



CHAMBER NEWS

A publication of the Waconia Chamber of Commerce

January, 2013

Many thanks to these businesses who have already made their membership commitment for 2013!

1sy Street Construction & Pinnacle Woodworking	Hultgren, Hoxie & Waki DDS, PA	Milltronics Manufacturing Company	Taylor Hubbard Photography
A-1 Electric Service	In Towne Marina	Mocha Monkey	The Jeff Schulz Team
All City Plumbing	Interlaken Place	MRCI WorkSource-Chaska	The Seat Fixer
Ameriprise Financial	ISD #110 Community Education	Muller Family Theatres-Waconia	Town & Country Glass
At the Farm	Island View Golf Club	Neubauer Chiropractic Health Center	Transport Security
Augustana Emerald Crest	James J Maiser CPA	NRG Plumbing	Travel Easy
Bayview Elementary	KleinBank	Oakwood Community Church	Waconia Deputy Registrar
Carver County Fair	Latigo Leasing	Pentom Land Company	Waconia Farm Supply
Carver County Historical Society	Legacy Wine & Spirits	Peterson Company Ltd	Waconia Ford
Casualty Assurance of Chaska	Lenzen Chevrolet-Buick Inc	Pine Products, Inc	Waconia High School
City of Waconia	Lighthouse at Waconia	Precision Eye Care	Waconia Inn & Suites
Double "A" Trucking	Lindemeier Heating & Cooling	Ridgeview Foundation	Waconia Moravian Church
Drazan, Henke & Associates	Locher Bros.	Ridgeview Medical Center	Waconia Patriot
Drs. Dungey, Menser & Associates, PLLC	Mackenthun's Fine Foods	Rising Star Dance Academy	Waconia Public Schools
Edina Eye Physicians & Surgeons P.A.	Marco	Safari Island Community Center	Waconia Roll-Off Service Inc
Energy Misers, LLC	Mattamy Homes	Salon Trende	Waconia West Carver Rotary
Everson's Hardware Hank, Inc	Medallion Cabinetry	Scholla Financial Inc	Waconia Vet Clinic
Factory Direct Furniture Express	Melchert Hubert Sjodin, PLLP	Security Bank Waconia	William F Oswald, DDS
First Bank Minnesota	Memorial Blood Centers	Shaw Construction	Weinzierl Jewelry
Green Olive Catering, LLC	MidCountry Bank	Southview Elementary	Westview Acres/ Good Samaritan Society
HEI Collision Center	Midwest Dental	St Joseph's Church & School	Willem's Cabinetry
Hopper's Bar & Grill	Midwest Vintage Snowmobile Show	Subway	William F Oswald, DDS

Welcome New Members:

All City Plumbing, LLC
**Bret Hepola*

8100 County Road 110W
 Minnetrista, MN 55364
 612-817-6731
 bret@allcityplumbingmn.com
 www.allcityplumbingmn.com

Plumbing services, remodel, new construction,
 light commercial

Waconia West Carver Rotary
**Ron Seib*

PO Box 261
 Waconia, MN 55387
 952-361-9294
 rseib@kleinbank.com
 www.clubrunner.ca/waconiawestcarver

Non-profit service organization

50 year Chamber Recognition!

Thank you to Paul Melchert (Melchert Hubert Sjodin, PLLP) for his dedication over the years to the Waconia Chamber of Commerce. Melchert sat on the original Chamber Board of Directors and has gone over and above expectations for the last 50 years to ensure that the Waconia Chamber endures so that business can continue to thrive and prosper here.



Next Coffee Connection:

Thursday, January 3 7:30-9:00 AM

BIG Athletics

716 Marketplace Drive, Waconia 952-442-1915

Start the year off with some networking! Brief program at 8AM. Free! Bring a colleague if you'd like....



Shop Waconia

Inside this issue:

- Page 1 Member news & events
- Page 2 Message from Kellie
- Page 3 Minnesota Chamber news
- Page 4 Ambassador Visits
- Page 5 Member Updates & Happenings
- Page 6 Luncheon News & Calendar



You said.....what?

By Kellie Sites, President

Photo courtesy of Lynn Laumann Photography



As we turn over the last page of 2012, I am considering a number of resolutions for the new year. How about you? As usual, my fitness level could use some improvement, so I'm thinking about signing up for an event or two to kick start my good habits ~ I've looked at some of the classes at Safari Island and I'm excited to try a few new things there. They also have new equipment that is just the ticket for increased fitness. It does help if you *use* the equipment, so making that time a priority will need to get done. What about you? How's your health? Do you provide fitness incentives for your employees? This is a great way to save on healthcare costs!

Resolution number two....prioritizing. That is a challenge for me, especially with email. That always seems to be the first priority, whatever emails come in that day. I do try to answer emails within 24 hours, but making sure that what I'm already working on gets done well, is something I hope to do better. What about you? Are you good at finishing a task before moving on to the next? Do you have excellent organizing skills? If yes – let me know if you'd like to lead a lunch and learn class. Actually, we are always open to suggestions: things you'd like to learn and/or things you'd like to teach. Thanks!

