

Chamber of Commerce Newsletter

August, 2008

Volume 30, Issue 8

Chamber Premium Members

Gold Members

- A+ Printing
- Albright Abstract & Title Guaranty Company
- Baskin, Stevens & Freeland, P.C.
- CableONE
- City of Ponca City
- ConocoPhillips
- Dancey-Meador Publications
- Eastman National Bank
- Evans and Associates Enterprises, Inc.
- First National Bank of Oklahoma
- Hays Sign/Precision Screen
- Home National Bank
- Jack Bowker Ford Lincoln Mercury
- Parker Pest Control, Inc.
- Power 104.7 KIXR FM
- Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority
- Ponca City News
- RCB Bank/ Pioneer
- Rick Scott Construction, Inc.

Silver Members

- 89.7 The House/Praise 88.7
- Hospice of North Central OK
- Oklahoma Natural Gas Company
- Food Pyramid
- Primerica Financial Services

Bronze Members

- Albright Insurance Agency, Inc. AT&T
- Brandt's Ace Hardware
- Century 21 Group One Realtors
- Cherokee Strip Credit Union
- Comfort Inn & Suites
- Davis Moore Auto Group
- The Gift Shoppe/The Emporium
- Larry Murphy Insurance Agency
- Lindsay Manufacturing, Inc.
- Ron M. Kreger, M.D.
- Pryse Monument Company
- Stolhand Heating and Air Conditioning
- Team Radio
- WBBZ AM 1230

The Power of One Multiplied by a Whole Community!
The Ponca City Area Chamber of Commerce!

With an Olympic Theme the 2008 Chamber of Commerce Membership Campaign kicks off with a Torch Run and free lunch Friday August 1. The membership campaign will last the entire month of August.

The Chamber currently has 555 business and individual memberships. We have a lot of room for growth and we need every business in Ponca City plus individuals to support the work we do to make Ponca City the best place to live in Oklahoma. We need everyone investing in the future of Ponca City by investing in the Chamber of Commerce.

We have put together 7 Olympic competing teams that will help us achieve our goal of additional members to the Chamber. The teams include Ping Pong Ding Dongs, Javelin Catchers, Basketball Super 5, Road Cycling Team, Beach Bum Volleyball, Synchronized Swimming and the Flippin Politics team. Team members will call on businesses and individuals who are currently not a member and ask them to become one. We will share our Program of Work which outlines all the activities we do in a year. We also put together a brochure that explains briefly what we accomplish through our membership. We are recognized as one of the best Chambers of Commerce in the State of Oklahoma. We are worth the commitment and we will give our members a great return on their investment!

As a member you can help by telling people that you are Proud to be a Member of the Ponca City Area Chamber of Commerce and encourage them to do the same!

If you are reading this you are a member and we say THANK YOU! Please help us grow our membership!

In our weekly reports you will hear how we are doing in our drive. If you do not get the weekly emails from our office, please phone 765-4400 and give us your email address and we will get you added!

Harley Owners Group Chapters & Harley Davidson dealers selected Ponca City over Tulsa for their 2009 H.O.G. Rally. The Rally will be held at Wentz Camp in October 09. This Rally will bring over 1,000 H.O.G. members to Ponca City for 3 days. The H.O.G. Rally is an annual event held around Oklahoma for H.O.G. members. A group of Ponca City Harley riders along with Mayor Nicholson and Ponca City Tourism representatives made a presentation Sunday for Ponca City to be the site in 09. After presentations were made a vote was taken and Ponca City was announced as the site for 09! In Oklahoma City to make the presentation includes I-Rich Cantillon, Teresa Pape, Mary Beth Moore, Carl Hampton, Brad Parker, Dave Hingtgen, Frank Kennedy, Donna Hingtgen, Marty Auten and making the presentation to Ponca City is Valarie Ledterman, Regional H.O.G. Manager.





A Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was held for the new and expanded Ponca City Medical Center Emergency Room. Hundreds attended this exciting event. Ponca City Medical Center has delivered on several promises made when they purchased our hospital a couple of years ago including their promise to build a new ER. Thank You PCMC!



A Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was held for Harbor Wealth Management. Shaun Searly and Larry Bittman have partnered and moved to a new location at 319 East Grand Avenue.



A Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was held in July for All Star Advertising and Promotion. Dale Oard is the owner. We appreciate All Star being a member of our Chamber!

33rd Grand National Motocross Championship

The 33rd Annual Grand National Motocross Championship was fantastic! Thousands of people were in Ponca City, some for several weeks. It is estimated that between 10 – 12 thousand people stayed at the Motocross Track during the races. This does not include the number of people that come to Ponca City to watch the races. The Motocross Championship has a huge economic impact on our local economy.

This incredible event is all made possible by our local Ambucs and NMA. The Chamber was excited to be a part of this fun event. Our involvement included our welcome bags plus our Chamber Welcome Booth at the race track that opened everyday and gave away free water and information on Ponca City. We want to thank Bill Rutz for his assistance in preparing our building for the races along with our many volunteers who worked the booth. Thank you **Quality Water** for the water you provided. This was our part in welcoming the racers and families to Ponca City. Your part was the welcome signs and quality treatment of our guests while they were in Ponca City. Thank you!

