

THE Voice

Official Publication of Grand Forks - East Grand Forks Chamber of Commerce

Vol 6 Issue 11

December 2010

Please Join Us.....

2011 Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting & Dinner

Thursday, January 13, 2011
Alerus Center

5:30pm

Social & Silent Auction

6:30pm

Dinner

7:15pm

Guest speaker & Program

8:15pm

Introduction of Henry Havig Award Winner

Newly created/updated Henry Havig Award Video to be debuted

Check our website, www.gochamber.org, for a listing of auction items.

Featuring guest speaker, Chas Stoker, Buxton Retail Analytic Co.

~ What makes GF/EGF Unique from a Business Perspective?

~ How will you be able to capitalize on our soon to be released study?

Tickets:

\$50/person

or

Table of 8 for \$360

Menu:

Harvest Salad

Steak Bearnaise

Redskin Mashed Potatoes

Green Beans Amandine

Tiramisu

Corporate Sponsors:



Business Sponsors:



Associate Sponsors:

Insight Technologies - PS Doors - Success Unlimited - UND CoBPA -
Widseth Smith Nolting

Mission Statement

"The Chamber of Commerce creates an environment that encourages business success while enhancing the quality of life in our region."

202 N. 3rd Street
Grand Forks, ND 58203
PO Box 315
East Grand Forks, MN 56721
(701)772-7271
(701)772-9238 Fax
info@gochamber.org
www.gochamber.org

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Chair-Elect: Jim Galloway
JLG Architects
Past Chair: Rick Duquette
City of Grand Forks
Secretary: Chris Semrau
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Kent Hanson
NCTC
Bryan Lee
Gateway Storage
Barry Wilfahrt
The Chamber - GF/EGF

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Jim Richter - EGF EDHA
Jim Satrom - PS Doors
Tim Saylor - Altru Health System
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Klaus Thiessen - GF Regional EDC
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Jeff Wilson - Vilandre Heating & AC
Matt Winjum - Rhombus Guys

Sr. Military Advisor to the Board
Colonel Donald Shaffer - GFAFB

Staff

Barry Wilfahrt
President/CEO
barry@gochamber.org
Lisa Swanson
Vice President of Operations
lisas@gochamber.org
Jennifer Walsh
Membership Relations Director
jenniferw@gochamber.org
Kimberly Strom
Program/Event Director
kimberlys@gochamber.org
Carla Younce
Finance Director
carlay@gochamber.org
Audrey Lind
Administrative Assistant
info@gochamber.org

Chamber News

Military Affairs Committee - What's Happening?

The Chamber's Military Affairs Committee did not hold regular meetings in November and December, but that does not mean they were idle. On November 9th, the MAC Committee hosted the 2nd annual "State of the Base" Breakfast at the Canad Inns. There were over 130 people in attendance. The breakfast included updates on the MAC Committee, BRIC & CBEI Committees. Mike Nelson from UND UAS Center of Excellence and John Priddy from Customs & Border Protection gave presentations on their roles at the Grand Forks Air Force Base. Wrapping up the breakfast was featured speaker Col. Don Shaffer, who gave a presentation and update on all that is happening at the air base.

On December 3rd, members of the Military Affairs Committee were at the air base for the "Mission Complete" Ceremony. Col Shaffer gave the welcoming remarks followed by General Johns, the Commander of the Air Mobility Command. The Squadron and Group Guidons were furled and the final salute was given. Following the ceremony and departure of the official

party, the crowd was invited to sign the last tanker that would depart the following morning.

The ND Army National Guard had their annual Christmas lunch on December 5th. Members of the Military Affairs Committee were on hand to serve the lunch. Approximately 375 active guard and family members were in attendance. It was announced at the lunch that all soldiers from the 1-188th Air Defense Artillery Battalion that were deployed last November had landed on American soil and would be returning home to their families before Christmas.



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Thank You For Renewing Your Membership

The following businesses know the value of their Chamber Membership and have renewed their membership in The Chamber - GF/EGF. Please visit them for your purchasing needs.

AAA Quality Cleaners
Amazon.com
Amundson Family Funeral Home
Auto Finance Super Center
Axis Clinic
Bergstrom Electric
Betaseed
Biliske Group
Blue Cross Blue Shield
Charles Bridgeford, DDS
C & R Cleaners
Capital Resource Management
Cenex Gateway Drive
C'Mon Inn
Comfort Keepers
Countrywide Sanitation
Cost Cutters
CVIC
Dakota Mailing
Dance, Etc!
Diamond Lounge
Eagle Electric
Face & Jaw Surgery Center
First State Bank
Fisher, Olson & Juntenen
GF Motor Vehicle Branch Office
Grand Forks Builders & Traders Exc
Greenberg Realty
Greenberg-JD Kennelly
Greenberg-Stacey Galstad
Hanson-Maves
Happy Harry's Bottle Shops
Happy Harry's Bottle Shops #2
Happy Joes
Henningsen Cold Storage
Innes Construction
Innovative Products
Integrated Living
James O'Connell DDS
Letnes Marshall Swanson
Lutheran Social Services
Marco Inc.

