



March 2017

Vol 26, No 3

Ready to Cookoff in March!!!

Meetings

Monthly Business Luncheon

Wednesday, March 1st
ANERR
108 Island Drive
Eastpoint, FL
Noon

Business After Hours

Thursday March 23rd
The Apalachicola Bay
Chamber of Commerce
122 Commerce St.
Apalachicola
5:30-7:00

April Monthly Business Luncheon

Wednesday, April 5th
Raney Cottage House
46 Ave F
Apalachicola, FL
Noon

**St. George Island Chili Cookoff
Saturday, March 4th 2017****Schedule of Events**

8:00am Red Pepper Run 5K
8:30am Booth Set-up
9:30am Crock Pot Chili must be on Site,
Min. One Gallon \$5.00 Entry Fee
9:30am Cooks Meeting
10:00am Preparation time for
Competitors
10-11am Crock Pot Judging

Sponsors

MosquitoNix
PROTECTING OUTDOOR LIFESTYLES

[Visit Our Website](#)



Mediacom

Visitor Statistics

January 2001 1,204
 January 2002 917
 January 2003 868
 January 2004 890
 January 2005 1,268
 January 2006 1,325
 January 2007 1,863
 January 2008 2,318
 January 2009 1,286
 January 2010 1,920
 January 2011 1,352
 January 2012 1,732
 January 2013 1,276
 January 2014 1,539
 January 2015 1,746
 January 2016 984
 January 2017 1,081

Website Stats

January 2017

Sessions
13,883

Users
10,877

Pageviews
45,041

Pages / Session
3.24

Avg. Session Duration
00:02:56

Bounce Rate
47.12%

% New Sessions
73.85%

11:00am Fire up Stoves, Judges
 Meeting, Auction Starts
 11:15am Crock Pot Awards
 11:30am Booth Judging
 12pm Salsa Judging
 12:45 Mister Hot Sauce Competition
 2:15 Miss Chili Pepper Competition
 2:00pm Cooking Stops, Judging Starts
 3:30pm Award Ceremony

St. George Island Chili Cookoff Golf Tournament



The Golf Tournament will be held on Thursday, March 2, 2017 at St. James Golf Course at 8:00 a.m.

Format: Best Ball

Team Selection: Teams of four will be put together by the golf course on a random basis.

Prizes

- 1st Place team, 4 Chili Cook-off Jackets
- 2nd Place team, 4 Chili Cook-off T-shirts
- 3rd Place team, 4 Chili Cook-off Hats

Prizes awarded for team with lowest overall score, 2nd lowest overall score, and 3rd lowest overall score.

Cost: \$100 per person, which is tax deductible (Make checks out to SGI Chili Cookoff). Cost includes green fee, and practice balls.

No food is included for the fee.

Contact: Bob Landiss
 Golf Tournament
 850-653-5437

Chamber News

21st Annual Forgotten Coast Chef Sampler

The 21st annual Forgotten Coast Chef Sampler was a huge success

Events

Art Workshop & Exhibit

Wednesday, March 1, 2017 through Saturday, March 25, 2017

86 Water Street, Apalachicola, FL 32320

1-855-Apalach

Peter and Licia Berry, classically-trained artists from Georgia State University combine classical art training with 3-dimensional digital technology to create a blend of handmade and digital works. The couple will be exhibiting their works, demonstrating techniques in workshops and providing lectures in Apalachicola from March 1 through March 6. An exhibit of their works will run from March 1 through March 25 at the Apalachicola Center for History, Culture and Art in downtown Apalachicola.

