

Quarter III — 2009

Enjoy Your Summer in the Northland!

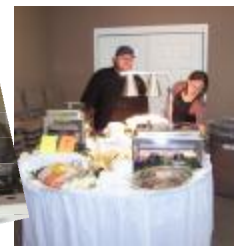
Some Chamber Fun You May Have Missed ...



Staley Farms Golf Club



Taste of the Northland!



Oak Street Catering



May 20th Business After Hours: Hosts Randy & Tammy Casey



Great Crowd!



Steve and Joy
 In front of the camera!



Bring Your Child to
 Work / Lunch Day!



Congratulations Small Business of the Year: Majestic Resource!

Other Nominees: Faubion United Methodist Church, On A Wing & A Prayer, Staley Farms Golf Club, The Hide Out Bar & Grill, Oakhill Day School, Handydads Home Services, as well as Realty Executives Area Realtors, Gladstone Maid-Rite, and Tony Conforti CPA.

What's Inside

- Quarter III Events for Your Calendar. Mark it Now!
- Opportunities for promoting your businesses!
- Message from your Chairman

2009 GACC Board of Directors

Kellie Eisenhauer, Chairman
elevate

Scott Wingerson, Immediate Past-Chair
City of Gladstone

Bill Arbuckle, Chair-elect
Keller Williams Northland Partners Realty

Tony Conforti, Treasurer
Tony Conforti, CPA

Cynthia Hopper, VP of Education
Commerce Bank

Jennifer Karns, VP of Membership
Direct Hire KC

Jinny Kyle, VP of Chamber Events
Home Sweet Home Care

Sid Robbins, VP of Special Events
Faubion United Methodist Church

Steve Otto
Creative Communications Thru Storytelling

Michelle Barone
On A Wing And A Prayer

Andy Maupin
Edward Jones Investments

Suzanne McCanles
Oakhill Day School

Ken Honeck
BankLiberty

Advisors:

Mary Jo Burton
North Kansas City School District

Mary Cross
Individual Member

Staff:

Amy Harlin, President

Larry Harris, Director of
Membership Services

The Gladstone Area Chamber of Commerce

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Gladstone, MO 64118
816-436-4523
Fax: 816-436-4352

Email Address:
info@gladstonechamber.com

Website: www.gladstonechamber.com

Business Hours:
Monday-Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Chairman's Corner

Hello & Happy Summer, GACC Members!



Heat season is here- Or, should I say air-conditioning season!

Luckily, we had perfect weather for our big Bluesfest Event. What a couple of evenings of fun! Thank you to those who had anything to do with making the weekend a success- From those that plan & lead the event, to sponsors, to volunteers, and to those of you that just came and enjoyed- Thank you! The crowds came out (or maybe the wind brought them, in any case it was a busy weekend!) & the music was great. The talented musicians know how to entertain for hours.

Speaking of events...October brings two fun events to our Chamber, Gladfest & the Golf Tournament. I hope that you will find a way to get involved in and support one (or both) of the events. There really is something for everyone when it comes to involvement in these events. Let's hope it will be "Sunny and 70" in Gladstone for the Gladfest weekend like it will be at Staley Farms for our Golf Tournament!

Sometimes I feel like a pest when asking our members to get involved, but I truly feel like that is the best way to get the most out of your membership. The relationships built are consistently brought up as one of our strong points when talking with guests and members. Not to mention getting in the game is much more fun than wondering "what game?"

Our Strategic Planning Committee is in full swing, as well. The team is working hours upon hours to make our chamber the best that it can be over the next 5 years. We have an excellent team taking the input that was provided at our initial meeting and deciding how to incorporate that into our future. Vision, Mission, Objectives, Oh My! We are taking it step by step and will share the results at a future luncheon.

Remember to support your fellow Chamber members with your buying dollars as you are out and about enjoying the summertime fun with your family. I hope that you are creating memories and enjoying moments that will last a lifetime during this summer.

Thank You & Take Care,

Kellie



Are you receiving email notices from your Gladstone Chamber? Please contact us with any email updates or corrections. With quarterly newsletters, we are striving to keep you informed primarily by email.

We make a living by what we get.
We make a life by what we give.

— Winston Churchill

Always Remember ...
Think Gladstone Area
Chamber of Commerce
for your business needs.

