

GAS CITY & JONESBORO CHAMBER NOTES

The Official Voice of the Gas City Area Chamber of Commerce

April 2006

President's Article

It is April and this is my last newsletter as your President. I am deeply honored and appreciate the opportunity to have served you. There have been a few subtle changes here and there. More importantly, your Chamber is continuing its reflective look at itself. This is an important and sometimes difficult task to undertake. In the future the rewards will be fantastic.

For those whom have let me in to talk about the Chamber, I thank you. I applaud you for the way you always open your arms to new members and I encourage you to seek out and challenge those that are not. This is your Chamber; your drive and support have made it fantastic and it only gets better.

Mark Sullivan

New Members - Welcome!

- ◆ Exit 59 Church
- ◆ Indiana Michigan Power
- ◆ Next Level Communication

In last month's newsletter, K & E Enterprises, was mistakenly listed as K & G. (Please forgive us.)

Donations

Microwave - Mr. & Mrs. John Storey
Thank you.

Vice President & Secretary-Treasurer Elected

Excerpt from By-Laws: *"The Board of Directors, at its regular March Board Meeting, shall elect the Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer. Officers and board members shall not serve simultaneously. Officers may serve more than one (1) term subject to a majority vote by the Board of Directors."*

Susan Knapp, Mississinewa High School, 1977; Ball State University Bachelor's of Science in Nursing, 1981. Susan was elected by unanimous vote as the next Vice President of the Gas City Area Chamber of Commerce. Susan, a Registered Nurse, has worked at the following: 1981-1982 Ball Memorial - Labor and Delivery; 1982-1994 Community Hospitals Indianapolis - Labor and Delivery and Oncology; 1994-2004 Marion General Hospital - Home Health and Hospice; and 2004 to present Visiting Nurse and Hospice Home Patient Care Coordinator.

You are invited by the
Gas City Area Chamber of Commerce
Board of Directors
to the

14th Annual Membership Meeting

Tuesday, April 25, 2006

At: Eastview Wesleyan Church
414 North 10th Street
Gas City, Indiana
Dinner promptly at 6:00 p.m.
\$25 Per Person - RSVP

Entertainer/ Speaker
Mr. Mark Fauser
Executive Director of
the Community School of Arts
Professional Writer, Actor

Susan is a member of the Gas City First United Methodist Church where she serves as Jr/Sr High Youth leader. Her hobbies include reading, gardening and walking her dogs (3 dogs and 2 cats). Susan has two GREAT kids ("my greatest accomplishment in life"), Elizabeth (18) and Trey (15).

Susan is SO much fun and is very witty. I also had occasion to view the professional side of Susan during the loss of my Mother. She and the entire staff of Visiting Nurse and Hospice Home walked beside us each step of the way lending support and compassion. If you get the opportunity, congratulate Susan - she is a winner and a great asset for the Board of Directors.

Nancy Hoover, again by unanimous vote, was re-elected Treasurer of the Chamber. Nancy has served the Chamber since it was founded. Nancy is...

- ◆ Retired from First Federal NBD Summit (30 Years)
- ◆ Original Founder of Chamber
- ◆ Gas City Kiwanis Club
- ◆ Gas City Area Chamber Small Business Mentoring Group
- ◆ Perfect Attendance Committee
- ◆ Married to Richard Hoover
- ◆ 4 Children & 13 Grandchildren
- ◆ 17 Years in Gas City

Important Dates

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| April 4 | Image Award Deadline |
| April 6 | Board Officers Meet (7:30 a.m. - Super 8 Motel) |
| April 13 | Board of Directors Meeting (7:30 a.m.) |
| | <i>No April Director's Luncheon</i> |
| April 18 | Business Mentoring Group (8 a.m.) |
| April 22 | Newsletter Article Submission Deadline |
| April 25 | Annual Meeting |

Advertising Opportunity

Thanks to everyone who scheduled presentations - this year's speaker schedule is now FULL. If you did not schedule a presentation and wish to address the Director's Luncheon, please call and we will try to make special arrangements. You have a captive audience and can promote your product/service for only \$25 (includes lunch). Thanks again for your support.

Indiana 2006 Federal Government Procurement Conference

You are invited to participate in Indiana's 2006 Federal Government Procurement Conference on Tuesday, May 23, in Merrillville, Indiana. Partners in Contracting Corporation (PICC), IN Small Business Development Centers and the NW Indiana Chambers of Commerce Executives Association are hosting this event. The goal is to assist Indiana companies to bid on federal and state contracts.

Last year PICC clients reported receiving over 58 million dollars in contracts and helped seven companies become first time contractors. Many workshops will be available including how to market your business to prime contractors and how to complete a bid package for a federal contract, will be available. You will be given the opportunity to meet with procurement officers from 30 government agencies, prime defense contractors and local gaming facilities.

