## MEMBERSHIP INFO



**Chamber of Commerce** 



**Ribbon Cuttings** 



**Expo** 



**Coffee Connections** 



Firefighters and Police
Officers Honored at Auction

Join the chamber, stay connected, and get results!

**Membership Application Enclosed** 



Mission: To be a strong advocate for the business community

Dear Business Owner / Manager,

On behalf of the Creve Coeur-Olivette Chamber of Commerce, I would like to thank you for your interest in our Chamber. Enclosed is information about the Creve Coeur-Olivette Chamber of Commerce and the many opportunities our Chamber offers its members.

As a new Chamber member you will receive mentoring from a Chamber Ambassador for one year; wooden membership plaque to hang in your place of business; membership decal to display on your window or door; membership badge to wear at Chamber events; direct link to your business website from the Chamber's website; invitation to a New Member Breakfast to meet the Chamber leadership and area officials; as well as photograph and business profile published in the *Business Monthly* Newsletter

Once you have had the opportunity to review the material in this packet, you will find we provide a number of benefits; but the best way for you to use your membership comes from building relationships with other members at our meetings and events. Your chamber membership can be likened to a gym membership - it only works when you show up!

I would like to share with you some of the results of a scientific study of 2,000 adults conducted nationwide by The Schapiro Group entitled, "The Real Value of Joining A Local Chamber of Commerce: A Research Study". The findings listed below show the significance of being a Chamber member:

- 59% of consumers think that belonging to a Chamber is an effective business strategy
- Being a Chamber member is 29% more effective for communicating to consumers that a company uses good business practices
- When consumers know that a business is a member of the chamber, they are 44% more likely to think favorably about it and 63% more likely to purchase from the business
- If a company shows that it is highly involved in its Chamber, consumers are 12% more likely to think that products are better than its competition.

I invite you to get involved with the business community by becoming a member of the Creve Coeur-Olivette Chamber of Commerce. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the chamber at 314-569-3536 or visit www.ccochamber.com.

Thank you again for your interest in the Creve Coeur-Olivette Chamber of Commerce. I hope you will find that membership in our Chamber is an investment in your business future.

Sincerely,

Nancy M. Gray

**Executive Vice President** 

# What are the benefits of joining the Chamber?

#### **Gain Referrals**

The Creve Coeur-Olivette Chamber only refers Chamber members. Those referrals can take place online and in a phone call to the office or more informally through word of mouth.

#### **Increased Presence On The Internet**

Your business will be listed in the Creve Coeur-Olivette Chamber's online business directory, thereby expanding your market area even if you do not have Internet access

#### **Expanded Networking Opportunities**

The Creve Coeur-Olivette Chamber has many opportunities for people to meet and learn more about one another including monthly membership meetings, after-hours meetings, business expo, and a variety of social events.

#### **Targeted Marketing**

Take advantage of the Creve Coeur-Olivette Chamber's sponsorships, low-cost marketing and advertising opportunities reaching hundreds of business owners and executives, anxious to learn more about your products and services.

#### **Your Voice In Government**

The Creve Coeur-Olivette Chamber speaks on behalf of businesses to elected and appointed officials and government staff members at the local, state and national levels. Your voice will be heard on important regulatory, legislative, and educational issues that directly affect your business.

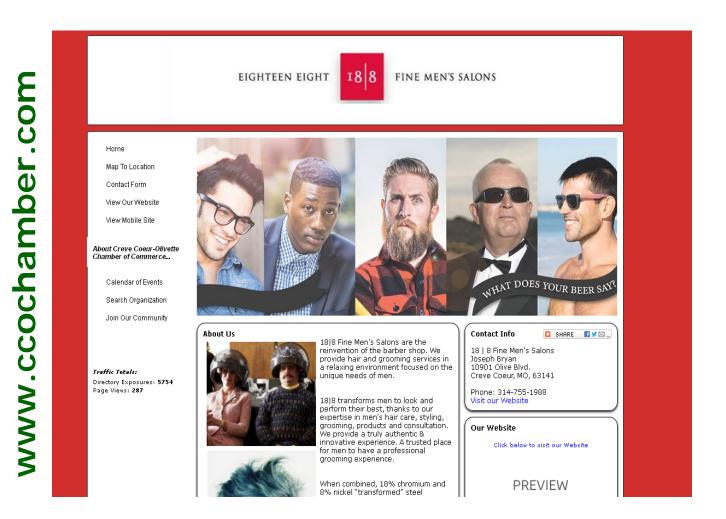
#### **Trust Factor**

It is a simple fact that people trust companies that are affiliated with Chambers of Commerce. People feel companies that are members of chambers have better-quality products and also superior customer service.

#### **Member Discount Programs**

From time to time Chamber members offer programs to help our members with costsavings programs. We encourage our members to shop one another and this is a great way to promote inter-business sales activity.