Resolution number three... dialogue. In the past three weeks I have had some very challenging conversations. This is an area I think all of us could work on! For me, I am working through a book called, Crucial Conversations by Kerry Patterson, Joseph Grenny, Ron McMillan and Al Switzler. It's a New York Times Bestseller with a forward by Stephen Covey, author of The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People. So far, I'm finding it very helpful with conversations, starting with my family! I think this might be an excellent book to do a Chamber Book Group Study on. Because with conversations, there are at least two people involved, I always wish the person/people I was talking with was reading the same book as me.

Resolution number four.... rumors and hear-say... hate it. Find out if it's true – by asking the source – before mentioning it to someone else... Thanks!

Resolution number five... have a Happy New Year!

Our Board of Directors will be hard at work behind the scenes, making sure that we keep to our mission of Promoting a Positive Business Environment to Enhance the Quality of Life in the Community. *Thanks so much to Carolyn Johnson for her service as Chair of the Board for 2012. We welcome Summer Jensen as our new chair for 2013.*

Listed below are the slate of Directors for 2013. Elections will be held at the annual meeting on January 24th.

SLATE OF DIRECTORS FOR 2013

- ◆ Summer Jensen, The Stash, Chair
- ◆ Jan Held, Ridgeview Foundation, Incoming Chair
- ◆ Carolyn Johnson, Klein Bank, Outgoing Chair
- ◆ Todd Swanson, ISD 110, Treasurer
- ◆ Jeff Schulz, The Jeff Schulz Team RE/MAX
- ◆ Phyllis Roth, ELKAY Medallion Cabinetry
- ◆ Jessa Theis, Mackenthun's Foods
- ◆ Martha Kurtz, Creature Works Labs
- ◆ Dermot Cowley, Lola's Lakehouse
- ◆ Chris Weiland, 1st Street Construction
- ◆ Paul Melchert, Melchert Hubert Sjodin, PLLP
- ◆ Tim Curtis, Waconia Ford



Minnesota cannot spend its way to prosperity

By David Olson, President, Minnesota Chamber of Commerce

MINNESOTA
CHAMBER of
COMMERCE

State government finances continue their rollercoaster ride with more downs than ups. It's time to bring long-term stability to Minnesota budget policy, and that's best accomplished by focusing first on spending. Reforming state spending is at the forefront of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce and our statewide network of local chambers.

The December budget forecast provides the framework for the initial debate on spending and taxing reform at the 2013 Legislature; the next projection will be released in February. The forecast delivered some welcome news for the current biennium & a projected surplus of \$1.3 billion. That's three consecutive positive reports since July 2011, which together have added \$2.5 billion to the state's general fund.

This has allowed the state to replenish its budget reserves and cash-flow accounts to their required levels of \$1 billion. We're still expecting modest growth in the short term despite the uncertainty of the federal fiscal cliff and European debt problems.

The longest and deepest recession since World War II ended more than 42 months ago, and the outlook for consumer spending, housing and exports provides reason for longer-term optimism. But the after-effects of the recession linger, still leaving a tentative outlook in many business sectors. The uncertainty is reflected in another projected deficit of \$1.1 billion for the state's next two-year budget cycle.

The shortfall brought the predictable calls from Governor Dayton and others to fix Minnesota's money woes by raising more money. The governor specifically renewed his call to create a fourth tier in the personal income tax. His message is disappointing and concerning. We wish there was as much enthusiasm in reforming state spending as there is in raising taxes to balance the budget.

Bottom line, we aren't aware of any government that has been able to spend itself to prosperity, and now is not the time to experiment with Minnesotans' tax dollars. Legislators need only connect with their businesses that line Main Streets, and they'll hear loud and clear: Spending reform must frame the budget debate.

The fragile economy has forced businesses across the state to examine how they can become more efficient in making their products and delivering their services. The task presents challenges, but it is necessary if we are to take steps to nurture, and not disrupt, the state's economy. Here is our advice to help policy-makers scrutinize and restructure state spending:

- ◆ Make spending decisions based on statewide priorities in tandem with meaningful, measurable outcomes.
- ◆ Our aging population likely means increasing demand for certain public services. Restoring stability requires both redesigning and better targeting of services.
- ◆ Rework public-sector programs to increase their efficiency in light of declining resources including scrutinizing the structure of employee compensation and benefits.
- ◆ Change eligibility to better target services to those who really need them.

The Legislature is certain to explore tax reform, too. That debate is most constructive if policy-makers talk about the structure of the tax system from a revenue-neutral standpoint before trying to solve a revenue number.

First things first, however. Let's start by focusing on spending. Then address tax reform with the goal of keeping Minnesota businesses competitive in the global economy. Those are the bookends of a sound state budget policy.

David Olson is president of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce. For more information, visit the Web at www.mnchamber.com.

Ambassador Visits



Bret Hepola with his First Dollar meets the Ambassadors. You will see Bret most of the time in his All City Plumbing truck around town!

