



CHAMBER NEWS!!

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John Ulmer, Executive Director
Eileen Ralston, Executive Secretary

Chamber Luncheon Well Attended

Over 30 Chamber members and guests were in attendance at the July 16 luncheon held at Trotter's Sports Bar and Café at noon. Fred Deel, Director for the Governor's Office of Appalachia, through the Ohio Department Development, was the guest speaker.

Look for more Chamber events and activities in upcoming communications and get (or continue) to be involved in **YOUR** Chamber!

Ohio Workers' Comp Group Rating

The Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation (BWC) is examining different ways to increase stability, consistency, and competitiveness of the workers' compensation system in Ohio. Recently, the BWC Board of Directors voted to approve a decrease in the maximum discount allowed for the group rating program from 85% to 77%.

CompManagement, Inc., a Sedgwick CMS Company (CMI), and the carrier we are contracted with, is currently evaluating the impact this decision will have on your program. While we are concerned that the maximum discount is being decreased, we are hopeful that there will be a corresponding decrease in rates to offset this change.

Comp Management is also working with the BWC to enhance current programs, as well as create additional programs that will help employers continue to lower their workers' compensation costs. These new programs could include a safety performance-driven dividend for groups, as well as improved deductible programs.

CompManagement is committed to working with our associations and chambers to minimize any action that could have a monetary impact on Ohio businesses, and will keep you abreast of any changes in the months ahead.

More Chamber Members Featured

AT&T Ohio
Commodore Bank
Dittoe, Robert OD
Ervin Brothers Janitorial Services
Fair Deal Used Cars

Fairfield Medical Center
Fairhope Hospice Care
Flautt, Joseph LTD, LPA
Foraker Gas Company
Forker Company

Message From Senator Voinovich

Throughout my career in public service, listening and responding to the concerns of Ohioans has been a priority. Today, as both Ohio and the nation face tremendous challenges and opportunities, it is critical that I hear from my constituents to best serve their needs.

As you may be aware, my staff has regularly held office hours in all of Ohio's counties since I was elected to the U.S. Senate. These office hours, combined with meetings and other events in the community, have been ongoing and vital to my work on behalf of our state. In addition to providing a regular way for me to hear from constituents and local officials about my work in the Senate, taking the services of my office "on the road" enables my constituent services team to more personally reach out to help Ohioans caught in bureaucratic red tape of federal government agencies.

In 2006, I renamed the work of my staff to hold office hours in each of Ohio counties as our "Connecting with Communities" initiative to emphasize to Ohioans the great importance I place on remaining connected to them and hearing their ideas and concerns. I truly appreciate what I learn from the constituents who meet with my staff during "Connecting with Communities" sessions and want to invite you to participate in the upcoming "Connecting with Communities" visit in your community.

A member of my Southeast Ohio Office staff will hold a "Connecting with Communities" session in your community on Friday, August 8 from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM at the following location: **Perry County District Library, 117 South Jackson Street, New Lexington, Ohio 43764.**

This will be an opportunity for you, your constituents, or those with whom you work in the community to meet with my staff to discuss federal legislation, share opinions on issues, or seek assistance with federal agency casework. This meeting is open to the general public, and I invite you to attend or to share news of this opportunity to those who might find it useful.

2nd Annual International Conference, September 12

We have been asked to promote this event, "Selling to the European Union" which will be held on September 12 at the Oasis Conference Center in Loveland, Ohio.

The cost is \$50.00 and includes parking, breakfast, lunch and a program binder. The Keynote Speaker is Steve Shifman, President & CEO of Michelran, Inc. He will be speaking on "European Evolution: From Local Experts to International Presence".

For a complete program or registration information go to <https://www.buyusa.gov/greatlakes/eu.html>

Note From Tim Schaffer, State Senator

As your State Senator I feel it is important to keep local civic organizations aware of what is happening in state government. It is equally important that I hear the concerns of my constituents and am presented with issues important to local communities. That is why I am always available to speak to organizations like yours. If you would like me to speak at an upcoming meeting or event please contact my office at (614) 466-5838.

Chamber Window Decal Enclosed

Enclosed is another window decal for you to display. This both identifies you to the public as a Chamber member and also promotes the Perry County Chamber of Commerce. If you would like additional ones, contact the office.

Discount Prescription Cards Available

Kelly Green, who is with the American Red Cross and a Chamber member, has dropped off discount prescription cards that can be used with your present prescription plan to receive an additional discount. It can be used by all members of the household and is valid at 56,000 Pharmacies nationwide.

Call the Chamber office or stop by to receive your card(s). Thanks Kelly!

Advanced Vehicular Fleet Fuels Workshop, August 6

This one-day workshop will provide basic information on the multiple types of advanced fuels that are available for fleet vehicles. The workshop is designed to connect publicized private agencies with possible partnering agencies as well as funding organizations for vehicle conversions and refueling stations.

The workshop is from 8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at Hocking College Student Center, Nelsonville and costs \$50.00 per person.

Call the Chamber office for additional information, or call Hocking College (877-HOCKING) or email collegerelations@hocking.edu.

Sincerely,

John Ulmer
Executive Director
Perry County Chamber of Commerce