St. George Island Fire Department Chili Cook-Off

March 4 @ 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

St. George Island, St. George Island, Florida 32328

The Chili Cook-off will be held on Saturday, March 4, 2017. It is estimated to be attended by up to 5,000 people with many contestants participating in several contests: Golf Tournament 5K Red Pepper Run Crock Pot Chili Miss Chili Pepper Mister Hot Sauce Chili Cook-off Auction

Super Natural: Art by 5 Women Art Opening at 49 Palmetto Gallery, Apalachicola

Saturday, March 4th, 6-9pm

Super Natural: Art by 5 Women focuses on the artwork of contemporary women artists' unrestrained absorption with nature. Rather than merely document beauty, these artists engage in nature's diversity, peculiarities and sometimes unrestrainable character. Artists featured are Cynthia Davis, Lori Field, Marcy Lally, Deedra Ludwig and Kathy Van Kleeck. The mediums span oil painting, sculpture, jewelry and silverpoint drawings. The exhibition will remain on view through May. 49 Palmetto Gallery is located at 49 Ave G in Apalachicola. For more information, please contact 850.323.1600 or consult Facebook on the web. In her paintings, Deedra Ludwig uses oil pigments, ink, soil, and botanical specimens as a visual record of nature's constant state of regeneration and flux. Since the 1990's, Ludwig has worked on-site, across five continents, with groups of biologists, botanists, and historians, in such places as the Gulf Coast, the Florida Everglades, and the Pacific Northwest wetlands. (Image: Unfolding by Deedra Ludwig). In her sculptures, Marcy Lally combines deer skulls and handmade clay flowers as a symbolic reminder of the cyclical aspects in nature-the ephemeral and the everlasting in the continuum of life. Marcy hails from a long line of Kansas artists and craftsmen, and she is a graduate of The Kansas City Art Institute.

Rio Carrabelle Art & Music

mainly because of the wonderful volunteers and donators. We would like to thank all of the Restaurants, Table Decorators and Businesses that donated to the silent auction.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the 2017 Chef Sampler Sponsors.

Golden Chef Sponsor



Silver Chef Sponsor



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Sara Ward 653-1399
Debbie Flowers 670-4000
Andrea Duval 653-2512

Executive Director

John C. Solomon
execdirector@apalachicolabay.org
850-370-6602

Got Ideas? Suggestions?

How can the Apalachicola Bay Chamber better serve you?
Is there something that we can do better to help your business?
Is there something you would like to see us add or change on the website, at the visitor's center or in the visitors' guide?
Would like to be a volunteer with the Apalachicola Bay Chamber of Commerce.
Ideas and volunteers are always welcome. Feel free to call or email us with your ideas at execdirector@apalachicolabay.org.

Business Luncheons and Business After Hours

If you or your business is interested in hosting a Business Luncheon or a Business After Hours in 2015, please feel free to call the Apalachicola Bay Chamber of Commerce at 850-653-9419 or email

Rio Carrabelle ART & MUSIC

March 3 - "Music Addiction" Singer/writers Vic Harrison & Rick Ott 7-9 PM. Admission \$10 BYOB
More info: 850-697-8777

March 4 - "Liars & Thieves" 3 Storytellers read from their work: Ginnah Howard, Charlie Wilkerson & Margaret O. Howard; And 2 Musicians: Susan David & Marshall Sherman, 7:30 PM - No Cover - Donations for Library Accepted

March 10 - "Blues for the 21st Century" Longineau Parsons, World Renowned Trumpet player & singer, brings his HOT Quintet to Rio Carrabelle. Blues Jazz Fusion like you've never heard before.
Show Time 8 PM - Admission \$20. BYOB

March 24 - "Dos Blues Guys" from Macon, GA ... a harp blowin' fretboard slidin' string pickin' blues show. 8PM - \$15 BYOB

March 25 - TONY PARTINGTON, vocalist, & Rio Carrabelle Quartet. Music by Cole Porter, Jimmy Van Heusen, Kurt Weill, Antonio Carlos Jobim, Thelonious Monk, Duke Ellington, Carlos Santana - Show @ 8PM - Admission \$15 BYOB

Reservations & info @ riocarrabelle@gmail.com
www.riocarrabelle.com

World is our Oyster: Travel as Art Inspiration

March 5 @ 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm Apalachicola Center for History, Culture & Art, 86 Water Street Upstairs, "The World is our Oyster: Travel as Art Inspiration" slides of the Berrys' adventures traveling the continental US and Pilgrimage in southern France while deriving inspiration from different landscapes, cultures and experiences under their philosophy of Juicy Sacred Living. From 5-6pm, Gallery wine reception and book signing.

