

2013-14 member benefits and information

BLUFFTON AREA

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

We are happy to provide this list of benefits you receive as a member of the Bluffton chamber. After reviewing this material, we believe you will agree that your chamber membership is well worth the cost. We continue to seek new benefits for members and are always interested in your ideas. This packet also contains a membership form and list of members as of Aug. 1, 2013.

Core Bluffton chamber benefits

1 - Social media one-on-one consultations. Members may schedule a free consultation on social media with the a Bluffton University chamber intern. The intern will meet with you individually or with small groups from your business or organization. Based upon our own research, this benefit's value is from \$50 to \$200 per hour.

2 - Free monthly breakfast. Our breakfast meetings, from September to June, include a complete free breakfast, served by a Bluffton restaurant. Our breakfasts average between 60 to 70 persons attending. It's a great place to meet other chamber members and discuss business. How much would you pay for a breakfast in a restaurant? If you attend nine breakfasts at a \$7.50 value, this benefit is worth \$67.50.

3 - Free booth in the spring arts and crafts show. All chamber members have an opportunity to have a free 15- by 10-foot booth in the May downtown arts and crafts festival. In return, the chamber creates an event to attract hundreds of persons to Bluffton. This is your free opportunity to promote your business - have a drawing for prizes, offer give-a-ways, sign up customers. This is a \$40 to \$50 value. (\$40 charge before May 1; \$50 for after May 1.)

4 - Free workshops on topics of special interest. In cooperation with Bluffton Center for Entrepreneurs, the chamber offers several free workshops each year. These follow the monthly chamber breakfasts. Recent workshop topics have included:

- **Quickbooks** - presented by a Quickbooks certificated instructor
- **Taxes for small businesses** - presented by a CPA
- **Social media overview** - presented by social media professionals
- **Intellectual property (patents, trademarks, licensing)** - presented by a patent attorney.

You would easily pay between \$50 and \$100 or more to attend any of these workshops outside Bluffton.

5 - Group advertising opportunities. The chamber offers several group advertising opportunities during the year. For example, the chamber reserves pages in the Lima-Allen County Visitor's Guide. This benefit provides an advertising opportunity at a considerable discount. Other opportunities are offered during the year.

6 - Bluffton University business showcase. Each September the chamber invites members to provide a noon lunch display of their products to all students at Bluffton University. Over 600 students participate. Chamber members receive a \$15 savings on the cost of a table at the showcase.

7 - Blaze of Lights. The chamber spends several thousands of dollars to promote Bluffton between Thanksgiving and Christmas. We plan the best small-town parade in northwestern Ohio, bring Santa Claus to town, place media ads in area radio stations and newspapers inviting people to Bluffton and provide free maps showing locations of Christmas light displays in our community. Over 400 maps were given away free this year. Chamber members have an opportunity to be listed in ads, posters, maps and other publicity.

8 - More free benefits

- All chamber members are listed on the membership page of www.explorebluffton.com. Your listing is linked to your website. The chamber's website experiences up to 400 visits per month. The site is updated weekly.
- We encourage chamber members to "like" our facebook. The site provides timely information about the chamber.
- Chamber members receive up-to-the-minute high wind, tornado, heavy rain, ice and winter weather warnings via e-mail.
- Thanks to cooperation with Bluffton police, chamber members receive e-mail tips on scams, cons and shop-lifting warnings.
- You may participate in the chamber's gift certificate program. Gift certificates encourage purchases in Bluffton chamber businesses.
- Chamber members receive a free e-mail newsletter. It provides business updates, calendar listings, and goes to an audience of over 400 persons.
- Chamber members are part of an organization of nearly 190 members – the highest in several years. We continue to add new members throughout the year. We have not increased our membership dues since 1998.

9 - Northern Ohio Are of Chambers of Commerce (NOACC)

In addition to local benefits, the Bluffton chamber is a member of NOACC, which offers a large assortment of benefit. Those benefits are found on its website: www.noacc.org.

