



# Monthly Newsletter

www.ChisagoLakesChamber.com

July 2010

Serving the communities of Chisago City, Lindstrom, Center City and Shafer

## Upcoming Meetings & Events

- July 14: Board Meeting 4:00 p.m.**  
 Chamber Office & Information Center  
 30525 Linden Street, Lindstrom
- July 15: Chamber Member Luncheon**  
 Time: 11:30 a.m.  
 Location: Panola Valley Gardens  
 26026 Olinda Trail, Lindstrom  
 Topic: Networking Luncheon  
 Caterer: Panola Valley Gardens

## Welcome New Member!

**St. Croix Festival Theatre**  
 St. Croix Falls, WI 715.483.3387

## Karl Oskar Days July 7-11, 2010

Come celebrate the uniqueness of downtown Lindström-sister city to Tingsryd, Sweden. Enjoy four fun filled days. Here are some of the activities planned:

- \* Snuff Box Treasure Hunt
- \* Harmony in the Park – Monroe Crossing
- \* Ladies Nite Out
- \* Queen Coronation
- \* Fireworks – Friday
- \* 5K Loppet - Saturday
- \* Arts & Craft Fair – Saturday & Sunday
- \* Golf, Basketball, Cribbage Tournaments
- \* Grand Parade – Saturday
- \* Much More!

See complete details on the Chamber website at [www.ChisagoLakesChamber.com](http://www.ChisagoLakesChamber.com)

Purchase a Karl Oskar Day Button and you will help fund all the fun events! Available at most local businesses.



## What's Happening This Month

- |      |       |   |
|------|-------|---|
| July | 4     | Independence Day                              |
| July | 7-11  | Karl Oskar Days                               |
| July | 8     | Lindstrom's Ladies Nite Out                   |
| July | 8     | Wood's Interiors-25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary |
| July | 9     | Meadows on Fairview Pancake Breakfast         |
| July | 10-11 | Raspberry Wine Release - WineHaven            |
| July | 14-18 | Picket Fence Gals                             |
| July | 15    | LAYSB - TASTE! Event                          |
| July | 15    | Heritage Makers - Digi Crop                   |
| July | 15-18 | Chisago County Fair                           |
| July | 16-18 | Wannigan Days-Taylor's Fall                   |
| July | 17    | Wine & Chocolate Cruise                       |
| July | 18    | Meadows on Fairview Classic Car Show          |
| July | 20    | LifeCare Fundraiser at Arby's                 |
| July | 23-24 | Relay for Life                                |
| July | 24-25 | Chisago Lakes Triathlon                       |
| July | 31    | Wine & Cheese Cruise                          |
| July | 31    | Tribute to the Troops Motorcycle Run/Show     |

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## 2010 Board of Directors

### Officers:

President: Jim Green, Edward Jones Investments  
Past President: Tom Kieffer, Farmers Insurance Group  
President-Elect: John Renaker, Northwoods Roasterie  
Treasurer: Roger Lindgren, Lindgren & Associates  
Secretary: Craig Stockel

### Directors:

Karen Anderson, Frontier Communications  
Loretta Anderson, Hazelden  
Mary Cordts, Parmly LifePoints  
Renee Dabill, Renee Lynn Photography  
Bob Jennissen, Security State Bank of Marine  
Matt Silver, Chisago County Press

Executive Director: Tangi Schaapveld  
Office Manager: Laurie Doughty

### *How to contact us:*

Chisago Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce  
P.O. Box 283 – 30525 Linden St.  
Lindstrom, MN 55045

Phone: 651.257.1177

Email: [clacc@frontiernet.net](mailto:clacc@frontiernet.net)

Web: [www.ChisagoLakesChamber.com](http://www.ChisagoLakesChamber.com)



### **A Note from the Chamber Board:**

*Tom Kieffer*

As I reflect on my past four years as a board member, I have been privileged to be a member and also serve as President. My experiences have allowed me to meet and learn from other business owners, local and national leaders, and even Swedish Dignitaries. I have made many acquaintances, several friends and my business has grown from relationships due to my association with the Chamber.

