



CHAMBER CHOWDER®

510 Greene Street ~ 1st Floor, Key West

www.keywestchamber.org

Panel of Experts Discusses Sexual Harassment Claims in the Workplace



An educational panel of speakers put together by the Image and Marketing Committee answered questions and shared their knowledge and viewpoints with the members gathered on July 25th at the monthly luncheon held at the Casa Marina Resort.

The topic was “Sexual Harassment Claims in the ‘Me Too’ World.”

The program was moderated by committee member Mary Lou Carn, who asked the speakers relevant questions and then opened the floor for a Q&A following their discussion.

The experts were three attorneys from Baker Hostetler LLP in Orlando and Key West and included James “Jay” Seegers, Board Certified in Labor and Employment Law, and Attorney Mary Catherine “M.C.” Miller and Attorney Robert Spottswood, Jr. Also on the panel was Teresa LaMacchia, PHR, SHRM-CP, Human Resources Manager with the Myan Management Group.

The panel first discussed what sexual harassment means.

The broadest definition of sexual harassment comes in two forms:

continued on page 3 ▶

Message from President Suzanne Moore



Summer is in full swing and it’s hard to imagine that in a few weeks we will be back into a new school year. Lots of locals are away on vacation with their families visiting friends up north and also lots of people are visiting us here. So many Florida visitors

here at the moment taking advantage of what Key West has to offer. I have been lucky enough to go visit my own family in Ireland these past few weeks. While I am in Ireland, I tend to partake in some of the local tourist attractions like tour the Historic Famine Ships from the 1840’s, take the coast hike to the lighthouse and see all the cliffs or take a group of teenager’s white water rafting. Of course there are lots of great pubs and music in the evening with plenty of fresh seafood at every corner. There is no end to the things to do.

When I lived in Ireland I took many of these beautiful attractions for granted and it’s only that I’m not there anymore, can I admire them and really take the time to appreciate them.

So my challenge to you that are staying in Key West for the summer is to take advantage of some of the great local attractions that we have here and that we take for granted.

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Spotlight Shines on ... Geri Lynn Martin, Keller Williams Key West Compass Realty



Each month, the Key West Chamber of Commerce spotlights a business or professional person whose business card is drawn at the Business After Hours. This month's winner is Geri Lynn Martin, Keller Williams Key West Compass Realty.

If you talk to Geri Lynn Martin - Luoma long enough you may find yourself smiling as you tell her all about how you came to Key West. She is a 4th generation Conch and she never gets tired of hearing how someone came here and why.

You may also get the feeling that you are the only person in the room while she listens to you! Geri's sincere interest in the people she meets is one reason for her success as a realtor with Keller Williams Key West Compass Realty.

"Helping someone move to Key West is always exciting for me," she says.

"I love to help people find their own piece of paradise."

Geri started her career in banking and then transitioned from banking to become a licensed financial broker. She worked with companies such as Alex Brown, Legg Mason, and Raymond James (Key West).

In 2002 she left the world of finance and became a realtor in Key West. The love of her hometown and her desire to assist people in purchasing their own piece of paradise continues to make her happy.

Geri has built her career on relationships and her consistent follow-up which comes from her genuine interest in getting to know people. Everywhere she goes on the island she meets people she knows or who knows her family. In addition, she is always networking and making new acquaintances.

"It's all about meeting new people and

getting to know them. That's what I love to do!" she says.

When asked if she has advice for others starting out in real estate, her advice is timeless: "Be yourself and make sure you always follow-up" she says.

Geri has always had an interest in real estate and over the years she has ridden the ups and downs in the real estate market by taking good care of her sales and property management clients.

Away from work she enjoys all that Key West has to offer culturally, historically, and artistically. Geri is married to Commander Steve Luoma, a former Navy SEAL. Between them they have four sons and seven grandchildren and enjoy every opportunity they get to spend time together.

"I love my family and I love spending time with them," she says.

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Key West, FL 33040
(305) 676-3160

The Chamber Chowder Heartily Thanks These Businesses for Their Generous Support of this Issue of the Newsletter

Ernest Hemingway House Museum
907 Whitehead Street
Key West, FL 33040
305-294-1136

La Concha Crowne Plaza
430 Duval Street
Key West, FL 33040
305-296-2991

Horan & Higgins, L.L.P.
608 Whitehead Street
Key West, FL 33040
(305)294-4585

Porter Allen Insurance Company
513 Southard Street
Key West, FL 33040
305-294-2542

Old Town Key West Development
201 Front Street, Suite 301
Key West, FL 33040
305-294-3225

“Sexual Harrassment” continued from page 1 ▶

1. Quid pro quo sexual harassment describes a situation where an employee feels they have to tolerate sexual harassment in exchange for their employment, or to earn a raise or some other job benefit, or to get a promotion.
2. A hostile work environment describes sexual harassment in the workplace resulting from something offensive happening in the workplace that causes an employee to feel they can't do their job.

Whatever happens, being sued for sexual harassment is a public relations nightmare for any company. The panel members advised several ways for employers to make sure they are doing everything possible to avoid sexual harassment claims and making sure their employees are aware of the law and the company policies.

Opening the discussion, Jay Seegers said he is seeing a lot more lawsuits over all and a lot more settlements that are in the multiple six-figure range for sexual harassment cases. He advised all employers to look carefully at their procedures and always investigate a claim.

Speaking as an HR professional, Teresa LaMacchia said that it comes down to respect.

“Everyone needs to respect everyone else,” she said.

She advises employers to have open communication with their employees about what respect means and about the company policies on sexual harassment. In her company there is an open-door policy. Her employees know they can come to her with any concern. She is always willing to hear both sides of a problem and take care of the situation.

Policies are key, Jay Seegers said. He advised that employees should be required to sign off on the sexual harassment policy when they are hired, and employers should make sure they have a discussion with the employee to make sure they understand everything outlined. This includes telling the employee what to do if they see something happening or if something happens to them.

He said the first question that comes up when a suit is filed is what did the company do to prevent the sexual harassment from occurring? Did they make their policies known

and did they follow their own policies?

A question from the floor about afterhours parties and events for employees brought a lot of discussion. The question was: How can employers ensure their employees are following the same rules they have in the workplace once they are outside of the office and now possibly drinking at the company event with their co-workers?

The panel suggested that employers take the opportunity to review all the company polices about sexual harassment ahead of those events to ensure there are no issues.

“The rules of professionalism in the office apply after-hours,” M.C. Miller explained.

The panel members also touched on retaliation.

M.C. Miller recommended that employers have something about retaliation written in the sexual harassment policy. She also cautioned employers that while investigating a sexual harassment claim they should be careful not to move the victim or the victim might accuse the employer of retaliation. It is better to move the complainer if the two employees cannot work in the same space while the complaint is being investigated.

