

Now is the time. Use your voice, your spending power and your influence to support black-owned businesses. Or better yet, let this month mark the start of a year-long commitment to be mindful of your business relationships and community investment. Don't delay; just do it. Real change happens one decision at a time!

#nationalblackbusinessmonth

#chamberLOVE



Liz Holt, Executive Director



COMMUNITIES

Tuesday August 10, 5-7pm - Business After Hours at Frank Lloyd Wright Home & Studio, with food sponsored by Blackout Baking and drinks sponsored by Forest Insurance

Join us for a night of networking, drinks and hors d'oeuvres. Great people and good food will make for a fine Summer celebration! Thank you to our 3 amazing sponsors.

Business After Hours (BAH) occur on the second Tuesday of every month. This is your chance to connect with other members in a more casual setting. All members and non-members are welcomed. (Members are free.)

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Friday August 13, 12-12:30pm - Takeout Stakeout lunch pickup at Brewpoint Craft Oak Park

Come join your fellow Chamber members for our Takeout Stakeout, this time at **Brewpoint Craft Oak Park**! In this event, we convene at a designated restaurant to pick up our takeout lunch choices, and get to see each other for a bit while we're at it in a socially-distanced meetup. Like our Tuesday Tasting lunch series from which this springs, lunch is a flat \$15 including tax and tip. Choose your lunch when register.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Friday August 27, 9:30-11am - Chamber Virtual Open Office Hours

Held twice monthly at the Chamber HQ, "Office Hours" is a drop-in help center for all Chamber Members looking to beef up their member ePage, better understand Chamber benefits or just talk business. RSVP to make an appointment with us, or just come on in!

A must for new members and a great opportunity for veteran members to refresh your Chamber profiles or find out what's new and exciting!

Come for a just few minutes or stay the whole time. We guarantee we will have Chamber Staff on hand to help you make the most of your Chamber membership. We also will be glad to refer you to Chamber members who can help you tackle specific business challenges in marketing, IT, HR, finance, etc.

[REGISTER HERE](#)



August 2021 Professional Development

What should small businesses be doing in sales and marketing to succeed in the "new" competitive landscape? Bill Guertin is known as

"The 800-Pound Gorilla of Sales", and in this presentation, you'll learn what's working NOW in sales and marketing, what's predicted to work going forward, and what techniques may need to be re-tooled or abandoned altogether. You'll come away with several specific ideas to increase your business visibility, your brand value, and your bottom line.

- Attendees will better understand the new dynamics of the marketplace, and what is driving buying decisions
- Be able to more effectively use readily available sales and marketing tools to succeed
- Be introduced to brand new tools and techniques to consider in 2021 and beyond

Who is our Speaker?

Bill Guertin is a sales and marketing authority, a keynote speaker at many conferences and trade shows, a Certified Virtual Speaker, and a lifelong resident of Kankakee County.

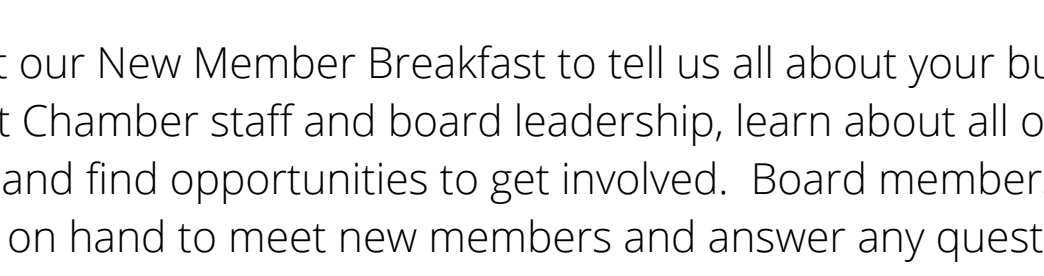
A 1979 graduate of Bishop McNamara Catholic High School, Bill's dynamic sales programs are in use at over (100) ticket sales departments of professional sports teams in the US, Canada and Mexico.

He is the author of two books on sales and marketing, and is Chief Learning Officer of ISBI 360, a virtual training company that provides industry-specific executive education to the business side of sports and entertainment.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

[Learn more about our Professional Development Programs HERE](#)

Welcome New Members!

