



NEWSLETTER – April 30, 2010

MEETING REMINDER

The general meeting of the Chamber is held on the first Tuesday of the month. **The next meeting will be held at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, May 4th** at the Route 6 Diner. If you haven't attended a Chamber meeting in a while, join us for dinner or a snack so we can get reacquainted.

BOARD MEMBERS ELECTED

During last month's Chamber meeting, an election was held for five slots on the Executive Board. In addition to Scott Christie and Nathan Muller, who were not up for re-election, the Board now consists of:

- Rose Bishop, re-elected
- Lu Vandermark, re-elected
- Diana Covert, re-elected
- Christy Andrulonis, elected
- Barbara Ness, elected

A vote for new officers will occur during next month's Board meeting. Meanwhile, congratulations to all!

CHAMBER DINNER

At the 9th annual business dinner of the Smethport Area Chamber of Commerce held at the American Legion, the dental practice of Dr. James B. Kane was honored as Business of the Year 2010. Bernie Reap was named Volunteer of the Year for 2010 for a lifetime of service to the community. "This award is way overdue," said Wayne Pearson, last year's award recipient.

Guest speaker Dr. Tim Kelsey, professor of agricultural economics at Penn State University, provided a revealing examination of the challenges the Borough, local businesses and residents might face as natural gas drilling moves into McKean County. By the number of questions, attendees were very interested in this topic.

Special thanks to Ross Porter for his valuable assistance to ensure the success of this dinner and to Linda Muller for arranging and lighting the room and creating exceptional table decorations that made the event seem like it was being held in a fine dining establishment.

Jeff and Christy Andrulonis of Colonial Radio Group contributed awesome prizes for the drawings, including a pair of tickets to a joint concert by Foreigner and Styx, and three pairs of tickets to an Eagles Tribute concert. More prizes were donated by Chef Specialties, Lightwaves Laser Engraving, The Elderberries, Total Engraving, and others.

A spectacular evening... Thanks to all who attended.

SMETHPORT TOWN WIDE YARD SALES

The annual town wide yard sales event is being well publicized by the Smethport Area Chamber of Commerce. Flyers created by Jackie Taylor have been strategically placed around town. The "Welcome to Smethport" billboards at both ends of town feature a slider noting the dates of the event.

In addition to banner ads and Twitter messages, the Chamber has placed radio ads with The Mountain (radio station 106.3 WXMT), as well as print ads in The Bradford Era and Moneysaver. Now it's up to Smethport residents to get out there and SELL, SELL, SELL!

During the sales, you can take a break at The Elderberry Sweet Shop, which will be open Friday, April 30th at 12:00 noon and all day Saturday, May 1.

KNOW SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO START A SMALL BUSINESS?

Any individual looking to start a small business is faced with challenges that require financial, accounting, and managerial skills among others. Those who may not possess all of these skills should attend the workshop – *First Step: Starting a Small Business*, sponsored by Clarion University's Small Business Development Center.

The workshop will be held in Smethport and there are several dates to choose from, starting with May 8, 2010.

[Register Now](#)

Location:

McKean County Emergency Management 911 Center
17175 Route 6
Smethport PA 16749

Website: <http://www.mckeancountypa.org/Departments/911/Index.aspx>

Speaker:

Corry Riley or Amy Keth: Outreach Business Consultants
Clarion University of Pennsylvania
Small Business Development Center

Topics Discussed:

- Lifestyle requirements that are involved in owning a business

- Differences between business organizations and structures
- How and why to prepare a business plan
- Guidelines on how to finance your business
- How to research your market and competition
- How to market your product or service
- How to conduct research on your industry
- Applications and licenses needed to start your business
- Regulations governing a business
- Business tax information
- Environmental regulation compliance
- Other resources you can use to help you plan and succeed

Cost is \$20.00 per person, payable by cash, check, or credit card. Pre-registration is required.

MEMBERSHIP 2010-2011

Just a reminder that Chamber membership renewals for 2010–2011 have gone out through regular mail... Please be sure to renew as soon as possible. If you have misplaced the form that came in the mail, you can download another copy from the Chamber website at http://www.smethportchamber.com/membership_form.htm.

As of April 30th, the following individuals, businesses and other organizations have joined the Chamber or renewed their membership for 2010-2011.

ADP Rental
 Ascent Solutions
 Barbara K. Bowman
 Bill Lake Real Estate
 Chef Specialties – Backus Company
 Colonial Radio Group
 Connie’s Route 6 Diner
 Corner Restaurant & Bar
 Costa’s Ace Hardware
 Costa’s Supermarket
 Edward Jones - Keith Delacour, FA
 Forecon Inc.
 Hamlin Bank & Trust Company
 Helen Cole
 Heritage Suites (Bradford)
 James K. Angell, Attorney at Law
 Kwik Fill
 Lightwaves Laser Engraving
 Mansion District Inn, LLC

McKean County Historical Society
Northwest Savings Bank
O'Day Acquisition Consulting
Phillis Barnhart
St. Elizabeth of Hungary R.C. Church
St. Luke's Episcopal Church
Smethport Country Club
Smethport Drive-In
Smethport Fire Department
Smethport Gulf & Tire
United Refining Company of Pennsylvania (Warren)
Wayne and Mary Lee Pearson
Woods Baker & Ross

* **NOTE:** If you do not see your name / organization on this list, please drop a note to:
njmuller@comcast.net.

CHAMBER WEBSITE: www.smethportchamber.com

FREE ADVERTISING: If your business is located in the Borough, Smethport Web will host an advertising banner at no charge. Send advertising copy, images, and contact information to advertising@smethportpa.org. Don't miss this opportunity to use the power of the Internet to enhance your business. All the design work will even be done for you!

NEWSLETTER ARCHIVE: In case you need to refer to a past newsletter, the Chamber website now has an archive at: www.smethportchamber.com/chamber_newsletter.htm