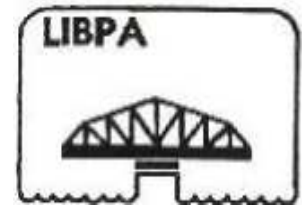


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LADY'S ISLAND BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

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Day Light Savings
March 14th

GUEST SPEAKER FOR MARCH

Colonel John R. Snider
Commanding Officer
Marine Corps Air Station, Beaufort, South Carolina



Colonel Snider assumed command of the Marine Corps Air Station, Beaufort in July 2008. Prior to his present assignment, his service included participation in combat operations in Bosnia Herzegovina, Serbia, Kosovo and Iraq. As a pilot he has completed more than 4,400 tactical flight hours while serving in flying assignments in the A6 Intruder, TA-4 Skyhawk and the F/A- 18 Hornet. Other assignments include commanding Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 312 and duty as Deputy Director/Chief of Staff of the Joint Integrated Air and Missile Defense Organization.

Colonel Snider is a graduate of Washington State University and holds a Masters of Science degree in national security strategy from the National War College and a second Masters degree in military studies from the Marine Corps Command and Staff College. His personal decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal with Bronze numeral 6, and the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with two gold stars and combat distinguishing device.

He has been requested to include the following points of interest in his discussion with our members.

- The role and mission of MCAS as part of the Marine Corps.
- The role of MCAS as part of the Beaufort Community.
- The status of the F-35B Joint Strike Fighter programs.
- Impact of the F-35B on MCAS Beaufort.
- Impact of the F-35B on the surrounding community.
- Thoughts on MCAS Beaufort and the next round of base closures.



MARINES
THE FEW. THE PROUD.

Meeting: Tuesday, March 9, 8 AM
Sea Island Conference Center

Invite your friends and neighbors!

Open to the public.

MEET THE NEW LIBPA BOARD MEMBERS

We are privileged to have 3 new members join the Lady's Island Business and Professional Association 2010 Board of Directors:

Wendy Nilsen Pollitzer will replace Kim Harding as the individual in charge of LIBPA publicity. Wendy is the new lead writer for The Island News. She is the author of two books of the Images of America series. Her first book was Isle of Palms which was followed by Port Royal. Prior to assuming the role of lead writer for The Island News she was the interpretive manager at Hunting Island State Park.

Jim Rowan will replace Rich Tritschler as Vice President. Jim is a Civil Engineer and Vice President of Fraser Construction Company. He has over 35 years of experience in program/project/construction management services and is a past president of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Construction Management Association of America (CMAA).

Mari-Ann Taylor will replace Cathy Crocker as Secretary. Mari-Ann and her husband Larry own and operate COMPACT 2 Technologies which provides custom web site design.

To Kim Harding, Rich Tritschler and Cathy Crocker a special thank you for your contribution to LIBPA and Lady's Island. To Wendy, Jim and Mari-Ann thank you for being willing to support our organization and our community as a member of the LIBPA Board of Directors.

LADY'S ISLAND BUSINESS PICTURE IN 2009

The annual review of business license issued for Lady's Island shows that although there are about the same number of businesses on the island there has been significant changes in types of businesses and the amount of money they are making. The data indicates that professional, health and business services continue to be attracted to Lady's Island and once established here do well. The demise of the local housing construction industry can be seen by the 30% drop in the number of contractors and the \$10 million decrease in revenue from the previous year. In that same respect, it should come as no surprise there were fewer realtor licenses issued in 2009 and the revenue from real estate saw a \$2 million reduction from the previous year. Following is a statistical review of the last 4 years of business licenses issued on Lady's Island and the amount of gross revenue reported.

