

Bowling Green Chamber Newsletter

Year for the business!



Happy Valentines Day

Volume 1, Issue 2

February 2009

Presidents Monthly Comments:

The Business/Home Expo is quickly approaching (March 21st). I strongly encourage each business to consider featuring your business with a booth at the expo. This year the booth is free for chamber members, and you can't beat FREE! The only thing the chamber asks you to do is bring a door prize to raffle. You will keep the raffle at your booth and have people register at your booth. We will begin raffling the door prizes at noon. Entry into the event will be \$2 dollars this year. Booth workers get in free (max of 4 per booth). We will have entertainment and food as well. For more information or for registration forms go to the chamber website...www.bgchamber.org.

Regular member meeting attendance is still low, however we are growing slowly. Please use the chamber as an investment for your business. You pay your yearly membership fees so please have input. The easiest way to do that is to attend (or have a representative for your business attend) to learn about what the chamber is doing and to get involved. We are looking at ideas to help attendance, for example moving to night meetings, serving lunch. We would like to hear your ideas! Email them to bgmocc@att.net!!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1** President's Comments
- 1** Member Updates
- 2** February Chamber Member
- 3** Calendar of Events

Monthly Member Meeting News:

Free Money?

New this year! Win \$25.00 dollars to spend on your employee's and business.

How? All chamber members will be automatically entered into the drawing each month. Attend the monthly member meeting and if your business name is drawn then win the \$25 dollars, you must be present to win; if the business that is drawn is not present the money carries over to the next month to maximum of \$100 dollars! It's Easy and a fun way to win so **JUST SHOW UP!**

Our first monthly winner was.....

Pike Medical Clinic

HOWEVER

No one representing Pike Medical Clinic was present so \$25 dollars will carry over to next month.

Will a business claim \$50 next month???
Be sure to attend March 11th!

Having difficulties attending the Monthly meetings? What can the chamber do different to help you be able to attend?

We would like to hear your suggestions on getting more members to attend monthly meetings.

- How about Evening Meetings?
- How about serving lunch during meetings?

Email the chamber with your ideas!
bgmocc@att.net!

February's Chamber Member of the Month: **The Champ Clark House**

Once the Missouri home of our favorite son, **The Champ Clark House** is Bowling Green's first claim to historical fame.

Champ Clark moved to Bowling Green in 1880, taking an office in the court house as Pike County's Deputy Prosecutor. In 1888, he was elected to a seat in Missouri's General Assembly. Four years later, Clark was elected to the first of thirteen terms in the United States House of Representatives. In 1910, he coordinated a major rules revolt in the House and, to this day, Congress conducts itself by the rules and precedents set by our own Champ Clark.

The following year, his colleagues elected him to the post of Speaker of the House. Clark has been the only Missourian ever to hold that office.

In 1898, re-elected to his third term and confident of a long run in Congress, Champ and his wife, Genevieve, purchased this fine home on the outskirts of Bowling Green, bordered by corn fields, cow pastures, and a grand grove of locust trees. They called their home *Honeysluck*, named after the brown curly-cued seed pods of those trees.

The house enjoyed a history as curious and fascinating as its most famous residents before falling into disrepair in the 1960s.

In the spring of 1973, the house was reclaimed, purchased by Congressman Bill Hungate and turned over to a volunteer and non-profit corporation he named *Champ Clark Honey Shuck Restoration, Inc.* The beginning of the restoration work was dedicated by then Speaker of the House Carl Albert (D-OK) at the time of the Bowling Green's sesquicentennial celebration in 1973.

In 1978 and still in the very early stages of recovery, the house was added to the National Register of Historic Places and then selected for the prestigious designation as a National Historic Landmark, one of just 33 such sites in Missouri.

The Champ Clark House is maintained and operated by a volunteer board of directors from Bowling Green and the surrounding area. More than a house museum, the very unique collections at *Honeysluck* celebrate the rich legacies of the remarkable number of politicians and public servants from Pike County.

Honeysluck takes an active role in promoting Bowling Green's Champ Clark Heritage Day. In election years, the board sponsors The Biennial Ice Cream Social and Candidates' Stump Speaking. Special events occur throughout the year and volunteers open the house for visitors and tourists each afternoon through the summer months.

On behalf of all the hundreds of community volunteers that have, over the last 35 years, made **The Champ Clark House** what it is and can become,... and on behalf of those who keep it going,... and for the City of Bowling Green and all those who've been our partners,... *Honeysluck* is delighted to be a part of the Chamber of Commerce and to take this moment as the Member of the Month (albeit chosen only by lot).



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH

5TH: BOARD MEETING AT SUPER 8 BOARD ROOM
11TH: MONTHLY MEMBER MEETING AT TBD
21ST: Business/Home Expo at BG Auditorium 9am – 3pm

APRIL

2ND: BOARD MEETING SUPER 8 BOARD ROOM
8TH: MONTHLY MEMBER MEETING AT TBD

MAY

7TH: BOARD MEETING SUPER 8 BOARD ROOM
13TH: MONTHLY MEMBER MEETING AT TBD
2ND: 1ST ANNUAL CHAMBER GOLF TOURNAMENT



Coming Soon: Member Social Hour.

The chamber will be sponsoring quarterly an evening Social hour. This will be held at a local business and all members will be invited. This will give everyone the opportunity to network and visit with area business men and women about what is happening in our Community. Be sure to watch for dates and more information and be sure to attend, you won't want to miss!

Contact the chamber office if your business would like to host one of the quarterly social hours!

Chamber Annual Fee's are now past Due!

Just a reminder that all chamber members received an invoice for annual dues back in November. If you have not paid please send in your annual member dues as soon as possible so that we can include you on the member directory and advertising materials that will be going out next month!

Don't remember if you sent them in, please contact Donna at the chamber office or by email.

We will also be giving friendly reminder calls to the one's we have not received payment from.



Member Feedback:

The Chamber Board wants to hear from you the member! If you have an idea or have a comment please email the chamber office at bgmocc@att.net. We will then post it in the monthly news letter and respond to the idea or comment and what action the board is going to take on the idea.

Your ideas and comments are important, the chamber is an investment for your business and we want to add value so please share!

Taking ideas on information for the Newsletter. If you would like to see something added or information provided let us know!

Welcome New Chamber Members!

**Community Loving Care Hospice
Captain B's Country Club
Subway
The Garden Gate
McDonalds
Didi's & Gigi's Purse Strings N Things
Karens Catering
Julie's Thrifty Mart**

**WELCOME and THANK YOU for choosing to
*invest your business with the Chamber!***

**Be sure to check back for dates on Ribbon
Cuttings for these new members!**

2009 Chamber Board

**President: Corey Sanborn
Vice President: Ryan Daffron
Treasurer: Sarah Robinson
Secretary: Denise Jones
Past President: Deanna Feldmann
Executive Director: Donna Colbert**

Board Members:

**Rich Wilkinson
Jack Jones
Tim Gamm
Marie Korte
Sue Moore
Holly Johnston
Christine Rutherford
Chad Perkins
Jeremy Gilbert
Elizabeth Summers
Carolyn Wisecarver
Shannon Walker**

The Chamber office hours Vary, but it is easy to contact us please call or email and Donna Colbert, Executive Director will contact you promptly.

- Phone: 573-324-3733
- Email: bgmocc@att.net
- Website: www.bgchamber.org

Bowling Green Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 401
Bowling Green, MO 63341

BULK RATE
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO.
00000