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July 2017



Together we build success!

The Van Wert Area Chamber of Commerce appreciates the generous support of these Chamber members:

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- Apex Clean Energy
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- Van Wert County Hospital

Executive Level

- Alexander & Bebout, Inc.
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Van Wert Area Economic Development

Chamber Staff

- Susan Munroe**
President/CEO
- Erika Wise**
Office Manager

Mission Statement:

To aggressively promote the interests of the business community.

Viewpoint

Big news for Safety Council and your company!

Developing and maintaining a safe workplace is no easy task. This is the primary reason the Van Wert Area Chamber of Commerce is pleased to collaborate with Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation to sponsor the Van Wert Area Safety Council.

The Chamber is also pleased to announce that the annual membership (July, 2017-June, 2018) to the Van Wert Area Safety Council now entitles members to send two attendees to each monthly meeting! This will allow twice the opportunity for employers to hear all the critical messages delivered at each meeting.

The Chamber invites businesses to be part of our Safety Council and join other members who are saving big money through rebates on their Workers' Compensation rates! In addition, the safety and wellness information presented at the Safety Council meetings result in a safer, more productive workplace.

The Van Wert Area Safety Council, open to all area businesses, is an initiative of the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation and the Van Wert Area Chamber together with partners, Delphos and Paulding Chambers. Safety Council membership gives businesses a potential cost savings benefit through rebates on their Workers' Compensation rates while providing a forum for safety and health information, education and networking.

The Van Wert Area Safety Council meets the second Wednesday of each month at Willow Bend Country Club in Van Wert for a breakfast meeting with a guest speaker.

The Council is under the direction of the Ohio BWC and the Van Wert Area Safety Council Steering Committee including the following members: Dave Thompson, Kenn Feld Group; Jennifer Ridgon, Custom Assembly; Lindy Buzard, Global Precision Parts; Anne Dunn, Van Wert County Hospital and Dayna Noble, Ohio BWC.

Please contact the Chamber at 419-238-4390 or email us for a registration form at chamber@vanwertchamber.com. You may also register on line at vanwertchamber.com. Your registration form must be submitted to the Chamber by JULY 28. We

look forward to partnering with you to improve your wellness programming, safety initiatives and help you save money on your Workers' Comp!

Here are more details about the Safety Council Rebate Program and the Safety Awards presented each year:

Rebate Program

- Employers not in a group rating program that meet all program eligibility requirements also can earn a 2-percent participation rebate for meeting all of the rebate eligibility requirements and a 2-percent performance bonus for reducing either frequency or severity by 10 percent or with maintenance at zero.
- Group-experience-rating program employers who meet rebate eligibility requirements can earn a 2-percent performance bonus rebate only.
- Group-retrospective-rating program employers who meet rebate eligibility requirements can earn a 2-percent participation rebate only.
- The rebate offer excludes self-insuring employers and state agencies. Restrictions apply to employers in a Professional Employer Organization.

Safety awards

In conjunction with the Division of Safety & Hygiene, the safety councils present safety awards throughout Ohio to promote greater interest in the prevention of occupational acci-

dents and disease. Members with the highest safety records are honored at annual awards events.

The safety council campaign is open to all companies, corporations, groups and employers in Ohio. Members work with their safety councils to determine accident records. Accident statistics are used for the purpose of determining eligibility for safety awards and are not reported to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration or any other enforcement agency.

Awards are presented to qualifying businesses in the following categories:

- Group Award - lowest incident rate in each group;
- 100% Award - zero injuries or illnesses resulting in a day or more away from work in the previous calendar year;
- Achievement Award - 25-percent reduction in incident rate from the previous year;
- Special Award - at least 500,000 hours and at least six months without an injury resulting in a day or more away from work.

The Chamber looks forward to partnering with your company to create a safer, healthier and more productive workplace environment. See the boxed area for a calendar of our meeting topics.



Award and Safety Awards winners Jim Robideau of Tecumseh Packaging Solutions (middle) receives an award from Mark Miles of the Ohio BWC and Chamber President/CEO Susan Munroe.

