

Bay Florida's Forgotten Coast® BUSINESS REPORT

October 2010

Vol 19, Number 10

Monthly Meetings

Meeting Notices

Monthly Business Luncheon
October 6, 2010, 12:00
That Place Off 98
17 Avenue E
Apalachicola

Business After Hours
November 11, 2010
5:30-7:00 pm
Apalach Outfitters
29 Avenue E
Apalachicola

Monthly Business Luncheon
November 3, 2010,

Apalachicola Small Business Development Center

The Apalachicola Bay Chamber has established the Apalachicola Small Business Development Center in partnership with the US Small Business Development Center (SBDC) in Tallahassee. The center's purpose is to:

- Promote the creation, growth and retention of small businesses in Apalachicola.

- Provide technical assistance and one-on-one counseling to small business in the areas of financing, business plan development, marketing, and accounting with the help of the SBDC.

- Serve as an incubator for new businesses and start ups.

- Hold meetings/workshops with local leaders to find ways to improve the local business climate.

- Seek to improve access to financing for small businesses.

Directors Column

Anita Grove, Executive Director

Oyster Roast November 5th

Oyster Roast tickets are selling fast. Tickets are \$50.00 each or \$90.00 for a pair. Call or stop by to purchase yours today at the Apalachicola Bay Chamber of Commerce, 122 Commerce Street in Apalachicola (850) 653-9419 or [email us](#) . We will be at the Garden Shop in Apalachicola.



12:00
TBA

Visitor Stats

August 2001	829
August 2002	791
August 2003	969
August 2004	930
August 2005	1,210
August 2006	1,740
August 2007	1,7908
August 2008	1,696

August 2009	1,978
August 2010	876

Website Stats for August 2010

Visits	18,440
Page Views	78,395
Pages/Visits	4.25
Bounce Rate	31.24%
Time on Site mins	3.55
New Visits	70.13%

-Explore ways to expand and diversify our local economy.
-Coordinate business surveys, economic studies, and research current data with the help of FAMU School of Business.
-Recruit new businesses to Apalachicola and the area and assist them with location and licensing information.

Our partners include Opportunity Florida, Enterprise Florida, Gulf Coast Community College, Gulf Coast WorkForce Board, and the Historic Apalachicola Business Owners Association. This is a role that the Chamber has played for many years. During this time of economic difficulty we continue to help small businesses seeks resources and opportunities.

New Members

Captain Mike Locklear

Captain Mike Locklear joined the Chamber last month with his charter fishing business. Mike is a 5th generation Floridian and 3rd generation fishing guide. He and his wife Sherry purchased a house on Alligator Point in 2006, and they are slowly making the transition from Homosassa to Franklin County. Mike received his guide license in 1976, and he has fished all over the state. Mike has fished the flats of the west coast of Florida where he has focused on shallow water sight fishing 30+ years. He plans to focus his charter business here on eco-tours of



Exposure

Rowan Jacobsen Was sent information our local seafood

Chamber Board Directors

PRESIDENT

Michael Shuler

653-9226

VICE-PRESIDENT

Ginny Griner 653-8853

TREASURER

Jerry Hall 653-9510

SECRETARY

Kristin Anderson

653-2249

BOARD MEMBERS

Kristy Branch Banks

670-1255

Donna Duncan

653-8976

Susan Bassett

323-0092

Mark Friedman

670-1253

Bud Hayes 927-3305

Beverly Hewitt

653-9510

Paul Marxsen 697-2542

the Crooked River, Alligator Point, for *Eating Well* photography tours, and inshore fly fishing magazine. Rowan wrote the tarpon and redfish. He has a 24 foot book *The Geography of Carolina Skiff* and a 18 foot *Hells Bay Oysters*.

Marquesas skiff. Mike can be reached at

(352) 422-1927 or (850) 349-8687. You

can visit his website at www.homosassafishing.com

Ochlockonee Bay Realty

Welcome partners Tim Jordan and Marsha

Tucker with Ochlockonee Bay Realty, a real

estate firm and vacation rental company. *Garden & Gun* was sent

Tim started the business twenty-three

years ago and Marsha started in 1994.

Ochlockonee Bay Realty is one of Wakulla

County's biggest realtors. They also

manage vacation rental homes on Alligator

Point, St Teresa, Ochlockonee Bay and

Lanark. They also manage some long term

rentals on the Ochlockonee. Their office is

office located on the east side of the

Ochlockonee Bridge at 146 US 98 (Coastal

Highway) and they have another office in

Crawfordville. They can be reached at

(850) 984-0001 or (850) 567-9296 Tim's

cell or (850) 570-9214 Marsha cell. Visit

their website at www.obrealty.com

Eco Explorer Cruises

Walt Muecke (*pronounced Mickey*) joined

the Chamber with his business Eco

Explorer Cruises, an eco, history and

sightseeing cruise boat based out of Scipio

Creek Marina. EcoExplorer offers tours on

Mary Billingsley was sent

information on Tupelo honey

for a story on the National Trust

for Historic Preservation

website. She was also sent

information on our fall festival

and food festivals.

information on our restaurants,

seafood businesses and shops

for the January issue of *Garden*

& *Gun*.

