



# CLINTON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS & BUILDING COMMUNITIES**

## CHAMBER NEWS

April 2009

*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.*

### **Be a Sponsor for the June 18 “Fun” Luncheon**

Every year your Chamber Ambassadors plan a special luncheon in June that involves fun, yes fun! This is a fundraising event for the Chamber. We have different restaurants donate the food and we ask other members and businesses to donate items for the auction and for door prizes. Funds from this event are put into the Chamber’s general fund - events like this help us keep dues at their current level so we do not increase them.

This year the luncheon will be held on Thursday, June 18 at the CC RESA Building at 1013 S US 27 in St. Johns. Our theme will be “Silver Celebration” in recognition of the 25th Anniversary of the St. Johns Mint Festival.

Everyone attending will get a door prize ticket and if you wear a past Mint Festival t-shirt you will get another prize ticket. We have shirts from previous year’s for sale at the Chamber should you need one.

One of our Ambassadors may contact you for a donation - we hope you consider supporting this event. If you are not contacted but would like to help with a donation, please contact the Chamber office at 989-224-7248 or email us at [ccchamber@power-net.net](mailto:ccchamber@power-net.net). We are looking for two (2) \$100 sponsors for the luncheon. One would sponsor beads we will be having some fun with and the other will sponsor the decorations. Contact us today if you are interested in being one of those sponsors.

### **25th Anniversary Mint Festival - “Silver Celebration”**

It’s hard to believe that what started out 25 years ago on the courthouse lawn has turned into such a large event. Back then there were 25-30 total vendors and now there are more than 150 arts & crafts vendors, 70 flea market vendors, 25 business & non-profit booths and about 20 food vendors.

We thank the original committee of Skip Hughes, Diane Edwards, Dale Abraham, Mike Schneider, Joe Humenik and Joann Martis for getting everything started. And our appreciation goes out to the more than 28 people that now make up the Steering Committee that plan the events for the current festival.

Our vendor numbers are not the only things that have grown over the years. In 2009 we will have five sports tournaments (3-on-3 basketball, kickball, softball, tennis & volleyball), over 30 hours of free musical, dance & stage entertainment, a pageant that will have 24 contestants, exotic animals and endless fun for kids.

One thing that has not changed throughout the years is we still don’t charge to get into the festival (there is a small parking fee if you park in the school lots, but there is also

plenty of free parking on nearby city streets). We have been able to continue in this mode in part because of the generous support of our business sponsors. From financial donations (no matter how large or small) to inkind donations (like the use of vehicles or ribbon for balloons), we could not do this festival each year without this support.

If you would like to help support the 2009 25th Anniversary St. Johns Mint Festival, please call Brenda today at 989-224-7248. There are many sponsorship opportunities available and they each have different ways your business sponsorship can be recognized.

If you would like to help promote the festival by having brochures at your business, consider letting us put “Minty”, our festival mascot, into your business for seven to 10 days. We have two life size replicas of Minty and we can bring one of them out to your business this summer. Call or email us if you would be interested in this.

Finally, the Mint Festival could never happen without the more than 400 volunteers that give of their time. If you would like to scoop ice cream, sell souvenirs, help at kids events, etc., call us today!

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

**Welcome to our new members:**

**Duplain Church of God**

Chuck Emmert, Sr. Minister  
 Paul Barrett, Chairman of Elders  
 5565 E Colony Road, St Johns 48879  
 989-224-4878  
 sarah@duplainchurchofchrist.org  
 www.duplainchurchofchrist.org  
 "A place of acceptance"

**Luttig Custom Homes & Remodeling, LLC**

Curt Luttig  
 4820 E Pratt Road, St Johns 48879  
 517-651-9716  
 Email: luttig814@aol.com  
 Remodeling / Home Improvement

**New Look Computer and Data**

Jason Denovich  
 510 E State Street Ste A, St Johns  
 989-224-9000 / Fax: 989-227-7070  
 Email: sales@newlookdata.com  
 Website: www.newlookdata.com  
 Computer Repair & Sales

