

*St. Charles*

# Chamber Communique

A Publication of the St. Charles Chamber of Commerce

DECEMBER 2009

[www.stcharleschamber.com](http://www.stcharleschamber.com)

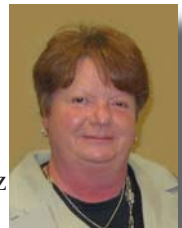
*"One Stop, One City, Countless Opportunities!"*

## 2009 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP BREAKFAST SERVES UP AWARDS

The St. Charles Chamber of Commerce held its "State of the Chamber" Annual Membership Breakfast on November 12th at Pheasant Run Resort. More than 200 members enjoyed their breakfast as they waited eagerly to hear the winners of Rookie and Member of the Year Awards. These awards are a surprise and are given to individuals that have volunteered service to the Chamber and community in addition to their ordinary business throughout the year. This year's winners are Juli Bridgers-Schatz for Rookie of the Year, and Alex Claney, Member of the Year.

### 2009 ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

**Juli Bridgers-Schatz**, of Image Grill, joined St. Charles Chamber of Commerce in January of this year. Immediately thereafter, she became involved with the St. Pat's parade committee, and volunteered the day of the event getting her husband and son to volunteer as well. Bridgers-Schatz also joined the Business in Action committee and a Leads group. She was responsible for developing the "Do it Yourself Marketing" workshop working with Chamber staff to prepare the event and volunteered as a presenter. Bridgers-Schatz is often seen at many networking events, ribbon cuttings, and even the business tours with her best friend - her camera.



### 2009 MEMBER OF THE YEAR

**Alex Claney**, of Alex Claney Photography, has been a member of our Chamber for almost four years. Since joining the Chamber, he has been extremely involved as a volunteer helping with the Business Expos, golf outings, and last year's annual Charlemagne Awards Dinner. Claney has also been a dedicated member of a Leads group and served as chairman this past year. He has donated time, talent & materials with his exceptional ability to create lasting memories for our Chamber members.



In addition, the **SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR Awards** were announced by Jack Griffin and Jonathan Gripe, members of the Business In Action Committee. The Chamber received 12 nominations for these awards. **Bella Bridal & Formal Wear** accepted the Business-To-Consumer Small Business Award and **Doc Morgan, Inc.** (who was unable to attend) received the Business-To-Business category award. One of these two winners will be awarded the Small Business of the Year announced at the Charlemagne Awards Dinner on February 5th at the St. Charles Country Club. Past winners of this award have been Blue Goose, McDowell Exteriors, Martopia, DiGiovine, Hnilo, Jordan & Johnson, Ltd, and Lazarus House.



Zoe Ingersoll, the 2009 Chairman of the Board introduced the incoming 2010 Board of Directors. Changes in committee chairpersons were also announced. All attendees received a copy of the 2010 Chamber magazine, the 2010 action plan, and the 2010 calendar of events.

## Mark Your Calendars! 88th ANNUAL Charlemagne Dinner

The 88th Annual Awards Dinner will be on Friday, February 5, 2010.

This year the event will take place at St. Charles Country Club, 1250 Country Club Rd., St. Charles.

Remember how much fun it was to watch the surprise on our winners faces last year? You won't want to miss out this year! Watch for details in future newsletters and mailings...Reservations will be required!

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

DATE/DAY	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	
<u>WEEK ONE</u>				
1	Tue	4:30 pm	Ribbon Cutting New expanded space!	Il Giardino del Dolce 131 S. First St., STC
3	Thu	11:30 am	WBC Holiday Luncheon	Elgin Country Club 2575 Weld Road, Elgin
3	Thu	5-8 pm	Chamber Holiday Party	St. Charles Country Club 1250 Country Club Rd., STC
<u>WEEK TWO</u>				
8	Tue	8:30-10:30 am	Federal Update Breakfast Representative for Congressman Bill Foster	Hilton Garden Inn 4070 E. Main St., STC
9	Wed	4:30 pm	Ribbon Cutting	H & R Block 1860 W. Main St., STC
10	Thu	4:30 pm	Ribbon Cutting & Open House from 3-7 pm	Edward Jones, Steve Ciaccio 1652 E. Main St., Suite 30, STC
9	Wed	8:30 am	Chamber Board Meeting	Chamber Boardroom
<u>WEEK THREE</u>				
No events this week!				
<u>WEEK FOUR</u>				
24-25		CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	OFFICE CLOSED	
<u>WEEK FIVE</u>				
31-Jan 1		HAPPY NEW YEAR!	OFFICE CLOSED	

