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www.alpenachamber.com

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CHAMBER NOTES

Alpena Area Chamber of Commerce

By serving its members, the Alpena Area Chamber of Commerce actively champions economic development and the advancement of the community's quality of life.

July/August 2017

FLOG Fest is Going Extinct

It is bittersweet. After 30 years, our annual golf outing, the FLOG Fest, will see it's final year this year.

This wasn't an easy decision, but the Board decided to end FLOG because of several factors, including the dwindling participation (especially participants from within our membership) and our desire to spend our efforts and resources on events and programs that are most beneficial to our members.

Because this is our final FLOG Fest, we want to make it very special and extra memorable. We will be ending the event with a retirement cake and champagne toast to celebrate 30 years of golfing fun. We are also giving this year's event the theme of Dinosaurs (it is going extinct, after all). There will be some impressively large dinosaurs that will be part of the action. But that's not the only surprise that will be waiting for this year's participants. We can't share all of the fun in advance - what kind of surprise would that be?

There are many ways to get involved with FLOG. You can sponsor the event (appetizers, lunch, hole, dinosaur, hole-in-one, snacks, but act fast as some are already sold out), donate a prize, or play in the event. If you have ever played in a FLOG Fest in the past you know it will be fun and we don't want you to miss this final event. If you have never played in a FLOG fest, this is your last chance to join us for this event. We sincerely hope to see a sell-out crowd this year as we celebrate the conclusion of one event and the future of what might come next.

Remember, FLOG Fest is not about the dino-SCORE but is about the enjoyment of the day. Please mark August 11th on your calendar and submit your registration today.

CHAMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For ribbon cuttings and event details, contact the Chamber at 989.354.4181 or visit www.alpenachamber.com.

July 2017

- 11 - Economic Development Board meeting, 7:30 a.m.
- 14 - Good Morning Alpena breakfast, Brown Trout Kick Off event, 7 a.m. breakfast, 7:30-8:30 a.m. program, big tent in the small boat harbor, registration is required to the Chamber, sponsored by Accident Fund

August 2017

- 2 - Ambassador meeting, 8:00 a.m.
- 2 - Military support event, 6:00 p.m., CRTCC, registration required to the Chamber, \$10
- 3 - Government Relations meeting, 7:30 a.m.
- 11 - FLOG Fest (30th Annual and final)
- 22 - Chamber of Commerce Board meeting, 7:30 a.m.

* register by contacting the Chamber: info@alpenachamber.com or 989.354.4181

2017 CHAMBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairperson: Ryan Fairchild - Omega Electric
Past Chairperson: Luciana King - Lappan Agency
Vice Chairperson: Cindy Limback - RE/MAX New Horizons
Secretary/Treasurer: Brian VanWormer - Employment Services Inc.

Directors: Eileen Budnick - First Federal of N. Michigan; Bruce Duncan - Thunder Bay Therapy; Pat Gerow - R.S. Scott and Associates; Rose Nowak - Better Living Massage Center and Spa; Elaine Orr - Alpena Power Company (retired); Adam Poll - City of Alpena; Shawn Shankie - Days Inn; Dylan Wallace - The Wallace Firm, P.C.



Nonprofit corporations and independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome these organizations to the Chamber. As we continue to grow in membership we are able to accomplish more. We appreciate all of our members - both new and returning ones.

Harborside Tint Co.
9280 West Long Lake Road
Alpena, MI 49707
989.464.6982

Friends Together
105 Prentiss Street
Alpena, MI 49707
989.356.3231

FLOG Fest Details

Date: Friday, August 11, 2017

Time: shotgun start at 10:00 a.m.

Location: Alpena Golf Course

Cost: \$80 per golfer

Value: Golfers receive 18 holes of scramble-style golf with cart, prizes, snacks, lunch, networking, appetizers after the event, cake and a champagne toast

Good Morning Alpena Breakfast

July 14th - Michigan Brown Trout Festival Kick Off Event

Reserve Your Spot Today! Historically our most popular program, don't miss this year's event.

Strategic Goals Focus: Leadership Development and Education / Training

In May we hosted our 7th annual Leadercast event. It was agreed upon by the majority of returning participants that this year's Leadercast had the best content of any previous Leadercast events. It was truly an inspiring day that left participants with action ideas they could use to make a real impact on their team, business, and community. Hosting the Leadercast program falls under our strategic goal of Leadership Development and Education/Training. We want to offer valuable opportunities for our members to engage in education on a variety of topics, leadership being one of them. That's why when we heard about the brand new program from Leadercast: Leadercast Women, we jumped at the opportunity to be a host site. Although we are still working on the event details, please mark your calendar for **October 5, 2017** so you can keep this day available for this event. Already committed to this event as speakers are Dr. Neeta Bhushan, Founder of Global GRIT Institute, and Laura Vanderkam, Author and Speaker. Although we realize that the core values and behaviors of leaders worth following are not gender-specific, we also know that women face unique life decisions and leadership challenges. More information on the Leadercast Women event will be available soon. And don't worry, men will find value in this event as well!

