

GAS CITY & JONESBORO CHAMBER NOTES

The Official Voice of the Gas City Area Chamber of Commerce

December 2006

President's Letter

Now that the Yule Tide season is upon us, I trust you had a fantastic, safe and thankful Thanksgiving. With holiday shopping on your mind, it is my hope that you will at least visit our local stores and shops. I do not suggest that they will have everything on your list, but if you do shop local you may just find that "special" something that should be on your list. You may also find that if our local stores and shop owners see you enough you may soon see them at your place of business or calling for your assistance. I wish a very merry Christmas for you and your family. I also applaud this year's Chamber successes and our community champions. Keep up the good work and I wait with anticipation to seeing you next year... "Building our Community...Building our Home!"

Mark Sullivan

New Members

- ◆ **Blu 49**
- ◆ **Fish 'N More**
- ◆ **Indiana Blood Center**

Important Dates

Visit www.gascity.com to link to the online Community Calendar.

- 12/07/06 Board Officers Meeting @ 7:30 a.m.–Hosted By York House/Complimentary Breakfast
- 12/14/06 Board of Directors Meeting @ 7:30 a.m. – Chamber Office
- 12/19/06 Business Mentoring Group meets @ 8 a.m. – Edward Jones Conference Room
- 12/20/06 Director's Luncheon @ 12 Noon – Eastview Wesleyan Church (Guaranteed Reservations Required NLT 12/15/06 - Call 674.7545 - Leave Message To Make Reservation)
- 12/22/06 Newsletter Article Submission Deadline (Medicare card). There will also be door prizes, hearing tests, cholesterol screenings, PSA tests and blood pressure screenings. Refreshments will be served.

Director's Luncheon

Eastview Wesleyan Church welcomed Chamber members to the November luncheon. A meat loaf dinner was served with dessert and drink along with the famous **Fish 'N More** hushpuppies, compliments of Stephanie Stewart, owner.

Mark Sullivan, Chamber President, presided and recognized **The Primitive Inn** new business owner, Leilani Gouchenouer, with a framed picture of her shop's ribbon cutting event held November 4.

Also recognized and presented with their membership plaque were **Eastern Woodland Carver's Club**, Pat Hurst receiving and **Fish 'N More**, Stephanie Stewart, owner receiving.

Announcements were as follows:

Fish 'N More ribbon cutting - November 16 at 10:30 a.m.

City of Marion Christmas Parade - November 18

We Care Auction - November 26

Christmas in the Gas City Park (Carriage Rides \$1.50)

Perfect Attendance Committee Chairman Dorine Ward's committee is organizing – anyone interested contact Dorine at **York House**.

The next luncheon will include an opportunity to donate blood sponsored by the **Indiana Blood Drive**.

Information was available regarding The 12th Annual Scholarship **Telesale!** The Telesale, broadcasting live from the Phillippe Performing Arts Center, will be held January 22-26, 2007 from 6:30-10:30 p.m.

The Grant County Rescue Mission presented the luncheon program. Don Welton, Chief Operations Officer, presented the following facts from 2005: Free meals served 68,385; nights of stay 18,980 pieces, clothing given to needy 10,838. "In addition to meeting physical needs, the Mission strives to rebuild the whole person," stated Tom Ballard, Executive Director. Albert Craig, Men's Program Director, gave a testimony and said, "there is no greater joy than the spirit of the Lord touching my life and restoring my hope."

Less Than Prompt Attention from the Chamber Office

If you have called the office, left a voice message, e-mailed or stopped by to find the office closed (during business hours) it is because our Executive Director, Penny Garrett has been ill. Many of you noticed her absence at the Director's luncheon. She became ill that previous weekend (November 11th) and after 12 days of staying home and trying to get better she was hospitalized for five days. While she is now much better, she is still convalescing at home. At the time of this writing, she has not been released to return to duty. Many in the community have felt her absence. She is our leader and we look to her for direction and miss her greatly. Our thanks to the office volunteers: Marilyn Brown, Celeste Draher, Alice Shively, Joy Storey and Anita Rice for their volunteer commitment and dedication in providing office coverage and services to the Board of Directors and Chamber members. At best we are less than perfect without Penny and wish her continued wellness and return to the office soon.

