

# Bay Florida's Forgotten Coast® BUSINESS REPORT

## Monthly Meetings

### Monthly Business Luncheon

September 2, 2009,  
12:00  
The Owl Cafe  
15 Avenue D  
Apalachicola

### Business After Hours

September 10, 2009  
5:30-7:00 pm  
Orman House  
Museum  
177 5th Street  
Apalachicola

### Monthly Business Luncheon

October 7, 2009,  
12:00  
Location TBA

July 2001	1,394
July 2002	1,185
July 2003	1,196
July 2004	1,245
July 2005	1,198
July 2006	1,913
July 2007	2,814
July 2008	2,690
July 2009	2,923

July 2009  
Website Stats

Visits 23,290

## Chamber Board of Directors

**PRESIDENT**  
Mark Friedman  
653-1090

### Social Media Workshop

Are you Delicious(ly) LinkedIn utilizing Facebook and Flickr while sending tweets to your twisciples? If you'd like to understand the last sentence, this is the workshop for you. Join us at an interactive workshop on social media (Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, etc.) with J P Ferrell of 5<sup>th</sup> Gear Creative Group. The workshop, sponsored by Gulf Coast Community College and Apalachicola Bay Chamber of Commerce, will be held Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> from 5:30-7:00pm at the Apalachicola Community Center on 1 Bay Avenue. For more information contact the Apalachicola Bay Chamber of Commerce at (850) 653-9419 or [info@apalachicolabay.org](mailto:info@apalachicolabay.org).

### Special Business After-Hours

On Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, the Friends of the Franklin County State Parks will be hosting the Chamber Business After-Hours from 5:30-7:00 pm. This special event will be held at the Orman House in Apalachicola, and highlight the historic home as it appeared during its heyday in the mid-1800s. Party goers can expect to be treated to mint juleps (beer, wine, and soft drinks will also be available) and finger sandwiches and entranced by the strains of Johann Strauss. Other special effects and photo opportunities will prevail. Come and experience the ambiance of the Historic Orman House while learning about the goals and mission of the Friends of the Franklin County State Parks.

### Forgotten Coast Community Yard Sale

Gather up your treasures to sell and join us anywhere along US Highway 98 (the Big Bend Scenic Byway) on Saturday, October 3rd, from 8:00am-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 setup. If you would like to be listed on the map or for more information, contact the Apalachicola Bay Chamber office at (850) 653-9419 or email us at [info@apalachicolabay.org](mailto:info@apalachicolabay.org).

## New Members

**Apalachicola River Cruises**

## Directors Column

The Center for Disease Control is releasing new guidance that recommends actions that non-healthcare employers should take now to decrease the spread of seasonal flu and 2009 H1N1 flu in the workplace and to help maintain business continuity during the 2009–2010 flu season. The guidance includes additional strategies to use if flu conditions become more severe and some new recommendations regarding when a worker who is ill with influenza may return to work. The guidance in this document may change as additional information about the severity of the 2009-2010 influenza season and the impact of the 2009 H1N1 influenza become known. Please check [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov) periodically for updated guidance. <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/business/guidance/CDC>

*Anita Grove, Executive Director*



**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

R. Wayne Thomas  
670-4404

Gill Autrey joined the Chamber last month with his new business, *Apalachicola River Cruises*. Gill is a licensed captain who has lived in Franklin County for eleven years. His boat, the *Lily*, is a 28-foot Adventure Craft with a fully enclosed stand up cabin and large windows all around. It also has AC and heat, comfortable furnishings, a head, a fresh water shower, a stove and a sun deck on the roof. The boat is a shallow draft vessel, good for exploring the many marshes and creeks in the area. Gill allows passengers to design their own trip. You can tour through the many marshes, up the Apalachicola River or down into the bay. Pets are welcome. Gill can be reached at (850) 370-0075 or by email at .

**Frank Cook**

Welcome Frank Cook, Associate Member, to the Chamber. Frank is an Apalachicola City Commissioner whose family helped to settle Apalachicola in the 1830s. He is running for city commission in this year's September election. Frank's grandfather started Cook Insurance Company which his father also ran. Frank served much of his professional life in the navy, retiring as a submarine commander. He and his wife, Francis, also from Apalachicola, lived and raised a family in Charleston, South Carolina, prior to returning to Franklin County. Frank can be reached by calling (850) 653-8300.

