

# BROOKLYN CHAMBER NEWS

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## Your Incoming President Gregory Gens Superior Products

The past year has been a very successful one for the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce. I would like to thank Glenn Skorko, our former president, and the out going board member, John O'Connell with Century 21 DiPiero Realty, for all of their hard work. It is because of people like you that the Chamber continues to flourish.

With the New Year upon us, I am happy to accept my position as the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce's President for 2007. I appreciate the opportunity to serve in this position. I enjoy being involved with everyone in the Chamber and the city. Brooklyn is a unique city with a lot to offer its businesses and residents. I see many strengths to build on and I am excited to be a part of what is to come.

I also wish to welcome to the following new board members: Colleen Williams with American Greetings and Cindy Foster with Key Bank Operations Center. I look forward to working with all of you in the future.

Working on the Chamber Board as

## MESSAGE FROM THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT GLENN SKORKO - SUPER DIE INC

The kids are back in school, post-holiday sales are in full swing and the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce begins a new year. As in years past, the Chamber kicks off the new year with Mayor Patton's State of the City address at Carrabba's on Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>. The Mayor will recap everything that happened in 2006 and give us a preview of what 2007 has in store for Brooklyn, Ohio.

Last year was a great year for our city and for the Chamber. While our membership continued to grow the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce reached some significant milestones. Most significantly, our Chamber has become a recognizable part of the Brooklyn business environment. As a new member, the Sun Newspapers have published several articles about the Chamber and its events. That publicity has given our organization a name and a face in the community. Another new member, The Town Planner, worked with the Chamber and the City to bring the Town Planner to Brooklyn for the first time ever while providing an excellent marketing opportunity for our members. In June the Chamber hired Valerie

Vice President over the past year has proven to be interesting, informative, and beneficial to my company. I encourage everyone to take full advantage of his or her Chamber membership by participating more with this growing organization. To that end, I would like to extend an invitation to all members to participate

Thompson as it's first permanent paid staff member. Valerie's contribution to the Chamber has had an immediate impact. Her attention to detail, communication and organizational skills, and her dedication to her job have made so much possible that there was simply no time for in the past. And finally the Cruisin' 42 To Memphis event this past summer showed just how much the Brooklyn business community cares about providing education opportunities and assistance to our greatest resource: Brooklyn residents.

This past year has personally been one of the most rewarding experiences of all my years in business. Being involved in the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce since its inception I have felt a deep sense of accomplishment watching it grow and flourish. But, the most memorable aspect of being a part of this organization for the last five years has been the relationships and friendships that have formed. Many of those will last a lifetime. As I pass the gavel to my successor I would like to thank all

of you for supporting my efforts through the last few years and for joining me in being a part of something exciting. I leave the Presidency in the hands of an excellent leader and successful businessperson. Last year's Vice President, Greg Gens of Superior Products, commences his term as President and Chairman of the Board as someone who has always been involved in the Chamber and the Community. Greg's experience on Brooklyn's Master Plan committee and vast knowledge of business operations make him the ideal person to guide the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce for the next year or two.

Thank you once again to everyone in the Chamber and at City Hall who made my job this past year a true pleasure. And to Greg Gens and our new Chamber Directors and Officers I wish you success in all you do!

Glenn A. Skorko  
Chamber Member

more in the Chamber. One good way to do that is to work on one of our standing committees: Scholarship, Marketing, Programs, and Membership. There are also opportunities to participate in fundraising, social, and community events sponsored by the Chamber throughout the year. The time

commitment is small (and flexible) and is more than offset by the benefits you gain from networking with your fellow Brooklyn business leaders.

2006 has been a good year for the Chamber. I look forward to helping that success continue and to being a part of the Chamber in the years to come.