Our Chamber is a wonderful organization of many people with amazing stories to tell and talents to share. Are you one of those special people just waiting to be asked to share your talents? Every year at least one board position is available beginning in January so there is plenty of time to prepare. Not ready for a board position? We can always use some help with our events. The triathlon is near and the Chamber golf tournament is coming in September followed by the Celebration of the Lakes this winter.

If you do not have the time to help plan one of these events, please make an effort to join us. They are a great way to meet people and have some fun in the name of growing our businesses.

Also, if you have not attended a luncheon lately you would be amazed at the amount of people attending. I remember not that long ago lunch meetings with only a few people and now you have to show up early just to get a seat. What a wonderful problem to have! Please take some time, check us out and remember that since Summer Solstice has past, the days are getting shorter. What are you waiting for? Cheers!

## **Chisago Lakes Triathlon**

**July 24-25**



Chisago Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce and the City of Chisago will be hosting the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Chisago Lakes Half Ironman and Sprint Triathlon July 24-25. This USAT sanctioned event is managed by Midwest Sports Events and draws athletes from our local area and throughout the United States.

This **Swim, Bike & Run** event includes a sport for everyone. It will begin and end in beautiful Paradise Park in Chisago City.

**Registration forms** are available at Forest Lake Cycle & Skate, the Chamber office or visit [www.MidwestSportsEvents.com](http://www.MidwestSportsEvents.com). Early registration deadline is July 23<sup>rd</sup>. Fees are \$55/Sprint, \$110/Half Iron, \$35each/Sprint Relay, \$55each/Half Iron Relay, \$18/Kids. The weekend of the event fees are \$70/Sprint, \$125/Half Iron, \$40 each/Sprint Relay, \$65 each/Half Iron Relay, \$20/Kids. All adults receive a dri wick t-shirt, goody bag, brunch including Swedish pancakes & ice-cream. All kids receive a t-shirt, goody bag, finisher's ribbon and treats.

**Volunteers** are a vital part to the success of this triathlon. If you do not want to be a participant but want to be part of the action why not be a volunteer? We need volunteers for water stations, turns, body marking, finish line, food preparation, registration and other jobs. The triathletes really appreciate your hospitality. Contact the Chamber office for more information or to volunteer at 651.257.1177 or email [clacc@frontiernet.net](mailto:clacc@frontiernet.net).

**Goody Bag** donations are needed for the Triathlon participants. Adult/1500 items, Kids/500 items.

**June 9<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting Highlights**  
-from minutes recorded for Craig Stockel

**Treasurer's Report:**

Overall Profit & Loss showed a slight increase over last year for the same time period.

**Secretary's Report:**

May minutes reviewed and accepted as written.

**Committee Reports:**

- **Chamber Golf Outing – Jim/Tom**  
Planning is well underway for the September 2 event at Chisago Lakes Golf Course. Sponsorship form will go out in July and registration form in August.
- **Tourism: John/Tangi**  
Tourism brochures are printed and were made possible with support from Chisago County EDA.

**New Business:**

- **Insurance Policy Renewal** – Cost and coverage to remain the same.
- **Sponsorship Request** – Request from Center City Days Committee was approved.
- **Display** – Discussion on business card display for the Chamber office.
- **July Luncheon** – Luncheon to be a social networking luncheon held at Panola Valley Gardens
- **Buy Local-Thrive Local Campaign** - Discussion on the Chamber being a 'Chapter Member' of this shop local program. Chamber members would not incur additional marketing cost for the program.

**Old Business:**

- **Good Bike Safety** – Chamber donated \$100 to Lindstrom Dairy Queen and created free ice-cream cone coupons to be handed out by Lake Area Police.

**Executive Director's Report: Tangi**

Membership is holding steady with one new member in May. The tourism committee is pleased with the new area brochure. The Chamber is focusing efforts on better promotion of Chisago Lakes Area and exploring National Heritage Area Designation.

**NORTHWOODS ROASTERIE**

Downtown Lindstrom



*Pie & Coffee*

Every Friday Night 5:00-9:00 p.m.

