



Carrabelle Area Chamber of Commerce

105 St. James Avenue (Hwy 98), PO Box DD Carrabelle, FL 32322
(850) 697-2585
chamber@nettally.com

Join today! / Like us on Facebook www.carrabelle.org (now mobile friendly!)

The Pearl of the Panhandle



March

AARP tax help Carrabelle Branch of Franklin County Public Library Thursdays- 3/17, 3/31, 4/7 ---1 till 5

Through March 12th-The Way We Worked Apalachicola Museum of Art, 96 5th Ave., Apalachicola for more info, see www.apalachicolamuseumofart.org

Fri 4th & Sat 5th The 34th St. George Island Regional Chili Cookoff & Auction St. George Island. Proceeds benefit the St. George Island Volunteer Fire Department and First Responders. Call (850) 927-2753 for more information.

Fri 4th Tate's Hell Forest Clean up 9:00 to noon. Meet at Gully Branch Recreation Area F. For info & signup, call (850) 697-3734 or email marti.miller@freshfromflorida.com

Sat 5th Lanark Golf Club Breakfast Think of Spring with Strawberry Waffles & Pancakes! 8:30-11 am At Chillas Hall on Heffernan Rd., Lanark Village \$ 6 donation to support the restoration & maintenance of Golf Course. Info for "Round of Golf" and/or our "Best Ball Tournaments available at the breakfast.

Sat 5th The 1st Flea Market 9 am-2 pm Harry's Bar Courtyard. Tables \$5 each, first come.... Reserve table by calling (850) 697-9982 (Note: will be the 1st Saturday of every month)

Sat 5th Rio Carrabelle presents: Liars & Thieves, An Evening with Three Storytellers & One Musician 7:30 pm BYOB (615) 337-1290 or riocarrabelle@gmail.com

Tues 8th -Opening Presentation-Plein Aire Painting: Examining Oyster Reef Restoration Through An Artist's Eye 7 pm (open to the public) Apalachicola Center for History, Culture & Art, Apalachicola (800) 378-8419 or www.pleinairfl.com for details & registration.

Thurs 10th-Artist Field Day-Plein Aire Painting: Examining Oyster Reef Restoration Through An Artist's Eye 8 am Eastpoint Pavilion (reservation required, \$ 45 per artist) (800) 378-8419 or www.pleinairfl.com for details & registration.

Fri 11th Roundtable Discussion & Lunch-Plein Aire Painting: Examining Oyster Reef Restoration Through An Artist's Eye 12 pm Apalachicola National Estuarine Nature Center, Eastpoint. (open to the public) (800) 378-8419 or www.pleinairfl.com for details & registration.

Fri 11th Exhibition & Public Reception-Plein Aire Painting: Examining Oyster Reef Restoration Through An Artist's Eye 7-9 pm (open to the public) Apalachicola Center for History, Culture & Art, Apalachicola (800) 378-8419 or www.pleinairfl.com for details & registration.

Friday, March 4th, 2016

Welcome New Member:

American Red Cross, Capital Area Florida

AFTER HOURS MEMBER MIXER!

Tuesday, March 22nd 6 pm Hog Wild Bar-B-Que

(will send out a flyer next week with details)

Chamber Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday March 16th, NOON, Carrabelle Library



Congratulations to The Old Carrabelle Hotel !

3rd Time Recipient of TripAdvisor's GreenLeader Award

The Old Carrabelle Hotel has successfully achieved **Gold level in the TripAdvisor GreenLeaders Program**. They will now get special recognition for their green practices on TripAdvisor, including a badge on their listing page, a badge in traveler search results, and a framed certificate.

TripAdvisor also awarded The Old Carrabelle Hotel their Certificate of Excellence in 2013, 2014, and also in 2015. This achievement was a direct result of their consistently great reviews from TripAdvisor travelers.

The Hotel, situated one block off Carrabelle harbor, was started in 2001 by Skip and Kathy Frink. They have enjoyed a steadily increasing business volume of travelers from all over the world. Says Skip, "Of course, the internet is the tool that allowed us to get on the world map in the first place. We aren't even on the main highway, but our increased contact with TripAdvisor, and its devotee travelers, has taken us on a quantum leap."

