

Chronicles

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Newton Day Festival Save the Date – Saturday, June 12th

Saturday, June 12 is the date for this year's Newton Day Festival. The day begins on Spring Street at 11:00 AM, and moves to Memory Park at 5:00 PM concluding with a fireworks finale. This is a fun-filled day, with lots of free entertainment for families. We will have DJ's at various locations on the street, our Just for Fun Dog show contest, Newton's Got Talent contest, educational presentations, performers and local entertainment. As usual, there will be lots of vendors and non-profit agencies on the street offering food, fun, and shopping. We then will move to Memory Park for more events including the Miss Newton and Little Miss and Mr. Newton contests. A local band will be on hand to entertain the crowd and have you dancing in the park! This year we will have old-fashioned contests

for folks to participate in for prizes. There will be food available at both locations, so come make a day of it!

We are in need of Chamber members who would like to donate about a half hour of time in the park to run one of our contests. It is a great opportunity for your business to give back to the community it serves, while mingling with current or prospective customers and stakeholders.

We also need volunteers for shifts throughout the course of the day to ensure the event runs smoothly. In the morning, we need folks to greet the vendors and direct them to their site. During the course of the day, we need help staffing the GNCC table. In the evening, we will again have the beer tent, and will need servers.

Going Green

If you are interested in receiving the GNCC Chronicals Newsletter in an electronic format please email us at info@greaternewtoncc.com

Thank You

Thank You to the guest speaker at our recent Quarterly Dinner, Barbara O'Neill, PhD who spoke to us on "Surviving and Thriving During the New Normal" her discussion was informative and interesting.

May After Hours is scheduled for May 18, 2010 at the Home Furniture Warehouse. After Hours is between the hours of 5:30 – 7:00 PM. Thank you to our 2010 After Hours Sponsors: Barnhill Care Center, Bristol Glen, Home Furniture Warehouse, Lakeland Bank, Nisivoccia & Company, CPA's, PNC Bank, Smith-McCracken Funeral Home, and Sussex Bank.

GNCC Gift Certificates Benefit to Our Members

The GNCC Gift Certificate Program has proven to be another benefit to our members. It has encouraged the patronage of our member businesses, but also keeps our local economy rolling! Certificates are available in \$10, \$25 and \$50 denominations. Members who agree to participate in the program will receive enhanced exposure through advertisement of the program on our updated website and printed literature about the program. Inclusion in the gift certificate program is free to Chamber members. Once a gift certificate is redeemed at a participating member, the member simply returns the certificate to the GNCC office for full payment. Certificates make perfect gifts for birthdays, graduation, anniversaries and holidays for any special person for any special occasion. They will be presented in a festive envelope that can be personalized and will include a complete listing of merchants who accept the GNCC Gift Certificates. Members are encouraged to register for participation right away!

April 2010



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**Greater Newton
Chamber of Commerce**
P.O. Box 386
Newton, NJ 07860
Phone: 973.300.0433
Fax: 973.579.6114

Letter from the President



Dear Members,

It is an exciting and challenging

time to serve the Chamber as your president as we have all been touched, in some capacity, by economic uncertainty, shifts in consumer confidence, changes in legislation, and a most unpredictable future. In times like these, it is wise to reflect on the way things have been done in the past and assess whether there are new and better ways to prepare for a vibrant future. The Chamber has begun this process and is pleased to report that we have identified several long and short term goals and objectives that will enhance existing events and services and create new and better ways to serve our growing membership.

Since our first meeting in February, we have held a new event, Bridal Wars, expanded our gift certificate program, initiated a credit card program, and planned a new event, an Oktoberfest. We have recognized the need for more participation by the general membership as a way to gain new perspectives and support and will be reaching out for involvement on new and existing committees. We have created a professional development committee that I am particularly passionate about and need members to serve as speakers on a number of topics that are pertinent to our membership. We are revising our website to allow for on-line payments and registrations, advertisements by members and more. Of course, we will continue to host Newton Day, Taste of Newton and the Holiday Parade. We will continue to purchase the holiday wreaths that adorn downtown Newton and sponsor scholarships. We hope to expand our interaction with area schools and the community at large. I know that we have our work cut out for us, but am confident that the commitment and talent of our Board and general membership will help us through.

