

Greetings!

As the 2023 President of Ocala Business Leaders, it is a privilege to be a part of this group, and here are some of the reasons:

Who are the Ocala Business Leaders? We are a group of local professionals who provide a wide range of quality goods and services to our community. Each business strives to maintain the highest level of professional integrity and customer service.

How is OBL different than other networking groups? Ocala Business Leaders (OBL) is the oldest established networking group in Ocala. We have been in existence since 1996, and one of our founders, Dave Liner, is still a vital part of our club. Obviously, many members have come and gone since the beginning of this organization, but I have been a member since starting my own business in 2008. And we love to give back to our community. Our current community partners are the Boys & Girls Club, Champions for Champions, and Crime Stoppers. OBL members also enjoy the opportunity to “Ring the Bell” for the Salvation Army, provide scholarships, and help those in need, especially during the holidays.

What are some of the benefits of joining OBL? Because each OBL member must be “vetted” and approved by the Board of Directors, fellow members can feel confident about referring friends, family, and business associates to them. And with only one member per category, unless an existing member grants special permission, the competition for those referrals is eliminated. But to me, the biggest benefits are the connections we make and the power of effective networking.

Are there other member benefits? Yes! See our “Join Ocala Business Leaders” page in the back of this directory for more information, or visit our website: ocalabusinessleaders.com

What about social or other networking events? Each January, there is an installation banquet to install new officers, network, socialize, and have fun. Evening networking events are held February through October on the 4th Thursday of the month from 5:00 – 7:00 PM.

Join us for breakfast! If you are looking for a great way to grow your business, I personally invite you to join OBL for a **FREE** breakfast at one of our regular Wednesday morning meetings (7:00 am) at the OCALA GOLF CLUB, 3130 E SILVER SPRINGS BLVD, and meet other business leaders, better known as our “networking family.”

Warmest regards,

Connie Ann Pendleton
OBL President 2023