

Bay Florida's Forgotten Coast® BUSINESS REPORT

June 2010

Vol 19, Number 5

Monthly Meetings

Meeting Notices

Monthly Business Luncheon
June 2, 2010, 12:00
Caroline's
123 Water Street
Apalachicola

Monthly Business Luncheon
July 7th
TBA

Business After Hours
July 8th
Superior Bank
58 4th Street
Apalachicola
5:30-7:00 pm

Visitor Statistics

April 2001	1,342
April 2002	1,237
April 2003	980
April 2004	1,494
April 2005	1,189
April 2006	1,268
April 2007	2,200
April 2008	2,987
April 2009	2,497
April 2010	2,968

Website stats February

Visits	17,566
Page Views	84,306
Average Page Views	4.80
Time on Site (mins)	4:21
Bounce Rate	24.68%
New Visits	69.72%

Chamber Dues

Our new year begins in July. You will receive a renewal form this week along with a print out of the information we have on you on the Chamber [website](#). We want to have your information up to date, so please return the forms highlighting any changes we need to make and return it with your dues.

Be sure to check your email and website addresses and your keywords. Keywords help others locate your business in the website database. In the top section of the form you will see the number of times your listing has been viewed and how many times your website has been clicked on. If you have any questions, please feel free to [email](#) us or call (850) 653-9419.

We will hold board elections at the July luncheon meeting on July 7th. Members will receive a list of the potential nominees and officers prior to the luncheon.

New Members

The Bay Queen

Brad and Sally Heinz joined the chamber in May with their new loft rental The Bay Queen located in Apalachicola. Brad and Sally are from Memphis and recently purchased the unit which is in the High Cotton Marketplace on Water Street. The Bay Queen is a two-bedroom, fully furnished and equipped loft overlooking the Apalachicola River. It was named after one of the many paddlewheel steamers that traveled up and down the Apalachicola River in the 1800s. Brad and Sally can be reached at (901) 218-8836 or by email thebayqueen@gmail.com.

Subway

Directors Column

We have had a very busy month at the Apalachicola Bay Chamber office and Visitors Center. Much of May was spent dealing with the fallout from the BP oil spill and we are just starting to get back to normal. We all feel quite blessed and grateful that we have not had to deal with the actual oil in our bays and on our shores. The phones are ringing and we are sending out many information packets.

Many people are worried about what might happen if a hurricane comes while the oil spill is still in the Gulf. NOAA has put together an informative [PDF](#) on the subject that answers questions like:

What will happen to a hurricane that runs through this oil slick?

What will the hurricane do to the oil slick in the Gulf?

Will the oil slick help or hurt a storm from developing in the Gulf?

Will the hurricane pull up the oil that is below the surface of the Gulf?

Have we had experience in the past with hurricanes and oil spills?

Will there be oil in the rain related to a hurricane?

Volunteers

If you have a few hours and would like to know more about what the Chamber does volunteer to help us out. We need volunteers for all sorts of projects from answering

Chamber Board of Directors

PRESIDENT

Mark Friedman 670-1253

VICE-PRESIDENT

Michael Shuler 653-9226

TREASURER

Jerry Hall 653-9510

SECRETARY

Kristin Anderson 653-2249

BOARD MEMBERS

Susan Bassett 323-0092

Andrea Duval 653-9522

Ginny Griner 653-8853

Bud Hayes 927-3305

Beverly Hewitt 653-9510

Richard Langford 899-0030

Paul Marxsen 697-2542

Ted Ruffner 670-8870

Diana Prickett 927-2322

Joe Taylor 653-1411

Devendra and Shila Shah joined the chamber with their Subway shop on St George Island. The Subway was originally opened six years ago. The Shah's purchased it two years ago. Subway is open seven days a week from 8:00 am - 9:00 pm. They serve breakfast, lunch and dinner. Ruthann Conley is the manager and she can be reached at (850) 927-4781. For information about Subway sandwiches go to www.subway.com.

J. Gordon Shuler, Esquire

Welcome attorney Gordon Shuler with his firm J. Gordon Shuler, P.A. Gordon has practiced law for almost twenty three years. He graduated from Florida State University and started his practice in 1987. Gordon specializes in criminal defense law and also handles probate, real estate and family law. His office is located at 34 Fourth Street in Apalachicola at the foot of the bridge. Gordon can be reached at (850) 653-9226 or by email at jgordon@shulerlawfl.com

Member News

Exposure

Caroline McKenzie Freelance writer for several magazines was sent information about the Antique & Classic Boat Show

Melissa Hosp with At Home Tennessee, a lifestyle magazine, was sent information and photographs for an article they are writing about St George Island. They will be here the first week of June.

Freelance writer Jennifer Kornegay was sent information and photographs for two articles she is working on about the area.

USA Today wrote an great article on St George Island that included the chamber website in their Travel Tips section on May 18th.

Charolette Crane with Florida Trend was given information about how businesses were coping with the oil spill.

The Chamber proactively followed up on numerous news stories concerning the oil spill and its impact on the area including the

visitor's questions to help with events. Call Anita or Cindy at (850) 653-9419 or [email](mailto:) us.

Anita Grove, Executive Director



Dothan Eagle, a Macon TV station, the Gainesville Sun, Tallahassee Democrat, several Atlanta media outlets to name a few. We also submitted comments on food blogs about our seafood and fishing.

We contacted CBS Nightly News regarding their story on May 18th. We invited them to come and see the area first hand.

Member News

During June, the Big Bend Hospice Franklin County Advisory Council is requesting assistance with our first annual Nutritional Supplement Drive. Donations such as Ensure, Carnation Instant Breakfast and Glucerna are sorely needed for our patients who during the hot summer months sometimes have to make the difficult decision of whether to purchase food or pay for air conditioning. Through the month of June, we are asking that donations be dropped off at the Franklin County Sheriff's Office and The Grill in Apalachicola. If you need to drop off donations after hours, please contact Pam Raker Allbritton at (850) 508-8749.