**Member of the Year**



**Award 2006**

Congratulations to Mike and Judy Kissel with the Memphis Entertainment Group for receiving the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce Member of the Year Award for 2006. The tireless work that the Kissel's have done on behalf of the Chamber has contributed to our many accomplishments in 2006. Mike and Judy's involvement in Cruisin' 42 was paramount to its success. It is because of their hard work before, during, and after Cruisin' 42 that the Chamber's Scholarship Fund is at an all time high. The Kissels did not rest on the success of this event, but are already deep into planning another scholarship fundraiser to take place in February. Every time they have attended a meeting or event, Mike and Judy have infused the Chamber with energy and ideas. They have taken member involvement to a new level. It is with great appreciation that we award the Member of the Year Award for 2006 to Mike and Judy Kissel. We sincerely thank you for all of your hard work and dedication.

**Upcoming Luncheons**

Please join us on Thursday, January 18th for our monthly luncheon. Mayor Ken Patton will give us a recap of everything that happened in 2006 and a preview of what 2007 has in store for Brooklyn, Ohio. The luncheon will be held at Carraba's

**MEET OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS**



**COLLEEN WILLIAMS**



**AMERICAN GREETINGS**

Colleen Williams joined American Greetings Corporation in March 1992. She spent three years in

human resources specifically working in benefits and then staffing. She has been in finance since then with analyst and management roles in risk management and corporate real estate. She is a graduate of Bowling Green State University and a member of CoreNet Global, a

corporate real estate network. In 2004, she completed CoreNet Global's requirements for the Master of Corporate Real Estate designation. Colleen resides in Medina with her Husband, Jim and Golden Retriever, Rhett.

**DALE WINSBURG**



Ranked one of the top three hospitals in the nation by U.S. News & World Report 2006

Dale Winsberg is currently the Regional Vice President, Orthopedics for Lutheran,

Lakewood, and Fairview Hospitals, part of the Cleveland Clinic Health System. He received his Bachelors Degree in Occupational Therapy at Cleveland State University and his MBA in Healthcare Administration at Baldwin

Wallace College. His other community commitments include volunteer involvement with the Care Alliance for the Homeless. Dale lives in Cleveland Heights with his wife Christine and their 3 children.

**Getting to know our new President, Gregory Gens**

Greg has served as Vice President and Treasurer of Superior Products Inc. since 1984. He has also served as a member of their board since 1993. Superior is a manufacturer of compressed gas fittings and accessories for the Welding, Medical, and Specialty Gas industries. His responsibilities include: Merger and Acquisition review, long

range financial planning, project management coordination, and communication with lenders, shareholders, employees and government representatives. Greg is a member of the National Management Services Committee of the PMPA and the City of Brooklyn Master Plan Committee. He is also a Certified Public Ac-

countant, licensed in the State of Ohio. Prior to working at Superior Products, Greg was a tax manager at Arthur Young & Co. He holds a B.S. Business Administration from Bradley University. Greg, his wife Carolyn, and their 13-year-old son Daniel, have been residents of Medina, Ohio for 13 years.

on Tiedeman Road. On Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, the speaker will be Brian Cummins, Councilperson for the City of Cleveland, Ward 15. He will speak on behalf of the neighborhood of Old Brooklyn. The luncheon will be held at Agostino's on Ridge Road. Registration for all luncheons begins at 11:45am. Hope to see you there!



**Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce Presents "A Taste of Brooklyn and All That Jazz"**



A Fundraiser to Benefit the Chamber's Scholarship

The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce is hosting its first annual "A Taste of Brooklyn and All That Jazz". All proceeds benefit the scholarship fund and are 100% tax deductible. The event will be held on Saturday, February 17, 2007 at the Ridge Manor Party Center from 7pm until 10pm. Each ticket price includes hors d'oeuvres from local restaurants, beer, wine, and soft drinks. The Brooklyn High

School Jazz Band will provide entertainment throughout the course of the evening. If bought in advanced, the cost of your first ticket is \$30 and \$20 for each additional ticket. Tickets may be purchased at the door for \$30 per ticket. If interested in purchasing tickets, please email Valerie Thompson at [asstdir@brooklynohiochamber.org](mailto:asstdir@brooklynohiochamber.org)