A question for the panel about a hospitality employee that complains about a guest sexually harassing them or vice versa, brought some good insights.

Robert Spottswood, Jr. who specializes in legal issues affecting the hospitality industry pointed out that if an employee complains about a guest then the employer has an obligation to their employee to find out what happened. Likewise, if a guest complains about an employee then the owner or manager of the premises has a duty to investigate that claim. No matter what, taking the complaint seriously and investigating the matter will be the best course of action.

Being proactive was the main theme from the panel members.

Jay Seegers said the best policy is for every employer is to take the complaint seriously and investigate what occurred. Taking action will be the best way to protect themselves from a lawsuit and/or find out what might have happened and resolve the situation. ♡

President's Message cont. from page 1 ▶

I know it's hot and humid, so cooling off in the ocean would seem to be the biggest attraction.

But there are so many great tours and local vendors that are offering a wonderful local experience. Not just by being on their boat, but experiencing their local knowledge and banter is sometimes part of the whole attraction.

Many of us have family and friends visiting us in the Keys over the summer, so instead of sending them off on their own, why not go with them and take some time out to enjoy Key West. Take an evening sail on one of our Tall Ships, or take a day to see The Amazing Dry Tortugas. You can rent a Kayak and take a Mangrove Eco Kayak Trip, do an all-day adventure on the water with numerous activities and of course our beautiful reef is there everyday and it's stunning this time of year with amazing visibility.

Lots of land activities too, like the Dolphin Research Center, bike tours, walking tours, pub crawls, Hemingway House, Customs House, Truman Little White House and of course the famous Sunset Celebration every night at Mallory Square. The list is long and very interesting. That's the great thing about Key West, there is something for everyone in the family any time of the year. So this summer, enjoy our beautiful island and all we have to offer, you might be surprised at how much fun you can have right here in your own backyard! And don't forget our AT&T sponsored program for locals and visitors in the month of August the “Dog Daze of Summer,” check out all the amazing coupons at www.keywestchamber.org. ♡



The Key West Chamber of Commerce and Waste Management
Present the 30th Annual
“Showcase of Key West Businesses”
Trade Show at the
Key West Marriott Beachside Hotel

Wednesday, September 19, 2018

Open from 3:00p.m. to 5:00p.m. for the General Public.

Members only Business After Hours Trade Show

continuing from 5:30p.m. to 7:30p.m.

Listen for our future promotions of the show on the radio and in print!

The Key West Chamber of Commerce offers you an opportunity to showcase your business during the Business Trade Show at the Key West Marriott Beachside Hotel. Last year as in previous years this highly successful show was sold out, with more than 400 people attending making it a fun day for all. This year's trade show hours will be 3:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. with a ½ hour break at 5:00 p.m. to prepare for the **members only** Business After Hours sponsored by the Key West Marriott Beachside Hotel.

We encourage you to participate in this year's trade show to display the products and information your business offers. As an exhibitor you will receive maximum exposure from residents and members of the business community who look forward to this show yearly. Don't forget to provide giveaways as an added attraction resulting in a greater marketing exposure for your business.

Booth Sizes Available:

- **Oversized Corner Booths**
Located in the four corners of the room, ideal for oversized displays. The booth space includes a six foot draped table. **\$600.00**
- **Extended Wall Booths**
A limited number of wall spaces with extended space on both sides are available. **Please contact Chamber for details and pricing.*
- **Standard Wall Booths**
Located along the perimeter of the room, ideal for back drops and free standing displays. The booth space includes a six foot draped table, all displays cannot be wider than six feet, and not to extend beyond one foot from the wall. **\$475.00**
- **Center Room Booths**
Located in the inside of the room and ideal for table top displays **\$375.00**

For more information or to reserve your booth contact: Kerry Baker at the Key West Chamber of Commerce
305-294-2587 | membership@keywestchamber.org | 510 Greene Street, 1st Floor | Key West, FL 33040



Presented by: **Waste Management**

Co-sponsored by: **OMI/Jacobs**





Key West Chamber Members to Elect Five Directors with Electronic Voting

Thirteen community and business minded people are running for five open seats as directors of the board for the Key West Chamber of Commerce. A few candidates are up for re-election to the board, while others are hoping to serve their first three-year term, which will begin on January 1, 2019.

All candidates have expressed a commitment to the business community and a willingness to act as its eyes and ears. The Key West Chamber of Commerce depends on the directors to help the organization serve local businesses in the island's ever-changing economic environment.

The chamber board consists of 15 elected directors and ten others who are appointed by the Nominating Committee. Electronic voting for all eligible members will begin on August 1st and will end at 5:00p.m. on Saturday, August 18th, 2018. The primary contact for each of our members eligible to vote will receive an email on August 1st with log-in credentials to vote in this year's election, and will have through 5:00p.m., Saturday, August 18th to cast their vote!

All members will be asked to vote for **FIVE** of the following 13 candidates introduced below in alphabetical order:

- ▶ **John Bartelmo** has been the project manager overseeing the City of Key West wastewater and storm water systems for OMI since 2011. He was a member of the original startup team when the wastewater facility was commissioned in 1989. OMI has been the only operator of the city's wastewater facility since commissioning and has earned numerous awards from environmental regulatory agencies and professional associations over the years. John was nominated to the board of directors in 2016 and is also a member of the Membership Services, and Golf Tournament Committees.
- ▶ **David Clay** is the CEO of Lower Keys Medical Center and has been active in the Key West community since his arrival in 2016. Since that time he has been involved in the Economic Affairs Committee, and community fund raising activities for charitable organizations, rebuilding relationships. As a member of the Key West Sunrise Rotary he will be serving on their board of directors for fiscal year 2018/2019. Community involvement and economic development are on the forefront of every community that Clay has been involved with. Nationally he is a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives and was named in 2016 as one of the 50 Rural Hospital CEO's to know by "Becker's Hospital Review" for improvement in quality and service.
- ▶ **Rebecca Cobo** born and raised in Key West, Florida. Cobo left Key West for fifteen years where she operated her own business in Miami, where she held weekly television and radio talk shows and was on the board of the nonprofit organization for Miami Horizon, LLC, which included community activities for the elderly and adult day care. Cobo returned to Key West in 2007 and became a property manager in 2008, and a Realtor since 2017. Cobo is a member of the Key West Association of Realtors, Florida Realtors, National Association of Realtors, National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals Woman Council of Realtors, the Rotary Club of Key West,

and the Key West Chamber of Commerce.