Van Wert Area Safety Council: Calendar of Events 2017-2018

- Wednesday 7/12/17..... Safety Leadership from Top... Down
- Wednesday 8/9/17..... Active Shooter in the Workplace Current Best Practices
- Wednesday 9/13/17..... Confined Spaces, Hazards & Safety
- Wednesday 10/11/17..... First Aid Rules, Regulations & Requirements
- Wednesday 11/8/17..... Employee Assistance Programs- Counseling, Programming, Referrals
- Wednesday 12/13/17.....It's the Safety Council Game Show Bonanza!
- Wednesday 1/10/2018*..... Stretch, Flex, De-stress in the Workplace
- *Mtg. Location: Van Wert Medical Arts Building
- Wednesday 2/14/18..... Glass & Glove Safety Standards & Equipment
- Wednesday 3/14/18..... Sleep Issues, Awareness & Resources
- Wednesday 3/7/18**..... Safety Congress- Columbus, OH
- Wednesday 4/11/18..... Return to Work- Employer Options & Responsibilities
- Wednesday 5/9/18..... Electrical Safety Basics
- Wednesday 6/13/18..... On-Boarding New Employees to Encourage Safety Awareness
- ~Dates & topics subject to change~
- *Due to Willowbend's annual shutdown, we'll meet at the Van Wert Medical Arts Building.
- **The Chamber will coordinate transportation for a group of SC members upon request.

Member Spotlight

Wetzel Motorcycle Club

Business Name:
Wetzel
Motorcycle Club

PO Box 891
Van Wert, OH
Phone:
419-587-3826

www.wetzelmc.com

The birth of long-time Chamber member Wetzel Motorcycle Club as told by their officers and members...

"On a Friday afternoon the summer of 1986 a group of friends gathered at a motorcycle garage planning to take a road trip the next day. One of the friends remarked that he needed to get a bigger gas tank. One of the guys spoke up that he had a spare tank and that they could bolt it on for the weekend. The guy that needed the bigger tank said that he had to go to work and wouldn't have time to change tanks before they left in the morning. Being the good friends that they were they all agreed to change the tanks and have the bike ready for him when he got off work, and that they would all meet at the local watering hole.

The guy goes off to work trading bikes with the one who would ride the completed bike to the watering hole, another goes to get the bigger tank and the rest start to remove the small tank. When the bigger tank comes back the gentleman who has to ride the completed up-town said he won't ride it because it was so UGLY! Again being the good friends they were, they taped off some flames and grabbed a can of spray paint and repainted the tank. One of them picks up a brush and letters in "PROPERTY OF WETZEL M C" when the tank is dry they all leave to go to their local watering hole to wait for their friend to get off work. Pretty soon their friend gets off of work and shows up and starts asking who owns the bike with the flames and what is a WETZEL M C? They then proceed to tell him that the bike was his own and that he had not recognized it. This was the start of WETZEL M. C. Before they could form the club there were several things that concerned them. Most important was the bad image associated with Bikers and how to overcome that image with people who stereotyped Bikers. One of the guys came up with a drawing and each of the friends picked out a color laying out the design we now use. In January of 1987 the first meeting of Wetzel Motorcycle Club was held. As the year progressed it was agreed that they would have a party in September of 1987 and use the proceeds to help out financially people who could not get help from other sources.

Well, the first party had less than 500 people, the members had all used their own money for the expenses and went into the hole. In the second year a local farmer, Gene Vorst, stepped forward and offered the use of his pond at the site of the Old Cactus Bar & Grill. The members started to get the word out on how good the party was and it has grown every year since. In 1991 Wetzel M. C. Incorporated and in the fall of 1992 purchased ground at the Van Wert - Paulding County Line Road and transformed it into what is now known as Wetzelland.

Over the past ten years Wetzel M. C., Inc. has donated back into the Van Wert and surrounding community over \$100,000.00 dollars. These monies have been donated to the EMS Units of the Volunteer Fire Departments, the Visit-

ing Nurses, Schools and Baseball teams as well as participating in the Livestock sales at the County Fairs in the area. We have set up a Scholarship Fund for Vantage students through the Van Wert County Foundation. We are members of the Van Wert Chamber of Commerce as well.

Wetzel M. C., Inc. is a family club chartered with the American Motorcyclist Association in 1993. We provide activities for our children throughout the year such as trips to Kings Island and train rides and an annual Halloween Party. We have adopted four miles of US Route 224 in the Ohio Department of Transportation's "Adopt a Highway" program. Our AMA activities include sponsoring a Commemorative Gypsy Tour and we were instrumental in bringing flat track motorcycle races back into Van Wert Fairgrounds in 1995. We work each year with American Bikers Aimed Toward Education (ABATE) for their Toy Run at Christmas and in 1995 held a benefit of Van Wert's Caring and Sharing, providing funding to help buy toys for needy families at Christmas time. A number of our members are certified thru the Red Cross for First Aid thru the Heart Association for CPR. One of our members is a Certified Instructor for the Ohio Department of Transportation Motorcycle Safety Course. We promote safe riding habits and responsible drinking. We have always maintained good relations with local Law Enforcement by letting them know in advance about upcoming events.

