



Chamber Compass



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When we recently renamed the monthly newsletter, we did so with a reason. A compass is a tool that can guide you toward calmer waters, help you navigate over hurdles or put you on a course that leads to success. That's very much what we want this Chamber to be for our business community going forward.

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Congratulations, Member of the Month



Owner, Dave Whetzel, started his painting business as "Dave'sTime Painting" in 2003. He utilized a few basic principles that propelled him to the top of the list of local professionals:

- He answers the phone or he returns a call promptly
- He shows up on time for scheduled appointments
- He works efficiently and gets the job done

Dave has expanded his business, adding a total of 4 additional Master Painters, each of whom brings his own special skill set to accentuate KeyZ Painting's offerings. He attributes a lot of his success to his Internet marketing and website, as he says at least 90% of his clients do not live here, but locate him through Googling. He also noted that he just finished a very nice job that was referred to him by our Chamber!

He is currently offering a new service: cabinet and countertop restoration, as he has found products and techniques that significantly improve these areas. If you are interested in learning more about KeyZ Painting, call Dave at 305-766-3434 or email him at keyzdave@yahoo.com.

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Lower Keys Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 430511 ~ Big Pine Key, FL 33043

Office- 305-872-2411 Fax 305-872-0752 Email:

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November Chamber Business Social

LOTS OF SMILING FACES



Fun Games

Look who won the talking fish!



Food provided by

Pizzaworks



We would like to welcome our newest Chamber Members:

Floridamingo—a new home décor shop near the light on Big Pine.

Convenient Care/Fishermen’s Hospital—on Ships Way open M-F 9-5 with Saturday hours coming soon!

Destination Catering & Events—based in Key West, but serving all the FL Keys—Chef Warren can go as basic or as upscale as you wish!

Fishmonster—a great local fishing guide, plus Island Jane offers great info for our “fishing widows!”

Cruz Animal Hospital—Dr. Rene Cruz and his professional, caring staff offer outstanding veterinary services for all your pets.

Gemini Printing—a full service printing company offering fantastic deals on both printing and copying, as well as promotional items for your business.

Williams Pest Control, LLC Professional Reliable Service Serving the Middle & Lower Keys Residential	
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Keith Williams Over 30 Years experience	Big Pine Key: (305)872-1008 Marathon : (305)743-7222

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ED's Corner

“Food for Thought”

As the New Year looms before us, this is a great time to think about how each of us will move forward in 2014. All of our businesses were hurt by the downturn in our economy, but all agree that we are on our way back to better times. Many of you have expressed that this year has been the best since 2007, so there is strong evidence that we should expect and plan for a very prosperous 2014.

We want you to be aware that the Chamber offers a very lucrative advertising opportunity available to members only: every Chamber member has the opportunity to provide brochures or business cards for our new racks **FREE** of charge. Plus, there are a few **PRIME** advertising spots in our Visitors Center lobby devoted to members who wish to invest in the highly coveted spots on our walls:

Package One: Includes one (1) 20” x 24” wall display and an adjacent wall mounted brochure rack not to exceed 14” X 9.” The cost is **\$700** per year.

Package Two: allows for one (1) 16” x 20” wall display with a wall mounted brochure rack not to exceed 12” X 9.” The cost is **\$500** per year.

Package Three: Includes an 11” x 14” wall display with a wall mounted brochure rack not to exceed 5” X 9.” The cost is **\$300** per year.

Several of our members have provided flat screen TV's that scroll their advertisements electronically, so when visitors come in to ask where to eat, where to shop, where to stay, we can point to those screens, so they can see first-hand what we are talking about. This is such a smart advertising tool that promotes your business to the thousands of visitors who come into our lobby each year. Please stop by to see what spaces are available and discuss how you might take advantage of this unique opportunity.

We at the Chamber are planning for a banner year with successful events, new ways to promote our area and more benefits for our Chamber members. As always, we welcome your feedback – good or bad – so we know what issues are important to you. This is not my Chamber – or our Board of Directors' Chamber . . . it is **YOUR** Chamber to utilize to further your business interests and the interests of our entire community.



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Chamber Business Socials & Events



will put us in the holiday spirit with their Chamber Business Social on **Thursday, December 5 from 5:30-7 pm**. Don't miss it! Lots of great prizes, fantastic adult beverages, a wide array of tasty treats! This will truly usher in the holiday season and put you in the Christmas spirit.

The Chamber's holiday party, **Red Ribbon Holiday Gala** is being hosted by

This promises to be the biggest and best party anyone here has ever seen, so put it on your

calendar now: **Thursday, December 12 from 6 - 8 pm**

\$20/pp if paid reservations are made at the Chamber by Dec. 9; \$30 at the door.



The **Annual Island Art Festival** is **Saturday, December 14 from 10 am- 4 pm**. There are still spaces available for vendors. This promises to be a fun-filled day!

After the Festival, don't forget the **Lighted Boat Parade**, which starts at 7pm. It is being staged out of the new Kiki's Sandbar on Barry Rd. on Little Torch Key.



