



SUPPORTING BUSINESS • BUILDING COMMUNITY • PROMOTING SPIRIT

THANK YOU in advance for your investment in the Fort Scott Area Chamber of Commerce and in the Fort Scott/Bourbon County community!

Some members join merely to support the work of the Chamber for the community and region; others seek to become more involved, or engaged with fellow colleagues, current customers, and future clients.

We hope whatever your desire is that you reap benefit from our organization whether it's through a Chamber-organized event such as the Christmas parade, utilizing the Chamber for job postings, attending a business workshop, or garnering a new relationship through networking at a weekly Chamber Coffee.

Without the support of members the Chamber simply would not exist. Each and every membership is important to the strength of our organization.

If at any time you have ideas, input, or want to be involved on a committee or volunteer, please do not hesitate to let us know.

2017 Year in Review for the Fort Scott Area Chamber of Commerce

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

- *We are sincerely thankful for nearly 400 (393 as of 12/31) members that support the Fort Scott Area Chamber of Commerce*
- *Special gratitude to our 15 Booster members supporting the mission of the Chamber at a premium level*

Business Advocacy, Development & Networking

- *Launched an all new fortscott.com website Spring 2017*
- *Chamber Coffee events have been held at 50 different businesses and organizations, 40-60 attendees weekly*
- *Hosted Chamber After-hours and Member Appreciation Event at Nate's Place, sponsored by Citizens Bank*
- *Held Ribbon Cuttings at 5 Corners Complex Re-grandopening, Bourbon County Law Enforcement Center, Country Place Living, Cricket Wireless, Domino's, Fort Scott Public Library, Kansas Rocks Recreation Park Expansion, Maria's Restaurant, No Limits Rehabilitation, Security 1st Title, Stutesman's Action Realty, and Price Chopper*
- *Organized Open House events at G&W Cash Saver, Foster Dairy*
- *Recognized & presented awards to deserving businesses & individuals at the Annual Chamber Dinner themed "Made in Greater Fort Scott"*
- *Produced a new community video in coordination with the City of Fort Scott, "Made in Greater Fort Scott"*
- *Held five Small Business Series workshops on Google, Facebook, Trip Advisor, Chamber Website Directory Profiles*
- *Hosted a KansasWorks seminar on their Registered Apprenticeship program*
- *Co-hosted a Tick Awareness seminar at Timber Hills Lake Ranch*

- *Organized the 2017 Sales Tax Holiday weekend in August*
- *Promoted & distributed materials for Small Business Saturday in November*
- *Benefitted a number of Chamber members saving on postage by using the Chamber's bulk mail permit*
- *Sent over 90 e-blasts on behalf of businesses & organizations*
- *Sold nearly \$3,000 in Chamber Bucks gift certificates that are used at local retailers & restaurants*
- *Distributed new "We Accept Chamber Bucks" window signs to promote the Chamber Bucks program*
- *Featured a "Store of the Month" each month in our lobby to show off local retail offerings and "Pick of the Week" in our weekly newsletters*
- *Produced the 2017 Chamber Community Guide & Membership Directory*
- *Prepared Swag Bags for visitors of multiple events including Eastern Star, FSHS Class Reunions, Marmaton Massacre, the Naturalization Ceremony, and Tri-Yak-a-Thon*
- *Completed the 2nd session of the Chamber's Entrepreneurs Book Club, reading "Will it Fly"*

Workforce Development

- *Organized Manufacturing Day 2017 along with the City and Fort Scott Community College*
- *Had a community Job Fair promoting jobs available in the community*
- *Posted "Job of the Day" openings at local businesses on social media nearly daily ~ over 200 jobs posted!*
- *Kicked off the 5th year of the High School Mentoring Program w/USD-234 with 19 matches*
- *Set up a booth at the FSCC Business Expo and FSCC Senior Day events promoting jobs available*

Leadership Development

- *Growing 12 community members through the Chamber's 2nd class of the LEAD Bourbon County program*

