



NORTH COAST *Chamber of Commerce*

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEWS

DECEMBER 2011 - JANUARY 2012
VOLUME 7, ISSUE 6

UPCOMING CHAMBER EVENTS!

Joint Business After Hours

Thursday, January 5, 2012
5:00pm - 7:00pm

Puritas Nursery
19201 Puritas Ave., Cleveland

No cost to attend.
No RSVP is required.

Enjoy complimentary appetizers and beverages.

Joint Business After Hours

Tuesday, January 17, 2012
5:00pm - 7:00pm

100th Bomb Group
20920 Brookpark Rd., Cleveland

No cost to attend.
No RSVP is required.

Enjoy complimentary appetizers and a cash bar.

Annual Membership Dinner

Wednesday, January 25, 2012
6:00pm - 8:30pm

Spitzer Conference Center
Lorain County Community College
1005 N. Abbe Rd.
Elyria

Dinner is \$20 per person.
Members who have paid their 2012 dues
on or before January 25th are entitled to
one free dinner per membership.

An RSVP is required.

To make a reservation, please contact
Sharon Matthews at 440-933-9311 or email
sharon@northcoastchamber.com.



Mission Statement

To advance the economic interest
of our members and thereby
stimulate growth and development
in the North Coast Region.



OFFICERS

President TJ Worsencroft
Past President Rob Capretto
Vice President Mike Abfall
Vice President Mike Bramhall
Vice President Linda Hamann
Treasurer Paul Gregory
Secretary Charlotte Picha

BOARD MEMBERS

Rod Bock Carrie Hartman Joannette Romero
Jerry Cline Carol Murphy Geoffrey Smith
Ray Frank Theresia Oreskovic Todd Wearsch
Ray Gilles

NCCC PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Executive Director John Sobolewski
Executive Assistant Sharon Matthews

North Coast Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 275
Avon Lake, OH 44012
440.933.9311

www.northcoastchamber.com



President's Letter



To Our Members:

Happy Holidays and best wishes for a great New Year! Where has 2011 gone? As my two-year term as North Coast Chamber President expires, I reflect on my time at the helm and

review our accomplishments as a board. Even though the last two years have been extremely challenging for many business owners, we have many accomplishments that we need to recognize.

During the last two years, the Chamber Board has done a lot for our members and the communities that we represent. Some of the items that we have completed are: updating the Chamber logo, creating a long range strategic plan for the next several years, accepting credit cards for payment of dues and luncheons, and continuing to help promote the "Power of More" program.

Since 2009, the Chamber Golf Outing participation has increased by over 75%.

2009 = 88 Golfers
2010 = 104 Golfers
2011 = 152 Golfers

The Chamber Golf Outing has been extremely successful due to the hard work of Ray Frank and his dedicated Golf Committee. As we move into 2012, we want to keep the momentum going so we can maintain this great event for many years to come.

One of the top goals for the chamber is obtaining new members and maintaining current members. Since 2009, we have not only increased the total number of returning members but also have increased the total number of new members.

2009 Total Members = 169; 30 New Members
2010 Total Members = 175; 39 New Members
2011 Total Members = 185; 48 New Members

This success has been lead by Carrie Hartman, Todd Wearsch and the Chamber Membership Committee. Special thanks to Carrie and Todd for their hard work and commitment in growing the awareness of the Chamber to our communities through new member plaque delivery and multiple successful "membership blitzes".

I would also like to recognize 3 board members whose terms have ended and will be stepping down to achieve a new challenge; Rob Capretto, Carol Murphy and Charlotte Picha. Rob, Carol and Charlotte have all spent many years on the board in various leadership positions. Thank you for your time and talent--we will miss all of you! Please help me recognize each of them during our Annual Membership Dinner on Wednesday, January 25th.

Last, but not least I want to thank the North Coast Chamber Board for meeting and exceeding the goals outlined by the strategic plan. We could not have been as successful without our other leaders, Sharon Mathews and John Sobolewski. We are fortunate to have both Sharon and John and I have greatly enjoyed working with both of them.

During my Presidential term, I have grown in many ways, mostly my waist line by all the cocktails and meatballs consumed during the many after hour's events. In all seriousness, I have enjoyed being your President and look forward to keeping the momentum going into 2012 as I will remain on the Board as Past-President.

Remember to visit our website so you can update your calendar and join us for upcoming events. I look forward in seeing you at the next Chamber event.

T.J. Worsencroft, President



Welcome New Members!

Ahern Banquet Center

Anthony Ahern
726 Avon Belden Rd.
Avon Lake, OH 44012
440-933-7500
www.aherncatering.com

AT&T

Kevin Lynch
45 Erieview Plaza, #1500
Cleveland, OH 44114
216-822-7283
www.att.com

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks

Michael Vasey
24350 Center Ridge Rd.
Westlake, OH 44145
440-617-9653
www.elks.org

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lorain County, Inc.