Gretchen Schmidt with *Edible*

South Florida was sent

information and photos on our

oysters for an article she is

working on.

Forgotten Coast Community

Yard Sale

Gather up your treasures to sell

and join us anywhere along

U.S. Highway 98

(Big Bend Scenic Byway) on

Saturday, October 2nd. Sale

will be held from 8:00 am-

until. From Mexico Beach to

Panacea, this event promises to

be the best yard sale in the

Diana Prickett the Apalachicola River and Bay, tours to Panhandle. Non-profits,
 927-2322 the barrier island, Fort Gadsden, or he will individuals, and businesses are
 customize tours. Walt was born and raised welcome to set up. If you
 Kevin Ward 899-0669 in Pensacola and grew up helping his would like to be listed on the
 father, a commercial fisherman, on Perdido map contact us at (850)
 Bay. Walt lives on St George Island with 653-9419 or
 his wife Jessie (Doyle) Muecke. He can be info@apalachicolabay.org
 reached by calling (850) 653-1666, or visit
 his website at
www.ecoexplorercruises.com

Historic Apalachicola, Inc

Historic Apalachicola, Inc joined the Chamber last month. It is a non-profit organization established by a group of business owners, property owners and citizens to encourage collaborations and provide education, support, guidance, facilitation and vision for the promotion, preservation and improvement and economic restructuring of Apalachicola's historic commercial districts. The group plans to apply for a Main Street designation for the City of Apalachicola. Officers include Jamie Atchison, Harry Arnold, George Coon, George and Pam Mahr, and Shirley Pace. The website is www.historicapalachicola.com, and they can be reached at (850) 653-2441 or (850) 899-3910.

Lulu's Gallery ~n~ Apalach

Welcome Lulu Raffield with her new art gallery, Lulu's Gallery ~n~ Apalach, located in the Gibson Inn annex on the

second floor between the Natural Medicine Store and the Gibson Inn on Market Street. Lulu was born in Apalachicola and later moved to Atlanta, returning to Apalachicola for the summers. She moved back here full-time in 1992. She discovered her love for painting in the mid 1990s but was busy with a mortgage business from 1998-2005. She moved to Louisiana for a short time but returned back to the place she loves. She embraces her heritage and loves to paint oysters, shrimp boats and anything related to this area. She also builds all her own canvases out of recycled wood and paints and repurposes furniture. Lulu's work can also be seen at the Blue Parrot on St George Island. Drop by Lulu's gallery opening on October 2nd. The gallery will be open Tuesday-Saturday 10:00 am-6:00 pm or ring the bell. She will have grand opening celebration on Seafood Festival weekend. Lulu can be reached at (850) 370-6720 or by email at paintingsbylulu@yahoo.com

Dail's Seafood

Dail's Seafood joined the Chamber with their family owned seafood retail business. Dail's has been selling fresh local seafood on St. George Island on Gulf Beach Drive for more than fourteen years. They sell fresh local shrimp, oysters, grouper, blue crab, scallops, and snapper. They also sell crab cakes and tuna. All of their seafood can be specially pack for travel for those who want to take our great seafood home.

Dail Carmichael started the business. His son John "Pee Wee" and daughter-in-law Anna are now running it. Whether it be manning a shrimp boat, oystering or selling seafood, John is a 5th generation Floridian and his family has worked in the seafood business for generations. John was born in Apalachicola. His dad came here forty years ago from Steinhatchee. Dail's Seafood is the white trailer located on Gulf Beach Drive across from Collins C21 Real Estate. They are open seven days a week from 9:00 am-5:00 pm. They can be reached by calling (850) 370-6763

Member News

Golf Tournament

The 7th annual Apalachicola Bay Chamber Of Commerce Golf Tournament on Wednesday, October 13th. Tee-time is 1:00 pm on the beautiful St. James Golf Course, just east of Carrabelle. The tournament will be a flighted four man scramble, low score wins, with prizes for the top three teams. Scores will be totaled and prizes awarded at a reception following the tournament. Cost per team is \$400. Fees include range balls, and golf carts equipped with the latest color GPS system. For more info, contact us at (850) 653-9419 or anita@apalachicolabay.org .

Forgotten Coast Community Yard Sale

Gather up your treasures to sell and join us anywhere along U.S. Highway 98 (Big Bend Scenic Byway) on Saturday, October 2nd. Sale will be held from 8:00 am- until. From Mexico Beach to Panacea, this event promises to be the best yard sale in the Panhandle. Non-profits, individuals, and businesses are welcome to set up. If you would like to be listed on the map contact us at (850) 653-9419 or info@apalachicolabay.org