## WELCOME THREE NEW BOARD MEMBERS TO THE 2010 BOARD!

**Judy Devoe** is the President of Spare Wheels Transportation, Inc., a company which provides group transportation for Fox Valley and the surrounding Chicago area. Judy has owned the business for the past nine years, employs 45 people and owns 45 different types of vehicles for use in the business. They are located at 33W480 Fabyan Parkway, Suite 101, West Chicago. They moved out of St. Charles two years ago due to a parking shortage for their vehicles, but are actively searching for new space so that they can move back to St. Charles. Judy will become the Board Liaison to the LEAD\$ Groups and serve a two-year term.

**Debbie Beeter** is a Personal Banker at First Choice Bank located at 1900 W. State Street in Geneva. Debbie has been with the bank for 1-1/2 years and prior to that, she was with the US Bank in Naperville. Debbie will be the new Treasurer for the Board in 2010, and will serve a three year term.

**Jim Keller** is a Partner with OnPath Financial LLC located at 100 Illinois Street, Suite 201 in St. Charles. He has been with the firm for over a year and prior to that he was with Edward Jones. Jim will be a Director on the Board and will serve a two-year term.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY

DATE/DAY	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
<u>WEEK ONE</u>			
<b>1</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>HAPPY NEW YEAR!</b>	<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>
<u>WEEK TWO</u>			
6	Wed	3 pm	WBC Comm. Mtg. Chamber Boardroom
<u>WEEK THREE</u>			
11	Mon	3:30 pm	Legislative Comm. Mtg. Chamber Boardroom
12	Tue	3 pm	BIA Comm. Mtg. Chamber Boardroom
<b>13</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>8 - 9:30 am</b>	<b>BIA Focus Group Breakfast</b> <b>Holiday Inn Express</b> <b>1600 E. Main St., STC</b>
14	Thu	8:30 am	Membership Comm. Mtg. Chamber Boardroom
<u>WEEK FOUR</u>			
<b>19</b>	<b>Tue</b>	<b>8 - 10 am</b>	<b>State Legislative Breakfast</b> <b>Hilton Garden Inn</b> <b>4070 E. Main St., STC</b>
20	Wed	8:30 am	Board Mts. Chamber Boardroom
<b>21</b>	<b>Thu</b>	<b>4:30 - 6 pm</b>	<b>Business After Hours</b> <b>Claddagh Irish Pub</b> <b>1702 Commons Dr., Geneva</b>
<u>WEEK FIVE</u>			
<b>28</b>	<b>Thu</b>	<b>11:30 am - 1:30 pm</b>	<b>“Conquering the Procrastination Plague” - WBC Luncheon</b> <b>Dunham Woods</b> <b>33W333 Army Trail Rd., Wayne</b>

## ST. CHARLES CHAMBER GIFT CERTIFICATES

ARE THE PERFECT GIFT!

Tired of plastic gift cards that expire all too soon? Can't remember how much is left on the plastic to spend? We have the answer to your problem!

St. Charles Chamber Gift Certificates allow you to take the hassle out of holiday shopping, hostess gifts, and any other gift-giving occasion. They come in “one-size-fits-all” and can be used at 100's of locations! Sold in a variety of denominations, you can purchase a certificate at the St. Charles Chamber of Commerce office (3755 E. Main St.), at Grimm's Hallmark East (3543 E. Main Street), and at Grimm's Hallmark West (1601 W. Main Street), or phone the Chamber at 630-584-8384, use your credit card, and we'll mail the certificates to you.

Tell your out-of-town friends about Chamber Gift Certificates, too! They just might thank you with a gift certificate!

For a list of merchants who accept Chamber Gift Certificates: [www.stcharleschamber.com](http://www.stcharleschamber.com)



City of St. Charles  
Building First Street  
St. Charles Community Website  
City Office Hours: M-F, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.



