



# Membership Investment Guide

2008

# Why should I join the Mississippi Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce?



Be a part of an organization that is making a difference on the Mississippi Gulf Coast! A myriad of benefits are granted to your business upon receiving your investment. Here is a preview of benefits to your company:

- All City Chamber Programs: as a member of Coast Chamber you are automatically enrolled in all four City Chambers: Biloxi, Gulfport, Long Beach and Pass Christian. Attend any event in any City.
- Free subscription to THE JOURNAL OF SOUTH MISSISSIPPI BUSINESS
- Seminars and workshops, offered several times a month, provide you a great discount in training from leadership to computer courses.
- Your Business listing in the Chamber Directory and on the Chamber website offers you exposure on the Gulf Coast, Nationally and Internationally.
- Referral Services: We only refer our members; both online and on the phone.
- Leadership Gulf Coast: Since 1988, more than 500 members have graduated from this program and assume key roles as public and private sector leaders in our community.
- Monthly breakfasts including Breakfast with the Mayor, Second Cup and Morning Calls which allow you to network, learn, and have coffee!
- Advertising & Marketing opportunities
- OPEN FOR BUSINESS, a guide to help your business prepare for all types of disasters

## Mission:

The Mississippi Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce is a membership organization that fosters leadership and the advancement of the community vision and interests of its members. Coast Chamber strives to improve the business climate through facilitating, advocating, and providing information on behalf of the region.

## Who is the Mississippi Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce?

Mississippi Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce was formed in 1988 in order to unite the Coast's individual communities into one unified voice. Currently, there are four City Chambers of the Coast Chamber, they are: Biloxi Chamber, Gulfport Chamber, Long Beach Chamber and Pass Christian Chamber.

Each of these Chambers has its own program of work, as each organization represents a unique part of the Mississippi Gulf Coast. At the same time, however, the Chambers are united through their affiliation with the Coast Chamber. This allows them to have a stronger voice when addressing issues that affect the entire Mississippi Gulf Coast. While each community along the Mississippi Gulf Coast is indeed unique, members of the Mississippi Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce agree that joining together and focusing on our similarities is what makes us stronger.

When a new member joins one City Chamber, he or she is considered a member of the Coast Chamber and joins a network of over 2000 business contacts. The Coast Chamber operates as the parent company, existing to support the individual Chambers. The Coast Chamber also sponsors various committees that are made up of representatives of each City Chamber. These committees tackle broad issues that affect the Gulf Coast, while the City Chambers and their committees work on projects and issues within their own communities.



# Basic Membership Investment

## What You Receive:

- Weekly Emails - IN THE LOOP & UPCOMING EVENTS
- Notice of Chamber Events & Chamber Partner Events
- Chamber Plus: Eligibility for Blue Cross Blue Shield Insurance Discounts
- Member Prices to Specific Chamber Events
- Membership Directory
- Chamber Window Decal
- Membership Listing in Directory & Online: 1 Category, 1 Alphabetical
- 2 Business Contacts
- Referrals
- Opportunity to Co-Brand with the Chamber
- Ribbon Cutting/ Grand Opening
- New Member Cup of Joe
- Coast Chamber Designation in SunShine Pages Phonebook, Printed & Online
- Website Link & Web Presence for Your Business
- Member Discount on Labels
- New Member Media
- New Member Website Presence
- Free Subscription to THE JOURNAL OF SOUTH MISSISSIPPI BUSINESS
- Access to Leads Group
- Display of Marketing Materials at Chamber Office
- Access to Sponsorship Opportunities
- Local, State & National Business Resource Links
- Business Resource Guide
- Access to Professional Development Series
- Committee Participation
- Membership Discounts to Leadership Gulf Coast
- Free Admission to *Taking Advantage of Your Chamber Membership Seminar*
- Advocacy at Local, State and Federal Levels
- Legislative Alerts
- Advocacy for Quality of Life for Business & Employees

**Value: \$3,165 | Your Investment: \$300**

"The Coast Chamber provides a unique opportunity for Coast businesses to grow strong partnerships with other like-minded organizations. The Coast Chamber and Business Council have a common vision for improving the economic vitality of the Mississippi Gulf Coast. We are a better community when we work together."