- ▶ **Jed Dodds** has served as Executive Director of The Studios of Key West since 2012, guiding the arts non-profit through a successful capital campaign to purchase and renovate its new home at 533 Eaton Street. The studios offers classes, concerts, lectures, exhibitions and studio spaces, to foster a world class arts scene and support the local arts economy. Prior to his arrival, Jed lived for 20 years in Baltimore, helping establish similar arts organizations in diverse, working class communities. He studied as an artist at Yale and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. The Studios has been a member of the Chamber of Commerce since it's founding in 2006; Jed is completing his third year on the board, and sits on the Chamber's Executive Board.
- ▶ **Gregory 'Greg' Holste** is the Managing partner of the Duval House, a 29-room guesthouse. The Duval House has been a member of the Key West Chamber of Commerce for over ten years. Greg moved to Key West in 2017 with his wife Jayden, a Physician Assistant at Lower Keys Medical Center. As a Senior Associates at PwC Advisory and consultant at PTC, Greg helped Fortune 500 Companies develop and implement software. Before entering the private sector, he developed software at NASA for the Astrobiology Program to control scientific experiments on the Mars rovers. Greg earned his Bachelor in Science in Aerospace Engineering and Mathematics from the University of Maryland. He graduated from Carnegie Mellon's Tepper School of Business with concentrations in Strategy, Finance and Marketing.
- ▶ **Darren M. Horan** was born and raised in Key West, Florida and is a sixth (6th) generation "Conch". Darren is active with his families business Key West Treasure Chest and is employed with the Law Firm of "Horan & Higgins, LLP". He is the co-owner of LaTrattoria, Virgilio's and Catered Affairs of Key West, and soon to be co-owner of Benihana Key West. Horan presently serves on the Board of Directors of the Key West Chamber of Commerce, is active on the Chambers Golf Committee, and co-chair of the IT Committee. Horan is also the President-Elect of the Key West Military Affairs Committee and Vice-President of the Southernmost Seminoles Club. Horan says, "It would be my honor to continue to serve on the Board of Directors."
- ▶ **Suzanne Moore** is currently serving as the 2018 President and Co-Chair of the Education Committee. Moore is seeking re-election as a board member for an additional term. As a board member for the past five years, Moore says, "I have gained valuable insight as to the great benefits that the chamber brings to the community and members and I would like to continue working with our local business owners and professionals so that we can remain current in an ever changing and challenging community." A realtor with Truman & Company Moore has been involved in the real estate community for the past ten years. Moore also works with the Klaus Murphy Foundation as a trustee for the past ten years and has worked with over fifteen local non-profits organizations including the SOS Foundation, Samuel House, Wesley House, MARC House, American Red Cross, AIDS Help, Children's

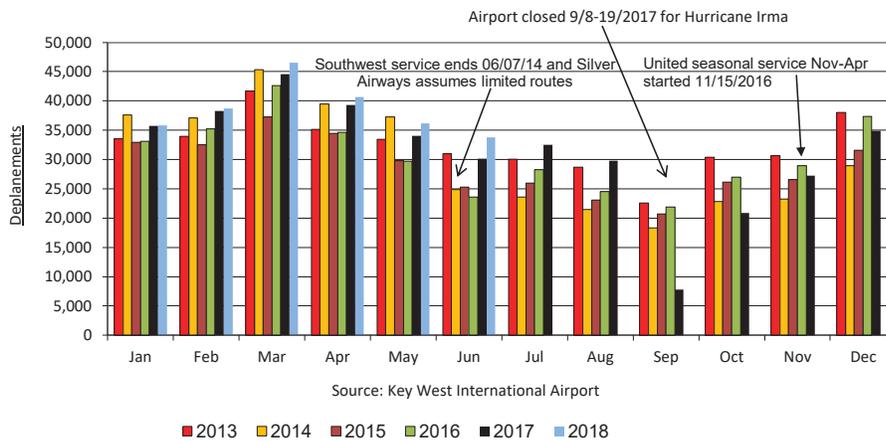
Shelter, Lighthouse Academy, Boys and Girls Club, Sister Season Fund, and many more.

- ▶ **Britt Myers** is the co-owner and Publisher of the *Keys Weekly Newspaper* (Key West Weekly & Weekly Media Group) and a current Key West Chamber board member. Myers has resided in the Florida Keys for over 12 years. During that time, he has proudly advocated and served on various organizations including the Rotary Club of Key West, The Monroe County Education Foundation, Take Stock In Children mentor, Key West Chamber of Commerce, Marathon Chamber of Commerce (former Board President), former Jaycees President, Leadership Monroe County Graduate Class XVI, proud new member of the Key West Military Affairs Committee and a variety of other positions throughout the Florida Keys. As an owner and publisher of a local community newspapers spanning the Keys, the Keys Weekly's "community first" approach has allowed Britt to serve an interactive, informative and positive media platform including editorial and PR support for the Key West Chamber of Commerce and their efforts. Britt says, "It is an honor to serve on the Key West Chamber of Commerce board and he thanks you for your consideration for another term."
- ▶ **Mark Rossi** has lived in Key West since 1982; after leaving Florida State University he opened Rick's/Durty Harry's in December of 1984. He is currently a board member of the Key West Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Key West Military Affairs Committee and Navy League, and on the Board for the Military Memorial in Key West. He was appointed by Governor Bush to serve on the BRAC board. He was appointed to the Key West City Commission in April, 2005 and elected to the City Commission in November, 2005, which he served for the next ten years as a Key West City Commissioner. He is also a member of the St. Mary Star of the Sea church.
- ▶ **Richard Tamborrino** is the Publisher of the Key West Citizen and Free Press. Tamborrino is a publishing and marketing executive with over 33 years of diverse media and business experience. He has held advertising manager positions at the Orlando Sentinel and Miami Herald, before becoming the publisher of Keynoter Publishing in Marathon in 2013. Richard is active with the Chamber of Commerce's throughout the Keys, as well as the Business Guild, Lodging Association, and TDC. He is a board member of the United Way of the Florida Keys and on the Key West Chamber's Economic Affairs Committee. Richard is a graduate of the University of Connecticut with a BA in Liberal Arts and a major in English. He hails from the northeast and has lived in Florida for over 37 years.
- ▶ **Lynne Tejada** serves as General Manager & CEO of Keys Energy Services. Lynne is active in the Florida Municipal Power Agency serving as Vice Chairman of the Executive Committee and Secretary of the Board of Directors. Lynne is also active with the Florida Municipal Electric Association and the American Public Power Association. Lynne holds a BA in Journalism from the University of North

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Key West International Airport Arrivals January 2013 - June 2018

