



Chamber News

Clinton County Chamber of Commerce Building Relationships, Building Communities

Mission: The Clinton County Chamber of Commerce is a member driven organization dedicated to stimulating positive economic growth throughout Clinton County, fostering community leadership and involvement, reflecting positive moral values and acting as an advocate and unified voice for our membership.

What Members Said: Results of 2008 Membership Survey

Earlier this year the Chamber surveyed the membership to find out what Chamber programs were valuable to the membership, what areas the Chamber should be working on, etc. We received 110 surveys back from 330 members. We were very pleased to see that overall, most members are satisfied with the programs and services of the Chamber. Using a scale of 1 being very satisfied to 4 being not satisfied, here is...

How the Chamber programs/events ranked:

- 1.77 Email Announcements
- 1.80 St. Johns Mint Festival
- 1.82 Chamber Luncheons
- 1.87 Chamber Buck Gift Certificate Program
- 1.90 Use of Chamber Postal Permit
- 1.91 Membership Directory/Community Guide
- 1.93 An Event So Good It's Scary
- 1.98 Community EXPO/Touch a Truck
- 2.01 Advertising Opportunities
- 2.03 Business After Hours
- 2.05 Business Referrals
- 2.05 Brochure/Business Card Rack at Chamber
- 2.08 Christmas Festival
- 2.28 Chamber Website

Additional Rankings:

- 2.18 How accessible is the Board of Directors
- 1.46 How responsive is staff to your requests (Liz & Brenda thank you for such a high rating)
- 1.77 How well do the Ambassadors represent the Chamber?

Here are the top five areas you feel the **Chamber should set as its priorities:** (ranking was between 1 & 5 with 1 being the most important)

- 2.36 Business Development/Economic Incentives
- 2.37 Community Festivals and Events
- 2.66 Tourism / Marketing
- 2.79 Promoting Your Business
- 2.86 Education/Workforce Development

Here are the **five biggest challenges facing your business:** (1=biggest challenge, 5=5th biggest challenge).

- 1.69 Economy
- 1.89 State regulations
- 1.90 Employment/Labor Force Issues
- 2.61 Competition
- 2.65 Increased Fuel Costs

How satisfied are you with the Chamber?

- 42% Very Satisfied
- 48% Satisfied
- 8% Between Satisfied & Not Satisfied
- Less than 1% Not Satisfied

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey. Your Board of Directors will use the results in planning for the coming year.

If you would like to receive a copy of the full survey results, please email or call Brenda today.

The Chamber's Community EXPO is a great way to meet potential clients and current customers. At the EXPO you will have the chance to speak one-on-one with them. Find out today how you can benefit from having a booth at the EXPO on Saturday, May 3, 2008.

WELCOME

NEW MEMBERS

Absolutely Avon by Sue

Sue Trumbo
1621 S Delaney Road, Owosso 48867
989-725-0150
www.youravon.com/strumbo
Beauty Cosmetics

Mathews Elevator

Stanley & Jane Platte
135 N Bath Street, Fowler 48835
989-593-2111
Agriculture

Save-A-Lot of St. Johns

Chris Jorgensen, Owner
Mike Nixon, Store Director
1005 S Business 127, St. Johns
989-224-3550 / Fax: 989-224-4006
Grocery Store

**Low Cost Advertising
Opportunity for your
Business:**

Several times throughout the year the Chamber prints placemats to promote an upcoming event. Around the outside of the placemat is your opportunity to place a business card size ad for only \$75. We print 10,000 placemats and they are given to restaurants in Clinton County to use prior to our events. The length of time our placemats are in a restaurant depends on their daily traffic.

If you would like to advertise on the upcoming EXPO placemats, or any others planned for the year, please complete and return the enclose form today.

Please note there are other companies that print placemats, but only the Chamber has the authority to promote Chamber events. If you get a call from another company indicating they will be promoting a Chamber event, they do not have our permission.

RENEWALS

K-13 Physical Therapy
Abraham & Gaffney, PC
Biggby Coffee
Becks Propane & Marine, Inc.
Capital Area United Way
Clinton Area Transit System
Clinton County
Clinton County Family Resource Center
Clinton County Meals on Wheels
Fred Motz Builder, Inc.