The comments on our race track, Ambucs, city in general, our hospitality were all great! It makes you proud to call Ponca City home.

Thank you to everyone!!!!

Team Radio and The Rockin Horse Chamber Business after Hours

Team Radio and The Rockin Horse are sponsoring the next Chamber Business after Hours on Tuesday, August 5th from 5 - 7 p.m. at The Rockin Horse, 2200 East Coleman Road.

Bill Coleman invites everyone to come out and help kick off a great rodeo week right here in Ponca City.

The Ambassador Committee will greet everyone as they arrive and will have a drawing for \$10 of Chamber Bucks and also a drawing for a free business card ad space in the next Chamber Newsletter. Make sure you bring your business cards and be ready to share them with other Chamber Members.

Business after Hours is fun and a great way to meet other Chamber Members who are making a difference in Ponca City!

RIBBON CUTTING



***Thursday August 7th
2:00 p.m.***

***Cope Photography
205 East Grand Avenue***

Mark and Katrina Cope owner/manager

Please join the Chamber Board of Directors,

Ambassador Committee and the President's Club in Congratulating Cope Photography!

United Way Apples for Teachers

United Way of Ponca City has initiated the “Apples for Teachers” program again this year to help the community say thank you for all the teachers’ good work, extra hours given to help the students, and the supplies purchased with their own funds. The community is invited to help make a teacher’s wish come true by participating in United Way of Ponca City’s fifth annual “Apples for Teachers” project. Almost 480 wishes were granted to last year’s project.

The program is easy and fun. The displays contain apples with the teacher’s wish or wishes, approximate cost, and instructions on the back. Pluck an apple off the display and shop for the wish or pick an apple; put a check in the self-addressed envelope on the display and mail it to United Way and the shopping will be taken care of. For more expensive items, gather coworkers, friends, family, civic or church groups, and make that special wish come true for a teacher.

Starting July 17 through August 15, “Apples for Teachers” displays will be at Eastman National Bank & Trust, First National Bank, RCB Bank/ Pioneer, Staples, Wal-Mart, and in the South Tower and Research West buildings at ConocoPhillips. “Thanks to the efforts of AmeriCorps member, Leah Krottinger, wishes were gathered and written on the apples,” said Chris Schiltz, project coordinator. “All Ponca City schools were invited to participate, including the private schools”, continued Schiltz.

At the end of the school year, teachers made a wish list of supplies they needed/wanted for their classrooms—from pencils to shredders, crayons to calculators and DVD players, and everything in between. There are approximately 370 wishes to grant. Every wish fulfilled is important, no matter how large or small.

Through the efforts of ConocoPhillips employee Pat Schiltz, a \$500 employee volunteer grant was received to offset the costs for marketing, office supplies, displays, and travel.

For more information on how you can participate in the Apples for Teachers project, call 765-2476.

Janet Martin

Chamber Board Chairperson

THE POWER OF ONE MULTIPLIED BY A WHOLE COMMUNITY!!!!!! What a powerful message if you break it down. The power of all of our businesses and people they employ and their diverse backgrounds bring many programs which we all enjoy and build our business on. The strength within each one of us when multiplied makes the multitude much stronger. So even if you are considered a small community united we are greater than the whole of one that is not.

We are about to embark on a **Membership Drive Campaign** that will absolutely bring together the community involvement you have seen for so long in Ponca City, and that is coming together for the greater good. A campaign that emphasizes employee giving, volunteerism, building stronger partnerships, revitalizing your commitment to your chamber by which the programs such as finding out what is going on in our Government through Governmental Affairs. How can we build a better tomorrow through our Community Development Committee, where are City, State, and County Government come together to emphasize that collectively, we will broaden and deepen our community partnerships to create an environment that will draw more business. How about our Education System, and what inroads we have made with our children, they are each and everyone, everyday with the best teachers available. In our Education Committee visits their campus and meetings with the principals we get great updates. The Ponca City Development Authority through the partnership with our Chamber of Commerce can make a strong pitch to a business that is just looking, but they want to know what our strengths are and continued growth of Ponca City. Through their efforts, we have been able to not only sustain what we have but build on where we are going. Throughout the long heritage of innovations, we have been driven by values of our commitment to the community where all of our employees live and work, contribute to our school systems. Through collaboration this makes the wheels move for more innovation.

Thank you for VOTING YES, for the continuation of the Ponca City Development Authority, this shows a strong commitment to our businesses who might think to move their families, employees, business to Ponca City where we can continue to build the strong bond that we have always shared with our existing industry.

We begin our membership campaign with a torch run on August 1 at 10:00 a.m. at the Welcome sign at the North edge of Ponca City. Lets all come out and join in, by watching, walking, and enjoy one of those moments you can say, I remember when, that was so much fun. Please call the Chamber at 765-4400 to put your name on the list.

We believe in Ponca City, we believe in building a better community that in turn will build a better world for our citizens. It takes all of us to make it work. Everyone is important.

Be thinking about how you want to be part of a winning team, we want to celebrate our excellence in Oklahoma by being the number one community! Strength in numbers and it starts with ONE. Be that ONE.

Revitalize, increase, and harness the collective power of our businesses, come to one of the most powerful committees the Chamber has, the Ponca City Business Council, find out what is going on and what you can do to make it better, be a part of the whole, we await your arrival.

The Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma Helping Children in Kay County!

It's hard to believe that, in just a matter of week's, children will be leaving their summer fun behind and returning to school. For many, it's not something that they look forward to. But for thousands of Oklahoma's children – it means the return to consistent and regularly scheduled meals.

One in five children in Oklahoma is at risk of hunger on a daily basis. Sadly, Oklahoma is one of the hungriest states in the nation – ranking among the top five states for food insecurity. And while hunger impacts people of all ages, a hungry child is the most vulnerable and the most at-risk for future problems. A hungry child can not develop, grow, or learn which not only affects the child, but has devastating effects on the future of our community and our economy.

During the '07-'08 school year, The Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma provided more than 7,400 chronically hungry children with backpacks filled with child-friendly, shelf-stable, nutritious food each Friday through it's *Food 4 Kids* program. For many of these children, these backpacks provide the only food they will eat between school lunch on Friday and school breakfast on Monday.

The response from the program has been overwhelming. Teachers report that children on the program show improved grades, higher test scores, reduced absenteeism and higher self esteem. In Kay County alone, more than 300 children in 9 elementary schools were served through the *Food 4 Kids* program during the last school year, and the Food Bank estimates that number will increase to over 400 within the next 2 years.

You can make sure no child goes to school on Monday morning with the pain of hunger in their stomach by supporting this worthwhile program. A \$200 donation will provide one child with a backpack of weekend food for an entire school year. For more information about how you can help fight childhood hunger in Kay County, please contact Vanessa Herring at the Regional Food of Oklahoma at 405-300-6155 or visit www.regionalfoodbank.org.



Joe DeNoya presents Tamie Barnes with the Ambassador of the Quarter Award. Tamie is a great Ambassador for the Chamber helping with many events and projects.

August 1, 2008

Dear Chamber Member,

Imagine having a sales representative working for you who never took a day off, always responded quickly to potential clients and reached thousands of prospects each year. When you choose to showcase your business in the 2009 Ponca City Chamber Member Directory, you are getting exactly that!

Production is now underway and, as always, presents an outstanding "members only" opportunity. The chamber distributes this important publication all over the United States in response to inquiries from prospective businesses and residents considering a move to our area. In addition, it is given to all current and prospective members, and is used by other businesses when they are looking for a reputable company to do business with. Through your participation, you are helping the Chamber produce a quality marketing tool for the Ponca City Area Chamber of Commerce and Chamber business members. An advertisement helps make a statement about your firm's commitment to the Chamber and the community as a whole.

The entire publication, including all advertisements, will be placed on the chamber website www.poncacitychamber.com at no additional cost. This is an added bonus and a great opportunity to promote your business on "the net".

Chamber membership entitles each company to one listing in the alphabetical section by company and one in the classified section by type of business plus every chamber member representative will receive a listing in the Who's Who section. The company will be listed in the Buyer's Guide section under their primary classified listing only. If you wish to be listed under more than one classified listing, please discuss the additional listings fee with the Lawton Publications representative when they call you or fill out the bottom portion of the letter and mail or fax to the Chamber.

Johnnie Cael, a professional advertising representative from Lawton Publications will be contacting Chamber members soon. We encourage you to take a few moments to learn of the promotional opportunity for your business. If you would like to discuss your company's participation, please mail or fax this to the Chamber office. ACT SOON...only a limited number of advertising spaces are available.

Sincerely,

Rich Cantillon
President Ponca City Area Chamber of Commerce

Please fax to _____ or mail to the _____ Chamber of Commerce _____(address)

.....
Yes, please contact me regarding advertising opportunities on the _____ Chamber of Commerce directory.

Name _____ Phone _____

Company _____ Best Day/Time to Call _____

Address _____ Website Address _____



Thank you ConocoPhillips for the grant to sponsor the Ponca City Business Council's business workshop "Give em the Pickle". We also want to thank Pioneer Technology Center for teaching the workshop.



The Chamber of Commerce wants to thank Rhonda Stolhand, Joe DeNoya, Chuck Rager and Mayor Homer Nicholson for the 2 full days they spent interviewing the 22nd Ponca City Leadership Class applicants. We will have 21 in the 09 class. Leadership Ponca City will have its first event Wednesday August 20th. The class will be announced at that time.

Tourism Report - July 2008

By Tourism Coordinator Mary Beth Moore

Highlights:

Summer is definitely here! July has been extremely busy, and hot! Tourism this past fiscal year has shown increases in visitors, overnight stays and overall interest in Ponca City... As a result, I've been working on 2 submissions for this year's Red Bud Award's to be announced at the 2008 Governor's Conference in October. Our new brochure with the pull out map as well as our new website will be entered. We will also have a submission by our graphic design artist that highlights our overall marketing campaign during the Centennial last year. Wish us luck! We feel like we've done an outstanding job with our marketing and hope the judges recognize that as well.