651.257.5240 www.NorthwoodsRoasterie.com



**12th Annual Raspberries and Wine Festival**

Saturday, July 10th, 2010 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday, July 11th, 2010 from 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Come celebrate the release of their new batch of Raspberry wine! Hourly vineyard tours, complimentary wine tasting, lunch at the vineyard and live music. Meredee's Bistro will be serving grilled bacon wrapped shrimp with Raspberry Wine barbecue sauce and choice of romaine salad or cabbage pasta salad \$9.00/plate, or try a pulled chicken sandwich with Raspberry Wine barbecue sauce for \$4.00. For dessert, try cheesecake with Raspberry Wine chocolate sauce for \$4.00.



**Wine and Chocolate Cruise on the St. Croix River**

Saturday, July 17th 7:00-10:00 p.m.

**Wine and Cheese Cruise on the St. Croix River**

Saturday, July 31st 7:00-10:00 p.m.

Cruise the beautiful St. Croix River on the Taylors Falls Princess paddleboat at one of our wine cruises. Enjoy fine food, great WineHaven wines and some of the best chocolates/cheeses. Cruise tour includes wine sampling, live music, cash bar and reserved seating with a buffet style meal including choice of Roast Prime Rib with baked potato or Boneless Chicken Breast on a bed of wild rice served with a Chardonnay & Mushroom Sauce. Both entrées are served with assorted breads, Caesar salad, vegetable and dessert. Cost is \$43.50 per person plus tax and gratuity. Reservations and prepayment are required. Embark from Taylors Falls Scenic Boat Tours, Taylors Falls. Boarding time is 6:45 p.m.

For reservations call 651.465.6315



Lindstrom's Allemensrätt Park is officially open. Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies were held June 5<sup>th</sup>. Trail maps are available at the entrance of the park on North Olinda Trail.

For more information contact  
City of Lindstrom office at 651.257.0620



- **Annie's Swedish Coffee Parties**  
2nd & 4th Saturdays 10:00 a.m. \$10
- **Bluegrass and Lemonade in the Shade**  
Sundays, July 25, August 29 and September 26
- **Twilight Supper and Tour**  
Every 4th Sunday through August 22nd 5-7:30 p.m.  
\$15/adult, \$7/elementary age, preschool free  
Registration required 651.433.5053
- **Comin' to Amerika**  
Session One: Tuesday, July 13 & Thursday, July 15  
Session Two: Tues, August 10 & Thurs, August 12  
Children grades 1st-6th \$25  
Registration required 651.464.1329
- **Make a Pocket Purse**  
Saturdays, July 24 & August 14 \$25
- **Flicka Day** Saturday, July 31 \$25

**Gammelgården Museum**  
20880 Olinda Trail, Scandia

[www.GammelgardenMuseum.org](http://www.GammelgardenMuseum.org) 651.433.5053

### LINDSTROM LADIES NITE OUT

Thursday, July 8<sup>th</sup> 4-9 p.m.



Downtown businesses will be open and offering specials, drawings, food & drink. Start the evening by picking up a Stamp Card and a bag of goodies at Wood's Interior Design. Then visit businesses throughout Lindstrom. Vendors will also be set up in the Chamber Office.



**Ole & Lena Joke Telling**  
8:00 p.m.  
Cottage Gifts Court Yard

### Quote for the Month

*"We must be free not because we claim freedom, but because we practice it."  
~William Faulkner~*



### The Sweet Swede Candy Shoppe Premium Chocolates

Open every Friday & Saturday 11:30 – 5:30  
12615 Lake Blvd, Lindstrom

[www.TheSweetSwede.com](http://www.TheSweetSwede.com)

651.387.1214

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Motorcycle Run/Show & Concert



Saturday, July 31<sup>st</sup>

Live music with Spooky Poodle.  
Details at [www.ChisagoRoadhouse.com](http://www.ChisagoRoadhouse.com)

**CHISAGO ROADHOUSE**  
10805 Lake Blvd, Chisago City  
651.257.6633



### MONTHLY DIGI CROPS

4:30-8:30 p.m.

Come and learn creative ways to preserve and share your digital photos. Inspiration and snacks provided. Bring a laptop if you have one. We meet monthly at the Chamber Office, 30525 Linden Street, Lindstrom.