**Kerigan Marketing Associates, Inc**

*Kerigan Marketing Associates* joined the Chamber last month. Since 2000, Kerigan Marketing has been creating integrated marketing solutions focused on delivering business results. The goal of this local team of four (4) is to apply their big-brand experience to produce affordable web sites, logo & graphic design, brochures and full-service printing for small businesses. Kerigan was nominated for the *Flagler Award* from Florida Tourism, July, 2009, and serves area businesses including St. James Bay, Summer Camp Beach, Leavins Seafood, Galloway Construction and The Owl Café. Kerigan can be reached by calling (850) 229-4562, by email at jack@kerigan.com or visit their website at [www.kerigan.com](http://www.kerigan.com).

**Heather Rash Photography**

Heather Rash joined the Chamber with her business, *Heather Rash Photography*. Born and raised in Apalachicola, Heather started photography as a hobby. Her love of it blossomed with her three beautiful children, Connor, Bennett and Edy, and gave her plenty of practice as they grew. She also started photographing her friends' children and branched into other areas such as family portraits and weddings. Heather's style of photography is laid back, fun, and real. She loves capturing people in their everyday life. Married to Steve Rash and they also own *Water Street Seafood* and the *Blue Parrot*. Heather does black and white, color and spot color photography. She also does in house enlargements up to 17x22" and can do prints on canvas. She can be reached by calling her cell (850) 653-7620, home (850) 927-2989 or by email at .

**"By Owner"**

Beach Real Estate Network

List Your Property for \$5.00/month

BeachRealty.net

Beach Rentals &amp; Sales

**HOMESTEAD**  
IMPRINTED SPORTSWEARSCREEN PRINTING  
EMBROIDERY  
PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTST-SHIRTS - CAPS - JACKETS  
GOLF SHIRTS - BAGS**6th Annual Chamber Golf Tournament**

Tee up with business members from around the Franklin, Gulf, Leon and Wakulla County areas at the 6th Annual Apalachicola Bay Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament on Wednesday, October 14, 2009. Tee-time is 1:00 pm on the beautiful St. James Bay Golf Course east of Carrabelle. The tournament will be a Florida 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, \$100 per player. Fees include range balls and golf carts equipped with the latest color GPS system. Tournament proceeds will go toward the Chamber's building fund. For more information contact the Apalachicola Bay Chamber at (850) 653-9419 or email [info@apalachicolabay.org](mailto:info@apalachicolabay.org).

**Oyster Roast**

Oyster Roast tickets have just been printed. Tickets are \$45.00 each or \$80.00 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.

Also visit her website at  
[www.stgerogeislandphotography.com](http://www.stgerogeislandphotography.com).

## Member News

### **New Pharmacist at Buy-Rite Drugs**

Buy-Rite Drugs recently welcomed pharmacist, Rich Lehnert, as a permanent addition. Rich received his pharmacy degree from the University of South Carolina in 1994 and has worked in South Carolina, Pennsylvania and Florida as a pharmacist. He has lived in Carrabelle since 2004 with his wife and son. Rich enjoys hunting, fishing and spending time with his family.

### **Robinson Real Estate Hires New Agent**

Robinson Real Estate Company welcomes Ben Bloodworth, Realtor. Ben has been a Florida Realtor and member of the Realtors Association of Franklin and Gulf Counties since 2003, beginning his real estate career with Suncoast Realty on St. George Island. Ben was raised on St. George Island and elsewhere in the Florida Panhandle and graduated from Florida State University. After an IT career in Atlanta, he returned home to totally immersed in the local community, not only as a seasoned member of the Panhandle Players acting troupe, but also as a volunteer fireman with the St. George Island Fire Department. Ben will be focusing his energies on St. George Island and Apalachicola properties and also helping to take care of the real estate needs of Robinson Brothers fishing clients.

### **International Coastal Cleanup Day**

International Coastal Cleanup Day will be held Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009 from 8:30-11:30 a.m. For more information and to sign up, call the Apalachicola Riverkeepers at 850-653-8936.

### **Let's Do Lunch**

Elder Care Services of Franklin County is holding its first annual **LET'S DO LUNCH** fundraiser. For \$10, let a ECS Volunteer deliver Chicken Caesar Salads and Dessert to you and your co-workers on Tuesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>. All proceeds benefit services for seniors in Franklin County, including Meals on Wheels. To place an order (minimum 2 per office) call 850-921-5554 or email .

