

Coopersville Area

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Your Business | Your Community | Your Future | Your Chamber

Coopersville Area Chamber of Commerce Newsletter

A word from: Rose

Welcome to 2014! We have had an unusual winter here in West Michigan! I certainly hope all of our members are not only surviving the freezing temperatures, but also the unbelievable amount of snow! Fortunately, I do believe that Spring is in sight! With that, I encourage all of our members to participate in the Spring Business Expo on March 22 the theme is a Luau, Aloha!

We have so much to cover in this newsletter! I encourage you to read it thoroughly and be sure to check out the document links for: Volunteer of the Year, EXPO, and Sponsorship Opportunities!

Thank you so much for your support and encouragement!

Rose

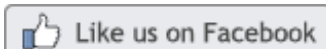
What can the Chamber do for me?

So often as I am out and about talking to perspective members, I am asked the question "What can the Chamber do for me?"

I am hoping to answer this question as you read the various articles throughout this newsletter. The Chamber has been extremely busy this year working on increasing membership by listening to your comments and requests and acting on them as best we can. Some of the projects we have accomplished are;

moving the Chamber offices to a location that is better suited for our members being accessible and conveniently located in the Community Services Building at **198 East St.**, a full schedule of events including, Chamber 101's, Business After Hours, Speed Networking, Breakfast Networking and Connected Chamber Women (CCW). We have also attended and help promote several ribbon cuttings and open houses throughout the year.

Check out our events calendar on our website ([events calendar](#)) for event listings or



. Please Read on to see what the Chamber can do for you!





What can the Chamber do for me?

Community Expo-Luau-Aloha!

The **Community Expo** will be our next event to be held on Saturday, March 22. Please click here for a link to the registration form! This year's expo will be held at the Coopersville High School. We believe this will lend itself to easier access for vendors and attendees. I am looking forward to attending the event! Even if you are not heading to a warm location for Spring Break, the Luau theme should help put us all in a warmer state of mind!



Chamber Connected Women (CCW)

What can the Chamber do for me?

Encourage you to participate in the many functions we offer throughout the year!

Business Women: If You're Not Attending This Meeting, You're Missing Out

It was another beautiful (eh-em), snowy, Michigan day; and all of the West Michigan business women in the know



were heading toward a lovely Valentine's Day luncheon in Grandville. The Connected Chamber Women's quarterly luncheons have become the networking events I most look forward to throughout the year. An opportunity to reconnect with women every few months with whom I have built trusted friendships. The perfect environment to reignite the passion I have for the work I do.

Believe me when I say that I understand the value of the time we all have available for networking, and that we need to make our choices wisely. Connected Chamber Women (CCW) connects me with women from all over West Michigan in a low pressure environment where I have the chance to build relationships with others going through the same challenges and victories as myself. The nine core chambers that make up the CCW are Allendale, Byron Center, Coopersville, Grandville-Jenison, Hispanic, Hudsonville, Walker, Wayland, and Wyoming-Kentwood.

I think the CCW Mission Statement gives you a good idea of what it's all about:

"The mission of Connected Chamber Women is to create connections between West Michigan Chambers and organizations. Meeting quarterly for women to enhance their business and personal relationships with opportunities to *Laugh* - lighten our load, *Learn* information to solve business problems and *Lavish* ourselves with encouragement in celebrating our successes and each other."

The speakers chosen for the CCW luncheons have inspired us in many ways over the past few events. The lucky ladies in attendance have learned about building a power wardrobe, organizing every aspect of our lives, balancing family and business, and how to encourage the enthusiasm in our lives and businesses that drives our success. I've been giving myself positive pep talks all week!

Most of all, I want to express my gratitude to our Executive Director Rose Zainea-Wieten for making sure that our Coopersville Chamber is a part of this unique opportunity. The strength that Women can bring to one another when we work together and share experiences is invaluable. I feel lucky to have the opportunity to meet with such an awesome group of women at these quarterly luncheons. Please consider joining us for the next event and sharing in this valuable networking opportunity.

-Julie Green, Boes Financial Center & Money Concepts



What can the Chamber do for me?

Share our space!

As members of the Coopersville Chamber, our team at Dr.Scott Robinson's dental office was able to take advantage of one of the many benefits of being a member of the Chamber. In

the new Chamber office there are meeting rooms available for use by the members. We used the meeting room at the end of January. It was an ideal location, close to our office, quiet, Rose was very accommodating to our schedule. We already have plans this year to use it again. Take advantage of this great benefit!

Dr. Scott Robinson's office



What can the Chamber do for me?