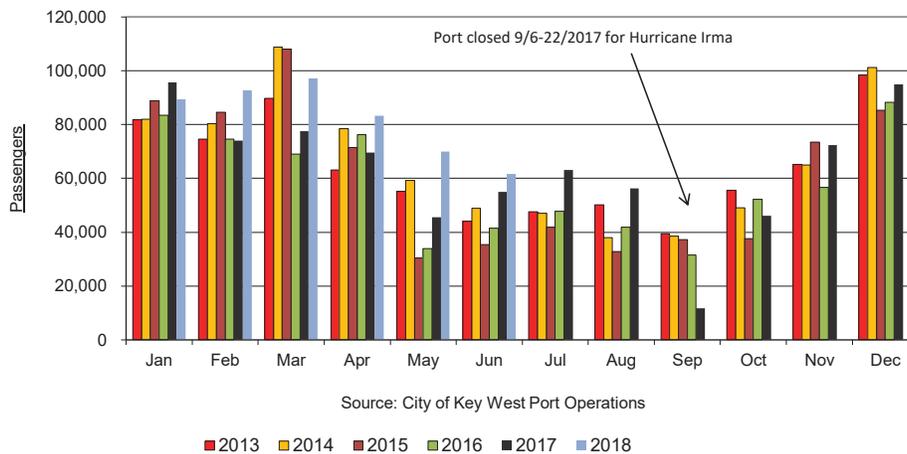


Passenger arrivals to Key West International Airport in June 2018 totaled 33,750. **This is an increase of 12.1% when compared to June 2017.**

Total passenger arrivals for the six months of 2018 was 231,564. That is a 4.2% increase over the same period in 2017.

August 2017's deplanements marked the end of the fourteenth straight month of steady year over year increases and an all time high for August. The increases in February, March and April set records for the months, surpassing the high in 2014 when Southwest was providing service. Although that trend was interrupted in May, it was resumed this June.

Key West Cruise Ship Passengers January 2013 - June 2018



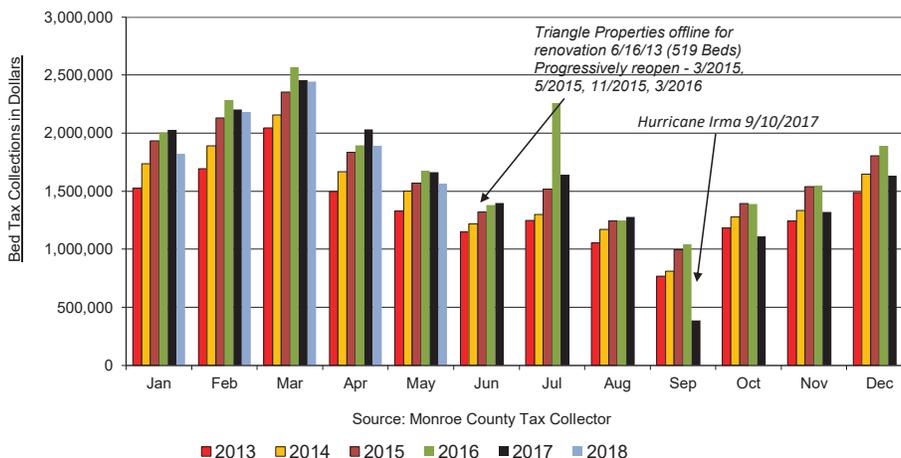
A total of 61,727 cruise ship passengers disembarked in Key West from 23 ships during June 2018. This is **12.3% higher than June 2017**, which saw 54,979 passengers.

For the six months of 2018, cruise ship arrivals saw 494,255 passengers disembark from 220 port calls. While port calls are up 20.2% so far for 2018, passenger counts are up 18.4% over the same period in 2017.

The cruise ship schedule for August to October compared to the same three months in 2017 is shown below:

	Number of Ships	
	2017	2018
August	23	20
September	6	14
October	21	26

Key West Bed Tax Collections January 2013 - May 2018



Reported Bed Tax Collections for Key West were **\$1,564,944 for May 2018, 5.9% lower than in 2017.**

According to Smith Travel, May 2018 occupancy was 81.1%, a 4.4 percentage point increase from the May 2017 occupancy of 85.5%.

The Average Daily Rate (ADR) was reported at \$267.60 for May 2018, a decrease of 0.2% from the ADR of \$268.25 posted in 2017.

Since Hurricane Irma passed on September 10, 2017 and caused damage to some hotels, the number of rooms available has declined in Key West. The estimated number of rooms off-line coming into October was 27% in Key West. The number of rooms still off-line in May is estimated at 5% in Key West.



Welcome New Members!



The chamber welcomed several new members during the July 25th luncheon. Pictured are new members front row L to R: Megan McDowell and Jan Stauch, Mel Fisher's Treasurers, Michelle Wiggins, Lagerheads Beach Bar, and Carie Noda, Noda Creative Disaster Consultants. Back Row L to R: Membership Services Committee Co-Chair Britt Myers, Board and Committee Member Joe Caso, new member Kieron Whitehead, Keela-Wee Transport and Hauling, and Chamber 1st Vice President Billy Spottswood. Not pictured were new members Beth Ramsay-Vickrey, The Artist House on Fleming, FloridaRentals.com, Travelers Palm Inn & Guesthouse, Volaire Aviation, and Your Roofer.

Beth Ramsay-Vickrey

2035 Bahia Shores Rd.
Big Pine Key, FL 33043
305-395-2755
www.Beth4KeysEnergy.com
Associate Member

Keela-Wee Transport and Hauling

2518 Harris Avenue | Key West, FL 33040
305-504-7335
www.keelawee.com/transport
Contact: Kieron Whitehead
Motor Cargo Carrier (Mobile)

Lagerheads Beach Bar

0 Simonton Street
Key West, FL 33040
305-509-7444
www.lagerheadsbeachbar.com
Contact: Michele and Alex Wiggins
Restaurant

Mel Fisher's Treasurers

200 Greene Street
Key West, FL 33040
305-294-6995 | www.melfisher.com
Contact: Janette Stauch
Jewelers

Noda Creative Disaster Consultants

PO Box 1564
Key West, FL 33041
305-780-2535
Contact: Carie Noda
Associate Member
The Artist House on Fleming
1016 Fleming Street
Key West, FL 33040
305-294-4043
www.artisthouseonfleming.com
Contact: David Black
Hotel

FloridaRentals.com

5323 Millenia Lakes Blvd., Suite 300
Orlando, FL 32839
Contact: Chelsea Tyler
Vacation Rental-Property Management

Travelers Palm Inn & Guesthouse

815 Catherine Street
Key West, FL 33040
305-304-1751
Contact: Athena Reavis
Hotel/Inn

Voltaire Aviation

2129 Canton Street
Dallas, TX 75201
972-896-9174
www.volaireaviation.com
Contact: Michael Lum
Air Service Development Consulting

