



CHAMBER Connection

Serving the communities of Columbus, Forest Lake, Lent, Linwood, Scandia, Stacy, and Wyoming

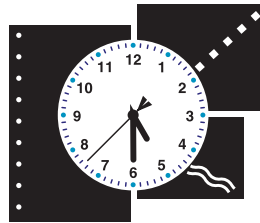
Your Chamber Debuts Promotional Video at Annual Meeting

Your Chamber has been working on a promotional video with Doc Savage Productions for over a year. No — we are not slow learners. It takes a year to capture all of the things we do. Join us to see the video and to celebrate another great year. We will award our Community Volunteer of the Year, our Chamber Volunteer of the Year as well as the Business of the Year as voted on by you, our members.

September 23, 2004	5:00 p.m.	Social Hour and Mini Golf
Eko Bakken	6:30 p.m.	Dinner
Cost \$20	7:30 p.m.	Video and Awards

Register on enclosed form or on line at www.flacc.org

East Metro Chambers' Business After Hours



September 30, 2004 • 4:30-7:00 p.m.
State Fair Grounds
Free to attend. Great food!

Booths still available. Sign up for a booth on our website www.flacc.org or call 651-464-3200.

Forest Lake Area Chamber of Commerce
Volume 21, Issue 9 • September 2004

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OUR MISSION

The Forest Lake Area Chamber of Commerce is an organization representing business and industry, working together to advance the economic well being of its members and the community.





**BRING YOUR
BUSINESS
CARDS!!**

a.m. Connection September 29

The next a.m. Connection will take place on Wednesday, September 29 at 8:00 am at Beadiful World, 95 N. Lake Street, Forest Lake. Take an hour to mix and mingle with other Chamber members while enjoying a light breakfast. If you don't have an entire hour, don't worry—stay as long as you want. Please RSVP by Tuesday, September 28 by calling the Chamber office, 651-464-3200, by fax 651-464-3201 or online at www.flacc.org.

September Refreshment Host

Thank you!

Rainbow Foods

The Refreshment Host supplies the Chamber with coffee, pop, and snacks for meetings held at the office. The cost is \$30 in cash or supplies.

BUSINESS OF THE MONTH

Lakewoods Chiropractic

Lakewoods Chiropractic is located in Schilling Plaza across from Forest Lake High School, and is the largest volume chiropractic clinic in the state. According to Dr. Jason Gerard, clinic owner and chiropractor, he and his wife and partner, Dr. Josée Gerard,



Dr. Jason Gerard



Dr. Josée Gerard

owe their clinic's success to hard work, top-notch education and patients, and many speeches, seminars and community activities every year.

Dr. Jason Gerard received a Bio-Med Science degree and a Doctor of Chiropractor from Northwestern College of Chiropractic. Dr. Josée Gerard has a BS in Psychology from the University of Calgary and a Doctor of Chiropractor, also from Northwestern College of Chiropractic.

At Lakewoods Chiropractic, their purpose is to "help you and your family achieve your optimum health . . . without the use of drugs or surgery." The Doctors have geared their clinic to provide education as well as chiropractic services to their patients and the community. Their Half an Hour to Health workshop is held the first and third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Practice members as well as the general public are invited to attend.

Dr. Jason Gerard is also awaiting the publication of a new book that has already reached "best selling" status. Dr. Gerard wrote one of the chapters in *The World's Best Kept Health Secret*, due out in September. The book consists of thirty chapters, each written by a different author. Following publication, Dr. Gerard will be speaking area-wide about the book and its content.

Lakewoods Chiropractic has been a member of your Chamber since 1999. According to Dr. Gerard, they originally joined to meet other local business owners, but have also taken advantage of opportunities to meet people from throughout the Twin Cities. They've done that through both the East Metro Business After Hours event and the Home and Business show.

You can reach Lakewoods Chiropractic at 651-464-0800 or check their website at www.lakewoodschiropractic.com.