2014 Invoices - Increasing Membership!

In January invoices were sent out to our membership. We are looking forward to your response and membership renewals! The Chamber has a goal to increase our membership numbers. We have committed to reaching out to 40 new members. So far, we have 22 new members since November- that were not previously members in 2013! That is over halfway to our goal! Please let us know if you know of

someone who would be interested in joining the Chamber. We would be more than happy to connect with them to discuss the benefits of Chamber Membership.



What can the Chamber do for me?

2014-2016 Business Directory

Once our membership drive is complete, we will begin designing and printing our Business Directory for 2014-2016. **We will only be listing those members in the directory that are in good standing with the Chamber.** By sending in your membership dues, your business will be in good standing, and will be included in the Business Directory. We are looking at a timeline of designing and selling of advertisements in March and April, printing in May, and distributing in early June. Phil Cok, from **Marketing Management**, will be contacting you with details regarding advertising prices and designs.

We are asking that your membership dues be paid in full by March 21 in order to be included in the Directory. Thanks so much for your cooperation on this!



What can the Chamber do for me? Represent you with a diverse Board of Directors

New Board Members and Executive Board

I would like to take an opportunity to thank our retiring board members for their time and dedication to the Chamber over the years: Phil Cok: **Marketing Management**, Kim Obetts: **Town and County Investments**, Dan Noel: **327 Pizza and Pub**, Paul Dewys: **DeWys Industrial Design**, and Steve Cooper: **Continental Dairy Services**.

We are very fortunate to welcome our new board members: Mike Gavin: **Gavin Orchards**, Kathy Gomez: **Coopersville Area Public Schools**, Gail Wambach: **Dr. Scott Robinson's Dental Office**, Martha Lothschutz: **Michigan Online Auction**, and Dave Boomgaard: **Spring Lake Wesleyan Church**.

Thank you for your willingness to serve on our new Executive Board
Kathy Gomez, President: **Coopersville Area Public Schools**
Dan Feldt, Vice President: **Spoelman, Hovingh, & Feldt, Inc.**
Dave Boomgaard, Treasurer: **Spring Lake Wesleyan Church**
Joe Biermacher, Secretary: **DeVries & Royston**

What can the Chamber do for me?

Work collaboratively with other area organizations in the Community!

2013 Volunteer of the Year Nominations & Celebrate Coopersville

The Chamber will once again be sponsoring the 2013 Volunteer of the Year! This is celebrated in conjunction with **Celebrate Coopersville** and Rotary's Silent Auction, benefiting NEO Forum, taking place on Thursday, March 20, 2014 from 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. This event is taking place at **West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters & Service Trades Union Hall # 174**, 1008 O'Malley Drive, Coopersville.

Judging criteria for 2013 Volunteer of the Year includes: Length of service, duties performed as a volunteer, how this person has benefited your organization, and other volunteer experiences this person has been or is currently involved in. [Please click here for a link to the application.](#) Application Deadline is March 6

What can the Chamber do for me?

Help you to promote your business interests by encouraging you to sponsor a chamber event!

Sponsor a Chamber Event with New Opportunities at all levels of sponsorship!

Sponsorship's of Chamber events are open to all of our members. Sponsorship is a wonderful way to gain exposure and visibility for your business, while at the same time, supporting your community and your Chamber.

[Sponsorship Form](#)

[Sponsorship Opportunities](#)

What can the Chamber do for me?

Recognize and Celebrate local business members for their dedication to the Coopersville Community!

2013 Annual Dinner and Awards

Our Annual Dinner was held on January 23 at the **West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters & Service Trades Union Hall # 174**. A delicious dinner was provided by **Above and Beyond Catering!** Beer and Wine was hosted by **327 Pizza and Pub**. Centerpieces were provided by **Coopersville Floral**. Hors D'oeuvres were provided by **Grassfields Cheese, Family Fare, Copper Rose Cafe, Donna's Catering, and 327 Pizza and Pub**.

Awards were provided by **Awards Plus**. I would like to thank all of these members for helping to make the evening the huge success that it was! We had over 85 in attendance. It was a great evening!

Congratulations to our award winners!

We would like to thank our Gem Award winners: those businesses and organizations that have contributed \$1000 or more to the Chamber in 2013.

Thanking our Sustaining Partners: **Betten Baker, Marketing Management Services, and Self-Lube**.