Mark Your Calendar July Thru Sept. '09

**5th Thursday!
Networking Breakfast
July 30th!**

Bring your smile,
your business cards,
and your appetite!

Host: White Chapel Funeral Home

6600 N. Antioch Rd, Gladstone

Networking Breakfast: 7:30 AM—8:30 AM

Sponsors
Needed!

GACC

Board Meetings

Thursday @ 8:30 AM

In the Chamber Office

July 9

August 13

September 10

**Make a Difference
EVERYDAY!**

Business After Hours — Wednesdays - 5:00—6:30 PM

Casual Networking - Valuable Time!

Sponsored by Michael Ryan, Wells Fargo Advisor

September 16 - Northland National Bank

99 NE 72nd Street, Gladstone

Texas Hold-em Tournament: Aug. 14 at Brass Rail (6:30 PM)

**POKER!
August 14**

**\$18 - Members
\$23 - Guests**

Monthly Luncheons 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

July 23 - Holiday Inn Northeast, 7333 NE Parvin Rd.

Sponsored by North Kansas City Schools, Speaker: Dr. Todd White

August 27 - Smokehouse Barbeque, 6305 N. Oak

Sponsor: St. Pius X High School

September 24 - Staley Farms Golf Club, 10310 N. Olive Ave.

Sponsor: TBA

**Please make
reservations!**



**Gladfest 30
October 2, 3 & 4**

Plan NOW
To Participate!



Golf Tournament: October 12, 2009

At Staley Farms Golf Club

Newsletters will be produced in January, April, July and October.

2009 Advertising Rates ...

Business Card sized Ads: \$50

Full Page Inserts: \$100 *

* Member is responsible for creating, printing and providing 450 copies of the insert.

Timely information and updates will be communicated via email and www.gladstonechamber.com.



**Mark Montgomery
& Max Berry**



**JP Soars
and the Red Hots**



**BJ Allen
& Blue Voodoo**



Midwest Small Business Finance



Local Organization Maintains Regional Progress Despite Tough Economy

Although the current economy has made small-business success rare, one area organization has helped continue job-creating growth and entrepreneurial success with often-dramatic results.

Midwest Small Business Finance (MSBF) is the region's leading lender of Small Business Administration 504 Loans. A SBA Certified Development Company, MSBF also provides other SBA loans as well as its Revolving Fund Loan program.

The bottom line for all of this is low-interest, favorably termed loans for small business startup and expansion. During 2008 alone, the MSBF portfolio included 53 loans, including 10 that were initiated and completed just during that year.

Many Northland businesses have been able to utilize the small business loan programs available through Midwest Small Business Finance to help them start-up or expand. Some examples of small businesses that have used the program include: A Parkville accounting firm, a Liberty ice-cream store, and a Kansas City automobile service center. Most recently, one of Gladstone's very own small businesses, Bennett EyeCare Midwest, was able to use the SBA 504 loan proceeds to help them expand their practice.

The heart of this job-creating business support is the SBA 504 Loan, which is combined with traditional financing such as a bank loan, to create a more affordable total loan package. With recent federal stimulus changes, 504 terms and requirements are extremely attractive, further opening options for small and medium businesses. At the same time, banks retain the position of first lender and, since their risk level is reduced, the 504 helps make more money available in the community. The result is a notable, win-win opportunity.

Originally named the Clay/Platte Development Corporation, MSBF was established in 1982 as a Missouri not-for-profit corporation. The organization operates as an affiliate of the Clay County Economic Development Council. Together with the Clay County EDC and partners like the Gladstone Chamber of Commerce, Midwest Small Business Finance is able to provide a network of support for small businesses. Along with SBA loans, companies can have access to other valuable tools to help their business such as: important information about their community, site location, assistance with hiring and employee training, and information about any city, county or state incentives that may be available.

As part of this, MSBF in recent years has expanded to increase the reach of its assistance throughout the state of Missouri. In 2007, CPDC formed Midwest Small Business Finance to better reflect both the organization's goals and service area.

Most of MSBF's 260 members are from the Northland. The 11-member board of directors includes representatives from commercial lenders, business, community organizations and government. By providing Clay County and Platte County small businesses with economic development financial assistance, MSBF has played a particularly important role in Northland small business retention and expansion efforts.

For further information on Midwest Small Business Finance, call Director Karine Decker at (816) 468-4989 or visit www.simplymoreloans.com on the Internet.