

BRAZOSPORT
AREA



CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE

300 Abner Jackson Pkwy, Brazosport, TX 77566
979-285-2501 Fax 979-285-2505 Website: www.brazosport.org
E-Mail: chamber@brazosportchamber.org

Check us out on Facebook
for the most current
events!



February 2020

Inside This Issue:

2. Chairman's Message
3. Holiday Tour of Homes & Outstanding Volunteers
4. New Members
5. Ribbon Cuttings & Thank You's
6. B. P. N & Executive Committee Serves
7. 2020 Committee Task Forces
8. 2020 Committee Task Forces
9. Save the Date & Condolences
10. 2019 Taste Sponsors
11. LJA Surveying



The Chamber
Brazosport Area
The Economic Engine of Brazoria County

BRAZOSPORT AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

will host it's
75th Annual Banquet

Thursday, FEBRUARY 20, 2020
6 p.m. SOCIAL-CASH BAR / 7 p.m. PROGRAM

The Dow Academic Center
AT BRAZOSPORT COLLEGE

FEATURING JAZZ SUNDAY

Jazz Sunday was formed to lead a worship service in 1990 at Christ Lutheran Church in Lake Jackson. Since that time they have led jazz worship services and performed concerts, banquets, and dances in Texas and throughout the country including national events in Columbus, Ohio and New Orleans, Louisiana. Their repertoire includes jazz arrangements of hymns and spirituals as well standards from The Great American Songbook. Jazz Sunday has released four CD's with their most recent being "Rejoice and Sing" which was recorded live at The Clarion at Brazosport College.

Richard Birk is the leader and trombonist of Jazz Sunday. He writes the arrangements and compositions for the group. Richard's "day job" is Coordinator of Music at Brazosport College where he has taught for thirty-five years.

Ellen Rogers is Jazz Sunday's vocalist and hails originally from New Orleans. Ellen is the Music Director and Development Coordinator at Unity Church of the Bay Area in League City and can oftentimes be heard at Houston jazz venues including Ovarations in the Rice Village.



\$850 TABLE OF 10
\$75 PER PERSON

To RSVP call 979.285.2501
email chamber@brazosportchamber.org
or online at www.brazosport.org

THANK YOU TO OUR MAJOR SPONSORS

BASF
We create chemistry



FREEPORT LNG

ME Global
an EQUATE Company



Chairman's Message.

I consider it a privilege to begin 2020 as Chairman of the Board and I want to extend my personal thanks to Joe Ripple and the 2019 Board of Directors, for their leadership during the past year.

Congratulations to the 2020 Board of Directors as we embark on an aggressive Strategic Plan included in this newsletter. I want to encourage all of our members to consider getting involved this year through participation on a committee or task force. You will notice that there is also a committee selection form inside this newsletter for you to fill out and send back to the Chamber. Volunteering usually requires an hour or less per month to serve. Please consider becoming involved in an organization “United for Growth.”

That leads into the slogan I chose this year which is “United for Growth”. I believe that we can all be more successful if we are unified for the benefit of our entire community. One way to accomplish this is to support our local businesses by shopping within our own community for all of our purchases, both large and small. When we shop locally, our community becomes stronger and more profitable as our businesses grow and succeed. I want to encourage you to do your part in making our community strong by shopping locally. You, too, can make a difference!

I would like to invite you to attend our Annual Banquet scheduled for Thursday, February 20th at the Dow Academic Center. The social hour will begin at 6:00 p.m. and the program at 7:00 p.m. *Jazz Sunday* will be our featured entertainment and the Outstanding Man & Woman will also be announced. Reservations can be made on our website (www.brazosport.org), or by contacting the Chamber office at 979-285-2501, or emailing chamber@brazosportchamber.org.

I would also like to make sure that you have the Taste of the Town event on your calendar. It has been scheduled for Sunday, April 19th at Brazos Mall. This is a great way to reward your employees or thank your clients by providing tickets to this fun event. I hope you will mark your calendar and plan to be there!

I look forward to serving you this year as we work together for the economic growth and prosperity of our area.

Sincerely,

Al Guevara

Al Guevara
Chairman of the Board

“We are united for growth in 2020”



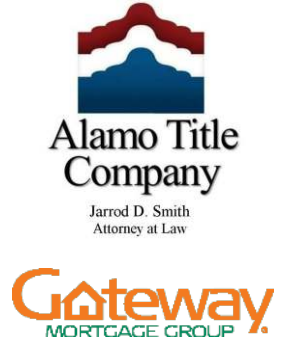
Brazosport Area Chamber of Commerce

HOLIDAY

Tour of Homes



Many thanks to our Sponsors!



The Brazosport Area Chamber of Commerce hosted a Holiday Home Tour on December 8, 2019 and appreciate the homeowners who graciously included their home on the tour.

