

PRESS RELEASE

August 13, 2010

From: Matt Palmer, Chairman

On behalf of the Bainbridge-Decatur County Chamber of Commerce, I am extremely excited to make this announcement today. Our organization is in very capable hands!!

Diane Strickland has been named President of the Bainbridge/Decatur County Chamber of Commerce. Diane previously served as Membership Director for the Chamber and has been with the Chamber for four years. She has done an outstanding job as Membership Director in cultivating new members and retaining current members in this tough business climate. Diane also played a vital role in the Chamber being awarded the prestigious national 3-star accreditation which has been given to only 250 chambers in the country out of the nearly 7,000 active chambers annually. Diane's past experiences in management, sales, and finance will all be utilized in not only continuing the program of work for the Chamber, but further enhancing the organization. As a Bainbridge native, Diane's deep community ties will be very beneficial in her role as Chamber President.

We would also like to announce that Kim Walden has been promoted to the role of Membership and Communications Director for the Chamber. Kim has previous fund-raising and membership experience from the United Way of North Central Florida and Gator Boosters, Inc. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Public Relations from the University of Florida. Her education and experience in dealing with member organizations and fund-raising will be a huge attribute for the Chamber. Since joining the chamber team in April, Kim has shown great communication and public relations skills. These skills will play an important part in her position for membership recruitment, development and communications.

We would also like to express our gratitude to Rick McCaskill who served as Interim President. Rick provided a steady hand in keeping the organization on track with our program of work. We would also like to extend our appreciation to the Development Authority for allowing him to do so. The Chamber looks forward to continuing our relationship with the Development Authority in enhancing the business climate of Decatur County. We know our new Chamber team will be a great asset in that process. We would like to thank everyone for their support of the Bainbridge-Decatur County Chamber of Commerce!!!