July 15 ♦ August 19 ♦ September 16

heritage makers

### BUY LOCAL

**The Power of Choice:** Every time you make a purchase, you're exercising power of choice. The choice is yours. You have the power to strengthen & enrich your community.

#### Did you know...

- For every two jobs national retailers bring to a community, three jobs are lost as a result of local businesses closing down.
- When you shop locally owned businesses, your money is re-circulated over and over and creates up to 75% more tax revenue to our community and state.
- Independent businesses raise the standard of living in your community because they take their profits and buy products and services from other local businesses, thus creating more and more tax revenues needed for the community to thrive.
- Independent businesses are unique enterprises that contribute to the character of our community by offering more diverse selections of goods and services.
- Independent businesses provide meaningful service with a personal touch. It matters to them that you are satisfied and will come back again.

**Support Your Community - Shop Local!**

[www.ChisagoLakesChamber.com](http://www.ChisagoLakesChamber.com)

## June Luncheon Meeting



'Swedish Tourism'



Lunch by: Rick & Melanie Bleeksma,  
The Porterhouse

June's luncheon was held the **Karl Oskar House** in Ki Chi Saga Park, Lindstrom with 49 members/guests in attendance. Tangi Shaapveld thanked **The Porterhouse**, Center City for catering this month's luncheon. Owners, **Rick and Melanie Bleeksma**, are experienced at catering events from business functions to family reunions. **Sherwin Johnson**, gave a brief background of the Karl Oskar House, which is maintained by the **Lindstrom Historical Society**. He also introduced tour guides **John & Alice Mortenson** and **Marian & Jerry Tuominen**, Tangi presented a new tourism brochure that came as a result of a U of M Assessment and Tourism Committee. The Chamber welcomed a new member, **St. Croix Festival Theatre**. Theatre schedules are available at the Chamber office. Member announcements included **Brad Distad** extending a thank you for the support for the **YoungLife** golf tournament. **Shari Bachman** announced the Early Bird picture special at **Bachman's Photography** and that **Allemansrätt Wilderness Park** ribbon cutting ceremony went well. **Jackie Scheldorf** from **Chisago Lakes LifeCare Center** publicized their 2010 Book Drive. New and gently used books may be dropped off at their office. A youth event is scheduled for October. **Joni Monk** gave information on the upcoming **Lakes Area Youth Service Bureau TASTE!** Event on Thursday, July 15. **Ian Dudley** gave a short summary of his recent trip to Sweden and how important the Chisago Lakes Area is to Swedish history. Our June luncheon speakers were **Ann Moonen** and **Ewa Rydaker** who addressed Swedish Tourism in the Chisago Lakes Area. They shared how Swedes felt 'at home' in the Chisago Lakes Area when they immigrated to America. Moberg wrote a four book series capturing the joys and sorrows as they left their homeland for a new life in America. This is why Chisago County is well known in Sweden and is a destination for many. The rich Swedish heritage that we have in our area is a jewel and is a tremendous opportunity that we need to embrace.



### Benefit Pancake Breakfast

Friday, July 9 8-10:30 a.m.

Featured this month: The Refuge Network  
The Refuge Network provides supportive services for people who are or have been in an abusive relationship.

### 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Classic Car Show

Sunday, July 18 1-3 p.m.

Nothing says old fashioned summer fun like classic cars, popcorn and cold drinks. Free for the whole family.

### MEADOWS ON FAIRVIEW

25565 Fairview Ave.

Wyoming, MN 55045 651.982.6228



## Chisago County Fair

July 15-18

- \* Horse Show
- \* Moto Cross
- \* Free Kids Programs
- \* 4-H Exhibits
- \* Carnival
- \* Entertainment
- \* Demolition Derby
- \* Tractor Pull
- \* Free Music
- \* Open Class Exhibits
- \* Style Show
- \* Much More!


### NEW THIS YEAR...

#### Mechanical Bull & Paint Ball Course

[www.ChisagoCountyFair.org](http://www.ChisagoCountyFair.org)

### CHISAGO LAKES LIFECARE CENTER

12815 1<sup>st</sup> Ave N., Lindstrom 651.257.2550

- > Arby's Fundraiser July 20<sup>th</sup> 5-8p.m. 
- > 2010 Book Drive Fundraiser-New & Gently used books can be dropped off at the LifeCare Center.
- > Inkjet & Cell Phone Recycling Program. Don't throw them away-drop them off at the LifeCare Center.