Holiday Home Tour Hosts



We also appreciate the hard work of the Home Tour Chair Jeannette Merritt and the hostesses who obtained volunteers to serve at each home. L to R: Wendy Mazurkiewicz, Freeport LNG, sponsor of the luncheon; Tammie Bell, TBT Real Estate; Lance Olshovsky, Alamo Title; Sue Merritt; Jeannette Merritt, Gateway Mortgage & Committee Chairperson; Sue Cornell, Coldwell Banker United, Realtors & Leslie Barber, Cordoba Law Firm

Outstanding Volunteers



The Board of Directors named the Holiday Home Tour Committee as Outstanding Volunteers for their hard work on making this event a success! L to R: Sue Merritt, Sue Cornell, Coldwell Bankers United; Al Guevara, Chairman of the Board and Jeannette Merritt, Gateway Mortgage & Chairman of the Holiday Home Tour. Not Pictured: Lance Olshovsky, Alamo Title Company; Leslie Barber, Cordoba Law Firm & Tammie Bell, TBT Real Estate.

Holiday Home Tour Homeowners



We want to thank the owners of two of our homes on the Holiday Home Tour: L to R: Dwain & Larry Kay Vardeman and Stacy Stanley

New Members

Brazoria County Republican Party

Becky Green, 979-235-0566
becky.green63@gmail.com
Government/Elected Officials

CBD American Shaman Lake Jackson

201-B Hwy. 332 W., Lake Jackson
Samina Sadruddin, 281-250-0340
Health & Wellness/Retail

Cutting Edge Landscaping & Lawn Care

Chris Tarter, 346-269-2272
www.facebook.com/cuttingedgebc7
Lawn Care & Landscaping

Hunton Services

5622 Luce Street, Houston, 77087
Tyler Chenault, 713-643-8336
<https://huntonservices.com>
HVAC Equipment/Rental/Sales

Ida Mikus Agency

100 E. San Bernard Street, Ste. 2, Brazoria
Ida Mikus, 979-341-9011
www.idamikusagency.com
Insurance Agency

Life Expressions Photography

331 Timbercreek Drive, Lake Jackson
Gerald Roznovsky, 979-292-4711
Photography

LJA Surveying

210 Lake Road, Ste. 100A
Phillip Damian, 979-258-4061
<https://ljasurvey.com>
Land Surveying & Mapping/Engineering

Olive Garden

151 SH 288, Lake Jackson
Michael Castator, 979-297-3310
www.ogtogo.com
Restaurant

Scrubs by JMS

100 Hwy. 332 W, Ste. 1406, Lake Jackson
Gwen Wolfe, 713-433-4300
www.scrubsbyjms.com
Shopping/Apparel/Medical

WoodmenLife

21021 Springbrook Plaza Drive, Spring
Bradley Lowe, 281-251-7808
bwlowe@woodmen.org
Finance & Insurance

Zeigler's

137 E. Mulberry, Angleton
Ronald Zeigler, 979-848-8877
www.zeiglersgraphics.com
Screen printing/embroidery/signs/banners



Ribbon Cuttings



CBD American Shaman Lake Jackson
201-B Hwy. 332 W., Lake Jackson
Samina Sadruddin, 281-250-0340
Health & Wellness/Retail



Olive Garden
151 SH 288, Lake Jackson
Michael Castator, 979-297-3310
www.ogtogo.com
Restaurant

THANK

Melinda Dent, Smokin' R BBQ, for the delicious cupcakes!
Ana Celedon, East Bank at Richwood Village Apartments, for the donuts!
Jeff Fischels, H-E-B, for the delicious cake!
Brent Bowles, iAD Architects, for the delicious homemade cookies!
Butch Murrell, Coastal Machine & Mechanical, LLC, for the delicious homemade candy!
Sonja Crutcher, Edward Jones, for the plate of holiday goodies!
Jason Cordoba, Cordoba Law Firm, for the delicious pecan pie!

Brazosport Professionals Network

The Brazosport Professionals Network met in January with guest speaker Phyllis Saathoff, Executive Director/CEO, Port Freeport, who gave an informative presentation on the Port.



Many thanks to guest speaker Phyllis Saathoff and Port Freeport for hosting the meeting.



A large group of B.P.N. members attended the meeting at Port Freeport.

Brazosport Chamber *Executive Committee* **SERVES** *Hospital*

Members of the Brazosport Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Committee served lunch to CHI St. Luke's Health Brazosport Leadership Team which was an auction item purchased at the Taste of the Town last April.



Pictured L to R: Art Vandaveer, Third Coast Bank; Joe Ripple, Brazoria County Flood Plain Director; Nancy Wollam, House Speaker Dennis Bonnen's Office and Bob Sipple.

2020 COMMITTEES & TASK FORCES

PLEASE GET INVOLVED AND HELP OUR COMMUNITY GROW & PROSPER

The following list of committees and task forces give you an opportunity to become personally involved in the work of the Chamber. Through your involvement, you will be able to see first-hand how your membership dues are invested in the numerous activities and projects the Chamber undertakes, and the effect it has on the area. Please look over the following list, make your selection(s), and e-mail or fax the committee selection form. You will be placed on the Committee list and a notice of each meeting will be e-mailed, and a reminder call made, for your convenience.