We have an intern for the summer, Polly Morris, a junior at Oklahoma Baptist University, working on her Public Relations degree; she has been working very hard and helping us promote our attractions. Polly will be here through the 31st of July and has been a huge help. She's created several itineraries, and helped Rich Cantillon with hosting the NAJTA tour the last weekend in June. We will miss Polly once she heads back to school and wish her the best of luck. As mentioned a group of 15 writers were hosted in Ponca City, the NAJTA, North American Journalists Travel Association, arrived on Friday, June 27th and stayed through Saturday, June 28th. Rich and Polly did a great job, as I've received numerous e-mails from the writers that thanked us for our hospitality and raved about the tours and media kits. I expect to see several features on Ponca City written in various magazines throughout North America. The group came from Washington, Massachusetts, California, Ontario Canada, Florida, South Carolina, New York City and Oklahoma.

Advertising/Marketing:

- Red Bud Awards near completion
- D Magazine Fall Travel Planner
- Cowley County visitors guide
- Freedom Festival Ad – Ponca City News

Meetings/Events attended:

- Spoke to the residents at Sterling House
- Spoke to the local Professional's Today group
- Met with Laura Rustin to discuss ad in Cowley Country Visitors Guide
- Attended "Operation Welcome Home" meeting at City Hall
- Met with Scott Blubaugh and Mary Steichen to discuss itinerary scheduling and pricing.
- Will attend the HOG Presentation in Oklahoma City to support our local Harley Owners Group Chapter who will be proposing Ponca City as the rally site for 2009.

Tours & Proposals:

- Proposal to Bilbrey tours of Abilene, Texas for "hub & spoke" next year.
- "Fam" visit by Red Carpet Tours for possible "hub & spoke" next year.
- Confirmation from McConnell AFB, Wichita for tour on August 13th.

Welcome Bags and Gift Baskets:

- 150 bags for the United Methodist Women District meeting
- 100 bags for the State Bowling Jamboree
- 16 Gift Baskets for the State Bowling Jamboree
- 15 Gift bags and media kits for the NAJTA Tours
- 200 bags for the "Race For Life" BMX event
- 800 bags for Grand National Moto-X

**JULY 2008
BUSINESS OF THE
MONTH**

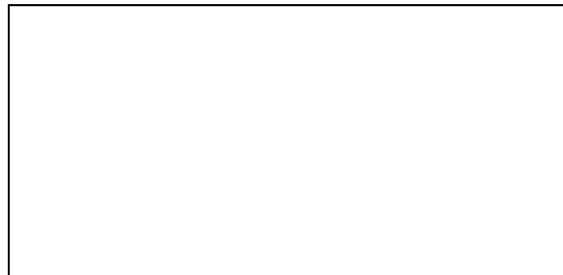


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www.hospiceofnorthcentraloklahoma.com

PIE Partner Program!

With school starting right around the corner please consider being a part of the Chamber’s Pie Partner Program. Helene Schwartz with Ponca City United Way will head up this important Chamber Program for the 2008-2009 school year!

Partners In Education (PIE) is a unique Ponca City program that matches the needs of our local school system with community resources. Essentially, it is a business / school partnership to provide a better educational environment for all our children. The program is administered by the Chamber of Commerce through the Education Committee.

The program, originated in 1992 between one school and one business, today it has grown to include all Ponca City schools – public as well as private - and 30 local businesses. In practice, the school principal and the staff define their needs and then work closely with the business associated with the school to meet those needs for the benefit of the students. This is a win / win situation for both partners.

School Superintendent Dr. David Pennington has repeatedly stated how much he has appreciated what the business partners have been doing to help Ponca City Schools.

The PIE Program has made a significant difference in the education of our school children. Please remember not only can it be monetary in nature but other important avenues of assistance can be shared with the school by a Chamber Business who participates.

For more information on the PIE Program please phone Helene Schwartz or the Chamber Office. Here is a list of the current participants.

Partners in Education Program 2007- 2008

	Address/ Phone #	School Contact	Business Partner	Business Contact	Phone #
Garfield	600 S 8th St 767-8030	Lori Ryan- Elliott	Conoco Phillips	Diane Anderson	767-3662
Liberty	505 W Liberty 767-8040	Meghan Bledsoe	Sykes Staples	Beverly Hill Malcolm Cooper	763-6300 762-0813
Lincoln	1501 W Grand 767-8050	Shelley Wilson Becky Krueger	Boettcher, Martin, Jean, Jackson Evans & Associates	Scott Jackson Denise Christenson	765-9967 765-6693
McCord	99 Sherwin Ave 765-8806	Boyd Braden	Ponca City Discount Foods	Alisa Gibson/ Tom Stephenson	765-3445
Roosevelt	815 E Highland 767-8060	Rhonda Merrifield	RCB Bank Pioneer Merrifield Office School Supply	Lori Jones JD Nash & Nancy Sheets	762-5651 762-0022
Trout	2109 E Prospect 767-8070	Dawn Mills	Home National Bank Quality Water	Keni Ray & Kristi Randoll Kelly Johnson	762-1644 762-7555
Union	2016 N Union 767-8035	Shelly Arrott	Smith International McDonalds	Evelyn Grimley	762-2481 762-8686
Woodlands	2005 E Woodlands 767-8025	Carla Fry	Eastman National Bank Streeter Real Estate	Janet Martin Brian Streeter	718-9990
Mid High- East	612 E Grand 767-8010	Barbara Davis	Albertsons Distribution First National Bank	Arceli Mejia & Cheri Rowland Ryan Austin	718-7700 763-5446
Mid High- West	1401 W Grand 767-8012	Barbara Cusick	Albertsons Distribution	Arceli Mejia & Cheri Rowland	718-7700
Po- Hi	927 N 5th 767-9500	John Woody	Ponca City Medical Center CableOne The House 89.7	Kathy Turner Danny Thompson Doyle Brewer	765-3321 762-6684 767-1400
P.C Alternative School	1615 N 7th 767-9507	Chuck Bayha	Ponca City Discount Foods Lowes	Alisa Gibson/ Tom Stephenson Becky Hook	765-3445 765-1111
American Legion Childrens Home	1300 Summers Place 762-4156	Kerri Shelton	ONG Rick Scott Construction	Mark Brumley Rick Scott	763-2340 762-7027
Lutheran	1104 N 4th 762-4243	Janet Goll	Stolhand Heating & Air	Darrell Stolhand	762-5935
PCC Academy	901 Monument Bldg #3 765-6038	Ginger Henley	Praise 88.7	Janelle Keith	767-1400
St. Mary's	415 S 7th 765-4387	Sally Coughlin	Smith Home Furnishings	Larry Smith	765-3539
Teen Pep Moms	5th & Grand 767-9560	Julia Smith	Ponca City Leadership Alumni	Lana Jones	762-9797
All Schools	111 W Grand 767-0000	Dr. David Pennington	New Car Dealer Association	Steve Peresko	765-2511

