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## Women's Business Center, Inc.

The Buzz About Biz...

April 2008

Welcome Friends!  
**10 Ways To Grow Your Business**  
 Upcoming Events  
 On the road with Bizmobile  
 Community Events & News

### Women's Business Center Awarded New Contract



March brought great news for present and future women entrepreneurs in southern Alabama. The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) announced that a Renewability Contract has been awarded to our Women's Business Center, Inc. for our work in Mobile and Baldwin County. To read announcement, [click here](#).

### Women's History Month Luncheon



The Women's Business Center, Inc. and the League of Women Voters of Mobile joined together to celebrate Women's History Month on March 19, 2008 at the Heron Lakes Country Club. Forty-five guests enjoyed networking while admiring the beautiful view of the club's pool and golf course. The delicious luncheon buffet was topped off with a yummy bread pudding.

Naomi Maurer, co-owner of My

### Welcome Friends!

A question that I am frequently asked is, "**How do I get started on my business idea?**" Of course, there are lots of hurdles and potential stumbling blocks people face as they work to start their business. Fortunately, the Women's Business Center has been a great resource for help and support in overcoming the many obstacles.

In celebrating the hard work and achievements of our new business owners, please join us at the 6th Annual SAL Award Luncheon. The SAL (Southern Alabama) award spotlights emerging women and men entrepreneurs by recognizing the courage, diligence and hard work necessary for business ownership. Last year's winner, Betty Robinson, owner of Betty's Best Image Consultant and Etiquette, said, "*The WBC has helped me to establish and build relationships with like-minded entrepreneurs. It's a place where I can express challenges, successes and learn from others. It's a place to form relationships, camaraderie and to be with other women in life who are living their passion.*"

To register for SAL Award Luncheon, [click here](#).

In this issue, look for useful tools that can be used in your everyday business life and the calendar of upcoming workshops and seminars.

This newsletter is for everyone, those just starting a new business, more experienced business owners and everyone in between.

Help us meet your business needs by sending your ideas, suggestions, questions or topics you would like to see included in our monthly newsletter to [sbrowder@womenbiz.biz](mailto:sbrowder@womenbiz.biz).

To your business success,

Sylvia Browder  
 Project Director

### 10 Ways To Grow Your Business



When you first started your business, you probably did a lot of research. You may have sought help from advisors or business counselors such as the Women's Business Center, or you may have gotten information from books, magazines and other readily available sources. You invested a lot-in terms of money, time and sweat equity-to get your business off the ground. So...now what? To continue, [click here](#).

### Upcoming Events



#### April Calendar

For a full description of each workshop, fees, time and dates, please [click here](#) to download our April Calendar.

Victorian Bed & Breakfast, graciously donated her time entertaining guests with her informative and humorous speech, "You Can't do That: You're a Girl!" and Other Hysterical, Historical Lies. A special thank you is extended to Fred South, Fred South Construction for his generosity in sponsoring the event.

### Big Win at 'Get Motivated' Seminar



Congratulations to our board member Ted Greenspan for his Disney World trip award winning performance at the recent "Get Motivated" seminar at the Mobile Civic Center.

**Ted, you are awesome!**

### Quit Looking for an Agent



At some point, almost every artist says to herself, "I wish I had an agent." How do I know? Because artists say it to me almost every day. My response? Quit dreaming! Come back to reality and quit wasting your time. Plant both feet firmly on the ground so you can get your head out of the clouds. To read the entire article, [click here](#).

You don't want to miss this workshop! For more information, call LaToya at 251.660.2725 or [click here](#) to register online.



#### BizReady - Mobile

**Schedule:** Thursday, April 10

Thinking about starting your own small business? Let our experts be your guide! Come to the Women's Business Center's BizReady workshop and find out how you can turn your dream into a reality.

#### You will learn:

- The traits of successful entrepreneurs
- The five challenges every business faces
- How the WBC's programs and services can help you reach your goals

To register online, [click here](#).

#### Success Circle - Baldwin

**Schedule:** Wednesday, April 16

A monthly roundtable discussion and mentoring group for business women. Meets every 3rd Wednesday at Homestead Village in Fairhope.

To register online, [click here](#).

#### Loan Clinic - Mobile

**Schedule:** Wednesday, April 17

Need capital to start or grow your small business? Is a Small Business Administration (SBA) Community Express Loan the answer for you? Community Express loans range from \$5,000 to 35,000 with no collateral required for new businesses. Businesses two years and older are eligible up to \$50,000.

To register online, [click here](#).

#### Success Circle - Mobile

**Schedule:** Tuesday, April 22

A monthly roundtable discussion and mentoring group for business women. Meets every 4th Tuesday at Somerby of West Mobile.

#### 6th Annual SAL Award Luncheon - Mobile

This luncheon ceremony presents new business owners to the community and recognizes their dedication, desire and initiative to pursue their dreams.

To register online, [click here](#).