Marcus Madison
1917 N. Ridge Rd. East, Suite A
Lorain, OH 44055
440-277-6541
www.bigloraincounty.org

Buffalo Wild Wings

David Kajganich
32914 Walker Rd.
Avon Lake, OH 44012
440-933-7325
www.buffalowildwings.com

Cracker Barrel

Timothy Pursifull
5205 Detroit Rd.
Sheffield, OH 44054
440-934-7777
www.crackerbarrel.com

GL Direct

Mike Stewart
33625 Pin Oak Parkway
Avon Lake, OH 44012
440-892-7760
www.gll.com

Good Samaritan Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation

Prentice Thompson
32900 Detroit Rd.
Avon, OH 44011
440-937-6201
www.goodsamnr.com

Great Lakes Computer Corporation

Kevin Haligan
33675 Lear Industrial Parkway
Avon, OH 44011
440-937-1100
www.greatlakescomputer.com

Image Builders Marketing

Bernice Kaldy
9780 Beechwood Dr.
North Royalton, OH 44133
440-346-4482
www.imagebuildersmarketing.us

Jacobs Eye Center, Ltd.

K. Anne Jacobs, MD
36505 Detroit Rd.
Avon, OH 44011
440-934-5816
www.jacobseyecenter.com

Nationwide Insurance

Lance Meiners
152 Lear Rd.
Avon Lake, OH 44012
440-933-6277
www.nationwide.com

Panera Bread

Jacqueline Corbett
35860 Detroit Rd.
Avon, OH 44011
440-937-4646
www.panera.com

SVS Vision Optical Center

Monica Hunnell
5249 Detroit Rd., Rt. 301
Sheffield, OH 44054
440-934-3267
www.svsvision.com

North Coast Chamber 2011 Bright Star Recognized

The Chamber Bright Stars for 2011 were recognized on Thursday, October 27th at the semi-annual Chamber Leadership meeting and fourth annual Bright Star Awards presentation of the Northern Ohio Area Chambers of Commerce (NOACC) at the Hyatt Regency Cleveland at the Arcade in Cleveland, Ohio.

Almost 50 chambers of commerce across northern Ohio nominated a person from their chamber as their "Bright Star", to recognize a chamber member who has "made a significant impact on the chamber through membership, retention, sponsorship, economic development, operations and/or education". Each Bright Star is an active chamber member for no less than two years and is likely to be an unsung hero or a dedicated behind-the-scenes volunteer.

Paul Gregory, Partner at Cohen and Co. and the North Coast Chamber's 2011 Bright Star, accepted his certificate from Wayne Lawrence, NOACC Chairman and received his trophy from Lute Harmon, Chairman of Inside Business Magazine.

John Sobolewski said, "Paul is currently the Treasurer of the North Coast Chamber. He is a partner of Cohen & Co. CPA's. Paul's financial expertise is invaluable to the chamber and the North Coast Chamber's education foundation. Although Paul has an extremely busy schedule, that

does not deter him from participating in many chamber functions."



From left to right: Wayne Lawrence, NOACC Chairman; John Sobolewski, North Coast Chamber Executive Director; Paul Gregory, North Coast Chamber Treasurer, and Lute Harmon, Chairman of Inside Business Magazine

This is the fourth year for the Bright Star Awards and again has given an opportunity to recognize these volunteers among their peer groups, as chamber representa-

tives, board members and spouses were also in attendance.

Wayne Lawrence, NOACC Chairman, was pleased that this opportunity allowed the chambers and their communities to give these "Bright Stars" the thanks they deserve for everything they do to help their chambers succeed.

Vicky Hawke
NOACC Executive Director
216-447-9900

North Coast Chamber Now Accepts Credit Cards

We are pleased to announce that the Chamber now accepts credit cards! If you would like to renew your dues with a credit card, simply visit our website at www.northcoastchamber.com, click on "Join Today" and select the appropriate renewal term.

Members can also pay for their luncheons via credit card at the door the day of the event. In the very near future, members will be able to pre-pay for their lunches on our website. We will send a notification to members when this is available.

Member Spotlight

RESTHAVEN MEMORY GARDENS

The entire staff at Resthaven Memory Gardens, 3700 Center Rd. in Avon is pleased and proud to be members of the North Coast Chamber of Commerce. We also greatly appreciate the warm welcome, kindness and support from everyone who is a part of this wonderful organization.

Resthaven has been in operation for half a century and is one of the most unique and picturesque cemeteries in the area. An abundance of trees and shrubs frame the various gardens and although we are located off of Route 83 it is extremely quiet and peaceful. Resthaven is large enough to accommodate our residents, yet small enough to be comfortable and inviting to our visiting families.