Your Roofer

320 South Point Drive
Sugarloaf Key, FL 33042
305-240-9444
www.yourroofers.com
Contact: Michelle Hopper
Roofing Company

Cruise Ship Schedule

AUGUST 2018

8/1	No Ship	
8/2	No Ship	
8/3	No Ship	
8/4	No Ship	
8/5	Empress	8:00am-5:00pm
8/6	No Ship	
8/7	Carnival Victory	7:30am-1:30pm
8/7	Norwegian Sun	1:00pm-8:00pm
8/8	Veendam	8:00am-5:00pm
8/9	No Ship	
8/10	Carnival Sensation	7:30am-1:30pm
8/11	No Ship	
8/12	Equinox	7:00am-5:00pm
8/12	Majesty	1:00pm-7:00pm
8/13	No Ship	
8/14	Carnival Victory	7:30am-1:30pm
8/14	Empress	8:00am-5:00pm
8/14	Norwegian Sun	1:00pm-8:00pm
8/15	No Ship	
8/16	No Ship	
8/17	No Ship	
8/18	No Ship	
8/19	No Ship	
8/20	Sea Princess	9:00am-11:00pm
8/21	Carnival Breeze	11:00am-7:00pm
8/21	Norwegian Sun	1:00pm-8:00pm
8/22	No Ship	
8/23	No Ship	
8/24	Carnival Sensation	7:30am-1:30pm
8/25	No Ship	
8/26	Equinox	7:00am-5:00pm
8/26	Majesty	1:00pm-7:00pm
8/27	No Ship	
8/28	Carnival Victory	7:30am-1:30pm
8/28	Carnival Dream	9:00am-5:00pm
8/28	Norwegian Sun	3:30pm-9:00pm
8/29	No Ship	
8/30	Majesty	1:00pm-7:00pm

Community Calendar

August 2018

1/1-8/31	Key West Fishing Tour., 923-5934
8/1-8/31	Dog Daze of Summer Coupon Program, Key West Chamber
8/5	Annual Battle of the Bars, schoonerwharf.com, 305-292-3302
8/5	Historic Tours of America Locals Day
8/5	Locals Day at Key West Botanical Gardens, 296-1504
8/9-12	Key West LobsterFest, keywestlobsterfest.com, 744-9804
8/15-19	Tropical Heat, 305-294-4603
8/18	Key West Botanical Speaker Series & Native Plant Sale 1:30pm, 296-1504
8/18	Key West Theater presents: Havana Nights with Rolando Rojas, Fernando Vargas, and Catalina Londono, www.thekeywesttheater.com
8/30-9/3	9th Annual Brewfest, 800-354-4455

continued from page 5 ▶

Carolina at Chapel Hill, and a MBA from Regis University. in Denver, Colorado. Ms. Tejeda serves on the Key West Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, Executive Committee and Economic Affairs Committee; and she chairs the Marketing and Public Relations Committee.

▶ **Daniel P. Toppino** is currently the secretary of Charley Toppino & Sons, Inc. He has served on the Key West Chamber of Commerce board since 1993, was treasurer in 1994 and 1995, and second vice-president in 1996. Toppino has either chaired or been a member of numerous chamber committees, and he received the prestigious Hall of Fame Award in 2009. Through the Charley P. & Orsolina Toppino Memorial Scholarship, he is a major sponsor of the Chamber's Honor Roll of 100 scholarship programs. Toppino says, "He is still "rolling" and willing to serve."

▶ **James E. Wilson** and his wife Maria moved to Key West in the early 1990's. They started a family and their oldest son just graduated Key West High School. They have owned their business Appraisal Co. of Key West through the boom years, a few recessions, and numerous hurricanes. Jim states he had the pleasure of being the Past President of the Key West Gator Club, Sunset Key West Rotary Club, and President of the Key West Chamber of Commerce in 2012. He was a member of Leadership Monroe County Class VII, and has served on the chamber board of directors over the past decade with an emphasis on the Economic Affairs and Workforce Housing Committees. Jim says, "I believe I can continue to be an asset to the board and membership. Thank you so much for the opportunity!"



ATHENA™ Award Recognizes an Outstanding Professional Woman

Sponsored by:

NILES
sales & service
www.NilesAuto.com of the keys



The Key West Chamber of Commerce is accepting applications to honor a woman who exemplifies leadership in her profession and industry by presenting her with the much-coveted ATHENA™ award, sponsored by Niles, Sales and Service.

The ATHENA™ award is a high honor given to a professional woman who demonstrates excellence in business or profession and provides valuable service to the community. The recipient will have exhibited initiative and creativity enhancing the efficacy of her business or profession and the stability and improvement of the community. Lastly, the recipient will have demonstrated support of the goals of professional women and have provided unselfish assistance on their behalf.

In 1980, the ATHENA™ awards program originated in Lansing, Michigan when Martha Mayhood Mertz, owner of her own real estate company, was asked to join the Lansing Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Mertz realized she was the only woman on the board and that the Lansing Chamber had recognized only one woman in its 75 years. This realization was the driving force in establishing the ATHENA™ foundation. Thus the first ATHENA™ award was given in 1982 to recognize an outstanding businesswoman and celebrate her achievements in community service and profession. Since its inception, the ATHENA™ award has grown into a national and international tradition with thousands of recipients in cities all over the country as well as in Moscow, Russia, and Canada, China and The United Arab Emirates, and the United Kingdom.

The ATHENA™ Foundation is a nonprofit organization that is dedicated to providing leadership opportunities for women and recognizing those individuals who have given outstanding service to their profession and community. The foundation has been underwritten nationally by Oldsmobile Division of General Motors since 1985. National City Bank and Pontiac GMC, GM, and Buick are underwriters as well.

Each year, the ATHENA™ recipient receives a beautiful statue designed by sculptor Linda Ackley of Tampa, Florida. The statue represents Athena, the wise daughter of Zeus, in bronze. The head of the statue is a multi-faceted crystal ball and each statue has a protective acrylic coating and walnut base. Ackley has uniquely made each and every one of the ATHENA™ awards since 1982.

The 2017 Key West Chamber ATHENA™ award recipient was Cara Higgins. Past recipients include Joan Leggett (2016), Piper Smith (2015), Rita Irwin (2014), Diane Schmidt (2013), Joy Smatt (2012), Sandra Higgs (2011), Diane Gibson (2007), the late Merili McCoy (2005), Melissa Kendrick (2004), Elmira Leto (2003), Phyllis Allen (2002), the late Sharon Moore (2001), Amy Culver-Aversa (2000), the late Connie Rice (1999), Kim Works (1997), Sandra Taylor (1995), CeCe Roycraft (1992), the late Wilhelmina Harvey (1991), Linda O'Brien (1990), Dee Von Quirolo (1989), the late Terry Horton (1988), Sue Barroso (1987), and Virginia Panico (1986).