Premium Levels of Chamber Membership:

Benefits for being a GOLD member:

1. FREE enhanced membership listing on the Chamber web site
2. Feature an article about your business in the Chamber Newsletter
3. Receive a Gold Member plaque for your business to display in your business
4. One FREE flyer a year insert for your business in the Chamber Newsletter
5. Up to 5 employees FREE attendance for a Ponca City Business Council quarterly workshop
6. FREE P.R.I.D.E training for your business
7. One set of FREE membership labels per year
8. Reserved seating at the Chamber Banquet
9. Your business name listed on the front page of each Chamber Newsletter
10. Our Premium level members will also be included in the Chamber Banquet Program

Your Business name will be displayed prominently in the lobby of the Chamber Office

Benefits for being a SILVER member:

1. Feature an article about your business in the chamber monthly newsletter
2. Receive a plaque for your business to display in your business
3. Up to 3 employees FREE attendance for a Ponca City Business Council quarterly workshop
4. One set of FREE membership labels per year
5. FREE P.R.I.D.E. training for your business
6. Your business name listed on the front page of each Chamber Newsletter
7. Our Premium level members will also be included in the Chamber Banquet Program

Your Business name will be displayed prominently in the lobby of the Chamber Office

Benefits for being a BRONZE member:

1. Receive a plaque for your business to display in your business
2. One set of FREE membership labels per year
3. FREE P.R.I.D.E. training for your business
4. Your business name listed on the front page of each Chamber Newsletter
5. Our Premium level members will also be included in the Chamber Banquet Program

Your Business name will be displayed prominently in the lobby of the Chamber Office

To become a Premium Member at Gold, Silver or Bronze:

Gold Member – Is a member who pays double or more than their dues structure in a given year.

Silver Member – Is a member who pays 1.75% or more than their dues structure in a given year.

Bronze Member – Is a member who pays 1.50% or more than their dues structure in a given year.

Our staff can help you calculate the difference your investment would be in order to be a premium member. This is a voluntary investment level in premium membership. We have several Chamber Members at the premium level. We want all our Chamber Members to know that their standard investment is appreciated and needed to operate the Chamber. This is an option you might want to consider that also adds value to your investment with the Ponca City Area Chamber of Commerce!

For more information please phone 765-4400.

THE LAST WORD

David Myers

Ponca City Development Authority

Thanks. On behalf of the Ponca City Development Authority, we were truly touched by the level of support we received in the election held on July 29th. I could spend a lot of words telling you about how it was a great victory for everybody and for Ponca City's future, (which I believe it was) but right now, I really wanted to just say thank you. We appreciate the support and the vote of confidence.

I also know that there were those, obviously a small minority, who did not share in that confidence. Some wanted to reduce taxes, a notion all of us can understand if not agree with. Others, however, felt that we had not done the job and we will work hard to gain their trust in the future.

Others among that small group, (and we heard this in conversations) still clung to the notion that Ponca City was somehow in decline, in spite of the economic data and individual improvements which strongly suggested otherwise. People in this group, generally, had one thing in common. They had a past history with a single company in Ponca City and remember how *they thought* things were back in the day.

There is likely very little that could be done to reach this group. Life is hard today and it is considerably different than it used to be. It was never easy but perhaps it was easier when America was the world's sole super economy and could write the economic rules to fit what we wanted. Perhaps it was easier when our country had true company towns in which single entities took care of the needs of the community with the stroke of a pen. There are, alas, few company towns anymore and no new ones.

It is also interesting to note the difference between those who cling to the company town and those who have either come here since then or who went out into the world and have come back. These recent arrivals and returnees have been to the mountain. They have seen what life is like in other places.

And they like what they see here.

Along with longer term residents with, shall we say, a more world view, they have voted recently to take charge of our destiny. They voted to pay for a new recreation center. They voted to pay for a new jail. They voted for needed school bonds and they have now voted to aggressively manage our economic future. They know that the same global competition that is pressuring retailers and businesses *everywhere* also caused the merger that created Conoco-Phillips in 2002. Because they have seen it in other communities, they do not confuse the latter with causing the former as some in our community do.

