



Chamber News!

www.sacketsharborchamberofcommerce.com

Chamber of Commerce

Sackets Harbor Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 17
Sackets Harbor, NY 13685
315-646-1700
Email: info@sacketsharborchamberofcommerce.com

From the October 2005

Sackets Harbor Interim Chamber of Commerce Meeting:

A Message From Your President

Welcome! We have had beautiful weather the past few months. It won't be long, and we will be preparing for the snow and cold.

For this month's newsletter, we have tried to give an overview of some of the benefits available to chamber members. Your chamber membership also makes you eligible for reduced heating cost through Energy Alliance. If you have any questions on this benefit, please contact Cathy Rohr, Membership Chairperson, 646-2260.

On behalf of the board of directors I extend a very special thank you to the committee members, chamber members, community volunteers and restaurant owners who planned and/or participated in the Chowder & Dessert Fest. It was a classy event. Well done! **As always for the most updated information on chamber events, benefits and news -- visit our web-site at www.sacketsharborchamberofcommerce.com!!**

Recent Events...

Interim President, Cheryl Payne says, "The weather was perfect, the setting intimate and classy, the music was great, the chowders and desserts were awesome, the ribs and pulled pork sandwiches were delicious, the beer hit the spot, and state of the art porta potties were provided. This year's event was enjoyable and fun, and we're looking forward to an even bigger turnout next year. The judges had a very difficult time choosing winners as all the entries were excellent. Here are this year's winners:

In the professional division: **Best Seafood** - Sackets Cantina - Lobster Chowder; **Best Non-Seafood** - Tin Pan Galley - Smoked Mushroom Chowder; **Best Presentation** - Tin Pan Galley.

In the non-professional division: **Best Seafood** - Sackets Spirits - Clam Chowder; **Best Non-Seafood** - no entries; **Best Presentation** - Sackets Spirits.

The People's Choice - voted on by the first 100 people ... Sackets Smokehouse - Alligator and Chipolte Chowder (served with Chive Oil)



Keeping the Sackets Harbor Community Informed!

ATTN: CHAMBER MEMBERS

Do you know what benefits you're entitled to as a member of the Chamber? Below are just a few...

- Village-wide Garage Sales
- Visitor Response Program
- New Member Profile
- Energy Savings Program
- Member-to-Member Discounts
- Meet & Greet
- Group Health Insurance
- SSA Benefits & Services
- Chamber Newsletter
- Discount Advertising
- Web Site Inclusion
- Marketing for your Business promoted by Chamber Initiatives
- Use of the Chamber's Bulk Mailing Permit

Plus, as a new 'Start-Up' or 'Existing Business', you have every opportunity to take advantage of the programs and training offered through the Small Business Development Center.

See page 2 for upcoming schedule of events through the Small Business Development Center. Refer to page 5 for more information about SSA. And finally, check the 'Benefits' menu option on the Chamber web site, found at www.sacketsharborchamberofcommerce.com, to keep abreast of all new information as it is posted.

New Businesses...

For 2005

Welcome To All New Business Start-Up's In Sackets Harbor

Chamber members Cathy Rohr, Maple Run Farm (left in photos), Cheryl Payne, George & Ida Mae (right in photos), along with Beverly Sterling, HarborSide Services (absent from photos), delivered flowers and 'Congratulations' to all of the following new business owners (each of whom are center in the photos provided)...



Center: Michelle French, Michelle's Nails & Boutique

Michelle's Nails & Boutique

105 Barracks Drive
Sackets Harbor, NY 13685
Phone: (315) 222-3355

Absent from photos-

Karen Bendix

-Karen's at the Boathouse

Ross Rowland -

-The Boathouse

Christina & Bryon French -

Sackets Smokehouse.

The Boathouse & Karen's at the Boathouse

214 W. Main Street
Sackets Harbor, NY 13685
Phone: (315) 646-2092

Sackets Spirits

209 W. Main Street
Sackets Harbor, NY 13685
Phone: (315) 646-2020

Sackets Smokehouse

213 W. Main Street
Sackets Harbor, NY 13685
Phone: (315) 646-2512



Center: Betsy French, Sackets Spirits

Sackets Harbor Trading Co.

PO Box 570
Sackets Harbor, NY 13685
Phone: (315) 779-7560

**WHEN YOU SEE ANY OF THESE
NEW BUSINESS OWNERS, -
CONGRATULATE THEM!**



Center: Mark Pacilio, Sackets Harbor Trading Co. Absent: Partner, Dan Menapace

Sackets Cantina

212 W. Main Street
Sackets Harbor, NY 13685
Phone: (315) 646-2444



Center: Steve Flynn, Sackets Cantina

Sackets Harbor Bed & Breakfast

411 W. Main Street
Sackets Harbor, NY 13685
Phone: (315) 646-3478



Center: Mary Johnson, Sackets Harbor B & B

CHAMBER Upcoming Events...