This is a terrific opportunity to meet face-to-face with procurement officers to discuss your product or service. If interested in attending or if you would like more information e-mailed to you, e-mail dterry@piccorp.org. (all PICC clients will be e-mailed an invitation).

Director's Luncheon Report

What a meal! What a great attendance! On March 15, approximately 70 people attended the Director's Luncheon. March's menu included chicken and noodles, green beans, rolls, drink and a heavenly dessert at only \$6 (if you made a reservation). We encourage you to make a reservation, if possible, because the Eastview ladies have a hard time knowing how much to prepare and we don't want anyone to go away hungry. (Only 55 reservations had been made).

First time members in attendance were Krista Ormsby (Peoplelink Staffing), Brian Oden (Indiana DJ), Cindy Goble (Pampered Paws), Lisa Rapp Couch (Grant County Tobacco Coalition) and Kris Cundiff from Lite Rock 106.9. Two members brought guests: one from Taylor University and one a Leadership Management student from IWU.

A poll regarding the Home and Business Showcase was taken by a show of hands. Twelve members were for having a showcase in 2006 and 2 were against. Celeste Draher is conducting a face-to-face survey. Becky Kammeyer announced that 10 DECA students would be headed to Nationals soon. Dawn Brown, Community Foundation of Grant County was one of the presenters and informed attendees how the foundation serves the Grant County Area. Rick Lucas and John Hayden from IMI presented information on IMI and the bone finds at the quarry complete with pictures. The luncheon was a great success with delicious food and very interesting topics.

There is NO LUNCHEON IN APRIL but pencil in May 17 right now. I'd like to see YOU there.

Member Spotlight

Salin Bank & Trust Company recently opened its newest location, 716 E. Main Street, Gas City, on February 21, 2006. This branch was formerly located in Jonesboro, Indiana.

Salin Bank & Trust Company is a family owned banking organization with over 900 million in assets, placing it among the leading Indiana-owned and managed banks. Currently the bank operates over 30 banking centers in nine Indiana counties. In addition to the newest Gas City location, Salin Bank & Trust Company has three other Grant County locations, downtown at 302 S. Washington Street, Marion; south at 30th and Adams street in Marion, and north on the bypass across from North Park Mall.

Grant County natives Stacy Sample and Susan Bournique are the managers of the Gas City location, which offers an ATM and Saturday hours of 9:00am to 12:00pm. The bank is open 9:00am to 4:30pm daily with extended hours until 6:00pm on Fridays.

Did You Know?

Tanning is available in beautiful downtown **Gas City. L & R Uniforms** now have two tanning beds that include face tanning. They can accommodate you whether you are 5'2 or 6'2 as they do have an extra long tanning bed. Swedish Beauty and Australian Gold products are available also. Call 674-9681 and make an appointment today.

New Shovel-Ready Program to Fuel Hoosier Job Growth

Today the Indiana Finance Authority announced the kickoff of the Pilot Shovel-Ready Program. This new State program will work with local communities to pre-permit attractive economic development sites before the ultimate user of the site is known. These pre-permitted sites will then be marketed to companies looking to move fast with investment and expansion plans.

Having a number of Shovel-Ready sites will give Indiana a competitive edge. "In business, time is money," said Ryan Kitchell, Director of the Indiana Finance Authority. "By saving prospective companies both time and money, we can attract new businesses and more jobs to Indiana." The Shovel-Ready program passed in the 2005 legislative session as part of Governor Daniels' jobs agenda.

Communities and companies who are interested in obtaining assistance from the Shovel Ready Program can find the guidelines and print an application online at <http://www.in.gov/ifa/business/> or contact Cindy Pierson at (317) 233-4335 or cpierson@ifa.in.gov.

IMI Community Calendar

Register your special events now at <http://gascity.com/events/communitycal.php>. Select "Submit an Event" and fill in the blanks.

Publications

The Indiana Chamber has several publications available to assist you with numerous regulatory changes at the state and federal level. If you order and mention priority code LC106 you will receive 10% off your order. New and updated products include: ADA Guide, The Supervisor's Handbook, The Interviewing Guide, Indiana Guide to Hiring and Firing (3rd Edition), Indiana Guide to Monitoring Electronic Technology in the Workplace, Performance Appraisal Handbook, Environmental Compliance Handbook (5th Edition), Indiana Taxation Handbook (3rd Edition), The Sarbanes-Oxley Act: A Practical Guide for Private Companies, Employee Benefits Guide (3rd Edition), FMLA Guide, Employment Law Handbook (5th Edition).

Go to www.indianachamber.com for a complete description of these and other compliance handbooks or call customer service at (800) 824-6885.