



Vocal Point

Norwin Chamber of Commerce

August 2007

A Message From the President

The Chamber C.A.R.E.s about your business

Last month we announced the hiring of Chris Miller to the position of Vice President of the Norwin Chamber of Commerce. In August we are pleased to bring you news of a new program organized by Chris, an initiative undertaken for the benefit of Chamber members.

It seems networking and referral groups are more popular than ever these days, notably because they work by bringing new business and tangible benefits to their participants. Often, these groups are expensive to join and limited in membership. Today, we are pleased to announce the formation of a FREE weekly networking group exclusively for Norwin Chamber members.

C.A.R.E. stands for Chamber Associates Referral Exchange, a new member benefit program designed to help Chamber members market and network their businesses.

C.A.R.E. kicks off its first meeting on Monday, September 10, 2007 at 7:30 am in the Conference Room located at the Chamber. C.A.R.E. weekly meetings consist of:

- Member 30-second commercials
- Referral Exchanges
- Chamber News
- Weekly Business Topics
- Business "Tips-of-the-Week"

As summer comes to a close, it's time to focus on your business and start your work week off with referrals. Show that you C.A.R.E. about success both for yourself and fellow Chamber members. Join us! Please see the enclosed C.A.R.E. flyer for even more information, or call us at 724-863-0888.

A long time Chamber member and former Board member, Chris Miller brings to the Chamber a wealth of experience in successful business networking. Over the past 2 years, Chris has served as President for WBN (Women's Business Network). Prior to that, she served on the WBN Board of Directors and was in charge of membership. She is also Past-President of the Westmoreland Business Referral Association and current Vice President of Network To Success.

Rosanne Barry Novotnak

Membership Luncheon in August

Due to popular demand, we have scheduled a Membership Luncheon for August. Originally, the August luncheon had been cancelled so as not to conflict with Norwin's 75th Annual Community Picnic. Instead, we've moved the networking luncheon to the following week.

August's Membership Luncheon will be held at Pluma Restaurant in Irwin on Wednesday, August 8, from 11:30 to 1:00 pm. Our theme is a progressive networking luncheon, where attendees move from table to table to meet as many new contacts as possible. Costs are \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members and guests. Reservations are required, so please call the Chamber by noon on Monday, August 6th.

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(luncheon continued...)

In September, our luncheons return to the first Wednesday of the month. Join us on September 5th at the Chamber Office when Susan Stripay of PNC Bank will talk to us about Identity Theft.

Board Member Profiles

Diana Falk served as the Director of the Dormont Public Library before coming to Irwin in 2005 to take up the Director's position for the Norwin Public Library.

A 1992 graduate of Kenyon College with a BA in English, Diana earned her Masters in Library Science from the University of Pittsburgh in 2003. She and her husband, Ray, are Norwin residents.

Diana represents the library at many Chamber monthly luncheons and mixers. She is co-chair for Storybook Forest committee for the Norwin Community Day Picnic. In addition, the library supports the Chamber's Partners in Progress programs such as the Excellence in Education Luncheon and the Job Shadowing Program.

Brenda Kacvinsky recently accepted a 3-year term on the Board of the Directors of the Norwin Chamber of Commerce. Brenda is a resident of North Huntingdon. She is married to Mark Kacvinsky and has a son Mark, daughter-in-law Erica, and two grandchildren: Gavin (4) and Landon (1). Brenda is employed by Minuteman Press in North Versailles, a full service printing company, where she is responsible for Marketing and Business Development. She belongs to Immaculate Conception Parish in Irwin where she serves as President of the Christian Mothers/Women's Guild and on Pastoral Council.

Gus Slack is the Treasurer of AccountingTechs, Inc., a financial outsourcing company located in North Huntingdon. He is also the owner of Eagle Information Systems, a company that provides clients with reliable alternatives for business development and technology solutions. Gus is currently serving as Treasurer for the Norwin Chamber of Commerce and the Westmoreland Business Referral Association and is also the Council President for the Penns Woods United Methodist Church. Gus resides in North Huntingdon with his wife Janet and is the proud father of two and the even prouder grandfather of four.

Thank You Golf Committee

This year's Annual Golf Invitational was held on Friday, June 8th at Youghiogheny Country Club. Registrants enjoyed 18 holes of challenging golf, a boxed lunch, course refreshments, a dinner buffet, and more, not to mention the open bar sponsored by Dr. Richard Miller.

