



The Chamber Connection

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE MORRIS AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

WHAT'S HAPPENING..

July, 2008

July 4 Celebrate Freedom!
July 9 Chamber Coffee Break-
Keeper's Floral,
7:30-8:30 a.m.

NO BOARD MEETING IN JULY

July 12-13 Prairie Pioneer Days
July 30 Crazy Days
Aug. 8 Business Expo Info due
Aug. 13-17 Stevens County Fair
Aug. 28 Community Picnic

For a complete listing of local events,

Chamber 400 Winners:

\$	6/2/08	\$100-Judy Johnston	\$
\$	6/9/08	\$250-Steve Strobel	\$
\$	6/16/08	\$100-Superior Industries	\$
\$	6/23/08	\$100-Priscilla Wood	\$
\$	6/30/08	\$100-Ben Winchester	\$

New Banners!!

Watch for the new banners purchased by the PPD committee advertising the PPD dates. They will be located on the Welcome to Morris signs located at the city limits.

Morris Area Chamber of Commerce

507 Atlantic Avenue
Morris, MN 56267
E-mail – mchamber@fedtel.net
Web - www.morrismnchamber.org

Board of Directors:
 Chair..... Ben Winchester (2010)
 Vice Chair..... Shelly Evink (2008)
 Paul LeTendre (2010) Neil Suess (2009)
 Corinne Kirk (2010) Amy Searle (2009)
 Kris Hansen (2010) Elaine Simonds-Jaradat (2009)
 Mick Ekren (2008) Judy Riley (UMM Rep)
 Sheila Larson (2008) Larry Sayre (County Board Rep)
 Carlen Hone (2008) Sonia Meyer (2009)
 Twig Webster (City Council Rep)

Executive Director – Carolyn Peterson
Administrative Assistant – Karen Arnold

Your Chamber is your Resource for: Business Promotion, Seminar and Training Opportunities, Community Information, Leadership Training, Networking, Partnerships, Referrals, Retail Trade, Special Events, Tourism Promotion, and MORE!!

Share this with a friend!

Things to do:

1. Register for the PPD parade
2. Buy a Chamber 400 ticket
3. Volunteer for the Community Picnic
4. Prepare Business Expo information

Registrations are still being accepted for the Prairie Pioneer Days parade. They are available on line at morrismnchamber.org. The letter confirming your lineup number and parade details will be mailed July 9. Please be watching for it. The Lions are in charge of the parade again this year (thank you Lions!).

The Events/Fundraising Committee has been working overtime. In June 400+ letters went out to past purchasers/winners of Chamber 400 tickets. We have had a marvelous response to the letters. You may purchase a Chamber 400 ticket at the Chamber office, or from any of the board members. Or fill out the enclosed form and mail it in with your check to Morris Area Chamber of Commerce, 507 Atlantic Ave, Morris, MN.

In addition to the Chamber 400, the Events Committee recently surveyed business owners as to the benefit of the Business Expo held at the UMM every fall. Although the majority of those who returned their survey felt the Expo was a good idea, the fact that it was on a Sunday created scheduling conflicts. In light of this, the Events Committee will be putting together packets to hand out to incoming UMM students. If your business would like to contribute information to the packet, you may contact the Chamber. Be watching for more information!

Plans are well underway for the Community Picnic to be held August 28 at East Side Park. The Events Committee is looking for volunteers to help serve food and ice cream floats, or to grill the hotdogs. If you would like to help—and it's FUN!— call the Chamber and let us know which shift (5-6:15 or 6:15-7:15) works best for you.



Please return this form with your check—payable to:
Morris Area Chamber of Commerce
507 Atlantic Ave, Morris, MN 56267
Phone: 320-589-1242 ** email: mchamber@fedtel.net

PLEASE PRINT....

1st Ticket Information: _____ 2nd Ticket Information: _____

Name _____ Name _____

Address _____ Address _____

Phone Number _____ Phone Number _____

Must be 18 to purchase a ticket.

Member News:

Congratulations to Superior Industries on the acquisition of WestMor Industries! The merger creates Morris' largest company, employing more than 500 people.

West Central Screen & Print has purchased the decorated apparel division of Suncatchers, and will be leasing the space previously occupied by them at 622 Atlantic Ave. West Central Screen & Print owners, Kim & Sheldon Giese, will be doing some renovating of the space, and hope to be in full operation by July 1. Congratulations Kim & Sheldon!

