

August 20, 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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TRENTON CHAMBER MONTHLY UPDATE

Barneveld – The Trenton Chamber of Commerce held it's monthly meeting on August 12 at the Municipal Building. President Debby Leiker reported that a new Membership Committee is now in place and has a list of objectives. It has been determined that all chamber Executives, that is all officers and directors, will make up the Membership Committee.

The group will use the monthly executive meetings to get updated on activities and needs of the committee, thereby making this an active year round group. The Membership Committee will be focusing on maintaining the annual member list used for mailings and the annual brochure, annual dues solicitation, sending letters to potential new members, sending welcome packets to new members and more. All in attendance felt this was a good idea and will help streamline the work.

In the future invoices will be mailed to current members on December 1st with a follow-up reminder if needed around January 1st to those who haven't paid their dues. A firm deadline will be February 1st in order to be included in the annual brochure. This way the brochure can be produced sooner in the year than it has been.

Members are reminded to visit the website, www.trentonchamber.com and check their listings and links for accuracy. If there is an error or if your website link is not connected, let Debby Leiker or Carol Buczek know so that corrections can be made.

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The summer Business After Hours was held at Trenton Station on July 29th. The event was co-sponsored by Trenton Station and Adirondack Cheese. The event raised about \$200.00 profit and thanks go out to all those who attended.

The fall Business After Hours will be Thursday, September 16 at the Remsen VFW. This event is co-sponsored by the VFW and Tours By Design. More details will be announced soon but please mark your calendar now for another evening of good food and networking.

Also mark your calendars for our fall highway clean up. Volunteers will be needed to pick up trash along Route 12 on Monday, October 4 with a rain date of October 5. This is part of the chamber's Adopt-A-Highway program.

Members will soon be asked to sell raffle tickets for our annual Fuel Raffle fundraiser. This year the winner of the raffle will choose from firewood, heating oil and propane. Three thousand tickets are being printed and all members will be asked to sell tickets or purchase them themselves. The raffle kickoff will officially be at the Remsen Barn Fest but it is hoped tickets will be available for members to pick up at the Business After Hours September 16 to cut mailing expenses. Thanks to Fitz Hardiman for spearheading this raffle again, along with Robin Carey and Shannon Corelli-Bowers.

Trenton Chamber members are invited to take part in the "Welcome Student Initiative" coordinated by the Genesis Group. It's a free program and members are just asked to offer a discount or incentive to college students attending any of the 11 local colleges once the student shows identification. The business will be listed on the website, www.collegewelcome.org. For more information contact Ray Durso at 792-7187.

The Chamber will move its October meeting to the evening to try and get more attendance. In an effort to draw different members, the monthly meeting will take place on October 14 at the Municipal Building with refreshments at 5:30, meeting at 5:45, to end around 6:30pm. It is hoped that some of the members who can not join us in the mornings might be able to attend this evening meeting and learn what's going with their chamber and offer input. If successful, we may try having a couple evening meetings throughout the year.

Mohawk Valley EDGE is sponsoring a Business After Hours at their new office in Rome. The event is Tuesday August 31, 5:30 until 7:30pm. The cost is \$5.00 for any Trenton Chamber member. Please RSVP to 337-1700.

The Oneida County Microenterprise Grant still has funds available to give away. The grant program is for small businesses in Oneida County located outside of the cities of Utica and Rome. You must have five or less employees, be a registered United States corporation or partnership or sole proprietorship, and be involved in manufacturing, warehousing, agri-business, high technology, R&D and more. A summary of the program and an application are available at the Edge website. Please visit www.mvEDGE.org to find out how you can obtain money for your business.

Our next meeting is Thursday September 9 at 8:30am at the Trenton Municipal Building. Coffee is ready at 8:15am.

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