*Brian W. Sanderson, President, Gulf Coast Business Council*

"I no longer use the term '**The** chamber of commerce.' Their personal attention, quick response, caring attitude, and pertinent services - such as their workforce seminars - have made it '**Our** chamber of commerce.' Associated Food Equipment is investing in long-term improvement processes to be the most valued dealer-partner for the Coast's foodservice industry. Our chamber helps us achieve our goals by sponsoring up-to-date training on topics we can use immediately. We improve each day, and our chamber provides a convenient and economical venue for learning."

*Maggie Dannreuther, MBA, Business Analysis & Development, Associated Food Equipment & Supplies, Inc.*



# Entrepreneur Membership Investment

## What You Receive:

- Weekly Emails - IN THE LOOP & UPCOMING EVENTS
- Notice of Chamber Events & Chamber Partner Events
- Chamber Plus: Eligibility for Blue Cross Blue Shield Insurance Discounts
- Member Prices to Specific Chamber Events
- (3) Membership Directories
- Chamber Window Decal
- Membership Listing in Directory & Online: 2 Category, 2 Alphabetical
- 3 Business Contacts
- Referrals
- Opportunity to Co-Brand with the Chamber
- Ribbon Cutting/ Grand Opening
- New Member Cup of Joe
- Coast Chamber Designation in SunShine Pages Phonebook, Printed & Online
- 2 (\$25 each) Passes to Professional Development Series Course
- 4 (\$5 each) Passes to BAH: Business After Hours
- \$50 off Online Advertising
- \$50 off N@N: Networking @ Noon Sponsorship
- \$50 off Professional Development Series Course Sponsorship
- Notary Services
- IN THE LOOP (Twice Annually) Member-to-Member Advertising
- Website Link & Web Presence for Your Business
- Member Discount on Labels
- New Member Media
- New Member Website Presence
- Free Subscription to THE JOURNAL OF SOUTH MISSISSIPPI BUSINESS
- Access to Leads Group
- Display of Marketing Materials at Chamber Office
- Access to Sponsorship Opportunities
- Local, State & National Business Resource Links
- Business Resource Guide
- Access to Professional Development Series
- Committee Participation
- Membership Discounts to Leadership Gulf Coast
- Free Admission to *Taking Advantage of Your Chamber Membership Seminar*
- Advocacy at Local, State and Federal Levels
- Legislative Alerts
- Advocacy for Quality of Life for Business & Employees

**Value: \$3,915 | Your Investment: \$500**

"Our membership helped grow our startup business. As a startup technology company, our resources were limited. We joined the Chamber in 2002 for the chance to network with potential clients. AGJ Systems and Networks services clients from New Jersey to Colorado to Florida; yet 11 percent of our client base comes from active Coast Chamber members. The Coast Chamber helps us grow our local business and strengthen relationships with existing clients."

