



Carrabelle Chamber of Commerce

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www.carrabelle.org

The Pearl of the Panhandle



Friday, January 6, 2017



January

Sat 7th Yard Sale by The Lanark Village Golf Club 8 am until...At the garage across from Chillas Hall in Lanark Village

Sat 7th Sausage gravy biscuit breakfast 8 am-10 am Chillas Hall in Lanark Village \$ 5 donation at door

Tues 10th Release of 23 Kemps' Ridley sea turtles & 1 Loggerhead sea turtle at St. George Island Park 11:30 am These cold stunned sea turtles were flown from New England Aquarium where they have been in rehabilitation at Gulf World since December 9th.

Thurs 12th Holiday on the Harbor Committee Meeting Noon at the Carrabelle Chamber office. Please RSVP-may need to move to Carrabelle Library.

Thurs 12th Tropical coral reefs: the current crisis and a possible future by Dr. Peter J. Edmunds 7-8 pm Free Conservation Lecture Series at the FSU Coastal & Marine Laboratory, 3618 Hwy 98, St. Teresa. For more info, call (850) 697-4100 or go to www.marinelab.fsu.edu

Fri 13th Vision of the "Forgotten Coast" Folk/Outsider Art Exhibit Opening Celebration 6:30-8 pm Free Wine & Hors d'oeuvres at Rio Carrabelle. Featuring artists from Tennessee, Mississippi, Pennsylvania, Georgia & Florida

Sat 14th Americana/Bluegrass Party at Rio Carrabelle 7:30-10 pm Music by Frank Lindamood & the Chris Matechik Flatheads String Band

Tues 17th The PanCare Medical Bus will be at the PanCare Dental Facility in Carrabelle, 106 NE 5th St. 10 am-4:30 pm. Offers Physicals, Exams, Primary Care, Urgent Care & Flu Shots. For an appointment, call (850) 247-9834

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2016: A Year of Growth at YOUR Chamber!

Marketing & up-dating our technology & contacts to publicize YOUR business, YOUR news, services or products & member events to the community & on the web.

-Constant revision of **Website** to keep it current & relevant-Please review your listing, I can revise the text or add photos anytime-over 163,000 visitors viewed it last year.

-Bi-weekly **Newsletter**- Members, please continue to submit articles, flyers, and notices of YOUR news & special events. The newsletter is currently distributed to over 200 email/mail addresses. I have acquired newsletter software and will be switching to this soon for a more polished & professional look.

-**Facebook** "likes" have increased to 2,046 from 1,602 -I have "liked" member pages & am re-posting YOUR postings onto the Chamber's Facebook page

-Increased your **media coverage**

-Increased **Referrals** of prospective customers or visitors to Chamber Members

Increased our Membership base-from 50 in 2014 to 131 in 2016!

New look to the Chamber office & Visitor Center with more information & brochures available to anyone visiting the office. Any Chamber member that has business cards, brochures & other literature, please drop off to make this information available.....2,100 visitors came in last year looking for your information!

Holiday on the Harbor & Boat Parade was a huge success not only as a community event, but bringing in a lot of attendees that resulted in a lot of revenue for area businesses....and a whole lot of fun! We had over 47 vendors & 24 vessel entries representing 6 marinas & various local businesses. New activities were added at Rio Carrabelle, the kid zone, and a 5K Run/Walk. **The Brotherhood Ride** that passed through in July was very impressed with our community support. I appreciate all the help given to the Chamber to make both of these Chamber events so successful.

I look forward to serving the Membership & representing your best interests in the community in 2017. If you would like to be more involved, please contact me about becoming a volunteer or a director. Do you have a special talent you'd like to share with other members? We really need a social committee to plan mixers & workshops! Member surveys were sent out the last week of December along with membership investment renewals. Please take the time to fill these out & return to me. The surveys will help us make plans for events and activities that you feel are most important. Not a member yet? Join today! Refer a friend! With many, much can be accomplished...

Thank you for your trust, confidence, and constructive feedback!