FROM THE CHAIR



Have you ever noticed how golf tournaments are a lot like business? We put together a team of people with whom we hope to be successful and that we enjoy being with, all the while hoping to be achieve both. To reach that end, we use the best that each team member has to offer in order to streamline our progress. The competition is moving ahead as well, although we may be a world away with no idea of how they are progressing until we reach the end. We may come out ahead, behind or dead even at the end of the day.

The weather conditions on the golf course can easily mimic the conditions we face in the work world. Depending on the location of the tournament or our given business, opportunity may be seasonal. We may face storms that can alter the outcome of our efforts just as easily as they may have no effect. The storms can define us; we may make it through successfully; we may falter and fall out of contention; we may choose to postpone certain actions to survive for another day or we may choose to ignore forecast warnings and place everything at risk.

To be successful at either golf or business, we need to constantly hone our skills (something yours truly has forgotten about when it comes to golf). We enter both with certain goals for winning, whether for immediate success or for long-term relationship building to foster future success. As we progress, we evaluate all of the input necessary to make either endeavor successful, from the equipment needed to the people we surround ourselves with. In golf, just as in the business world, the equipment and team does not always guarantee a favorable outcome, but patience, effort and good will can reap great dividends.

We have a lot to be proud of here at the Forest Lake Area Chamber of Commerce. Our members contributed heavily to this year's golf tournament and weathered the storm to make it a very successful one. The actions of the volunteers and the perseverance of the teams through a very stormy day left me with no doubt that their efforts in business will be just as successful. Thank you to everyone who made this year's tournament such a success.

Sincerely,
Rob Griffin
Gaughan Properties

We accept Visa or
MasterCard for all
Chamber events.



Patronize Your Fellow Chamber Members

For some great exercise and fun, check out the Chamber businesses below.

Forest Lake Flyaways

255 NW 7th Ave
Forest Lake, MN 55025
651-464-8648

Kyoshin Ryu Karate Academy

280 SW 12th Street, #280
Forest Lake, MN 55025
651-982-9395

Sun Yi's Academy of Tae Kwon Do

255 SE Hwy 97, Unit 5BB
Forest Lake, MN 55025
651-464-0034

Free notary service

Notary service available FREE to all Chamber members. Janet Hesselgrave is a notary public. Stop in at the Chamber office between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. and Janet will be happy to notarize your documents. Don't forget your driver's license!

Welcome New Members

Pinehaven Farm

28186 Kettle River Blvd.
Wyoming, MN 55092
651-462-4848

Nightmare at Pinehaven Farm

28186 Kettle River Blvd.
Wyoming, MN 55092
651-462-7279

The Squeak Squad

612-747-7801

Thank You Renewing Members

The following members have renewed their investment in their Chamber of Commerce. Please utilize their services whenever possible:

Human Services, Inc.

Bachmann for State Senate

FROM THE PRESIDENT



New and potential members of your Chamber often ask, "When do you meet?" I am never quite sure how to answer that. Our organization is not set up like the Lions or the Rotary with a set meeting time each month or week. We provide a variety of opportunities throughout the year for our members to find ways to get the most out of their membership.

Have you ever asked yourself why you joined the Forest Lake Area Chamber of Commerce? Did you join for the free advertising in our membership directory,

on our website, and through our referrals? Did you join so that you could leave your brochures and business cards in our reception area? Did you join to make a difference in our community and are finding ways to do that through the networking and by working with other members on committees and task forces? Did you join because your Chamber monitors and works on public policy issues that may affect your business?

The answer to "when do you meet?" is what are you looking for in your membership? You want networking — we have 15 different ways you can do that! You want advertising opportunities — we have at least 10 different ways you can do that! You want some assistance getting your voice heard at city hall — we have at least 8 different ways to help you get involved!

Want to find more ways to be involved? The last Friday of every other month we have a Membership Orientation to help new members, new managers or owners or even long time members find ways to get the most from their membership. Call the office at 464-3200 if you want to attend the next one on September 24 at 8:00 am at your Chamber office. We will have the coffee and treats ready for you.