## **Website Presence**





## Check out what our website can do for your business – free of charge!

Our Chamber web developer will create a personalized page for members - free of charge. We also offer free mobile applications for members. Ask how you can take advantage!

## Membership Marketing Opportunities

#### **SPONSORSHIPS**

#### Partnership Program \$1,500

Includes logo displayed on chamber website and on front of *Business Monthly* e-newsletter. Sponsorship includes the following: name used in all media press releases; flyers included in membership meeting packet enclosures; and sponsorship of one membership meeting during year (as well as exclusive display table for sponsored meeting).

#### **Membership luncheon meetings**

\$200 (four minutes at podium; exclusive rights to materials on tables; table to display materials.)

#### **ADVERTISING**

	size of ad	one	SIX	
Business Monthly e-newsletter	(w X h)	month	months	1 year
Business card ad	3.5" X 2.25"	\$60	\$230	\$308
Quarter page ad	3.5" X 4.75"	\$80	\$300	\$460
Half page ad	7.25" X 4.75"	\$115	\$535	\$845
Insert	8.5" X 11"	\$150	\$650	\$1,230

#### E-mail blast advertising in Chamber Chatter e-publication

Banner Advertisements (up to two banner ads may be placed along one side of the Chamber Chatter)

Ads must delivered in jpg, gif or png, maximum of 194 pixels wide at 72 dpi

Ads may be purchased in multiples as follows: 1 banner ad - \$35; 4 banner ads - \$125; 6 banner ads - \$195

#### Flyer Advertisements

Marketing flyers placed at the bottom of the Chamber Chatter. Only one flyer will be placed on a Chamber Chatter.

Ads may be purchased in multiples as follows: 1 flyer - \$25; 4 flyers - \$85; 6 flyers - \$135

#### Community News

The CCO Chamber will continue to put community news into the Chamber Chatter at no charge. News must be charitable in nature and not promote the business. Examples include a business doing a fundraiser, blood-drive or a community shredding whereas a business offering to make a donation to a charity when a purchase is made would not qualify

#### Website advertising - monthly rates

Ad specifications – jpg image sized 203 (horizontal) X 61 (vertical)

\$20 Silver level advertising (ads featured on Contact Us page and Join Chamber page)

\$30 Gold level advertising (ads featured on Event Calendar page and Event Registration page)

\$40 Platinum level advertising (ads featured on Newsletter Archives, Daily Deals & Coupons, Directory Search, Traffic Catcher and Submit events)

#### **EVENTS**

#### Auction – February 20

Tickets \$45 a person and \$350/table of 8 Sponsors \$100-1,000

#### Golf Tournaments (spring Corporate Challenge and fall 9 hole scramble)

Corporate Challenge 9 hole golf scramble

 golfers
 \$100
 \$50

 minor sponsors
 \$100-250
 \$100-300

 major sponsors
 \$600-800
 \$370-570

#### Trivia Night – held in November

Tables of 8 - \$140 Minor Sponsors \$80-125 Major Sponsors \$250-750

#### **MISCELLANEOUS OTHER MARKETING OPPORTUNITIES**

Ribbon Cuttings, Grand Opening Ceremonies, and Business After-Hours - \$150 Includes two blast e-mails with information, set of mailing labels, photographer and e-mail blast to media.

#### Mailing labels \$50

#### Membership luncheon packets \$10

Bring enough copies of a printed 8 ½" X 11" marketing flyer to the chamber office the Monday before the meeting and it will be collated for distribution at the membership luncheon.

Events are fun... Sign me up as a sponsor!



## **COMMITTEE OPPORTUNITIES**

#### **GET INVOLVED!**

Joining a committee is a great place to begin your chamber experience. It allows you to forge relationships in a smaller environment from which you will expand.

#### **Ambassadors**

Ambassadors mentor new members; it is their responsibility to communicate regularly with their assignees on Chamber programs, events and committees. Ambassadors must be knowledgeable on the many benefits of Chamber membership.

#### Small Business Networking Group

This group is open to all members and meets each month to give members an opportunity to market and exchange leads, ideas and information. There is networking with a facilitated discussion.

#### **Young Professionals Group**

Our chamber is researching and planning to launch a Young Professionals Group in 2015. News will become available as the planning progresses.

#### **VARIOUS EVENT COMMITTEES:**

#### **Dinner-Awards Auction Committee**

Each year the Chamber hosts its Annual Dinner & Awards Auction – This is the largest fundraising event of the year. The committee is responsible for coordinating donations, generating attendance and assisting during the event.

#### **Golf Committee**

For all golf enthusiasts, this is a great committee to join. The committee plans the event and recruits golfers and sponsors.

#### **Trivia Night Committee**

Come join this committee and help plan the Chamber's annual trivia night held in November.

#### Mouse Races

This inaugural event will be held in July of 2014! Join this committee and help plan this fun event.