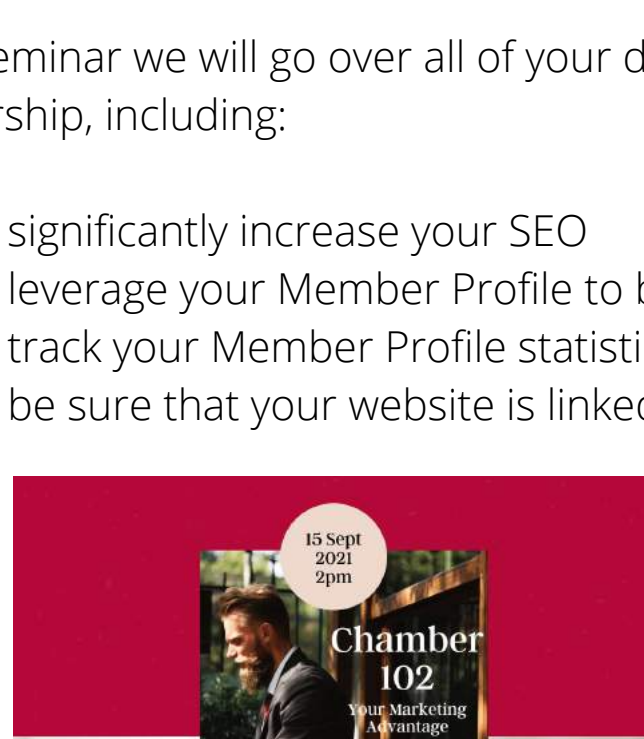


Join us at our New Member Breakfast to tell us all about your business, to meet Chamber staff and board leadership, learn about all of your benefits, and find opportunities to get involved. Board members and staff are on hand to meet new members and answer any questions!

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Digital and Marketing Advantage Sessions:

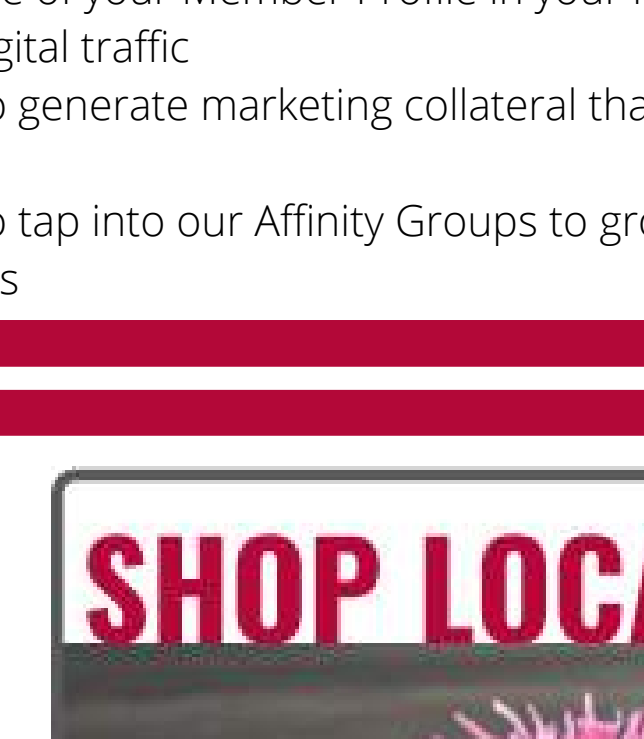
Perfect for new members and those who need a refresher.



[REGISTER HERE](#)

In this seminar we will go over all of your digital benefits that come with your membership, including:

- how to significantly increase your SEO
- how to leverage your Member Profile to boost traffic to your own website
- how to track your Member Profile statistics
- how to be sure that your website is linked to your membership



[REGISTER HERE](#)

In this seminar we will go over all of your marketing benefits that come with your membership, including:

- how to maximize your e-blast benefits
- the role of your Member Profile in your marketing advantage and how to track digital traffic
- how to generate marketing collateral that can be shared in your social media
- how to tap into our Affinity Groups to grow your network and feature your business



Sign up to be a participating merchant

Free sign up for Chamber Members

(Contact jyang@oprchamber.org)

Non-Members

Learn more [HERE](#)