Debby

debby@flacc.org • 651-464-3200

BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU ALERT

Golf Fright

Bureaus around the country are reporting a new scam that dupes golfers into thinking they are being given the opportunity to test a new type of golf club. Golfers receive a call asking if they would be willing to "play test" a new line of high quality golf clubs. When the recipient agrees, they are asked for their credit card number and told their account will be charged \$1,500. They are also told they will be credited \$1,500 as soon as the clubs are returned. Although victims sometimes receive a set of cheap clubs, they certainly do not get what they paid for, and they never receive their \$1,500 refund. Please call the Better Business Bureau before you give your credit card number to any caller.

A Big Thank You

Thanks to the following businesses who sponsored the lunches for new teachers at our Business Education Day.

Anoka Hennepin Credit Union	Mary Kay Consultant—Alyce Taylor
The Balloon Shop	The Music Connection
Bill's Auto Body	Dr. Richard Nyman, DDS
Bracht Chiropractic P.A.	Press Publications
Fairview Lakes Regional Health Care	First Service Insurance Agency
First State Bank of Wyoming	Prudential Financial-- Randy Rheault
Five Star Financial Resources – Bradley Beck	State Farm Insurance-- Jesse Johnson
Doug Beck	Tranquil Journey
Mitch Rehbine	Greater Twin Cities United Way
Rollie Schlichting	Vandever and Associates
Forest Lake Times & Peach Hebert, Welch & Humphreys P.A.	Wal-Mart
Andrew Hegstad, DDS	Wells Fargo Bank
It Figures!/Pace for Men	Wendy Rychley, CPA
JNT Landscaping	WINDOW WORX
Mainstreet Bank	

Recycling Good for Business

Your county government is working hard to give local businesses the tools they need to better manage their resources, dispose of their wastes, and improve the efficiency of their operations all while helping protect our environment. That is why the Solid Waste Management Coordinating Board has enhanced its Green Guardian website www.GreenGuardian.com with new tools and information to help businesses reduce, reuse, and recycle waste.

From finding a new home for unwanted office furniture and old computers to identifying recycling services for used oil filters, concrete, or pallets, the business section of the Green Guardian website has easy-to-find answers for what to do with just about any waste material. Businesses interested in changing the way they handle products and waste can log on at no charge.

Calendar of Events

September

- 1 Program/Activities Committee Meeting
- 2 Membership Committee Meeting
- 6 Office Closed--Labor Day
- 7 The A Tour Ambassadors
- 9 Board Meeting
- 23 Annual Meeting
- 24 Member Orientation
- 30 East Metro Chamber's Business After Hours

Community

- 11-12 Hay Day Races-- Columbus
- 11 Taco Days--Scandia
- 11 Linwood Family Fun Day
- 25 Pinehaven Farm opens for Fall Festival through Halloween



Customer Contacts By Staff in July

Apartment Lists Requested 2

Calls Answered for Chamber President (not counted elsewhere) 160

Demographic Info Request 10

Emails 656

Event, Chamber or Member Queries 47

General Business Referrals & Maps 57

Government, Social Agency or Organization Referrals 49

Moving Packs Requested 11

New Member Inquiries 7

Specific Member Referrals 25

Total Contacts 1230

Walk-in Visitors Included Above 116

Unique Visitors to Website

Total Number of Visits to Website

OUTGOING MAIL COUNT IN JUNE

(excluding Newsletter & Bulk Rate Mailings)

Apartment List 0

Bills 11

Tourist Info 1

Invoices 49

Miscellaneous 4

Member Communications 27

New Member Info 5

Demog/Moving/New Res Packs . . . 6

103 Total Cost of \$ 59.09

August Ambassadors

THREE'S THE CHARM

Members of the Forest Lake Area Chamber of Commerce volunteer their time to make "Ambassador Visits" to local businesses each month. If you would like a visit from the Ambassadors, please call the Chamber office at 651-464-3200. The Ambassadors' Corporate Sponsor is Mainstreet Bank. The Ambassadors visited Picturesque and Tranquil Journey in August:



Business Education Day a great success!