Member Update

Sue Pattison, owner of **Hairbender's**, was interviewed for this issue. Hairbender's is a hair and nail salon, which also offers massage therapy. Sue is originally from Anaheim, California but has called Gas City her home for many years. Sue enjoys making people feel and look beautiful and said she

followed in her stepmother's footsteps because she likes being creative. When asked what line of business she would be in if she were in her dream job, she replied, "Lucky me – I'm in my dream job." Her favorite community event is the Ducktail Run and she likes to take in out-of-state car shows when on vacation. Her hobbies include creative art, painting and decorative woodwork. She stated the person she admires most is her daughter, Jamie Jacks Schepper, for her undaunting spirit in fighting breast cancer. Her greatest accomplishment is maintaining her business and home on her own and she hopes to own a complete spa and salon in the future. Sue's shop takes walk-ins (when a stylist is available). Hours are Monday thru Friday (8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.) and on Saturday (8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. approx.) Sue has 5 stylists, a nail tech and massage therapist.

F. C. Tucker is collecting blankets to "Cover The Cold" through December 6. Blankets can be dropped off at the Realty Center located at 605 N. Western Avenue in Marion. Warm up someone's nose and toes this winter. Call 662.6099 for more information.

The **Indiana Blood Center** was founded by Indiana hospitals and has grown to provide for over 48 hospitals statewide. The Indiana Blood Center is committed to providing a safe and continuous blood supply to the sick and injured of Indiana.

We rely on volunteer blood donors to keep an adequate supply of blood available to our hospitals. Businesses, churches, organizations and high schools volunteer to host blood drives. Won't you partner with us to make a difference? You'll have someone's undying gratitude.

Contact us at www.indianablood.org or 317-916-5150 or 1-800-632-4722.

Indiana Blood Center
3450 N. Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46208

Business.gov – The Official Business Link to the U. S. Government

This fabulous new website was recently launched to provide small business owners with a one-stop resource. This site will help business owners meet federal compliance requirements. The web site makes it easier to find information on business taxes, immigration laws, workplace safety, environmental requirements and other regulations that can present challenges for small and mid-sized businesses. There is information on business licenses & permits, hiring & managing employees, workplace health & safety and much more information to assist you in managing your business. You will also find a link to the SBA and find information on Starting Your Business, Financing Your Business and Managing Your Business.

Small Business Mentoring Group

This group consists of chamber members who are either active in today's business world or retired. Their backgrounds include property development, investments, banking and financial, insurance, retail sales and accounting. The group's purpose is to provide information and assistance to individuals wanting to start a business or individuals already in business who may require help in growing their business. For more information contact Bernie Kaltz at 765-506-1057.

Diplomats

The Diplomats are a group of Gas City Area Chamber of Commerce members who are skillful in handling people in social relations. Their mission is to provide a human link between the Chamber and area businesses by being the first person that visitors see when attending a public event and create a positive and lasting impression of the community, in which we live and work, by demonstrating integrity and commitment in all aspects. The Diplomats may be called upon to serve as ambassadors at special functions, such as Groundbreaking events, ribbon cutting ceremonies, grand openings, and other special occasions. New members are also welcome. Contact Anita Rice, Diplomat Coordinator, at the Chamber office, ph. 674-7545.

Spice Up Your Holidays – Mulled Cider Recipe

2 quarts apple cider
12 ounces apricot nectar
1 tablespoon brown sugar
1/2 teaspoon allspice
1/3 cup butter
1/2 cup cinnamon liqueur

In slow cooker, combine apple juice, apricot nectar, brown sugar and allspice. Cover and cook on LOW for 5 hours. Just before serving, heat butter and cinnamon liqueur in a small saucepan or microwave. Spoon 1/2 tablespoon into mug or heatproof cup and add 3/4 cup apple juice mixture. Garnish with orange slices and a cinnamon stick, if desired. Serve immediately.

The Chamber – What Is Its History?

The first Chamber of Commerce was formed in Marseille, France in 1599. The first Chamber in the United States was the New York State Chamber of Commerce organized in 1768. The first city Chamber was organized in Charleston, South Carolina in 1773.