- **The Ambassadors**--Serve as the public relations arm of the Chamber at ribbon cutting ceremonies and various Chamber events throughout the year.
- **Annual Meeting Task Force**--Coordinate the annual meeting scheduled in the first quarter of 2020.
- **Brazoria County Day Support Committee**—Support the Brazoria County Day in Austin event in conjunction with the Economic Development Alliance for Brazoria County and the six other Chambers of Commerce in Brazoria County, to be held at Fiesta Gardens on February 23, 2021.
- **Brazosport Professionals Network**—Provides an opportunity for professionals to focus on leadership and business development in order to promote success, excellence, and innovation among our community's leaders.
- **Governmental Affairs Committee**—Keep informed of local, state, and federal legislation affecting our business community and recommend appropriate action to the Chamber Board of Directors.
- **Holiday Tour of Homes**—Host a tour of some of Brazosport's finest and most unique homes in December of 2020.
- **Leadership Task Force**—Conduct the 2021 Leadership Brazosport Class designed to develop the future leaders of the community.
- **Lodging & Attractions Committee**--Gather and exchange information to cross-promote attractions.
- **Mayors & City Managers Sessions**—Mayors and City Managers from the eight cities in the Brazosport area meet quarterly to discuss municipal activities and needs and enhance communication between the Chamber and cities.
- **Membership Luncheons**—Present luncheons throughout the year with speakers on various issues affecting the business community.
- **National Prayer Day**—Work with the Brazosport Ministerial Alliance to implement prayer sessions on National Prayer Day in May.
- **Safetytown Coordinating Committee**--Provide an organized, educational safety program for children having completed kindergarten.
- **Shop Local First**—Encourage shopping locally to support businesses that make up the fabric of our community.

- **Southern Brazoria County Housing Committee**—In conjunction with the Economic Development Alliance for Brazoria County, develop a committee including industry, city manager and mayors, investors, realtors, etc. who have vested interest in future housing development for the Brazosport Area. Compile information on available property zoned residential. Meet with potential investors, developers and builders to promote these areas for development.
- **State of the Community**—Host a luncheon in October or November 2020 providing reports on various sectors of the Brazosport economy.
- **Taste of the Town**--Promote member restaurants by allowing attendees to sample the variety of cuisines offered throughout the Brazosport area at the Chamber's only major fund-raiser, celebrating its 29th year.
- **Transportation Committee**—Improve area transportation by meeting with TXDOT, Texas Gulf Coast Regional Airport, Brazoria County Engineer and Port Freeport on transportation, signage and infrastructure issues and projects needed for the area.

2020 Committees & Task Forces

Mail To: Brazosport Area Chamber of Commerce
300 Abner Jackson Parkway
Lake Jackson, TX 77566

Fax To: 979-285-2505

E-mail To: Chamber@brazosportchamber.org

NAME: _____

COMPANY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ FAX: _____

E-MAIL: _____

- ☐ The Ambassador's
- ☐ Annual Meeting Task Force
- ☐ Brazoria County Day Support Committee
- ☐ Brazosport Professionals Network (BPN)
- ☐ Capital Projects Campaign
- ☐ Government Affairs Committee
- ☐ Holiday Tour of Homes
- ☐ Leadership Task Force

- ☐ Lodging & Attractions Committee
- ☐ Membership Luncheons
- ☐ National Day of Prayer
- ☐ Safetytown Coordinating Committee
- ☐ Shop Local First
- ☐ State of the Community
- ☐ Southern Brazoria County Housing Committee
- ☐ Taste of the Town
- ☐ Transportation Committee

Mark Your CALENDAR



- Thursday, February 20, 2020 - 75th Annual Banquet
- Thursday, March 19, 2020 - Membership Luncheon with guest speaker, Judge Matt Sebesta
- Sunday, April 19, 2020 - 29th Annual Taste of the Town



Our condolences go out to Sandra Shaw, President & CEO, Brazosport Chamber, over the loss of her husband Wayne Shaw. Wayne was a great leader, mentor and friend! Many thanks to all of you that sent cards, flowers, plants, etc. A special thanks to Michael Castator, Olive Garden, for the delicious food for the family following the funeral. All of your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated!

WE APPRECIATE THE SUPPORT OF OUR 2019 TASTE OF THE TOWN SPONSORS!

*We Couldn't Do It
Without You!*



“TASTE” 2019



LJASurvey.com

we're ready for
WHAT'S NEXT



LJA SURVEYING

TBPLS 10194534

Damian/Gallion & Associates, Inc. was founded in 1991 and evolved into Damian & Associates, Inc., led by Celestino G. Damian. Today, his son, Phillip Damian, and Phillip's cousin, Jesse Damian, carry on his customer-centric legacy to "treat everyone like family." To bring more resources to their clients, the firm merged with LJA Engineering in 2019. With a combined 42 years of experience between the two of them, Phillip and Jesse

are still the names and faces you know and trust, now with a lot more talent behind them – 1,100 professionals in engineering and surveying to be exact. LJA – named ENR's 2019 Firm of the Year - has 32 offices throughout Texas and Florida, and specializes in Land Development, Transportation, Construction Engineering and Inspection, Public Works, Rail Services, Energy Services, Environmental and Coastal, and Surveying.

Boundary Topographic Construction Staking Drone/LiDAR ALTA/ACSM Land Title Hydrographic & Bathymetric