Downtown Programs & Events

- *Held quarterly Downtown Meet & Greet meetings focusing on events, promotions and other ideas for Downtown*
- *Created new Downtown "Shop Fort Scott" brochure*
- *Organized two 3rd Saturday Marketplace events to promote the Farmers' Market & Downtown Shopping*
- *Designed and ordered two new sets of Downtown pole banners: General Blue/Green & Patriotic Red/Blue*
- *Created a Toy Soldier Decorating Contest for Downtown*
- *Organized the Downtown Holiday Open House events in November & December*
- *Administer the Skubitiz Plaza Flag Project, flag replacements and renewals in the name of Veterans*
- *Completed renewals and new signs on the Downtown Directory, north end of Main on Skubitiz Plaza*
- *Provide Downtown Discount Cards to visiting groups to encourage shopping*

Resident & Business Resource/Recruitment

- *Issued the first Alumni e-Newsletter "Coming Home" to all FSHS Alumni with community highlights & information.*
- *Maintain a number of resource lists provided to locals or people looking to relocate residentially – rental property listing, construction & remodeling resources, child care, lawn care, job seeking, and more.*
- *Maintain a number of resource lists provided to locals or people looking to build or expand a business –meeting facilities, contractors & all other services related to construction & development, resource guide to incentives and grants available.*
- *Mailed & emailed relocation packets and information to more than 75 people looking to relocate to FS*
- *Provided a rental property listing to more than 200 students & others looking for rental housing in FS*
- *Administer the Curb Appeal recognition program w/the City of Fort Scott and issue Chamber Bucks to and promote the monthly winners*

Legislative & Government Affairs

- *Attended SEK Day on the Hill in Topeka with our legislators and regional leaders*
- *Hosted a Legislative Update in February and a Legislative Candidate Forum in October*
- *Issued weekly “This Week at the Statehouse” emails during the legislative session with pertinent updates*

Regional and State Representation

- *Served on the SEK Inc. Board of Directors, Workforce Development Committee Chair*
- *Attended the 2017 Chamber of Commerce Executives of Kansas Conference (CCEKS) & 2nd-year Board Member*
- *Attended the 2017 MAKO Chamber Conference*
- *Serve on 2018 MAKO Conference Committee (Missouri, Arkansas, Kansas, Oklahoma Chambers)*

Community Events & Promotion

- *Organized the Good Ol’ Days parade, Halloween parade, and the Christmas parade & other festivities*
- *Organized a 4th of July Patriotic Decorating Contest*
- *Created a Valentine’s Day promotional video showcasing Valentine’s Day in the Fort*
- *Promoted the Chamber & community at the 2017 Home, Sport, Farm & Garden Show*
- *Chamber staff or a board member held the weekly Chamber Compass radio program informing the community on happenings and other information*
- *Printed bi-monthly table tent calendars (over 400 copies each printing) for area restaurants, hotels & other businesses*
- *Distributed a weekly e-newsletter on “What’s Happening in Fort Scott”*
- *Organized Spring & Fall Town-wide Garage Sales bringing people to the community*
- *Hosting the Christmas Light – Holiday Trolley Tours*
- *Planned the first-ever Community Champion Roast & Toast with the Healthy Bourbon County Action Team*

Fundraising for Chamber Operations

- *Hosted the Chamber’s Annual Dinner & Awards Celebration, “Made in Greater Fort Scott”*
- *Held the 23rd Annual Chamber Golf Classic tournament*
- *Organized the 14th Annual Forks & Corks – A Taste of Fort Scott event*

Leadership, Staff & Contact Information

2017 Board Chairman: Deb Needleman, City of Fort Scott ~ 2018 Board Chairman: Gregg Motley, Landmark National Bank
Fort Scott Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director: Lindsay Madison

2017 Administrative Assistant: Allyson Turvey ~ 2018 Administrative Assistant: Vonnie Rickerson

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2017 Platinum Members



2017 Gold Members



2017 Silver Members



THANK YOU

*for being a part of
making a difference in
Fort Scott and
Bourbon County!*

~

*Looking forward to
a great year in 2018!*

