

Network Educator: Low-Cost Rooms, Oct 8-28

Gulf Coast Networking | Thursday, October 8, 2026

Eight days. A dozen free or low-cost rooms. One habit that turns a handshake into a referral.

1 TIP OF THE WEEK: ASK BEFORE YOU PITCH

Bring two questions about the other person's business. A new owner learns the room faster. A seasoned owner hears the referral inside the answer.

Follow up: Send a short note within 24 hours. Name what you discussed.

2 NEXT 8 DAYS: OCT 8-15 (FREE OR LOW-COST)

Date	Time	Event and Place	Host
★ Thu Oct 8	10-10:30 AM	Ribbon cutting, Airsouth LLC, 2577 19th St, Gulfport. Free.	MS Gulf Coast Chamber
Thu Oct 8 & 15	Noon	Rotary Club of Gulfport, Great Southern Club, 2510 14th St. Guests welcome.	Civic club
Thu Oct 8	Noon	Pass Christian Rotary, Pass Christian Yacht Club. Call ahead to confirm day.	Civic club
Sat Oct 10	10:30 AM-12:30 PM	AAPC chapter (medical billing and coding), Margaret Sherry Library, 2141 Popp's Ferry Rd, Biloxi. Free.	Biloxi/Gulfport AAPC
Mon Oct 12	6 PM	Bienville Toastmasters. Pitch practice; confirm location.	Toastmasters
Tue Oct 13	Noon	Biloxi Rotary, Mary Mahoney's. Exchange Club of Gulfport, Golden Corral Hwy 49.	Civic clubs
Tue Oct 13	6 PM	Long Beach Rotary, Bulls' Restaurant. Call ahead.	Civic club
★ Wed Oct 14	11:30 AM-1:30 PM	Ribbon cutting, Heart of Grace Home Care, 1015 Howard Ave, Suite A, Biloxi. Free.	Biloxi Bay Area Chamber
Wed Oct 14	Noon	Gulfport Kiwanis, Great Southern Club. Edgewater Rotary, Jalapeno Grill, 5 Pass Rd, Gulfport.	Civic clubs
★ Thu Oct 15	5-7 PM	Business After Hours, Silver Slipper Casino, 5000 S Beach Blvd, Bay St. Louis.	Hancock Chamber

★ **Top 3 picks.** *Civic clubs welcome guests; lunch at your own cost.*

3 COMING UP: OCT 16-28

- **Fri Oct 16:** Ribbon cuttings, Bonjour Nails & Spa, Pass Christian, 10 AM; The Meeting Place, Gulfport, noon. **Wed Oct 21:** Sunshine Sips ribbon, 2 PM (MS Gulf Coast Chamber).
- **Thu Oct 22, 5-7 PM:** Chamber After 5, Nine Toes Brewing, Pass Christian. Largest open mixer. Same evening: Fawkes Party Boat ribbon (Biloxi Bay Area Chamber) and OktoBEEfest (Navy Seabee Foundation, Chandeleur Island Brewing). Pick one and go all in.
- **Mon Oct 26:** Humane Society ribbon, 1 PM. **Tue Oct 27, 3:30-5 PM:** Chamber 101 Welcome Social, Knight Nonprofit Center, Gulfport. Free.
- **Heads-up:** Boo on the Rue, Thu Oct 29. StartUP Gulf Coast Fall Mixer, Wed Nov 4, CRAVE Food Hall, Ocean Springs.

4 2027 SEATS THAT MAY SUIT BUSINESS OWNERS

Business owners bring budget sense and local ties to these posts.

- **Key dates:** Qualifying opens early January and ends 5 PM Mon Feb 1, 2027. Primary Tue Aug 3, 2027. General Tue Nov 2, 2027. County candidates qualify with the county Circuit Clerk.
- **Election Commissioner, Districts 2 and 4 (Harrison and Jackson):** one-time 3-year term. Harrison D2: north/west Gulfport, Orange Grove, Lyman. Harrison D4: central/north Gulfport. Jackson D2: Moss Point, east Pascagoula. Jackson D4: Ocean Springs, Gulf Hills, St. Martin.
- **Board of Supervisors, Districts 1-5:** county budget, roads, and economic development.
- **County offices:** Justice Court Judge (nonpartisan), Constable, Tax Assessor, Tax Collector, Chancery Clerk.
- **Legislature:** State House and Senate seats on the Coast.

Confirm details with your county Circuit Clerk.

Pick one room this week. Bring two questions. Follow up within a day.