One Year: **Pub 327 Pizza and Pub and Coopersville Marne Railway**

Three Year: **Scott Robinson DDS**

Four year: **Aggressive Tool and Die and Comerica Bank**

Six Year: **Self-Lube**

Seven Year: **Betten Baker and Marketing Management**

Eight Years: **My Personal Credit Union**

Ten Years: **Spartan Stores**

Fourteen Years: **Allied Waste**

Coopersville Retailer of the Year

This is awarded to an area Retailer who exemplifies extraordinary customer relations, community relations, and employee relations while providing a variety of goods to the community.

Scott Karasinski from Tasker's Drugs was this year's recipient of this award. Tasker's is one of those businesses that is reinventing itself. Tasker's has been working to find their place in the community by contributing both financially, and physically to several community events. They service their clientele with much care and empathy, even delivering to senior citizens that are homebound, for free. Thank you, Scott! Thanks for all you are doing for the Coopersville community!

Coopersville Service Provider of the Year

This is awarded to an area Service Business Owner who consistently provides quality service to customers at competitive rates, and contributes to the good of the community by providing valuable services.

This year's serviced provider of the year is **ChoiceOneBank**. ChoiceOne has been a long-time member of the Coopersville community, and recently re-invested in their office make-over, holding their Grand Re-Opening this past summer. In addition, **Peggy O'dea**, the branch manager, has committed many volunteer hours serving in the local rotary as well as in board-level participation for the Chamber of Commerce. She has just served her last term as treasurer for the Chamber. We would like to thank ChoiceOne Bank for all they have done for the Chamber, as well as the Coopersville Community!

Coopersville Manufacturer of the Year

This is awarded to an area Manufacturer who produces high-quality goods, maintains excellent employee relations, and assumes responsibility to the community and its needs. **Flextronics** is this year's recipient of the Manufacturer of the year award. Based on their care for the Coopersville Community and the value they place on their own employees, Flextronics has encouraged their employees to give both time, treasure, and talent to help Coopersville continue to be a healthy community. The owners of Flextronics truly care about their employees and the Coopersville community. They ran a well-organized United Way campaign, which in turn enabled community partners (Coopersville Cares and The Neo Forum to name just a couple) to continue to support the community with basic needs and drug resistance education. Thank you Flextronics for all you do for the Coopersville Community!

The next Award is In Memory of **Howard Dykhouse** and his outstanding leadership to the Coopersville Community. The recipient of this award definitely has the vision of the Coopersville community in mind.

By developing and restoring buildings in the downtown area, as well as on the School Campus, **Ron Veldman** has a keen vision for all things Coopersville. He encourages and supports his vision by not only developing ideas, but seeking out the support of those around him to see his ideas come to light. Ron has renovated one of the oldest buildings in town and has turned it into what I believe will be the new heartbeat of the community. The Community Service Building has been renovated and refurbished with the help of dozens of faithful volunteers and the financial support of those who saw the value of Ron's vision, and jumped on board to help the vision become a reality! Thank you Ron for leading the community in so many ways! We appreciate you and look forward to many more years of your leadership skills!

Coming June 16
Legislative Luncheon: Ask the Politician!
Save the DATE!

More information in the next Newsletter and on our Website!

Upcoming Events!

[View Events Calendar](#)

March 3- Expo How to. Chamber office 7:00PM

March 5 - Wednesday, 7:00AM BOD

March 13, Thursday Multi Chamber Breakfast Club 7:30-9AM. Hosted by Wyoming-Kentwood Beltline Bar. Sign up via our events calendar.

March 21-Friday-Expo Set-up 4:30-6:00PM

March 22-Saturday Chamber Expo 8-1:00PM

April 2- Wednesday 7:00AM BOD meeting-(Possible Change to April 9 or 16)

April 10, Thursday 7:30-9AM Speed Networking Hosted by Hispanic Chamber Location TBD

April 15, Tuesday - Chamber 101 7:00 AM -City-DDA-Chamber Breakfast Meeting-Tentative.

May 7- Wednesday - 7:00AM BOD

May 9, Friday Chamber Connected Women Hosted by the Byron Center Chamber at The Hyatt Place-Grand Rapids South

May 20, Tuesday - Chamber 101 7:00 AM-SMART phone Apps for small business'

June 4- Wednesday - 7:00AM BOD

June 16 - Monday - 12:00-1:30PM Ask the Politician - Legislative Luncheon- Save the Date! Sponsored by Northern Physical Therapy

July 10 - Thursday - Business After Hours -Hosted by the Coopersville Area Chamber of Commerce 5:00PM Location TBD- We need a sponsor for this event! Give me a call if you are interested, phone: 616-997-5164.

Please make note of our address change:

Coopersville Area Chamber of Commerce
198 East St.

Coopersville, MI 49404

Phone: 616-997-5164

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9:00-2:00PM

Mondays by appointment