Mayport Insurance
Mikkelson Consolidated
Modern Auto Body
ND Mill & Elevator
Newman Outdoor Advertising
Nodak Mutual Ins-David Kent
Opp Construction
Options Interstate Resource
Oxford Realty
Paul Stadem DDS
Pepsi Americas, Inc
Praxair
Priority Title, LLC
PS Doors
PUCKS Commercial Cleaning
Red River Farm Network
Rhombus Guys
Riverford FCU
RML Trading
Robert Panther, DDS MS
Rogers Construction
S & S Promotional
Sam's Club
Scott's Music Stores, Inc.
Southern Estates
Space Aliens
Spare Husband
St. Anne's Guest House
St. Michael's Catholic Church
St. Michael's Catholic School
Super Cuts-32nd Avenue
Super Cuts-University Village
The Ohepen Mind
Tri-Valley Child Care Resource
Unique Auto Body
Vaaler Insurance, Inc.
Valley Bone & Joint
Wal-Mart
Wells Fargo-Iverson
Whalen's Moving & Storage
Widmans Candy

Welcome New Members

4th Street Eatery

Elaine Olson
151 S 4th St 6th Floor
Grand Forks, ND 58201
701-787-8583
info@prairieharvest.net
www.prairieharvest.net

The 4th Street Eatery is located on the 6th floor of the Grand Forks County building. Our menu features many Ala carte items and daily lunch specials. Our hours are Monday-Friday from 10am to 2 pm. We have a dining area that seats 15-20 people where you can enjoy your lunch and a wonderful view of the city. I do believe we have the highest restaurant in town! We also do catering. Our web site address which features our menu is www.prairieharvest.net

Industrial Contract Services, Inc

Drew Molstad
3102 N Washington
Grand Forks, ND 58201
701-775-8480
ddangerfield@ics.com
www.icsgf.com

Pamida

Blair Nelson
421 Gateway Dr
East Grand Forks, MN 56721
218-773-1130
www.pamida.com

Ambassador Ribbon Cuttings



Construction Engineers

The Ambassadors helped celebrate Construction Engineer's expansion with a ribbon cutting.



Valley Elder Care Center

The Ambassadors held a ribbon cutting to help celebrate the opening of the Transitional Care Unit.



Curves

The Ambassadors helped celebrate Curves new location with a ribbon cutting.



Angie Baumann
Bremer Bank



Gera Beideck
Brady Martz



John Bernstrom
City of Grand Forks



Missy Burgess
UND Memorial Union



Pat Campbell
UND Student Health Ser.



Christina De Los Santos
GFAFB



Kristin Dehmer
Development Homes, Inc



Chris Dumont
Kadmas, Lee & Jackson



Blake Evert
NorthStar Telcom



Liz Fuller
GFAFB



Helen Gibbens
City of GF-Finance Dept.



Pat Hanson
UND - HR & Payroll Dept.



Mark Hastings
UND Aerospace-Flight Op.



Kristin Havis
Frandsen Bank & Trust



Mike Helt
Alerus Financial



Dee Holth
ND University Systems



Pat Holtzmann
GFAFB



Dan Kasowski
UND Aerospace-Flight Op



Danielle Kovarik
GF Public Health Dept.



Roy Lillfors
ND University Systems



Matt Lukach
UND VP Finance & Ops.