Gulfcoastnetworking.net | Network Educator

Extended Information: Event Links and Details, Oct 8-28, 2026

For the GCN website | Gulf Coast Networking

Details verified on live calendars Wed Oct 7, 2026. Times and places may change; confirm on the host page before you go.

All MS Gulf Coast Chamber events: [Chamber calendar](https://www.mscoastchamber.com/calendar/chamber-calendar) <https://www.mscoastchamber.com/calendar/chamber-calendar>

A NEXT 8 DAYS: OCT 8-15

★ Airsouth LLC Ribbon Cutting | Thu Oct 8, 10-10:30 AM

2577 19th St, Gulfport. Host: MS Gulf Coast Chamber. Free. **Why attend:** A short morning room; meet a new member and chamber staff.

[Event page](https://www.mscoastchamber.com/event-detail?e=EuC0pYRqGA%7cCOCWz4J4uxA2) <https://www.mscoastchamber.com/event-detail?e=EuC0pYRqGA%7cCOCWz4J4uxA2>

Biloxi/Gulfport AAPC Chapter Meeting | Sat Oct 10, 10:30 AM-12:30 PM

Margaret S. Sherry Memorial Library, 2141 Popp's Ferry Rd, Biloxi. Host: Biloxi/Gulfport AAPC chapter. Free per listing. **Why attend:** Meet medical billing and coding pros; a fit for health-care vendors.

[Event page](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/biloxigulfport-aapc-local-chapter-in-person-meeting-tickets-2002383864040) <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/biloxigulfport-aapc-local-chapter-in-person-meeting-tickets-2002383864040>

★ Heart of Grace Home Care Ribbon Cutting | Wed Oct 14, 11:30 AM-1:30 PM

1015 Howard Ave, Suite A, Biloxi. Host: Biloxi Bay Area Chamber. Free. **Why attend:** A midday room for health-care, senior-services and Biloxi firms.

[Chamber site](https://www.biloxibayareachamber.org/) <https://www.biloxibayareachamber.org/>

★ Business After Hours | Thu Oct 15, 5-7 PM

Silver Slipper Casino, 5000 S Beach Blvd, Bay St. Louis. Host: Hancock Chamber. **Why attend:** Hancock County's evening mixer; a strong room for west Coast referrals.

[Chamber calendar](https://business.hancockchamber.org/chamber-calendar) <https://business.hancockchamber.org/chamber-calendar>

Civic clubs meeting Oct 8-15: Gulfport Rotary and Pass Christian Rotary (Thu Oct 8; Gulfport again Oct 15); Bienville Toastmasters (Mon Oct 12); Biloxi Rotary, Exchange Club of Gulfport and Long Beach Rotary (Tue Oct 13); Gulfport Kiwanis plus Edgewater, Ocean Springs and Bay St. Louis Rotary (Wed Oct 14). Links in the civic club list below.

B COMING UP: OCT 16-28

Bonjour Nails & Spa Ribbon Cutting | Fri Oct 16, 10-10:30 AM

210 E Scenic Dr, Pass Christian. Host: MS Gulf Coast Chamber. Free. **Why attend:** A short morning room in Pass Christian.

[Event page](https://www.mscoastchamber.com/event-detail?e=yhFjwoNn2KEznSGUKCdaQw2) <https://www.mscoastchamber.com/event-detail?e=yhFjwoNn2KEznSGUKCdaQw2>

The Meeting Place Ribbon Cutting | Fri Oct 16, noon-12:30 PM

1402 Pass Rd, Gulfport. Host: MS Gulf Coast Chamber. Free. **Why attend:** A lunch-hour room in central Gulfport.

[Event page](https://www.mscoastchamber.com/event-detail?e=jKwxDPblxC_zEJXLwbfbB9g2) https://www.mscoastchamber.com/event-detail?e=jKwxDPblxC_zEJXLwbfbB9g2

Sunshine Sips Ribbon Cutting | Wed Oct 21, 2-2:30 PM

Place on the chamber calendar. Host: MS Gulf Coast Chamber. Free. **Why attend:** A quick mid-afternoon room.

[Chamber calendar](https://www.mscoastchamber.com/calendar/chamber-calendar) <https://www.mscoastchamber.com/calendar/chamber-calendar>

WE: Ready & Resilient Self-Defense Workshop | Wed Oct 21, 4-5 PM

Place and cost on the chamber calendar. Host: MS Gulf Coast Chamber. **Why attend:** Practical safety skills alongside fellow members.