### WANNIGAN DAYS

July 16-18, 2010

- \* Sidewalk Sales
- \* Bingo
- \* Fireworks
- \* Street Dances
- \* Arts & Crafts
- \* Tug of War
- \* Parade
- \* Food
- \* Much More!

Information at [www.FallsChamber.org](http://www.FallsChamber.org)

**Featured Business – July 2010**

**RELAY FOR LIFE  
OF CHISAGO COUNTY**

July 23-24 at Almelund Threshing Grounds



“Imagine a world with more birthdays” is the theme for the 2010 Relay For Life of Chisago County. The American Cancer Society is leading the fight against cancer in order to create a world with more birthdays because we know every birthday represents another victory over cancer.

The Relay For Life of Chisago County is scheduled for July 23-24, 2010 at the Almelund Threshing Grounds in Taylors Falls. The event begins Friday evening with the Survivor Reception at 5:30 p.m. followed by the Opening Ceremony at 6:30 p.m. At dusk (approx. 9:00 p.m.) is the lighting of the luminaria. The Closing Ceremonies take place at 5:00a.m. and the event ends at 6:00a.m. on Saturday morning. The Honorary Chairs for the event are Jeanne and Mike Taube from Shafer and Nate Mens from North Branch.

Last year, The Relay For Life of Chisago County raised over \$100,000 and this year, hopes to raise even more. The money raised supports The American Cancer Society in fighting cancer through prevention, patient services and support, education, early detection and research.

Please join us for an unforgettable evening filled with food, games and entertainment, silent auction and more. The Relay For Life is a great event for the whole family. Admission and parking are free.

For information about forming a team, corporate sponsorship or general event information contact:

Sue Frame - 651.257.2033  
susan.k.frame@gmail.com  
Barb Marek - 651.213.6649  
lbmarek@frontiernet.net



**25th Anniversary  
Celebration!**



**WOOD'S INTERIOR DESIGN STUDIO**

Downtown, Lindstrom 651.257.8087

Please join us July 8<sup>th</sup> 4-9p.m. for refreshments, drawings and special sales. Anniversary Specials:

- 25% off in stock items
- \$25 off each Hunter Douglas Duette Silhouette or Luminette
- Bargains starting at 25¢

**LAYSB News!**

Parents of Teenagers: would it help to talk to another parent or a person who has survived parenting teens? Are you wondering how to address these and other issues?

- setting reasonable consequences
- following through with expectations
- ways to effectively communicate with your teen
- recognizing your strengths

We have a **free** opportunity for you to do just that! On Thursday evenings, from 6:30-7:30p.m., come to LAYSB at 244 N. Lake St., Forest Lake. Jackie Hays, Parent Education & Support Coordinator, will discuss your parenting situation with you and help you decide how to handle it. Call 651.464.3685 with any questions.

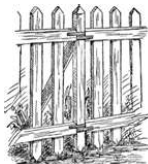
**TASTE! EVENT**

Thursday, July 15 5:30-8:00 p.m.  
Stars and Strikes Center, Wyoming



Tickets are now available at 651.464.3685  
or LAYSB 244 North Lake Street, Forest Lake  
\$25 in Advance-\$30 at the door

**Picket Fence Gals Sale**



July 14-18  
Wednesday 3-7  
Thursday-Saturday 9-6  
Sunday 11-5

Enjoy walking through and seeing rooms packed with antiques and great finds. Downtown Lindstrom.

651.257.3370 www.PicketFenceGals.com

## MN Chamber Update

### State College System Makes Advancements in Serving Customers

By David C. Olson

Today's economy has placed unprecedented pressures on Minnesota businesses. Companies of all sizes and types are forced to become more efficient and innovative in delivering their products and services. Their employees must excel in a global marketplace.

Similar challenges confront the public sector, especially in the state's higher ed systems. I witnessed those firsthand during my service on the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Board of Trustees, including the past three years as board chair. As I leave the board, I'm pleased to report that the system is increasingly responsive to the changing needs of its customers – students and businesses alike. Strengthening the link between higher education and businesses was at the forefront of my initiatives.

