



CHAMBER CHATTER

Official Publication of the Bedford Chamber of Commerce

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Website: bedfordchamberoh.org

APRIL 2006

April 18th Multi-Chamber Event. See attachment.

April 19th Joint program with Twinsburg Chamber of Commerce at Hilton Garden Inn of Twinsburg. See information on last page.

April 26th Board of Trustees Meeting, Chamber Office, 6:30 p.m.

May 24th Pig Roast at Catered Elegance 5:30 p.m. Watch for details in May Newsletter.

2006 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michael Guyer, L.P.C.C., *President*
Guyer Counseling

Chuck St. John, *Vice President*
St. John Funeral Home

Joanne Reardon, *Secretary*
Light of Hearts Villa

Dale Witt, *Treasurer*
Dale Witt, CPA

Trustees

Lori DeVore
DeVore Technologies

Rose Grossenbaugh

Trish Karabowicz

Rich Novak

Darla Perkins

Heritage Healthcare

Phil Switz

Catered Elegance

John Whittaker

Non-Ferrous Heat Treat

Remember-----

If you bring in a new member, you can earn \$25.00 off your own membership dues!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Networking for Business

As you know from a past email the "Fast Pitch Networking Meeting" is coming Tuesday, April 18th at Birchwood (see attachment). This is an excellent, if not unprecedented, opportunity to market your product or service to other surrounding markets and communities. Bedford Hts., Garfield Hts., Maple Hts., and Nordonia Hills Chambers of Commerce will also be in attendance. I strongly urge everyone to consider taking advantage of this opportunity and attend this meeting.

Another excellent marketing opportunity is ***Bedford's Summer Festivals***. Tens of thousands of people come through these festivals every summer. A nominal fee is charged for a table and/or small tent. A copy of the festivals and contact persons can be found on our website at:

www.bedfordchamberoh.org

The Bailey Brothers Circus will be coming to town **June 16, 17, 18th**. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for details.

The Chamber is proud to announce the hiring of a new Office Manager, Judy Grotz. She will be "the voice on the phone" for chamber. Judy comes highly qualified in business and the not-for-profit area. In an unprecedented and aggressive move, we also hired an outside marketing person. Dana Koci-Dabrowski will be handling the recruiting of new businesses, advertising, and special projects. This will also give the Chamber five days a week of coverage in our office.

Mike Guyer

PARTIES IN THE PARK

We are happy the winter weather is finally gone and now we can concentrate on summer activities, the most popular being the **Parties in the Park**.

Each Wednesday for thirteen weeks, June 7 through August 30, our Chamber hosts the most entertaining **Parties in the Park** in all of Ohio. Folks come from all around Bedford and surrounding counties to enjoy friendship and dancing. Our food vendors will once again be Anna Rose's from Oakwood Village. Carmella provided excellent food for our crowds last summer. Chambers members are encouraged to advertise weekly in the Bedford Times Register, the **Party in The Park** full page commercial. Our community is truly looking forward to these enjoyable summer evenings.

The Party in the Park is a fund raiser for our Chamber, so by advertising, you are helping your business and others.

Chuck St. John, Chairman
Parties in the Park

OHIO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Ohio Chamber of Commerce has announced two new programs available to Ohio Chamber members. The first is Corporate Financial Group (CFG), an ISO certified company that specializes in the collections of accounts receivables. The second new program is American Community Mutual Insurance Company which is offering American's Preferred Employer Plan---a health insurance plan for companies of varying sizes. More info is at www.ohiochamber.com under "Chamber News."

LIGHT OF HEARTS VILLA

Bingo Volunteers are still needed for every Tuesday @ Catered Elegance at 6:45 pm (early birds) & 7:00pm (regular games). Call Janet at 440-232-1991 ext. 560.

Free **Blood Pressure screening** every Monday 11 am – Noon. More info, call 440-232-1991.