On February 9, 2016, The Old Carrabelle Hotel generously offered a warm room to Ari Ramos. Miss Ramos is running across America to raise awareness about the problem of childhood obesity. She began her journey in Jacksonville, FL, a week previously and had been primitive camping at night. A warm room and a hot shower was greatly appreciated. (We had temps in the 30's with a wind chill factor in the 20's that night!)

Sat 19th The 15th Annual Eastpoint Firehouse Charity Rib Cookoff Vroom Park, Eastpoint Gates open 9 am(850) 670-9000 or pru911@gtcom.net

Sat 19th Carrabelle History Museum presents...The Last of the First: Our INDIGENOUS PEOPLE's STRUGGLE for SURVIVAL 10 AM-12:30 PM - FREE ADMISSION at the FC Senior Center, Carrabelle (850) 697-2141 or go to carrabellehistorymuseum.org for more information.

April

Sat 2nd The 9th Annual Tonya's Hope Day American Legion Post 82, Lanark Village. Yard sale, raffles, Tonya's Hope helps residents of Franklin County that are in treatment for cancer with non-medical expenses. If you are in need of our services call 850-625-0382

Fri 22nd & Sat 23rd Riverfront Festival-Details to Follow

Sat 23rd Tate's Hell and Back-5K Run/Walk 8 am This race benefits Franklin county Senior Citizens Center in Carrabelle. Forms and instructions for registration are available at www.franklincountyseniorcenter.org. Contact BeLinda Wharton at bhwharton@gmail.com or call (850) 544-5410 for more information.

See our website www.carrabelle.org under "Things to Do" Entertainment/Events for More info

Events Further afield:

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

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

- Sheila Hauser**/Century 21 Collins Realty
- Tonia Chisholm**/FC Public Library-Carrabelle
- Skip Frink**/Old Carrabelle Hotel
- Bo May**/Rio Carrabelle
- Pamela McCreery**/The Beachtrader

Executive Director-Lisa Munson

Representatives

- Chester Reese**-FC Tourist Development Council
- David Butler**-Big Bend Scenic Byway Board
- Total www.carrabelle.org Website Visitors: Jan 1-Feb 14: 16,325
- Total New Carrabelle Area Chamber Members 2016: 8
- Total New Carrabelle Area Chamber Members 2015: 50

	Visitors at our Visitor's Center				Carrabelle Brochures Sent			
	2014	2015	2016	% Inc	2014	2015	2016	% Inc
Jan	51	106	131	1.24	30	75	56	(.75)
Feb	111	167	233	1.40	27	63	56	(.89)
Mar	163	171			25	74		
Apr	118	178			41	47		
May	66	137			26	79		
Jun	64	153			66	90		
Jul	80	133			36	66		
Aug	52	125			36	70		
Sept	56	109			21	37		
Oct	76	152			22	25		
Nov	79	113			19	31		
Dec	62	142			32	26		
Totals	978	1,686			381	683		



Photos by Rob Powis



Photos by Rob Powis



Photos by Rob Powis



NOW YOU SEE IT, NOW YOU DON'T-THE CAPSIZED VESSEL THAT WAS!

Back in October, 2014 Mr. Rob Powis of Carrabelle undertook a long & complicated project to remove the unsightly capsized vessel in the Carrabelle River. His endeavors included meeting with several government entities for approval; securing legal documentation, authorizations, & agreements; hiring an experienced underwater diver & assistant to complete the actual work; organizing disposal of the waterlogged & barnacle-covered boat; and obtaining funding for the project. Rob volunteered countless hours coordinating & overseeing this project. The Waterfront Partnership Group volunteered administrative services for the project. Legal services were donated. In-kind services for disposal were donated. During the actual retrieval process, a trade of favors was negotiated by the crew hired to remove the boat & the crew operating the barge that happened to be nearby, carrying a truck with crane. Without charge, the truck & crane were used to assist with up righting the capsized vessel, allowing it to be towed to a boat ramp & moved onto dry land. Thank you, Rob, for your diligent & dedicated efforts in following this difficult project through to the end. As well, the contribution of services & teamwork by all those involved to help keep our Carrabelle River beautiful is truly appreciated. Donations to assist with vessel removal cost will be accepted by Carrabelle Waterfront Partnership.