Meet 'n Greet

Wednesday, October 19, 2005

Sackets Spirits

209 W. Main Street

Co-hosted by Geo & Ida Mae and

Sackets Spirits

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Please come join us.

Member Meeting

Thursday, November 3, 2005

Watertown Savings Bank

Conference Room

7:00 p.m.

OF INTEREST TO MEMBERS

Upcoming Programs offered to

**Business 'Start-Up's & Existing
Business' Owners**

Sponsored by the

Small Business

Development Center

The Small Business Development Center provides management and technical assistance to start-up and existing small business firms in New York State. Some of the upcoming programs include:

- *Business of Women*
- *Small Business Opportunities in the North Country*
- *Financing Your Business*
- *Market Research and Planning*
- *Tax Planning Seminar*

To receive more information on these, and other programs, as well as to learn dates, times & locations, please go to the following internet site: <http://www.nyssbdc.org/training/listtraining.cfm?mqsid=115>, or you may call the Watertown Small Business Development Center at (315) 782-9262.

This month we will visit new entrepreneurs: Vince and Leslie Battista, Sackets Harbor Country Mart, located on Dodge Avenue. Phone: (315) 646-2235

Feature Member of the Month

“The beauty of Sackets Harbor is the readapted use of an existing building,” Murray Maxon points out, partner (with his son, John) of the Ontario Place Hotel, “...which adds to the charm of our village.”



Photo (above): Murray Maxon stands outside Ontario Place Hotel.

“This use to be a dog biscuit factory in 1920,” began Murray Maxon, partner (with his son, John) of the **‘Ontario Place Hotel’**, located at 103 General Smith Drive in the village. “Later, it became **‘Calavo’**, a place where everybody in Sackets Harbor worked. Calavo’s was a date packing plant, and they packaged dates for resale. They had another plant in California. In the 1970’s, there was an embargo on all Iranian products, so the plant in California had to make a decision. They figured if the dates couldn’t be shipped because of the embargo, they might as well close this operation and grow and package in California.”



Photo (above): When Ontario Place Hotel was known as “Calavo”. Date of photo 1967

“I bought the building with a partner in 1990 because it was a good price,” he continues. “I didn’t know what I was going to do with it. But I knew it had great potential. In conducting research, I learned that there use to be hotels in the village: **‘Eveleigh House’**, **‘The Earl House’**, the **‘Quinn Saloon and Hotel’**, and **‘Ontario House’**.”



Photo (above): Construction of “Ontario Place Hotel”. Photo taken March 1990.

By the 1900’s,” Murray added, “there were no hotels at all. I realized, in looking at the options for this building, that if the village was ever going to become a destination spot...it needed a hotel. So I started as a hotel in June of 1990. We’ve been operating for 15 years since. We are one of the few businesses in Sackets Harbor that has remained constant in that time. Those being **‘Tin Pan Galley’**, **‘Navy Point’**, **‘Lawlers’**, **‘Lake Ontario Playhouse’**, the **‘Brew Pub’**, myself, and several others.”



Photo (above): “Ontario Place Hotel”, as it is known today.

The beauty of Sackets Harbor is the readapted use of an existing building,” Murray points out, “...which adds to the charm of our village.”

“What’s unique,” he added, “is that we started with a concept, and we did our best to make this a cruise ship mentality, whereby when people visit Sackets Harbor, we said, *‘Let’s make this the best experience we can for them.’* Our community is already unique because of its natural assets, and that separates us from all the other surrounding towns, so the fact that

2005

**Interim Board of Directors
& Representatives**

Cheryl Payne, Chair

George and Ida Mae

Tel: 315-646-1028

GeorgeandIdaMae@aol.com

Eileen Townsend, Vice Chair

Chrissy Beanz & Lovin' Spoonful

eileenslovinspoonful@twcny.rr.com

Cathy Rohr, Treasurer

Maple Run Farm

crohr1815@aol.com

Laurie Maloney, Secretary

The Candle Parlor

candles@thecandleparlor.com

Eric Constance

Board Member

econstance@synyjefferson.edu

Don Payne

Board Member

dgp_targetsolutions@hotmail.com

Dennis Affinati

Board Member

da@ibew910.org

Beverly Sterling

HarborSide Services

Board Member

harborside@twcny.rr.com

Christina French

Sackets Smokehouse

Board Member

christinamfrench@yahoo.com

Bryon French

Sackets Smokehouse

Board Member

sackets_smokehouse@yahoo.com

Ross Rowland

The Boathouse

Board Member

Email: not yet available

Representatives in the community include John Deans, Sackets Harbor Village Mayor; Constance Barone, Director of the Sackets Harbor Battlefield; and Teresa Mitchell, Director of Seaway Trail

