

GREETINGS FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP TEAM!

Tracy Bedeker, *First Federal Savings Bank*
Karen Karpart, *First Federal Savings Bank*
Dr. Maureen Work, *BodyCare Chiropractic*
Ben Wiegmann, *Old Second Bank Ottawa*

Debbie Clausen, *Manpower*
Ken Murata, *MBL*
Tom Hoffman, *Cards & Coins*
Mike Wickkiser, *UnionBank*

Business After Hours

A Holiday Affair

November 25

Sponsored by: OAC & Union Bank

Edition 4
November
2003

OAC OTTAWA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

Member to Member News



Chamber Convenes General Meeting...



On November 6, 2003, over 50 Ottawa Area Chamber of Commerce & Industry members gathered to participate in the first general membership meeting held in recent years. Those in attendance had an opportunity to meet members of the board and team leaders and were presented with an overview of the activities and initiatives of the Chamber. The message of the evening was simple and stated often: **members are the lifeline of our Chamber.** It's important to have a forum to hear from the membership and a time where members can come together to hear what the chamber is doing to achieve it's goals. Membership input is important to the growth and development of the Chamber. Due to the success of this initial meeting, a spring General Membership Meeting is being planned. Many thanks to all who attended.

Bill Strong

For additional information on the meeting, or to get more involved, please contact the chamber office.

OAC Health Insurance Survey

Due to an overwhelming number of inquiries, the Ottawa Area Chamber of Commerce will circulate a health insurance survey to all chamber organization representatives to determine if there is significant interest in participating in a Chamber-sponsored group health insurance plan. At this time, the survey's will address small businesses health insurance needs. The survey will be distributed the week of December 1, 2003. In anticipation to the response, a meeting is being planned in January to discuss the potential for a group plan.

IV LEADS Ottawa Community Day

The 2004 IV Lead Class spent the day engaged in tours and dialogue with OAC Chamber members: the Community Hospital of Ottawa, City Hall—Mayor Bob Eschbach, City Engineer Gary Pike, St. Louis Beverage Company, B&B Electronics and the Illinois Valley Building Trades Council. Illinois Valley Leadership (IVLead) is a comprehensive community leadership development program designed to build collaboration among the communities in the Illinois Valley Community College District, under the direction of the local Chambers of Commerce. The components of effective leadership development are embodied in this program of participation, learning and application. OAC ED, Linda Thomas-Wallace and OVC ED Shannon Silva are members of the 2004 IV Lead class.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

(10/23/03)

Ms. Joann Chalus
Retired

Carlson Auto Body
Gary Carlson

Obees Soup Salad Subs
Frank Pullam, Owner

The Mercantile
John W. Hettel, Owner

Insite Real Estate Development, LLC
Daniel E. Fogarty, Jr. General Manager

Reverend Gerald J. Meyer
Pastor, St. Francis of Assisi Parish

G.E. Financial Advisors
Seneca Assembly of God
Tim McGeorge, Pastor

Psychic Visions
Danny Stokes, Owner

HELP WANTED

1 full-time bookkeeper.
1 part-time bookkeeper.

For additional information contact the Chamber:
(815) 433-0084