The community is highly encouraged to nominate local individuals for the ATHENA™ award or to receive a nomination form, contact Kerry Baker at the Key West Chamber at 294-2587 or via email to membership@keywestchamber.org. The Deadline to submit an application is Friday, October 12, 2018.

SAVE THE DATE

Social Media For
Your Business
Thursday, Sept. 27, 2018
Doubletree Grand Key Resort
Presented by: Karrie
Porter Bond

The September Seminar will feature a day of Social Media strategies and skills that you can apply to your business or organization. It will be split into two segments, Beginner and Intermediate/Advanced.

Someone either completely new to social media

Who is a Beginner?

marketing those who may have been in it for a while but aren't totally comfortable or confident that they're doing it correctly, also for those more advanced marketers who want to go back and do a little refresher and just ensure they're enlisting best practices.

If you struggle with things such as switching between brand pages, trying new features or platforms for fear of "doing it wrong", or you've been more-or-less "winging it" for a while, you'll be a great addition to the beginner portion!

Someone who has a relatively good grasp of social media

Who is Intermediate/Advanced?

basics, can look at their Insights graphs with relative confidence and glean generally-helpful tips from them. Someone who has no problem engaging with fans, knows where to go to monitor social conversations, and/or is running social media advertisements with some regularity. If you have a baseline of familiarity with terms and tools, but want to level up on getting the most out of your social media efforts and stretch just a bit further to try some new ideas, then the Intermediate/Advanced portion will be a perfect fit!

Stay tuned for more information
in the upcoming weeks, or call
the Chamber at 305-294-2587.



CHRISTMAS in JULY | BUSINESS AFTER HOURS | WEDNESDAY, JULY 18TH, 2018

Hosted by: **Hard Rock Café** - 313 Duval Street





Support Our Local Educators and Students through the Tom Sawyer Five Star Program



How Many STARS will You Earn for the 2018/2019 School Year?

How to earn your Star:

A donation of 22 gifts from your company with a minimum value of \$25.00 each (for a total value of \$550.00), or a cash donation of \$550.00. These are combined into gift bags and are awarded three times within the school year to a total of 22 outstanding Key West teachers.

Gifts or cash donations should be made to the chamber before our October 24, 2018 General Membership Meeting.

For more information on how you can donate to the Teacher Recognition Program contact any member of our Education Committee:

Chair: Billy Spottswood

Spottswood, Spottswood, Spottswood, & Sterling

Co-Chair: Suzanne Moore

Truman & Co Real Estate Services

Jennifer Barrios

Monroe County School District

Leslie Concepcion

First State Bank of the Florida Keys

Ali Ferguson

Breakthru Beverage

Kasey Liberatore

Highsmith & Van Loon P.A.

Chuck Licis

Take Stock in Children

Brittany Snyder

Florida Keys Community College

Yvette Talbot

Appraisers of the Keys

Angie Walterson

First State Bank of the Florida Keys

Don Whitehead

Wicker House

Maria Wilson

Appraisal Company of Key West

Julie Cuneo

Volunteer

Kay Miller

Honorary Member

Or Contact the Chamber offices at 305-294-2587.

Don't miss this exciting opportunity to reach the Key West Visitor!



The 2018/2019 Key West Chamber of Commerce Visitor Brochure and Map will be the fulfillment piece used by the Key West Chamber of Commerce to promote Key West as a premier destination to prospective visitors. The brochure and map is full color and will showcase the character and activities that make Key West unique. The brochure

allows Key West businesses the opportunity to feature information on your accommodations, attractions, restaurants, museums, shopping, entertainment and professional services to visitors and will be a valuable resource referred to over and over by visitors before and during their stay.

150,000 Copies

Distribution beginning October, 2018

Extremely Targeted

The Brochure and Map is the exclusive fulfillment piece for the Key West Chamber of Commerce and also for all visitor and newcomer inquiries received via telephone and email requests from the Monroe County Tourist Development Council.

The visitor brochure is distributed along the information plazas on the Florida Turnpike, with an expected distribution of 70,000 copies this coming year, as well as handed out at numerous travel and trade shows promoting Key West.

The brochure is available in the lobby of our official visitor information center located at 510 Greene Street, 1st Floor which is open seven days a week, as well as at the Lower Keys, Marathon, Islamorada and Key Largo Chamber of Commerce Visitor Centers, as well as distributed to the passengers of Key West Express.

Did You Know ...

From the NOAA Study "Linking the Environment and Economy of the Florida Keys and Key West," a question was asked to help gauge the influence of the Key West Chamber of Commerce Visitors Center with the following outcome. "Almost 23% of overnight visitors to the Keys reported having used at least one of the five visitor's Information centers with 47.8% of those visiting the Key West Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center. Resulting in visitors extending the length of their stay on an average of three days, this translates into overnight visitor spending averages of \$42.6 million. Key West generates 59% of all the business in the Florida Keys and Key West which would equate to approximately \$25 million more dollars spent by visitors after visiting our Visitor Information Center when in Key West."

Publication Specs

The map/brochure is 24" wide x 18" tall, full color both sides, folding to 4" x 9" to fit in envelopes and rack card holders. 150,000 copies printed and distributed annually!

For more information on which spaces are available contact:

Nancy D'Amato 305-304-1026
Quepasakeywest@hotmail.com



August 1st, through August 31, 2018
www.keywestchamber.org

Boating & Watersports

Cruising Tikis Key West
1605 N. Roosevelt Blvd. and
5130 Overseas Hwy – 833-845-4759
Locals receive 20% off private charters or
10% off per person rate. Must mention
this ad and call for reservations. May
not be combined w/other offers.

Danger Charters
Margaritaville Marina
305-296-3272

20% off when you book two separate
excursions, 10% off when you book one
excursion. 30% off for locals with ID.

Fury Water Adventures
237 Front St. – 305-292-4600
10% Off Any Fury Tour. Must book direct
by calling 855-969-3207 and mention
promo code "SHELL." Cannot be combined
with any other offers or discounts.

Fish 'N Chicks
1801 N. Roosevelt Blvd
(904) 420-3090 - \$50 off your first charter.

DINING & BEVERAGES

24 North Hotel
3820 N. Roosevelt Blvd.
10% off at Starbucks at 24 North Hotel
Buy One Get One at Republica Bar
Offer cannot be combined with
other offers or discounts.

Bistro 245 - Margaritaville Resort & Marina
245 Front St.
15% off lunch at Bistro 245 Excludes brunch.

Blue Mojito at Hyatt Centric
601 Front St.
Daily Happy Hour – half priced beer,
well drinks, and select menu items.
\$6 featured drink of the day.

Cero Bodega at the Marker Waterfront Resort
200 William St.

Buy one, get one well, draft, or house wine.
Coral Crab Café at Sheraton Suites Key West
2001 S Roosevelt Blvd.

