



March Spotlight

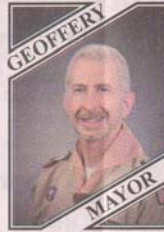
Congratulations To This Year's Silver Beavers



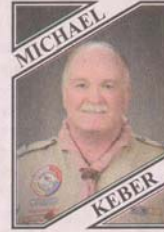
Tamarack District



Buckeye District



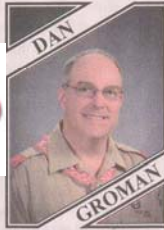
Black Swamp Area Council



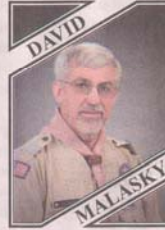
Black Walnut District



Hawthorn District



Great Oaks District



Buckeye District



Old Sycamore District



Black Swamp Area Council



Judi Parker, Leipsic, was among those honored Saturday March 7th at the Black Swamp Area Council 2008 Recognition Dinner with the Silver Beaver Award. The Silver Beaver Award is the highest honor that can be bestowed upon a Scout volunteer by a council. The Award is given in recognition of outstanding service to youth by an individual in the area served by the council.

Judith K. Parker, Leipsic, - Ohio Hawthorn District (Bio borrowed from the Awards Banquet)

Judi is extremely active on the unit level. She is a Den Leader for Pack 222 sponsored by American Legion as a Den Leader. She is an organizer for Pack & Troop 225 sponsored by Pastoral Ministries. She is also an organizer and Chartered Rep for Pack 252 sponsored by Pastoral ministries. She has attended day camp for five years and summer camp for two years. As a member of the Hawthorn District committee, she has utilized her expertise in many capacities. She is the Districts new unit organization chair, has served as Camping chair (2005-2007), and Popcorn Chair (2005-2007). She is a presenter at the Roundtables and participates in all district activities. As an active Unit Commissioner, she provides service to four Hawthorn units. When asked, Judi is always willing to take on additional responsibilities to assure that a quality program is delivered to all registered youth. Judi is an active member of the University of Scouting staff and participates as a Trainer for Council Basic Leader training courses. As an ordained Methodist minister she served as Camp Chaplain at Camp Berry in 2005. For her dedicated commitment to Scouting she has been recognized by the District with the Commissioner's Key, District volunteer of the year and the District Award of Merit. Through her own initiative she has earned her Wood Badge Beads. It is hard to believe but Judi actually finds time to do other things not related to Scouting. Community involvements include: Coordinator for after school programs, past president of Leipsic Friends of Library, Member Chamber of Commerce, past president and member of Leipsic American Legion women's auxiliary, Founder and current member of Hometown Heritage Arts Council and a member of the Emergency Response Team for Putnam County. For her service to Scouting and the Community, the Black Swamp Area Council is honored to present Judith Parker the Silver Beaver Award.

Sidebar Note: Eagle Scouts honored from Pack 222: James Watkins, Dereck Meyer, Brian Berger, Terry Howard, & Julian Barrazi. From Pack 225: Evan Parker. Pack 252 is still a young group but under the direction of Judi Parker we will be watching for good things from them in the future. A total of 29 Eagles were from the Hawthorn District.

Congratulations Judi from your Chamber Friends

Photos Borrowed from:



NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release: **Feb. 4 2009****Upcoming BWC Safety Congress & Expo to Help Employers Lower Costs***Increased Workplace Safety Can Help Employers Better Manage Economic Challenges*

COLUMBUS – Ohio employers interested in saving money by increasing safety in the workplace are encouraged to attend the Ohio Safety Congress and Expo, sponsored by the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC). The free event is the Midwest's most established occupational safety and health event, linking employers with many opportunities to learn the latest safety and health techniques and practices. The Ohio Safety Congress & Expo will take place March 31 through April 2 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center.