Lisa Munson, Executive Director

Tues 17th Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration "You Can Achieve It" Motivational Speakers. 9:23 am-10:30 Franklin County School, 1250 Hwy 98, Eastpoint For more info, call (850) 653-5943 or email dolorescroom64@gmail.com

Thurs 19th Carrabelle Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Meeting 5 pm Carrabelle Library

Fri 20th Jazz from Broadway at Rio Carrabelle Featuring Vocalist Tony Partington 7:30 pm \$ 15 Cover

Sat 21st Drumming with Mershell at Rio Carrabelle 3-4 pm \$ 10 All levels are welcome. Limited number of drums, so reserve your space today by calling Rob @ (850) 307-0098

Thurs 26th "Ulee's Gold" part of the Forgotten Coast Film Festival presented by the Carrabelle History Museum with special guest Gus Holzer, first assistant director. 6 pm FREE Admission. Donations to the museum appreciated. Film will be shown at the FC Senior Center in Carrabelle, 201 NW Ave F. For more info, call (850) 697-2141 or go to www.carrabellehistorymuseum.org (This is the first film in a series of four made in or about the area...make them your Thursday night date nights!)

Fri 27th Will Fulkerson, Piano & Quartet (FSU) at Rio Carrabelle. 7:30 pm \$ 15 Cover

For More info

See our website www.carrabelle.org under "Things to Do" Entertainment/Events **Events Further afield:**

Listen to **WOYS 100.5 FM Oyster Radio** Or go to www.oysterradio.com or www.forgottencoastline.com or www.saltyflorida.com



From Sheriff AJ Smith

Thank you to all the people who came out January 2nd in horrible weather to support their Sheriffs' office. I am humbled to be fortunate enough to lead such an amazing group of professional men and women. January 2nd was a display of your commitment and dedication to Franklin County.

When we all come together we can accomplish great things. And to the people of Franklin County, I promise to do everything in my being to make our county the best it can be!! When you see us, act as if we are family because we are. Thank you!!



Executive Board

- President-**Cher Novaria**/At Your Service Concierge
- Vice President- **Lewis Christie**/Christie's Cottage Living
- Secretary-**Dr. Lois Mendez Catlin**-Phoenix Family Health Care Center
- Treasurer- **Paul Marxsen**/Marxsen Accounting

Directors

- Tonia Chisholm**/FC Public Library-Carrabelle
- Skip Frink**/Old Carrabelle Hotel
- Bo May**/Rio Carrabelle
- Pamela McCreery**/The Beachtrader
- Sheri Wesson**/Forgotten Coast Photography

Executive Director-Lisa Munson

Representatives-**Chester Reese**-FC Tourist Development Council

Bingo is Back!

Great fellowship, fun, cash prizes & refreshments every **Monday** night at the **Franklin County Senior Center**, 201 NW Ave F in Carrabelle.

Early Bird 6 pm & Regular at 7 pm

The Carrabelle Bottle House is still going under some renovations and hopefully should be open again in February. The flooring has been replaced but will need some finishing touches when the weather permits.



Visitors at our Visitor's Center Carrabelle Brochures Sent

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
Jan	51	106	131		30	75	56	
Feb	111	167	233		27	63	56	
Mar	163	171	248		25	74	73	
Apr	118	178	226		41	47	77	
May	66	137	160		26	79	69	
Jun	64	153	171		66	90	74	
Jul	80	133	188		36	66	46	
Aug	52	125	93		36	70	92	
Sept	56	109	111		21	37	47	
Oct	76	152	147		22	25	36	
Nov	79	113	203		19	31	20	
Dec	<u>62</u>	<u>142</u>	<u>189</u>		<u>32</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>30</u>	
Totals	978	1,686	2,100		381	683	676	

Total www.carrabelle.org Website Visitors: Jan 1-Dec 25: 163,508

What a great way to celebrate the New Year! A big thank-you goes out to **Jackson's Ace Hardware** for providing this awesome free lunch at the **Franklin County Senior Center** yesterday. Each year George Jackson also joins the volunteer staff of the Senior Center in helping to prepare a "Hoppin' John" menu as a special thank-you to the community for their patronage throughout the year at Ace Hardware in Carrabelle. For those of you who aren't familiar with "Hoppin' John", this is a traditional Southern meal of hog jowls, collard greens, black-eyed peas & rice to symbolize "Eat Poor New Years' Day, Eat Rich the Rest of the Year". This was open to the whole community and as you can see, well attended. A full meal is served every Thursday at noon at the Senior Center....\$ 5 donation goes to support the Center and is appreciated. Another \$ 1 or two can give you're a chance to win a home-made baked goodie! And remember, Ace is the Place!