*Ryan Giles, Partner, AGJ Systems & Networks, Inc.*



# Executive Membership Investment

## What You Receive:

- Weekly Emails - IN THE LOOP & UPCOMING EVENTS
- Notice of Chamber Events & Chamber Partner Events
- Chamber Plus: Eligibility for Blue Cross Blue Shield Insurance Discounts
- Member Prices to Specific Chamber Events
- (4) Membership Directories
- Chamber Window Decal
- Membership Listing in Directory & Online: 3 Category, 3 Alphabetical
- 4 Business Contacts
- Referrals
- Opportunity to Co-Brand with the Chamber
- Ribbon Cutting/ Grand Opening
- New Member Cup of Joe
- Coast Chamber Designation in SunShine Pages Phonebook, Printed & Online
- 4 (\$25 each) Passes to Professional Development Series Course
- 6 (\$5 each) Passes to BAH
- \$100 off Online Advertising
- \$100 off N@N Sponsorship
- \$100 off Professional Development Series Course Sponsorship
- Notary Services
- IN THE LOOP (Four Annually) Member-to-Member Advertising
- (1) Free Set of Mailing Labels
- 2 Member-to-Member Coupons
- Website Link & Web Presence for Your Business
- Member Discount on Labels
- New Member Media
- New Member Website Presence
- Free Subscription to THE JOURNAL OF SOUTH MISSISSIPPI BUSINESS
- Access to Leads Group
- Display of Marketing Materials at Chamber Office
- Access to Sponsorship Opportunities
- Local, State & National Business Resource Links
- Business Resource Guide
- Access to Professional Development Series
- Committee Participation
- Membership Discounts to Leadership Gulf Coast
- Free Admission to *Taking Advantage of Your Chamber Membership Seminar*
- Advocacy at Local, State and Federal Levels
- Legislative Alerts
- Advocacy for Quality of Life for Business & Employees

**Value: \$4,730 | Your Investment: \$775**

“Not only was the Chamber of Commerce instrumental in helping us to open our business, but the Chamber has also played an active role in ensuring that our ongoing business has been a success. There have been several occasions where we have asked the Chamber for assistance and where the Chamber has worked diligently to follow through and meet our needs. As business owners, we greatly appreciate how the Coast Chamber has taken a genuine interest in the success of Southern Grounds Coffeehouse, and we wouldn't be where we are today without their help.”

*Scott King, Owner, Southern Grounds*



# Corporate Membership Investment

## What You Receive:

- Weekly Emails - IN THE LOOP & UPCOMING EVENTS
- Notice of Chamber Events & Chamber Partner Events
- Chamber Plus: Eligibility for Blue Cross Blue Shield Insurance Discounts
- Member Prices to Specific Chamber Events (10) Membership Directories
- Chamber Window Decal
- Membership Listing in Directory & Online: 5 Category, 5 Alphabetical
- 10 Business Contacts
- Referrals
- Opportunity to Co-Brand with the Chamber
- Ribbon Cutting / Grand Opening
- New Member Cup of Joe
- Coast Chamber Designation in SunShine Pages Phonebook, Printed & Online
- 4 (\$25 each) Passes to Professional Development Series Course
- 6 (\$5 each) Passes to BAH
- \$150 off Online Advertising
- \$150 off N@N Sponsorship
- \$100 off Professional Development Series Course Sponsorship
- Notary Services
- IN THE LOOP (Six Annually) Member-to-Member Advertising
- (1) Free Set of Mailing Labels
- 4 Member-to-Member Coupons
- \$500 off BAH Series Sponsor
- New Member Packet Insert
- Website Link & Web Presence for Your Business
- Member Discount on Labels
- New Member Media
- New Member Website Presence
- Free Subscription to THE JOURNAL OF SOUTH MISSISSIPPI BUSINESS
- Access to Leads Group
- Display of Marketing Materials at Chamber Office
- Access to Sponsorship Opportunities
- Local, State & National Business Resource Links
- Business Resource Guide
- Access to Professional Development Series
- Committee Participation
- Membership Discounts to Leadership Gulf Coast
- Free Admission to *Taking Advantage of Your Chamber Membership Seminar*
- Advocacy at Local, State and Federal Levels
- Legislative Alerts
- Advocacy for Quality of Life for Business & Employees

**Value: \$7,965 | Your Investment: \$1,250**

"The success of all businesses, large, small and in between is directly tied to their ability to interact effectively with business partners, to reach their local community and political leaders, and to get their message out to potential customers. The Coast Chamber provides the venue and tools that facilitate such interaction at all levels. I could not imagine operating a business in my community and NOT being a part of the Chamber of Commerce. It is an essential part of what we do day in and day out."

