

Galveston Chamber of Commerce Recognizes Cruise Activities

At the annual meeting of the Galveston Chamber of Commerce, Carnival Cruise Lines and the Port of Galveston were recognized for outstanding performance in 2000.

Carnival Cruise Lines

The Chamber recognized Carnival Cruise Lines as “Business of the Year”. This award is presented annually to the business that had a remarkable impact on the Galveston community in the previous year.

The annual estimated economic impact of a homeported vessel with similar configurations as the *Celebration* is approximately \$40 million, a combination of ship and passenger spending.

Carnival’s local vessel spending is expected to exceed \$21 million annually from the purchase of fuel, deck and engine supplies, food stores, linens, water and miscellaneous items, while passenger spending is estimated at \$150 for each sailing guest. This amounts to another \$19 million in local, annual spending by the more than 125,000 passengers expected to sail from The Texas Cruise Ship Terminal on Galveston Island this year.

In addition to the economic impact from spending, Galveston Island will realize other benefits. Among these are advertising dollars and promotional packaging of the island. Carnival expects to spend \$2.8 million to promote cruising from Galveston Island.

The cruise line projects direct purchases could total over \$221 million and total wages could reach \$166 million within the state.

Port of Galveston

The Chamber awarded the Business Expansion – Institutional Division Award to the Port of Galveston for the \$10.6 million expansion project to The Texas Cruise Ship Terminal on Galveston Island®. The project not only allows the Port’s customer Carnival Cruise Lines to generate an annual economic impact on the community in the \$40 million range, but also allows for the positioning of Galveston as the #1 Cruise Port in Texas and the premier tourism location on the Texas Gulf Coast.

Picture #3 - Representing Carnival Cruise Lines and accepting the award from Cindy Schulz, President of the Galveston Chamber of Commerce is (left to right) Shannon McElroy, Business Development Director, Southeast Texas for Carnival; Schulz; and Carnival representatives Amy Hervin, Manager Shore Operations, Worldwide Shore Services; Laurie Mason, Business Development Director, Houston Area; and Alicia Steuart, Business Development Manager, Central Texas.

Picture #4 - The Business Expansion award was presented to Katherine D. O’Neal, Port Director, and to Recy Dunn, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Port of Galveston.