Ray Musgrove
Brady Martz



JoAnn Ness
Ecolab



Scott Nordin
Fine Print of GF



Tim Olson
Polar Communications



Eric Pearson
UND Safety & Envir. Health



Roger Pohlman
GF Police Department



Jeremy Roesler
UND Aerospace-Flight Op



Jamie Schumacher
GF Senior Center



Bill Smith
NDSU Extension Service



Cindy Spencer
UND Residence Services



Kimberly Strom
The Chamber - GF/EGF



Kelsey Svoboda
Alerus Center



Becky Vakoc
Prairie Harvest Mental Health



Garth Wiedrich
Alerus Financial



Gwen Klawon
Program Facilitator

2010 LEADERSHIP CLASS

A Month in Pictures



Board Strategic Planning Session



Board Strategic Planning Session



EAPC Architects
Business After Hours



Chamber Leadership Graduation



AT&T Business After Hours



State of the Base Breakfast

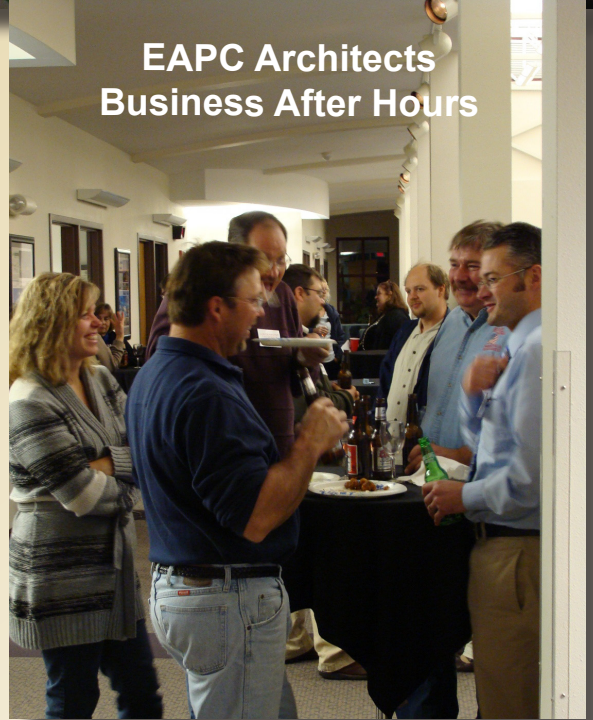
A Month in Pictures



EAPC Architects Business After Hours



EGGStravaganza



EAPC Architects Business After Hours



AT&T Business After Hours



EGGStravaganza



Chamber Leadership Graduation

Thompson, Champagne and Costello Join Alerus Financial

Alerus Financial is pleased to welcome **A.J. Thompson** as the consumer branch operations manager.



Based out of Grand Forks, Thompson will oversee the uniformity and development of customer service, products, and operational aspects of the consumer service area in all Alerus retail markets. Thompson is responsible for overseeing

the effectiveness, productivity, and compliance of the market branches and manages training initiatives and resources for the consumer service area.

Thompson joins Alerus with 3 years experience in the financial industry. She previously was the consumer deposits product manager at another institution out of state. Thompson graduated from the University of Alabama with a B.S. in Business Management and a M.B.A. in Business Strategy. She recently relocated to Grand Forks.

Clemente Champagne has joined Alerus Financial as a customer service supervisor at its Hugo's branch on 32nd Avenue South.



Champagne is responsible for demonstrating and leading day-to-day transaction activities of the branch, including coaching and mentoring the tellers and customer service representatives.

Prior to joining Alerus, Champagne worked as a human resource assistant for a hospital in Missouri, and as a secretary with Altru Health Systems. She received a B.A. in Communication Studies from Fontbonne University and is currently pursuing a M.B.A. degree through Kaplan University. Champagne and her fiancé, George Love, resided in Grand Forks.

Alerus Financial is pleased to welcome **Brad Costello** as the agricultural relationship manager at its downtown Corporate Center location.

Costello specializes in working with Ag customers. He is responsible for developing and cultivating relationships in addition to managing significant customer portfolios. He is the primary contact for new or existing customers and provides comprehensive financial management solutions for customers with lending, deposit, and investment services.



Costello joins Alerus with more than 16 years experience in the banking industry and a strong agricultural background. He has held various positions including business banking officer, credit manager, and

loan officer at other financial institutions. Costello received a Bachelor's degree from the University of North Dakota where he majored in financial management and minored in economics. He serves on the Board of Directors for the Grand Forks Optimist Club, is a member of the Knights of Columbus, and belongs to the Small Business Committee with the Grand Forks – East Grand Forks Chamber of Commerce. Costello and his wife, Kathy, reside in Grand Forks with their two children.

Dr. Lockhart and Dr. Gautham Join Altru

Dr. Christopher Lockhart, pathologist, joins Altru Health System. He received his medical degree from the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Science in Grand Forks. Dr. Lockhart completed his residency in anatomic and clinical pathology at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, California. He then served as Chief Resident in the UCLA Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine in Los Angeles, California, where he also completed a fellowship in surgical pathology. This was followed by a hematopathology subspecialty fellowship at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center.

