

# Member to Member News



The past few meetings of the Member Services Team have been so lively and inspiring. For example, the idea for the Chamber to sponsor a gift certificate program came up at a meeting last October. The team then formed a subcommittee and researched all the possibilities, details and logistics. The idea has now become a reality. The Chamber Board approved implementation of a Chamber gift certificate program at their January 26, 2005 meeting. The team continues to research the needs of our members to provide educational breakfast seminars in 2005. One of the recurring needs is cost-effective marketing. The team looks forward to finding programs and speakers to fulfill that need and to finding out what other services the Chamber can offer to you—our valued members. —Bill Strong

## 2005 Member Services Team

Bill Strong  
Team Leader

Tracy Bedeker  
First Federal Savings

Debbie Clausen  
Manpower

Dan Farrell  
Farrell Chiropractic

Tom Hoffman  
Retired

Karen Karpati  
Countrywide Lending

Angie Stevenson  
Stevenson Transfer

Dr. Maureen Work  
BodyCare Chiropractic

Don Harris  
OAC Chair

Melissa Ruvalcaba  
OAC Asst. Exec. Director

Boyd Palmer  
OAC Exec. Director

## Chamber Members Will Soon Have the Oppor- tunity to Participate in a Chamber-sponsored Gift Certificate Program

The Ottawa Area Chamber is always looking for ways to increase the number of dollars spent locally, and to further benefit our valued member businesses. The upcoming gift certificate program is geared to do just that. By purchasing Ottawa Chamber Bucks Gift Certificates, consumers keep their shopping dollars local and it makes gift giving easier.

The Chamber has finalized an agreement with CertifiChecks for a gift certificate program. The Member Services Team is working on all of the packets to send to members and on forging a marketing plan.

Look for more information soon!



CertifiChecks was founded in 1999 and serves nearly 60,000 accepting locations, including Restaurant Associations, Chambers of Commerce, Bed and Breakfast Associations, and the U.S. military commissaries and exchanges throughout the world.

## 2005 Chamber Events...More to Come

Tuesday, March 8—Business After Hours  
Tuesday, March 29—Legislative Lunch  
Wednesday, May 4—Business After Hours  
Wednesday, May 18—Annual Dinner  
Wednesday, July 27—Welcomeburger  
Wednesday, Sept. 7—Business After Hours  
Thursday, Sept. 15—Golf & Tennis Outing  
Wednesday, Oct. 12—Business After Hours  
Tuesday, October 25—State of the City

# Welcome New Members

## November

JJ's Pub  
Jeremy Johnson

The Class Room  
Colleen Fennessey

Burton Placement  
Services of Ottawa  
Beth Heaton

## December

Countrywide Lending  
Karen Karpati

Mr. Usman Shaikh

## January

Mr. Hans Andrews

Girl Scouts of  
Centrillio Council  
Linda Hannon-Strecker

Prudential Financial  
Karen Barton

Dr. Don Ahrendsen

Mr. Ben Wiegmann

Streul's  
Glenn Streul

Edward Jones  
Investments  
Mark Platt