

CHAMBER NEWS

A Newsletter for Members of the Burgaw Area Chamber of Commerce

April 2008

Upcoming Events

Saturday, April 5, Noon
Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting
Café Liardi
101 S. Wright Street, Burgaw
(located inside Burgaw Antiqueplace)
910.463.4263

Thursday, April 10, 5:30 - 7:30 pm
Business After Hours &
General Membership Meeting
Sponsored by:
Exit Realty & Peele Construction
Pender Adult Services
901 S. Walker Street, Burgaw
RSVP: 910.259.9817

Saturday, April 12, 11:00 am
Ribbon Cutting
It's All About Hem
107 E. Church Street, Atkinson
910.620.0738

Wednesday, April 23, Noon
Administrative Professional Day Luncheon
Szechuan Pavillion (Food Lion Shopping Ctr.)
602 U.S. Highway. 117 N., Burgaw
RSVP: 910.259.9817

Saturday, April 26, Noon until 6:00 pm
Earth Day 2008, Hugh MacRae Park
312 Pine Grove Road, Wilmington
*Live music, food, environmental
information and activities for all ages*

Welcome New Members

**BURGAW TOURISM
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**
Martin Beach
109 N. Walker Street
Burgaw, NC 28425
910.259.2151

"IT'S ALL ABOUT HEM"

Betty Jacobs, Seamstress
107 E. Church Street
Atkinson, NC 28421
910.620.0738

Thanks to All Members and Guests who Attended and Supported the Annual Banquet

The Burgaw Area Chamber of Commerce hosted its Annual Banquet and Meeting on Thursday, February 28th at the Mad Boar Restaurant. Pete Cowan, president of the chamber was master of ceremonies for the night. The evening began with the unveiling of the 2008 Strategic Plan and the chamber's new mission statement. Members learned about the role of the chamber and some of the challenges and expectations facing the chamber as we continue to grow.

Vision 2012 consists of several goals established by the chamber that it hopes to implement within the next four years:

- Develop a marketing plan that promotes the Greater Burgaw Area
- Engage in an active campaign that promotes member business through referrals
- Create opportunities to become more involved in the area
- Promote and educate the business community on current issues through business training
- Active Advocacy for member business
- Full-time chamber staff

Goals that implement the vision are:

- Increase Chamber value to business and community
 - Develop value of membership
 - Encourage development of large assembly venue
 - Promote members by developing and distributing a "Members Guide" along with a newcomer package
 - Visibility in community as a leader agency
 - Focus on Accomplishment of mission expectation
- Education
 - Quarterly seminars of value to businesses
 - Annual scholarship
 - Activity in community
 - Promote inter-chamber relationships in region
 - Provide new board orientation
- Involvement
 - Build enthusiasm for chamber
 - Recruit new members
 - Active participation
 - Community leader and supporter
 - Pride in affiliation
- Organization
 - Establish committees to address issues
 - Develop scope of work
 - Develop full understanding of what the chamber is/does

(continued on pg. 2)

Annual Banquet *(continued)*

Throughout the evening the chamber's professionalism and expertise were clearly visible as members networked, mingled and visited sponsor tables. While the crowd conversed with colleagues, pianist Michael Noble provided classical background music. As the evening progressed, keynote speaker Deborah Cavanaugh gave an uplifting talk about her life and the journey that lead her to an artistic career at the age of forty.

Among those honored at the banquet was outgoing president Vickie Foster. Vickie was recognized for her many years of chamber service and for her ongoing continual support. The Business Member of the Year for 2007 was presented to Laney Real Estate Company. This distinguished award is presented annually to a company or individual who has performed outstanding service or has made exceptional voluntary contributions to our community. George Laney, President of Laney Real Estate Company accepted the award.

As in years past, door prizes, a 50/50 raffle and a silent auction kept the crowds anticipation level high. Congratulations to *The Pender Post* publisher Becky High, winner of the 50/50 raffle. *Pender Chronicle* Sports Writers Bobby Norris and Ron Watson were the winners of the silent auction. Proceeds from the sale of door prize tickets were donated to Pender County Relay for Life.



Artist Deborah Cavanaugh

Historic Burgaw Depot Foundation

One of the newest members of the Burgaw Area Chamber of Commerce is the Burgaw Depot Historic Preservation Foundation.



