



CHAMBER NEWS !!

Chamber Luncheon, April 15th

Chamber members are encouraged to mark Wednesday, April 15th on their calendar and plan to attend our business luncheon which will be held from 12:00 noon– 1:00p.m. at Trotter's Café and Sports Bar, 123 North Main Street, New Lexington.

Jack Dougherty, counselor for SCORE which is sponsored by the Small Business Administration, will be our guest speaker. Members of SCORE are retired business and professional people who volunteer their time. Clients are both those who are in business and those interested in starting a business.

Reservations are not required, but we would like a tentative head count. Please call the Chamber Office at 342-3547 by 10:00am on the 15th with numbers. Both a pork tenderloin and a chicken breast lunch will be offered for \$10.00 which includes beverage and gratuity.

This program is open to the public.

Annual Banquet a HUGE Success!

The Perry County Chamber of Commerce held its Annual Banquet/Social Event on March 16th at Ludowici Roof Tile Co.

Ohio Lt. Governor Lee Fisher addressed the banquet crowd and spoke about the state's efforts to reinvest in its people and infrastructure. Fisher said that one of Ohio's strengths will be "being able to see where the world is going and try to be the first to get there."

Special awards were presented to Buckingham Coal Co.-Large Business of the Year, Special T's/ Lakes End-Small Business of the Year, and Joltz Coffee and Tea Co.-New Business of the Year.

Plaques were presented to outgoing Board of Directors; JoAnne McFarland, John Ridenour and John Skinner. Judge LuAnn Cooperrider swore in the new officers and new Board members.

Special thanks to everyone who had a part in making this event a memorable one for the Chamber and Perry County!

ALSO!! If anyone has any pictures from that evening, please call the office!! Unfortunately "Goober's" camera malfunctioned and he ended up with only a couple of usable prints! THANKS!!

Business After Hours, April 22

The Perry County Board of Health will be hosting our Business After Hours event on Wednesday, April 22 from 5:00-6:00p.m. This will be at their new location on the ground level of the Jobs and Family Services Building, 212 South Main Street, New Lexington.

The Health Department will be having their public Open House from 1:00-5:00p.m., and following this up with a "Chamber Open House" hour for our members, employees, families, etc.

No reservations are required! Please plan to attend!!

**CHAMBER MEMBER DISCOUNT CARDS WERE SENT OUT
LAST WEEK!! CALL IF YOU NEED MORE!!**

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John Ulmer, Executive Director
Amy Reeves, Executive Secretary

Biodiesel Roundtable, April 10

This free regional roundtable will be held at the Marietta College Dept. of Petroleum Engineering from 10:00a.m. to 12:00 noon. Fleet or transportation managers, experienced in biodiesel use from three sectors; school bus, private and public, will cover numerous important and interesting topics. Go to www.cleanfuelsohio.org/events.php for more information.

Business Referral System Sheet Enclosed

The Perry County Chamber of Commerce office receives hundreds of phone calls or visits requesting information each year. It is our policy to REFER CHAMBER MEMBERS.

To help us do a better and more thorough job for you, please take a few moments to complete the enclosed sheet and return it to our office. Thanks in advance for your assistance.

Webinar On Ohio's New GIS Tool, April 22

Ohio InSite is a new GIS-enabled tool one can leverage to effectively sell your location to prospects by providing the critical mapping, demographic, business, and real estate data needed to analyze locations in one website.

This one-time, one-hour webinar will be offered on Wednesday, April 22 at 2:00p.m. For questions and/or to register, email Matt McQuade at mmcquade@ohiomeansbusiness.com.

U.S. Companies Should Look Beyond America's Borders for Sales

In today's difficult global economy, businesses can not afford to miss out on international opportunities. Many people may not be aware of the fact that the majority of U.S. exporters are small and medium sized businesses. Exporting enables firms to diversify their portfolios and help weather changes in the domestic and world economies.

Whether a company is new to exporting or looking to boost its international sales, it should take advantage of the U.S. Commercial Service's export assistance. Contact Roberta Ford, Director of the Commercial Service—Columbus office at 401 N. Front Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215; phone 614-365-9510 or email rford@mail.doc.gov. Please review the Commercial Service's world-class international market research free of charge at: www.export.gov.

GOA's Request for Promotional Items

The Governor's Office of Appalachia (GOA) is looking for 100 items from a business or industry to give to participants attending the Oak Ridge Laboratory Math, Science and Technology Institute.

Contact the Chamber Office before April 17 if you have something that would promote your business/industry to these attendees coming to Ohio from 13 states.

ODOD's Upcoming International Events

Here are some upcoming events that may interest you:

- 1) Selling to Our Neighbors: Canada and Mexico; April 30 in Piketon, Ohio
- 2) Ohio Trade and Development Mission to China; June 1-6
- 3) E Award Applications; deadline is April 24 to receive recognition from the Governor and the State of Ohio for your international efforts and transactions.

Contact the Chamber Office for details!

Update From Senator George Voinovich

Senator Voinovich believes that small business owners are the economic and entrepreneurial backbone of this country, providing jobs for millions of individuals in small towns across America.

I have received a document from his office that is provided by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), and shares information and frequently asked questions about the recently passed American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Please call the Chamber office to receive a copy of this "Helping Small Businesses Start, Grow and Succeed-Questions and Answers".

Upcoming Local Calendar of Events

April

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| 15 | Chamber Luncheon, Trotters@ noon |
| 21 | Board of Directors Meeting@ 5:00pm |
| 22 | Business After Hours, Bd. of Health@ 5:00pm |
| 25-26 | Am. Cancer Society Relay for Life, Perry County Fairgrounds |

Sincerely,

John Ulmer
Executive Director
Perry County Chamber of Commerce

PS. Please share the information on the enclosed flyers with your employees. Thanks!