They have seen what life has been like for the vast majority of people in the United States while Ponca City lived in the cocoon of a company town those many years ago. As a result, they understand three fundamentally important realities. The first is that the world has irreversibly changed. You can never go backwards. Companies in a globally competitive marketplace cannot serve as benefactors to a community they way they once did so even the few remaining company towns are not the same.

The second reality is that you get what you pay for. If you want a thriving community, you have to invest in it. There is no one else who will take responsibility for your needs.

The third is that Ponca City is a great place to live with a very bright future. Those who have recently lived outside of Ponca City do not carry a fanciful, largely inaccurate notion of other communities that have not changed. New arrivals and returnees have chosen to be here and they have chosen to actively invest their time, energy and money to make this community an even better place.

The election is done. The voters have spoken. The merger that is now six years in our past is no longer relevant to our future. The hopes, dreams, aspirations and confidence of those who voted on July 29th are what matters now. They had the last word.

Our Chamber of Commerce at Work in August!

Friday August 1 – Torch Run and Lunch kicking off the Chamber Membership Campaign!

Monday August 4 – New Teacher Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. at Zino's located at 2nd and Cleveland

Tuesday August 5 – Business after Hours hosted by Team Radio and The Rockin Horse from 5 – 7 p.m. at the Rockin Horse located at 2200 East Coleman Road

Wednesday August 6 – Community Wide Holiday Give-away Planning Committee will meet at 4 p.m. in the Chamber Office Patt Hughes Board Room

Thursday August 7 – Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Cope Photography at 2 p.m. located at 205 East Grand Avenue

Thursday August 7 – Education Committee will meet at 4 p.m. in the Chamber Office Patt Hughes Board Room

Tuesday August 12 – Ponca City Business Council will meet at 8 a.m. in the Chamber Office Patt Hughes Board Room

Thursday August 14 – YAP Social at 5:30 p.m. at the Marland Mansion Downstairs

Thursday August 14 Infrastructure Committee will meet at 10 a.m. in the Chamber Office Patt Hughes Board Room

Friday August 15 – Governmental Affairs Committee will meet at 7:30 a.m. in the Chamber Office Patt Hughes Board Room

Tuesday August 19 – Ambassador Committee will meet at 8 a.m. in the Chamber Office Patt Hughes Board Room

Tuesday August 19 – Finance Committee will meet at 11 a.m. in the Chamber Office Patt Hughes Board Room

Tuesday August 19 – Executive Committee will meet at 11:30 a.m. in the Chamber Office Patt Hughes Board Room

Wednesday August 20 – Leadership Ponca City Orientation Day!

Thursday August 21 – Community Development Committee will meet at 10 a.m. in the Chamber Office Patt Hughes Board Room

Tuesday August 26 – Chamber Board of Directors will meet at 11 a.m. in the Chamber Office Patt Hughes Board Room

Thursday August 28 – Tourism Bureau will meet at 8 a.m. at the Conoco Museum

Don't miss out on all the fun events taking place in Ponca City! For a complete list of events please go to the tourism web site: www.poncacitytourism.com

For more information on any of these Chamber events or meetings please contact our Chamber Office 765-4400.



Baskin Stevens and Freeland is a Gold Premium Member of the Ponca City Area Chamber of Commerce. Baskin Stevens and Freeland is located at 221 N. 2nd Street. They have been a PROUD member of the Ponca City Area Chamber of Commerce since 1973. We appreciate their support of our Chamber of Commerce!



CableONE is a Gold Premium Member of the Ponca City Area Chamber of Commerce. CableONE is located at 303 North 4th Street. They have been a PROUD member of the Ponca City Area Chamber of Commerce since 1987. We appreciate their support of our Chamber of Commerce!

**Join us for our first
YAP Sponsor Social**

yap
Ponca City

Young Area Professionals

Join us for an evening of fun and networking with other Yaps' and those businesses who have or will be sponsoring a social.

<p>When: Thursday, August 14th Beginning at 5:30 pm Come & go</p>	<p>Where: Marland Mansion 901 Monument Rd Lower Level</p>
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Sponsored by: The City of Ponca City, Head Country, Home National Bank, Paladin Apartments and Ponca City Medical Center.
 T-shirts sponsored by ConocoPhillips

Welcome New Chamber Members!

As of the printing of this newsletter these are the new members to our Chamber for this month. Any new members after the printing deadline will be in the next newsletter. Thank you to these new Chamber Members for your support of our Chamber of Commerce.

All Star Advertising & Promotions, 820 W. College, Blackwell; **First Presbyterian Church**, 1505 E. Grand Ave.; **Greg Bickle/Modern Woodmen of America**, 4 Sherman Lane and **Lloyd Jones/Modern Woodmen of America**, 525 W. 10th, Newkirk.

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact Phil Johnston, 763-8041

Help Us Beat The Peaks This Summer

"Electricity "peak" periods occur at times when electricity use in our community is highest. When a lot of people use power at the same time, the amount of electricity we produce or buy must increase to meet the demand," said Phil Johnston, General Manager of Ponca City Energy.