To view our calendar on our website, please, [click here](#). To register or obtain more information on any of our events, call the Women's Business Center at 251-660-2725 or email [info@womenbiz.biz](mailto:info@womenbiz.biz). Please pre-register as events are subject to cancellation for lack of registration.

### On the road with the Bizmobile

**Do you want to start a business or are you a small business owner in need of technical assistance?**

**The Bizmobile will be in your city:**

**Bizmobile in Conecuh County**



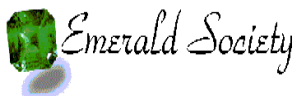
## Thank You

### [MAWSS](#)

Our partners are the life blood of the Women's Business Center, Inc. Without their commitment of resources, dollars, and in kind services, we would not exist.

### [Become a Partner](#)

Become an  
**EMERALD SOCIETY**  
member TODAY!



Current members, enjoy our new member-to-member discounts. For application, [click here](#).

#### Quick Links...

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[Womenbiz Directory](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)



#### Quarterly Quorum

May 21, 11:30-1  
Carrabba's Italian Grill  
Registration Fee - \$20

To register today, [click here](#).

**Art As Business with  
Alyson Stanfield,**  
a nationally known art

**Date:** April 2, 2008  
**Time:** 10am - 2pm  
**Location:** Evergreen (1st Wednesday)

#### **Bizmobile in Clarke County**

**Date:** April 3 & 10, 2008  
**Time:** 10am - 2pm  
**Location:** Clarke County Museum Helm House and Grove Hill Area Chamber of Commerce (1st Thursday) & Thomasville (2nd Thursday)

#### **Bizmobile in Escambia County**

**Date:** April 16, 2008  
**Time:** 10am - 2pm  
**Location:** Escambia County Industrial Development Authority or Brewton Chamber (3rd Wednesday)

#### **Bizmobile in Monroe County**

**Date:** April 23, 2008  
**Time:** 10am - 2pm  
**Location:** Monroeville Area Chamber of Commerce (4th Wednesday)

For more Information on these events or services of the WBC, call 251-660-2725 or toll-free 800-378- 7461 or email LaToya Brooks at [info@womenbiz.biz](mailto:info@womenbiz.biz).

## Community Events & News

### Grant Writing Essentials Seminar

Mobile Technical Institute presents Grant Writing Essentials, a Success Seminar Series workshop, on Wednesday, April 23 from, 9 am - noon at the MTI training facility in Mobile.

Foundation, federal, and community grants are a viable way for 501(c)3 organizations to increase their bottom lines. Grant writing is a key component of the process. Learn the basics of tailoring proposals, what funders look for, internet research for funding sources, and more.

Seating is limited and pre-registration is required. Seminar cost is \$40.00. Call 251-478-6848 or e-mail [info@mtimail.com](mailto:info@mtimail.com) for more information or to register go online at [www.mobiletechwebsite.com](http://www.mobiletechwebsite.com).

### Entrepreneur Forum - Finding and Securing Money to Grow Your Business

Join the Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce for the Entrepreneur Forum on Wednesday, May 14 in the Chamber's McGowin Room from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm. Terri Pringle, South Alabama Regional Planning Commision, will facilitate.

The cost is \$10 for members and \$20 for potential members and includes lunch. For reservations, contact Brenda Rembert at 431-8607 or [brembert@mobilechamber.com](mailto:brembert@mobilechamber.com).

### ThyssenKrupp Business to Business Briefing

ThyssenKrupp Steel USA, USA is presenting the first ThyssenKrupp Business to Business Briefing on May 6, 2008. This Briefing will specifically focus on the immediate and future construction needs regarding the ThyssenKrupp project.

John Boston, Director of Purchasing, ThyssenKrupp Steel USA, LLC will present a project overview of the construction needs for the ThyssenKrupp plant in north Mobile County. Included in this presentation will be immediate construction needs, future needs, timelines, and the procedure to receive a pre-qualifying package.

If you are interested in attending you must pre-register by submitting your contact information. Click here to download and complete the Pre-Qualification Questionnaire. For more information, email Ashley Johnson at [ashley.johnson@thyssenkrupp.com](mailto:ashley.johnson@thyssenkrupp.com).

### Market in May Business Expo

marketing trainer  
June 7, 9-3  
Early Registration Fee - \$99,  
After May 8 - \$125

"Market in May" Business Expo sponsored by Simply Silver, Mashun Johnson, will be held at the Ashbury Suites on Saturday, May 10th (Mother's Day weekend) from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The purpose of the expo is to give small business owner a venue for advertising and let the public know that they are out there and ready to serve. For more information, please call Mashun at 251-689-1871.

To register today, [click here](#).

**The Women's Business Center, Inc., would like to thank you for your support of our mission. If you know anyone that can benefit from our newsletter, please forward to them.**

**To your business success,**

**WBC Staff**



The Women's Business Center is funded in part through a Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least two weeks in advance. Contact LaToya Brooks at 251-660-2725, 1301 Azalea Rd, #201A, Mobile, AL 36693. [info@womenbiz.biz](mailto:info@womenbiz.biz).

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