

GAS CITY & JONESBORO CHAMBER NOTES

The Official Voice of the Gas City Area Chamber of Commerce

September 2006

President's Letter

I hope you had the opportunity to visit the Simply Social event held last month. The ladies did a fantastic job in preparing and assembling a staff for this event. A special thanks should go to Dick Hoover for donning his apron and chef's hat. If you did not attend, you missed a good opportunity to meet some potential new members as well as some area representative and elected officials.

The event in itself was a clear example of a new way of attacking an old issue, that of membership retention, drive, and recognition. To that extent, the committee needs to be applauded. It also displays the notion that no idea is a bad idea. If you think you may have an idea for improving the Chamber, do not hesitate to bring it to Penny's attention or any member of the Board.

Mark Sullivan

New Members

- ◆ Metro Real Estate
- ◆ American Pest Professionals, Inc.

And Welcome Back...

- ◆ McDonald's Restaurant

(Note: McDonald's is under new ownership now.

Stop in and welcome Britt and Denise Sather to the neighborhood.)

Important Dates

- Sept. 7 Board Officers Meeting (7:30 a.m.)
- Sept. 14 Board of Directors Meeting (7:30 a.m.)
- Sept. 19 Business Mentoring Group (8 a.m.)
- Sept. 20 Director's Luncheon
- Sept. 21 Ducktail Run Early Cruise-In (Runs 9/21-9/24)
- Sept. 22 Newsletter Article Submission Deadline

September 10-16 is **International Housekeeper's Week**. If you have a housekeeper that cleans with style and a smile, be sure to thank them for all they do. Housekeeping makes a BIG difference in an establishment and your housekeeping team needs to know that its work is noticed and appreciated.

The **Ducktail Run Rod & Custom Show** will be held September 21-24, 2006, and if you haven't seen much of the team that masterminds this great event, it is understandable. Mike and Dixie Salter, Denny Shanks, and Jerry Caudill work together like a fine-tuned automobile to make sure that visitors and residents enjoy this event each year. The Endless Summer Band will be on hand and as always, there will be a craft fair and large swap meet, souvenirs for sale, special awards, and contests galore. For many, attending this fun-filled event is a family tradition. Hats off to the Ducktail Run volunteers - you do a fantastic job!

Director's Luncheon

There were 137 reservations for the August Director's Luncheon - everyone was there! The luncheon was held at the Grant County Event Center this month so everyone could see first-hand this beautiful facility. Judi House and B. D. Patel really rolled out the red carpet for the Chamber with fine linens, candlelight, soft music, and a warm welcome. The meal was catered by Great Occasions and Peggy Walker, owner, was invited to join the Chamber. The food was more than delicious and Peggy and her staff made sure the service was great too. Peggy accepted the invitation to join the Chamber and I would highly recommend that you utilize her services whenever you are planning a special event. You won't be disappointed.

B. D. Patel, M.D., spoke on behalf of the Event Center and outlined all the features it had to offer the public. Of course, B.D. added a touch of humor, which made his presentation not only informative, but fun, too! Justin Wiley of Young Professionals concluded the program. Justin said the Young Professionals are an answer for the "brain drain" in this area: "Welcome to our website!" The Grant County Young Professionals Network (GCYPN) is committed to providing an atmosphere for individuals in the community to network, make new friends, and find community leadership opportunities. Justin said the GCYPN is looking for sponsors and those interested can contact him or the Marion Chamber. American Pest Professionals was welcomed as a new member and Conference & Travel Services received their membership plaque as well.

Seventeen DECA students attended the luncheon and DECA students say thanks below:

"Dear Chamber Members: I greatly appreciate the opportunity you gave me by letting our organization join you. The meal was very delicious. It's a great opportunity for me to get to know the members and be surrounded by good examples of business people. I never knew our Chamber of Commerce was so big! It was such a great new experience! Thanks!" --Heather Smith

"I would like to thank you for allowing our Senior DECA Class to attend your luncheon. We all had a really great time and it was a wonderful learning experience. Thank you for paying for our meals. The food was delicious! We appreciate everything you do. Thanks again for the opportunity." --Alex Armstrong

"Thank you so much for the meal and the opportunity to be a part of your meeting. I felt very privileged to be included. I had a great time and can't wait to come next time." --Courtney Worrell

"Thank you for the opportunity to be invited to have lunch with everyone. The food was delicious and the people were friendly. I am looking forward to having lunch in the future. --Levi Holloway

Thank you notes were also received from Jessica Turner, Sarah Skeens, Samantha Blake, Dani Pierson, and Jessica Herring, but space does not allow us to print all of these notes.