**Pampered Chef Consultant**

Susan Hensley  
 14315 White Oaks Dr, Lansing 48906  
 517-420-4061  
 chefsuziescreations@yahoo.com

**Pathway Community Church**

Steve Cymbal  
 1208 Hampshire Dr, St Johns 48879  
 989-292-2694  
 Email: steve@pathwaychurch.cc  
 Website: www.pathwaychurch.cc  
 Authentic Faith Community

**Rice and Fowler Insurance Agency**

Nate Fowler, Jr.  
 701 E State Street, St Johns 48879  
 989-224-7614 / Fax: 989-224-7617  
 Email: nate@riceandfowler.com  
 Insurance

Recruit a new member today & get your name entered into a drawing to win \$500 in October. Use the enclosed referral application to pass on to a non-nonmember today!

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS**

Biggby Coffee	O-ink International, Inc.
Carquest - St. Johns Auto Parts	Rotary Club of St. Johns
Clinton County Right to Life	<b>Sleep Inn - Silver Star Member</b>
Cockrums Trailer Sales	Smith's Pedal & Ski Shop
Country Store / Garden & Floral Shop	St. Johns Motel
Creative Memories, Evie McNamara	Tami's Tutoring
Gilbert's True Value Hardware	Tastefully Simple Gourmet Food
Great Lakes Home Health & Hospice and Home Medical Equipment	Transitions St. Johns / Pet Pantry Etc.
Harr's Jewelry	Union Bank
Lansing Community College	Waugh's Culligan
Looking Glass River Chapel Church of God	Welcome Home Assisted Living
Midstate Sales & Service Inc.	<b>NEED AN ALTERNATIVE TO PAYING YOUR DUES ALL IN ONE PAYMENT? CALL US TODAY ABOUT QUARTERLY DUES PAYMENT OPTIONS!</b>
Mobile Laser Combat, LLC	

**Announcing our GOLD Star Members!**



**Bel Mechanical**  
**Citizens Bank**  
**City of St. Johns**  
**Clinton Area Care Center**  
**Clinton County Federal Credit Union**  
**Clinton Memorial Hospital**  
**Consumers Energy Company**  
**Dynamite Inc.**  
**Firstbank - St. Johns**  
**The Gallagher Law Firm, PLC**

**Granger III and Associates**  
**Hovey's Accounting & Tax Service**  
**Hungry Howie's Pizza & Subs**  
**MAHLE Engine Components USA**  
**Osgood Funeral Home**  
**Physicians Health Plan of Mid-MI**  
**Prestige Pines**  
**St. Johns Florist & Greenhouse**  
**Searles Construction**



Thank you for Physicians Health Plan of Mid-Michigan, our exclusive Media Sponsor for the 2009 Home & Business Show

**Prestige Pines to Host April 14 Business After**

Prestige Pines, located at 1177 Solon Road in DeWitt will be our host for the April 14 Business After Hours. It will be held from 5:00 - 6:30 pm.

You are invited to join us for networking, good food, prizes & fun. Whether you can come or not, invite one or more of your employees to attend so they can help represent your business. Don't forget to bring business cards you can hand out and be eager to meet new people.

The cost will be \$2 and everyone attending will get a punch on a punch card. Come to a combination of 10 Business After Hours or Good Morning Clinton Counties and you will get a free Chamber lunch. See you on the 10th!

## Member News

Andrew Semrau from New York Life will be at Grace Haven Assisted Living on Thursday, April 23 at 6:00 pm for a Financial Presentation. The presentation will include safe investments and long term care insurance. Call Andrew at 517-614-6420 for more information.

Grace Haven Assisted Living is pleased to announce that Cyndi McDonald, RN is their new Administrator. Cyndi would be happy to give anyone a tour of their new facility. Call her at 989-224-1650.

The Clinton County Senior Center will be working at a Texas Hold'em Tour-

namment April 27-29 at Trippers in Lansing to make money for the center. They are looking for volunteers to help fill a few shifts, most of which are 9:30 pm to 1:00 am. If you would like to help out, contact Brenda at 989-224-7248.

The owners of Trebesh Business and Tax Advisors are expecting a little CPA in July. The new accountant is expected to be a girl - congratulations!