Dr. Lockhart began his pathology career at Eisenhower Medical Center in Rancho Mirage, California. The UCLA Department of Pathology invited him to join the clinical faculty and appointed him Chief of Pathology & Site Director of the Clinical Laboratories at Olympia Medical Center in Los Angeles, California. He also spent 6 years employed by Specialty Laboratories in Santa Monica and Valen-

cia, California, ultimately serving both as Laboratory Director and Scientific Director of Oncology & Anatomic Pathology services.

Dr. Lockhart is board certified in both anatomic and clinical pathology by the American Board of Pathology, a fellow of the American Society of Clinical Pathologists and the College of American Pathologists, and a member of the American Society of Hematology.



Dr. Shanta Gautham joins Altru Health System as an internal medicine provider. She received his medical degree from the University of Missouri School of Medicine in Columbia, Missouri. She completed

a residency in internal medicine at the Lahey Clinic Medical Center in Burlington, Massachusetts. Dr. Gautham is a member of the American Medical Association and the American College of Physicians.

Abeln Joins EAPC

Dan Abeln has joined EAPC Architects Engineers as an intern in the architectural department. Dan previously worked for Opus Architects & Engineers from the Minneapolis area. He received his Masters of Architecture in 2007 and his Bachelors of Science in Environmental Design in 2006, both from NDSU. Dan will receive his Masters of Business Administration this month. Dan has been a LEED Accredited Professional since January of 2008.



Registration Open for Iceman Triathlon

Ice, cold... only in North Dakota does that equal the perfect race day. The Extreme North Dakota Iceman Triathlon (END-IT) - the premiere winter endurance event of the Red River Valley - returns to the Grand Forks for it's second year on February 26th, 2011.

The Iceman Triathlon registration is now open online for racers at all experience levels. Racers can register as individuals - the Yetti division - or as teams of three.

Register online at www.endracing.com. Racers are now beginning training for this sprint triathlon, which includes cross country skiing, biking, and running on a Greenway race route custom designed by END Racing. The course includes short sections of more challenging terrain that includes ungrooved cross country skiing, hill climbs, and more. These challenges make the Iceman Triathlon unique but not daunting. The Iceman Triathlon also throws some fun into this one of a kind race. Racers finish the race by jumping on a sled and sliding across the finish line. Racers are also encouraged to have fun in any way by bringing fans to cheer them on or racing in costume. All participants are eligible to win winter prizes, including ColdAvenger winter gear from Iceman's major sponsor Tallus Outdoor Technologies. The Iceman Triathlon works to promote healthy outdoor activities in all four seasons. Whether you are in it to win it, racing just for fun, or coming to cheer on a friend, the

Iceman encourages all to get out and enjoy our Grand Forks winter!

The Iceman Triathlon is hosted by the Greater Grand Forks Young Professionals and END Racing.

Michaela Schell
Iceman Race Promotions
michaelas@grandforks.org 701-290-9605

JLG Named to the Hot Firm List

At The Zweig Letter's 11th annual Hot Firm 2010 Conference and Celebration in Washington, DC, JLG Architects was named to the Hot Firm List, recognizing the most successful architecture, engineering, and environmental consulting firms in North America. According to ZweigWhite, the firms selected were those "that have outperformed the economy and competitors to become leaders in their respective fields." Firms in the United States and Canada with revenues over \$500,000 were compared by their change in revenue and earnings over the past three years in terms of real dollars and percentage change. The top 150 firms with the best combined scores were named to the list. JLG placed 89th on the total list and 19th amongst architecture firms.

This is not JLG's first time being recognized by ZweigWhite, the organization behind The Zweig Letter. In 2006, JLG was named one of the country's Top 20 Firms To Work For by ZweigWhite.

Kuster Joins Bremer Financial Services

Lloyd Kuster recently joined Bremer Financial Services as an insurance agent overseeing multi peril crop and crop hail insurance. Kuster, a former farmer in the N.D., area for 20 years, has more than 12 years of experience serving clients in the insurance industry.



Kuster joins Bremer most recently from Alerus Insurance in Grand Forks, where he was employed as an insurance agent. Prior to that, he gained insurance experience at AgCountry Farm

Credit Services as a specialist, and as an adjuster at Rain & Hail LLC and American Ag. Kuster is currently a member of the Grand Forks Chamber of Commerce Ag Committee, the Northern Plains Potato Growers Association and the Professional Insurance Agents of North Dakota Association.

"Lloyd's background in farming along with his many years serving clients on the insurance side of the business will be a real asset to our team," said Dan Liberda, senior vice president and regional insurance manager for Bremer. "He has personally seen and experienced many different and complex situations in the ag industry and I'm confident will be very helpful to clients as they assess their insurance needs. We look forward to having Lloyd in our office and working on behalf of our clients."