Our thanks go out to the Golf Committee, without whose dedicated work this successful event would not have been possible: David Litzinger, Manufacturing Consultant, John Russo of Elliott Company, Ed Michalek of Giant Eagle, Dr. Richard Miller, dentist, Dr. Bill Roscoe of All-Kare Chiropractic Clinic, John Duncan of Duncan Financial Group, Johnny Cortazzo and Keith Papula of K Specialties, and Rosanne Barry Novotnak, Norwin Chamber of Commerce. And Thank You to the volunteers who helped out on the day of the event: Ronda Doench and Ron Martin, both of Dollar Bank Loan Center, Frank Bonincontro and Nancy Smith, both of Irwin Bank and Chamber Board Members, Denise Martin of Giant Eagle North Huntingdon, Barbara Flynn of Norwin Public Library, Mike Flynn of Kenny Ross Chevrolet, Chris Miller and Sandy Albert, both from the Norwin Chamber of Commerce.

Business-to-Business Mixers Resume in September

Our popular Business-to-Business Mixers are taking the summer off. As happens each year, no mixers are held June, July, or August. But mark your calendars; September will be here before you know it. Mixers start again on September 12 with Panera Bread as host. The remaining mixers in 2007 include:

- October 10 – Mail Priority, Norwin Hills Shopping Center
- November 7 – Sherm Edwards Candies (scheduled early in November)
- December 12 – Norwin Chamber of Commerce (Hosted by the Board of Directors)

We look forward to seeing you again in September when these relaxing after-hours opportunities for networking resume. Join us from 5:00 to 7:00 pm on the second Wednesday of the month (excepting November). Don't miss these valuable networking opportunities. From trusted referrals to business partnerships, becoming known in the community is one of your keys to success.

NORWIN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2007

James Duffy, Chairman of the Board
Attorney at Law

Jim Gallagher, Immediate Past Chairman of the Board
Remax Realty Access

John Duncan, Vice Chair of Governance and Finance
Duncan Financial Group

Karen Botti, Vice Chair of Membership and Marketing
Commercial Bank & Trust of Pennsylvania

David Litzinger, Vice Chair of Community Partnerships and Economic Development
Elliott Company

Gus Slack, Treasurer
AccountingTechs, Inc.

Frank Bonincontro, Irwin Bank

Keith C. Davis,
The Davis Financial Group

Steve Eichelberger, Eichelberger & Sons Heating & Air Conditioning

Diana Falk, Norwin Public Library

Ed Michalek,
Giant Eagle of North Huntingdon

Pamala Mielnicki, Welcome New Neighbors

John Ott,
Joseph F. Ott Funeral Home, Inc.

Dr. William Roscoe, All-Kare Chiropractic Clinic

Nancy A. Smith, Irwin Bank

Jill Taylor, First National Bank of Pennsylvania

Patricia Altman, Borough of Irwin

Dr. John Boylan, Superintendent, Norwin School District

Thomas Kerber, Sr., Township Commissioner, North Huntingdon Township

Rosanne Barry Novotnak, President

Chris Miller, Vice President

Sandy Albert, Administrative Assistant

Gayleen Fisher, Volunteer

Cathy Schehr, Volunteer

NEWSLETTER

Article Compilation
Scot Noel
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Layout • Design • Printing
Ken McCombs
Metal Photo Service, Inc.

Norwin Chamber of Commerce



Great Business. Great Community. Great People.

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Chamber provides regional leadership through total member involvement

VISION

The Norwin Chamber of Commerce is an active organization of area businesses, industries and organizations promoting regional economic & community interests.

AUGUST CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 1 **75th Annual Norwin Community Picnic**
Idlewild Park, Ligonier
- 1 **Chamber office closed for Community Picnic**
- 8 **Monthly Membership Luncheon**
Pluma
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- 8 **Irwin Borough Council Meeting**
6:00 p.m.
Council Chambers
- 13 **North Irwin Borough Council Meeting**
7:00 p.m.
Council Chambers
- 14 **Executive Board Meeting**
8:00 a.m.
Norwin Chamber of Commerce
- 15 **North Huntingdon Township Commissioners**
7:00 p.m.
North Huntingdon Townhouse
- 21 **Board of Directors Meeting**
7:30 a.m.
Norwin Chamber of Commerce