FOREST LAKE AREA

Chamber of Commerce

Board of Directors request the pleasure of your company at the

2004 ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, September 23, 2004

4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Eko Backen

22570 Manning Trail N Scandia, MN

Hwy. 97 east 5 miles from Hwy. 61 to 4 way stop at Manning. Turn left approx. 3 miles. Will be on your left.

\$20.00 per person • Casual Attire

Please R.S.V.P. by September 17, 2004

Business of the Year Ballot – Due September 6, 2004

(Ballots sent with Annual Meeting Invitation to primary contact only)

For more information call the Chamber Office at 651-464-3200

- Complimentary mini-golf starts at 5:00 P.M.
- Social Hour 5:00 p.m.
- Dinner 6:30 p.m.
- Debut of new Chamber video!
- Followed by Community Volunteer of the Year, Chamber Volunteer of the Year and Business of the Year Awards
- How about a talent show?

.....
Business Name: _____

Phone: _____ Number attending: _____

Name(s) of those attending: _____

Method of Payment: Check enclosed Bill me Credit Card

Credit Card Number: (Master or Visa only) _____ Exp. _____

Name on card: (PRINT) _____ Signature: _____

Register by: FAX: 651-464-3201; ON-LINE: www.flacc.org or
MAIL: FLACC, PO Box 474, Forest Lake, MN 55025-0474

This event is open to members. Reservations may be cancelled up to 24 hours before the event. Reservations not cancelled will be billed as the Chamber must guarantee and pay for all meals reserved.

Please thank our Beverage Sponsor Lake Area Bank

A great big round of applause to all those who made this year's golf tourney so successful.

DONATORS:

Ace Solid Waste
AFLAC - Wendy Renard
Aggregate Industries
Applebee's
Beadiful World
Birchwood Health Care
Bruggeman Homes, Inc.
Buckley & Jensen
Centennial Mortgage - Rob Albin
Connexus Energy
Country Inn & Suites - Forest Lake
Curves - Forest Lake
David Engelking LTD
Dawn Stebbing - Arbonne Inter.
Dazy Maze Incense & More
Edina Realty - Jacquie Krismer
Edina Realty - Kris Martin
Fairview Lakes Regional Medical Center
Falcon Ridge Golf Course
Famous Daves
Five Star Financial Services - Doug Beck
FLAAA
Forest Hills Golf Club
Forest Hills Restaurant
Forest Lake Embroidery
Forest Lake Floral
Forest Lake Times & Peach
Forest Laker
Galleberg Chiropractic Clinic
Gavia, Inc.
Golden Tones Tanning
Good Plumbing & Heating
Heidi Jensen - Avon
Johnson Law Firm
LaGrande Salon
Mainstreet Bank
Marketplace Foods
Mattson & Wiens LTD
McDonald's - Forest Lake
Music Connection

Old Log Cabin
Olson's Sewer & Excavation
OSI Physical Therapy
Peppermint Parlour & Eatery
Perkins
Pizza Hut
Royal Concrete Pipe
TCF
The Lobster Shop
Thomas S. Turry, DDS
Tranquil Journey
Trinity Mortgage
Upperdeck
Vandever Associate Appraisers, Inc.
Vetter's Electric
Wal-Mart

CORPORATE SPONSORS:

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Connexus Energy
Fairview Lakes Regional Health Care
Forest Lake Ford
Gaughan Properties
Lake Area Bank
Lino Lakes State Bank
US Bank
Norman Quacks
Wally McCarthy's Chevrolet, Olds, Cadillac
Wells Fargo Bank

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Doc Savage Productions
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First State Bank of Wyoming
Forest Lake Chrysler, Plymouth, Dodge
Forest Lake Sanitation
Forest Laker
Gavia, Inc.

Gold Plumbing & Heating
Investment Centers of America, Inc.
Johnson Law Firm
Neujahr Remodeling
North Metro Harness Initiative, LLC
Ron's TV & Appliances
TCF
Dr. Thomas Turry, DDS
Waldoch Sports, Inc.