# S. ROSE COMPANY

S.Rose Company - Haworth's largest "Preferred" dealer in Ohio, has been providing quality office interiors supported by unparalleled customer service since 1913. Located in downtown Cleveland, our four story headquarters boasts a 20,000 square foot contract showroom space featuring a full array of Haworth product. We are proud to be one of Haworth's "Top Ten" dealers globally and a winner of the coveted "President's Circle" award for the past ten years. This award recognizes the top dealers in the world whose performance in all areas (quality, professionalism, sales, etc.) meets the highest degrees of excellence in the industry.



The S.Rose Company is also proud to be a member of the Workplace Alliance. These dealers are committed to sharing, not only resources, experience and expertise, but also the highest standards in the contract furnishings business. The Alliance links 40 of the world's best

Haworth dealers resulting in more than 2,000 employees installing over \$3 million of product everyday. Member dealer principals meet formally three times annually to discuss ways to improve service levels, increase their use of current technology, and address the changing needs of their customers. Alliance Member Dealerships are strategically positioned, providing excellent service coverage for Haworth's customers, both domestically and



internationally. Additionally, the S.Rose Company has the exclusive Northeast Ohio franchise for Office Furniture USA<sup>®</sup> where businesses can purchase at up to 50% off everyday. This program makes available a catalog of over 4,500 furniture items, which are available in two to three weeks. There are another 2 million items from the program's same 27 manufacturers available by special order. When you're

looking for quality and value, and need it quickly – call Office Furniture USA!

From the sale or lease of a single office to the installation of a multi-million dollar corporate facility, each job is professionally project managed to insure total customer satisfaction. The S.Rose Company is a full-service dealer whose capabilities extend beyond furniture to related areas such as: Asset Management and Fixed Asset Inventories, Interior Design, Leasing and Project Management. In the most demanding of marketplaces our overriding concern is to make every customer a "customer for life". For more information please call Jeannie Chapon 216-781-8200

**S.Rose Company**  
 1213 Prospect Avenue  
 Cleveland, Ohio 44115  
 (Free parking available across the street)  
 Phone: 216.781.8200  
 Fax: 216.781.8206  
 www.srose.com

## CHAMBER CALENDAR

4-Jan	Board of Directors	Hampton
10-Jan	Exec. Committee	Panera
18-Jan	Luncheon Meeting	
1-Feb	Board of Directors	Hampton
7-Feb	Exec. Committee	Panera
17-Feb	Scholarship Fundraiser	Ridge Manor
21-Feb	Luncheon Meeting	
1-Mar	Board of Directors	Hampton
14-Mar	Exec. Committee	Panera
22-Mar	Luncheon Meeting	
5-Apr	Board of Directors	Hampton
11-Apr	Exec. Committee	Panera
18-Apr	Luncheon Meeting	
3-May	Board of Directors	Hampton
9-May	Exec. Committee	Panera
17-May	Luncheon Meeting	
7-Jun	Board of Directors	Hampton
13-Jun	Exec. Committee	Panera
20-Jun	Luncheon Meeting	
5-Jul	Board of Directors	Hampton
11-Jul	Exec. Committee	Panera
Jul	Chamber Social	
2-Aug	Board of Directors	Hampton
8-Aug	Exec. Committee	Panera
Aug	Community Event	
10-Aug	Home Days	
6-Sep	Board of Directors	Hampton
12-Sep	Exec. Committee	Panera
20-Sep	Luncheon Meeting	
4-Oct	Board of Directors	Hampton
10-Oct	Exec. Committee	Panera
17-Oct	Luncheon Meeting	
1-Nov	Board of Directors	Hampton
14-Nov	Exec. Committee	Panera
22-Nov	Annual Meeting	
6-Dec	Board of Directors	Hampton
12-Dec	Exec. Committee	Panera
19-Dec	Luncheon Meeting	

## Local Businesses Can Get in Shape at the John M. Coyne Recreation Center



One of the primary goals of the Department of Recreation is to provide opportunities for people who live and work in our community to get in shape and remain healthy. Our department offers full-time employees of businesses located in our city discounted admission rates, whether it is on a daily, monthly or annual basis.

