



IMPACT

2012



IMPACT ACTION

August '08 Newsletter

SHAREHOLDERS MEETING

The first semi-annual IMPACT 2012 Shareholders Meeting was held on July 31 at the James H. Rainwater Conference Center, with 78 investors in attendance.



James McGahee, Chairman of the IMPACT 2012 Oversight Committee, reported to the



Walter Hobgood, Chairman of the Chamber Board, presented James McGahee, Chairman of the IMPACT 2012 Oversight Committee with a plaque listing the

Workforce Development & Education

- 200 parents will hear the Regal Marine 'Helping Your Child Succeed' program before the end of the year



- First State Bank & Trust will sponsor the 'Salute to World Class Employees' breakfast on August 21



- School System Study nears completion

Leroy Butler, Vice Chairman and Rusty Griffin, Chairman of the School System Study Task Force provided a progress report on their study to determine the impact of school system organization on economic development in our community. The final report from the Carl Vinson Institute is expected in early September.



Expansion of Targeted Business

- Peter Kageyama (Creative Cities Productions) will be our November speaker in our 'Metro in Motion Speaker Series'



Chris Miller, Creative Cities Consulting, described the IMPACT 2012 initiative to grow jobs for college and university graduates in Information Technology, Environmental Technology, and Medical Services & Support.. The goal of the Targeted Business Expansion Committee is to facilitate the creation of 400 new jobs in these targeted clusters each year.

Anne Marie Wolff reported that MetroOne has declared Sept. 5 'Young Professionals Day' and has scheduled a Professional Development Day for Young Professionals on Sept. 24.



Enhancement of Pro-Business Environment

Jodi Doss, Chairman of the Valdosta And Lowndes Expansion Team (VALET) reported that a survey of businesses will be conducted in September, asking "Are we business-friendly?"

The South Georgia Partnership for Regional Development will host Georgia Department of Community Affairs Commissioner Mike Beatty in November.

Entrepreneurial & Small Business Development



Anne Barnas, SmithBarnas & Associates, reported that the 2009 Guardian Bank Business Plan Competition will kick off on Aug. 28, the Commercial Lenders Breakfast is set for Sept. 9, and the Search Engine Optimization Workshop is scheduled for Oct. 14.

The S.E.E.D.S. Center will serve at least 250 clients from July-December.



Retiree Attraction

Sandra Hayden, Southern Landing, reported that Valdosta is to be featured in the September issue of the national publication *Where to Retire* magazine