*Ken Austin, Broker Owners, Mississippi Coast Realty, LLC, Pass Christian*



# Visionary Membership Investment

## What You Receive:

- Weekly Emails - IN THE LOOP & UPCOMING EVENTS
- Notice of Chamber Events & Chamber Partner Events
- Chamber Plus: Eligibility for Blue Cross Blue Shield Insurance Discounts
- Member Prices to Specific Chamber Events
- (15) Membership Directories
- Chamber Window Decal
- Membership Listing in Directory & Online: 5 Category, 5 Alphabetical
- 15 Business Contacts
- Referrals
- Opportunity to Co-Brand with the Chamber
- Ribbon Cutting / Grand Opening
- New Member Cup of Joe
- Coast Chamber Designation in SunShine Pages Phonebook, Printed & Online
- 4 (\$25 each) Passes to Professional Development Series Course
- 6 (\$5 each) Passes to BAH
- \$200 off Online Advertising
- \$300 off N@N Sponsorship
- \$150 off Professional Development Series Course Sponsorship
- Notary Services
- IN THE LOOP (Eight Annually) Member-to-Member Advertising
- (2) Free Sets of Mailing Labels
- 6 Member-to-Member Coupons
- \$500 off BAH Series Sponsor
- New Member Packet Insert
- Business Resource Guide Partner
- Upcoming Events: 1 Month Sponsorship
- Website Link & Web Presence for Your Business
- Member Discount on Labels
- New Member Media
- New Member Website Presence
- Free Subscription to THE JOURNAL OF SOUTH MISSISSIPPI BUSINESS
- Access to Leads Group
- Display of Marketing Materials at Chamber Office
- Access to Sponsorship Opportunities
- Local, State & National Business Resource Links
- Business Resource Guide
- Access to Professional Development Series
- Committee Participation
- Membership Discounts to Leadership Gulf Coast
- Free Admission to *Taking Advantage of Your Chamber Membership Seminar*
- Advocacy at Local, State and Federal Levels
- Legislative Alerts
- Advocacy for Quality of Life for Business & Employees

**Value: \$10,475 | Your Investment: \$2,500**

"For less than the price of one ad, membership to the Chamber of Commerce is a lifeline to small businesses for a whole year! Joining the Chamber not only means networking and socializing; it's also about classes geared to the successful running of a small business and people that really care working hard for your success! I recommend you take advantage of all the opportunities of community involvement and networking that the Coast Chamber offers to help your business grow."

*Romy Simpson, Owner, Negrotto's Gallery & Custom Framing*



# Gulf Coast Leader Investment

## What You Receive:

- Company Logo will be Featured in Membership Directory
- Company Logo will be Featured on the Monthly Member Blast
- Chamber Plus: Eligibility for Blue Cross Blue Shield Insurance Discounts
- CEO or Designated Person's Picture will Appear in Membership Directory
- Plaque Announcing Your Membership and Support at Your Business
- Weekly Emails - IN THE LOOP & UPCOMING EVENTS
- Notice of Chamber Events & Chamber Partner Events
- Member Prices to Specific Chamber Events
- (15) Membership Directories
- Chamber Window Decal
- Membership Listing in Directory & Online: 5 Category, 5 Alphabetical
- 15 Business Contacts
- Referrals
- Opportunity to Co-Brand with the Chamber
- Ribbon Cutting / Grand Opening
- New Member Cup of Joe
- Coast Chamber Designation in SunShine Pages Phonebook, Printed & Online
- 4 (\$25 each) Passes to Professional Development Series Course
- 6 (\$5 each) Passes to BAH
- \$200 off Online Advertising
- \$300 off N@N Sponsorship
- \$150 off Professional Development Series Course Sponsorship
- Notary Services
- IN THE LOOP (Eight Annually) Member-to-Member Advertising
- (2) Free Sets of Mailing Labels
- 6 Member-to-Member Coupons
- \$500 off BAH Series Sponsor
- New Member Packet Insert
- Business Resource Guide Partner
- Upcoming Events: 1 Month Sponsorship
- Website Link & Web Presence for Your Business
- Member Discount on Labels
- New Member Media
- New Member Website Presence
- Free Subscription to THE JOURNAL OF SOUTH MISSISSIPPI BUSINESS
- Access to Leads Group
- Display of Marketing Materials at Chamber Office
- Access to Sponsorship Opportunities
- Local, State & National Business Resource Links
- Business Resource Guide
- Access to Professional Development Series
- Committee Participation
- Membership Discounts to Leadership Gulf Coast
- Free Admission to *Taking Advantage of Your Chamber Membership Seminar*
- Advocacy at Local, State and Federal Levels
- Legislative Alerts
- Advocacy for Quality of Life for Business & Employees