Oysters 101

March 10 @ 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm
ANERR, 108 Island Drive Eastpoint 12:00 Noon - 4:00 PM Discover the important role oysters play in the health of Apalachicola Bay. We will learn about what makes Apalachicola Bay so ideal for growing oysters, what gives our oysters their distinct taste and how oysters benefit the ecosystem. Please register in advance. For more information contact Emily Jackson at 850-670-7743 or send an email to emily.a.jackson@dep.state.fl.us or Anita Grove at (850) 670-7708 or Anita.Grove@dep.state.fl.us. Rain date is March 20th.

Camp Gordon Johnston Days

March 11 @ 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
This annual event was created to honor the service of veterans from WWII and beyond. Located in Carrabelle, Florida, the exhibits and artifacts preserve the heritage of the men who trained at this camp during WWII. Camp Gordon Johnston opened in 1942 for the purpose of training amphibious soldiers and their support groups. The camp trained a quarter of a million men and closed in June of 1946. Attendees will have the opportunity to get up close and personal with tours of WWII Army vehicles and exhibit displays of the historic WWII camp once located just east of Carrabelle.

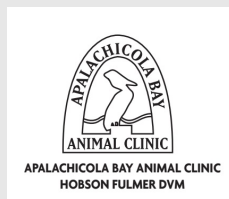
John C. Solomon at
excedirector@apalachicolabay.org



Chef Sponsors



J. Gordon Shuler, P.A.



J. V. GANDER DISTRIBUTORS, INC.

**We would also like to thank all
the businesses that donated to
this years silent auction your
donations raised over \$5,000.00
at the auction.**

The Tin Shed
Riverside Mercantile / Andrea Duval
Debbie Hooper Joebay Aerials
Apalach Waters
Resort Vacation Properties
Apalachicola Community Bike Shop
Betsy's Sunflower
Apalachicola Charters / Rudy Gay
Captain JB Charters / John Layne
Apalachicola River Cruises / Skip Shiver
Mary Stutzman
Debbie Hooper / Joebay Aerials
Carol Blaha
Artemis Gallery
The Clipper Shoppe
The Seahorse Too

Full Moon Dinner Cruise



Join us on Saturday, March 11th for a two hour Sunset and Full Moon dinner cruise amid the ambiance of oil lamps and city lights. The "STARFISH" is a US Coast Guard approved 40 passenger power catamaran operated by the Apalachicola Maritime Museum (AMM) for educational tours. The menu for the evening will be pesto chicken parmesan stuffed with mozzarella with a white wine Alfredo on penne pasta with sautéed spinach, kale, tomato, fresh garlic and mushrooms with a touch of caramelized onion, Caprice salad with goat cheese, a key lime pie for dessert and a selection of beverages. The AMM Founder will be hosting the event while providing a talk on maritime heritage, bio diversity and projects underway at the AMM. The STARFISH is operated by a USCG licensed Master Captains and Crew, is heated, surrounded by clear vinyl windows and has a bathroom with wash basin. The cost is \$75 per person with proceeds to support the educational mission of the AMM. Reservation can be made online by clicking the link Full Moon Dinner Cruise, via the phone at 850-653-2500 or coming by the AMM at 103 Water Street in downtown Apalachicola. Click River Trip Dining to watch a video of a recently hosted river dining event trip.

