

# The Women's Chamber of Commerce of Palm Beach County, Inc.



## THE CONNECTION

Volume 15, Issue 1 - July, 2009

Dear Member,

On July 1st, I assumed my duties as President of the Women's Chamber of Commerce of PBC (WCC). I want to thank all of you for your support and encouragement to take over this endeavor. I promise to work hard and to promote our slogan "Women Mean Business". My goal for the year is "EDUCATION". We are planning to have events and programs to educate and inform the women of Palm Beach County on how to be successful in their business.



I would like to thank Theresa LePore for her leadership and guidance as President during our 2008-2009 year. A special THANK YOU goes out to the 2008-2009 Executive Board, Board of Directors and Committee Chairs, Co-Chairs and Vice-Chairs for all of their hard work. We had a very successful year of events, programs and networking mixers thanks to the entire Leadership Team!

Being a Chamber Member means many things. To make your membership work for you, you need to attend functions and be involved. Paying your dues does nothing if you don't get out and participate! Please look at the WCC website, [www.womenschamber.biz](http://www.womenschamber.biz), and check out the calendar for all our upcoming mixers programs and events. The best way to make your Chamber work for you is to join a Committee. This way, you are making friends and networking on a regular basis. The list of Committees and their description is available on our website.

A very important part of the Women's Chamber is the Women's Chamber Foundation (WCF). The WCF is the education and professional development arm of the WCC. The proceeds from WCF Events and Fundraisers go towards our Scholarship Program which is administered by WCF. Please contact Theresa LePore, the WCF Chair, for more information. ALL WCC members are automatically members of WCF.

Lastly, if you have any comments, ideas, thoughts and/or suggestions, please share them with me...REMEMBER...this is YOUR Chamber! I look forward to working with all of you.

Sincerely,

*Jane*

Jane Bloom, President  
The Women's Chamber of Commerce of Palm Beach County, Inc.

**In This Issue**

Foundation News

-----  
WOMEN'S CHAMBER FOUNDATION

**Summer Strawberry Fiesta**

**Special WCC News**

**Office For Rent**

**Member Advertising**

~ ~ ~ ~ ~  
**CHAMBER LEADERS**

**OFFICERS**

**Jane C. Bloom, President**  
*Ink & Toner USA*

**Karen Wiser, 1st Vice President**  
*Solutions Insurance Services, LLC*

**Sandra Kaplan, 2nd Vice President**  
**BRAVO K.B., Inc.**

**Catherine Callan, Secretary**  
*Voices For Children/Heart Gallery*

**Julie Kelly, Treasurer**  
*Orion Bank*

**Theresa LePore,**  
**Immediate Past President**

**DIRECTORS**

**Lexye Aversa**  
*Professional Touch International*

**Kimberly Deveney**  
*U & Me Records Management*

**Sherrie Goldsmith**  
*The Sunshine Approach*

**Michele Hartburg**  
*National City/PNC*

**Judy Jacobs**  
*JuJu Designs, LLC*

**Margo Kohlhoff**  
*Carl Domino, Inc*

**Huntley Miller**  
*Dale Carnegie*

**Andrea Plevin**  
*Above & Beyond Party Decor*

**Suzanne Turner**  
*YWCA of PBC*

**Denise W. Valz**  
*Girl Scouts Southeast Florida*

~ ~ ~ ~ ~  
**FOUNDATION LEADERS**

**OFFICERS**

**Theresa LePore, Chair**

**Margo Kohlhoff, Vice-Chair**  
**Carl Domino, Inc**

**Janelle Dowley, Secretary**  
*Two Men and a Truck*

**Huntley Miller, Treasurer**

**by Theresa LePore, Chair**



On July 1, 2009, I moved from President of the Women's Chamber of Commerce to Immediate Past President and Chair of the Women's Chamber Foundation.

The 2008-2009 year for the Foundation was a great one thanks to Sandra Kaplan and her leadership team!!

At our Annual Linking Women to Learning Scholarship Luncheon, the Foundation was able to award \$11,000 in scholarships to 11 well-deserving ladies. In addition, thanks to Christine Pitts and Toshiba Business Solutions of FL, a 12th lady was awarded a laptop computer. The Luncheon was well attended thanks to the Luncheon Co-Chairs Helena Dobbs-Edie and Margaret Montalvo and their incredible Committee. Our Mistress of Ceremonies was Liz Quirantes, WPEC News 12 Anchor, and our Keynote Speaker was Dr Kathleen Anderson, Professor of English at Palm Beach Atlantic University.

We are planning several "Lunch and Learn" Luncheons this year. If you have any suggestions for topics, please let me know. We also will have a few fundraising activities to raise money for our Scholarship Program.

One fundraising activity that DOES NOT cost you anything is using [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) which is a Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to registered charities. It has a sister site, [www.goodshop.com](http://www.goodshop.com), is an online shopping mall which donates up to 37% of each purchase to charities. The Women's Chamber Foundation is listed as "Womens Chamber of Commerce - Palm Beach County - PBC (West Palm Beach)". Start searching and shopping now...every penny raised goes towards our Scholarship Program!

If you have any questions or suggestions, please always feel free to contact me!