**Value: Priceless | Your Investment: \$5,000**

"My Coast Chamber membership has been invaluable to me. I have always believed that what is good for your City is good for the entire Coast, and I feel the Mississippi Gulf Coast Chamber is good for the entire Mississippi Coast. It helps me not only in my business, but the networking with businesses and leaders in other communities helps me broaden my contacts. When legislation matters arise, that affect my business, the contacts I've made are invaluable."

*Liz Joachim, CEO, Frank P Corso, Inc.*



# Gulf Coast Partner Investment

The Chamber will work with you to customize an array of benefits appropriate to your needs. What You Receive:

- Logo will be Included in the QUARTERLY INSIDER as Sponsor
- Logo to be Included on Chamber's Website Year Round
- Special Designation in Chamber Office
- List Job Openings on CYP's Website
- Company Logo will be Featured in Membership Directory
- Company Logo will be Featured on the Monthly Member Blast
- Chamber Plus: Eligibility for Blue Cross Blue Shield Insurance Discounts
- CEO or Designated Person's Picture will Appear in Membership Directory
- Plaque Announcing Your Membership and Support at Your Business
- Weekly Emails - IN THE LOOP & UPCOMING EVENTS
- Notice of Chamber Events & Chamber Partner Events
- Member Prices to Specific Chamber Events
- (15) Membership Directories
- Chamber Window Decal
- Membership Listing in Directory & Online: 5 Category, 5 Alphabetical
- 15 Business Contacts
- Referrals
- Opportunity to Co-Brand with the Chamber
- Ribbon Cutting / Grand Opening
- New Member Cup of Joe
- Coast Chamber Designation in SunShine Pages Phonebook, Printed & Online
- 4 (\$25 each) Passes to Professional Development Series Course
- 6 (\$5 each) Passes to BAH
- \$200 off Online Advertising
- \$300 off N@N Sponsorship
- \$150 off Professional Development Series Course Sponsorship
- Notary Services
- IN THE LOOP (Eight Annually) Member-to-Member Advertising
- (2) Free Sets of Mailing Labels
- 6 Member-to-Member Coupons
- \$500 off BAH Series Sponsor
- New Member Packet Insert
- Business Resource Guide Partner
- Upcoming Events: 1 Month Sponsorship
- Website Link & Web Presence for Your Business
- Member Discount on Labels
- New Member Media
- New Member Website Presence
- Free Subscription to THE JOURNAL OF SOUTH MISSISSIPPI BUSINESS
- Access to Leads Group
- Display of Marketing Materials at Chamber Office
- Local, State & National Business Resource Links
- Business Resource Guide
- Access to Professional Development Series
- Committee Participation
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- Free Admission to *Taking Advantage of Your Chamber Membership Seminar*
- Advocacy at Local, State and Federal Levels
- Legislative Alerts
- Advocacy for Quality of Life for Business & Employees

**Value: Priceless | Your Investment: \$10,000**

"I'll give you three good reasons I joined the Chamber. First, they promote small businesses, and they help us tremendously. Second, they keep us informed. Like all small business owners, I'm very busy. But the Chamber emails and newsletters keep me up-to-date on information I need. And third, thanks to the Chamber, I received a grant to help my business."