### **Wild & Scenic Film Festival**

The Apalachicola Bay & Riverkeeper will host the Wild and Scenic Film Festival August 29<sup>th</sup>-September 5<sup>th</sup>. Venues will include theaters across the Forgotten Coast such as the Dixie Theatre, Tupelo Theater, FSU Coastal & Marine Laboratory and more. Schedules, venues, and a listing of the films are posted at <http://riverflix.org>. Contact the Apalachicola Bay & Riverkeeper for tickets and information at (850) 653-653-8936 or email

### **Be A Volunteer, Make A Difference!**

American Cancer Society is now recruiting volunteers for the 2010 Relay for Life in Franklin County. This is a fun and proactive way to get involved with the fight against cancer. They are recruiting for a variety of positions including marketing and publicity, logistics, leadership roles, and more. Please help make the 2010 Relay for Life the best ever! Contact Cyndi Arani, Community Representative at (850)785-9205 ext 3508 or email [cyndi.arani@cancer.org](mailto:cyndi.arani@cancer.org).

### **Franklin County Public Library**

The Franklin County Public Library is looking for businesses that are willing to put a spare change jar in their businesses to help raise funds to finish the interior of the new library building in Eastpoint. For information call Dr. Lois Catlin at 484-818-0630 or Tammy Cannon at Gulf State Community Bank in Eastpoint (850) 653-2126 ext 335.

### **Franklin County Public Library BBQ & Book Sale**

Franklin County Public Library is hosting a barbeque and book sale on Labor Day weekend to help finish the new Eastpoint Library! On Saturday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, at 4:00 p.m. (till?), come to Sometimes It's Hotter, 37 E. Pine Avenue on St. George Island. Enjoy a \$5 barbecue sandwich plate, listen to Tate's Hell band, browse a great book sale and help your community. There'll be beer, wine, soft drinks, sand art for kids and a great time for all. Clean your book shelves too by donating books! Drop books off to Sometimes It's Hotter through September 4. For more information call (850) 927-5039.

### **Improvisation Workshop**

Want to improve your acting skills? Don't act - but would like to act? Not interested in acting, but want to build your self confidence and people skills? Then "Improv" is for you! Improvisation has numerous benefits besides honing acting skills and increasing confidence. You can gain comfort in social settings; become a better listener and observer; refine your

riverkeeper@apalachicolariverkeeper.org.

### **National Estuaries Day**

It's all about the Bay on September 26<sup>th</sup> as Apalachicola hosts the Annual National Estuaries Day at the Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve (ANERR) Visitor Center. The festivities will run from 2:00-6:30 p.m. and will feature refreshments, activities, boat rides and touch tanks. The annual event was started to increase awareness and appreciation for the resources of the area.

### **Exposure**

-Nancy Babin contacted us for photos and information for an article on staycations for *On the Coast Magazine*.

- Audrey St. Clair from *Florida Travel + Life* magazine was sent information on St. George Island State Park and St. Joseph Peninsula State Park. They are doing their annual feature, "52 Weekend Getaways", in the next issue and want to include both parks as destinations.

- Chris Bunting with the *New York Post* was sent images for a travel article they did that appeared in the August 11<sup>th</sup> issue of the paper and website titled "Florida's Top Ten Beaches and Bargains".

- 13 Miles Oysters had a surprise debut in the September issue of *Coastal Living* and on the *Coastal Living* web blog.

brainstorming abilities; develop teamwork skills; enhance your creativity; and much more. So come have FUN and try your hand at improvisation at The Panhandle Players Improvisation Workshop, Tuesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, at the Eastpoint Firehouse at 7:00 pm. Still intimidated!? Just come and watch until you're comfortable! Everyone's welcome! Call Margy Oehlert at (850) 670-8874 with any questions.

### **FDOT Seeks Input on Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) Plan**

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is hosting a series of public meetings to help shape the future of transportation in the Northwest Florida Region. The Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) Strategic Plan Regional Workshops will provide an opportunity for the public to share their thoughts on the System and its importance to the state's economic prosperity and quality of life. The workshops will be held in Tallahassee August 27<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm, Milton September 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm and Marianna September 15<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm. For information call 888-638-0250 ext. 208 or email .

### **Do You Have News To Share?**

Members of the Apalachicola Bay Chamber can share news with other members. News should be newsworthy-new hires, expansions, relocations, certain events (not fundraisers), or information that could benefit other Chamber members. News items should be 75 words or less. Send your news items to [anita@apalachicolabay.org](mailto:anita@apalachicolabay.org).