Les Miller & Sons Sand & Gravel
Michigan Wildlife Conservancy
Midstate Sales & Service
Physicians Health Plan of Mid-MI - Gold Star Member
Rademacher Construction, Inc.
Roger Beebee Agency-State Farm Insurance
Ryan's Roadhouse
St. Johns Internal Medicine, PC
Trebesh Business & Tax Advisors
Welcome Wagon - Silver Star Member

Announcing our GOLD Star Members!

A1 Tanning
Citizens Bank
City of St. Johns
Clinton Area Care Center
Clinton County Federal Credit Union
Clinton County News
Clinton Memorial Hospital
Consumers Energy Company
Dynamite Inc.
Fifth Third Bank
Firstbank - St. Johns
The Gallagher Law Firm, PLC
Granger III and Associates
Hovey's Accounting & Tax Service

Hungry Howie's Pizza
Krogers
LandAmerica
MAHLE Engine Components USA
Osgood Funeral Home
Ovid Healthcare Center
Physicians Health Plan of Mid-MI
St. Johns Dental Care-Mark Connelly
St. Johns Florist & Greenhouse
Searles Construction
ServiceMaster Clean
Sleep Inn of DeWitt
WalMart



Announcing our SILVER Star Members!

BLT's Wearable Art
Bee's Motors
C&K Electric
Daisy Dell Farm & Market
Dedyne-Bubolz Insurance Agency
Edward Jones Investments - Gary Lenneman
The Emerald at Maple Creek
Fortin, Chunko & Brouse, PC
George's Enterprises Trust
Gentner Family Dentistry
Hub Tire Center

Laurels of Fulton
M&M Restaurant Supply
Maple Rapids Lumber Mill, Inc.
NuUnion Credit Union
RSI Home Improvement/Wayne Door
Shannon L.W. Schlegel, Attorney at Law
Schneider Concrete Inc.
Schwan's Home Service
Uncle Johns Cider Mill
Welcome Wagon

Have you used the Chamber's Postal Permit? If you are planning a mailing of 200 or more, check into using our permit. Instead of mailing a 1st class envelope at .41 each it would only cost you .303 each. Call Liz today at 989-224-7248 for more information.

Member News

The Clinton County Senior Center will host a Pork Roast Fundraising Dinner on Thursday, March 20 at their facility located at 201 E Walker Street in St. Johns from 4:30-6:30 pm. The cost is \$7 for adults and \$4 for children under 13. Take outs are available by calling 989-224-4257. The dinner will include the pork, mashed potatoes & gravy, stuffing, corn, applesauce, dessert & beverages.

Big Brothers Big Sisters Michigan Capital Region is gearing up for their annual Bowl For Kids' Sake events. They are scheduled for April 25 & 26 at Royal Scot in Lansing and May 2 at Redwing Lanes in St. Johns. Call them at 517-372-0160 or toll free at 877-483-7145 with more questions.

Relief After Violent Encounter will be guest grillers at BD's Mongolian Barbeque on Thursday, March 20 from 6-9 pm. Then on April 8 they will be celebrity servers at Big Boy in St. Johns. Call RAVE at 989-224-4662 for more information about these events.

The Clinton County 4-H & Youth Fair is currently seeking event sponsors for their July 28-31, 2008 fair. To be listed in the Fair Book, sponsorships must be confirmed prior to March 15. Call Peg Schneider at 989-640-1029 for a complete list of the sponsorship opportunities available. The Clinton County 4-H & Youth Fair will be celebrating their 71st anniversary during the 2008 event.

April 3 Baked Potato/Salad Luncheon

On Thursday, April 3 the Chamber of Commerce and the St. Johns Exchange Club invite you to a special luncheon. We will have Baked Potatoes and Salads with all the fixings, Beverages and Desserts. This luncheon is presented twice a year and is simply a fundraiser for both the Chamber and the Exchange Club. No speaker at this luncheon - just great food at a good price!

The cost of the luncheon is \$7 per person and purchase of advance tickets is encouraged. They are available from any Chamber Board member, Chamber Ambassador, at the Chamber office and from any Exchange Club member. Call us at the Chamber to find the sellers nearest to you. Take outs are available.

2008 Chamber Luncheons...

March 20

Program: TBA

Speaker: TBA

Cost: \$7

Caterer:

Time: 11:45 am - 1:00 pm

The luncheon is open to any employee of any Chamber member business.

