



SEN. BARROW NAMED YMCA SENATOR OF THE YEAR

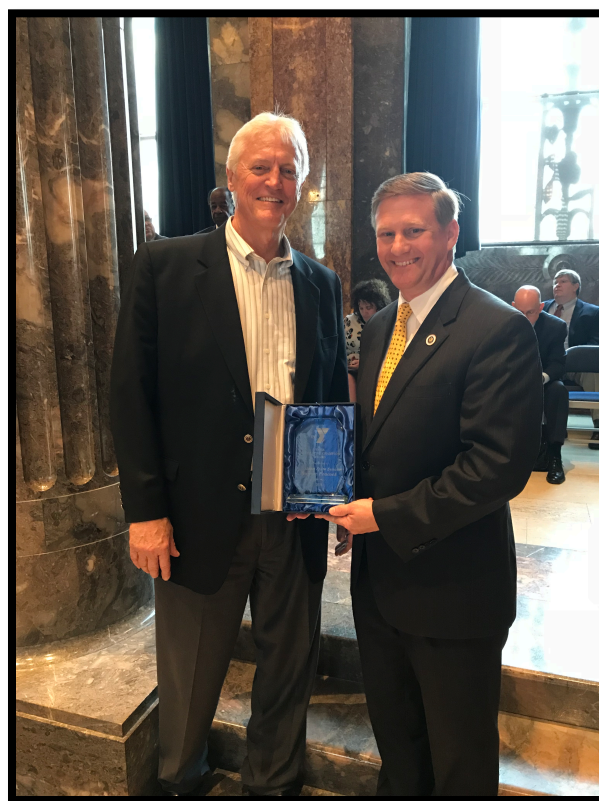
Sen. Barrow Peacock was awarded the YMCA Senator of the Year on May 15 in a surprise presentation at the Capitol.

Gary Lash of the YMCA of Northwest Louisiana joined YMCA representatives in Baton Rouge to present the award. Senator Peacock is recognized for his advocacy and support of the YMCA's mission. Peacock helps run the YMCA athletic scoreboard when not in session. "Now I have a trophy like my sons," he joked.

May 15 was also designated "Y Day in Louisiana" to honor the organization's commitment to nurture the potential of kids, promote healthy living and foster a sense of social responsibility. The Y's core values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility unite a movement and guide behavior, interactions with each other and decision-making, Lash said.

More than 100,000 children and adults throughout the state Ys have access to the essentials necessary to learn, grow, and thrive, he said. Louisiana's Ys support the development of integrated, community-based strategies for serving children and families. Louisiana's Ys stand ready to support state government efforts to provide developmental programs for youth, strengthen families and mobilize and coordinate broad efforts to support children and families through partnerships that meet community needs, the resolution said.

Representatives of Louisiana's Ys also met with legislators in Baton Rouge to discuss and exchange ideas on issues facing youth and families.



Gary Lash and Sen. Barrow Peacock

About the Y

The Y is one of the nation's leading nonprofits strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Across the U.S., 2,700 Ys engage 21 million men, women and children – regardless of age, income or background – to nurture the potential of children and teens, improve the nation's health and well-being and provide opportunities to give back and support neighbors. Locally, the YMCA of Northwest Louisiana has been serving the community since 1888. Visit www.ymcanwla.org for more information.