All City Plumbing

Bret Hepola 612-817-6731

bret@allcityplumbingmn.com

www.allcityplumbingmn.com

New Chamber member, Bret Hepola, owner of All City Plumbing started his company in the year 2000. He enjoys owning his own business and is a licensed Master Plumber. All City Plumbing can handle your commercial and/or residential needs. Bret enjoys custom work and can tackle small to large jobs. These include but are not limited to: water softeners, garbage disposal, installing a new sink or urinal in your garage, installing appliances... anywhere in the area. Bret is licensed to do work in the Minneapolis and St. Paul metro addresses as well as here in the west metro.

WaterFront Therapeutic Massage & Wellness

Darci Rothstein 952-442-4441

www.waterfrontwaconia.com

darci@waterfrontwaconia.com

4 East Main Street, Waconia

Congratulations to new business owner, Darci Rothstein. Darci has been a massage therapist in Waconia for many years and is excited to have her own place to do business. Her studio, located in the old Dodge Garage, is brand new and you feel at peace just walking in! Give Darci a call today to schedule a massage of your choosing.



Ambassadors welcome new business owner, Darci Rothstein to her new digs on Main Street!



Ben & Kou with their First Dollar of clear profit!

The Green Leaf

Kou Vang 952-261-8832

thegreenleaftea@gmail.com

Store Hours: Tue—Thurs 10am – 10pm

Fri - Sunday 10am to midnight

Delivery Hours: Tue—Sun 11am—9pm

44 West 1st Street Waconia

The Ambassadors were treated to some delicious tea on this cold morning visit. Kou and his partners have brought another great place to meet for conversation and to have a delicious beverage... with some new offerings like Boba tea! They serve hot teas, iced teas, smoothies, slushies and latte's with the option to add a flavor or two... choose from 19 flavors! Other add-ins include Bobas (tapioca pearls), Jellies (flavored gelatin pieces) and Popping Pearls (juice-filled popping pearl). Open late for folks of all ages. Check it out! Have it delivered!

Member News & Happenings

American Red Cross Blood Drive at Trinity Lutheran-Wednesday, January 16 Noon-7:00pm

For an appointment, call Beth at 952-913-6624 go to www.mbc.org/searchdrives . walk-ins are welcome. Memorial Blood Center is the official blood provider of Ridgeview Medical Center. In 2012 the over 300 units collected in Waconia potentially helped over 1000 friends, neighbors & loved ones at Ridgeview. Thanks to all who generously gave the gift of life!

Trinity Lutheran Church-601 East 2nd Street, Waconia



12th Annual Rotary Wine Dinner Saturday, January 19, 2013

5pm-Social Hour & Silent Auction

6pm-Dinner followed by Live Auction

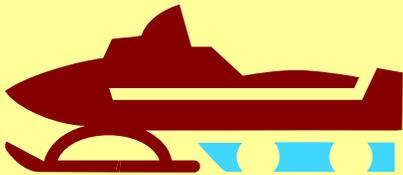
Island View Dining

Enjoy a fabulous five course meal, prepared by top Carver County Chefs with each course paired perfectly with a fine wine. Proceeds support local Rotary service projects as well as worldwide outreach programs.

Tickets: \$85/person (\$50 Tax Deductable) Reservations required. Pre-payment encouraged.
RSVP-Chuck Dueber 612.281.0093 or dueberscd@embarqmail.com or Doug Morey 952.835.7445 or dmorey@mtifinancial.com



22nd Annual Midwest Antique & Vintage Snowmobile Show-January 26-27



Lake Waconia - Lake Waconia Event Center

This year *Ride In*-featured sleds: Scorpion & Brut. Come see the world's largest vintage & antique snowmobile show. Check out races, demonstrations and so much more. On the southeast shores of Lake Waconia. For more info, see www.mwvss.com

WACONIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EXPO



BUSINESS • HOME • FAMILY

2013 Business EXPO

Saturday, April 6

Business~Home~Family

Watch for registration information-COMING SOON in your mail!
Don't miss the early bird sign up deadline for Chamber members- Feb 1st!
Showcase your business AND Save \$\$\$

Chamber Annual Meeting

Thursday, January 24, 2013

11:45AM-1:00PM

Location:

Muller Family Theatre-Waconia



Address: 101 West 1st Street

RSVP by January 18th

- ◆ *"The Year in Review" on the big screen*
- ◆ *State of the Chamber from President Kellie Sites*
- ◆ *Installation of the 2013 Board of Directors*
- ◆ *Jambalaya lunch from Who's On First!*

You do not want to miss this! Bring a potential member...

\$20 per person RSVP Required!



Please RSVP by Friday, January 18
952-442-5812 or online www.DestinationWaconia.org



Chamber Calendar-January 2013

- 3 Coffee Connection at BIG Athletics (761 Marketplace Drive, Waconia) 7:30-9:00am
- 9 Chamber Board Meeting-Maple Conference Room, City Hall 11:45am-1:15pm
- 10 Retail Marketing Planning Meeting- Maple Conference Room
- 15 WYP (Waconia Young Professionals)-Waconia Lanes 5:00-6:00pm
- 17 Ambassador Meeting Chamber Office Time 8:45 am
- 24 Chamber Annual Meeting at Waconia Theatre 11:45-1:00 **RSVP to Chamber by Friday, 1/18/13**