Sincerely,

*Theresa*



[www.womenschamberfoundation.org](http://www.womenschamberfoundation.org)



Dale Carnegie

Sandra Kaplan, Immed Past Chair  
Bravo KB, Inc

**DIRECTORS**

Jane Bloom, President WCC  
Ink & Toner USA

Carol Dixon  
Carl Domino, Inc

Tatiana Parra  
Costco Wholesale

Jennifer Rodriguez  
First Southern Bank

Karen Wiser  
SOLUTIONS Insurance Services, LLC

Barbara Benson Wymer  
Benson Protocol



**SAVE THE DATE!**

08/04 @ 11:30 am  
Annual Tri-Chamber Luncheon @ The  
South Florida Fair Expo Center

08/12 @ 5:30 pm  
Summer Strawberry Fiesta @ Testa's,  
Palm Beach

08/27 @ 11:30 am  
"Safety Luncheon" @ the Crowne Plaza  
WPB

09/17 @ 5:30 pm  
Mixer @ The Palm Beach Kennel Club



**COMMITTEE  
MEMBERS NEEDED!**

**The following WCC  
Committees need  
members...why not join a  
Committee today!**

- Ambassador/Membership
- Communications
- Fashion Show
- Finance
- Fund Development
- Giraffe Awards
- Nominating
- Networking
- Programs

Contact the Women's Chamber Office for  
more Information!



**DRAWING ITEMS  
NEEDED FOR WCC  
EVENTS**

Promote your Business and  
receive recognition from the  
podium and in the WCC

The Women's Chamber of Commerce of PBC  
Cordially invites you to attend their



**SUMMER STRAWBERRY FIESTA**

**AT**



**221 Royal Poinciana Way, Palm Beach**

**Wednesday, August 12, 2009  
5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**

**Be prepared to indulge in all sorts of strawberry  
delights and beverages!**

**Cash Bar  
50/50 Drawing to benefit the Women's Chamber  
Foundation  
Business Card Drawing ~ Door Prizes**

**Testa's is graciously offering a 10% discount for  
those who would like to stay for dinner after our  
Event!**

**Members: \$20 on or before 08/10/2009  
Members: \$25 on 08/11/2009  
Non-Members: \$25 on or before 08/10/2009  
Non-Members: \$30 on 08/11/2009  
\$35 - Members and Non-Members at the door**

RSVP by August 10, 2009  
By Phone: (561) 684-4523  
On-Line: [www.womenschamber.biz](http://www.womenschamber.biz)



**SPECIAL WCC NEWS**

**Executive Director Leaves**

We are sad to inform you that Patricia Taras, our Executive  
Director, has left the Women's Chamber to pursue other

Newsletter!

Call the WCC Office for more details.  
(561) 684-4523



Gold Partner



Corporate Partners



National Croquet Center



WOMEN MEAN BUSINESS!

endeavors. We wish her well!



### WCC Office Hours

Due to our Executive Director leaving, the WCC Office is currently without a paid staff person. The office is being run by volunteers. If you call and receive the voicemail, please leave a message and someone will get back with you as soon as possible. Thank you for your cooperation!



### OFFICE FOR RENT

The Women's Chamber of Commerce has an Office available for rent. Monthly rent includes electricity, wireless internet service, use of small conference room and use of kitchen facilities. If you are interested, please contact Jane Bloom at (561) 684-4523.



### MEMBER ADVERTISING



1873 West Lantana Road Lantana, FL 33462

There couldn't be a better time to join! Call For special Promotions for new members. Types of membership include:

- \* **Executive** - Receive a 2% Reward (up to \$500/year) on most Costco purchases
- \* **Business Memberships** for business owners and managers for the purchase of products for business, personal and resale use
- \* **Gold Star Membership** for individuals who want to purchase products mainly for personal use

All members may apply for a complimentary "True Earnings" American Express Card which acts as both an American Express Card and your Costco Membership Card. Earn cash back on virtually every purchase you make everywhere.

For more information, contact:

Tatiana Parra at 561-584-2848 or w180mbr@costco.com  
Maria Maldonado at 561-935-7522 or w180mkt04@costco.com  
Jose E. Barrios at 561-584-2874 or w180mkt02@costco.com



**THE HOLIDAYS ARE HERE!  
THE EARLY BIRD GETS THE WORM!**

NOW is the time to plan your Holiday Vacations

CRUISE THE CARIBBEAN  
SKI THE ROCKIES  
ALL INCLUSIVE WITH THE KIDS  
ROMANTIC WEEK ON THE BEACH  
WEEKEND IN NEW YORK, PARIS OR LONDON AT LOW  
PRICES

Email me and I will send you 10 reasons why you will save  
money using a Travel Agent!

ARLENE BRENNER  
INDIAN RIVER TRAVEL  
[www.signaturetravelnetwork.com](http://www.signaturetravelnetwork.com)  
[arlstravel@aol.com](mailto:arlstravel@aol.com)  
305-804-8334

The Women's Chamber of Commerce of Palm Beach County, Inc | 1470 North Congress Avenue | Suite 113 | West Palm Beach |  
FL | 33409