Full Moon Climb



The St. George Lighthouse will host a full moon climb March 12 from 7:30-9 pm. Climb to the top of the Cape St. George Light to watch the sunset and the rise of the full moon. The Sunset/Full Moon Climb includes light hors d'oeuvres and a sparkling cider toast to the full moon. Cost is \$15.00 for the general public and \$10.00 for members of the St. George Lighthouse Association.

Susan Richardson
 Tiffin's Furniture
 Lynn's Quality Oysters
 Apalach Ace Hardware
 Apalach Outfitters
 Fisherman's Choice
 Taylors Building Supply
 Sadie's Seahorse
 Castaway Liquors
 Riverwood Suites
 Riverfront Therapy
 Riverlily
 Badcock
 Honey Hole Liquors
 Blinging Up Daises
 Richard Bickel
 The Shop
 Bowery Station
 Gone Country Tours
 Dawn Lee McKenna
 Harmony Bath & Body (Sandi Little)
 Edge Salon - Aveda
 Florida Seafood Festival
 On The Water Front Gallery
 Bay-Eco Tours
 Gibson Inn
 Michele Seawright
 Dixie Theatre
 Dr. Zoe Segree
 Retsyo Inc.
 Oyster Radio
 Buccaneer Inn
 Krystal Shuler
 Forgotten Coast Fitness (Erika Pender)
 Iggy Art
 Oysterbones
 John & Helen Spohrer
 Charlie Sawyer
 Enjoy Apalachicola
 Deep Southern Boutique

Thank you to the Following Restaurants who participated in this years Chef Sampler

13 Mile Seafood Market
 Apalachicola Seafood Grill
 Blue Parrot Oceanfront Café
 Big Top Supermarket Catering
 Bite Me Deli
 Hole in The Wall
 Gormley's at the Gibson Inn
 Owl Café
 Oyster City Brewery
 Red Pirate Family Bar & Grill
 Tamara's Café Floridita
 Tamara's Tapas Bar
 Up The Stairs
 Up The Creek Raw Bar

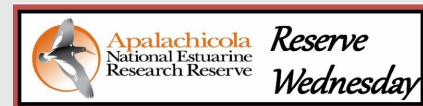
Thank you to the Table Decorators who also participated in the 21st annual Forgotten Coast Chef Sampler

Apalachicola Farmers Market



Saturday, March 11th & March 25th 9am-1pm
 Located at the Mill Pond Pavilion at 479 Market St.
 in Apalachicola come out to get Local seafood,
 produce, honey, homemade breads, pies, jewelry, art
 and other regional specialties offered every 2nd and
 4th Saturday of each month from 9 AM until 1 PM.
 If you or someone you know offers home grown or
 hand made products, and is interested in becoming a
 vendor, please email
apalachicolafarmersmarket@gmail.com

Reserve Wednesday Talks : Florida's Bears



Reserve Wednesday Talks: Seagrass Awareness
 March 15 @ 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm
 ANERR, 108 Island Drive
 Eastpoint, Florida 32328
 Seagrass Awareness Speaker: Jon Brucker, Central
 Florida Aquatic Preserve

Seepage Bog Wetlands Lecture

March 16 @ 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

FSU Coastal Marine Lab, 3618 US-98
 St Teresa, Florida
 "Panhandle Florida's Spectacular Seepage Bog
 Wetlands Lecture" The conservation Lecture series
 continues with "Panhandle Florida's Spectacular
 Seepage Bog Wetlands: Vanishing Biodiversity and
 Why You Should Care". Dr. Bruce Means (Coastal
 Plains Institute.) will discuss the local wetlands of
 Florida's Panhandle and how current issues are
 shaping its biodiversity. 7 pm - 8 pm. Light
 refreshments will be provided prior to talk.