[www.stcharlesil.gov](http://www.stcharlesil.gov)  
[www.1ststreetstc.org](http://www.1ststreetstc.org)  
[www.st-charles.il.us](http://www.st-charles.il.us)

*Happy  
Holidays  
from  
The City  
of St. Charles!*

NEED A POSTAGE STAMP APPRAISED?  
SEE A PHILATELIST.

NEED HELP WITH LANGUAGES?  
TALK TO A PHILOLOGIST.

NEED FINANCIAL HELP?  
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**St. Charles**

1 E. Main St. . . . .630-377-4100    3890 E. Main St. . . . .630-377-4192  
300 S. Randall Rd. . . . .630-377-4115    409 S. 1st St. . . . .630-377-4148

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MESSAGE

### A Chamber Christmas Toast

The decorations are in place  
The twinkling lights are up  
The Chamber office shines  
And there's egg nog in the cup

Santa's sleigh is on schedule  
Local stores are stocked  
Even the weather might cooperate  
We're all shocked

And now before the shoppers  
Descend upon our town  
We offer up this Chamber toast  
So pass your cups around



First, to our dearest members  
To you a prosperous new year  
With your renewed support  
Our Chamber has nothing to fear

Next, board – staff – and volunteers  
We wish you peaceful rest  
You've earned it because this past year  
You've given us your best

And as for all our sponsors  
A special Yule salute  
The dollars you provide us  
Allow our programs to bear fruit

And finally to our shopping guests  
Who travel far and wide  
You boost our local economy  
And enhance our Chamber pride



The Chamber staff commends you all  
Because, you see, we feel  
You've kept the Chamber flourishing  
With your hard work and your zeal

A great Chamber and community  
Is reason enough to boast  
So raise your cups to the Holidays  
With this special Chamber toast!

# CHAMBER LAND

Chamber Land "the First Edition" was awesome! If you were unable to attend, the event was held on November 17th, from 4 - 8 pm, and many said they could've boogied all night! Santa's little elves (did you recognize them?) escorted Mrs. Claus, who had her Secret Santa list with her, and rode around town in the 21st Century version of the sleigh! Treats and holiday cheer were offered at every participating shop and restaurant, from Bellatinis to a full dinner buffet, and everything in between. Participants picked up goodie bags at Hotel Baker and

Pheasant Run. The evening concluded at Grimm's Hallmark West where 17 great gifts were raffled off. A special thanks to Pheasant Run Resort for our Grand Raffle! Attendees were charmed by the special discounts, offers, treats, and plain festive fun! Both patrons and businesses have already inquired about next year! You won't want to miss the sequel next year with even more great gift ideas and fun to jump start the holiday season!



## ***A Special Thank You to the Following Members for their Contributions!***

### ***Chamber Land Stops***

Arcada  
Bella Bridal and Formal Wear  
Donna's Jewelry Box  
Ginger's Gift Gallery  
Grimm's Hallmark West  
Heinz Brothers Greenhouse & Garden Center  
Hotel Baker  
Il Giardino Del Dolce  
JP Jewelers  
Mario Tricoci Hair Salons & Day Spas  
Oberweis Ice Cream and Dairy Store  
Onesti Italian Steakhouse & Supper Club  
Pheasant Run Resort & Spa  
T-Bones Steak House  
Learning Express Toys

### ***Raffle Items***

Art of Yoga by Laurie  
Edward Jones  
Gingers Gift Gallery  
Grimm's Hallmark West  
H&R Block  
Heinz Brothers Greenhouse & Garden Ctr.  
Hotel Baker  
Il Giardino Del Dolce  
Image Grille  
JP Jewelers  
Mario Tricoci  
Onesti Italian Steakhouse & Supper Club  
Pheasant Run Resort & Spa  
Positive Body Care  
Tony & Friends Art Studio

### ***Goodie Bags***

1st Choice Bank  
AAA St. Charles  
Arcada  
Art of Yoga by Laurie  
Bickford  
Chili's  
CVB  
Easter Seals  
Elgin Community College  
Fast Frame  
Fox Valley Travel

Ginger's Gift Gallery  
H&R Block  
Hallmark  
Heinz Brothers  
Heritage Center  
Hilton Garden  
Hotel Baker  
Il Giardano Del Dolce  
Image Awards  
Image Grille  
JP Jewelers

