



P.O. Box 2947
Vero Beach, FL 32961
PH: 772-567-3491
email: chamber@indianriverchamber.com
web site: www.indianriverchamber.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 30, 2016

Contact: Penny Chandler, President

NEWS

CHAMBER ANNOUNCES 2017 BOARD

Vero Beach, FL.... The Indian River County Chamber of Commerce has announced its new Board of Directors. The new Board assumes their duties on October 1st, the beginning of the Chamber's new fiscal year.

Jeff Schlitt of Schlitt Services was re-elected for a second term as Chairman of the Board. Mr. Schlitt was first named to Chamber leadership in 2009 as a one-year appointment and has served two terms on the Board. "I am honored to be asked to continue to serve this organization. Since its early beginnings, the Chamber has been instrumental in helping to shape this community into what it is today" Mr. Schlitt has been in the insurance industry since graduating from Florida State University and is co-owner of Schlitt Insurance Services, Inc. He has obtained various insurance licenses including the Charter Property and Casualty Underwriter (CPCU) designation and Certified Financial Planner (CFP). He has served his industry both at local level as President of the Independent Agents of Indian River County and Indian River Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors. At a state level he served as Chairman of the Board with Florida Association of Insurance Agents 2014-2015. He currently serves as Board Member of United Way of Indian River County.

The Board elected Robert Paugh to serve as Board Vice Chairman. Mr. Paugh is General Manager/Vice President of Bill Bryant & Associates, Inc. He is a graduate of Northern Maine Technical College and moved to Vero Beach from Connecticut. He has served on the Chamber's Board since 2011. He is the President of the Heritage Center

of Vero Beach and also currently serves as President of the Vero Beach Airshow. He is a former President of Treasure Coast Builders Association.

Aaron Bowles was elected to serve as the Chamber Treasurer. He joined the Chamber Board in 2014. Mr. Bowles is Vice President of MBV Engineering, Inc., President of Indian River Survey, Inc., Vice President of Florida Environmental Consulting, Inc. and Managing Member of Silt Life, LLC. He is a graduate of University of Central Florida with a B.S. in Environmental Engineering. He holds a certification as a Florida Professional Engineer.

Jason Odom, Gould Cooksey Fennell, P.A. will serve as the Chamber's General Counsel. Mr. Odom is a member of the Gould Cooksey Fennell Litigation Department. He is "AV" rated under Martindale- Hubbell's peer review rating system, and has been recognized by Florida Trend: Florida Legal Elite as one of the Top "Up and Coming" attorneys in Florida. Mr. Odom received a bachelor's degree from the University of Central Florida, he is an honored former member of our nation's armed services, and earned his Juris Doctorate from Stetson University College of Law.

Immediate Past Chairman is William "Bill" Penney, President and CEO of Marine Bank & Trust Company. Mr. Penney has served as Chairman of the Board, and Chairman of the Chamber's Economic Development Division. He is a member of and is a past Chairman of the Indian River County Economic Development Council. His community service includes chairing the Indian River County United Way Annual Campaign, and chairman of the Board of the Indian River County United Way. Mr. Penney is currently on the boards of the Alzheimer's & Parkinson's Association of Indian River County, and of ORCA where he also serves as their Treasurer.

Indian River County Board of Directors
September 30, 2016
Page Three

Penny Chandler, President of the Chamber remarked that “It is great to have continuity in our leadership. We have a strong Board of Directors representing some of the best and foremost businesses in Vero Beach and Indian River County. It is a pleasure to work for this fine group.”

Newly elected to the Board of Directors are: Lonnie Blake, TD Bank; Kathryn Grichnik Indian River Medical Center; Brian Holmes, Edward Jones; Donna Leemon, HR Dynamics; Suzanne Leigh, Leigh Jewelers; and Chad Olson, Costa d’ Este Beach Resort & Spa.

“Our Board demonstrates the diversity of the Vero Beach and county’s business community” stated Chairman Schlitt. “We are pleased to welcome these new individuals to our Board of Directors and look forward to their leadership.”

Returning as Directors are Derek Arden, Vero Commercial Management, LLC; Jennifer Bates, Holiday Inn Oceanside; Andy Beindorf, National Bank of Commerce; Simon Caldecott, Piper Aircraft, Inc.; Ross Cotherman, Rehmann Robson; Karen Deigl, Senior Resource Association; Bart Gaetjens, Florida Power & Light; Lucinda Gedeon, Vero Beach Museum of Art; Tim Girard, Girard Equipment; Linda Schlitt Gonzalez, Coldwell Banker Paradise - Ed Schlitt Realtors; Kathryn Grichnik, Indian River Medical Center; Katha Kissman, Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute Foundation; Michael Kissner Collins, Brown, Caldwell, Barkett, Garavaglia & Lawn Chartered; Casey Lunceford Indian River State College; Paul Lytle, EmbroidMe; Dr. Paul Minotty, New Vision Eye Center; Cheryl Roseland, Countryside Citrus; and Michael Walther, Coastal Tech G.E.C Inc. Retiring from the Board was Jay Hart.

Indian River County Board of Directors
September 30, 2016
Page Four

The [Indian River County Chamber of Commerce](#) is a county-wide organization representing nearly 900 Vero Beach and Indian River County businesses. Located in Vero Beach, the Chamber represents the business community by providing services, benefits and leadership for positive growth and change.

-end-