



Program of Work - 2019

Organizational Improvement, Vice Chair, Valerie Roberson

Goal: To identify and act upon issues and activities that enhance the function and effectiveness of the chamber.

- Update Chamber website – up and going by 1st Quarter.
- Utilize Chamber database to full capacity.
- Continue providing information to our members and community, utilizing newsletter, WSST 34, The Cordele Dispatch, South Georgia News and social media.
- Visit new members...follow up with visit or call within 30 days.
- Plan at least one Business After Hours.
- Review Membership Investment Schedule and bundle Sponsorships.
- Host Quarterly 12 @ 12 with Chairman.
- Review and update Policies and Procedures and other HR info to insure we are compliant.
- Coordinate ribbon cuttings, ground breakings and open houses.
- Continue to promote members events & community events on all social media.
- Sponsor Annual Dinner & Professional Administrative Day.

Community Development, Vice Chair, Doug Dean

Goal: To develop programs to help improve the quality of life for our community.

- Workforce development and education – Continue to support programs provided through the school system, higher education, and the Cordele/Crisp Industrial Develop Council.
- Explore interest in Leadership Crisp.
- Sponsor and increase attendance at 4th Annual LeadercastCordele.
- Continue to support health and wellness events, including Crisp Regional Health Services, Cordele Senior Games, Suicide Awareness Walk, and local gyms.
- Support transition of Keep Crisp Beautiful from subcommittee to separate division.
- Explore partnership with mock trial program and other programs designed to foster interest in professions.
- Promote Farmers Market to spread information about it, enhance community involvement, and make it more family-oriented. Research ways to make it more desirable for families (green space, special days with events to bring more visitors to the Market. Research ways to increase the number of vendors. Research better signage from I-75 to market.
- Continue to support neighborhood improvements and housing by supporting Southwest Georgia United's rental property and the Farm Migrant Housing Program. Continue to support Landbank.
- Continue to support and promote ag community, including Farmers Market, Watermelon Days Festival, and Farmer's Appreciation dinner.
- Support Crisp County School System, Crisp Academy, South Georgia Technical College and Albany State University.
- Sponsor STAR Student/Teacher recognition at Lions Club, and Red Ribbon Week Activities.

Small Business Development, Vice Chair, Heath Hamilton

Goal: To develop programs to promote quality economic growth, provide assistance to small businesses and entrepreneurs.

- Create new comer/new business informational brochure & include information in Chamber Business Directory.
- Partner with local Schools to encourage students
- Partner with UGA Business Develop Center, South Georgia Technical College, Albany State University and Southwest Georgia United to assist entrepreneurs, and small businesses
- Research ways to help new businesses with permitting (stream lining) City & County.
- Explore partnership with Albany State University and South Georgia Technical College for employment workshops, including résumé and application packet building. Also, ensure that we are not duplicating services.
- Continue to promote business development and promote the Resource Office at the chamber.
- Continue to offer webinars of interest to the membership.

Keep Crisp Beautiful, Vice Chair, Chip Wells

Goal: To educate our community to build and sustain a local movement to reduce and eliminate litter and promote participation and efforts to preserve our environment.

- Increase educational initiatives: Director and/or members will speak to all 3rd graders annually.
- Keep Crisp Beautiful will have a special section in the Chamber Chatter to promote events, recruit volunteers and educate the community.
- Director or volunteers will provide education information, advertising events at least once monthly on WSST 34.
- Increase volunteer base. Recruit Boy Scouts, 4-H'ers, Senior citizens, other community organizations and the business community.
- Continue events Great American Clean Up, Rivers Alive, County-wide Cleanup (2 yearly), Bring One for the Chipper, Clothes Collection, America Recycles Day, Adopt-A-Highway/Spot Cleanup Week, Book Collection, Litter Index, Trauma bears collection, Adopt-A-Highway/Spot Drive and Earth Day.
- Continue promoting and expand litter awareness with new ad campaign, PSA's and billboards, monthly tips in newsletter, and promoting Adopt-A-Spot/Highway Programs, and Earth Day at local schools.
- Continue promoting recycling through Recycling brochure, America Recycles Day, researching other options and encourage expansion of program for Crisp County as well as reducing waste, and reuse with collection events such as bag, clothes, book, and stuffed animals.

Public Affairs, Co-Chairs, Karen Kinsey & Marlene Kimball

Goal: To interact with appropriate levels of government and private sectors to accomplish goals of chamber and community.

- Sponsor Atlanta Legislative Fish Fry.
- Sponsor Public Safety Appreciation Dinner.
- Sponsor "Get Out & Vote".
- Attend Congressional Luncheon and other events sponsored by the Georgia Chamber.
- Continue to support for tax credits, community issues (i.e. Albany State, SWGAU, CRH tax credits).
- Research consolidation of services (Public Works, Planning & Zoning, Emergency Services).

Tourism Division, Vice Chair, Monica Mitchell

Goal: To expand the visitor base.

- Complete re-branding plan.
- Sponsor softball, fishing, golfing & other tournaments.
- Research disk golf event & boat races (sailing, jet ski events) with Georgia Veterans State Park
- Promote Cordele/Crisp to Film Industry. Update pictures on State Film site.
- Sponsor Watermelon Days Festival, Hot Air Balloon event, Duathlon/Triathlon and Fireworks.
- Support Historic SAM Railroad (Day Out with Thomas & National Train Day).
- Support Cordele Main Street (Rail Museum, Rail Fan Festival & Christmas event)
- Support Georgia Veterans State Park, Friends of Georgia Vets and Lake Blackshear Resort & Golf Club events.
- Research locations for new directional signage at entry ways (Highway 280 east & west, Highway 41 north & south).
- Promote and support Farmers Market, Crisp Motor Sports Park, SpeedFest, Sailplanes, family reunions, conventions and other visitors to our community.
- Support Agri Tourism (Ga. Grown Trail 41, 100 Mile Peanut Pickin Yard Sale).