The Ohio Safety Congress & Expo features courses and lectures designed to provide attendees with flexible, industry-focused information on a variety of topics, including how to improve safety programs in an effort to reduce costs in a difficult economy. Participants of all educational and some general sessions will receive continuing education credits from the International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET) and credits for BWC discount programs.

Sessions specifically designed for manufacturing safety on Thursday, April 2, include:

- SHARP to VPP — improving your company's safety and health-management system
- Five easy steps to recognizing workplace hazards
- Can changing your safety culture actually be cost effective?
- Can you teach an old dog new tricks? Effective training techniques for adults
- The supervisor's role in safety
- OSHA recordkeeping: A closer look at the difficult cases

Sessions specifically designed for small business on Thursday, April 2, include:

- Process safety management
- Mock Industrial Commission of Ohio hearing
- Accident investigation and reporting from a slightly different point of view
- OSHA's minimum training requirements
- OSHA's hazard communication standard — beyond the basics
- Wellness at work: An introduction

Continued on Page 3.

Sessions specifically designed for developing workplace safety programs on Thursday, April 2 include:

- Are you ready for VPP?
- Culture change: A breakthrough in safety performance
- How to plan and implement a safety-management program
- Crucial conversations that drive workplace safety
- Liability for the safety person
- Global harmonization: Are we any closer to GHS in the USA?

The Ohio Safety Congress & Expo will also offer dynamic keynote speakers and displays of state-of-the-art occupational safety and health products. The free event is open to the public. Employers are encouraged to register now at www.ohiobwc.com or by calling 1-800-OHIOBWC.

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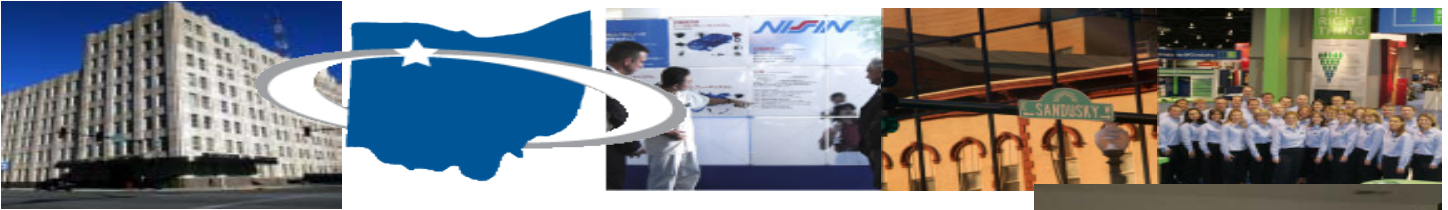


March 20th



IT'S FINALLY HERE!!!!!!!

Remember to tell your friends and neighbors about the *Leipsic Downtown Farmers Market*. Planting time is beginning **NOW**. Watch the newsletter and local paper for specific information coming out soon. We are getting organized and information will begin to flow while your plants and crops are growing.



Mr. Ray De Winkle from Greater FindlayInc. spoke to the Leipsic Chamber Thursday March 12. The message Mr. De Winkle brought to the Chamber was a description of the history of the transition from Findlay and Hancock County Chamber of Commerce to the current entity known as the Greater Findlay Inc. Mr. De Winkle is new in his position with GFI having recently moved into the area from Michigan. Mr. De Winkle thanked the Chamber for the opportunity to actually review the history of his organization in preparation for his speaking to the group. He stated that although GFI is in Hancock County, they actually interact with surrounding areas and have a strong interface with Putnam County because many of the employees in Hancock County actually reside in Putnam County. With the joint challenge of the flooding issues between Findlay and Ottawa it is imperative that a relationship between the two counties remain strong. Mr. De Winkle ventured off the historical path of his topic to discuss topics that affect both groups which are economic development and the stimulation of commerce within our communities. “The main goal,” stated Mr. De Winkle, “is importing money into the region”. Find ways to create wealth and once its here keep it churning within as long as possible thus raising the economic boat.

