



Woodstock Chamber Notes

*The Newsletter of the Woodstock Chamber of Commerce
January 2012*

The 79th Annual Meeting of the Woodstock Chamber of Commerce

The Woodstock Chamber of Commerce will hold its 79th Annual Meeting and Banquet on Tuesday, January 10th at 5:30 p.m.

Join us for a wintery walk down memory lane as we look back over 90 years of Chamber history. This year's meeting will take place at the Woodstock Armory and will include a sit down dinner. Thanks to our friends at Crossroads Catering and Shaffer's BBQ, Deli and Catering for Catering the event.

We will be electing our future board members at this meeting as well and be holding our annual awards ceremony and recognizing some of the outstanding businesses and organizations within our community.

Tickets to the Annual Meeting/Banquet are just \$10 and include dinner and one free drink. Additional wine and beer may be purchased for \$5 at the event. Tickets are on sale on our website or in person at the Chamber office but must be purchased by January 5.

Please contact the Chamber office with any questions at 540-459-2542.

Membership Renewals Are Underway

By now, you should have received your 2012 membership renewals in the mail. Please contact Jenna at 540-459-2542 if you have not received yours.

Renewals were due as of December 31, 2011. If you have not turned yours in but plan on renewing, it's not too late! We will be following up by phone with any outstanding membership forms in January.

We would like to thank you for your continued support of the Chamber in 2012 and look forward to serving you for another year.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**
- TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 7:30 P.M., WOODSTOCK TOWN OFFICES
- **CHILI SATURDAYS AT CAVE RIDGE VINEYARDS**— SATURDAYS, JANUARY 7 –28,
- **SOUP SATURDAYS AT NORTH MOUNTAIN VINEYARDS**— SATURDAYS, JANUARY 7-28
- **NON-PROFIT SECTOR MEETING**— TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 12 P.M. AT FAMILY YOUTH INITIATIVE
- **ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WOODSTOCK CoC** – TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, , 5:30 PM AT THE WOODSTOCK ARMORY
- **VECCA SMALL WORKS ART SHOW**— ONGOING THROUGH JANUARY 13, SHENANDOAH COUNTY OFFICES
- **WILD GAME DINNER**, SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, CAVE RIDGE VINEYARDS
- **SONG WRITING CLASS**— SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 10A.M.—5P.M. AT 7EAST GALLERY,
- **MASTERWORKS CHORUS CONCERNS**- DECEMBER 9-11, LOCATIONS VARY
- **ANNUAL HOLIDAY ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW & SALE**, DECEMBER 12, 12PM AT BRYCE RESORT

Announcing The 2nd Annual Chamber Chili Cook Off



After much anticipation, it's back....The 2nd Annual Chamber Chili Cook Off and Beer Tasting taking place on March 24, 2012 at Bryce Resort!

With the success of the 1st Chili Cook Off back in November, 2010, the Chamber office has been flooded with calls and inquiries wondering when we would be holding this event again. The decision was made to move the event to March after plans were underway for Autumnfest. "There are so many great events in Shenandoah County in the fall. Rather than compete with existing events, we wanted to hold something fun in the late winter/early spring that people could enjoy," explains Jenna French, Executive Director of the Woodstock Chamber of Commerce.

This year's entertainment will be an acoustic set by Jerry Wimmer of The Worx. "We responded to the public's feedback that the music last year was

loud and it was difficult for contestants to talk to the public," says Jenna. "The Worx is a local favorite and Jerry puts on a great acoustic show!" Having acoustic entertainment will also allow more space in the dining room for guests to gather more comfortably and be able to sit and enjoy their food.

Tickets are \$20 and include free chili and beer tastings, corn bread and live entertainment. Doors open at 6 p.m. Check our website for more information at www.woodstockvachamber.com.



Shenandoah County Thrift Store Re-Opens Its Doors After Storm Damage

Shenandoah County Thrift Store was forced to close temporarily after losing their roof during a severe wind storm during the Yard Crawl this past August.



