



CHAMBER CHATTER

Official Publication of the Bedford Chamber of Commerce

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Our e-mail address:

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DON'T MISS THIS:

THE STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS IS SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18TH AT BEDFORD CITY HALL AT 165 CENTER ROAD. NETWORKING BEGINS AT 6:30 PM; THE PROGRAM WILL BEGIN AT 7:00 PM.

PASTRIES AND COFFEE WILL BE SERVED. PLAN TO ATTEND THIS INFORMATIVE EVENT.

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, Jan. 25th at 6:30 pm in Chamber Office in Train Depot.

February Dinner/Meeting: Feb. 15th. Guest Speaker: Bedford Chiropractic. More info to follow.

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

Lori DeVore

DeVore Technologies

Rose Grossenbaugh

Trish Karabowicz

Rich Novak

Darla Perkins

Heritage Healthcare

Phil Switz

Catered Elegance

John Whittaker

Non-Ferrous Heat Treat

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope everybody had a good holiday season and a happy new year. This portends to be a busy year for the Chamber. We have four new members who represent a wide range of business interest. I believe that their contributions to the business community will be good.

Christmas in Bedford Falls was a great event. Thanks to the committee who sponsored the event. If any business owners have feedback, we would like to have it. To all of you who donated, thank you for your contributions!

January 18th is the date of the State of the City Address sponsored by the Bedford Chamber of Commerce. We hope to see as many of you there as is possible. The event is at the Bedford City Municipal Complex.

Check out our new website sponsored by DeVore Technologies. We have posted our membership list on the site. You can also post your business card on the site for \$50.00 per year. It will be there 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Mike Guyer

VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Christmas in Bedford Falls wrapped up very well on December 10th. It was another successful event for downtown Bedford. I noticed that the advertising we did in some of the neighboring cities and villages drew others from around the area. Four hours were very entertaining and friendly. People I spoke with were very pleased and happy to be there. We hope to improve on it again this year, which will probably be Dec. 9, 2006. We encourage the businesses to get on board. *Continued ...*

Vice President's Message Cont'd

EARLY REMINDER: Parties in the Park will begin June 7th. Mark your calendar so that, when we call you to advertise in our full page ad or provide door prizes, you will help us out. We still have the **best Parties in the Park in Northeast Ohio**-----if not **ALL** of Ohio.
Chuck St. John

At the Chamber Board of Trustees meeting on December 28th, it was voted on and approved that the Board meetings would be changed from the 4th Monday of each month to the 4th Wednesday. The next Board meeting is scheduled for January 25th, 2006 at 6:30 pm in the Chamber office.

ELECTION RESULTS

Elections for Chamber of Commerce Board members took place at the Christmas Party on Dec. 21 at Catered Elegance. As usual, it was a very nice affair. The members elected 3 new trustees: **Phil Switz** of Catered Elegance, **Lori DeVore** of DeVore Technologies, and **John Whittaker** of Non-Ferrous Heat Treat. **Darla Perkins** of Heritage Healthcare had been appointed by the Board in December. At the December 28th Board of Trustees meeting, **Mike Guyer** was re-elected as President, and **Chuck St. John** was re-elected as Vice President. Congratulations to all!

INVITATION FOR "NETWORKING MADNESS" FROM NORDONIA HILLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

"Every February, we have our Networking Madness lunch meeting. This year, it's on Thursday, Feb. 9th, 2006 at 11:30 a.m. at Anthony's Event Center on Rte. 82 in Northfield. Lunch is \$15 for members of the Nordonia Hills Chamber of Commerce, \$20 for non-members. This is a perfect chance for business owners to get to know other local businesses.

Bring at least 20 business cards, brochures, menus and flyers. Prepare a 3-minute speech regarding your business. You will be seated at a table of 5-6, give your presentation, listen to others and then move to another table. It's an "eat fast talk often" occasion." For more info: laura@nordoniahillschamber.org

To RSVP, call 330-467-8956

See attachment for more info for this event.

OHIO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

NORTHEAST OHIO CHAMBER BUSINESS NIGHTS AT THE BARONS:

Invite your business associates, family & friends for a fun winter outing. Join fellow businesses
Upcoming Seminars: 15th Annual Ohio Tax Conference – Thursday & Friday, January 26-27, 2006 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. For more info: 614-229-7990.

The deadline to register for the **Best Employers in Ohio** is January 20, 2006. The goal of the **Best Employers in Ohio** is to raise the bar among Ohio's employers by recognizing the very best companies throughout the state. Companies can register now to participate in this first –ever statewide campaign by going to the Chamber's Website at www.ohiochamber.com and clicking on the **Best Employers in Ohio** logo on the left side of the page.

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."

OHIO WORKERS' COMPENSATION

"Take 5 minutes to see if you can save up to the state maximum on your Ohio Worker's Compensation premium. In association with NOACC, Comprehensive Risk Management is offering a no cost, no obligation analysis to see if your company qualifies for a discounted group plan." They guarantee that they have the lowest rated in the State of Ohio **For more info, see attachment.**

MEMBERS:

PLEASE CHECK OUT YOUR BUSINESS INFO ON THE CHAMBER WEBSITE TO SEE IF ALL IS CORRECT. IF YOU DON'T WANT YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS INCLUDED, PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE.

WHAT'S UP AT 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.

On Mondays @ 10:30-11:30 a.m., **Senior Strength Training Classes** are being offered. The fee is only \$1.00 per class and is being led by a Southeast YMCA Certified Instructor.

Sign up now for **Gentle Yoga Classes** on Tuesdays 2:00 pm (Chair class) or 3:15 pm (Mat Class). Fee is \$20.00 for 8 classes. Call 440-232-1991 to register.

NOACC NEWS

The first NOACC Executive Committee meeting for 2006 will be held on Friday, January 27th, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. at Freedom Square III in the Ground Floor Conference Room (our usual meeting location. Freedom Square is located at 4511 Rockside Rd., Independence, Ohio. We encourage NOACC Vendors to attend also. This is an opportunity to increase the value of the NOACC partnership.

The Benefits Task Force will meet at 8:00 a.m. before the Executive Committee Meeting. Everyone is welcome to attend this meeting as well—your input is valuable.

For more info, go to www.noacc.org.

Member Reminder

Invoices for membership dues for 2006 have been mailed to Chamber members. We would appreciate it very much if it could be paid by the deadline which is March 1st. Thanks much.

THANK YOU TO JOE BRIGHT AND THE VFW FOR THEIR VERY GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION. IT'S BEEN PUT TO GOOD USE UPDATING THE CHAMBER OFFICE'S COMPUTER SYSTEM.