Gas City, Indiana - In January 1992, a group of concerned businessmen and women met in a local restaurant to discuss the need for a Chamber of Commerce in the Gas City Area. Fourteen individuals met and after a great deal of discussion, it was decided that a Chamber would indeed be an asset to the Gas City Community. These 14 individuals would serve as the distinguished charter members and prove instrumental in developing the Gas City Area Chamber of Commerce.

The Gas City Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors met in various businesses until an office was established for the Chamber, adjacent to Good Neighbor Pharmacy, September 29, 1994. At that time, the Chamber had 132 members.

In January 1999, the Chamber moved to the current 316 E. Main Street, Gas City address with expanded space, high visibility and easy access for the then 168 members.

Today, over 250 members comprise the Gas City Area Chamber membership. A snapshot of recent accomplishments, services and benefits to members and the community include the monthly Director's luncheon, monthly newsletter, website, partnership with Mississinewa High School DECA students and the Grant County Convention and Visitor's Bureau and sponsorship of the annual Concerts in the Park. Thanks are extended to our leadership over the past 14 years!

Past Officers of the Board of Directors

2006-2007

Mark Sullivan, President
 Mark Galenski, President (Resigned)
 Janet Blake, President-Elect
 Susan Knapp, Vice-President
 Nancy Hoover, Secretary-Treasurer

2005-2006

Mark Sullivan, President
 Mark Galenski, President-Elect
 Janet Blake, Vice-President
 Nancy Hoover, Secretary-Treasurer

2004-2005

Candace Eck, President
 Mark Sullivan, President-Elect
 Mark Galenski, Vice-President
 Nancy Hoover, Secretary-Treasurer

2003-2004

B. D. Patel, President
 Candace Eck, President-Elect
 Mark Sullivan, Vice-President
 Nancy Hoover, Secretary-Treasurer

2002-2003

Max Nottingham, President
 B.D. Patel, President-Elect
 Candace Eck, 1st Vice-President
 Mark Sullivan, 2nd Vice-President
 Nancy Hoover, Secretary-Treasurer

2001-2002

Mike Scott, President
 Max Nottingham, Vice-President
 B.D. Patel, 1st Vice-President
 Nancy Hoover, Secretary-Treasurer

2000-2001

Jeremy McKee, President
 Mike Scott, Vice-President
 Nancy Hoover, Secretary-Treasurer

1999-2000

Mark Siegelin, President
 Jeremy McKee, Vice-President
 Dave Huffman, Secretary-Treasurer

1998-1999

Rob Knapp, President
 Mark Siegelin, Vice-President
 Nancy Hoover, Secretary-Treasurer
 Dave Huffman, Secretary-Treasurer

1997-1998

Karen Wood, President
 Rob Knapp, 1st Vice-President
 Mark Siegelin, 2nd Vice-President
 Nancy Hoover, Secretary-Treasurer

1996-1997

Chuck McCallum, President
 Karen Wood, Vice-President
 Rob Knapp, 1st Vice-President
 Mark Siegelin, 2nd Vice-President
 Nancy Hoover, Secretary-Treasurer

1995-1996

J. Mark Storey, President
 Chuck McCallum, Vice-President
 Karen Wood, 1st Vice-President
 Rob Knapp, 2nd Vice-President
 Nancy Hoover, Secretary-Treasurer

1994-1995

Dennis Roach, President
 J. Mark Storey, Vice-President
 Chuck McCallum, 1st Vice-President
 Philip David, 2nd Vice-President
 Nancy Hoover, Secretary-Treasurer

1993-1994

Dennis Roach, President
 Lisa Beneke, Vice-President (Resigned)
 DeWayne Kelley, 1st Vice-President (Resigned)
 Charles McCallum, 2nd Vice-President (Resigned)
 Karen Wood, Secretary-Treasurer

1992-1993

Dennis Roach, President
 Lisa (Ellis) Beneke, Vice-President
 Nancy Hoover, Secretary
 Karen Wood, Treasurer

Today there are more than 5,000 Chambers of Commerce in the United States. Most of these are local Chambers. There are also statewide Chambers, the Chamber of Commerce of the United States as well as Chambers abroad. One of the strengths of the Chamber of Commerce movement is that all local Chambers are autonomous. They are organized and controlled on a strict local basis and focus on the local area needs.