The program requires a full time employee to purchase a Recreation Department Photo Identification Card. The cost of the card is \$5 and is valid from June 1, 2006 to June 1, 2007. The employee can show proof of full time employment within the city of Brooklyn by pay stub or identification card issued by the corporation. Cards must be obtained during I.D. hours. Please call the John M. Coyne Recreation Center Natatorium for information.

With your recreation center I.D. you may use the facility at a daily

cost of \$3, monthly at \$25, or annually at \$225. These rates reflect a substantial savings compared to a non-resident using our facility. Class costs, such as water aerobics, swimming lessons, skating lessons, etc. are not included in the pass cost.

If you or any of your employees are interested in using the John M. Coyne Recreation Center Natatorium, brochures are available to give you a better understanding of the rates and programs. If you need further information, please contact the recreation department at (216) 351-5334.



**Contact Us:**

**Phone: 216 288-5484**

**Email:**

**asstdir@brooklynohiochamber.org**

**We are on the web!**  
**www.brooklynohiochamber.org**

Officers

**PRESIDENT**

Greg Gens

**VICE PRESIDENT**

Mike Kissel

**TREASURER**

Donna Thompson

**SECRETARY**

Valerie Thompson

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kevin Corp  
Resident

Cindy Foster  
Key Bank Operations Center

Greg Gens  
Superior Products

Ken Grodek  
EmbroidMe

Mark Heller  
Fodor Realty

Mike Kissel  
Memphis Entertainment

Ruben Mendiola  
Ferrous Metal Processing

Gary Paporizos  
FirstMerit

Mayor Kenneth E. Patton  
Ex-Officio

Joe Salem  
J.P. Morgan Chase

Glenn Skorko  
Sup-R-Die, Inc

Colleen Williams  
American Greetings

Dale Winsberg  
Lutheran Hospital

## Tower City Group - Helping Companies Use Technology

In working with the City of Brooklyn, Tower City Group heard of concerns regarding the difficulty local businesses can have in recruiting local talent. As the world's workforce depends on online job listing services more and more, the lines of communication between a community's businesses and citizens have begun to disintegrate. We all know that local businesses hiring local employees strengthens our community. As such, Tower City Group is launching a new website at: [jobs.brooklynohio.net](http://jobs.brooklynohio.net). Dedicated to the employers and job-seekers in and directly around the City of Brooklyn, the new website hopes to promote the crucial link between the two.

We're inviting Chamber members to assist us in getting the ball rolling, and you can benefit from these features for free for the first 30 days:

**Employers:**

- \* Maintain multiple company profiles
- \* Post multiple job offers
- \* Edit / Remove job offers at will
- \* Make your job offers featured - Increase your traffic
- \* Other paid enhancements; Bold titles, Highlighted listings
- \* Keep track of the applications received in system
- \* Remove applications
- \* Enhance with your company logo; Increase recognition

**Job Seekers:**

- \* Maintain multiple resumes
- \* View, edit, duplicate and send resumes
- \* Confidential resumes
- \* Maintain multiple cover letters
- \* Save your search results
- \* Search jobs based on keywords, categories, locations etc.
- \* Apply for jobs online in real time
- \* View Company profiles
- \* Keep track of the jobs for which you applied
- \* Define email alerts for jobs
- \* Profile/personal info management

Tower City Group is a Brooklyn, OH based LLC, and is a current Chamber of Commerce member. Any questions regarding the content of this article can be addressed to Bill Robb, President @ [bill@towercitygroup.com](mailto:bill@towercitygroup.com); or Daniel Britt, VP @ [dbritt@towercitygroup.com](mailto:dbritt@towercitygroup.com).