Submitted by Brenda La Paz, Mayor of Carrabelle

Franklin County Tourist Development Council: Tourist Talk February 2016

Non Profit Mid-Week Promotions: The TDC Board is working on the development of mid-week events to accommodate visitors that arrive mid-week. "We think this is an important part in developing a more robust market during the middle of the week" Laura Graham from the TDC said Wednesday. "We have heard from short term lodging companies (hotel/motels) the desire to encourage more mid-week rentals. Part of our response is to encourage non-profits to do more mid-week events." For more information email laura@saltyflorida.com (Note: mid-week is considered Monday-Friday)

Camp Gordon Johnston: The TDC Board will be finalizing an agreement with Camp Gordon Johnston to participate in the construction of a new WWII museum across from the Carrabelle Beach on Highway 98. The facility should be open by the end of the year and will feature WWII history and the role our community played in the War's training efforts.

TDC Adds to Hospitality Training Options: Each year the TDC offers a course in Hospitality Training for area front line industry staff. Now the TDC can make available an on-line version of Hospitality Training through its membership with Visit Florida. For more information contract laura@saltyflorida.com

Meetings: The TDC Board meeting for March 9, 2016 has been rescheduled for 2:00 P.M. Wednesday March 23 concurrent with the TDC Committee meetings for March. The meetings will be held at the



The 21st Annual Camp Gordon Johnston Days
Carrabelle, FL
Schedule of Events
Fri 11th - Sat 12th 2016

Friday, March 11th

9 am-5 pm Welcome/Registration at the **Camp Gordon Johnson Museum**, 1001 Gray Ave. (City Municipal Complex) featuring finger food, coffee, and refreshments free to all. Vendors may begin setting up their displays downtown. All active duty and WWII Vets can pick-up voucher for free Saturday morning Breakfast and Saturday evening Dinner Dance. For more information call (850) 697-8575 www.campgordonjohnston.com

6 pm A hospitality meal for veterans and guests sponsored by **American Legion Post 82**, 2316 Oak Street, Lanark Village. Low Country Boil! There will be Karaoke and DJ entertainment as well. Open to all WWII veterans, WWII widows/widowers, non-WWII veterans with proof of service, all members of Post 82, and one guest per veteran/member. **This event is not open to the general public.** Call Greg Kristofferson (850) 320-8201 for more info.

Saturday, March 12th

7-9 am **Camp Gordon Johnston Days Breakfast at Hog Wild Bar-B-Q**, 1593 W. Hwy 98, Carrabelle. Breakfast is \$ 7. All active duty and WWII Vets can pick up free meal vouchers at the CGJ WWII Museum Friday 9-5 pm.

9 am- 4 pm **The Camp Gordon Johnson Museum** will be open with finger food available. There will be documentaries showing through-out the day in one of the small movie theaters. Please allow at least one hour to tour this premier WWII Museum.

11-12:30 pm -Live Music

2:00 pm Vocalist Mrs. Jennifer Duncan will perform songs from the WWII era.

Parade:

9:30 am Parade line-up

10:45 am till.... Parade and Vendor "swap meet", **Camp Gordon Johnston & the Military Vehicle Preservation Association vehicles will be displayed in front of Gulf Unmanned Systems Center**, 206 Highway 98. A wide variety of vendors this year. There will also be local restaurants featuring their specialties, veteran organizations, both state and federal, listing the services and opportunities available to veterans. Also, vendors offering for sale, military souvenirs ranging from patches, shirts, uniforms and items found in the area of the old camp such as bottles, insignias. Civic and church groups will also be in attendance with bakery items and refreshments to offer. To participate in parade or be a vendor or volunteer, call (850) 697-8575 www.campgordonjohnston.com

6:00 pm **Camp Gordon Johnston Days Dinner Dance-** Live Entertainment and Dinner Dance. **Franklin County Senior Center**, 201 NW Ave. F, Carrabelle. \$ 10 Donation per person, Chicken or Pork Entrée, no charge for WWII veterans and active duty troops. Tea and Coffee will be provided or bring a beverage of your choice. Vocal performance by Ms. Jennifer Duncan. All Proceeds benefit the Senior Center. For Tickets, Please Call (850) 697-3760 or (850) 320-8201. Tickets also available at the Chamber office Monday through Friday.

Schedule Courtesy of:

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