“Charity begins at home”, he said, “shop local and support your local businesses”. Keep that revenue churning within the county. Contact your chamber members. Ask them, “What’s going right?” “What are their challenges?” “What can the Chamber do to help them expand or to sell to a broader economic base?” Assist employers to network with each other.

An analogy used by Mr. De Winkle was described as the 3-legged stool of economic development. The 1st leg is Attraction. Attract new business and/or new members. The 2nd leg is Retention. Find ways to keep those new members for the long haul. The 3rd leg is Expansion. Help the members to expand. Get involved in ways to stimulate those expansions or creative marketing of businesses. Mr. De Winkle described the networking situation of a business with the Findlay area that had warehousing facilities that had been idled and the owner was wishing to rent that part of his facility. A short time later Mr. De Winkle was in a conversation with another employer that was renting similar facilities a distance away. By describing the previous conversation about the available local facility to this gentleman, Mr. De Winkle found there was an interest to relocate that process closer. Did this actually expand those operations? No, not really. It didn’t increase jobs or expand operations, but it did generate revenue for the one and a savings of funds for the other from relocation closer to the parent facility. Did this stimulate the economy? You bet. Did this help in retention of the area business members? Again, you bet.

Build a system for education of the local work force. Another example was given about a group of employers from his previous location that would hire, train and educate employees and then would allow employees to transfer between companies to allow for advancement. This is a great idea for small flat organizations that cannot provide progression paths. Another excellent program is Jr. Achievement. The youth learn at a young age how to participate in a business environment. Stimulate creative thinking at a young age and build future employers.

Mr. De Winkle referenced the Governors Cup which is a premier prize announced by Site Selection Magazine. Ohio won this prestigious award in 2008 for the 3rd straight year. New projects was instrumental in Ohio winning this award. For more information go to www.ohiomeansbusiness.com

Another resource suggested to the Chamber by Mr. De Winkle was Boomtown Institute (USA). This is all about small towns. The bottom line is creativity and networking. Search for any and all resources to promote your town and surrounding area. Everyone working together will create success. Mr. De Winkle closed with thanking the Chamber for the opportunity to speak and to encourage the group to stay in touch with Dionne Neubauer who is the Director at GFI and has been with the Chamber group for well over 15 years. She is a wealth of information and an excellent person to work with and is located in his office. He also invited calls and further communication to his office.



Ray De Winkle, CECD, EDFP
President and CEO
GreaterFindlayInc.



GreaterFindlayInc. (GFI) is a private-public partnership bringing growth and prosperity to the Greater Findlay region. Through a strong economic development focus, leadership programs, business building initiatives and volunteer opportunities, GFI helps position its community among the best micropolitan communities in the United States. GFI is a blend of the area’s best resources including the Findlay+Hancock County Chamber of Commerce, Findlay-Hancock County Economic Development Council and the Hancock County Convention & Visitors Bureau.

Reverse Auction Successful again!

On behalf of the Leipsic Chamber of Commerce and the Leipsic Fire Department a big **THANK YOU** goes out to all who attended the Reverse Auction on February the 28th. This fund raiser is the main source of income for both organizations and is the lifeblood of the advancement of each group. The proceeds from this event are split equally between both groups. A big **THANK YOU** also goes out to each of the members of these two groups. Without the dedication of the members, this activity could not take place. This is a prime example of community working together to provide community service to the entire Leipsic and surrounding area residents.

A display was set up depicting the various activities and events sponsored or produced by the Leipsic Area Chamber of Commerce. Hopefully this assisted the public with the knowledge of all the things their Chamber does for them. The Leipsic Chamber welcomes any and all new members. You do not have to be a business owner to join the Leipsic Chamber of Commerce. Please visit a Chamber Meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Lilac Room at the Meadows Retirement Center for more information about what's happening in our piece of Putnam County.

Horse racing was one of the highlights of the auction's evening events. Prime stick horseflesh is auctioned at the beginning of each race and jockey's selected from the bidders. The spinning wheel is in control of the speed of the thoroughbreds as they travel down the track. An average of \$700 prize stakes were on the line for most races.