Eastpoint Fire Department Rib Cookoff

Winner 2017 Table Decoration

**Andrea Duval-Riverside
Mercantile**

Apalachicola Municipal Library-Caty
Greene

Enjoy Apalachicola-Judi Stokowski
Bayside Gallery & Florist-Amy Price

Centennial Bank-BJ Kent

CareerSource-Valentina Webb

Apalachicola Bay Animal Clinic-Bonnie
Fulmer

The Seahorse Too-Ouida Sack
H'COLA

Panache Tent & Event-Elizabeth & Rich
Wynn

Mary Kay-Anna Carmichael

Party Rental Company-Shelly James

Dixie Theatre Foundation / Oysterbones

Up the Stairs-Judi Stokowski

Chamber of Commerce-Michele Seawright

Dail's Seafood-Anna Carmichael

Southern Bells Hair Salon-Brittany Turner
& Dona Harrell

Weem's Hospital Foundation-Jody Wilson

Mary Stutzman & Bunnie Ison

Fireplace Room Decorated by:
Bonnie Fulmer

Special thank you to the Volunteers
which include many people. Wayne
Thomas for the Sound, Krista Miller
Photos, Ellis and Michele Seawright &
Bonnie & Hobson Fulmer for Silent
Auction. Debbie Flowers, Donnie Gay,
Earl Solomon, Valerie Covington
for taking care of the Bar and many
others. We could not have done it
without your help.

New Members

Live Communications (106.5)

At 106.5 Sports and More, we promote
small business as well as start up
businesses. We promote shows as well as
games of the week. 106.5 Sports & More
has live up to dates sporting events as well
as live talk show hours from 12-3 pm daily.
Our station reaches Panama City, Eastpoint,
Tallahassee, Carrabelle and parts of south
Georgia as well as Apalachicola.

Gone Country Airboat Charters



March 18 @ 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

The Eastpoint Volunteer Fire Department Rib
Cookoff will be held on March 18th 2017. Gates
open at 9 AM. Free admission. Rib cook-off contest,
silent auction, liars contest, live entertainment, rides
and face paintings for the kids. The Eastpoint Fire
House is located one block North of US Highway
98. Corner of Sixth Street and CC Land Road in
Eastpoint, Florida. BBQ dinners served from 11:00
AM until the food is gone! Come out and enjoy a
day of food, fun and music. All proceeds go to
benefit the Eastpoint Volunteer Fire Department

Tate's Hell State Forest Clean-up

Meet 8:00-8:30 AM at Gully Branch Recreation
Area and Landing in Tate's Hell State Forest.
Saturday March 18th, 2017 8:00 AM to Noon Sign-
up Today! Volunteers should wear: Protective
clothing such as hats, light-weight long pants and
long sleeve shirts Work shoes that protect your feet
from sharp objects, and that can get wet and muddy.
Sunscreen Gloves Volunteers will be provided:
Insect repellent Drinking Water Trash Bags For
more information and sign up: call 850-697-0010, or
email marti.miller@freshfromflorida.com

Authors in Apalach

Owned and operated by Duane Cook, Gone Country specializes in Airboat Tours of our area and Charter trips involving floundering and Bow Fishing.

The Shop

The Shop is a local vendor Antique Mall owned by Debbie Poloronis Located at 16 Avenue D it is described as "A Place of This and That, in downtown historic Apalachicola, FL has something to offer every shopper!" Come see us!

Gunner Pontoon Rentals

Owned and operated by Mike & Debbie Mock of Carrabelle, Gunner Pontoon Rentals is focused on providing high-quality service and customer satisfaction - we will do everything we can to meet your expectations.

Franklin County School

The Franklin County School District, in partnership with the entire community, will empower every student to become a life-long learner who is a responsible, productive and engaged citizen within the global community.

Cody Northcutt

Ben E. Keith Foods - Southeast Division

Ben E. Keith Company is a distributor of food service products and premium alcoholic beverages. Our independent Food Division supplies a full line of produce, frozen foods, meats, dry groceries, refrigerated foods, paper goods, equipment and supplies to restaurants, hospitals, schools, nursing homes and other institutional businesses.

