



2006 Event Sponsorships

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

Director's Corner

So did you see your shadow? I've heard several versions of whether winter will continue or not. For those who were born and raised in Michigan, does it matter? Probably not.

However we do care about an important event in February which is Valentine's Day. This is your opportunity to check out our **Member To Member Value Program** and see what Chamber member can help you in selecting a romantic gift for that someone special. Or if you have any **Grand Ledge Shopping Dollars** which you have not used, this could be the time to use those **Shopping Dollars**.

Just as little note, mark your calendar for April 17, 2007. This is the date of our Chamber Annual Dinner. At which time Bill Atkin will pass the gavel to Dale Bennett. This also is the time we will be presenting our annual awards which are the ATHENA, Business Person of the Year and Teacher of the Year Awards for 2007. If you have not submitted your nomination form you still have time. Nominations need to be submitted no later than February 28, 2007. You can obtain nomination forms from our web site (www.grandledgemi.com) or stop in the office and pickup nomination forms. Your choice, just please submit a nomination form prior to February 28th.

If you have not heard our dear friend Terry Foley (Axle) had a heart attack and is home recovering. He is doing well and tells us he is ready to start receiving contributions for Thank The Troops Picnic 2007. We wish Axle a speedy recovery and look forward to the Thank The Troops Picnic on June 16th.

Norman Snyder
Executive Director

Membership Committee

We welcome the following new Chamber members:

Dyer Well Drilling & Service, Inc.
Orthodontic Specialist of Mid Michigan, PC

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. Be an Ambassador to our Chamber sell membership!

Dale Bennett
Membership Committee



Treasurer's Journal

We are wrapping up our Big 6 Event Sponsorships for 2007. The first budget draft will be presented to the board of directors at the February meeting. The annual membership billings process will be completed February 15, 2007. We continue to work with a tight cash flow through our winter season.

Craig Goble
Budget & Finance Committee

Opera House Authority

Bob Bouck is working on a new marketing plan to increase facility rentals. Measures are being taken to install two new air conditioners and furnaces in the Opera House this winter. In conjunction with the City we are working to proceed with the DNR Grant for the River Walk Project. We have completed our annual financial examination and budget plan for 2007.

William Ferrigan
Opera House Authority

Victorian Day – May 5, 2007

We invite everyone to eat spaghetti at A & W on Monday, February 19, 2007 for \$5.49. A contribution of \$2.50 for each spaghetti dinner will be contributed to the Committee to help sponsor Victorian Day. Mark your calendar. Thank you A & W Restaurant!

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

Color Cruise Committee 2007

The committee has begun planning for the Color Cruise and Island Festival to be held October 12, 13, 14, 2007. There has been some restructuring of the committee. Last year's forms are being updated and bids are being gathered for the brochure. Next meeting Feb. 13th, noon, Opera House.

Karla Chamberlain
Color Cruise Chairperson

Yankee Doodle Days Committee 2007

Yankee Doodle Days Committee is preparing for this year's festival. The Committee is considering a new menu of events. This month's focus is on what events will make up YDD 2007 and the marketing plan. Once these decisions have been made we will have a Yankee Doodle Days information page on the web site. One important ingredient to our success is volunteers. Starting April 1st we will start recruiting volunteers to help with our various events. This year's co-chairs for our committee will be Randy Lundberg and Larry Austin.

John Mauer
Yankee Doodle Days Chair



Public Relations Committee

The committee met on January 4th to bid farewell to chair Deb Pozega-Osburn who left Grand Ledge on January 11th for a new job at the University of Alberta at Edmonton, Canada. The committee also discussed the feasibility of a Chamber "all festivals and affiliated events" brochure. Bids will be discussed at the next meeting on Feb. 15th, noon, Opera House.

Karla Chamberlain
Public Relations Committee

Spark Plug

Our January 2007 Spark Plug Award recipient constantly comes to our aid and provides whatever support is needed to accommodate Chamber activities. Rain or shine he is always there with a smile. It gives me pleasure to announce Police Chief Martin Underhill of the Grand Ledge Police Department as our January 2007 Spark Plug Award recipient. Thanks Marty!

Norman Snyder
Executive Director

Annual Awards for 2007

We are quickly approaching our Annual Dinner Banquet for 2007 which is April 17, 2007. At our Annual Meeting we will be presenting the ATHENA, Business Person of the Year and Teacher of the Year Awards. You can obtain a nomination form from our web site by going to Member Services and paging down to the ATHENA Committee and Annual Awards. If you choose nomination forms can be picked up at the Chamber office. Nomination forms needs to be filed with the Chamber office by February 28, 2007 by 5:00 pm.

William Atkin, President

Bridal Show – Opera House

The Opera House will host its 4th Annual Bridal Show on February 18, 2007. There will be a variety of vendors to help plan the perfect day. For additional information please contact Kim or Becky at the Opera House 627.1443. Details of the Bridal Show are on the Chamber web site under Events and Festivals.

Kimberly Bengel
Opera House Authority

Ambassadors Committee

The Ambassadors Committee will be hosting the **Good Morning Grand Ledge** on March 22, 2007 which will be conducted at the Opera House located at 121 S. Bridge Street.

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

Craig Goble
Ambassadors Committee

Growing Businesses of Grand Ledge

GBGL has a bright 2007 ahead. We had a kick-off event on February 8, 2007 at the Opera House. We will have all the local Grand Ledge events for 2007 available shortly and if you have any questions please contact me. GBGL has many plans for 2007, so please join us Wednesday mornings at 8:30 am – 9:30 am, at the Opera House, Blake Room. Starting 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 March newsletter will need to be delivered to the Chamber's office no later than February 23rd to be published in the March Newsletter. Either email your article to glacc@grandledgemi.com or fax it to our office at 627.5006. **Please remember February 23rd is our cut off date.**

Newsletter Committee

ATHENA Scholarship

It's that time again. The Chamber is now accepting nominations for the ATHENA Award 2007 which will be presented at the Chamber's Annual Dinner on April 17, 2007. You can obtain a nomination form from the Chamber's web site or at the Chamber office. Friendly reminder the ATHENA Committee has a scholarship available for a woman who has attended the Grand Ledge Schools.

ATHENA Committee



**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

My Two Cents



Andrew Jackson
1829 - 1837
Seventh President

He was born before the United States was a nation. He was born to immigrant parents. President Jackson was one of six Presidents born in a log cabin.

Historian can't agree if he was born in North or South Carolina. Jackson was the only first generation American to become president. Andrew Jackson was the first President to ride on a railroad train. President Jackson was one of three presidents to have adopted children.

Andrew Jackson was also the first President to almost be murdered. While he was at a funeral, Richard Lawrence took out a pistol and shot at him at point-blank range. The gun misfired. He took out another one, and it too misfired. Jackson then tackled the man to the ground.

"Small Town. Natural Wonders. Endless Opportunity."