[Chamber calendar](https://www.mscoastchamber.com/calendar/chamber-calendar) <https://www.mscoastchamber.com/calendar/chamber-calendar>

Small Business B(AI)sics AI Workshop | Thu Oct 22, 8-10 AM

Host: Hancock Chamber. Registration required. **Why attend:** Hands-on AI basics for small firms.

[Chamber calendar](https://business.hancockchamber.org/chamber-calendar) <https://business.hancockchamber.org/chamber-calendar>

Jackson County Chamber Business After Hours | Thu Oct 22, 4:30-6:30 PM

M&M Bank, 4619 Main St, Moss Point (just past 30 miles). Host: Jackson County Chamber. **Why attend:** Meet Jackson County owners and chamber members.

[Event page](https://business.jcchamber.com/events/details/business-after-hours-m-m-bank-2188) <https://business.jcchamber.com/events/details/business-after-hours-m-m-bank-2188>

Chamber After 5 | Thu Oct 22, 5-7 PM

Nine Toes Brewing Company, Pass Christian. Host: MS Gulf Coast Chamber. **Why attend:** The largest open mixer in the window.

[Chamber calendar](https://www.mscoastchamber.com/calendar/chamber-calendar) <https://www.mscoastchamber.com/calendar/chamber-calendar>

Fawkes Party Boat Ribbon Cutting | Thu Oct 22, 5-7 PM

Point Cadet Marina, Dock D, 119 Beach Blvd, Biloxi. Host: Biloxi Bay Area Chamber. **Why attend:** A waterfront room at Point Cadet.

[Event page](https://www.biloxibayareachamber.org/events/ribbon-cutting-for-fawkes-party-boat/) <https://www.biloxibayareachamber.org/events/ribbon-cutting-for-fawkes-party-boat/>

OktoBEEfest Gulfport | Thu Oct 22, 5-8 PM

Chandeleur Island Brewing, 2711 14th St, Gulfport. Host: Navy Seabee Foundation. Pay your own tab; register via Donorbox. **Why attend:** Supports the Seabee Foundation; a fit for veteran-owned firms.

[Event page](https://seabee.org/event/oktobeefest-gulfport-ms-2/) <https://seabee.org/event/oktobeefest-gulfport-ms-2/>

Thu Oct 22 has four evening events. Pick one and go all in.

Humane Society of South MS Ribbon Cutting | Mon Oct 26, 1-1:30 PM

Place on the chamber calendar. Host: MS Gulf Coast Chamber. Free. **Why attend:** Meet nonprofit leaders and their supporters.

[Chamber calendar](https://www.mscoastchamber.com/calendar/chamber-calendar) <https://www.mscoastchamber.com/calendar/chamber-calendar>

Right Track Medical Group Open House | Tue Oct 27, 11:30 AM-1:30 PM

1633 Popp's Ferry Rd, Ste A, Biloxi. Host: Right Track Medical Group. **Why attend:** A health-related B2B room in Biloxi.

[Event page](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/right-track-medical-group-biloxi-open-house-tickets-2002635523761) <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/right-track-medical-group-biloxi-open-house-tickets-2002635523761>

Health Care Medical Infusion Specialties Ribbon Cutting | Tue Oct 27, 3-3:30 PM

Place on the chamber calendar. Host: MS Gulf Coast Chamber. Free. **Why attend:** A health-care room the same afternoon as Chamber 101.

[Chamber calendar](https://www.mscoastchamber.com/calendar/chamber-calendar) <https://www.mscoastchamber.com/calendar/chamber-calendar>

Chamber 101 Welcome Social | Tue Oct 27, 3:30-5 PM

Knight Nonprofit Center, Hancock Whitney Meeting Room, 11975 Seaway Rd, Gulfport. Host: MS Gulf Coast Chamber. Complimentary. **Why attend:** A strong first step for new members and guests.

[Chamber calendar](https://www.mscoastchamber.com/calendar/chamber-calendar) <https://www.mscoastchamber.com/calendar/chamber-calendar>

LOOKING AHEAD

Boo on the Rue | Thu Oct 29, 5:30-8:30 PM

135 Rue Magnolia, Biloxi. Host: Biloxi Bay Area Chamber. **Why attend:** A downtown Biloxi evening crowd.

[Chamber site](https://www.biloxibayareachamber.org/) <https://www.biloxibayareachamber.org/>

StartUP Gulf Coast Fall Mixer | Wed Nov 4, 5-7 PM

CRAVE Food Hall, 1515 Government St, Ste B100, Ocean Springs. Host: StartUP Gulf Coast. Free with registration. **Why attend:** Meet founders and startup supporters.