"Since electricity can't be stored, it must be produced on demand. During peak periods, which is normally between 3 pm and 8 pm, additional energy resources are required and these resources are more costly to operate resulting in increased energy costs. This "peak load" electricity then is more expensive for us to provide to you. And that means your power costs more, too," stated Johnston.

"Each home also uses more energy now than in the past. Air conditioners are much more common then they were then and new energy eaters such as computers and plasma TVs are often in several rooms in the home. Here's some ways you can help reduce our peak load on hot days and lower utility costs for all of us," he added.

- Run major appliances like the dishwasher and washing machine early in the morning or late at night, when air conditioners all over town aren't working as hard.
- Adjust your dishwasher so dishes dry without heat.
- Turn your air conditioner up to 78° or higher, and use a fan to circulate the cool air. Cooling costs are typically 60 percent of your total utility bill. For every degree you set the thermostat below 78 degrees, you use two percent to five percent more electricity.
- Turn off ceiling fans when rooms are unoccupied.
- Avoid using the stove or oven on hot days. Instead, use the microwave, grill outdoors or throw together a cold summer meal.
- Add insulation to your home. It's the most efficient way to control the amount of energy you need to keep your home cool.
- Apply weather-stripping or caulking around doors and windows so cool air can't leak outdoors.
- Clear outdoor air conditioning units and heat pumps of debris and shrubbery so they can work more efficiently.
- Change or clean your air conditioner's filter as recommended by the manufacturer. Dirty filters reduce efficiency by restricting airflow. Changing or cleaning your filter monthly can yield an additional 10 percent to 20 percent saving in cooling costs.
- Close drapes or blinds during the day to keep heat-producing sunlight out.
- Close the damper on your fireplace.
- Unplug unnecessary electric appliances and equipment.
- Keep exterior doors closed as much as possible.
- Turn off unnecessary lights and switch off unwatched televisions.
- Dial down the electric water heater to no more than a 130° setting.

"We at your community-owned electric utility thank you for helping us beat the peaks and avoid increased costs. In addition to short-term cost savings, conservation can reduce our long-term need for more power plants," he stated.

Member-to-Member Discounts

Following are the discounts being offered to Chamber members by other members. To receive the discount, simply show the participating business your Discount Card. If your business needs additional cards, or would like to participate in this free program, call the Chamber at 580-765-4400.

At Home Medical, 1209 E. Prospect Ave.: 10% discount on anything in the store. Cash Sales only. Call 765-8155. Offer expires 12/31/08.

Bob's Glass Plus, 619 S. 1st: Free Glass Cleaner with full tint. Call 762-8522 or 762-8746 and make an appointment. Offer expires 12/31/08.

Bodyworks Massage & Spa, 2002 N. 14th: \$5 off one hour massage. \$5 off 1/2 hour massage. For chamber members only! Call 762-5000. Offer expires 12/31/08.

Jack Bowker Ford Lincoln Mercury, 2415 N. 14th: Receive 10% off any rental vehicle. Call Kim Ochoa 765-5533. For chamber members only! Offer expires 12/31/08.

Brandt's Ace Hardware, 3203 N. 14th: 10% off all hardware items, excluding power tools and fence supplies. 5% off tire purchases. Call 762-2921. Offer expires 12/31/08.

Brown's Shoe Fit Company, 2101 N. 14th: 15% off purchase of \$65.00 and up. Offer expires 12/31/08

Carriage House Cleaners, 713 E. Hartford: 10% off any cleaning services. For Chamber members only! 762-8250 Offer expires 12/31/08.

Chimney Doctor, 5911 E. 68th : Certified Sweep Service offers \$20.00 off regular cleaning & inspection price. Call 762-3838 or toll free at (888) 477-SOOT (7668). Offer expires 12/31/08.

Completely Quilted Bernina Sewing Center, 315 E. Grand: Free Fat Quarter with \$20 or more purchase. Call 718-9300. Offer expires 12/31/08.

Cope Photography, 1804 North 5th: One free 8x10 with any portrait package purchase. Call 762-2075 for your appointment today! Offer expires 12/31/08.

The Daily Grind, 202 E. Grand: Any large drink for a medium charge. Call David Broome at 762-5594. Offer expires 12/31/08.

Enterprise Rent-A-Car, 3214 N. 14th: We have everything from compact cars to sport utilities to 15 passenger vans. Receive 10% off daily and weekly rental rates and over 40% off daily rates for weekends. Call Dewey Wilson or Katy Smith at 718-9500. No expiration.

The Gift Shoppe—The Emporium-Delicious Diner, 301-307 East Grand: 15% off any regular priced items. Members only! Offer expires 12/1/2008 (Excludes Dec 2008).

Golden Villa Adult Day Services, 1722 N. 4th Street, Suite B: Visit our day program for one day at no charge. Must be a new appointment. Call Melissa at 762-0264.

Grand Flowers & Gifts, 217 East Grand: 10% off Total Purchase. Call 762-3388. Offer expires 12/31/08.

Happy Days Café, 423 East Grand: 10% off Full Breakfast, Sandwiches, Salads and Dinners (Beverages not included). Call Lee Vernon at 762-2310. Member meals only. Offer expires 12/31/08.

Head Country Bar B Q, 1217 E. Prospect: 10% off regular price dinners. Call Charlie Ryan at 767-8304. Offer expires 12/31/08.