We were pleased to celebrate with them in December as they re-opened their doors to the public after repairing damages done to the building when a microburst during a severe thunderstorm destroyed much of their building. Executive Director Loretta Lantz explained how one customer held on to the banister to prevent herself from blowing away when the storm hit. Others described it as a scene out of The Wizard of Oz. As if the wind damage hadn't taken enough of a toll on the building, rain a few days later caused

severe water damage to the floors and merchandise within the thrift shop.

With the support of their board, staff and the advice of the Health Department, Shenandoah County Thrift Store not only set the goal of reopening on November 1 but accomplished it as well.

Now back in business, The Shenandoah County Thrift Store was bustling during the time of their ribbon cutting ceremony as folks dropped off donations and others shopped for clothes and gifts for the holidays.

All merchandise within the Thrift Shop comes from donations and proceeds go to support other non-profit agencies within Shenandoah County including but not limited to the Shenandoah County Free Clinic, A Small Hand, Volunteer Farm, Meals on Wheels, and a Utilities Fund for Senior Citizens.

Woodstock Lights Up for the Holidays

The Annual Woodstock Christmas Parade took place on Friday, December 2, 2011. Hundreds of people lined Main Street and Court Square to watch as more than 75 participating groups passed by including floats by local business, marching groups, school sports teams and organizations, and more. Even Santa himself made an appearance and sat with children in Court Square following the parade to hear their holiday wishes and have their pictures taken with him.



Special Thanks to the many businesses and local residents that participated in this year's parade and to the Woodstock Enhancement Committee for their partnership with Light Up Woodstock on the steps of Court Square.



New Member Spotlight

MICHE- Valerie McCray is a local sales representative for MICHE, a unique handbags concept that allows women the opportunity to give the same handbag dozens of different fashionable looks by just changing its exterior. Visit our website for more information on Valerie and MICHE.

Seven Bends Restaurant— Seven Bends Restaurant is somewhat of an institution here in Woodstock. Located at 1296 South Main Street, Seven Bends serves breakfast and lunch. Visit our website for more information on Seven Bends Restaurant.

Smart Beginnings- Smart Beginnings is a non-profit serving to ensure that all children enter school ready to succeed. They service children from birth to age 5 throughout Rockingham and Shenandoah Counties. Their goal is to ensure a smooth transition to kindergarten for kids through parent education classes, a children's fair, Pre K for a Day and other events. For more information on Smart Beginnings, visit www.valleysmartbeginnings.org.

2011—2012 Business After Hours Hosts

January 10- **ANNUAL MEETING** at Woodstock Armory hosted by The Woodstock Chamber of Commerce

February 21- **Shenvallee**, Smart Beginnings

March 20- **Pangle Auction Center**, Charles & Delores McWilliams

April 17- **Shenandoah Memorial Hospital**

Still taking reservations for Hosts and Co-Hosts for 2012.

Please contact Jenna French if interested at 459-2542.

2012 Member to Member Discount Program

Thanks to everyone participating in the Member to Member Discount Program.

New cards listing each available discount will be available at the Annual Meeting on January 10 and at the Chamber office during regular business hours following the Annual Meeting.

Woodstock Chamber of Commerce

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Retail Sector Meeting

The Retail Sector will take a brief break from their monthly meetings in January so members can recuperate from a busy holiday season. Meetings will resume at their regularly scheduled time on the 1st Thursday of each month in February. The next meeting will be held at 8:30 am on February 2, 2012 at the Chamber office.

Non-Profit Sector Meeting

The next Non-Profit Sector Meeting will be held at noon on Tuesday, January 10 at Family Youth Initiative located in the north west side of the health and human services building. We will be discussing a possible Volunteer Fair and Non-Profit Expo and ways to address the issue of homeless men in Shenandoah County.

This Month in the office...

(11/28-12/19)

Phone calls.....	98
Visitors.....	68
Referrals.....	87
Facebook Followers.....	582
Website Visits.....	749 / month
Relocation Guides.....	2
Visitors Guides.....	3