

Monticello-Jasper County Chamber of Commerce  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MONTHLY MEETING – PRESIDENTS UPDATE**

April 13, 2017

**STATS**

**Visitors' Center:**

February 108    March 263 (2 from Scotland)

**Facebook Page:**

Georgia Monticello - 3,422 Friends

Monticello-Jasper County Chamber of Commerce – 1,420 Likes

Market on the Square - 757 Likes

Explore Jasper County Georgia – Tourism and Events NEW THIS WEEK - 99 Likes

**Constant Contact:**

March Into Spring 474 sent ... 210 opened

Market on the Square 120 sent....45 opened

Golf Tournament 223 sent....45 opened

April Newsletter (still active) 506 sent...200 opened

**Meetings Attended**

March - County Commission Meeting (Pam)

April – Development Authority Meeting (Pam)

**Membership Drive:** To date, we have 136 membership entries. We have received \$14,680.00. (Estimated budget membership income for 2017 is 16,500.00) This includes Cornerstone membership. We have a record number of Cornerstone members this year. **ABBEY HOSPICE, BANK OF MONTICELLO, CENTRAL GEORGIA EMC, EVERCORE INSURANCE, GEORGIA PACIFIC, HARRISON FAMILY FARM, HEARTLAND CLINIC OF CHIROPRACTIC, LEWIS & MALONE HEATING AND AIR, LLC, PAUL & STATE REPRESENTATIVE SUSAN HOLMES, REESE HALL GARDENS AND KITCHEN, STITCHES OF MONTICELLO, THE MONTICELLO NEWS, TRICIA ARMISTEAD CPA, PC, VENTURE MEDICAL CENTER, LLC**

**Board of Directors Annual Retreat:** Report update has been submitted by Carrie Barnes with Georgia EMC. (a copy was emailed to everyone).

**Policy:** Memorandum of Understanding is ready to present to the City and County – the county never signed last years. Do we need to make a formal request? It actually needs to be submitted when the budget is approved in May and takes effect in June. The cities would be every January.

Audit request from City – we can't afford an audit. Our policy is: I do the initial bookwork, Treasurer checks my work and Tricia Armistead's office checks does an annual report.

**Keep Georgia Beautiful:** We received a request from Keep Georgia Beautiful to see if we wanted to register for event materials and basically be the lead entity for annual spring clean-up. The county and city already do something for spring. (City is city-wide yard sale and county does a spring clean-up campaign.

**Community Assistance Team:** I will be meeting with Doug White, David Dyer and Mike Benton directly following the Board meeting. The city has been selected to be the pilot program for a new DCA program. We will also be going Atlanta in May to meet with the team.

**Downtown Businesses:** Businesses closing on the Square.... Maw Maw's Place (probation office moving in), Mail and More, Heartland Chiropractic (moved – employment agency moving in), Junktique Store (a dance studio moving in, Silver Rabbit, and Snap-n-Turtle.

**Third Thursday Coffee Call:** Yoder Door... 336 Forsyth Street...Thursday, April 20<sup>th</sup>...7:30am-8:30am  
Please support our Chamber members...Yoder Door

**Leadership Jasper 2017:** Leadership Jasper 2017 visited the Capitol on March 22nd. (left to right): Jeff Greeson, Senator Burt Jones, Carol Atkinson, Towonder Dennis, Kim McMichael, Gail Harrell, Nathaniel Long, Robin Carey, Robert Cumbie, Governor Nathan Deal, Trey Gafnea, Representative Susan Holmes, Paul Holmes, Tamala Alexander, Wendi Helms, Joseph Hinton, Jacki Tyler, and Tony Lewis.

Our first class was on local Government. The class toured the Courthouse and got to meet with county officials and then they got to meet with the city officials at the Government Complex. Jim Dove with Northeast Georgia Regional Development Commission spoke to the group about government. Facilitator Bob Troutead lead the group in their first leadership lesson.

**Fill The Window:** We are promoting a *Fill The Window* to benefit the Animal Shelter of Jasper County. The shelter is in need of dog food, cat food (canned or dry), non-scooping/pelletized kitty litter, blankets, cleaning supplies, flea and tick products, shampoos, etc. Bring items to the Visitors' Center during the month of April from 9am – 4pm. Fill the window to full capacity to bring comfort to the homeless animals of Jasper County.

**Golf Tournament:** May 3<sup>rd</sup> – Hunter Pope Country Club. We will not be meeting again – please let Pam know if you can help at the tournament. We need help early in the morning to set-up, help checking in the players and help with dinner. See application in your packet

**Market on the Square:** 2017 Season – May 6th to September 30

**Poker Run: This information was in our April newsletter**

JUNE 17, 2017 ... Registration: 11:00am - 1:00pm

Gather Cards: 1:00-4:00pm ... Check In and Lunch 3:30-5:00pm

Winner announced at 6:00pm ... Live Music by Hudson Road - 3:30-7:00

The Chamber of Commerce is SPONSORING a dock this year! **~we will be providing Swag Bags ~ Please Note:** If you would like to provide **PROMOTIONAL ITEMS** for this year's swag bag, please have it to the Chamber of Commerce by June 1st. You will need to provide 200 items. Example of items are magnets, chip clips, koozies, coupons, gift certificates to your business, etc.

**Deer Festival:** We had a low response to the Deer Festival art contest this year. Need to select during the winner(s) during the April meeting. The Deer Dash application is ready. The Deer Festival application is ready. The parade application is ready. Katie is working to put 2017 information on websites. Our website is up to date with information.

**Tourism:**

Event with Miss Georgia USA 2017, Miss Teen Georgia USA 2017, former Miss Georgia Tiana Griggs – we hosted a Glam Party for the Jasper County High School prom attendees. This was a “tourism event”. We had over 60 people in the Visitors’ Center that day.

Art Show event – artists Jill Dyer, Jeanne Trammell, Lee Jordan, and Katie Cannon will have art on display the month of April.

Gift Shop – local market vendors will be bringing items in to sell in our gift shop. Some of the items we will purchase to sale. The gift shop cannot make a profit. It is a service...

Explore Georgia - My Cousin Vinny photos have been put on the Explore Georgia website in the “Year of the Film” section. This is a pay to play - - \$100.00 for the selfie spot.

**Next Meeting Date:** Thursday, May 11, 2017