



Newsletter for March

121 S. Bridge Street
Grand Ledge, Michigan 48837

Volume 1 No.5 - March 16, 2007

Tele: 517.627.2383



2006 Event Sponsorships

Auto Owners Insurance
Coldwell Banker – Hubbell Real Estate, Susan Sasse
Doty Insurance Company
Felpausch Food Center
Ledges Printing & Digital Technology, Inc.
LaSalle Bank
Vollman Ford
Wal-Mart

Director's Corner

We are rapidly approaching the end of another year. I would like to take this time to thank the board of directors, fundraiser chairs, committee chairs and volunteers who helped us throughout the year. Your dedication and support is what makes the Chamber.

We have completed our transition for our new healthcare insurance program with Michigan Chamber of Commerce Insurance Corporation. We can offer our membership a variety of options for healthcare which includes healthcare, dental, and optical and prescriptions. Our very first referral has enrolled in our healthcare insurance program. I believe it will provide our membership a variety of healthcare options.

We have a new addition to our web site which allows quicker access to locating a type of business or member of the Chamber. Thanks to Frank Cugni of Synenergy Soup. Still need some "fine tuning" so please be patient.

If you would like a Chamber shirt (short sleeve polo shirt) and hat, give us a call. The shirts are maroon color and the hat is a light tan color. By March 31st you will be able to purchase Chamber products on our web site. Don't forget, if you're having a party we have Chamber water available.

Our Annual Dinner is April 17, 2007 at the Opera House. This year's theme is "Proud To Be An American". You should have received your invitation in the mail by now. If you have not received your invitation, please call the Chamber office. This year's program is unique has some surprises and I sincerely believe you will enjoy the evening activities. Please complete your RSVP and return it to the Chamber to reserve your seat.

Norman Snyder
Executive Director

Membership Committee

We welcome the following new Chamber members:

Orthodontic Specialist of Mid Michigan, PC
Robinson Farms LLC
Decorate The Occasion
The Salvage Year
Lyle Collision & Restoration
WLNS #6
Bridge Street Wedding Chapel



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The Chamber's new insurance program is in place. You can call the Chamber office for a referral request or go the Chamber's web site and access the program direct. There will be an enrollment meeting for those Chamber members having an interest is check out the new program on March 22nd at the Opera House, Blake Room. The enrollment meeting starts at 8:30 am. If you have any questions please call the Chamber office. If you have some time, please stop in and check it out.

You can go to our web site www.grandledgemi.com for obtaining a membership application. Also you can research the benefits of being a Chamber member on our web site. Help be an Ambassador to our Chamber, sell membership!

Dale Bennett
Membership Committee

Treasurer's Journal

Our Snow Daze was pretty close to a break even activity this year. To help us with our cash flow the Chamber is conducting Texas Hold'Em Tournaments. We have completed our annual budget plan for 2007 and will present it to our board of directors for approval at the March meeting.

The Budget & Finance Committee has developed a handbook for our fundraiser chairs this year to use in coordinating their Chamber fundraiser. This handbook will help provide guidelines for planning and budgeting for our fundraisers.

Craig Goble
Budget & Finance Committee

Opera House Authority

Bob Bouck has been busy developing a web site for the Opera House these last few weeks. The plan is to have the site complete and on line by March 31, 2007. Just before our peak season begins.

Two new furnaces and air conditioners have been installed at the Opera House. The winter maintenance is just about complete with the exceptions of some additional maintenance and painting.

Walt Eschtruth
Opera House Authority

Victorian Day – May 5, 2007

Anyone interested in the Victorian period or in promoting Grand Ledge is invited to help with Victorian Day. If you are interested please call Marilyn Smith at 517.627.5170 or 517.627.9843.

The Committee has confirmed Dade Schultz with carriage rides, quilt show, plant exchange, picture with a pony, Victorian funeral reenactment, Teddy Bear Tea & May Pole Dance and the non-motorized parade. More in the works!

Marilyn Smith
Victorian Day Committee

Yankee Doodle Days Committee 2007

Yankee Doodle Days Committee is busy in trying to finalize their festival brochure by March 31st. A number of new activities have been looked at for providing entertainment to everyone at all age groups. We will be putting a status page on the web site by month end for members wanting an update on Yankee Doodle Days 2007. If you would like to help with one of the activities this year please call the Chamber office at 627.2383. We can always use volunteers.

John Mauer



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Annual Dinner 2007

This year's Annual Dinner is April 17, 2007. Social hour will begin at 6:00 pm with dinner at 7:00 pm. We have a unique program this year. Invitations have been mailed to each Chamber member. Please return your RSVP to our office at your earliest convenience. Please come welcome our new president Dale Bennett and say thank you to our out going president William (Bill) Atkin. Believe, this will prove to be a very enjoyable evening. This year's theme is "Proud To Be An American". If you have any questions about our Annual Dinner please call the Chamber office.

Norman Snyder

Spark Plug

Our February 2007 Spark Plug Award recipient is Ethan Childs. Ethan constantly is volunteering his time and helping to recruit new memberships. Ethan constantly supports the Chamber sponsorships and other donations. It gives me pleasure to announce Dr. Ethan Childs, Ledges Chiropractic as our February 2007 Spark Plug Award recipient. Thanks Ethan!

Norman Snyder
Executive Director

Ambassadors Committee

The Ambassadors Committee will be hosting the **Good Morning Grand Ledge** on March 29, 2007 which will be conducted at the Opera House located at 121 S. Bridge Street. Come April 19th Grand Ledge Ford, Mr. Barry Merrill will be hosting **After Hours**. Mark your calendars and make sure you attend these networking and associate exchange opportunities.

A big thank you to Dr. Ethan Childs and Mark Mitchell for hosting our February After Hours. An excellent evening of promoting our Chamber and great food. Thank you Ethan and Mark!

Our next regular Ambassadors Committee meeting is March 28, 2007.

Craig Goble
Ambassadors Committee

Growing Businesses of Grand Ledge

As a reminder please join us Wednesday mornings at 8:30 am – 9:30 am, at the Opera House, Blake Room. The first Wednesday of the month we will be having evening meetings from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm starting March 7th.

Colleen M. Austin
Growing Businesses of Grand Ledge

Articles for the Newsletter

Articles for the April newsletter will need to be delivered to the Chamber's office no later than March 23rd to be published in the April Newsletter. Either email your article to glacc@grandledgemi.com or fax it to our office at 627.5006. **Please remember March 23rd is our cut off date.**

Newsletter Committee



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**Auto Body Credit Union
CASE Credit Union
Holihan-Atkin Funeral Home
Image Projections, Inc.
Key Realty
Miller Pharmacy**

**Come Join the President's Circle for 2007
"Shop Grand Ledge"**

My Two Cents



Did you know.....

Elmer Edwards was a contractor and builder in Grand Ledge. In 1910 he supervised the construction of the new cement bridge. He built the Episcopal Church in 1911 and many other homes in the city. He built the two cement block homes on West Jefferson next to the ice cream stand. He lived in one and W. E Russell lived in the other. The rustic cement blocks were made in Grand Ledge. He was "the sidewalk builder", having laid many of them in town. He was also president of the Farmers and Merchants Bank on North Bridge Street. Edwards was very popular and was elected mayor six times.

"Small Town. Natural Wonders. Endless Opportunity."