Business Type	Number Business Licenses Issued				Gross Revenue (Millions)			
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2006	2007	2008	2009
Professional Services	77	74	84	77	18.2	17.4	20.1	19.7
Business Services	63	66	69	63	8.4	6.6	8.5	13.5
Contractor (All Types)	125	139	141	98	64.0	68.9	51.3	41.5
Eating/Drinking Places	19	21	17	15	7.4	7.5	7.8	7.2
Hardware/Garden Supply	4	3	4	3	6.5	4.2	7.7	7.6
Food/Convenience Store	5	5	6	14	10.4	13.9	12.1	27.1
Health Services	13	27	29	26	7.7	14.4	9.8	14.8
Insurance	3	6	4	3	2.5	2.2	0.5	0.6
Miscellaneous Retail	28	49	46	69	4.9	16.9	28.6	12.1
Real Estate	38	24	43	35	13.3	8.8	7.1	5.1
All Others	89	181	91	133	40.4	34.0	13.1	13.9
Total	473	595	538	536	182.9	176.1	167.4	163.2

At the end of the year the number of businesses on the island did not vary significantly from the previous year. Although there was a significant jump in the number of miscellaneous retail business licenses issued there was a drastic drop in gross revenue reported for the same category. Over all, on Lady's Island, the amount of revenue generated by businesses dropped (\$4 million) in 2009 as compared to the previous year. When you consider that the combined one year decline in the home building and real estate industry was \$12 million and the island only suffer a \$4 million overall reduction – it certainly could be worst. Having said that, when you ride around the island and see the large volume of commercial real estate on the market there is no reason for cheering. There is no question that we are going through a period in which our business community is in the process of reinventing itself and that process is very painful.

Editor's Note: A special thank you is extended to Ms. Edra Stephens, Director of the Beaufort County Business License Department for her courtesy in compiling and sharing the data set forth in the article.

THE WAY IT SHOULD BE DONE!

Once the 1% sales tax referendum was passed the Beaufort County Engineering Department wasted no time in hiring the **Dennis Corporation** to oversee the design and construction of the designated projects. Some of the first projects to reach the "shovel ready" status were the widening of Lady's Island Drive and construction of another bridge parallel to the McTeer Bridge. The companies contracted to do the actual work on these projects (United Contractors for the bridge and Sanders Brothers for the road widening) have demonstrated the true meaning of professionals. The widening of Lady's Island Drive is expected to be completed (except for a tie-in to the new bridge) by the beginning of this summer and the bridge by the end of 2011.

SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTION CALENDAR

This year the residents of Lady's Island will have an opportunity to vote for their representatives to the Beaufort County School Board, County Council (District 7), State Representative (District 124), Congressional Representative and Senator. Following is a list of key dates.

March 16 -30	Filing open for party and convention candidates.
April 9	Political parties certify candidates.
May 8	Last day to register to vote in primary election.
June 8	Primary Election Day
June 22	Primary run-off (if required)
July 15	Last day for submission of petitions in support of petition candidates.
August 16	Last day to file for nonpartisan offices.
October 2	Last day to register to vote in General Election.
November 2	General Election Day

The Lady's Island Business and Professional Association will invite candidates to share their opinions regarding the issues through articles in our newsletter and participation in LIBPA sponsored forums.

SCE&G TO UPGRADE TRANSMISSION LINES ON LADY'S ISLAND.

A good number of years ago it became obvious that growth in the Beaufort, Port Royal and Lady's Island area was going to exceed the existing SCE&G electrical infrastructure. To avoid a future crisis, a long range plan was developed to increase the maximum capacity of the existing transmission lines from 46,000 volts to 115,000 volts installed in a loop circling the communities. In the spring SCE&G will start another phase of this project with an upgrade of the transmission lines from the substation off of Ribaut Road in the City of Beaufort to the substation on Sams Point Road. Included in this project is an upgrade of the lines from the vicinity of Colony Gardens up Brickyard Point Road to the substation on Sams Point Road. The upgrade includes replacing the wooden transmission structures with taller galvanized steel structures. When completed (6 to 9 months) the project will provide additional electricity to Port Royal and Lady's Island, increase the reliability of service and provide a backup power source to the existing facilities that serve Lady's Island.

Welcome new member:

Troy Davenport Sr. with Liberty Tax Service