...Continued from page 3

the hotel is situated here makes it all the quainter. Plus, the village attractions and events make it a total experience for visitors. Certainly, if the hotel wasn't here, many of our tourists wouldn't be here. They have to eat...they have to shop, and the hotel is a big economic generator for this village."

With visitors both locally and out-of-state, the '*Ontario Place Hotel*' has certainly done well for itself. "We have a lot of people come here from Ft. Drum, we do a lot of weddings, we get a lot of government workers and employees, plus we have a big number of tourists, and even local people."

The short term goals for the '*Ontario Place Hotel*', according to Murray, "were to have built another hotel operating by now next to the village dock, but the project became involved in legal entanglements because of a suit brought against us by the village."

"I use to be involved in everything," he admitted, when asked about his community involvement," but I'm trying to concentrate and focus on my retirement. I was treasurer for the Library Building Foundation, treasurer for the Historical Society, treasurer for the Seaway Trail Foundation, Chamber of Commerce member for fifteen years, and a Village board member. My wife, Earleen, was also vital in the community. She was a volunteer for the library, a volunteer for the Pickering Beach Museum, and she use to be in the Historical Society. We've been in and out of all of it, and now we're just trying to retire from it."

For many years," he went on, "I was Chairman of the 1000 Island International Tourism Council, and my experience with that started as a chamber member here in Sackets Harbor. Small town Chambers always have problems, financial and other, because of lack of paid staff. So I started going to the county meetings as a representative of Sackets Harbor, to see if I could help. I was appointed to the TI Council, representing the eastern end of Lake Ontario. From that, our geographical section of the county was brought in, allowing us to join the Thousand Island Resort Destination Promotions."

"Today, a Chamber has to be a viable organization in the community," he concluded. "They each have their up's and down's. But it's an important asset to our community. And it's important that it not remain static. It has to be an active chamber to continue to help the community grow."

ATTN: CHAMBER MEMBERS

Member - To - Member Discounts
Shop Local...
Shop Chamber...

Now when you shop at participating member businesses of the Sackets Harbor Chamber of Commerce, you will receive discounts on products and services.

WATCH THE WEB SITE FOR FULL DETAILS!

A Few Words to Members About Support Services Alliances, Inc. (SSA)

Did you know, as a member of the Sackets Harbor Chamber of Commerce, you are eligible for programs that are offered by Support Services Alliances, Inc. (SSA)?

It's true.

SSA is a small-business membership organization providing small businesses across New York State with a variety of programs to help them grow and succeed.

Just a few of the benefits...

Group Insurance Plans

Employee Assistance Programs

Advocacy

Payroll Administration

HSA's

(lower health premiums, accumulative tax-deferred savings year-to-year, protection and flexibility for your family)

Small-Biz Growth magazine

Membership with SSA also provides access to a variety of programs and services to assist you with your business. Some of these include:

- Discount Vision Care
- Credit Card Processing
- Employee Assistance Program
- Human Resource Support
- Alcohol & Drug Testing Services
- Training Seminar Discounts
- Rental Car and Truck Discounts
- Free Subscription to Small-Biz Growth
- Travel Advantages
- Overnight Delivery Service Discounts
- Hearing Aid Discounts
- Wellness Brochures
- Advocacy

For more information about the benefits you can receive through SSA, please call toll-free at (800) 836-4772. **As a member of the Sackets Harbor Chamber of Commerce - you ARE eligible!**

Membership & Benefits

If you wish to become a member of the Chamber, the membership fees are as follows:

Area Residents - \$25.00; Businesses (Basic Membership) - \$75.00; and Full Business Membership (which includes basic membership fee) - \$250.00.

Businesses who contribute \$250 will receive 5% automatic discount on all Chamber related advertising, as well as feature sponsorship on our web site and/or in the Chamber's newsletter.



our people... YOUR BUSINESS.

We've always believed that small business is the backbone of the state's economy. That's why SSA provides innovative insurance products, quality customer service, and a wide array of exclusive benefits to our small business member companies.

Join SSA today and receive valuable member benefits, including free Web advertising, travel advantages, *Small-Biz Growth* magazine, and so much more!

