

2016 Accomplishments

We welcomed new members **Sheri Frantz, Dennis Kelly, Artice Classic Events, Inc (The Jewell House), CHB Acquisition Services, City of Camak, Comfort Inn & Suites, Dozier Heating & Air, Jones Concrete Construction Co., Post 96 American Legion, Sikes Aerial Services, The Bullpen Way Station & Sanctuary, and Troosie's on the Square**

Combined Board of Directors split into two separate Boards to facilitate the accomplishment of goals in each organization: The **Warren County Chamber Board of Directors** to concentrate more on business development and the **Hometown Warrenton, Inc. Board of Directors** to focus on tourism and historic preservation.

Partnered with Hancock, Greene, McDuffie, and Taliaferro on the **Historic Rural Churches Trail** project through the Georgia Department on Economic Development (GDEcD) office, regional tourism division.

Proud to be part of the team led by the Warrenton Housing Authority to be awarded the **Georgia Initiative Community Housing (GICH)** grant.

Request to Georgia Department Of Transportation (GDOT) resulted in the completion of **Bike Lanes & Sharrows** on Main Street in Warrenton this summer.

Partnered with **Office Depot** and **UPS**, through the Georgia Chamber, to offer Warren County Chamber members deep discounts on office products and shipping services.

Coordinated with **Purchasing Alliance Solutions and Ricketson Insurance** to offer special discounts on insurance premiums to Chamber business members.

In the distinguished company of 23 Georgia Chambers, we became a Georgia Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (GACCE) **Georgia Certified Chamber** (2016-2020).

As a member of the **Classic South Travel Association**, we continued to work with travel writers and participated in an advertising campaign to promote Warren County beyond the CSRA region.

Partnered with the Warrenton Garden Club, and Warren County children for a **downtown beautification project** by maintaining seasonal flowers in the tree boxes along Main Street.

Purchased new downtown banners which depict area children's art with the theme: "What I Love About Warrenton". The banners were revealed in September in association with **Art on Main** and will continue to be displayed in the spring and summer months for up to three years.

Museum of Cultural Heritage, hosted temporary displays of **The Warrenton Garden Club's Scrapbooks of the Club through the years**, and created new exhibits using local repurposed showcases.

Hometown Hello volunteers continued to meet and take gift bags to newcomers to the area. Bags are also available at the Depot Welcome Center.

Partnered with McDuffie, and Wilkes Counties on the **Georgia's Little River Water Trail** project through the Georgia River Network.

Hometown Warrenton, Inc. (HWI), a National Main Street Program, received its 2016 accreditation from the National Main Street Center, a subsidiary of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

2016 local events promoted fitness, the arts, commercial spending and tourism sponsored by HWI.

March – **March Hare Affair** April - **Camak's Railroad Days** May – **Bikes Galore**
July – **Tennis Tourney & Kids Camps**

Nov – **Sportsman's Festival** with the *Chris Clark Bicycle Stunt Show*

Dec – **Hometown Christmas** **Christmas at Cedar Rock**

Two **ACT** performances in April "*Laugh In*" & October "*Something Wicked This Way Comes*"
ACT also celebrated its tenth anniversary with a Reunion Dinner and Pyramid Awards Night

Chamber Annual Awards Banquet in 2016
Business of the Year – **Gray's Citgo**
Citizen of the Year – **Louise Hadden**



Staff Appreciation Luncheon in April
2016 Administrative Staff Person of the Year – **Angel Lamb** with Honorable Hal Hinesley's office