



CHAMBER CHATTER

Official Publication of the Bedford Chamber of Commerce January, 2005

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33 South Park Street
Bedford, OH 44146
Office Hours: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. M-W-F

President's Message & Vice President's Message

ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

Monday, January 17: Dr. Martin Luther King Day: Aspen Woodside Village is sponsoring a presentation from 7-8pm in their Main Dining Room to honor Dr. King.

Wednesday, January 19: State of The City Address at Bedford City Hall 7:00 pm.;6:30 p.m. Networking The election of Chamber of Commerce Board Members will take place at this time.

Thursday, January 27: CASINO NIGHT at Aspen Woodside Village from 4-8pm in their Main Dining Room. Call 440-439-9666

Thursday & Friday, January 27-28, Ohio Tax Conference – at Greater Columbus Convention Center – Sponsored by Ohio Chamber of Commerce & Ohio Department of Taxation. Web site: www.MFCseminars.com or call 614-229-7990.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2004

President, Rich Novak
Bedford Resident
Vice Pres., Trish Karabowicz
Bedford Resident.
Secretary, Joanne Reardon
Light of Hearts Villa
Treasurer, Dale Witt
Dale Witt, C.P.A.
Rose Grossenbaugh, Bedford Resident
Nancy Lograsso, UHHS Bedford
Chuck St. John, St. John Funeral Home
Joseph Vishey, Joseph Vishey DDS
Mike Guyer, Guyer Counseling

Rich Novak & Trish Karabowicz

SURVEY RESULTS

During our

Christmas Party the

Board of Directors wanted your input about the monthly networking/meetings. So, here are the choices and your results:

The first input was to vote on the frequency of the networking /meeting. It was a very close vote; however, the preference to retain the monthly meeting won. The option to hold a meeting quarterly came in a close second with the option to hold a meeting every other month coming in a close third.

Retain monthly networking/meetings:
36% (1st)

Hold a meeting every other month: 31% (3rd)

Hold a meeting quarterly:
33% (2nd)

The second question pertained to the result "hold a meeting quarterly...then vote on the third event..." Since this option did not win, then the voting is not recorded here.

The third question asked: *What is the best night to hold a networking meeting?*

Results:
(please turn to page 2 of 2)

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"Christmas in Bedford Falls" was a resounding success thanks to those who planned it, to the merchants on Broadway Ave., to those countless volunteers, and to those who enjoyed it.

The ice sculpture was truly magnificent. A 'warm' thank you to the UHHS Bedford Medical Center for sponsoring this ice-sculpting event.

During the whole time, people could be seen having a wonderful time riding in the horse-drawn wagon. Santa was kept busy having his picture taken with the excited little ones. Throughout the event, we were serenaded by singers, charmed by the bell choir, and mesmerized by the musicians. Thank you to those volunteers who further helped to delight the children with their face painting skills and story book time of the Polar Express.

The winners of the Grand Prizes will be chosen at City Hall the night of the State of the City Address on January 19th.

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Welcome New Members

Anna Rose's Italian Restaurant
26071 Broadway,
Oakwood Village

Charter 1 Bank Financial Institution
435 Broadway,
Bedford

Knight Ergonomics
7690 First Place, Ste. D
Bedford

(continued from President's & Vice President's Message on Page 1)

The "day" of the week that overwhelmingly won was **Wednesday**, followed in this order: Thursday, Tuesday, Monday, and Saturday and Sunday tied for the last position. Friday did not even receive a vote.

Monday	5% (4 th)
Tuesday	10% (3 rd)
Wednesday	68% (1 st)
Thursday	14% (2 nd)
Friday	0%
Saturday	1.5% (5 th)
Sunday	1.5% (5 th)

The last section asked for comments regarding the meetings, the time, the day, etc.

COMMENTS

"Evening Meetings are the best time." "Other chambers have better attendance...lunch meetings."

"Morning meetings should be planned."

RESPONSE

As you can see by the variety of responses toward the time of day our networking/meeting is held - we will try to vary this time.

COMMENTS

"We need more business-oriented meetings - there are lots of good networking programs - we don't take advantage of them."

RESPONSE

Due to our affiliation with NOACC, they offer discount services, (contd. in next col.)

(contd. from previous col.)

telephone services, discount airfreight services, insurance, etc. The providers of NOACC offer all of these services and more.

COMMENTS

"...also like to hear from business professionals as well as regarding business management."

"Should hold meetings relating to Small Business needs - funding, loans, accounting, human resources needs, etc...."

RESPONSE

Okay, this is your Chamber and we asked for your feedback. So, take a look at some upcoming networking/meetings, helpful web sites, etc.

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COMMENTS

"Barbecue was good. Low cost events with speakers and frequent city people to keep us up to date. Listing of space available in the city and any business for sale in town."

RESPONSE

Sounds like the Board will be discussing these with the City.

Thank you to those who gave your comments - we will like to hear from others, so please send in your comments to the Chamber Office attention Rich or Trish

Finally, the other side of the Member input questionnaire asks for volunteers to represent the Bedford Chamber at the NOACC meeting held on the 4th Friday at 8:00 a.m. Nine chamber members volunteered and Karen will be sending a rotation schedule.

Rich & Trish

Bedford Chamber of Commerce
Networking/Meeting -
3rd Wednesday of the
Month -
6:30 p.m. Networking
7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Dinner
8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Program,
Questions/Answers, &
Closing

February 16:

First Energy and your Business

March 15:

Charter 1 Bank Open House - Financial Security and Fraud in the small business

April 22:

Cuyahoga County Southeast Library - Web sites and the Internet for your business

Should my company go public? Contact: U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), Publications Section, M/SC-11, 450 5th St., NW, Washington, DC 20549; 202-942-4040; or online at <http://www.sec.gov>.

HAPPY NEW YEAR from your Bedford Chamber of Commerce - may your 2005 be a joyous, healthy, and prosperous year for you, your family, and your business.