Let us know what is going on with your business—share your news by contacting the Chamber.

Board Spotlight- Kris Hansen



Kris Hansen

Kris is number six of seven siblings born in Starbuck. She spent part of her younger years there where her dad, Gene Watnaas was the mayor for many years and managed the Starbuck Creamery. Her mom, Kathy was a homemaker. In 1982 her dad's job took her and her family to the small town of Vining, MN which is located between Henning and Battle Lake. After graduating from Henning High School she attended Alexandria Technical College. She lived in the cities for a short time before realizing she missed the small town living and moved to Fergus Falls and lived there until 1999 when she met her husband whom she married in 2000 and moved to Cyrus. "I always said I was going to move back to the Pope County area someday and my wish came true." Kris is married to Ron Hansen who is a truck driver for Hancock Concrete and she has three grown step daughters; who all live in St. Cloud; Jeni is a Registered Nurse; Tammy is a Dental Hygienist and Tracy is an Optometric Assistant but is attending school to become an LPN. Kris also has a step grandson whom she adores. Aiden was 3 in June.

Kris works at First Federal Savings Bank as a Personal Banker. "I enjoy my job and the people I work with." Kris especially enjoys helping the senior citizens with their accounts. She gets a kick out of their "back in the day" stories. Kris joined the Chamber of Commerce in 2008 and serves on the Events & Fundraising Committee. She is also a graduate of the 2005 Leadership Morris program.

FAX US! 585-4814

The Chamber office is once again able to send and receive faxes. Parade registrations are available online at www.morrismnchamber.org. Print one off, fill it out, and fax it in.



Information Booth

The Prairie Pioneer Days Committee is looking for volunteers to help at the Information Booth in the park during PPD, July 12 and 13. Duties include selling game tickets and PPD buttons, in addition to providing information such as the schedule of events to visitors. Shifts are only a couple of hours and it is one way to get to see EVERYBODY! Call early to get the shift you want! Contact Jodi at 288-6067 or e-mail jodippd@yahoo.com.

We have a winner!!!!!! PPD Button # 156

is the winner of the second early bird drawing that was held June 23.

We are still waiting for the owner of button #234 to claim the \$50 prize from the first drawing.

If you have either button 156 or 234, bring it to the Chamber office to receive your prize.

Crazy Days—July 30

The Retail Trade Committee is purchasing new banners to advertise Crazy Days. They will be hung beneath the Welcome to Morris signs. Please be sure to watch for them.

Business Expo—Deadline August 8

The deadline to have your information turned in to the Chamber to be included in the Business Expo packets to be handed out to new UMM students is August 15. There will be a \$20 fee to participate.

Morris Community Picnic—August 28

The Events/Fundraiser Committee is busy making plans for the Community Picnic to be held Thursday, August 28, at the East Side Park. Serving will be from 5:00 until the food is gone. Volunteers are needed for 2 hour shifts, which will run from 4:00-6:00 and 6:00-8:00. Volunteer positions include grilling, serving food and floats. If any business or individual is interested in filling some volunteer positions, please choose which shift works best, and contact the Chamber. This is such a fun community event! Don't miss out on it.



Mediacom Hosts June Coffee Break at new location—615 Atlantic Ave.

Fred Crowell of Mediacom was our host for the June Chamber Coffee Break. Guests attending the coffee break enjoyed seeing Mediacom's new space at 615 Atlantic Avenue. This location provides numerous offices, storage and a well appointed conference room for the business. Fred shared information about services that Mediacom is able to offer the community, in addition to providing some facts about the upcoming switch to digital television. For convenience a drop box for payments has been installed at the back of building. Stop in and check out their beautiful new space!

July Chamber Coffee Break at Keeper's Floral

Please join us for our Coffee Break event on Wednesday, July 9 from 7:30—8:30 a.m. (come and go as you wish). Our host will be Keeper's Floral. This is a great networking opportunity. Come and visit with your fellow Chamber members, find out what's new at their business, share ideas and enjoy coffee and goodies. Bring a friend, or friends, if you like. If you are interested in being a host for future coffee breaks, contact Karen at the Chamber Office, 589-1242.