*Lily West, Owner, Lily of the Valley Food & Deli*



# Gulf Coast Trustee Investment

The Chamber will work with you to customize an array of benefits appropriate to your needs.  
What You Receive:

- First Priority for Sponsorship Opportunities
- Logo will be Included in the QUARTERLY INSIDER as Sponsor
- Logo to be Included on Chamber's Website Year Round
- Special Designation in Chamber office
- List Job Openings on CYP's Website
- Company Logo will be Featured in Membership Directory
- Company Logo will be Featured on the Monthly Member Blast
- CEO or Designated Person's Picture will Appear in Membership Directory
- Plaque Announcing Your Membership and Support at Your Business
- Chamber Plus: Eligibility for Blue Cross Blue Shield Insurance Discounts
- Weekly Emails - IN THE LOOP & UPCOMING EVENTS
- Notice of Chamber Events & Chamber Partner Events
- Member Prices to Specific Chamber Events
- (15) Membership Directories
- Chamber Window Decal
- Membership Listing in Directory & Online: 5 Category, 5 Alphabetical
- 15 Business Contacts
- Referrals
- Opportunity to Co-Brand with the Chamber
- Ribbon Cutting / Grand Opening
- New Member Cup of Joe
- Coast Chamber Designation in SunShine Pages Phonebook, Printed & Online
- 4 (\$25 each) Passes to Professional Development Series Course
- 6 (\$5 each) Passes to BAH
- \$200 off Online Advertising
- \$300 off N@N Sponsorship
- \$150 off Professional Development Series Course Sponsorship
- Notary Services
- IN THE LOOP (Eight Annually) Member-to-Member Advertising
- (2) Free Sets of Mailing Labels
- 6 Member-to-Member Coupons
- \$500 off BAH Series Sponsor
- New Member Packet Insert
- Business Resource Guide Partner
- Upcoming Events: 1 Month Sponsorship
- Website Link & Web Presence for Your Business
- Member Discount on Labels
- New Member Media
- New Member Website Presence
- Free Subscription to THE JOURNAL OF SOUTH MISSISSIPPI BUSINESS
- Access to Leads Group
- Display of Marketing Materials at Chamber Office
- Local, State & National Business Resource Links
- Business Resource Guide
- Access to Professional Development Series
- Committee Participation
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- Advocacy at Local, State and Federal Levels
- Legislative Alerts
- Advocacy for Quality of Life for Business & Employees

**Value: Priceless | Your Investment: \$20,000**

"The first thing on my menu was to join the Coast Chamber. Catered Thymes is a fairly new business on the Mississippi Coast. From the very beginning, the Coast Chamber has been a great partner in growing our business, from helping with our opening to introducing us to the business community. The local Chamber staff has always been helpful to me, and I strongly recommend joining the Chamber to any business looking to grow."

*Brandon Swanger, Owner, Catered Thymes*



# Retiree and Individual Investment

For non-employed individuals, clergy, government personnel and retirees.

What You Receive:

- Weekly Emails - IN THE LOOP & UPCOMING EVENTS
- Notice of Chamber Events & Chamber Partner Events
- Member Prices to Specific Chamber Events
- Membership Directory
- Chamber Window Decal
- Membership Listing in Directory & Online
- Local, State & National Business Resource Links
- Business Resource Guide
- Access to Professional Development Series
- Committee Participation
- Advocacy at Local, State and Federal Levels
- Legislative Alerts
- Advocacy for Quality of Life for Business & Employees

**Value: \$1,015 | Your Investment: \$125**

"We are proud to be a Family Member of the Long Beach Chamber & Mississippi Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce. Their tireless efforts have made it possible for one more small business to enter & be assimilated into the close-knit Long Beach business community. Thanks to the Chamber for your support & help!"

*John Scranage & Sami Taylor, Owners,  
The Stone Man & The Gem Lady*

## Membership Application:

Please detach and mail to: Mississippi Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce, 11975E Seaway Road, Gulfport, MS 39503

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Website Address: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Classification: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Description: \_\_\_\_\_

CEO: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Key Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Information

No. of Full-Time Employees: \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Part-Time Employees: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Investment: \_\_\_\_\_ + one-time \$25 fee

### Payment Information

Check (make payable to Mississippi Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce)

Visa  MasterCard

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### Billing Information

Billing Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_



11975E Seaway Road | Gulfport, MS 39503 | 228.604.0014