

President's Message



Ted Corcoran
President/CEO/IOM

Chamber Friendships

Our Chamber can guarantee our members one thing. That they will have the opportunity—by participating in our activities—of potentially meeting hundreds and hundreds of people. We, cannot, however, guarantee that they will get one piece of business out of it.

The Chamber's main goal is to promote business relationships. As a side bar to that mission, you have the chance to cultivate personal friendships. And for some members, that can be the best benefit of all.

In 2014, how—and where—does an adult meet other adults? Gym? Shopping? Laundromat? Your neighbors? Perhaps, but are there better ways?

The only guaranteed friend-making opportunities are: Through your children and their activities; at church; and **AT YOUR CHAMBER!!**

Our “Chamber Mingle” video—produced by Solutions Studio and starring Hodah Conley, Ryan Price, Ron Grissom and Mary Tinsley, is poking fun at dating websites—but still conveying the importance of building business relationships via our Nothing But Networking luncheons.

The Chamber is NOT a dating service. But it is an organization that schedules a lot of networking, committees, and events where you have a good chance to make some acquaintances. I can honestly say that 98% of the people I know in this community, I have met at Chamber functions.

Speaking of friends, the next time Tammy's Journeys schedules a trip—anywhere—YOU need to go. Our recent March 2014 trip to Italy included 18 Chamber members—all of whom enhanced or created new Chamber friendships during the trip. (Look for a spring 2015 Chamber tour announcement in coming months!) See you at our events, friend!



**Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce Friends
The Colosseum, Rome, Italy March 26, 2014**

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Take a Trip | *Take a Coastlines*

Our members are going to some pretty glamorous places these days – and they're taking some good reading material right along with them.

If you choose to take your Coastlines with you on a trip, take a photo and share it with us. Send it to eppi@fwbchamber.org.



Ed Marcell (Southern Business Interiors) and his wife Holly took their Coastlines with them on a recent cruise through the Panama Canal.



Here's the FWB Chamber group on their fabulous trip to Italy, arranged by Tammy's Journeys. Liling, Lilly, Joyce Nelson, Bill Lewis, Theresa Cabael, Donna Tashik, Pam Woodall, Georgette Lare, Lisa Jo Spencer, Dick & Edie Marks, Tiffany & Ted Corcoran, Susan & Mo Davis, Deb Roberts, Krista Jackson & Elaine Sheldon.

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