Bergstrom Electric Receives Award

Bergstrom Electric, Inc. received the highest award possible for the two projects it submitted this year in the Independent Electrical Contractor's (IEC) Awards of Excellence in Electrical Construction competition. The awards ceremony took place in Phoenix, Arizona during the IEC National Annual Convention with approximately 900 electrical contractors and suppliers present. Representing Bergstrom Electric at the convention was Cliff Moen – Company President, Steve Mundahl – Regional Manager (Fargo), Jamie Dietzler – Project Manager (Grand Forks), Mike Yri – Operations Manager (Bismarck). Yri

and Dietzler were the Project Managers of the two projects submitted in the competition – the Bismarck State College Aquatic & Wellness Center and the Standing Rock Elementary School.



"The winners are not notified beforehand," noted Moen, "so it was a nice surprise when they announced our name,

not once, but twice, as the first place winner in each category. To be recognized like that on a national level in front of our peers is extremely gratifying."

The projects were indeed challenging. The BSC Aquatic Center was a 62,000 square foot facility with a 50-meter Olympic-sized pool, a separate 25-yard pool, a fitness center, indoor playground, group fitness/dance studio, meeting rooms and a coffee shop. It is heated with a unique Biomass heating system that burns wood chips as fuel and can be converted to burn natural gas as well. Bergstrom designed and built the electrical system for the entire building and the King Cole furnace heating system, including a one-of-a-kind light rail system created especially to light the pool area. The total project cost was \$9.4 million, with an electrical construction cost of \$646,000.

The Standing Rock Elementary School had its own challenges, including a remote project location (67 miles from any major city) which meant no cell phone service and limited internet connections during construction. In addition, Bergstrom had to work closely with the Tribal Employment Rights Office on the Standing Rock reservation and meet all of their requirements. The 66,000 square foot building includes 30 classrooms and is LEED certified. There were several unique design elements incorporated into the building that will give students a constant reminder of their rich culture and heritage. The most significant was the teepee structure that was incorporated into the main hallway. The total electrical construction cost for the project was \$1.6 million and the project was completed in February of 2010.



Hosted by The C'mon Inn

Thursday, January 20, 2011

4:45pm - 7:00pm

3051 32nd Ave. S.

Hosted by:



Free Admission

Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and drinks ~ Lots of Great Door Prizes ~ Progressive cash drawing is at \$300! ~ NO RSVP Needed

C'mon Inn invites all Chamber Members and employees to their Business After Hours on January 20th. Stop by and take advantage of great networking opportunities while you are there. You might even win \$300 in our progressive cash drawing! We'll draw the name of one Chamber Member business. If someone from that business is present, they win!

Business After Hours is a great time to network, catch up with friends, coworkers and clients in a fun and casual way. Spread the word and plan to attend the next Business After Hours.

		Call us at 795-9143 , locate us on Facebook, or visit www.prairieharvest.net
Highest restaurant in town provides friendly service and spectacular food with a great view overlooking the city! Grand Forks County building 151 S, 4 th St.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily Lunch Specials • Catering 		

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A Chamber & SCORE Brown Bag Seminar

INTERNET SECURITY



Wednesday January 19, 2011

11:30am – 1:00pm

The Chamber

202 N. 3rd St, Grand Forks

\$20/Person (Includes Lunch)

Presented By ~ Networking Specialists

Seating is limited. Sign up soon!

Reservations can be made at

772-7271 or email info@gochamber.org with the names of those attending.

RSVP deadline is January 18, 2011.

Reservations not cancelled 3 business days prior to event will be billed.

Member Referrals Made By
The Chamber In 2010:

943

Total for November: 96

Certificates of Origin Signed
By The Chamber In 2010:

27

Total for November: 1

New Resident Packets
Distributed By The Chamber
In 2010:

268

Total for November: 5

Check Out The Chamber Calendar of Events Here

www.gochamber.org

Number of Member Exposures for October (statistic includes internet search engine visits): 503,839

Top Member Directory Views/TCS Page Views for November

	<u>Dir.</u>	<u>TCS</u>		<u>Dir.</u>	<u>TCS</u>
Night Out GF	646	6	Whitey's Cafe, Inc.	627	10
Happy Joes	644	16	Green Mill Restaurant	626	7
Altru Health System	641	18	GGF Conv. & Visitors Bureau	625	11
Giuseppe's Italian Ristorante	638	12	American Red Cross	624	52
Garbonzo's Pizza & Arcade	634	6	Space Aliens	624	7
Lisa's Soy Scents	632	67	Amundson, Roger DDS	621	7