DO YOU HAVE BRIEF NEWS TO SHARE WITH MEMBERS OF THE CHAMBER? EMAIL THE CHAMBER AND IT CAN BE INCLUDED IN THE MAY NEWSLETTER.

## Low-Cost Ways to Reward Employees

The week of April 19 has been set aside as Administrative Professionals Week, with Administrative Professionals Day being on Wednesday, April 22. While that week is not the only time you should recognize your employees, it's a good time to start. Here are some things to consider:

- A simple "thank you" costs nothing. A sincere word of thanks from the right person at the right time can mean more to an employee than a raise, a formal award, or a whole wall of certificates and plaques.
- Recognize hard work by arranging for the employee's car to be washed in the parking lot, or have someone come in and give back massages, pedicures or manicures.
- Deliver a fruit basket, steaks or a batch of homemade cookies to the employees.
- Personalize the label on a wine bottle with a message of thanks to the recipient.
- Treat employees to a catered lunch or a champagne picnic.
- Provide an extra break, allow a 2-hour lunch or tell them to leave early one day.

Whatever you do, don't ask another employee to deliver the basket or give you the extra time off - do & say it yourself!

### 2008/09 Board of Directors

Bonnie Fyvie, St. Johns Remider, President  
Dave Hudgens, Osgood Funeral Home, Vice-President  
David Rademacher, CPA, Treasurer  
Ed Bruun, Clinton Memorial Hospital  
Jackie Burk, CC Federal Credit Union  
Kevin Dittrich, Hungry Howies Pizza  
Nancy Johnson, Fifth Third Bank

Dennis Koenigsknecht, C&K Electric  
Dennis LaForest, City of St. Johns  
Brett Pauli, Pauli Ford  
Glenn Pung, Citizens Bank  
Heidi Scranton, Hazel Findlay Manor  
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](mailto:ccchamber@power-net.net)

**Website:**  
[www.clintoncountychamber.org](http://www.clintoncountychamber.org)  
989-224-7248

## 2009

### Chamber Luncheons

Thursday, April 16  
Program: Networking  
Cost: \$8  
Caterer: KJ's Cafe  
Placemat Sponsor: EXTOL Lube & Oil  
5 Minute Speaker: Sparrow Home Care  
Location: CC RESA Building, 1013 S US 27 in St. Johns  
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

May 21, June 18, Aug 20, Sep 17, Oct 15, Nov 19 and Dec 17

Call us at 989-224-7248 if you would like to be a lunch sponsor!



## 2009 Chamber Chili Challenge

Congratulations to Clinton County Farm Bureau, Farm Bureau Insurance for being the winner of the 2009 Chamber Chili Challenge.

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

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St. Johns, MI

April 14

Business After  
Hours at Prestige  
Pines in DeWitt  
5:00 - 6:30 pm  
Only \$2!

## **Recruit a New Member & Save 32% on Your Own Membership Dues!**

In light of the economic times, your Chamber Board of Directors has worked up a Stimulus Package just for you.

**Quarterly Dues Payments:** If you are unable to pay your membership dues in one payment, indicate on your renewal you would like to make quarterly payments. Liz will send you a statement each quarter. If you choose this method we would ask that you pay when the invoice is received so we do not incur any additional expenses by having to send out multiple reminder invoices. We are not charging any additional processing fees for this option.

**32% Discount on Your Dues:** If you recruit a new member to the Chamber in 2009, you will receive a 32% discount on your next dues statement. To receive the discount regular store

front businesses must recruit a regular member. Home based or non-profit members may recruit a home based, non-profit or regular store front business. If you are a regular bronze member you currently pay dues of \$220 - if you recruit a member, your next statement will be for only \$150 (a savings of \$70). A referral application is enclosed – don't forget to put your business name on the top before you pass it on. (And don't forget, every time you recruit a new member, your name gets put into the hat to win \$500 in October)

Also, if your membership is due in a month you typically are closed, you may want to consider changing your renewal date - we are always open to pro-rating dues so your renewal due date works best for you.

Call us anytime if we can be of assistance.