LKCC Board of Directors
2013

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Pizzaworks

Debbie Novak-Director
A Caribbean Dream Salon &
Day Spa

Linda Jones-Director
First State Bank

Lang Godfrey-Director

December 2013

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2	3  Rotary Meet 12 Noon @ Bistro 31 TDC Meeting	4	5 Chamber Social @ Jess Von DeeStudioz	6	7 Habitat Parade Party 7pm
8	9	10  Rotary Meet 12 Noon @ Bistro 31	11 BOCC Meeting Marathon	12 Holiday Gala Party @ Boondocks	13	14 Island Art Festival 10-4pm
15	16	17  Rotary Meet 12 Noon @ Bistro 31	18 Board Meeting	19	20	21 First Day of Winter
22	23	24  Rotary Meet 12 Noon @ Bistro 31 Christmas Eve	25  Christmas Day	26	27	28
29	30	31  Rotary Meet 12 Noon @ Bistro 31 New Year's				

Member to Member Benefits



is offering Chamber members a Corporate Membership rate. Call

Pirate Wellness Center: 305-744-3348 or email Walt Drabinski:
altd@piratewellnesscenter.com

The law office of Lynne Hankins Fielder, P.A., on Big Pine Key is offering a 10% discount on her hourly rates for Chamber Members.

Lynne Hankins Fielder, P.A.
5 Ships Way
Big Pine Key, Florida 33043
305-872-5000 lhfp@aol.com



A Caribbean Dream Salon & Day Spa in Big Pine Key gives a 10% Discount on all Services &/or Retail

Purchases. Call today for your appointment: 305- 872-4010.



is offering a 10% discount to Chamber Members. Call 872-5580 to schedule an appointment today!



is offering a 10% member to member discount. Call them today! (305) 872-2685.

HomeAway \$50 off a one-year Subscription to List Your Rental. This Listing DEAL is Exclusive for Lower Keys Chamber Members. Enter Code HA50OFFCOC Pay one annual fee with no commissions. Code is good for all subscription levels.

Key West Rental Cars

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<http://www.rentalcarchoices.com/cities/keywest/.html>

Ed & Ellen's Lodgings are offering 10% off in KEY LARGO OR BIG PINE KEY for Chamber members and their relatives. Call Edwin Handte: 305-451-9949 or email: ehandte@yahoo.com

There is room for YOUR member-to-member discount . . . Let us know if your business wants to offer something special to your fellow members to encourage fellow members to frequent your business!

Our Mission:

The Lower Keys Chamber of Commerce is a voluntary partnership of Business & Professional People working together to build a healthy economy and to improve the quality of life in its community.

Member to Member Benefits Continued

Office DEPOT.
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Discount Program offers a substantial savings with an average of 51% off list prices!

In addition:

- Up to 75% off the already low Office Depot list prices on the 180 item Most Popular Buy list.
- Pay only \$5.95 for shipping on orders under \$50 or take 10% off an order over \$150.
- Save a shopping list and reorder in record time.
- Order your office supplies on the private, password protected, order site.
- No sign-up fees, contract, comments or penalties

To register for this absolutely FREE savings benefit visit
<http://www.chamberperks.com/Perks.asp?AccountID=46&CategoryID=17>

After filling out a short form you will receive an email with your welcome packet, user ID, password and a link to the secure-order website. Order online, by phone or in-store at the Marathon Office Depot by registering your credit card using the form included in your welcome packet.

Alison Sloat of Key West Key Lime Pie Company tried the service and was very pleased: "The phone rep was great to work with, the order came in one day and the savings were excellent."

For our members who prefer to shop "in store" nationwide, Office Depot offers their "Store Purchasing Card" package as part of our Member Perks program. Stop by The Lower Keys Chamber of Commerce for more information on this program.

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The Chamber Staff wants you to know we are working for you-our members.

Susan K. Miller-Executive Director

Cappy Kauffman-Executive Assistant

Kimberly Beier-Brown-Area Business Specialist

Kathy L. Boykin-Area Business Specialist

Lorraine Barker-Area Business Specialist

WEEKLY EMAIL BLAST: If your member business is hosting a special event, the Lower Keys Chamber will share your information in the monthly Chamber Compass and E-blast. The editing staff reserves the right to edit your content. As the Chamber Compass is published the first Friday of every month, the deadline date for news submitted is the Monday before. **Please send us your news & events and we will help get it "out there" to the entire Chamber membership.**

Please inform us of any changes to your business like new ownership, new email addresses, additional staff members who would like to receive our email blasts. Email: info@lowerkeyschamber.com or call: 305- 872-2411.



LKCC Visitor Center Informational Statistics

Check out our December visitor center statistics! We are proud to say that we work hard to promote Big Pine and The Lower Keys!

December Statistics

<u>Number of Visitors</u>	<u>Local 305 Inquiries</u>	<u>Toll free Inquiries</u>	<u>Visits to the Lower Keys Chamber Website</u>
551	113	111	8,268



Welcome Convenient Care to the Big Pine Community!

It was a fantastic and fun ribbon cutting Ceremony.

Executive Director Susan K. Miller, Board of Directors and the Staff of the Lower Keys Chamber are proud to have this new facility in our community.