The Healing Tree, LLC, 1717 N. 3rd: \$5 off one hour massage. \$5 off 1/2 hour massage. For chamber members only! Call 762-1255. Offer expires 12/31/08.

Kay Office Equipment Company, 1401 N. 7th: Your old copier is worth at least \$500 as trade in on a new Toshiba or Samsung Digital Copier. 10% discount off all supplies in stock. Call Dan Stahl at 765-4436. Offer expires 12/31/08.

Mayer Eye Care, 1722 N. 4th, Suite C: 10% off Regular Priced Items. Call 762-0870 for your appointment today! Offer expires 12/31/08.

Mazzio's Pizza, 720 E. Prospect: Mazzio's Pizza will give a 30 % discount on 5 or more pizzas. A 10% discount for members on any menu item. Void with daily specials, coupons, discounts, or Mazzio's special offers. Marc & Kathy Leavell. Offer expires 12/31/08.

McGee Jewelers, 219 East Grand: 30% off store wide excluding repairs and class rings. Call Matt McGee at 765-2636. Offer expires 12/31/08.

Parker Pest Control, 3614 Lake Road: First treatment on five step lawn program, 1/2 price for new customers. Call Brad Parker at 762-6614. Offer expires 12/31/08.

Pecan Place Apartments, 3550 N Pecan Road: \$50.00 off move-in rent on a 1 or 2 bedroom unfurnished apartment. Members only. Call Kaleen Mills at 767-7783. Offer expires 12/31/08.

Personnel Staffing, Inc., 715 E. Hartford: Four hours free on a forty hour work week. Only one per customer. New job orders only. Please contact Mikki or Tricia at 762-8376. No expiration date.

Ponca Bowl, 2000 Lake Road: Buy 1 Get 1 Free, Open play only. Call 762-3333. Offer expires 12/31/08.

Prairie Rose, 407 East Grand: 15% off regular price items. Call Lori George at 767-8331. Offer expires 12/31/08.

Spray's Jewelry, 210 East Grand: 20% discount on all merchandise excluding class rings and repairs and sale items. Call Carter Buller at 762-1604. Offer expires 12/31/08.

Steamatic Carpet, 507 S. Pine: Minimum job is \$65.00 Receive at 10% discount on \$75.00—\$100.00 job. Any job over \$100.00 will receive 15% off. Ask about discounts on Air duct cleaning! Call Jackie at 762-7586. Offer expires 12/31/08.

Take Ten Tire & Lube, 3015 N. 14th: Your one stop shop for all your automotive needs! \$3 off full service oil change, free brake & tire inspection. Give us a call 580-762-5919. Offer expires 12/31/08.

The Ranch Wellness Center, 1043 N. Union: 15% off any service. Call 762-1500 for your appointment today. Offer expires 12/31/2008.

The U.P.S. Store., 522 North 14th: \$3 off Package Service for Shipment from the U.P.S. Store. Call Pam Childs at 762-6225. Offer expires 12/31/08.

Throop Propane Company, Highway 177 South: \$2 off any 20 lb gas grill fill. Call Leslie Throop at 765-3645. Offer expires 12/31/08.

Village Green Apartments, 2700 N. 5th St.: \$50 off first month's rent with 6 month lease on 2BR apt. Call 762-0017. Ask for Paula. Offer expires 12/31/08.

Visual Solutions, Inc., 211 N. 2nd St.: Free order of business cards (Qty 250) with first order over \$100, to new (Member) customers. Call Roger or Wendy at 762-2054. No expiration date.

What a Cowgirl Wants, 102 N. 2nd St.: 15% off a purchase of \$30 or more. Offer expires 12/31/2008.

Is Your Business Here? If not, call the Chamber to promote your business. This is a benefit of being a member and there is no cost to you Call Debbie Robinson at 765-4400 to take advantage of free advertising.

Ponca City Area Chamber of Commerce

Proudly announces our
2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Brett Austin	RCB Bank/Pioneer
Earl Ball	Earl Ball Insurance Agency
Dennis Barts	Ponca City Medical Center
Troy Campbell	Home National Bank
Jim Cochran	Ponca Plaza, Inc.
Debbie Covey	First Council Casino
Steve Crank	Oklahoma State Employment Services
Lee Evans	Evans & Associates, Inc.
Natalie Fraser	Lindsay Manufacturing, Inc.
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Derrin Hiatt	Baumert, Cummings, Hiatt & Young
Scott Jackson	Boettcher, Martin, Jean & Jackson
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Dr. Doug Major	Pioneer Technology Center
Janet Martin	Eastman National Bank
Homer Nicholson	Mayor of Ponca City
Dr. David Pennington	Ponca City Public Schools
Ryan Schwabe	Baskin, Stevens & Freeland, PC
Daren Wilson	Albright Insurance Agency



Lana Jones with the Leadership Ponca City Alumni Association presents school supplies to Don Nuzum President of the Ponca City School Board and also a member of Ponca City Leadership Alumni. These school supplies will be available to children that may need assistance with their supplies. Also shown is Rich Cantillon and Debbie Robinson with the Chamber Staff. Leadership Ponca City and the Leadership Alumni are a function of the Chamber of Commerce.

Official Publication

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 Ponca City Area Chamber of Commerce

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