15% off all food and nonalcoholic beverages.
d'Vine Wine Gallery at The Gardens Hotel
526 Angela St.

20% off any bottle of wine purchase
El Meson de Pepe
410 Wall St. | 20% off for locals

Goldman's Bagel Deli
2796 Roosevelt Blvd.

\$4.95 Early Bird Special: two eggs any style,
home fries or grits, fresh boil n' baked bagel
or toast, and bottomless coffee or fountain
drink. Must be seated before 10am.

Haagen-Dazs
625 Duval Street
Buy one Frozen Dessert – Get one FREE*
(*Any dessert of equal or lesser value)

Hard Rock Café
313 Duval Street

Buy one drink get one free – of equal of
lesser value (\$6.75 Value). One per person
per visit. Not valid with any other offers or
during special events and private parties.
Valid only at the Key West location.

Havana Cabana at Key West
3420 N Roosevelt Blvd. | Enjoy 20%
off food and drinks at our FloridaTia
Food Truck and Mojitos Pool Bar.
Jimmy Buffet's Margaritaville
500 Duval St. | Get a FREE slice of Key
Lime Pie when you spend a minimum of \$25
in food and beverage. Cannot be combined
with any other coupon or discount.

La Trattoria Venezia
524 Duval Street, 3593 So. Roosevelt Blvd.
Back to School Special Kids Eat Free
the entire month of August! Includes one
scoop of vanilla or chocolate. Offer for
children 12 years and younger. Must
be accompanied by a dining adult.

Lucy's Retired Surfers Bar & Restaurant –
320 Grinnell St. | Buy one get one
on any beer, wine, or spirit with an
equal or lesser value of \$9.00.

Matt's Stock Island Kitchen at the Perry Hotel
7001 Shrimp Road | \$10 breakfast options,
\$20 appetizer and lunch combos, and \$30
dinners featuring an appetizer, entrée and
dessert. Add a bottle of wine and receive 20%
off, try the Perry Punch of the week for \$2,
or choose a craft beer growler for only \$20.

Matt's Stock Island Kitchen at the Perry Hotel
7001 Shrimp Road | Every Wednesday –
Enjoy Family Fried Chicken Night with
All the Fixins' for only \$15/person

Matt's Stock Island Kitchen at the Perry Hotel
7001 Shrimp Road | 6-8pm for \$3
specialty drafts and cans, \$3 oysters on
the half shell, \$5 tapas and daily crudo,
and \$6 signature wine, Skyy Vodka, Jim
Beam and Bombay Gin cocktails.

Mellow Café at Mellow Venetres
1605 N Roosevelt Blvd. | 50% off food
Monday-Friday with Local ID.

**One Duval at Pier House
Resort & Caribbean Spa**
One Duval St. | 15% off dinner and free slice
of Key Lime Pie with purchase of two entrees.
Cannot be combined with any other offer.

Pinchers Crab Shack
712 Duval St. | Free drink or dessert.
Your choice of one. Must present coupon
before ordering. Not valid with any other
discounts including Kids Eat Free. Minimum
purchase of \$13.99, maximum drink value
\$7.99. Only one per person per day.

Rum Row at the Gates Hotel
3824 N. Roosevelt Blvd. | 2 for 1 rum
drinks. Offer cannot be combined
with other discounts or offers.

**Salty Oyster Docksides Bar &
Grill at the Perry Hotel**
7001 Shrimp Road | Daily waterfront
happy hour – From 4-6pm enjoy 50%
off food and premium beverages.

Shor Restaurant at Hyatt Centric
601 Front St. | 15% off lunch or dinner

Southernmost Beach Café
1405 Duval St | 2 for 1 Drinks Only.

**Spencer's by the Sea at The Reach
- A Waldorf Astoria Resort**
1435 Simonton St. | Buy one draft beer,
house wine, or well drink and get one
free (of equal or lesser value). Cannot be
combined with any other offer or discount.

Sunset Pier at Ocean Key Resort
Zero Duval St. | Summer Happy Hour
\$4 Well Liquor/\$4 Draft Beer, 3pm -
6pm every day at the bar ONLY!

**Sun Sun Beach Bar & Grill at Casa
Marina - A Waldorf Astoria Resort**
1500 Reynolds St. | Buy one draft beer,
house wine, or well drink and get one
free (of equal or lesser value). Cannot be

combined with any other offer or discount.
**Tavern - N - Town at Key
West Marriott Beachside**

3841 N Roosevelt Blvd. | All entree \$19.95 if
seated by 6:30pm or 15% off check if seated
after 6:30pm - Monroe County ID Required.
Post a picture of your meal on Facebook and be
entered into a weekly drawing for a \$100 gift
certificate, weekly drawing July 30 - Oct. 7th
Wine-O at LaConcha Hotel & Spa
430 Duval St. | 10% off small plates and
drinks. Cannot be combined with any other offer.
**Yellowfin Bar and Grill at Oceans Edge
Key West Resort, Hotel & Marina**
5950 Peninsular Avenue | 20% off all food &
beverage in the restaurant (excluding Happy Hour)

LODGING

Cayo Hueso Resort
509-515 United St. | 10% off stay, 4 nights or more.
Excluding holidays and special events.

RETAIL

Birkenstock of Old Town
612 Duval Street
FREE pair of Socks with regular priced
Birkenstock purchase. 10% off regular
priced items (with some Brand exclusions)

Divers Direct
535 Greene St | \$20 off purchase
of \$100 or more.

Fairvilla Mega Store
524 Front St. | 15% off a purchase
(does not include sale items).

Hemingway Rum Co.
201 Simonton Street | \$5.00
off a bottle of RUM!

Key West Aloe
416 Greene St. & 1075 Duval St. #9 – 10%
off all products excluding accessories. Cannot be
combined with additional offers. In Store Only.

Key West Swimwear
511 Greene St. | FREE gift with
any purchase over \$100

Kutchey's Flowers in Key West
1223 White St. | Flower Happy Hour:
Mondays 3pm - 5:30pm, 50% Off all
fresh cut flowers. Cash & carry.

Mel Fisher Treasures
200 Greene Street | Today's the day
to purchase your Key West Dog Tag!
20% off mounts on authentic Atocha
& Margarita Shipwreck Coins.

Mystical Key Metaphysical Shoppe
1100 Truman Avenue | 15% off of \$25
purchase of more for Chamber members
or 10% off for locals with ID

Petals & Vines
901 Simonton Street | Locals get 25% off
- must have a valid Monroe County ID

River Street Sweets – Savannah's Candy Kitchen
400B Duval Street. | FREE World Famous
Pralines with any \$20 of more purchase -
*Free Pralines - 1/2 pound, 1 offer per guest

RonJon Surf Shop
503 Front St. | 15% discount with minimum
purchase of \$30. Coupon must be presented
at time of purchase. Certain exclusions
apply. see your local store or our website
for details. Cannot be combined with any
other offer or discount. Code 38422.

