



News & Views Highlights

The Monthly Newsletter of Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce

Serving the Business Community Since 1901

~

January, 2011

New Year's Resolutions...Include the Chamber!



Sue O'Connor,
President

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season with lots of family, friends, good food and good times. We had a grand time and are fortunate that we've had both of our kids, Alison and Kyle, home with us each year for the past 31 Christmases. And while we love them to death, and love to see them arrive, we are also glad to see them return to their homes

Just Jerry and I for New Year's Eve, we talked about those New Year's Resolutions that come up every year...we'll lose weight, eat

right, exercise more, be better people, more balance in our lives, etc. An old family friend, promises every year to gain ten pounds. He knows he can stick to that one!

One resolution you should definitely add to your list, and stick to, is getting involved with the Chamber. Or if you already participate in Chamber events, resolve to expand your involvement. You and your company will benefit by being more visible in the business community.

Opportunities to participate abound, and no prior experience is necessary. You can be part of a committee helping put together the **golf tournament** or our **November Event**. Or become an **Ambassador** with the Chamber and have first contact with new members.

There are **Coffee Connections**, **Chamber Corners** and frequent grand openings and open houses on our monthly **Happenings Calendar**. While these are social in nature, they are marketing opportunities for your business. You'll meet new people and expand your circle of prospective clients.

More formal networking is available in the Chamber's two **Business Referral Groups**. These groups meet twice a month in the early morning, to get your day off to a great start. Additional groups can be added as the need arises. Contact **Amy Belske** at the Chamber, **860 646-2223**, for more information.

There are also numerous sponsorship possibilities in varying amounts to accommodate your budget. We'll be more than happy to discuss Chamber sponsorship with you. Give **April DiFalco** a call at **860 646-2223**.

Get involved with the Chamber. It's good for you, your business and the Chamber. We will all benefit.

As for getting more exercise and eating better, How's that additional ten pounds going?

2011 Deskbook Directory & Town Street Map in Production

The year was 1996. With great trepidation, the Chamber embarked on the production of its first Deskbook Directory in many years. Having gathered directories from Chambers around the country, a sample directory was selected. And, Sue O'Connor embarked on selling advertising, telling members, "our Directory will be similar to this."

Now in its 15th year, the Directory has become a staple within the Chamber and the community. 3,500 copies are produced annually and distributed free

of charge through our office, Town Hall, Library, Sr. Citizen's Center, Police Dept., advertisers, banks, etc.

The Town Street Map has been a joint project between the Chamber and the Town of Manchester for about eight years. 15,000 maps are produced annually and distributed, again, free of charge. Distribution points for the map are the same as the Directory.

Advertising rates for the Directory and the Map are very reasonable, especially when you consider both are a full year's

worth of advertising. Can you possibly hand out 18,500 business cards in a year?

As a member of the Chamber, your business is automatically listed twice, once alphabetically and once by category. But make your business stand out. Contact Sue O'Connor (yes, she's still selling ad space!) at 860 646 2223 to find out how to advertise in the Directory or Map this year. Publication dates for the Map and Directory are March and April, respectively.



GMCC Board of Directors

Officers

- Mike Downs, GMCC Chairman
Brescome Barton
Kathy Kamerer, Chairperson Elect, Katherine's Hair Design
Rich Cohen, Past chairman
Ed Epstein, Financial Benefits
Marty Fins, Silk City Print Shoppe
Abby Jewett, at&t
Tom Machuga, Treasurer
Machuga Financial Services
Sue O'Connor, President

Directors

- Peg Aldrich, New York Life
William Broneill, Law Offices of William Broneill
Laurie Brooks, Rockville Bank
Dotti Cannon, Brown Sugar Catering
Bruce Chamberlin, Flo-Tech
Cliff Ferguson, American Business Telephone
Gena Glickman, MCC
Harold Harris, Plastics & Concepts of CT
Joan Hunt, Reminder News
Stan Kontogiannis, ECHN
Anne Miller, Anne Miller Real Estate
Nancy Murray, The Shoppes at Buckland Hills
Bob Pagani, Colliers, Dow & Condon
Renee Pasay, Cox Media
Mary Rossettie, Attorney at Law
Linda Wieleba, New England Bank

Ex Officio

- Marc Montminy, Police Chief
Kathleen Oullette, Superintendent of Schools
Scott Shanley, Town Manager

What's Happening in Our Members' Businesses

Welcome to Shari Fiveash, who was recently named Executive Director of the South Windsor Chamber of Commerce.

Glen Aliczi, President and Owner of Advanced Lighting & Sound Solutions, has been named as Technical Director at Little Theatre of Manchester. Congratulations!

And Little Theatre of Manchester will celebrate twenty years of theater at Cheney Hall in 2011. Way to go!

Kudos to Mike Lynch, Lynch Toyota, who was recently selected by the Manchester Conservation Commission and Hockanum River Linear Park Committee to receive its "Friend of the Hockanum River Award."

Alan Lamson, Partner in FLB Architecture & Planning, was recently named President of the International Barbershop Harmony Society for 2011-2012, leading a society of over 30,000 men who enjoy the hobby. Congratulations!

Free Blood Pressure and Blood Sugar Screening Clinic every 1st Wednesday of the month from 11am to 2 pm at Manchester Pharmacy on Main St., Courtesy of Crestfield Rehabilitation Center/Fenwood Manor.

Laurie Rosner of Rockville Bank has been tapped to become the first Executive-in-Residence in the Master in Business Administration (MBA) in Entrepreneurial Thinking and Innovative Practices Program at Bay Path. Congratulations!

Brew Master Frank Fermino wants you to know that changes are coming to John Harvard's Restaurant & Brew House but they are still open for your convenience except for lunchtime on Mondays. Stay tuned for a new menu in February and other exciting changes.

Tell us what's happening in your business. Add "News & Views Highlights" to your media list. Send announcements to Amy Belske, Editorial Assistant, News & Views Highlights, GMCC, 20 Hartford Rd., Manchester, CT 06040, or via e-mail, amy@manchesterchamber.com.

Dates to Put on Your Calendar Today!

- Wednesday, March 16, 5 to 7 pm - Annual Business to Business Expo, Cheney Hall - Sponsored by Nutmeg State Federal Credit Union
Thursday, April 28, 11:45 am - 2 pm - 110th Annual Meeting of the Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce, Maneeley's, 65 Rye Street, South Windsor
Wednesday, June 22, noon, GMCC Ambassador Club Golf Tournament, Manchester Country Club.
And, don't forget to check out our Happenings Calendar for grand openings, Coffee Connections, open houses, seminars, etc.
Hope to see you all...soon!



GMCC Holiday Reception December 9, 2010 sponsored by at&t