- Health Savings Accounts
- Payroll Processing
- Benefits Administration
- Health Insurance
- Advocacy

SSA
our people... your business
(800) 836-4772
www.smallbizgrowth.com

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**GREATER SACKETTS
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**
Jerry Rose - Benefit Services Group, Inc.
(800) 471-4767

ENERGY ALLIANCE: Next month, we will offer members an overview of the energy savings program they are eligible for through Energy Alliance. Please watch the November newsletter for more details.

Get To Know Your Board

Member name: Dennis Affinati

Business Name/Location:

IBEW, LU 910, 25001 Water Street, Watertown, NY 13601

Contact Information:

Phone: 315-782-5630, Email: da@ibew910.org

Describe the business: Although our local union office is run much like any business, we are actually more like an organization than we are a business. IBEW Local Union 910 is part of a much larger International Union representing some 750,000 workers in the US, Canada, as well as Australia. Our main responsibility is to supply "trained and qualified electrical workers" on an as-needed basis to local electrical contractors in a six county area of NYS (Jefferson, Lewis St. Lawrence, Franklin Clinton and Essex counties). We, in partnership with our employers, train both journeyman and entry level individuals electrical skills in accordance with industry standards. We do this through our educational arm — the EJATC of Watertown! The EJATC is located at our facilities in both Watertown and Plattsburgh. Beyond this, we promote the electrical industry in several ways.

- To educate community leaders and potential end users (our contractors customers) on the value added by the use of trained personnel and quality electrical installations
- Taking an active roll in the community. The workers we represent are residents of the 6-county area, making it extremely important to be out there looking after their interests.

What is your involvement with the business? Business Manager

Community Involvement: In addition to my role with the Sackets Harbor Chamber of Commerce, I am a board director for the Jefferson County Job Development Corporation (JCJDC), member of the New York State Association of Business Managers, trustee for the Local Union 910 Benefit Funds, member of the Ft. Drum Liaison Committee, delegate for the Jefferson- Lewis St. Lawrence County Central Trades Committee, delegate to the St. Lawrence Valley Building Trades and member of the Jefferson Lewis BOCES Advisory Committee.

Family Information: I feel extremely proud to have a wonderful family. First, my best friend, work partner, and love of my life, Beverly Sterling and three great children Kelly, Mike and Kayla. Also, I am the youngest of five children. I have three sisters and one brother: Cindy, Nancy, Helen and Frank, as well as several nieces and nephews.

Why do you feel the Chamber of Commerce is important to its community? The Quality of life within a community as a whole is closely related to the success of its business community. We have all seen the ghost towns where one-by-one, businesses have withered and died on the vine. Helping business to prosper and grow can only help the community, and success defiantly breeds success. Firms looking for a new location are much more likely to locate to areas that have a strong existing business base and the residents in turn benefit with increased job opportunities and greater choices for goods and services. Chambers' play a key role in helping to make this happen, supplying the needed conduit for businesses to network and learn, as well as by offering reduced costs for energy, health care and marketing. In addition, Chambers' contributes directly to the promotion of the community, offering community-wide chamber sponsored events and information to visitors and potential residents.



MEMBER MEETINGS Held "Every First Thursday" of the Month

The Sackets Harbor Chamber of Commerce now meets "every first Thursday of the month" at the Watertown Savings Bank, Conference Room. These meetings are open to all members. *Please come join us!* It's a wonderful time to learn more about the Chamber, as well as ask any questions you may have, or share your opinion with the interim board committee.

**Next Meeting:
November 3rd 2005,
7:00 p.m, at the Watertown
Savings Bank
Conference Room.**

We have many new and exciting things happening at the Sackets Harbor Chamber of Commerce, and we encourage you to call with any questions you may have regarding membership, benefits, events, or advertising...even suggestions on how we may continue to improve the way we currently do business. We appreciate hearing positive feedback from each of you, and look forward to sharing 2005 together!

Caption for photo (above)...l-r: Front Row, seated: Beverly Sterling, HarborSide Services; Betsy French, Sackets Spirits; Christina French, Sackets Smokehouse; and Elizabeth Payne, George & Ida Mae. Back row, standing: Don Payne, Target Solutions; Eric Constance, Small Business Development Center; Ross Rowland, The Boathouse Restaurant; Bryon French, Sackets Spirits; Cheryl Payne, George & Ida Mae; Cathy Rohr, Maple Run Farm; and Laurie Maloney, The Candle Parlor. Absent from photo: Dennis Affinati, Business Manager IBEW LU 910 and Eileen Townsend, Lovin' Spoonful.

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