HOLE & CONTEST SPONSORS:

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Falcon Ridge Golf Course
Five Star Financial Services
Forest Lake Area Athletic Association
Forest Lake Press
Forest Lake Travel
Lakeside Groceries
Landmark Insurance Services
Mainstreet Bank
Micro Consulting
Norman Quacks
Novak's Pontiac, Buick GMC Center
Dr. Sinna, DDS
State Farm Insurance - Bruce Johnson
State Farm Insurance - Jesse Johnson

HORS D'OEUVRES:

Xcel Energy
ISD #831 Community Education

TROPHIES:

ABBA Trophy Inc.

POSTER PRINTING SPONSOR:

Sisbro Printing

POSTER DESIGN SPONSOR:

Classy Acres Design



◀ Michelle Nichols, Rob Griffin and Steve Ness of Gaughen Properties won first place for co-ed team.

▼ Duane Houle, Lynelle Houle, Tom Houle and Julie Houle golfing for Blockbuster took the trophy for the highest score.



◀ Jim Friend, Greg Kienholz and Doug Beck golfing for Mainstreet Bank were the best men's team. Greg Kienholz won a trip to Puerto Rico sponsored by Novak Pontiac/Buick/GMC Truck for getting a hole in one. Congrats Greg!

Jacquie Krismer, Jeanne Loucks, Pat Johnson and Connie Johnson won best women's team honors. ▶



The 2004 Elections: Let's turn out the vote

By David Olson, President, Minnesota Chamber of Commerce

While Minnesota has been a key focus of the 2004 presidential candidates, we must not forget about the hundreds of races that will occur at the local and state level this fall. It is more important than ever that state and local candidates understand the issues that impact Minnesota employers and their employees.

Take time this fall to visit with candidates. Tell them about issues that affect your business and your employees when they knock on your door. Attend local candidate forums. Encourage your employees to learn about the issues and go to the polls and vote in November. Research shows that when business owners and managers talk to their employees about important issues, they are more likely to vote and make informed decisions. After the 2002 elections, surveys found that regular employer communication increased voter turnout by 30 percent among companies that participated in P2.

The Minnesota Chamber of Commerce (MNCC) provides an easy way to find out who your state legislators are, how incumbents voted on key business issues, and even how their challengers would respond to the same crucial issues. The Minnesota Prosperity Project, (P2) is a nonpartisan web site that provides a wealth of information. Simply go to the MNCC website, www.mnchamber.com and click on

the Prosperity Project link. You can also access the voting records of the Minnesota congressional delegation and use the site to communicate with elected officials, register to vote and even get an absentee ballot. In addition, you can add the P2 to your own company's web site at no charge to allow your employees to cut through the mountain of political material they are likely getting, and focus on what matters: the issues. P2 can be linked to your company's website and customized to meet your needs at no cost to you. If you are interested in adding the Prosperity Project web site, or have questions about other

employer based get out the vote activities, call Mike Franklin at the MNCC at 651-292-4661.

Every day, government actions influence your business, your family and the lives of your employees. Business owners and employees must be informed about the important competitive issues that will set the pace for our state and national economy in the years ahead. Whether it is the Minnesota P2, your local newspaper or the candidate forum sponsored by the local chamber, I encourage you to tap into the resources that will engage your employees as active, informed voters in this election.

How they voted

The Minnesota Chamber tracks specific issues important to the business community and the important votes on those issues in the state legislature. Last session there were 12 critical votes in the House and 19 in the Senate. The following is a report of our local legislators supported business issues.

Representative Pete Nelson	agreed on 10 of the 12 critical issue votes	83%
Representative Ray Vandever	agreed on 9 of the 12 critical issue votes	75%
Senator Sean Nienow	agreed on 18 of the 19 critical issue votes	94%
Senator Michelle Bachmann	agreed on 18 of the 19 critical issue votes	94%

Thank them all for their support of business issues.

If you would like to see a this report in more detail please call your chamber.

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 Fax: (651) 464-5143
 email: flkdeb@aol.com
Debra Oaks-Rentschler
 Owner

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FOREST LAKE AREA Chamber of Commerce

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