In addition to our leadership training programs, we also host other education and training opportunities. We have a great partnership with the Northeast Michigan Human Resource Association and it was in partnership with them that we co-hosted a human resource educational event. We also more recently partnered with NEMHRA on an active shooter/workplace safety training event. These two programs benefited many of our members, giving them valuable information that they could put into play immediately upon return to their office after the trainings, and information they could use well into the future.

What can you expect in the future under our strategic goal of Leadership Development and Education/Training?
We spend a considerable amount of time exploring resources and opportunities that we might present to our members and others. We want to provide you with valuable education and training opportunities to make the most of your time and resources. At this time, in addition to the Leadercast Women event, we are also exploring other topics on which we should host presentations. We welcome and value your input. Choosing from the list below, which topics are of most interest to you?

- Customer Service
- Human Resource Issues
- Sales
- Social Media
- Marketing
- Communication
- Public Speaking and Presentations
- Working with Different Generations
- Technical Skills (excel, PowerPoint, other)
- Other

If you are interested in any of the above, please let us know - and be specific. You can call us (talk to Jackie), email us (email Jackie at jkrawczak@alpenachamber.com), or message us on social media. We value your input as it helps makes us most impactful and valuable for those we serve (you!).



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The **Alpena County Regional Airport** originally bore the name Phelps Collins Field in honor of World War I pilot, Captain Phelps Collins, an Alpena resident and hero who fought and died with the Lafayette Escadrille. The airfield was first put to use after World War I, but the airport was not formally dedicated until 1931. From 1931 to 1947, various Army Air Corps units used the Phelps Collins Field for training purposes. In 1947, it was turned over to the County of Alpena, and assigned to the Air National Guard in 1952. Since that time, it has primarily been used as a summer training site for Air National Guard Units.

On March 14, 1989, the Alpena County Board of Commissioners approved a recommendation to change the name of Phelps Collins Field to Alpena County Regional Airport. By mid-1990 the County of Alpena began to make improvements to the airport's passenger terminal with the help of the Michigan Bureau of Aeronautics grant programs. The opening of a new 18,000 square foot terminal and the conversion of the old terminal to a bar/restaurant is in the near future. By 1999 passenger service had grown to the point that the airport qualified for Federal Airport Improvement Funds, now the primary funding source for future airport development.

The airport offers scheduled and chartered air service, hangars and fuels for general aviation pilots, as well as aircraft detailing and light repair. Currently the terminal opens at 4:00 a.m. and closes at 11:00 p.m. They can be reached at 989.354.2907 or alpenairport.com/contact.

The airport employees are all local people who are proud to provide an airport that is safe for use by their friends, families, and the citizens of the area.

The mission of the **Michigan Lighthouse Conservancy (MLC)**, a 501c3 nonprofit organization established in 2000, is to promote the preservation of Michigan's lighthouses and Life-Saving Service station structures, along with their artifacts. The MLC currently owns three lighthouses, including the Muskegon South Pierhead and Muskegon South Breakwater Lights on Lake Michigan; and one on Lake Huron, the Alpena Breakwater Lighthouse, known as "Little Red". MLC's mission is accomplished through preserving historic structures, education, interpretive displays and artifact preservation.

At this time, of the three lighthouses, the Muskegon South Pierhead Light is the only one in an accessible state where it can safely and regularly be opened to the public. Plans are being developed to fully restore the Alpena Breakwater Lighthouse and both of the Muskegon lighthouses. This is a crucial time in the planning stages for Alpena, where local residents can become actively involved in the efforts for the lighthouse's future by sharing their time and talents with MLC.

MLC was thought of by lighthouse and history enthusiast of Jeff Shook from Fenton, MI, who still serves today as the Board President of MLC. Recognizing the need for an organization to serve as liaison to the individuals and groups doing the important work of lighthouse preservation across the State, Jeff enlisted several colleagues with professional backgrounds suitable for board directorship and MLC was born. The preservation work continues and challenges exist especially in Alpena, where local caretakers and devoted volunteers are needed on the ground level as plans are made for restoration and possible future public visitations. With the lighthouse sitting inside a private corporation's property, public access is a challenge, but the goal is to ensure the lighthouse's future by finding a talent pool of local people willing to help.

An anonymous donor covers funding for the part-time work of the sole MLC staff member who works to create community partnerships, build fund development opportunities for individuals and corporations and recruit, train and schedule volunteers. Memberships and donations help to keep the organization alive, and all funds raised go directly toward preservation and restoration work at all three lights.

Now is the time for those interested in preserving the Alpena Breakwater Lighthouse's future by donating money, or volunteering to kick start the effort. If you want the lighthouse to be around now and for future generations, then please help to ensure they reach that goal.

With any questions, contact Executive Director Cindy Beth Davis-Dykema at muskegonlights@gmail.com. Learn more about membership, and volunteer and donor opportunities by calling 844-MLIGHTS, or visiting www.alpenalighthouse.org.