Known for its assortment of beautiful gardens and mausoleums, Resthaven is recognized by many as having one of the very best military gardens in North East Ohio, the Garden of Four Chaplains. The garden is named after the Four Chaplains of different faiths who gave up their lives to help American soldiers and sailors abandon a sinking ship during WWII. This prominent garden is surrounded by an assortment of flags including the stars and stripes and military insignias. Veterans serving in WWII and later are proudly at rest here.



The Garden of Four Chaplains

For those individuals and families preferring up-right headstones our garden of Reflection is the perfect choice. The gardens of Wisdom and Devotion continue to be very desirable locations for many of our families.



Mausoleum

Above ground entombment is also available in our mausoleum and has been very popular. We are adding a new wing to provide additional crypt space and rewarding interested customers with pre-construction incentive discounts!

We also offer Private Estates for individuals and families desiring the ultimate entombment option.

The wisdom of pre-planning:

Pre-planning burial/entombment arrangements can save many thousands of dollars during a lifetime and provide peace of mind for those who realize the benefits of doing so.



Chapel

It is projected that cemetery and funeral products/service costs will continue to double every 7-10 years! Pre-planning also has its rewards, including special discounts that are not available during at-need emergency purchases made at time of death! In addition to freezing costs at today's dollars other benefits of pre-planning that Resthaven offers include:

- The ability to make rational decisions.
- Spouses can decide together.
- Attractive financing terms available.
- Family Protection Plan.
- Child Protection Plan.
- Relocation Benefits.
- Unemployment Protection.
- Ability to purchase in stages.
- Away from home protection.
- Opportunity to change your mind.

From all of us at Resthaven we wish you the Merriest Christmas ever and a very Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year! We look forward to serving you. Thank you!

Robert A. Cupo

Special Benefits to North Coast Chamber Members:

A certificate of credit that can be used towards burial or entombment space of your choice, **valued at \$1,150.00** and our gift to you! Additional special discounts are also available to members. A Professional Staff of Family Service Advisors to serve you. To accommodate your busy schedules we can meet with you at your home or business at your convenience.

Contact us at 440-934-6555

SPOTLIGHT OPPORTUNITY

All members of the North Coast Chamber of Commerce are welcome to have their business "spotlighted" in our newsletter.

If you would like to have your business featured in our newsletter, please send an email to carrie.hartman@firstmerit.com. This is a great opportunity to let the chamber members know more about your business or organization.

This is just one of the many chamber benefits that is provided at no charge. Please note that we only spotlight one member per issue so don't let this opportunity pass you by—Contact Carrie today!

WEBSITE ADVERTISING

Did you know the North Coast Chamber website at www.northcoastchamber.com averages 34,700 visits per month? That's over 1,146 website visits per day!

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN FOR YOUR BUSINESS? With over 1,146 visits per day (and growing), the Chamber website is a GREAT location to advertise your company. What are you waiting for?

If you are interested in putting your business advertisement on our website, contact Sharon Matthews at 440-933-9311 or email her at sharon@northcoastchamber.com.

Mike Abfall, CFP®
Financial Advisor

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



37190 Colorado Ave.
Suite 104
Avon, OH 44011
Bus. 440-934-5735 Fax 877-257-2135
TF. 866-934-5735
mike.abfall@edwardjones.com
www.edwardjones.com







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3721 Oberlin Ave.
Lorain
(440) 282-6188

Homewood Office
2233 E. 42nd St.
Lorain
(440) 277-5809

Amherst Office
1180 Park Ave.
Amherst
(440) 984-4009

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NORTH COAST
Chamber of Commerce

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Business Name _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Phone _____ **Fax** _____

Website Address _____

Email Address _____

Person(s) to Receive Mail _____

Goods / Services Provided _____

Awards / Acknowledgements _____

Business Hours _____

Would you be interested in hosting a Business After Hours? _____

Would you be interested in serving on a committee? _____

Would you be interested in advertising in the newsletter or the website? _____

Cost of membership dues per year:

_____ \$175 per business of 1-49 employees (plus a one-time \$25 application fee)

_____ \$250 per business of 50+ employees (plus a one-time \$25 application fee)

Referred by: _____

Payment Type: Check Visa Mastercard

Credit Card # _____ **Exp. Date:** _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

PLEASE MAIL APPLICATION WITH PAYMENT TO:

**NORTH COAST CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
PO BOX 275 • AVON LAKE, OH 44012**

**If you have any questions, please call the chamber office at 440-933-9311.
www.northcoastchamber.com**

GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Mission Statement: To advance the economic interests of our members and thereby stimulate growth and development in the North Coast Region.