## **TOP 10 REASONS TO JOIN!**

- NETWORKING = BUSINESS
- People like to do business with people they know. You may grow your business by taking advantage of the many networking opportunities the Chamber offers for cultivating and maintaining valuable business prospects and relationships. In addition, volunteering on one of our many committees provides numerous networking opportunities and professional development and solidifies relationships.
- #2 REFERRALS
  The Creve Coeur-Olivette Chamber of Commerce only refers members when inquiries are made. The more our members cross-promote the better for everyone!
  - **WEBSITE ACCESS**
- #3 The Creve Coeur-Olivette Chamber of Commerce maintains a website, www.ccochamber.com, that allows the public to access information about our members and their services. It provides an opportunity for our members to create their own profile pages including the addition of logos, pictures and brochures to better market itself. Our chamber provides a FREE link to members' websites.
  - OFFICE DEPOT STORE PURCHASING CARD
- Our chamber has partnered with Office Depot to offer its National Chamber Program to our members. In addition to a straight 5% discount on nearly everything Office Depot sells, members receive deeper discounts on their most frequently purchased items: 15-30% off copy paper, ink, toner and general supplies. For small businesses, the savings may cover the cost of their chamber membership.
- #5 FREE MOBILE APPS
  As a Chamber member you are connected to the Chamber Nation network that offers free mobile applications making it easy for people to view your business via mobile phone.
- #6 MEMBER DEALS
  Daily deals, member-to-member discount program and coupons work two ways ... one, by increasing traffic and sales when you post specials and two, by giving you additional savings when purchasing from other members.
- #7

  INCREASED VISIBILITY/RIBBON CUTTINGS/GRAND OPENING CEREMONIES

  As a new member you will be listed on our website, highlighted in our monthly newsletter and featured at a membership luncheon. For members just opening we welcome an opportunity to help with ribbon cuttings and grand openings. We invite the mayor and dignitaries to your event and provide a professional photographer to document the event. And, you provide a press release and we will forward to the media.
- #8 GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATION
  For the past 25 years, the Creve Coeur-Olivette Chamber of Commerce has a reputation of working hard for its businesses at the city level as well as state and federal level on issues such as signage, transportation, highways and economic development in the region.
- #9 GOOD CORPORATE CITIZEN

  Joining a Chamber of Commerce makes a statement that your business has invested its resources for the good of society.
- #10 CREDIBILITY
  The community looks to the Creve Coeur-Olivette Chamber of Commerce for honest, dependable businesses with which to do business. Being a part of the Creve Coeur-Olivette Chamber of Commerce gives an added measure of credibility to our members. When you join the Chamber, you will receive a Chamber of Commerce decal to display in your business' window, so others will know of your dedication and interest in the local business community..

### **HOW TO USE YOUR CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP**

Most business people generally join a Chamber of Commerce because they believe membership helps to boost their business. Too few business people are aware of the many ways in which belonging to our Chamber can help them promote their businesses.

Everyone is aware that Chambers are a source of referrals. New people in a community, as well as long term residents looking for services they have never used before, are likely to use the Chamber for a recommendation of such services as a roofer. contractor, photographer, etc. Most are also aware that Chambers publish directories of their members, in which local companies are listed both alphabetically and by category. These are distributed free to new families in town, and are given to member firms.

It is at this point that most people's awareness of promotional opportunities offered by Chamber membership probably ends. Many business people may not be aware, for example, that members may advertise in the annual directory with their ads having a shelf life of one or two years.

Chambers offer their members more than referrals and directories. however. They offer opportunities for networking through "after-hours" functions. People can attend these functions and accomplish little by way of self-promotion, but if you give yourself a goal of finding at least two new sources of business (rather than just sticking around people you know) you are likely to be more successful. The afterhours event was sponsored by a host business. This became a wonderful opportunity for the business to showcase its services.

Other networking opportunities include the monthly membership meetings, coffee connections and events. These include special promotional opportunities.

Helping to organize fundraisers or serving on a Chamber committee may seem like just another opportunity for community service. Actually, such involvement is another excellent way to get to know other business people.

Besides networking, Chambers provide numerous opportunities for directly promoting your business

through the monthly newsletter. The next time your company does something noteworthy, send a press release or photo to the chamber office. Our newsletter has a targeted audience of business people.

Our chamber holds events each year designed to showcase or promote businesses. These include ground-breaking and ribbon-cutting ceremonies and a business expo that includes tasting from area restaurants. When you can purchase a booth at the expo your products and services are on display for all to see.

As a member of the chamber your business is listed on the chamber website, <a href="www.ccochamber.com">www.ccochamber.com</a>. In addition to a category listing your business is also listed alphabetically but you may also purchase and place a website ad.

Finally, don't forget to proudly display your decal and plaque that announces your chamber membership. It promotes credibility, lends prestige, and can also bring you new business.



Chamber Of Commerce

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