, Governor Edwards, CPRA Chairman Chip Kline and officials from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation announced a \$160 million commitment to fully paying the Terrebonne Barrier Islands of West Belle Pass, East Trinity and Timbalier Islands. These barrier islands serve as a critical first line of defense, as well as vital habitat for the ecosystem. Weeks Marine was awarded the contract for the work, which was first announced at the christening of their new dredge, the automated and multifunctional ocean-going hydraulic cutter suction dredge, JS Chatry in Houma.

## BHP COAST project

Led by Restore or Retreat, the COAST (Coastal Advocates Through Science Training) program is a collaborative leadership development initiative for native communities in Lafourche and Terrebonne parishes. With partners from the Water Institute of the Gulf and Louisiana Sea Grant, the program will link coastal restoration with coastal culture through an examination of restoration-related scientific and social impacts. COAST partners have kicked off the project with a new technique called geo-spatial mapping, which links storytelling to GPS coordinates. This information can then be used to identify places of importance and risk—often times the two collide. For more information, visit our website at [www.restoreorretreat.org/coast](http://www.restoreorretreat.org/coast) and look for COAST partners to be hosting more community engagement events in 2020!



## ROR Joins GOMESA Coalition in Washington DC

*The coalition traveled to the nation's capital to talk about increasing GOMESA.*



Louisiana's Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, along with the Governor's Office of Coastal Activities, led a delegation of approximately 50 people to the nation's capital to advocate for a greater share of offshore royalty revenues, which here in Louisiana, is constitutionally dedicated to protecting and restoring our coast.

Restore or Retreat's Special Project Coordinator, Victoria Sagrera Bourque, joined members of the North Lafourche Levee District, Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District, Terrebonne Levee and Conservation District, parish presidents and more for one-on-one meetings with members of Congress and their staff. During the meetings, teams from Louisiana and other Gulf Coast states educated Congressional members and staff on GOMESA's history, its dedication to Louisiana's

coastal trust fund and the positive attributes of legislation introduced by Senator Cassidy, Congressman Richmond and Graves, as well as Congressman Scalise, all of which seek to improve Louisiana's share under GOMESA.

## ROR Celebrates Membership with Organizational Events

*Events commemorating membership - current and prospective - help us support our work throughout the year.*

Restore or Retreat was joined by great company as we welcomed current members, industry partners and friends to our two annual organizational events, Annual Meeting and Rendezvous.

The annual meeting serves as an organizational update for ROR's members, stakeholders and the community on ROR's recent endeavors and latest happenings with our coast and the Bayou Region. The 2019 Annual Meeting, held at Ellendale Country Club in Houma, featured special guest CPRA Chairman Chip Kline and guest speaker Dr. Jay Clune, president of Nicholls State University, who highlighted the many coastal opportunities at Nicholls, including the coastal center and business incubator.

Restore or Retreat's members and friends were able to network while enjoying good company and spirits "on the bayou" during ROR's fall event, Rendezvous. The annual event, held at The Foundry in Thibodaux, is the primary fund raiser for our local coastal advocacy group, which featured a silent auction with items donated by local merchants, specialty food and drinks, and music by the Cajun Music Preservation Society. "With the community's support and strong leadership, we can continue to make positive strides in preserving our coast, community and culture," said Mike Plaisance, Restore or Retreat President.

While we take time to gather and celebrate successes annually, we remain committed and steadfast to the implementation of meaningful solutions for our irreplaceable region, with the help of our membership and community. Thank you for your continued support!



# ROR

Membership | 2019

## ELITE

Walton Family Foundation  
National Wildlife Federation  
Chevron  
BHP COAST Program

## PLATINUM

ConocoPhillips  
Greater Lafourche Port Commission\*\*

## GOLD

South Central Industrial Association  
LOOP  
Callais Family Fund, Bayou Community Foundation  
Fourchon Oilman's Association

## SILVER

Submar, Inc.  
Creole Classic Fishing Tournament

## BRONZE

Apache LA Minerals, Inc.\*\*  
Bollinger Shipyards\*\*  
Duplantis Design Group, P.C.\*\*  
James R. Peltier  
The Allan Company  
T. Baker Smith, LLC  
Bayou Industrial Group  
Capital One Bank  
Entergy\*\*  
Morgan Stanley Wealth Management  
Parker Marine Services, LLC  
Sealevel Construction, Inc.  
Thibodaux Regional Medical Center  
Thomas J. Boudreaux, Architect, AIA-LLC  
Marguerite Knight

## Associates

Buquet Distributing Co., Inc.  
Picciola & Associates, Inc.\*\*  
Phylway Construction LLC  
South Louisiana Bank  
Volkert, Inc.  
Williams, Inc.  
Houma-Terrebonne Chamber of Commerce  
Weeks Marine  
Bluewater Rubber & Gasket Co.  
Norman Duplantis  
Angelette-Picciola, LLC  
EATEL\*\*  
Fletcher Technical Community College\*\*  
Michel H. Claudet, LLC  
Plaisance Dragline & Dredging Co., Inc.  
Southern Guard Service  
Stephanie Hebert Insurance Agency, Inc.  
Terminix Pest Control  
Archie Chaisson for Parish President  
Lori LeBlanc, LLC  
Thibodaux Regional Orthopedic Clinic  
Gaubert Oil Company, Inc.  
Halliburton  
Synergy Bank\*\*  
Caillouet Land LLC  
James and Penelope Callahan  
Charles C. Theriot & Company  
C-K Associates, LLC  
Danos  
Berwick and Alexis Duval  
Edward Wisner Donation Adv. Comm.  
Lafourche Parish Assessor Wendy Thibodeaux

Lafourche Parish District Attorney  
Kristine Russell  
Leonard Chauvin P.E., P.L.S., Inc.  
Robert and Terri Naquin  
North Lafourche Conservation, Levee  
& Drainage District  
Picciola Land Company, LLC\*\*  
Providence Engineering and Design, LLC  
Francis and Helen Richard  
Rig Chem LLC  
Ricky and Charlotte Smith  
The Seafood Shed Inc.  
Triche-Doverspike Financial Group, Inc.  
Jane Arnette  
Alfred Delaune  
Internal Medicine Associates  
Lafourche Chamber of Commerce  
Gretchen Caillouet & Associates  
LA 1 Coalition

## Friends

Luci Sposito Campaign Fund  
Stephen and Martha Peltier  
Ted M. Falgout & Associates, LLC  
David Cavell  
Friends of Bayou Lafourche  
Deanna Lafont  
Lafourche Parish Clerk of Court  
Marla Abel for Judge  
New York Life  
Nicholls State University Foundation  
Kathy Stuart

Tommy and Martha Thomassie  
White Car  
2nd Wind Marine, LLC  
Chandler LeBoeuf  
Joni Tuck  
Lafourche Parish Clerk of Court  
Annette Fontana

\*\*Donors for both Annual Membership  
and Rendezvous fundraiser



Restore or Retreat, Inc.  
P.O. Box 2048-NSU  
Thibodaux, LA 70310

Phone: (985) 448-4485  
Fax: (985) 448-4486

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

Connect with ROR