Small Dog Electronics
1001 Truman Ave. \$15 off on any
purchase of \$75 or more.

Tervis
431 Front St. #3. | Please enjoy 15% off entire
drinkware purchase. It's more than drinkware;
Tervis is a lifestyle that's truly an everyday,
on-the-go opportunity to express yourself!

The Spice & Tea Exchange
431 Front St. #4 | Come in and smell the

spices! Receive 15% off total purchase (some
exclusions apply). Receive a free sample of
Key Lime sugar w/purchase. Receive free
12oz cup of Iced Tea w/\$15.00 purchase.

SERVICES

Choice Storage Centers
2600 North Roosevelt Blvd
Pay for one month get one month free on
select unit sizes w/new lease activation.

Four Star Rentals
5216 US-1, MM 4.5, Stock Island.
10% Discount Off Anything We Rent
Island 106.9

305-296-1069 | Buy one commercial,
get two free. Must buy from rate card &
mention "Dog Daze" or "Shell Out Less

Jala Spa at Hyatt Centric
601 Front St. | Local's w/valid residence
ID receive 25% off all services.

Offer cannot be combined with any
other discount or promotion.
Call 305-809-4006 to schedule.

JSA Promos & Prints
314 Simonton Street | 15% off all orders

Keela-Wee Transport & Hauling
(305) 504-7335 | Save 10% off one way flat
rate to Dade/Broward (\$180 vice \$200) -
Same day round trip only \$350 total Dade/
Broward - Use Code "DOGDAZE2018"

Key West Printing, LLC
955 Caroline Street, Suite 206-2
Come visit our new 1600 sq. foot showroom
and receive a 10% off your next order.

Keys Federal Credit Union
514 Southard St., 3022 N Roosevelt Blvd.
Receive 25% off your rate on a new Keys Auto,
Boat, RV, Motorcycle, or Personal Loan.

Keys Lifestyle
2011 Flagler Avenue | 20% off Wedding
Ceremony Pictures, Reg \$400 (includes
approx. 40 digital pictures, 1 printed picture)

RE/MAX Keys Connection
305-296-1400 | Complimentary CMA
(Comparative Market Analysis) and opinion of
value on your residential property, commercial
property or business by a local licensed realtor.

Tendbar, LLC
305-998-4081 | 10% off total bill for
locals and tourist locals and tourists.

Tours & Activities

Dolphin Research Center
MM59, Overseas Hwy, Grassy Key.
\$3.00 off general admission. May
not be combined with other offers or
used for interactive programs.

Ernest Hemingway Home & Museum
907 Whitehead St.
10% off of any \$25 or more purchase
at the Ernest Hemingway Home &
Museum Bookstore/Gift shop.

Key West Food Tours – 305-396-2224
Take 20% off all tours! Use the promo
code SUMMER at check out when
booking on keywestfoodtours.com

Key West Tropical Forest & Botanical Garden
5210 College Rd.
BOGO - Buy 1 Adult Admission, Get
1 Free - Children under 12, free

Ripley's Believe it or Not!
108 Duval St. | Locals get 50% off
admission with Monroe County ID.

The Key West Butterfly & Nature Conservatory
1316 Duval St.
1/2 Price Admission, and 10% off
merchandise with locals ID.

TRANSPORTATION

AAA Limo Group
305-731-4340 | \$20 per hour discount
for locals. - \$20/hour discount from our
regular \$120/hour rate – Key West ONLY!



CHAMBER CHOWDER®

510 Greene Street ~ 1st Floor, Key West

www.keywestchamber.org

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Suzanne Moore, President
Truman and Company Real Estate
305-292-2244

Billy Spottswood, First Vice President
Spottswood, Spottswood, Spottswood,
& Sterling/305-294-9556

Cara Higgins, Second Vice President
Horan & Higgins, LLP/294-4585

Sam Holland, Secretary
The Conch House/305-293-0020

John Toppino, Treasurer
Monroe Concrete/305-296-5606

Greg Sullivan, Past President
Waste Management/305-434-9140

Jed Dodds, Appointee
The Studios of Key West/305-296-0458

Melissa Kendrick, Appointee
Mel Fisher Maritime Museum/305-294-2633

Lynne Tejada, Appointee
Keys Energy Services/305-295-1020

Virginia A. Panico, Executive Vice President
Key West Chamber of Commerce/294-2587

CHAMBER STAFF

Virginia A. Panico
Executive Vice President

Kerry Baker
Membership Director/Special Events Coordinator

Dorothy Schmida
Administrative Assistant

Shay Penke
Office Assistant/Tourist Information Operator

Gladys Clarks
Tourist Information Receptionist

Virginia A. Panico
Newsletter Editor

Cindy Jefferson
Newsletter Art Director

Katrina Nichols
Newsletter Writer

Karrie Bond
Social Media Director

Key West Chamber Calendar of Events

August 2018

Business After Hours

Date: Thursday, August 2, 2018

Time: 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Sponsored by: Newly Opened
Republica Bar at 24 North Hotel
Location: 3820 N. Roosevelt Blvd.

Members Networking Event!

General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, August 22, 2018

Noon

Location: Margaritaville Key West
Resort & Marina, 245 Front Street

Topic: Florida Keys National
Marine Sanctuary

Speaker: Sarah Fangman,
*Superintendent of the Florida Keys
National Marine Sanctuary*

Business After Hours

Key West Chamber and Key West
Business Guild Joint Mixer

Date: Thursday, August 30, 2018

Time: 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Sponsored by: Royal Furniture &
Design

Location: 3326 N. Roosevelt Blvd.
(Searstown Shopping Center)

Members Networking Event!

September 2018

30th Annual

Key West Chamber of Commerce
“Showcase of Key West Businesses”

Community and Business
Exposition Trade Show

Wednesday, September 19, 2018

Location: Key West Marriott

Beachside Hotel

3841 N. Roosevelt Blvd

Presented by: The Key West Chamber
of Commerce and

Waste Management, Inc.

Co-sponsored by: OMI/Jacobs
3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m., Open to the Public

Business After Hours

“Showcase of Key West Businesses”
Chamber Members Business

Exposition Trade Show

Date: Wednesday, September 20, 2017

Time: 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Sponsored by: Key West Marriott
Beachside Hotel

Location: 3841 N. Roosevelt Blvd.

Members Networking Event!

General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, September 26, 2018

Noon

Location: Doubletree Grand Key Resort
3990 S. Roosevelt Blvd.

Topic: Candidates Forum for the
Monroe County Commission

Click to connect with the Chamber on
Facebook, Twitter,
Pinterest, or Instagram

