



Recently we had the opportunity to sit down with business leader, entrepreneur and long time chamber member Jim Albert, owner and operator of Jimmy The Greeks, Cowbell, and the Wine Bar. Jim is a Maine native, born and raised in Saco, and he went on to graduate from Syracuse University. After living in various parts of the country and working on Wall Street, Jim ultimately decided to come home, where he began his first business venture: Jimmy The Greeks.

When Jim first bought the building in Old Orchard Beach in 2008 the property was distressed, and previous owners had struggled to get the project off the ground. Jim's concept transformed the property to serve a number of purposes. In addition to the restaurant itself, there is also a taproom with over 60 beers on tap, a recently remodeled "Dave and Buster's style" fun room, and a room with an emphasis on entertainment, including regular live music, trivia and open mic nights. One of the most popular events of the year is their annual "Octoberfest" where locals dress in their best outfits, feast on Greek cuisine, throw back beer by the stein-full, and enjoy live music.

Jim's success with Jimmy The Greeks soon spurred other projects, and he later went on to open Cowbell, a craft burger and beer bar located on Main Street in downtown Biddeford. There they are known for their "25 Craft Burgers and 25 Craft Beers," using local ingredients and non traditional combinations to elevate this classic combo. His third business, the Wine Bar, located directly across the street from Cowbell, opened shortly after in 2017.

As a local, business owner and a chamber member, it's clear to see that Jim is enthused by the momentum and recent entrepreneurial "boom" of this area. "The community is working together well" he stated. "It's nice to see the demographic changing and new projects coming to the area. I really like what we're seeing here."

Whether it's for a night of fun at the game room at Jimmy The Greeks, a glass of wine at the Wine Bar, the annual Octoberfest, or just for an upscale take on your classic burger at Cowbell, we recommend checking out some of what Jim's businesses have to offer!