Other activities to add additional funds raised were mountains of beer, a set of tires and mounting for those tires, a big screen TV, jewelry, an Ohio State corn hole game, and platters of meat/cheese with libations, among other donated or purchased items being raffled and auctioned off throughout the evening. Thank you to all those donors who are way to many to mention here. Without donations and support from the community this event would not be such a success.

The big story of the evening was the final two winners. Congratulations goes out to George Schroeder for the biggest prize pot of \$2500.00 and to Ann Evers for the 2nd place winner of \$1200.00. Thank you to George for his steadfast bidding on most tickets that came to the nightly auction block. Defiance radio personality WDFN DJ Rick Small was the guest emcee for the evening and had a great time teasing George throughout the night. In the end George got the biggest laugh. George laughed all the way to the bank with his \$2500.00.

Rick Small announced he had a wonderful time and would love to be invited back next year. The Chamber and the Leipsic Fire Department would like to welcome EVERYONE back next year. Remember to mark your calendars for the last Saturday of February. It will be Reverse Auction time again. Reserve your tickets now. It is usually a sell out crowd!



Voting Record

January 2007 - December 2008

Since the 1993-94 session of the Ohio General Assembly, the Ohio Chamber's Political and Candidate Education (P.a.C.E.) program has published a legislative voting record. The purpose of the P.a.C.E. Voting Record is to keep the business community apprised of exactly how your state lawmakers vote on important issues impacting Ohio employers and our state's business climate.

During the recently concluded 127th General Assembly, many significant bills were considered by the Ohio Senate, House, or both, and several of these bills were debated and voted on in one or both chambers.



Sen. Steve Buehrer

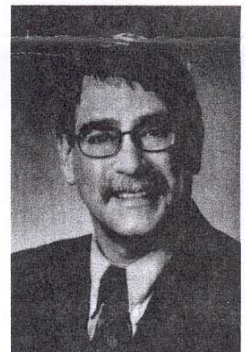
In the Senate, there were a total of ten bills that merited inclusion in the latest P.a.C.E. Voting Record. A total of 38 individuals voted on at least one of these ten bills, and 26 of them posted a pro-business score of at least 80 percent. Sen. Steve Buehrer (R-Delta), however, was the only senator who cast a vote on all ten bills and compiled a perfect 100 percent pro-business record.

Eight bills were included as part of our House Voting Record, and 18 representatives can boast of having voted favorably on all eight: Reps. John Adams (R-Sidney), Jim Aslanides (R-Coshocton), Bill Coley (R-Middletown), Courtney Combs (R-Hamilton), Tony Core (R-Rushsylvania), Diana Fessler (R-New Carlisle), Bob Gibbs (R-Lakeville), Bruce Goodwin (R-Defiance), John Hagan (R-Alliance), Cliff Hite (R-Findlay), Matt Huffman (R-Lima), Ross McGregor (R-Springfield), Steve Reinhard (R-Bucyrus), Arlene Setzer (R-Vandalia), Joe Uecker (R-Loveland), Lynn Wachtmann (R-Napoleon), John White (R-Kettering) and Jim Zehringer (R-Fort Recovery). Thirteen others also had perfect scores, and 31 more were at or above 80 percent. Unfortunately, there were also eight that scored just 50 percent.

Deserving of special recognition and appreciation is Sen. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati). Sen. Seitz began this session of the General Assembly in the Ohio House, and moved over to the Senate in October 2007. Between his service in both chambers, he had the opportunity to cast 12 votes for inclusion in our voting record – and was an outstanding 12-for-12. Congratulations, Sen. Seitz!

The latest scores for every member of the General Assembly, along with a summary of each bill, is available online at the Chamber's advocacy and elections Web site, OhioBusinessVotes.org. Just select General Assembly Voting Records from the Ohio Government & Elected Officials drop-down menu to view.

