



2009 CHAMBER HIGHLIGHTS

MEMBERSHIP

Total Membership: 150

Number of New Members: 24

- American Red Cross Northwest IL Chapter
- Coxy's Liquor
- M&M Concrete Inc
- Northwest Designs Glass Studio
- Reynolds Trucking, Inc.
- Shawn Saunders Company
- Stockton Travel
- T & R Construction, Inc.
- Thoren's Auto Sales, Inc
- Timber Lake Playhouse
- Build-A-Pet
- Celebrating Home
- Creative Carving Custom Signs
- da Computerguy
- Elite Pampered Pet Sitting
- Erin Lenore Photography & Design
- Freeport Home Medical Equipment
- Healthwise
- Look At My Ads
- NCI Construction
- Silkrug Stable
- Stockton Area Veterinary Service
- Stockton Communications
- Tax Plus

Number of "Friends of the Chamber": 15

MEDIA

Brochure

The 2009-2010 *Discover Stockton* brochure featured many more pictures of member businesses, in a unique "picture frame" layout. 4,000 brochures were distributed throughout Jo Daviess County, including member businesses, and the Galena Visitor's Center, as well as the Stephenson County/Freeport Visitor's Center.

Directory

A joint Chamber directory, undertaken by the Stockton Chamber, included Warren and Elizabeth. The directory was revamped to include an index, and was professionally printed with 1,500 copies in circulation.

E-News

Our weekly E-News continues distribution via email every Thursday. Member businesses have taken the opportunity to publish their events, sales, business “happenings,” free of charge, to over 165 recipients.

Lamar Billboard

Member businesses took advantage of the Chamber’s rental of the Lamar billboard westbound on Highway 20. The billboard was booked consistently for the entire year.

Website

www.stocktonil.com contains a wealth of information about the Chamber, our members, and the Village, as well as a calendar of events, available for posting free of charge to our members.

Facebook

www.facebook.com/stocktonchamber Initiated and maintained Stockton Chamber of Commerce page on Facebook, which by year end had 101 friends. Updated by the media committee, Chamber member events & communications are posted for visibility to the public.

Stockton New Resident Guide

A Stockton New Resident Guide was developed by the Chamber and is now available at Stockton City Hall as well as being included in the Chamber’s Welcome Baskets given to new residents.

LANDMARK PROJECT

In 2005, the Stockton Revitalization Committee began plans to draw travelers to Stockton’s historic business district by building a structure within view of US Highway 20 that reflects the historic architecture of the downtown district. After much coordinating efforts between the Stockton Revitalization Committee, Chamber of Commerce, Village of Stockton, Stockton Heritage Museum, and 3-D Construction, this structure became a reality in 2009.

Community support played a major role in bringing this project to fruition. Financial donors, large and small, shared in this vision and lent support to this project. For that we thank you.

We would especially like to recognize the efforts of Dan Oppold and 3-D Construction, who worked countless hours on this project, with pride of workmanship that has produced our remarkable Historic Stockton Landmark. We proudly invite you to take notice while driving through Stockton on US Highway 20.

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP

Stockton Banking Center sponsored publication of the Stockton New Resident Guide.

EVENTS AND PROMOTIONS

Beautification of Stockton Streets

Thanks to the "Plant a Pot" campaign, there are now 26 beautifully planted pots that adorn the sidewalks of businesses and organizations in Stockton. Other businesses took note and planted their own pots, adding to the color in town spring through fall.

Christmas Walk

This year's theme was Stockton Dazzle and featured the first ever crowning of Little Jack Frost and Miss Merry Christmas.

Fireworks Donations

The Chamber led the way in organizing a Fireworks Committee with representation from many organizations involved with the 4th of July in the Park Event. As a result of the efforts and new ideas put forth by this committee, fireworks donations were up substantially from last year.

Golf Outing

Event attracted 56 golfers and an additional 15 more for dinner.

Jo Daviess East Business Showcase

Layout of booths in the gym was revamped for easier access and visibility. Changes and improvements to the event resulted in vendor space being sold out.

HOSPITALITY

Business After Hours hosts:

Brightflower Nursery – April 23

Glad Rags Resale Boutique – June 4th

Tyler's Justice Center for Children – August 11th

Welcome Baskets:

Approximately 50 baskets were assembled and delivered to the Village of Stockton for distribution to new residents.

2009 STOCKTON CHAMBER AWARDS

ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR: Peggy Harmston, Massbach Ridge Winery

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AWARD: Marvin Thill, for his efforts in bringing a Community Garden to life

BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR AWARD: Jerry Oppold, Sullivan's Foods

Service to the Board and Community

The Chamber would like to recognize the following resigning Board members who have served us so well in 2009: Jackie Lickes, Stockton Banking Center; David Bauer, Treasurer, Bauer and Fonseca, P.C.; Patty Arand, Subway Enterprises; and Eileen Hubb, Country Roads Realty. Your untold hours of work and dedication are greatly appreciated.