



# CHAMBER NEWS

*A publication of the Waconia Chamber of Commerce*

August, 2012



**2012 Winners Ameriprise Financial ~  
Save the date-July 15, 2013...**

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## Who will you vote for?

By Kellie Sites, President

Photo courtesy of Lynn Laumann Photography



As the State Primary Election approaches, it's so important to our business climate that you pay attention to the voting records of our legislators. If you would just rather not be engaged, then those who are engaged will get their agenda done... which may or may not be to your advantage!

Please mark August 14<sup>th</sup> on your calendars and get to the polls to vote. For those of you who live in Waconia, there is a new polling place for Ward 1. You will now be voting at the Waconia Ice Arena. Ward 2 will be at Trinity Lutheran Church and School.

Here's a link to find out the voting records of our legislators:

<http://www.mnchamber.com/action-center/grassroots-center/find-your-legislators.cfm>

Staying engaged also means sticking with facts. It's so disappointing to me when people start passing around information that is inaccurate and can be damaging to our community. Why is it that people thrive on the negative??? That's why our politicians feel the need to campaign with negative messages about their opponent... it's just what we notice and remember I guess. Sad.

I would like to encourage everyone to work on asking good questions, having civil conversations, really listening to people, whether you agree with them or not... if we expect our legislators to come to agreements and compromise, then we should be able to do that with our neighbors and colleagues as well. Do we need lessons? Maybe....

Wish you could be the Mayor or a council person? The window to file is July 31<sup>st</sup> to August 14<sup>th</sup>, \$5 filing fee. If you don't want to run, but know of someone who would be a great fit, encourage them to find out more. We are working on some possible debates and forums for you to get to know the candidates.



## Time to re-engage moderates in Minnesota elections

By David C. Olson

MINNESOTA  
CHAMBER of  
COMMERCE

Every legislative seat is up for grabs in the November elections. Are you excited by your party's candidates? Were you actively engaged in selecting candidates who will appear on local ballots?

It matters little whether you consider yourself a Democrat, Republican or Independent. It's a good bet most Minnesotans would answer "no" to the above questions.

Minnesota takes pride for consistently ranking near the top in voter turnout, yet a majority of rank-and-file citizens play a minimal role in selecting the candidates from whom we ultimately choose an officeholder.

A tiny number of political activists do the choosing for us by showing up at their local party caucuses. Even fewer use that steppingstone to attend party conventions where they endorse candidates, the majority of whom wind up on the November ballot. The time-consuming and unfamiliar process tends to discourage moderates – both the moderately interested and the moderately leaning – and to reward those who are singularly focused on hot-button issues.

Give credit to the activists who show up for the debates. They unfortunately have transformed today's political parties into either far-right or far-left ideologies that can be a deterrent to crafting thoughtful, bipartisan solutions to today's complex challenges.

The underlying problems are the nomination rules and the parties themselves, which allow a small number to control the choice of all others. We need a system that allows compromise, rewards practical problem-solving, and – most important – brings the rest of us back to the table and ensures quality candidates can make it through the system.

Here are some worthwhile ideas to reform Minnesota's nomination process:

- **Candidate recruitment:** We must work harder to encourage and enable people to run for office. Wouldn't it be great if the choice on the ballot were between a Democrat and a Republican who each had practical, private-sector business experience of how our economy works?
- **Stronger citizen engagement:** When did you last attend a caucus? Candidates in both parties are determined by those who show up. Average Minnesotans need to re-engage. To encourage that, we need to change the process and make it more welcoming and understandable.
- **Eliminate caucuses:** Great idea, great history, but today the system is polarizing our democracy and crippling our ability to govern. It has to go.
- **Move the primary:** Moving Minnesota's primary to June is no guarantee that folks will plug in, but the odds would be better than they are today. An earlier primary also would create a fairer playing field for challenger candidates against entrenched incumbents. At present, a candidate new to the game needs to navigate the treacherous waters of the party endorsement and primary process over a seven-month period – only to have 83 short days to build a viable campaign for the November election.

## New Members & Ambassador Visits

### Midwest Dental

Primary Contact: Sara Smith DDS & Ann Fischer-Steltzer

24 South Olive Street Waconia, MN

952-442-2518 [www.midwest-dental.com](http://www.midwest-dental.com)

Dr Sara and Midwest Dental came to Waconia in May of 2011 when Dr Bradshaw retired. Midwest Dental has over 90 locations and is proud to be a part of the Waconia business community.

When they made the transition they were careful to keep the outstanding staff on board. That has helped patients feeling of continuity as they will still see the same hygienist and staff they always have. All ages are welcome, especially children (did you know dental care should start at 1 year?!). They do all general dental cleaning plus fillings and cosmetic work such as tooth whitening. Midwest Dental accepts most insurance dental plans. Call for your check up today!

Hours: Monday 8-5, Tuesday & Wednesday 7-5 and Thursday 10-7.



### Xyngular

Owner: Carrie Robaina 952-393-0966 [www.ignitewithcarrie.com](http://www.ignitewithcarrie.com)

“Loose weight-get healthy-gain energy” are Carrie Robaina’s goals for her clients. As a Xyngular representative for over a year, she has been able to help her clients with these issues as well as a lot of other health issues. Xyngular has products to target specific health issues as well as a full line of daily products designed for energy, weight loss and nutrition. All products are made in the USA and she noted that by ordering Xyngular products through her, you will receive a significant savings over ordering online. Plus, as a wellness coach, Carrie is very focused on one-on-one consulting for a personal touch while helping her clients choose the best product for their lifestyle. She is available 24/7 so call to set up your initial consultation!



