

Chamber Chatter

Upcoming Chamber Meetings:

- Chamber Board Meeting, February 20, 12:00pm, at the First United Methodist Church (small fellowship hall).

Important Updates:

- Melanie Brown and Michelle Pickle have both joined the Chamber Executive Committee. Melanie has been selected as Chair-Elect and Michelle has been selected as Secretary - Treasurer.
- The Alexander Building renovation is progressing on schedule. Workers recently removed the floor beams from the second floor. All that remains are four brick walls!
- Original heart pine wood beams from the Alexander Building have been put into storage and will eventually be incorporated back into the renovated building.
- As of February 1, 2013, the Chamber of Commerce had 141 members throughout 20 cities and 4 states.

The Blakely-Early County Chamber of Commerce thanks you for being a valued Chamber member. If we can ever be of service to you please do not hesitate to let us know.

The Politics of Asking for Help

The 1960 Presidential election between John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon was perhaps one of the greatest presidential elections of the twentieth century.

When voters flocked to the polls, they were presented with a unique opportunity to elect the nation's first Roman Catholic President (Kennedy). This was perhaps Kennedy's greatest challenge and one of the main reasons why Mamie Eisenhower was so against the Kennedys moving into the White House.

One day Mamie gave Jacqueline (Jackie) Kennedy a tour of the White House. Jackie had recently given birth to John Jr. and was in terrible pain throughout the duration of the tour. The White House always kept a wheelchair handy for those who needed assistance, but Mamie did not inform Jackie

that one was available. Noticing that Mamie was quite displeased in giving the tour, Jackie composed herself as if nothing was bothering her and proceeded with the tour. After the tour was over, Jackie returned to her home and collapsed on the floor in agony. Later, when Mamie was asked why she did not inform Jackie that a wheelchair was available during the tour, Mamie simply replied, "Because she never asked."

Often times we are faced with challenges in our lives and we do not ask for help. Sometimes we may be embarrassed to seek assistance, while other times we may not want to bother others with our personal struggles. In some cases, we may not even know who to turn to for guidance.

The next time you find yourself needing assistance, do not let the politics of asking for help get in the way. Plan a course of action and seek the opinion of others if you find yourself stuck in the mud. You may not be the only one with a particular problem and always remember that the Chamber is here to help you in any way that we possibly can.

New Member

We would like to extend a sincere welcome to New Believers International Church for recently placing membership with the Chamber. We look forward to helping your organization grow and prosper.

January/February Businesses of the Week

Since last month's newsletter, the Chamber has awarded four businesses with the Business of the Week Award. Congratulations to the following Businesses:

Jan. 28-Feb. 3: Early County News

Feb. 4-10: Garden Path Inn

Feb. 11-17: 3 Diamonds

Feb. 18-24: Michelle Pickle State Farm Agency

Each week, the Chamber selects a member business who they feel has done exceptional work and presents

them with a certificate and media exposure through Facebook and the Chamber website.

If you would like to nominate a business for this award, please e-mail the Chamber at earlychamberdirector@gmail.com or call (229) 723-3742.