Literacy Volunteers Fox Valley  
Momificent  
Oberweis Dairy  
Onesti Italian Steakhouse  
Pheasant Run Resort & Spa  
Positive Body Care  
Steamgard  
Strohchein Law  
Taste of Himalayas  
Tony & Friends Art Studio  
Tri City Friends



## ***“Federal Update” Breakfast***

*A representative from Congressman Foster’s Office will address the Chamber about the importance of local input on federal decision making and give an update on legislation being discussed in Congress. There will be a Q & A period after the presentation. NOTE: Due to a vote scheduled in Washington on this date, Congressman Foster will be unable to attend this event.*

Menu\*: Fruit, scrambled eggs with cheddar cheese, bacon, breakfast potatoes, assorted Danish and muffins, coffee and orange juice.

**Tuesday, December 8, 2009**

***SO SORRY!***  
**Members Only**

***This Event has been Cancelled!***

To make your reservation contact

Debbie Treutler at [dtreutler@stcharleschamber.com](mailto:dtreutler@stcharleschamber.com) or call 630-584-8384

Reservation deadline – Thursday, December 3, 12:00 Noon.

Cost: \$20.00 and must be paid for in advance or at the door.

Please note: You must have a reservation - we cannot accept walk-ins!

If you had a reservation and are unable to attend, you will be billed for your lunch.

### **2009 Embrace A Family** **Christmas Glass Blocks Now Available!**

Beautifully illuminated 2009 Christmas Glass Blocks are available to order at the St. Charles Chamber or directly through [www.embracefamily.com](http://www.embracefamily.com) for purchase. All Glass Blocks are \$20.00 each and come in square or rectangle with a decorative bow. Order forms are available at the Chamber Office at 3755 E. Main Street, Suite 140 in St. Charles. \$10.00 of your purchase price is a donation to Embrace A Family in St. Charles. Blocks will be ready for pickup or delivery from November 30, 2009 and throughout the holiday season.

*Embrace A Family*  
*1005 Prairie Street*  
*St. Charles, IL 60174*  
*630-377-7328*

## NEW MEMBER LIST

### BANKS

#### AMERICAN EAGLE BANK

Joyce Grissom  
556 Randall Rd.  
South Elgin, IL 60177  
Phone: (847) 760-9628  
Fax: (847) 742-7824  
joyceg@amebank.com  
<http://www.amebank.com>

### CARPET & FLOORING

#### CARPET DIRECT

Jess Skarda  
St. Charles, IL 60174  
Phone: 1-800-556-save  
Fax: (630) 549-0092  
jess@carpetdirectofil.com  
<http://www.carpetdirectofil.com>

### CHILD CARE

#### KIDS CONNECTION, INC.

Renee Gust  
2011 Dean St., Suite A  
St. Charles, IL 60174  
Phone: (630) 587-9400  
Fax: (630) 513-8343  
kids\_connection@sbcglobal.net  
<http://www.kidsconnection.info>

### CITIZEN MEMBER

#### JULIE VANBUSKIRK

5 Walnut Dr.  
Aurora, IL 60542  
Phone: (630) 715-1120  
juliavanbuskirk@gmail.com

### CONSULTANTS

#### ADVI COACH

Dominik Sorresso  
1011 Auburn Ln.  
Bartlett, IL 60103  
Phone: (630) 837-7956  
djsorresso@comcast.net

### CREDIT CARD PROCESSING & SERVICES

#### MIDWEST STATES, INC.

Kenneth Scurry  
785 N. Augustus Ct.  
Palatine, IL 60067  
Phone: (847) 359-8853  
Fax: (888) 283-1521  
dominick@fdis-mws.com  
<http://www.deis-mws.com>

### HEALTH & WELLNESS

#### Youth - Rx Fox Valley

Mark Rockcastle  
100 Illinois St., #200  
St. Charles, IL 60174  
(630) 362-3740  
mark@youth-rx.com  
<http://www.youthrxfoxvalley.com>

### WINE SHOPS

#### TRAVELING VINEYARD

Pamela King  
2816 Davenport Dr.  
West Chicago, IL 60185  
Phone: (630) 901-3432

## WEBSITE AND DATABASE INFORMATION

The "Member Login" area can be found on the left sidebar of the Chamber website, [www.stcharleschamber.com](http://www.stcharleschamber.com).

### MEMBER LOGIN

In the Chamber Login window, type your login name and password, and then click Continue. You should see "Welcome (your business name)."

