

The May 20th Bremen Area Chamber of Commerce Meeting was opened by President Connie Moyer. The minutes from the April meeting was presented for approval. Debbie Beery made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes and approve as presented. Dee Mowry seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Members and guests of the Bremen Area Chamber of Commerce met at 12:00pm at the intersection of 664 & 37 for the unveiling of the Bremen "Welcome Sign". It was a beautiful day and everyone was excited to see the new sign.

The 2009 Annual Meeting was scheduled for January 27, 2009 at the Bremen Area Historical Society.

Lennea Truesdell donated an A-Board to the Chamber. A special thank you was extended to Lennea. To place signs in the A-Board run \$25.00 for each side. A price was obtained to place tracking on the sign and 4" letters for the tracks at a cost of \$165.00. Debbie Beery made a motion to authorize this purchase and John Mericle seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Olde Tyme Village Christmas event is scheduled from 9-1 on December 20, 2008. Jennifer McMahon made a motion to donate \$250.00 towards this event and Melissa Eaton seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Connie introduced Jennifer McMahon of Jennifer's Studio and Gallery as the newest Chamber member. She also does photography work for the Towne Crier. Jennifer was welcomed by the Chamber members.

The Chamber sign located across from the Quikwash is deteriorating and needs replaced. Prices were obtained in the amounts of \$390.00 and \$595.00. This does not include installation. However, the Historical Society has agreed to install if they can place a small sign with an arrow on the post of the sign. Since several pine trees block the current location of the sign a permit was obtained to move the new sign south approximately 25 feet. Dee Mowry made a motion to purchase the sign and David McCandlish seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

The Village website has been completed and looks absolutely stunning. A special thank you was extended to Bremen Village Administrator Joe Barber for his cooperation with the Chamber to get this updated. We are still working on updating the Chamber page.

The Village of Bremen was established in October of 1834. Next year will mark the 175th anniversary. The Chamber was involved in the 100th & 150th Anniversary of the Village where a book was manufactured on the history of Bremen. It was the desire of the Downtown Revitalization Steering Committee to move forward with something to celebrate the 175th. Connie introduced the Steering Committee—Melissa Eaton, Annamarie Qualls, Dee Mowry, Dave Ray, Eric Mahler, and Troy Tripp. Therefore, we are pursuing the purchase of a clock from the Verdin Company, which is located in Cincinnati, Ohio. This will be a fundraiser of the Chamber and community with an estimated cost of \$20,000.00. Dee Mowry is working on getting information regarding a brick fundraiser that will be the base of the clock and Melissa is looking at grant opportunities. Currently the Verdin Company is doing a site assessment of the Village to determine the best location for placement. A Verdin representative will be the speaker at our June meeting. 2009 is the 100th anniversary to Westerman Companies and the Bremen Masons. The Chamber will be working with the Historical Society to bring a Quilt Show to our community during 2009. There are several items we are looking at in order to celebrate these anniversaries.

The golf outing committee is working to get hole sponsors and prizes for this event. So far 8 businesses have sponsored holes. Westerman Companies (2), Stuart Burial Vault, Fairfield Medical Center, Clark-Behrens Insurance Agency, Kumler Collision, Pumpkin Vine Golf Course, Citizens Bank, Fairfield Medical Center, and The Friendly Bremen Bank. We sincerely appreciate the support of these businesses. Proceeds from this event will go towards the purchase of the 2009 Street Clock.

Future Events

American Legion Breakfast- This is the last Sunday (May 25th) for this breakfast. Donations accepted.

Bremen Bank- is having a Small Business breakfast this Thursday at the Lancaster Inn at 7:30 a.m. Also, a Shred Day has been scheduled for Saturday, June 7th at the bank.

Farmer's Market – Held from May 17th – September 20th by the Friendly Bremen Bank in their parking lot. It will run from 9:00am – 12:00pm every Saturday. Spaces are available by contacting Jodi Motta at 569-4121 and are still \$10.00 per space. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Downtown Revitalization Program towards the clock.

Bremen High School Alumni Assoc. – Banquet May 24th Last one at the Elementary School. The building will be open at 5:00 for self guided tours. Cost is \$12.00 per person. Reservations required.

May 25th Bremen 1st UM will dedicate the new addition at 10:15AM. They will also be recognizing over 200 years as a faith-based community.

May 25th Bremen-Bethel Presbyterian Church congregation will celebrate 100 years of worship at 142 Purvis Ave. Service will begin at 10:30am. The church was built in 1908 and dedicated in April of that year. They have many exciting events occurring during the day. For further information, contact the church.

May 31st Avlon United Brethren All You Can Eat Fish Fry Cost \$7.00 adult, \$3.50 children under 10. Additional information – 569-4419

The Towne Crier newspaper first produced the Eastern Edition in Bremen on March 20th 2005. Esther McMillon, owner, spoke about the history of the paper, highlighted prior editions, and mainly discussed the meaning behind the paper promoting encouragement and positive building of the community and its citizens.

Respectfully Submitted,

Annamarie Qualls, Secretary