## Welcome New Members!

### Barn Quilts of Carver County

PO Box 242

Waconia, MN 55387

612-221-8052

[barnquiltsocarvercounty@gmail.com](mailto:barnquiltsocarvercounty@gmail.com)

[www.barnquiltsofcarvercounty.com](http://www.barnquiltsofcarvercounty.com)

Naomi Russell

*Community based Arts initiative  
designed to highlight the art of  
quilting*

### Ground Round

520 Cherry Drive

Waconia, MN 55387

320-583-5668

[mwoelfel@mchsi.com](mailto:mwoelfel@mchsi.com)

[www.groundround.com](http://www.groundround.com)

Matt Woelfel

*Restaurant & Bar  
Projected opening-  
Holidays 2012*

### Promise Community Church

141 Depot Drive

Waconia, MN 55387

952-446-9957

[info@promisecommunitychurch.com](mailto:info@promisecommunitychurch.com)

Pastor Mark Sullivan

*Church*

## Member News & Happenings

### Next Coffee Connection– Thursday, August 1 7:30-9:00am Laketown Chocolates, LLC-141 W 1st Street, Ste 2, Waconia

Can you think of a better way to start your day?  
Stop by for coffee, networking and chocolate!



### ArtStock 2012 at Parley Lake Winery-Saturday, August 4 1-7pm



Spend an afternoon in an unique arts experience...relax with friends and family as you listen to music, enjoy nature and view art in an open-air gallery! You can also sample (and/or purchase) wine and tour the winery. Bring your own picnic or experience a made-to-order, wood-fired pizza of Little G's Pizzeria. Free Admission.

Parley Lake Winery-8350 Parley Lake Road [www.parleylakewinery.com](http://www.parleylakewinery.com)

Sponsored by the Arts Consortium of Carver County

### Anniversary Celebration for Holiday-August 10-11



Holiday is celebrating it's 30th anniversary in Waconia with Great Specials-2 days ONLY!

Brat or Hot Dog, pop & chips (10am-7pm)-\$2      Any size fountain drink, coffee or cappuccino only \$.50  
BOGO FREE-selected full size candy bars      All Pop 12 paks (limit 4)-2 for \$5 (or \$2.99 each)  
FREE Chocolate Chip Cookies (1/person while supply lasts)

PLUS-Enter to win \$100, \$500 or \$1000 in Holiday Gift Cards!

Holiday-240 West Highway 5, Waconia

### Lola's Lakehouse- KONA One North American Windsurfing Competition Thursday, August 23-26 on the Shores of Lake Waconia



Lake Waconia is the most popular high-wind lake in the Twin Cities metro area and has been the site for over 60 windsurfing regattas starting with the Windsurfer District 5 Championships in 1978. Our venue will be the Lake Waconia Regional Park on the southwest shore which offers all the amenities for a great championship regatta. Watch for more details...

### Chamber 101-Wednesday, Aug 29 8-10AM

#### Oak Conference Room

Make sure you're getting the most from your investment! Whether you are new to the Chamber, have a new representative or just need a refresher on making the most of your membership benefits, this seminar is for you!



**Navigate the Chamber Website, Answers to FAQ, Membership Benefits Explained! Space is limited!**  
**RSVP 952-442-5812 FREE!!**

### Second installation of the *Barn Quilts of Carver County-Now!*



This Community Art Project showcases large painted quilt blocks created by community volunteers, mounted on historic barns. This project adds to the already existing unique and beautiful county-wide art show!

Tour maps are available for self-guided driving tours and community bus tours are currently being organized by various organizations. For more information visit: [www.barnquiltsocarvercounty.com](http://www.barnquiltsocarvercounty.com).

# Monthly Chamber Luncheon

Thursday, August 23, 2012

11:45AM-1:00PM

Location: Lighthouse at Waconia

Address: 500 Cherry Street, Waconia

RSVP to the Chamber Office by August 17th

Topic: Memory Loss-Prevention & Care  
Guest Speakers: Cathy Pemberton & Cathy Menssen



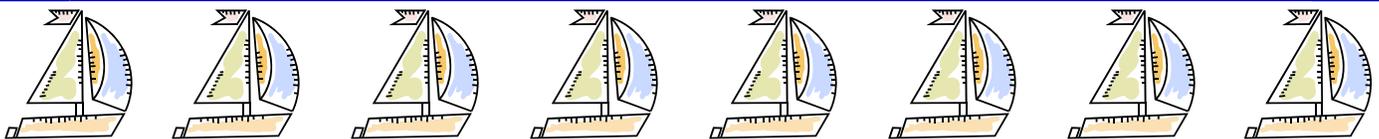
\$20 Chamber Members, \$25 general admission\*

RSVP Required!

Please RSVP by Friday, August 17!

[www.destinationwaconia.org](http://www.destinationwaconia.org) or 952-442-5812

\*Payment will be accepted in advance or at the door. Please note that you will be billed for all meals reserved and walk-ins not guaranteed.



## Chamber Calendar-August 2012

- 1 Coffee Connection at Laketown Chocolates- 141 West 1st Street (across from Dueber's) 7:30-9:00 am
- 8-12 Carver County Fair-Stop by our booth in the Chamber of Commerce Building!
- 9 Retail Committee Meeting 8:00 am Maple Conference Room
- 16 Ambassador Meeting
- 23 Membership Luncheon 11:30-1:00 @ Lighthouse of Waconia-500 Cherry Street **RSVP by August 17th!**
- 23 Lola's Lakehouse presents Kona One North American Windsurfing Championship [www.konaone.com](http://www.konaone.com)
- 29 Chamber 101-Maple Conference Room 8:00-10:00am