Member Update

Natural Wellness Massage Therapy

233 E. Main St., Gas City, IN 46933

765.677.9355 (WELL)

Jill Mast, owner, has been a member in good standing for several years now and we believe it is time you "Meet the Therapists."

Jill Mast, C.H., MsT., PDMT, is the owner of Natural Wellness and has been in the present location for over three years but in the natural health field for over six years. She is a certified herbalist, does iridology, and specializes in deep muscle massage. She, however, has also mastered all other types of massages offered at Natural Wellness. She is continuing her education under the direction of the renowned Amish Master Herbalist, Solomon Wickey. Jill and her husband, Jeff, and son, Shiloh, reside in Gas City.

Jade Metz-MsT. PDMT has been with the shop for over a year. She is a wonderful therapist and it has been said that she has a lot of power and healing in her hands. She, too, has mastered all of the offered massages and therapies. Having done that, she is now trying new techniques to improve her skills and her service to her clients. Jade and her husband, Nathan, have one daughter, Maddix.

Heather Grubb, MsT., is the newest addition to the Natural Wellness family. She is a 2006 graduate of the Alexandria School of Scientific Therapy. She is a talented and caring therapist who will only continue to improve. She performs a wide range of massage therapies. She does deep muscle, but Jill recommends her Shiatsu. Having just entered the field, Heather is eager to build her clientele. Heather has one daughter, Zoe.

Had a rough day at work? Need a quick pick-me-up? Call them and allow them to demonstrate how a massage can "make your day."

Congratulations to **Becky Kammeyer** and **Marilyn Brown** who are new "grannies."

Congratulations to Guillermo Trejo who birthed a new store. Marion now has a **Trejos** and it is located on the bypass at 506 Baldwin Avenue.

The Value of a Web Presence

Submitted by Barb Kitts of Barb's Bits and Bites

With the Internet so prevalent in our day and age, it should come as no surprise that many who have access to the Internet will search for a business online, rather than thumb through a very busy, often confusing, and thereby frustrating, phone book listing. As a consumer, my own personal experience has corroborated this claim.

Whether due to awkward wording or poor placement of the business listing, the phone book is apparently yielding to a quick Internet search for many customers. The value of a web presence, if only a

small one, can prove invaluable and provide your current (and potential) customers another form of access to your business, and that may make the difference between red and black.

Most web sites are maintained for a minimal fee, but there are some free ones out there as well. The disadvantage of the free ones is the problem of advertising popups and banners, a large turnoff for many site visitors, but the necessary evil that supports the free web hosting.

Paid sites eliminate that problem. Fees vary considerably, often reflecting the level of complexity of the site and services offered. The Gas City Chamber of Commerce offers an excellent opportunity to obtain a web presence for your business for a reasonable price by offering web hosting to its members at decent rates. The fees vary, depending on how large and complex the web site.

If all you wanted was to list contact information, business hours, prices, or just explain a little about your business, the Internet is a portal every business owner should seriously consider. This comes from the perspective of both business owner and consumer.

Childhood Poisoning

Published from Family Matters - compliments of Good Neighbor Pharmacy

Over 5 million people are exposed to poisonous substances each year, and 60% of those are children. A typical childhood poisoning occurs as follows: A child less than 5 years old is exploring his/her surroundings as children often do. Cabinets and drawers are opened and the content examined. The child climbs to exciting places that were inaccessible in earlier years. Objects and substances that previously were "out of reach" are touched, tasted, and eaten. This can lead to exposure to many household materials, including drugs, cleaners, solvents and cosmetics. Since it is impossible to watch a child every minute, it is necessary that hazardous substances be stored in places where children cannot reach or climb to them.

Did you know that ipecac syrup is an emetic, a non-prescription drug that causes vomiting? One tablespoonful can be given to young children and 2 tablespoons can be given to adolescents and adults. The emetic effect is enhanced if water is given with the drug. Ipecac syrup should not be used if the victim has a decreased level of consciousness or if the suspected poison is a hydrocarbon such as gas or kerosene or a corrosive substance such as acid or alkali (for example, lye or many drain cleaners).

Kool Treat - Red & Green Grape Salad

Ingredients <i>1 lb</i>	Cream Cheese <i>¼ tsp</i>
Green Grapes <i>1 lb</i>	Ginger
Red Grapes <i>1 lb</i>	Walnuts <i>1 small bag</i>
Jar of Marshmallow Cream <i>3 oz.</i>	

Wash and dry grapes. Mix marshmallow cream, cream cheese, and ginger together. Add grapes and walnuts. Enjoy!