The foundation, whose purpose is to encourage the preservation and enhancement of the Historic Burgaw Depot, has had a varied history since it was founded in 1987 by the Burgaw Jaycees. Through the Jaycees, the depot, built about 1850, was nominated for the National Register of Historic Places and research found it to be North Carolina's oldest railroad depot. In the 1990s, the town of Burgaw assumed responsibility for the depot's maintenance and the foundation became inactive.

The organization was resurrected in 2007 and sponsored the successful Historic Burgaw Depot Antique Show and Sale held in affiliation with the NC Blueberry Festival, and its first auction in October with the help of Angel Mintz (NCAL6217) of Angel's Antiques and Auction House, Atkinson and foundation member Glen Jenkins.

Membership in the Foundation is open to anyone willing to support and assist with the preservation and enhancement of the Historic Burgaw Depot through volunteerism, physical or financial contributions and by paying annual dues fixed by the board of directors.

Foundation officers include Ellen Howell, chair; Pam Carroll, vice chair; Tammy Blizzard, secretary and Anne B. Howell, treasurer. Board members include Annette Coneglio Anderson, past chair; Glendal Jenkins, Vernon Harrell, Chip Jordan, Mike Taylor and Joan Weld.

If you are interested in learning more about the foundation, call (910) 675-0774.

As the Chamber continues to grow, our program of work has clearly embraced our new Mission Statement:

The Burgaw Area Chamber of Commerce is to be the leading advocate of business and industry, unified to promote and enhance economic growth in Pender County and the surrounding region.

Thanks to the following individuals and businesses that contributed to the success of the banquet:

Silver Sponsors:

Town of Burgaw
Creekside at Burgaw
NC Blueberry Festival
Progress Energy
Wilmington Industrial Development

Bronze Sponsors:

Farm Bureau
Four County EMC
The Pender Chronicle
Realty World
Self-Help Credit Union
Kevin Strickland, Attorney-at-Law

Program Sponsor: The Pender Post

Silent Auction Sponsor: The Pender Post

Door prizes provided by the following:

NewBridge Bank
Laney Real Estate
First Citizens Bank
The Pender Post
NC Blueberry Festival
The Pender Chronicle
Four County EMC
Plants Plus
Courthouse Coffee
Café Liardi
River Landing Golf Course
Mad Boar Restaurant
PAWS of NC
Rooks Lawn & Garden Center
Realty World
Bannerman's Vineyard
Southern Printing Company
NC ESC / Pender Co JobLink
Town of Burgaw
Artist, Deborah Cavanaugh
Becky Creech (Laney Real Estate)
Sophia Wells Realty
Tom Roper (Realty World)
Lumina Mortgage (Mary Vernon)
Lower Cape Fear Hospice & Life Care Center

Volunteers:

Shannon Pearce, First Citizens Bank;
Becky Creech, Laney Real Company;
Tammy Barnes, Exit Realty; Michelle Parker, Exit Realty; Debra Futch, Exit Realty; and Dana Scalici, Exit Realty.

A very special thank you goes to Martin Beach, for running the Powerpoint presentation, Jimmy Tate for providing the invocation, and Gloria Hart for use of the beautiful ferns.

Member Survey

Several months ago the Burgaw Chamber provided an online survey for member participation. The purpose of the survey was to determine member needs and chamber direction for the upcoming year.

Here are the questions that were on the survey along with the responses:

What do you see as the mission of the chamber?

- 80% Business Based
- 20% Civic Based
- 10% Charitable

What type of events would you like to see the chamber host?

- 60% Educational Seminars & Business Expos
- 5% Dinners
- 20% Community Events
- 15% Networking Events

How can the chamber help support your business operation?

- 90% Provide more networking opportunities
- 10% Provide educational seminars

Are you looking for ways to increase your community involvement?

- 85% No
- 15% Yes

Would you attend a quarterly member's meeting?

- 90% Yes
- 10% No

Would you attend a lunch and learn program?

- 75% Yes
- 25% No

Have you ever attended a Chamber Board Meeting?

- 50% Yes
- 50% No

Do you visit the Chamber website?

- 85% Yes
- 15% No

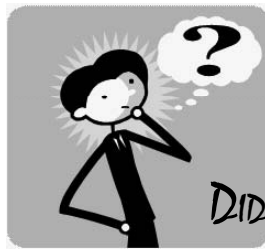
Is your business profile updated on the website?

- 75% Yes
- 15% No

Do you read the Chamber Newsletter?

- 95% Yes
- 5% No

Thank you for your participation. The results of the survey were used for guidance when planning the 2008 Strategic Plan and our new mission statement.