We encourage you to visit OhioBusinessVotes.org to see how you and your business are being represented at the Statehouse. Then, take a moment to let your lawmakers know what you think about the job they're doing to enhance Ohio's economic competitiveness.



Sen. Bill Seitz



For more information about this Voting Record or the P.a.C.E. program, contact Linda Woggon, Vice President, Governmental Affairs, at 614-228-4201 or lwoggon@ohiochamber.com.

Upcoming Speakers

Bill Shull

April 9

Toledo, Ohio

SCORE
Counselors to America's Small Business

Ask SCORE for Business Advice

WWW.SCORE.ORG

U.S. Small Business Administration

SBA

Your Small Business Resource

SCORE is a Resource Partner with the U.S. Small Business Administration

May 14



Specialized Alternatives for Families and Youth is a non-profit treatment foster care organization, which opened its doors in 1984. With eight offices in Ohio alone SAFY operates in eight states. SAFY envisions the day when every child is part of a loving family and is able to reach his or her greatest potential. Each year the agency assists over 3,600 children and their families. For more information about SAFY please visit the website at www.safy.org or Josephine from SAFY will be here on May 14 at our Chamber meeting.

Brenda Bruce, Planning Commission coordinator

June 11

Board of Commissioners
Putnam County Ohio, U.S.A.

Recycling in Putnam County

— Introducing new 24 hour recycling location in Leipsic.
Recycle: Cardboard, Paper, Metals, Plastics (1—2 and 4)
NO GLASS WILL BE ACCEPTED.



EARTH DAY: APRIL 22



From our HOUSE to yours.



Mark your calendars. Don't miss the information wave generated by the Leipsic Chamber.

2009 Chamber Meetings

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH										
WEEK	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	WEEK	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	WEEK	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
1					1	2	3	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
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5	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	10	29	30	31					14	29	30	31					
APRIL							MAY							JUNE										
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14					1	2	3	18					1	2	23	23	1	2	3	4	5	6	6	
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JULY							AUGUST							SEPTEMBER										
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27					1	2	3	32					1	2	37	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	5	
28	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	33	2	3	4	5	6	7	38	13	14	15	16	17	18	19		
29	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	34	9	10	11	12	13	14	39	20	21	22	23	24	25	26		
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31	26	27	28	29	30	31			23	24	25	26	27	28	29	41	27	28	29	30				
OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER										
WEEK	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	WEEK	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	WEEK	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
40					1	2	3	45	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	49				1	2	3	4	5
41	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	46	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	50	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
42	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	47	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	51	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
43	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	48	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	52	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
44	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	49	29	30					53	27	28	29	30	31				

Items to Remember:

Watch for Info on Farmers Market...planting will begin soon.

Community Garage Sale:

June 4-5-6

Fall Festival:

September 19-20

Halloween Parade:

October 29

Cookies w/Santa:

December 5

Reverse Auction:

February 27, 2010

Remember!
Lunch comes with your Membership!

MOTHER'S DAY PROMOTION



Win \$50 Chamber Bucks by shopping at our local Leipsic Businesses. Sign up to win when you see the Chamber Bucks box. Begins April 1 through May 6.

2 Winners will be drawn for \$50 each

Suggestions

For Speakers or Newsletter items

contact: MaryAnn Williams

williamf@proteccoating.com

Tel: 419-943-1225

Chamber Board Officers:

Roberta Howard, President

Chris Christman, Secretary

Cammie Flores, Past President

9 Board Members

Adam Cupp

Ann Evers

Beth Lammon

Jackie Gerten

Board Meetings: 4th Thurs of Month

MaryAnn Williams, Vice President

Betty Bellman, Treasurer

Cheryl Hohenbrink

Kathy Mangas

Scott Welch

Kathy Martz

Deb Reynolds

Next Leipsic Chamber meeting: April 9 at The Meadow's Lilac Room at Noon. Lunch will be served and our speaker will be Bill Shull from SCORE. Lots of information to assist the Small Businesses. If you own a business, *don't miss this one!!!!*