

March BSDA Newsletter 2025



BONITA SPRINGS DOWNTOWN ALLIANCE
NEWSLETTER

DOWNTOWN TALK

From the President...

March 2025

With all the events downtown this month, it's making the month fly by.

I hope everyone remembers that our meetings are on the fourth Tuesday of the month, not the last Tuesday of the month. This month's meeting will be held on Tuesday, the 25th.



We had a great turnout for last month's meeting, with everyone coming to hear the latest from Barron Collier about their upcoming Downtown project. We heard that we should see work starting on the seawall first and then groundwork starting in about six months. They also said they have had a lot of unsolicited interest in the commercial portion of the project, which is a very good sign that people want to open their businesses in our downtown.

Don't forget about this year's Bonita Springs Short Film

Festival; they are still looking for entries. This year's theme is "The Magic of Bonita Springs."

Submitting films shot in and around our businesses is a great way to showcase what downtown offers. There are always some fantastic films. Click the link for guidelines, or call Antonio for technical guidance.

Deadline is **March 29**

<https://bonitaspringsfilmfestival.org/guidelines/>

For technical support and any additional information, call Antonio at 239-404-3377

Our speaker this month will be former Bonita Springs Mayor Ben Nelson, who will give us a little history of the decades-long attempts to revive the Old 41 corridor.

I would like to thank our sponsor this month, Survey Cafe. We appreciate you guys, and we also appreciate the Shangri La for always hosting our group.

I would also like to take this opportunity to ask that if any of you would like to sponsor an upcoming meeting, please reach out to me, and I'd be happy to get you set up. Sponsors help defray the food costs for the meetings, get a chance to talk about their business at the meeting, and get showcased in the newsletter.

See you all this Tuesday!

Visit our website: <https://bonitadowntownalliance.com/>

Follow us on Facebook @bonitaspringsdowntownalliance

**Tuesday, March 25th is the BSDA
Meeting,**

Shangri-La Springs at 5:30 p.m.



BSDA is Excited to Announce Our March Speaker! **Ben Nelson, Former Mayor**

Ben Nelson is a 3rd generation native Floridian, has been a Bonita Springs resident since 1960 and has owned and operated Nelson Marine Construction for 44 years. Ben has served on the Board of Directors of the Bonita Springs Utilities, is one of the City of Bonita Spring's original Councilmembers having served as Councilman for District Six for eight years and Mayor for eight years.

Ben has also served on the Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization, the Horizon Council Executive Committee, the Bonita Springs Economic Development Council, and is currently the Chairman of the CREW Land & Water Trust

He has been married to his wife Lori for 25 years. Ben has 3 adult children, (Nick and Neil age 45 and daughter Megan, age 40) and six grandchildren.

Ben was honored to be named Bonita Springs Citizen of the Year in 2008, finalist for the Uncommon Friends Business Ethics Award in 2010, finalist for the News-Press Person of the Year in 2012, named one of "SW Florida's Elite Power Eight" by Gulf Shore Business in 2014 and in 2016 was named (along with his fellow Council Members) "Public Official of the Year" by the News Press.

Please RSVP for BSDA Meeting's!

Contact: lee@shangrilasprings.com

A Big Thanks to March's Meeting Sponsor !



Survey Cafe adapted its name from the historic name of Bonita Springs. It was so named because a group of surveyor's made camp here in the 1870s. 7 year's ago Paul the son, Sophie the mother and Philippe the father fell in love with with that atmosphere and unique location. At the time Paul was working in London. After 10 years of training and perfecting in the best restaurants in Paris and London, Paul was ready to start his own. His experience in several 2 Michelin star restaurants , gave him a solid back ground. As far as Sophie, her working experience is eclectic, from teaching to managing to cooking to remodeling she had gained a very solid experience, enough to launch a new adventure. For the last 7 years, we have put our heart and knowledge to make of Survey Cafe what it is today. A charming cafe, specialized in French deliciousness, sweet or savory we bring our expertise to bring you the best experience.

[Visit Their Website](#)

**Get Up and Get Active !
Downtown Bonita Springs Has
Something for Everyone**



THE MAGIC OF BONITA SPRINGS

10TH ANNUAL BONITA SPRINGS SHORT FILM FESTIVAL

**JOIN US AT PRADO
STADIUM 12**

**THURSDAY,
APRIL 17TH
AT 6:00 PM**

25251 Chamber of Commerce Dr,
Bonita Springs, FL 34135
(If interested in sponsoring please contact
sofia@trishleonard.com)



Get Your Tickets Here!

Celebrating National Women's Month

In honor of National Women's Month, we're hosting Tea, Trusts, and Timeless Legal Advice. A NO COST presentation to inspire women to take charge of their decisions and build confidence.

Tea, Trusts, and Timeless Legal Advice

A trust allows you to control how your assets are distributed, avoiding the costly and time-consuming probate process. Learn what YOU need to know about protecting your legacy and ensuring your wishes are carried out exactly as you intend. Don't let uncertainty and legal challenges derail your decisions.

- Gift Bag for Attendees
- Tea, Coffee, and Bagels
- Networking

Abby Lyons,
Associate Attorney.