You are also welcome to bring a non-member business associate with you but please...

RSVP TO THE CHAMBER BY TUESDAY THE WEEK OF THE LUNCHEON TO LET US KNOW IF YOU ARE COMING TO THE LUNCHEON SO THE CATERER CAN PLAN ACCORDINGLY!

Future Luncheons

April 17

May 15

June 19

August 21

September 18

October 16

November 20

December 18

Business After Hours:

Our next BAH will be at First American Title in St. Johns on Tuesday, March 11. See their enclosed flyer for more info about the event.

Perk Up Clinton County: We have several months open if you would like to sponsor the coffee given out during a month, and get to display your business information on the table as you enter the Chamber. Call us at 989-224-7248 if you would like to sponsor an upcoming month.



2006/07 Board of Directors

Bonnie Fyvie, St. Johns Reminder,
President

Dave Hudgens, Osgood Funeral Home,
Vice-President

David Rademacher, CPA, Treasurer

Earl Aungst, Past President

Granger III and Associates

Ed Bruun, Clinton Memorial Hospital

Kevin Dittrich, Hungry Howies Pizza

Nancy Johnson, Fifth Third Bank

Dennis Koenigsknecht, C&K Electric

Dennis LaForest, City of St. Johns

Jim Ortman, SJ Banquet & Conference Ctr

Brett Pauli, Pauli Ford

Kristine Ranger, The Learning Center

Carol Smith, Smith Family Funeral Home

Bryon Taylor, MAHLE Engine Components

AJ Thelen, St. Johns Knights of Columbus
Denise Uribe, Clinton County Senior Ctr

Staff:

Brenda Terpening, Executive Director

Liz Pearson, Office Manager

EMAIL: ccchamber@power-net.net

Website:

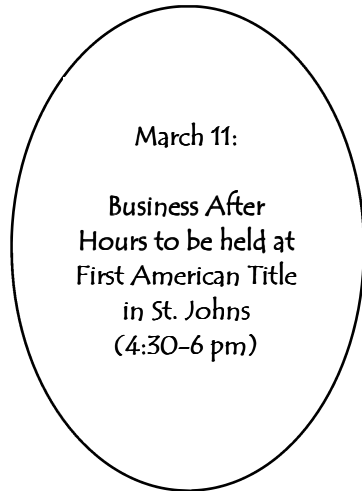
www.clintoncountychamber.org

989-224-7248

Clinton County Chamber of Commerce
1013 S US 27—PO Box 61
St. Johns, Michigan 48879
Website: clintoncountychamber.org

Phone: 989-224-7248
Fax: 989-224-7667

PRSRT. STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 132
St. Johns, MI



New Events for the 2008 St. Johns Mint Festival

One of the goals of the St. Johns Mint Festival Committee is to look for ways to improve the festival each year. They look at what other festivals are doing successfully and ask our attendees what they are looking for. For 2008 the committee has added several new events and made some changes to existing events that are sure to please the crowds.

First off, the committee decided that the events should work around the same theme, and that theme for 2008 is “**A Little Bit County**”. Whether you plan to attend the Parade, the Mint Festival Pageant, Kids World or Senior Citizen Day you will see a bit of country flair.

Now for the new events:

- A **Teen Dance** will be held on Saturday, August 9 for high school students ages 14-19.
- A **Motorcycle Display Show** will be held all weekend long by the Veterans Memorial Pool (the New Vehicle Show will move to the St. Johns High School Football Track)
- A **Lip Sync Contest** will be held with cash prizes awarded to the top three contestants.

- A **Beverage Tent** will be open Friday and Saturday evening between 7-11 pm in the Main Pavilion in the City Park. Free entertainment will be held in the Performance Shell nearby.

In addition to the new events, the festival will now be able to be more competitive with other festivals in regards to perks offered to vendors. There will be limited “self-contained RV” overnight camping available and some vendors, based on the location and size of their booth will be able to keep a storage trailer in their booth.

In the next couple of months the Chamber staff will be contacting all the Chamber members to encourage your sponsorship of the festival. We have a variety of ways of recognizing your business based on your level of sponsorship.

If you ever have any questions about our sponsorship needs or if you need additional information about events or volunteering, please contact our Chamber office at 989-224-7248.