

## **BARK AVENUE DAY CAMP**

After being a member for a year or so I finally decided to get more involved and did it pay off!! I joined the golf committee whose responsibility it was to put together the Golf Outing. I am not an avid golfer but decided to help out any way I could. Well I had a great time working on the committee and made friends with many of the committee members but the best was what happened at the "After Party". During cocktails, I met the CEO of one of the new large businesses that had recently moved into town. After talking for a while, he agreed to introduce me to his assistant and his HR manager so I could offer my services to all of his employees as an added benefit to them. Long story short, I now have some of this company's employees as regular clients of mine. My heartfelt thanks to the chamber for the networking opportunity that has put real cash in my pocket!

Michelle Sarwas

## **Bartlett Public Library District**

I really enjoy the Taste of Bartlett After Hours. What a great way to sample all of our Chamber restaurants and network with fellow members. I now have some great places to go for lunch and dinner as well as possible caterers for my business events. It was also great to hear from the local organizations that are members and see what they are doing in the community.

Susan Westgate

## **Bartlett Park District**

I first became involved with the Chamber in 1988 helping with their street dance and Halloween events. In 1991 I was elected to the Chamber Board and have been involved ever since. My involvement with the chamber has allowed me to meet and become friends with many of its members. It is because of these contacts that recently when I purchased a new home I used chamber members as my realtor, mortgage broker, home inspector, banker, lawyer and insurance agent.

The many professional and social events the chamber holds annually allowed me to get to know all of these members so that when I needed their services I felt confident that I was getting a good deal and most importantly I trusted them. The sale and purchase of the house went very smoothly and I continue to recommend these businesses to family and friends because of the great job they did for me.

*Steve Karoliussen*

## **Lawrence Enterprises- Madalena Lawrence**

I wanted you to know that my appointment for today had to reschedule and she did not have my card with her at home. She is an hour away. So she Googled me and my name came up on the web through the Bartlett Chamber! She was able to email me and reschedule our appointment. Thank you Bartlett Chamber for saving me at least two hours of driving today.

## **Village of Bartlett**

Today's fully flourishing suburban community consists of the residents who live there and the businesses, civic groups and government districts that work hand-in-hand to serve their interests. Each piece of this intricate puzzle fills a unique space, and in the Village of Bartlett, one of the central pieces is the Chamber of Commerce.

The Bartlett Chamber of Commerce and the many programs and events it sponsors serve as a link for all sides. The Chamber's "Business After Hours," monthly luncheons and annual dinner help large and small businesses network with each other and with local civic groups. The phone companion/directory and chamber website give residents a convenient resource for nearby goods and services. "Breakfast with the Village" allows our municipal officials to update the business community on upcoming projects and offer the current "state of the Village" to interested parties. And of course, the Chamber sponsored Bartlett Summer Fest and the annual Holiday Tree Lighting are always welcome opportunities for the whole Village to come together as one.

The Village of Bartlett appreciates the successful partnership it shares with the Chamber of Commerce and is thankful for the many years the chamber has been here to complete the picture of our community.

## **ASPAinc**

I am a proud member of BCC not only because our company is hosting and maintaining the chamber web site, but mainly because we are part of this dynamic community.

Originally my husband and I came from Warsaw, Poland where we both received our Masters in Computer Science. After coming to the United States, we were consultants for various Fortune 500 Companies, designing IT systems, and administered networks. We established ASPAinc in 1985. When we shifted our focus in 2001 to small and medium size businesses, the Chamber helped immensely to expand our business – not only from just joining the Chamber, but also from and attending the many Chamber networking events. The chamber allowed us to look at the business from the different perspective - the perspective of giving our experience and expertise to not just clients, but friends. It is great to know the people and businesses where you live, and having a close network of people to use and exchange services with. BCC is a perfect organization to promote our businesses, help them grow, and help spread their recognition. Thanks to many active members strongly participating in a various community events like Summer Fest, 4th of July, Holiday Tree Lighting, etc., all our businesses are brought together and encouraged to be helpful to one another - at the same time improving quality of life and well being. BCC allows the businesses not only to gain exposure in the community, but also to the entire region through many multi-chamber events like Progressive Luncheon, Five Star Expo, etc. I personally thank you – the Chamber Executive Director, president and Board - for warmly welcoming ASPAinc to the Chamber Community.

Sincerely  
*Marie Palczewski, ASPAinc*

## **Balance Family Chiropractic**

As a Gold Member of the Bartlett Chamber I have seen my business benefit tremendously. I opened a chiropractic practice 3 years ago in downtown Bartlett and decided to become involved in the community. Through the Chamber I have met numerous friends and have had many referrals from Chamber members. Bartlett is a close knit community and word of mouth is crucial to growing your business. In the past 3 years we have outgrown our current facility due to practice growth and some of our best patients have been referred by the Bartlett Chamber. My office is proud to be an office of integrity so that each referral leads to many more.

*Robin Ackerman, D.C., D.I.C.C.P.; President, Balance Family Chiropractic*

## **Clare Oaks Retirement Community**

Clare Oaks Retirement Community recently put together a gift bag for an event...we always look in our handy Chamber Phone Companion so we can "shop" Bartlett first!

Our gift bag began with hats and visors embroidered with our logo by BARTLETT SPORTS. We included the wonderful Bartlett Map and Phone Companion from the BARTLETT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. And what would a gift bag be without some wonderful custom made chocolates from KIM'S CONFECTIONS! For this event we also utilized the notary public services of AMERICAN CHARTERED BANK. We topped this off with a thank you gift certificate from PASTA MIA.

*Peggy Bucaro, Clare Oaks Retirement Community*

## **The Murphy Group**

I joined the Bartlett Chamber of Commerce after my mentor explained the importance of community involvement, networking and professional development. I took a job with my former employer right out of college in 2002 and joined the Chamber about 4 months later. I also joined the Bartlett Leads to Business networking group. After getting my feet wet I stepped up to become President of the Leads to Business group in 2004 and vice president in 2005. I had the privilege of being nominated as an Associate Director of the Chamber in 2006. Joining the Chamber was simply the best business decision I have ever made to date. It has helped me enormously, not just from a financial standpoint. I have received a lot of practice in networking and serving on committees. My leadership and communication skills have grown immensely. Of course, I have received numerous referrals and loyal clients through Chamber activities. I have also been able to give back to the Bartlett community that gave me my start. Regardless of where my future leads I will always appreciate the Chamber for allowing me to be a part of it.

I encourage all businesses and business people of all ages and ability levels to be a part of this organization. It is well worth the time and money to join. There's an old saying that you get back what you put into something. Nothing could be further from the truth when it comes to the Bartlett Chamber of Commerce. If you're not a member or left for whatever reason...get involved!!! If you're a current member... stay involved. Either way it will pay you back ten fold...I promise.

Sincerely,  
Zach Youngblood  
The Murphy Group ( former member)

## **The House Detective, Inc. Home Inspections and Radon Testing**

Joining the Chamber has advanced my business in many ways. One is the linkage to the Chamber web site and to cross links I have made with other Chamber members sites. I get hits from new people moving to Bartlett and utilizing the Chamber site for local business information. Also, I am getting Google hits from searches in the area, getting the Bartlett sites, finding my company listing and the link to my site. I credit about 30 – 40% of my revenue directly from the Chamber.

Ron Savinski ( former member)