Minnesota's economy is at a crossroads. The pool of workers is shrinking as the state's population ages. At the same time, students of color and low-income students – an important source of workers – are challenged to pursue higher education.

The state's colleges and universities have stepped to the plate in three avenues – accessibility, affordability and accountability. Our initiatives are essential ingredients to Minnesota's economic livelihood.

- **Accessibility** – In 2007, three college access and opportunity centers were established, aimed at improving high school graduation and college participation among students of color and other underrepresented groups. In 2009, the system recognized six college and university programs for exceptional accomplishment in diversity leadership, programming and services – the first time these awards had been presented. Also in 2009, the system's materials and websites became available in English and eight other languages. The result: In fall 2009, enrollment of new students from groups traditionally underrepresented in higher ed increased by 22 percent.

- **Affordability** – For the 2008-09 academic year, the board held tuition increases to 2 percent at community and technical colleges and 3 percent at universities – sending a powerful message to students its concern about the cost of education. In 2008, pilot projects at six schools sought to find ways to lower textbook costs for students. In 2009, the board redirected funds to buy down the 2009 tuition increase, minimizing the impact on students.

- **Accountability** - Employers and prospective students now have the ability to view the ratings and compare the performance of schools in the system following the 2008 launch of the Board of Trustees Accountability Dashboard. Also in 2008, the system achieved all five performance goals set by the Governor and Legislature including increasing enrollment of students taking college courses in science, technology and math. The board, for the first time, implemented a performance pay model for college and university presidents and vice chancellors. Lastly, during six months in 2008-09, presidents and system leaders visited more than 350 businesses to further a goal of enhancing the state's economic competitiveness. Despite the economic downturn,

business leaders overwhelmingly identified an insufficient supply of education and skilled workers as the primary barrier to companies' long-term growth.

These initiatives and many more, have made their mark as witnessed by steady increases in enrollment. More students attended classes in fall 2009 than ever before, resulting in the largest increase in students since the system began. Overall enrollment now approaches 200,000, up nearly 7 percent from the previous year. It was the fourth consecutive year that fall enrollment set a record high.

Online learning has increased as well to accommodate the schedules and needs of students. Approximately 66,000 students, or 26 percent of all credit system students, are enrolled in at least one online course. The system, in conjunction with Gov. Tim Pawlenty, announced in 2008 a goal to have 25 percent of all system credits earned through online courses by 2015, up from 9.2 percent in the 2007-08 academic years.

Our work is not done. The Minnesota Chamber of Commerce, the state's largest and most effective business advocacy organization, seeks to maximize the state's investment in higher education to educate and prepare the workforce to meet the new economy.

Minnesota must strategically invest in "the public" rather than "public institutions." More money should be targeted to those programs that distribute resources directly to the consumers to give them access to the higher ed opportunity that best fits their needs.

Funding must be more transparent. The Legislature should separate appropriations for student subsidies, institutional support and research. Minnesota has a rich history of supporting research through state appropriations, and that's important. However, given the limited resources, citizens should have the ability to see where the money goes to evaluate the state's postsecondary priorities.

The higher ed system must join the effort to make our K-12 public schools more effective. Resources, already scarce within the system and among customers, are stretched even further due to the demands of remedial learning. The system should join businesses and communities of color in their fight to close the achievement gap and reduce the need for remedial education.

Building a quality workforce is essential to a vibrant economy, and our state's colleges and universities play a vital role in that effort. The Minnesota Chamber is committed to strengthening that partnership as we all work together to create and keep jobs in Minnesota. To that end, the state college system is well positioned to continue working closely with the business community. My successor as board chair is Scott Thiss of Edina. He also served as chair of the Minnesota Chamber Board of Directors from 2003-04.

Businesses continually look for improvements and increased efficiencies as a part of improving customer service and remaining competitive. It's gratifying to see the state's colleges and universities embracing a similar mind-set.

*David Olson is president of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce. For more information visit [www.mnChamber.com](http://www.mnChamber.com).*



Minnesota Chamber of Commerce  
The Voice of Business