Richard Lyons,
Founding Partner.

Friday March 28th | 9 - 10:30 A.M.

RSVP: Lstevens@lyons-law.com

Call: 239.948.1823

Lyons-law.com

Lyons & Lyons
Attorneys at Law

Waterford Executive Centre, 27911 Crown Lake Boulevard, Suite 201 | Bonita Springs

[Visit Their Website And Explore more!](#)

KALEIDOSCOPE
GARDEN CLUB

CRAFT COCKTAILS

WITH
Chartreuse
craft cocktail lounge



TUE
APRIL 1
6PM

ELIJAH CRAIG
HEAVEN HILL
EST. DISTILLERY 1935

*Join us at Kaleidoscopic
Garden Club in Naples!!!*

 Book your spot here!!

Join Chartreuse Craft Cocktail Lounge at Their Craft Cocktails Event!

Get Your Tickets Here!

March

Live Music Lineup

7 DAYS A WEEK!

- | | | | |
|--------|--|--------|---|
| FEB 26 | Bryce Ivie 7-10pm | MAR 15 | The lineup Band 1-4pm |
| FEB 27 | Thomas Scott 7-10pm | MAR 15 | Sudamerica Latin Groove 7-10pm |
| FEB 28 | West Wave 7-10pm | MAR 16 | Iskander & Roots Almighty 5-8pm <small>REGGAE NIGHT</small> |
| MAR 1 | Delta Crossing 1-4pm | MAR 17 | Gator Nate 4-7pm |
| MAR 1 | Bryce Allyn Band 7-10pm | MAR 18 | Eric Whitener 4-7pm |
| MAR 2 | Heavy Hitters Duo 1-4pm | MAR 19 | Light the Wire 7-10pm |
| MAR 2 | B-Town Boys 7-10pm <small>REGGAE NIGHT</small> | MAR 20 | Caleb Neff & Sheena Brook 7-10pm |
| MAR 3 | Eric Whitener 7-10pm | MAR 21 | The Freecoasters 7-10pm |
| MAR 4 | Devon Meyers 7-10pm | MAR 22 | Hirie / Sprout / Matt & Zack 7pm |
| MAR 5 | Soul System Revival 7-10pm | MAR 23 | The lineup Duo 1-4pm |
| MAR 6 | Brian Blount 7-10pm | MAR 23 | Joey Calderaio 7-10pm <small>REGGAE NIGHT</small> |
| MAR 7 | The Charlie Pace Band 7-10pm | MAR 24 | Aydin Holt 7-10pm |
| MAR 8 | The Patina Turners 1-4pm | MAR 25 | Joe Yeoman Trio 7-10pm |
| MAR 8 | John Salloway & The Regulators 7-10pm | MAR 26 | Tommy Wotruba 7-10pm |
| MAR 9 | Claire Liparulo 1-4pm | MAR 27 | The Dead Ajaris 7-10pm |
| MAR 9 | Nostaljah 7-10pm <small>REGGAE NIGHT</small> | MAR 28 | Soapy Tuna 7-10pm |
| MAR 10 | Matt Walden 7-10pm | MAR 29 | The lineup Duo 1-4pm |
| MAR 11 | Andy Mo 7-10pm | MAR 29 | Sun State Blues 7-10pm |
| MAR 12 | Penny Lane 7-10pm | MAR 30 | Phenomenal Animal 1-4pm |
| MAR 13 | Zack Couron 7-10pm | MAR 30 | Ichroniq 7-10pm <small>REGGAE NIGHT</small> |
| MAR 14 | Back Country Boys 7-10pm | MAR 31 | Matty Jollie 7-10pm |

BONITA SPRINGS
SUGARSHACK
Downtown

Bring your friends, bring your appetite, and bring your love for live music - we'll handle the rest.

Ticketed Venue Night

[Visit SugarShack Here](#)

Enjoy These Pictures of Our



BSDA Members at Last Month's Meeting!



MEMBERSHIP!

RENEWING MEMBERS: Watch for your 2025 invoice coming soon!

BSDA is a community-driven organization that brings together businesses, non-profits, and local residents dedicated to the growth, promotion, and preservation of Old Downtown Bonita Springs, maintaining its unique old Florida charm.

Bonita Springs Downtown Alliance Inc. is organized exclusively as a business league. We are a Florida nonprofit corporation and IRS 501(c)6 organization with Federal tax FEIN ID #81-1385933.

The annual Membership period is from September 30th - October 1st
JOIN OR RENEW AT: <https://bonitadowntownalliance.com/membership/>



TLC Marketing & Creative Services is proud to produce the BSDA monthly Newsletter.

**If you would like to have a professionally designed newsletter or e-mail campaign, contact TLC Marketing & Creative Services
(239) 405-8115.**

[Click here to view the website.](#)



**Bonita Springs Downtown Alliance
PO Box 367553
Bonita Springs, FL 33936**

Mike Gibson, BSDA President
BSDAPrez@gmail.com

NOT A BSDA MEMBER? - CLICK BELOW

Visit our Website

Join Today!!

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Try email marketing for free today!