...Administrative Professionals Day is always celebrated the last full week in April. Some company's observe it on the Wednesday of Administrative Professionals Week. The event originated in 1952 as National Secretaries Week and Professional Secretaries Day. The names of the holidays were switched to the current designation in 2000 to reflect the several different administrative professions and their expanding responsibilities.

Source: International Association of Administrative Professionals

American Cancer Society and the Pender County Relay for Life

TOWN OF BURGAW
"COLOR BURGAW PURPLE"
WEEK
April 21 - 25, 2008

Recognize the importance of Cancer research by placing purple bows, ribbons or other purple decorations on mailboxes, front doors and business fronts to show support for those in Burgaw and the surrounding community that have suffered from this dreaded disease, either by losing a loved one, being a survivor or a caretaker. We are remembering, celebrating and fighting back!

Purple ribbons can be purchased at Hart's Florist. For more information contact Kim Lee, (910) 233-0992.

2008 Lower Cape Fear Celebration of Earth Day

Come out for a fun-filled day of live music, good food, and environmental information and activities for all ages! Discover what issues affect our environment, talk with local groups, and learn how you can get involved. Bring the whole family to celebrate Earth Day 2008 from noon until 6pm on Saturday, April 26th at Hugh McRae Park. The event is FREE!

The theme for the 2008 Earth Day is: *Trees Please*. This theme was chosen to bring awareness to the issue of deforestation, with a specific focus on tree canopy cover. We will focus on ways to educate our citizens on the benefits of trees with a special focus on native varieties. The event will feature over 40 informational environmental exhibits, a fun and educational Kids Eco Zone, live local music, and great food and drinks.

In addition, we will also be adding a separate Green Market Tent to this year's festival. We envision the Green Market to be a place where local businesses, organizations, and area crafts people can share their renewable, sustainable, or environmentally friendly products for purchase.

If you are interested in exhibiting or selling an item at the Green Market, contact Nikki Mitchell at nmitchell@nhcgov.com or (910) 798-7564. For more information contact Shawn Ralston, (910) 798-7444.

Burgaw Tourism Development Authority

Burgaw Tourism Development Authority is currently putting together a self-guided walking tour for Historic Downtown Burgaw. The purpose is to expose people to the historic relevance of the downtown district and encourage pedestrian traffic. The walking tour brochure offers a short history of the town, a general downtown map, highlights of architectural styles and a history lesson about the correlation between the Civil War and the Depot.

For more information, contact Martin Beach, (910) 259-2151.

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Burgaw, NC 28425

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Introducing Our 2008 Chamber Board:

Wes Blake - American Skin
Becky Creech - Laney Real Estate
Vickie Foster - Realty World Southeastern
Becky High - The Pender Post
Joyce Keith - Pender Co. Board of Education
Barry Klingel - Burgaw Post Office
Tonya Lacewell Turner - Attorney at Law
David Long - Pender Memorial Hospital
John Lyon - AT&T
Michael McWhorter - Mojo Musical Supply
Shannon Pearce - First Citizens Bank
Randy Rolfe - Star-News
Jimmy Tate - Pender Co Commissioner
Jimmy Smith - Four County EMC
Kevin Strickland - Attorney at Law
Ronnie Williams - Farm Bureau

Notable Quote:

"An organization is only as effective as the members want it to be. Active involvement is the key to opening the door of success for any activity."

- Martin Beach, Vice President, Burgaw Chamber

Burgaw Area Chamber of Commerce

President - Pete Cowan **Vice-President** - Martin Beach
Treasurer - Frank Crisafulli **Secretary** - Rosemary Pittman
Executive Director - Donna Best-Klingel

A General Membership Meeting and *Business After Hours* will take place on Thursday, April 10 from 5:30 until 7:30 pm at Pender Adult Services located at 901 S. Walker Street in Burgaw.

Sponsors: Exit Realty and Peele Construction
RSVP by Monday, April 7th, 910.259.9817

Advertising Guidelines

This newsletter is distributed to members of the Burgaw Area Chamber of Commerce, distribution approximately 300.

Approved, camera-ready advertisements should be received by the first of the month preceding publication.

Ad Sizes

1/8 pg. (3.5" x 2.25") - \$25

1/2 pg. (7" x 5") or (3.5" x 10") - \$85

1/4 pg. (3.5" x 5") - \$45

Full Page Insert - \$100

Contributions to the Newsletter

Please send to info@burgawchamber.com or call 910.259.9817.

www.burgawchamber.com

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www.dockstreetprinting.com

910.763.8476