[StartUP Gulf Coast](https://startupgulfcoast.com/) <https://startupgulfcoast.com/>

CIVIC CLUBS THAT WELCOME GUESTS

Lunch at your own cost. Call ahead where noted.

- **Rotary Club of Gulfport:** Thursdays noon, Great Southern Club, 2510 14th St, 15th floor. [Club page](https://rotaryclubofgulfport.org/) <https://rotaryclubofgulfport.org/>
- **Biloxi Rotary:** Tuesdays noon, Mary Mahoney's, 116 Rue Magnolia. [Club page](https://rotary6840.org/clubinfo/rotary-club-of-biloxi) <https://rotary6840.org/clubinfo/rotary-club-of-biloxi>
- **Edgewater (Biloxi-Gulfport) Rotary:** Wednesdays noon, Jalapeno Grill, 5 Pass Rd, Gulfport; evening social last Wednesday (Oct 28). [Club page](https://rotary6840.org/clubinfo/edgewater-(biloxi-gulfport)) [https://rotary6840.org/clubinfo/edgewater-\(biloxi-gulfport\)](https://rotary6840.org/clubinfo/edgewater-(biloxi-gulfport))
- **Gulfport-Orange Grove Rotary:** 1st & 3rd Mondays noon (Oct 19), Coast Electric, 14082 Hwy 49 N; Zoom offered. [Club page](https://rotary6840.org/clubinfo/gulfport-orange-grove) <https://rotary6840.org/clubinfo/gulfport-orange-grove>
- **Ocean Springs Rotary:** Wednesdays noon, Ocean Springs Yacht Club (call ahead). [Club page](https://rotary6840.org/clubinfo/ocean-springs) <https://rotary6840.org/clubinfo/ocean-springs>
- **Pass Christian Rotary:** Thursdays noon, Pass Christian Yacht Club (call ahead). [Club page](https://www.rotary6840.org/clubinfo/pass-christian) <https://www.rotary6840.org/clubinfo/pass-christian>
- **Long Beach Rotary:** 2nd & 4th Tuesdays 6 PM (Oct 13, 27), Bulls' Restaurant (call ahead). [Club page](https://rotary6840.org/clubinfo/long-beach) <https://rotary6840.org/clubinfo/long-beach>
- **Bay St. Louis Rotary:** Wednesdays noon, Bay Waveland Yacht Club (call ahead). [Club page](https://rotary6840.org/clubinfo/bay-st-louis) <https://rotary6840.org/clubinfo/bay-st-louis>
- **Gulfport Kiwanis:** Wednesdays noon, Great Southern Club. [Club page](https://mscoastchamber.chambermaster.com/members/member/gulfport-kiwanis-9874) <https://mscoastchamber.chambermaster.com/members/member/gulfport-kiwanis-9874>
- **Exchange Club of Gulfport:** 2nd & 4th Tuesdays noon (Oct 13, 27), Golden Corral, 12255 Hwy 49. [Club page](https://member.nationalexchangeclub.org/club-locator/) <https://member.nationalexchangeclub.org/club-locator/>
- **Bienville Toastmasters:** 2nd & 4th Mondays 6 PM (Oct 12, 26), guests and online attendees welcome; confirm location (club lists 796 Howard Ave, Biloxi and Ocean Springs Office Park). [Club page](https://9990.toastmastersclubs.org/) <https://9990.toastmastersclubs.org/>

ONLINE LEARNING (FREE)

SCORE Mississippi webinars: Bookkeeping Basics, Fri Oct 9, 10 AM CT. AI-Driven Social Media, Tue Oct 13, 6 PM CT. [SCORE Mississippi](https://www.score.org/ms/) <https://www.score.org/ms/>

2027 ELECTIONS: OFFICIAL RESOURCES

Key dates: Qualifying ends 5 PM Mon Feb 1, 2027. Primary Tue Aug 3, 2027. General Tue Nov 2, 2027. County candidates qualify with the county Circuit Clerk.

- **Mississippi Secretary of State: Elections** <https://www.sos.ms.gov/elections-voting>
- **Ballotpedia: Mississippi elections, 2027** https://ballotpedia.org/Mississippi_elections,_2027
- **Harrison County Election Commission** https://harrisoncountymt.ms.gov/government/election_commission/index.php
- **Harrison County district map lookup** <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/4ab54b33a4994bf9aa3cc5032b1ce521/>
- **Jackson County Election Commission** <https://www.co.jackson.ms.us/334/Election-Commission>
- **Jackson County district map lookup** <https://ags.co.jackson.ms.us/portal/apps/experiencebuilder/experience/?id=343c49bf1be046b69f5c4988040dafd2>