Among those benefits include:

Accounts Receivables and Collection Management: AmerAssist AR Solutions
Health Insurance for Businesses : Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield
Life & Disability Insurance: Anthem Life
Workers' Compensation Group Rating Programs: Benefits 1 Group
Managed Care Organization (MCO): University Hospitals CompCare
Credit Card Services for Merchants: Heartland Payment Systems
Employee Wellness Program: Wellness Council of Northern Ohio
Office Supplies and Service: Independence Business Supply
Payroll Processing Services: Heartland Payment Systems
Shipping and Freight Services: FedEx
Transportation Savings: CT Logistics
Web Design Services for Ohio Businesses: GHI Internet Services

Breakfast sponsorship opportunity

Businesses have an opportunity to sponsor a chamber breakfast for \$250. That sponsorship enables the business to provide a 5-minute presentation, pass out literature to persons attending and invite as many members from the sponsoring business as you wish.

In 2013-14 chamber breakfasts take place:

Sept. 13	Jan. 10	May 9
Oct. 11	Feb. 14	June 13
Nov. 8	March 14	
Dec. 13	April 11	

How you may help us

Your special events

The chamber wants to promote your event in 2013-14. Please send the chamber dates and names of your organization's special events planned this year. We will post them on our website, in our newsletter, on facebook and will continue to remind members of these activities. Please don't assume we know all the event going on this year! It's up to you to inform us.

Send information to: blufftonchamber@gmail.com

Promotions, anniversaries, retirements

Please notify the chamber if your business or organization has promotions to announce, new officers elected, business anniversary celebrations or retirements of key employees. We can help publicize these events.

Ribbon cuttings

We love ribbon cuttings. We can attend or help plan any ribbon cuttings or special events in your business.

Breakfast speakers and workshop topics

Our monthly breakfast meetings are held the second Friday of each month from September to June in the third floor of the Bluffton town hall, 154 N. Main St. Breakfast serving starts at 7 a.m. and our meeting take place from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Our speakers come from several sources:

- Our own members who share about their businesses
- Local and regional officials

We frequently hold special interest workshops following our chamber breakfasts. They begin at 8:45 a.m. and continue for approximately 1 hour. These workshops are free for members.

We welcome suggestions for breakfast speakers and for workshop topics.

Bluffton Area Chamber of Commerce Board:

Sally Siferd, president, Tammy Whitlow secretary, Aphaphanh Nussbaum, Adam Stedke, Jamie Mehaffie, Derek Dukes, Mark Alliman, Bob Inniger, Doug Luginbill, Luke Young and Larry Hoffman. Fred Steiner, CEO

Bluffton Area Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 142, Bluffton, OH 45817
blufftonchamber@gmail.com • Phone: 419-369-2985 • www.explorebluffton.com

