



**CONTACT:**

Catherine Hipp  
Tourism Marketing Manager  
Phone: (843) 986-5400, ext. 22  
tourism@beaufortsc.org

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**July 21, 2008**

---

**LEADERSHIP BEAUFORT CLASS OF 2009 ANNOUNCED**

**(Beaufort, SC)** – The Beaufort Regional Chamber of Commerce is proud to announce the 24<sup>th</sup> Leadership Beaufort Class. Leadership Beaufort connects participants with prominent civic, business and government leaders. It is an interactive process for the movers and shakers.

The following participants will take part in the 10-month program that will finish in May 2009:

Carl Alston, Retired, SC Law Enforcement Division  
Jeanne Bellew, Owner, Lowcountry Caffino  
Richard Brooks, Co-editor, *Beaufort Today*  
Russell Byrd, Project Development Planner, City of Beaufort  
Roxanne Davis-Cote, Clinical Nutrition Manager, Beaufort Memorial Hospital  
Bruce Doneff, Self employed, Public Relations/Marketing Consultant  
Deb Duer, Self employed, Construction Contractor  
Laura Eggers, Self employed, EMRY Restaurants d/b/a McDonalds Restaurants  
Christa Emminger, Self employed, Training Consultant/Instructor  
Dr. Betty Garren, Master of Arts Teaching Program Director, USC-Beaufort  
Catherine Hipp, Tourism Marketing Manager, Beaufort Regional Chamber of Commerce  
Maria Landry, Executive Director, Alzheimer's Family Services of Greater Beaufort  
Geri Lester-Baldasare, Comm Health/Chronic Disease Prevention Director, DHEC  
Mackenzie McGrew, Director of Community Outreach, TCL  
Bill Peratta, Principal Planner, Town of Bluffton  
Capt. Mike Toth, Legal Assistance Officer, US Marine Corps, Parris Island  
John Troutman, Jr., Vice President, Morgan Keegan  
Dr. Valerie Truesdale, Superintendent, Beaufort County School District  
Jeff White, Senior VP and CFO, Beaufort Memorial Hospital  
Van Willis, Town Manager, Town of Port Royal

Established in 1985, Leadership Beaufort has become one of the most prestigious organizations in Beaufort. Each year, a select group of Beaufortonians learn not only what is going on but how to make a difference in the community. The program builds community trustee leadership through an in-depth view of cultural, economic, historic, social, educational, environmental and government resources. The result is that hundreds of alumni have made countless contributions to the community and its quality of life.

For questions about the program, contact Connie Hipp at 843.812.6822.

###