Each year during the last weekend in July, Wetzel M. C., Inc., holds its annual swap meet and party. People are drawn from across the United States and Canada as well as several foreign countries attending such activities as Bike Games, Bike Shows as well as the best entertainment in well known bands. We take pride in providing first rate entertainment from such bands as the Guess Who, Marshall Tucker, Commander Cody as well as local bands. The party is for adults only, NO ONE UNDER 21 IS ADMITTED. We hope to see you there this July 27, 28, 29 and 30! Go to www.wetzelmc.com for details of the event."

The Chamber salutes the Wetzel Motorcycle Club for its generous support of our community!



Wetzel MC donates to Community Health Professionals including their Inpatient Hospice facility.



Be part of the 31st Annual Wetzelland Bash this July 27-30.

Hit the greens at the Chamber Golf Classic!

Spend a day at the course with colleagues and friends at Hickory Sticks Golf Club at one of the most popular outings of the year, the 2017 Chamber Golf Classic on Wednesday, July 19.

We're featuring an option for the ladies with the Ladies Nine & Wine option featuring lunch, nine holes of golf finishing up the day with an exclusive wine tasting with Mod Boutique fashions before the official awards presentation.

Registration and box lunches for all golfers begin at 10:00 a.m. allowing ample time to take care of few business details at your office in the morning, followed by a shotgun start at 11:00 a.m. Enjoy an afternoon of "friendly, competitive" golf with a "best ball" scramble format and experience the best networking of the summer with colleagues.

The Golf Classic will offer a variety of contests including a casino contest hole, putting contest, longest drive, longest putt, closest to the pin and a Hole-in-One contest sponsored by Greve Chrysler Jeep Dodge. Try your luck this year at the (Un)Lucky Ping Pong Hole that will include the opportunity to engage in whimsical "Golfie Selfies." The entire day presents an opportunity to participate in one of the area's premier golf outings, support the mission of the Chamber, and make important business connections... all in one afternoon!

Individual and team awards, a burger/brat early dinner and connecting with colleagues will help wrap up the day. Each golfer will also receive one drink ticket included with each player's registration fee. There will be a variety of select door prizes and a Traveling Trophy award will be presented to the winning team. Van Wert Manor currently holds the trophy as the 2016 winning team. Register today to have a

chance at winning, or at least enjoying some good golf and networking on the course.

The Chamber appreciates the generous support of these 2017 Pro Headline Sponsors: Apex Clean Energy, Avangrid Renewables, Federal Mogul Corp. and Home Health Care.

Participating businesses and golfers can still take advantage of the promotional opportunities to reach many area professionals by various levels of sponsorship. This year the Chamber is offering the following levels of sponsorship:

- Hole Sponsorship - \$100
Includes your business logo and name on selected hole signage.
- Putting Contest Sponsorship - \$250
Includes your business logo and name prominently displayed at the practice putting green on a 4' X 8' sign and selected hole signage.
- ACE Sponsorship - \$400
Includes tournament fees and lunch for one foursome, selected hole signage, your business logo and/or name on selected promotional pieces, recognition at the Awards Ceremony and in the Chamber VieWpoint Newsletter.
- 19th Hole Sponsorship - \$500
ACE Sponsorship PLUS... your business logo and name displayed on all golf carts.
- Pro Headline Sponsorship - \$750
19th Hole Sponsorship PLUS... your business logo and name prominently displayed at the Hickory Sticks Golf Club entrance on a 4' X 8' sign one week prior to the Golf Classic and at Registration the day of the outing. Pro Headline Sponsors will also have a table available to display marketing materials. This level of sponsorship features the most prominent placement of logos.

Registration is \$300 for a Chamber member team of four and \$375 for a non-member team of four. Registration and sponsorship information is now available on-line at www.vanwertchamber.com or you may contact the Chamber today to register your team at (419) 238-4390 or chamber@vanwertchamber.com.



Team YWCA and Van Wert County Hospital enjoy a day at the course at last year's Chamber Golf Classic.