Bluffton Area Chamber of Commerce members as of Aug. 1, 2013

A to Z Meats
AdvoCare
Alison King Designs
American Cancer Society
Ameriprise Financial
Anderson Tractor Supply
Apollo Career Center
Augsburger Tax Services
Backyard Perennial and More
Barhorst Roofing
Basinger Law Office
Basinger Plumbing and Heating
Beyond Budgeting
Bluffton Aeration Service
Bluffton American Legion
Bluffton Arby's
Bluffton Center for Entrepreneurship
Bluffton Child Development Center
Bluffton Community Pre-School, Inc.
Bluffton Dari Freeze
Bluffton Exempted Village Schools
Bluffton Family Practice LLC
Bluffton Family Recreation
Bluffton Farmer's Market
Bluffton Findlay KOA
Bluffton Flying Service
Bluffton Foot and Ankle, LLC
Bluffton Golf Club
Bluffton Hospital
Bluffton Icon
Bluffton KFC
Bluffton Lions
Bluffton Marathon
Bluffton News
Bluffton Post Office
Bluffton Public Library
Bluffton Senior Citizens Center
Bluffton Stone Company
Bluffton University
Bluffton Veterinary Hospital & Pet Care
Boehr Print
Boehr Site Seeker
Book Reviews
Cartridge World
Celebration of Health
Cellular Central, Inc.
Chase
Chiles-Laman Funeral Home
Citizens National Bank
Cleaning Maid Easy by Rebecca Hasting
Clemens Development Systems
Comfort Inn
Comm3 Creative
Common Grounds Coffeehouse
Community Markets
Country Kettle Corn
County Electric, LLC
Curling Iron
Damsel in Defense
Dancers Elite Studio of Dance Art
Deb Beer
Diamond Manufacturing of Bluffton
Diller Flooring & Interiors
Don Snyder Excavating, Inc.
Donald Rock
Drive Time Driving Instruction
DTR Industries
Duelin' Dawgs Express
Edward Jones
Et Cetera Shop
Everett Tax Service, Inc
Faith Investment Services
Family Eye Care
Family True Value Hardware
First National Bank
Fortman Insurance Services
Fultz Sign Co.
Greg's Pharmacy
Groves Bears and Antiques
Hair Emporium
Harlan's Barbecue
Hilty Memorial Home
International College of Int. Medicine
J. B. Computer Services, Ltd.
J. Bankert Bookkeeping
Jeanne's Kitchen
Jerry Lewis McDonald's Restaurants
Jesse Purcell - Am. Cancer Society
John Wagner Agency, Nationwide
J. Appleseed Met. Park District
Jordan-Diller Insurance
Ken Lugibihl Auto & Truck Sales Inc.
Keneco Distributors
Kiene Recreation
Kirtland's Auto Repair Center
Krysti's Music Studio
KTL Fabrication
Lee Construction
lia sophia
Lugibihl Ice Cream
Lugibihl Spray Service
Luke's Bar & Grill
M&R Plumbing and Heating
Masterpiece Signs
McDaniel's Trophies
Mennonite Home Communities of Ohio
Mennonite Mutual Aid Society
Miche Purses
Montrose Square Apartments
Mustard Seed Cafe
Northwest Installations, Inc.
Northwest Ohio OB/GYN
Northwest Physical Therapy
Omega Mechanical Design
Orange Township
Pampered Chef
Panache
Pandora Family Physicians
Pandora Flooring and Supply
Patriot Concrete
Phil Cole Real Estate & Auction Co.
Photo Finish Gifts LTD
Polished by Joan
Post Printing Co.
Profit in Ag, LLC
PromoHits!
Quality Construction
R.D. Neff & Associates
Reichenbach & Steiner, CPA
Rhythm in Motion Dance Centre
Richland Manor
Riley View Community Apartments
Rodabaugh Law Office
Rodabaugh Services
Ruth Everett, LMT
Sam Diller Law Offices
Satin Touch Specialty Service
SHANNON Service Club
Shannon Theatre
Shirley's Gourmet Popcorn Co.
Sielschott, Walsh, Keifer & Regula CPA
Signature Homestyles
Small House Bluffton
Smith's Realty Professionals
Sodexo/Dining Services
Southgate Lanes
Spallinger Combine Parts
Sports Warehouse
State Farm Insurance
Steiner & Granger Insurance
Stoney's Barbershop
Stratton Auto Sales
Stratton Consulting Services
Stratton Greenhouses
Superior Energy Solutions
Swiss Historical Society
Tastefully Simple
Ten Thousand Villages
The Centre at Bluffton
The Dough Hook
The Food Store
The Granary Gift Barn
The King's Venture
The Lima News
The Powell Company
The Union Bank Company
Time Staffing
Timeless Treasures Christian Books
Tommy Tire & Tommy's Trailer Sales
Touch of Sun Tanning
Tower Automotive
Town & Country Flowers
Triplett Memorial Foundation
Triplett, Greg
Tu Pueblo Mexican Restaurant
Vetter Lumber
Village Cut 'N' Curl
Village of Bluffton
Webb Insurance Agency
WFIN/WKXA Radio
Whitson Hospitality



2013-14 Bluffton Area Chamber of Commerce membership form

Company name:

Contact person:

Address:

Phone:

Website:

E-mail:

(Please provide names and e-mail addresses of as many employees or organization members on the back of this form. They will receive our chamber newsletters.)

Make checks payable to:

Bluffton Area Chamber of Commerce, PO 142, Bluffton, OH 45817

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|--|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual membership | \$50 |
| <i>(Anyone person interested in our community may become a chamber member)</i> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sole proprietor or club/organization | \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business with 1 to 10 employees | \$80 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business with 11 to 20 employees | \$120 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business with 21 or more employees | \$235 |

Additional option:

- Voluntary support of Promote Bluffton Fund \$ _____

Used for media advertising and marketing of Bluffton events not covered in the chamber's budget. Supporters are recognized during chamber breakfasts.

- Your Bluffton chamber membership covers a 12-month period from the date you become a new member.
- Your Bluffton chamber membership may be tax deductible as a business expense, but not as a charitable expense.