

VALDOSTA - LOWNDES COUNTY  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Leading Businesses.  
Leading Communities.™



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**For Immediate Release**

### **Ballard Elected as GACCE Chair**



The Georgia Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (GACCE) elected Myrna Ballard, President of the Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce, as chair for 2011-2012.

Ballard has been the Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber president since Jan. 1997. Before serving as president, she was the Vice President for Economic Development for the Chamber, Economic Developer for Quitman-Brooks County (Georgia), and Director of Economic Development for the Brazos Valley Development Council (Texas).

Ballard is active in several community and professional organizations. She serves on the South Georgia Workforce Investment Board, the Valdosta Early College Academy Board, is a director and president designee of the Valdosta Rotary Club, former president of the Civic Roundtable, and former member of the Valdosta Technical College Board of Directors.

One of Ballard's biggest accomplishments was the Chamber's 20 year reaccreditation with the US Chamber of Commerce in 2008. The Chamber was also certified as one of 44 5-star chambers in the United States.

GACCE exists to provide exceptional services to Chambers of Commerce across Georgia in the areas of professional development, information, and networking opportunities, and to advocate the local Chamber's role in economic and community development. The focus of GACCE is to assist chamber executives and their staffs in becoming more effective in leading their local communities while serving their membership as well.