Volunteers are needed to Teach/Assist our seniors on the **Computer!** Call Sharon at 440-232-1991, ext. 560. Our free computer classes are for seniors 62 years and older. Sign up by calling 440-232-1991, ext. 560. \$5.00 fee for Material & Book.

Light of Hearts is currently a processing site for **Cuyahoga County Dept. of Senior and Adult Services**. They have a representative, Cecelia Smith, who comes the 1st, 2nd and 4th Friday of each month to process benefits check-up. Call 440-232-1991.

Donate your **inactive cell phones** today to Light of Hearts, 283 Union Street, Bedford.

Membership Reminder

Invoices for 2006 membership dues have been mailed to Chamber Members. We would appreciate your payment as soon as possible. The original deadline was March 1st. Thank you for your help on this.

ALSO: If any member needs a Plaque showing your membership to the Bedford Chamber of Commerce, please contact the office at 440-232-0115

NOACC NEWS

A Wellness Challenge is being sponsored by NOACC beginning April 24. It is an eight-week challenge open to all NOACC members. For more information contact: www.healthyoio.org/noacc or Steve Musgrave, Wellness Council 440.354.8057.

ADVERTISING SPECIAL

Bedford Chamber members can run a 4" x 4 1/2" ad in the Bedford Times Register for a cost of \$47.00 per ad per week. Members can run ads as many times as they like without any contract limits. Record Publishing will bill you directly. So contact Angie @ the newspaper office at 440-232-4055.

SCORE - Counselors to America's Small Business

For Chambers of Commerce Members:

SCORE is offering free and confidential mentoring to help keep your business on track. **SCORE** counselors are experienced business owners or managers who have had the same or similar concerns in their business careers that you might be experiencing. They will listen and guide you through ANY concerns you might have. Again—this is absolutely **FREE!** Counseling is either at your business or a **SCORE** location. **SCORE** offices are located in Lake, Geauga, Lorain, Huron and Erie Counties. The main office is located at 1350 Euclid Ave., Cleveland. Or stop in or call 216-522-4194 to arrange an appointment. Check out:

www.scorecleveland.org for more info.

2006 Ohio Employment Law Guide

The Ohio Chamber of Commerce, in collaboration with Business & Legal Reports, Inc. is pleased to offer you this guide to provide you with the latest federal and Ohio employment laws and regulations necessary to ensure your business is in compliance. For more info: 866-696-4832 or www.blr.com/ohioguide.

CT LOGISTICS

NOACC is now offering Shipping Logistics through **CT Logistics**. This is another benefit offered by NOACC to all Chamber members. It does not matter where your company is located, CT works with all carriers to provide service anywhere at a very competitive rate. For more info: www.ctlogistics.com or director@noacc.org.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Have you been thinking about volunteering for something important? Hospice of the Cleveland Clinic is looking for weekday volunteers to support the terminally ill right here in Bedford. For more info, contact Ann Catanese at catanea@ccf.org or call 216-636-8666. Training is provided.

NETWORKING "CHAMBER STYLE"

Five local chambers – Bedford, Bedford Heights, Maple Heights, Nardon Hills and Garfield Heights are joining forces for a game of "fast-pitch" networking among members. Each member will be able to give a one-minute commercial about their business.

Join us on:

April 18 from 5:30-8:00 p.m.
Birchwood Party Center
See attachment for details

JOINT PROGRAM WITH THE TWINSBURG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Bedford and Twinsburg Chambers are hosting a dinner program, April 19, 3:30-8:00 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn of Twinsburg.

A.Ray Dalton of PartsSource LLC is the keynote speaker. He will present *Entrepreneurship in Action in NE Ohio-Re-Ignite Your Passion for Business*.

Cost for members - \$59 includes dinner
Non-members - \$79 includes dinner

Call the Twinsburg Chamber at 330/963-6249 for further information or contact at:
djohnson@twinsburgchamber.com)