Kimberly Woodhull

GNCC Credit Card Show Your Support

Show your support for the GNCC with every purchase you make. Apply for the Greater Newton Area Chamber of Commerce Credit Card and the Chamber will receive \$50 after your first purchase, 2% of your gas and grocery purchases, 1% of all other purchases and up to 10% at select merchants. This card is issued by Capital One Bank (USA), N.A. member FDIC, pursuant to a license from Visa USA, Inc. Credit approval required. Terms and conditions may apply. Visit www.CardLabConnect.com/greaternewtoncc to apply. This is a way to donate by making automatic contributions without forms or additional steps. Help us reach our goals without spending extra money.

Oktoberfest Saturday, October 2nd –

A new and fun event! Although it is in its early planning stages, the event will surely feature live traditional German music, dancing and food. Tickets will be \$25 in advance and on sale soon, so stay tuned.

Professional Development Stay Ahead of Trends

The Board of Trustees recognizes the importance of education to help our members stay ahead of trends and learn about a variety of topics and resources. The Board voted to initiate a professional development program whereby members are invited to volunteer to provide brief presentations on a variety of topics that are pertinent to our members. Such presentations will offer additional opportunities for sponsorships, marketing and networking and may include breakfast and/or lunch workshops and more. Interested members are asked to submit a list of themes or topics they have expertise in and would be willing to make a presentation on. Members are also invited to make suggestions on what they would like information on so that training can be scheduled accordingly. Sign-up sheets will be emailed and distributed at the annual dinner.

GNCC Website

The website design committee has obtained proposals for an updated and redesigned site. The new site will feature PayPal and will be easier to navigate and more appealing. In addition to PayPal, the GNCC will be linked up on Facebook. We will also be selling 'ad' space on the site.

Looking Forward

- The Taste of Newton is scheduled for – Monday, Sept. 13, 2010
- The Business Expo date TBD

Bridal Show/Wars

Our first event of the season was the Bridal Wars Show held at Sussex County Community College. It was a fun-filled day for the Brides who enjoyed taking part in contests for prizes. We have had excellent feedback from this show. Look for the next event that is in the planning stages.

Calendar of Events

April – June 2008

APRIL 28, 2010

Quarterly Dinner – 6pm
Bear Brook Golf Club

MAY 12, 2010

Board of Directors Meeting – 8am
GNCC Office

MAY 18, 2010

Open House – 5:30pm
Home Furniture Warehouse

MAY 31, 2010

Memorial Day Parade – 10am
Spring Street

JUNE 9, 2010

Board of Directors Meeting – 8am
GNCC Office

JUNE 12, 2010

Newton Day Festival – 11am
Spring Street and Memory Park

JUNE 12, 2010

Ms. Newton and Little Mr. & Ms.
Newton Contest – 5:30pm
Memory Park

JUNE 15, 2010

Open House – 5:30pm
Bistro Glen

JUNE 19, 2010

Newton Day (Rain Date) – 11am
Spring Street and Memory Park

Your Chamber Membership...

Only works if you do. Get the most out of your dues and participate. Dinners, After Hours, Parades, Committees, and various events help get you recognized and demonstrate your company's commitment to the community at large. They are wonderful ways to network with your fellow members and develop new contacts and leads for your business. At each of our events you have an opportunity to introduce yourself and give your business a plug. Advertisement opportunities are affordable and use various media outlets. Sponsorship opportunities are available in various amounts that help support each of the events or activities. In addition to financial support, volunteering to serve on a committee or help at an event makes our events even better. More hands equals more fun and much less work! The Chamber is only as strong as its membership. Its membership is only as strong as you make it.