BARABOO AREA CHAMBER & TOURISM

CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP HAS NEVER BEEN MORE VALUABLE

Darren Hornby
Executive Director

I understand that, in tight economic times like these, affording Chamber of Commerce dues can be challenging for some of our members. I'm grateful to our members who have renewed this year, and I think it's a wise move: Chamber membership has never been more valuable!



I hope all of you will utilize the promotional and networking opportunities the Chamber will provide this year, as we all work to rebuild the local economy in the pandemic's aftermath. While

large gatherings have been suspended, we still offer opportunities for business-to-business marketing through this newsletter and through ChamberMaster. Plus, the Business Directory at baraboo.com remains a popular way for the general public to find local merchants.

It's amid challenging circumstances that a Chamber proves its worth. As soon as the shutdown began last spring, we shared resources for business owners through our e-blasts and via our website, and added an online directory for the public that listed our members' services and specials.

We also partnered with Sauk County and neighboring Chambers to create a Small Business Relief Fund that put grants in the hands of dozens of struggling business owners in the Baraboo Area.

All the while, we continued to make referrals to member businesses, as consumer inquiries never stopped during the pandemic. We recently resumed allowing our members to use the conference room for small gatherings.

As the pandemic subsides, we look forward to resuming the activities that drew so many of you to our organization in the first place: Business After 5 socials, Lunch & Learn



seminars and events like the Big Top Parade and Oktoberfest.

Soon we'll publish the 2021 edition of the Discover Real Baraboo Visitors Guide, directing tourists and locals alike to attractions and to member businesses through a five-page directory.

Invoices for 2021 Chamber dues have been sent out and are coming due. If you want to appear in this year's Visitors Guide - and enjoy all the other benefits of membership - please send in your dues ASAP!

It was a pleasure for Ben and I to serve you in 2020. I look forward to doing great things for our membership and the community in 2021.

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE



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NEW MEMBERS

Bobbie Coons
<u>Great Wolf Lodge</u>

<u>Jason Manke Recruitment</u>

<u>Zen Business</u>

JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS

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NEW BOARD MEMBER ORIENTATION

On January 6 we welcomed four new members to our Board of Directors with an orientation session led by Darren. We are honored to have Raegen Trimmer of ReMax Grand, Ana Torres of Las Milpas, Tracy Buglass of Agrace Hospice and Shelley Mordini of Baraboo Tours on our leadership team!

BARABOO AREA CHAMBER & TOURISM



PROCLAMATION FROM U.S. SEN. RON JOHNSON CELEBRATING CHAMBER'S 70th ANNIVERSARY



AMBASSADORS CLUB MEETING AT PIZZA RANCH • JANUARY 18



Still need PPE?

Baraboo Farm & Fleet has all your PPE supply needs covered:
CLEANSERS MASKS
SANITIZERS
Hand sanitizers have been drastically marked down.
Stop in or reach out!
Baraboo Farm & Fleet

608-356-7736



We were overjoyed January 29 to welcome back Jack Chaperon, a student who helps us two days a week with data entry.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS





New member orientation

Thursday, February 4th from noon to 1 p.m. Visitor Center conference room

Learn about the many benefits of Chamber membership from Darren as he details the organization's structure, principles and funding mechanisms. He'll also discuss the great networking events and community celebrations the Chamber organizes.

Register here



February Board of Directors meeting

Monday, February 15th from noon to 1 p.m. Zoom conference

Board members, please mark your calendars for the 15th if you haven't already, as President Shawna will lead our February Board of Directors meeting via Zoom.



February Ambassadors Club meeting

Monday, February 15th at 5:30 p.m. Baraboo Burger Company upper dining room

Join us at Baraboo Burger Co. as members of the Ambassadors Club brainstorm about potential Chamber members, discuss upcoming events and devise ways to keep members engaged with the organization. All while enjoying tasty food and beverages!





Thursday February

4

11 AM - 2 PM

Helpful tip:
Make sure to eat a healthy
meal and drink plenty of
water before donating.



Hilton Garden Inn Blood Drive

APPOINTMENTS PREFERRED Call 877-232-4376 to schedule an appointment or bit.ly/Hilton221

MORE INFORMATION:

The SARS COV-2 antibody test, AKA COVID-19 Antibody Test (CAT), will be performed on all blood donations as part of our standard testing.

Stay protected and active!
When you donate at this drive, you'll receive a Versiti gaiter as a thank you; while supplies last.



FREE FEBRUARY2021

COVID-19 TESTING

Sauk County



MONDAYS

SPRING GREEN 11 AM TO 1 PM

Spring Green Fire/EMS Station

327 Winsted Street, Spring Green 2 Step online registration & appts required: www.springgreenems.com

TUESDAYS

REEDSBURG 8 AM TO NOON

Reedsburg Ambulance Service

230 Railroad Street, Reedsburg Registration required for each test: https://register.covidconnect.wi.gov

WED. FEB. 10 & 17 ONLY

MERRIMAC

4:30 - 7:30 PM

Merrimac Fire & Rescue

120 School St, Merrimac Registration required for each test: https://register.covidconnect.wi.gov

THURSDAYS

SAUK PRAIRIE

1 PM TO 6 PM

SP Healthcare Wellspring Campus

55 Prairie Ave, Prairie du Sac

- 2 Steps Required for each test:
- 1. www.register.covidconnect.wi.gov
- 2. Call 608-643-7603 for an appointment.

FRIDAYS BARABOO

8 AM TO NOON

Circus World Museum Parking Lot

550 Water Street, Baraboo

2 Step online registration & appts required: https://forms.gle/uXHPPe86hiosRHbN8

Hosted by Baraboo Fire/EMS

All tests are drive-thru. Please remain in your car. For more information: 608.355.3290 https://www.co.sauk.wi.us/publichealth/coronavirus