Now you can get down to business, checking the accuracy of the information kept there.

**Member Info** – The Member Info module allows you to view, edit, and add information that the Chamber staff uses when working with your account.

**Webpage Info** – The Webpage Info module is where you view, edit and add the business information that you want the consumer to see when they view your business directory listing on the Chamber's web site. Other selections allow access to view your Member Information page as it will appear on the web site, and generate reports to see how many people viewed your listing and linked to your website!

**Advertising** – The Advertising module contains selections that allow you to increase visibility by advertising specials with Hot Deals, posting employment needs with Job Postings, and posting an event of your choosing through Events. Once submitted, the Chamber staff approves the entry, and it is added to the Chamber's web site where it can be viewed by consumers visiting their [www.StCharlesChamber.com](http://www.StCharlesChamber.com).

Also in this column of the web page is the 51-page **USER MANUAL**. Much of the information reported in this article can be found in this manual.

**Member List** – This listing area will have Member Labels and Lists that are updated monthly. This is where you will download contact info about your fellow members.



**YOU CAN MAKE  
CHANGES YOURSELF!**

Thank you...  
to the following members who  
referred businesses that joined the  
Chamber this month!

John Gripe  
Jim Petterec

## 2009 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**Zoe Ingersoll**

*Chairman*

Ingersoll & Associates

**Rose Canfield**

*Vice Chair*

Solutions Networking  
Corp.

**Lynn Pranga**

*Treasurer*

MB Financial Bank

### DIRECTORS

**Tamara Sims**

Something 2 Dance 2

**Paul Christian**

Harris, N.A.

**Merilee Curtis**

St. Charles Public Library

**Jeff Meyer**

Ameriprise Financial

**Craig Lowder**

ActionCOACH

**Andy Weiland**

Steamgard Carpet &  
Upholstery Cleaners

## CHAMBER STAFF

### President & CEO

Lori Hewitt

Extension 13

lhewitt@stcharleschamber.com

### Vice President of Events

Deborah Treutler

Extension 12

dtreutler@stcharleschamber.com

### Vice President of Communications

Christine Manisco

Extension 14

cmanisco@stcharleschamber.com

### Vice President of Membership

Darlene Riebe

Extension 15

driebe@stcharleschamber.com

### Vice President of Operations

Ann Dondelinger-Migatz

Extension 10

amigatz@stcharleschamber.com

St. Charles Chamber of Commerce • 3755 E. Main St., Suite 140 • 630.584.8384 • Fax: 630.584.6065  
www.stcharleschamber.com



## PHEASANT RUN

RESORT

## BUSINESS OF THE MONTH

From fine dining and soothing spa treatments to 36 holes of championship golf and live entertainment, Pheasant Run Resort has something for everyone! Located in charming St. Charles, Pheasant Run Resort is the perfect setting for a fun family vacation, relaxing weekend getaway, corporate retreat, or exquisite wedding offering luxurious guest rooms, extensive meeting facilities, exceptional entertainment and cuisine. Enjoy one of our seasonal and specialty overnight packages or customize your own with our All-Inclusive Package. Looking for the perfect gift this holiday season? Give the gift of entertainment with a Pheasant Run gift card! Take advantage of our special offer, purchase a \$200 gift card and receive a \$50 gift card for yourself! It's an experience they'll cherish forever.

- Ideal location less than one hour from Chicago with easy access to O'Hare (ORD) and Midway (MDW) Airports
- Beautiful 250 acre setting in historic St. Charles
- 473 luxurious guest rooms
- 33 spacious suites including penthouse, whirlpool, honeymoon and executive suites
- Mario Tricoci Hair Salon & Day Spa
- 36 Holes of Championship Golf including the Resort Course and Robert Trent Jones, Jr. links course at Prairie Landing, plus driving range and pro shop
- Two Theaters featuring productions by Chicago's acclaimed Noble Fool Theatricals
- Zanies Comedy Club
- Several restaurants and lounges
- More than 100,000 square feet of meeting space including 39 meeting rooms, two expo centers, three distinct ballrooms, 320-seat tiered auditorium and state-of-the-art training center
- 3 pools including an indoor/outdoor pool plus whirlpool
- Fitness center
- WIFI high speed wireless Internet access in all guest and meeting rooms