Associate Member:

Dawn Lee McKenna



The Apalachicola Margaret Key Library will host its 2017 Authors in Apalach event on Saturday, March 18, at the Apalachicola Center for History, Culture and Art. This year's event theme is "Go Coastal, Go Local" and will feature celebrated writers including Melissa Farrell, Christina McDermott and Emily Raffield, authors of "Saints of Old Florida." This year's event will also feature an author's forum with environmental authors Bruce Means, Joe Hutto, Doug Alderson and Apalachicola's own Michael Kinnett, author of "Apalachicola Pearl." Other noted authors to be featured will include Faith Eidse, Gil Autrey, Charles Farley, Jan Annino, Adrian Fogelin, Sara McFerrin and Dawn Lee McKenna. The event will run from 10AM to 5PM, with authors signing and selling books, and forums on different topics throughout the day.

Archaeology Day

March 18 10:00am-4:00 pm

Archaeological evidence indicates that Apalachicola has been occupied for over 2,000 years and was considered a center for culture and commerce. Come learn about area archaeology and the science behind it at Archaeology Day. The Florida Public Archaeology Network (FPAN) will be here and participants are encouraged to bring artifacts they wish to be identified, as well as learn more about upcoming events and volunteer opportunities in archaeology. This event is free and registration is not required. For more information, please call the Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve at (850) 670-7700.

Bay Friendly Landscaping Workshop

March 24 @ 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

1:00 pm -3:30 pm

The Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve will host a Bay Friendly Landscaping workshop on March 24th from 1:00-3:30pm. Yard design and maintenance can have a big effect on adjacent water bodies. Learn to be Bay Friendly by implementing some simple techniques. Participants will learn about resources to help them transform their yard into a luscious bay conscious landscape. The class will also feature innovative Green Infrastructure techniques such as rain gardens, green

Dawn Lee McKenna was born in South Florida and grew up there and in the Keys before moving to East Tennessee twenty years ago. She is the author of "See You" and the bestselling "Forgotten Coast Florida" suspense series, set in Apalach

More Chamber News

**Art & Wine Walk
The Downtown
Apalachicola Art &
Wine Walk will be held
on Saturday, April 1st
2017**

**The Apalachicola
Antique & Classic Boat
& Car Show will be held
at Riverfront Park in
Apalachicola on
Saturday April 15th
2017**

Member News

**Eastpoint Volunteer Fire
Department Rib Cookoff
Saturday, March 18th**

roofs, bio-swales, and more. The workshop will be held at the Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve, 108 Island Drive, Eastpoint, FL 32328. The class is free. Please register for the class in advance. For more information contact Emily Jackson at (850) 670-7743 or send an email to Emily.A.Jackson@dep.state.fl.us.

Apalachicola Art & Wine Walk

April 1 @ 11:00 am - 6:00 pm

Art in all forms will be woven in and around picturesque downtown Apalachicola where artists and musicians will be showing, selling, and demonstrating their talents from 11:00-6:00 pm. The festivities continue into the evening with a wine tasting at 1:00pm - 4:00pm. Afterwards area chefs will prepare dishes at their restaurants paired with special wines (850) 653-9419 or email info@apalachicolabay



The Eastpoint Volunteer Fire Department Rib Cookoff will be held on March 18th 2017. Gates open at 9 AM. Free admission. Rib cook-off contest, silent auction, liars contest, live entertainment, rides and face paintings for the kids. The Eastpoint Fire House is located one block North of US Highway 98. Corner of Sixth Street and CC Land Road in Eastpoint, Florida. BBQ dinners served from 11:00 AM until the food is gone! Come out and enjoy a day of food, fun and music. All proceeds go to benefit the Eastpoint Volunteer Fire Department

The Apalachicola Bay Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center is a Certified Travel Information Center



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Apalachicola Bay Chamber, 122 Commerce Street, Apalachicola, FL 32320

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